



Fall 2008

President's Message *by Jaime McCaig*

Greetings Everyone

I sincerely hope my Inaugural message as President of OABO finds you enjoying time with family and friends and enjoying another season of officiating.

I feel extremely honored to be elected by my Peers to a 3rd term as President of OABO. My election to the position of President is very humbling and rewarding at the same time. I can say without hesitation I am ecstatic to be back. I will be providing all of you in this message my 10 point plan for the next 2 years but prior to that I would like to recognize some very special people within our Association.

First and foremost please join me in thanking Shah Zafar who served in the position of President for the past 2 years and did so with great pride and the best interests of all officials across the Province. I am very confident Shah will stay involved in some capacity as he, like all of us, loves contributing to the growth of officiating in the basketball community.

The next special person I would like to recognize is certainly someone who all of us have come to respect and appreciate for all of her contributions to the game of basketball and the development of officials in the Province of Ontario. Sandy Bibeau is an icon in giving back to the game and someone who has always put the game before herself. She has on countless occasions gone out of her way to assist all officials no matter what level of basketball they are officiating at. At the annual Wall of Fame Luncheon, Sandy was the recipient of the Ted Earley Memorial Award, which is the highest honour the Canadian Association of Basketball Officials can bestow upon any official in Canada. The fact that only four officials in the Province of Ontario have received this award clearly indicates the dedication and commitment that is required to reach such a pinnacle of success. Congratulations Sandy on your well deserved award and thank-you for you all do to promote officiating in such a positive light.

Please join me in congratulating Bruce Covert on his re-election to the position of Provincial Supervisor, Tim Laurain to his re-election of Vice-President and Geordie Montgomery on re-appointment to the position of Editor.



I now would like to share with all of you my 10 point plan originally presented at the Annual General Meeting in Niagara Falls:

1. I will reply to e-mail and telephone inquiries within 24 hours.

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ADDRESS CHANGE - If your mailing address or phone number changes, please notify OABO Secretary Don Thorne at donthorne@sympatico.ca and Editor Geordie Montgomery at geordiecm@cogeco.ca. It is essential that you report all changes and errors in your mailing address so that you will receive every issue of *The Whistle*. Thank you for your cooperation.

President's Message *Continued*

2. I will arrange Bi-annual meetings with all of our Provincial Partners - Ontario Basketball, OUA, OCAA, & OFSAA.
3. I will provide a monthly electronic update to all Local Board Presidents, Secretaries and Interpreters.
4. I will make myself available to meet with Local Boards at any of their meetings to discuss concerns their Membership or Executives may have.
5. I will arrange a Female Officials Recruiting Weekend in conjunction with our provincial partners.
6. I will work with Local Board Presidents to put in place a "Succession Planning Protocol" in order to identify potential future OABO Executive Members.
7. I will continue to attend all OABO Summer Camps to help promote the outstanding Development these Camps provide and as well continue to attend the OUA West Women's Summer Camp and explore the concept of establishing a similar Camp in the OUA East.
8. I will continue to work closely with our friends south of the border (IAABO and our Region 9 Rep.) to take better advantage of their educational materials and I will attend their Annual Spring and Fall Meetings to represent OABO.
9. I will expand upon our Wall of Fame Luncheon (in conjunction with the Host Board) to make it a Semi-Formal Affair on the Saturday evening.
10. I will address with the CABO Executive the issue of the Province of Ontario, their largest client receiving more "bang for their buck"

You have my word that if I do not accomplish all of this in my 2 year term I will not pursue a 2nd term as President.

I urge all of you to share this platform with all of your members. The more inclusive we are the more successful together we will be.

In closing I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Niagara Board for hosting the 2008 Seminar. It is a tremendous responsibility to take on and they did a fantastic job.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time. I can be reached at home at 416-266-4417 or by cell at 416-464-0146.

In the Spirit of Co-operation
Sincerely
Jaime McCaig

THE WHISTLE

The Whistle is published by the Ontario Association of Basketball Officials as a service to its members. Permission to reprint *The Whistle* in whole or in part is granted although appropriate credit would be appreciated.

*Articles or letters are welcome and should be sent to
The Editor, Geordie Montgomery at geordiecm@cogeco.ca*

Vice President's Message *by Tim Laurain*



AS THE SHOT GOES UP...

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you again.

The amended Constitution should have been sent to the Board Secretaries and posted to the OABO Website by the time you are reading this. This does not mark the end of Constitutional reform as the Constitutional Committee will be continuing its work. We welcome all suggestions/submissions throughout the year.

As of this writing, I have had 14 Boards reply to getting The Whistle electronically with a 95% acceptance of the members of the Boards replying going this route. Thanks to those of you who are reading this from your computer screen or printed it out for yourself. There will be a follow-up survey to gather feedback on delivery and quality. I will follow-up with the Boards that haven't yet replied for action on the next issue of The Whistle.

I am gathering data from the Boards on the role of the Vice President at the local level and expectations of the Local Boards for my position. It is a first step in better defining the roles and responsibilities of all the OABO Executive.

Remember to step down to help cover the action. Be involved, we are a stronger crew for it.

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

Welcome back everyone to the start of another season. I would like to thank all the delegates who took the time to attend the Annual Conference in Niagara Falls. What a fantastic weekend that started with a great day of golfing at the St. Catharines Golf and Country Club, and continued right through to the adjournment of the AGM. The Saturday conference was well attended, and our special guest speakers Jack Armstrong, Ken Murray, Felix Addeo, Tom Lopes, and Ted Montgomery were excellent. The hospitality suite was also very successful as both Sean McManemy and I will attest. A special thanks to Kevin Moore, Guy Caporicci and all the rest of the Conference Committee for hosting the event. It was a pleasure working with them through the planning stages and I was correct when I predicted that the Niagara board would do a great job.

Shah Zafar chaired The Wall of Fame Luncheon Saturday where numerous CABO, OABO and Ontario Basketball awards, as well as service awards for both OABO and IAABO were presented. Included in the presentations were 3 CABO awards. Rob Caporicci (Niagara) was the recipient of the Nicurity/Ritchie Scholarship Award, Jaime McCaig the Wink Willox Award, and Sandy Bibeau the Ted Earley Memorial Award, as well Sandy automatically becomes an OABO Honorary Member. OABO Awards of Merit were also presented to Mauro Sardone (Toronto) and Don Reidel (Bay of Quinte). Congratulations to all five for receiving these prestigious awards from your peers.

Only 4 Local Boards did not send representatives to the AGM. Considering that we have now approved an increase to the travel rate, I see no reason why all 32 boards would not be represented next year when we meet in Belleville. Yes, I said 32 boards and not 33 because Norfolk has merged with Brantford creating one board hereafter known as Brant/Norfolk. The delegates that were present need to be commended because even with almost 30 Constitution Amendment proposals on the agenda we were still able to finish the AGM before 2 p.m..

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SECRETARY/TREASURER *continued*

At this time I would like to welcome Jaime McCaig as our new President. Jaime's past history as our previous President shows that he will be very busy and we can expect OABO to continue to move forward. I would also like to welcome back those returning to the Executive Committee; Bruce Covert as Supervisor, Tim Laurain as Vice President and Geordie Montgomery as Editor.

I would especially like to thank Shah Zafar for the tremendous amount of work he did for us during his 2 year term. What you have seen or heard about is only the tip of the iceberg. Bruce summed it up perfectly at the end of the AGM when he stated that there is not a shadow of doubt that every decision Shah made during his tenure was made with the best interests of OABO and for the sport of basketball in Ontario in his heart. Brian Seccareccia also needs to be recognized for his work last year as your Northern Representative. I always look forward to seeing Brian at the Exec. Meetings and listening to the concerns and ideas from the North Region.

An operating budget was approved at the AGM which has a few new incentives for the next year for all Local Boards which include;

- A fund where Local Boards that purchase new audio video equipment and then submit a receipt to me will be reimbursed \$250 towards that purchase. (One purchase per board)
- We have added \$700 to the OABO Development Camp scholarship fund bringing this total to \$2000 per year.
- It should be noted that all Active and Honorary Members are members of CABO. CABO has approved a Canada Basketball Membership fee of \$5 per member. The same OABO fee as last year (\$64) will include this new Membership fee for this year.
- A subsidy fund has been established to help smaller Local Boards send officials to Provincial Championship events.

As of the writing of this article, I have received 19 board rosters. Please remember that according to our Constitution these were due October 31. This is also an insurance requirement. Speaking of insurance, you will notice in this edition a section of Frequently Asked Questions. If there is a question you wish to know regarding our insurance policies please send it to me. If I can't answer it I'll get our agent to answer it. As soon as your board has submitted their roster your President and/or Secretary will receive a copy of the OABO 2008-2009 Insurance Certificate.

OFSSA Girls is just around the corner so I would like to congratulate the 64 officials from around the province for being selected by your Local Boards to attend the four tournaments. I know that you will learn a lot no matter what your experience level. Take this opportunity to take the new things you have learned back to your Local Board and spread the knowledge. The more we do this, the better we all become.

It's hard to believe that Christmas and New Year's is fast approaching. I would like to extend best wishes to you and your families throughout the upcoming holidays and a happy New Year.

Don Thorne

OABO Executive

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OABO INSURANCE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Am I covered if I work a game with a school teacher, out of Province official, or out of country official who is not an OABO member?

A: YES, all OABO members are covered for all basketball official activities (except social activities) that are sanctioned or authorized by OABO. This includes games officiating, all related training activities, clinics and tournaments for basketball officials, including provincial and national tournaments in Canada and the United States of America; however the non-member would not be covered.

Q: If I get injured during a game would I receive monies for loss of time from my full time employment?

A: NO

Q: If I get injured during a game would I receive monies for games I had to turn back due to the injury?

A: NO

Q: What coverage does our policy actually have for me?

A: All Local Board Secretaries have received a PDF file called Insurance Information and Coverage. Please contact your Local Board Secretary or the OABO Secretary/Treasurer.

Q: Are there limitations to the Benefits of the Policy

A: Yes, a list can be found in the PDF file called Insurance Information and Coverage from you Local Board Secretary or the OABO Secretary/Treasurer. Most importantly, this plan is secondary to any existing medical plan and no payment for any benefits that are available under any government health plan, whether the Insured is enrolled in such a plan or not.

Q: How do I make a claim?

A: Your Local Board Secretary has a copy of all the forms and a step by step procedure is listed in the PDF file called Insurance Information and Coverage.

If you have any further questions please contact Don Thorne OABO Secretary/Treasurer

Supervisor's Report *by Bruce Covert*

Provincial Evaluators Wanted

I would like to make some additions to the Provincial Evaluators' list. If you are interested please forward a brief description of your qualifications. Your description should make reference to whatever experience you currently have as an evaluator.

Please be aware that the majority of the evaluating is done at OFSAA tournaments. The dates for the Girls' tournaments are generally a Thursday, Friday and Saturday. For the Boy' tournaments the dates are a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. If your work schedule does not allow you the flexibility to be available on those dates there would be very limited opportunities for you.

The deadline for submissions will be December 19, 2008.

The updated list of Provincial Evaluators will be published in The Whistle in the new year.

Thanks.

Bruce



Interpreter

By Ted Montgomery



OCAA GAMES

This is an update for those boards which have jurisdiction for Ontario College games. Please ensure that your officials are apprised of the proper rules and mechanics to be used this season.

The colleges will be using **NCAA 2008** rules with certain modifications adopted from the Canadian University Men's rules of 2006. (Please note that this is last year's rules, not the 2009 rules.) The modifications to the NCAA Rules are set out below.

You can obtain the NCAA rules as a PDF file at the following location:

http://www.ncaapublications.com/Uploads/PDF/2008_m_w_basketball_rulesed71624b-af81-422d-80d8-4da5977ca70b.pdf

That rule book contains both NCAA men's and women's rules. Remember that both Ontario college men and women are using the men's rules only. I had been given to understand that the 2009 rules were being used, but the following communication from League convener, E. Durocher indicates otherwise.

"OCAA Women's & Men's Basketball Rule Changes 2008-09

- 1. All Refs will use NCAA on court Mechanics when Officiating an OCAA game**
- 2. On a foul shot No player can stand in below the low block of the Basketball key**
- 3. The Three point line will be the FIBA 3 point line (not the new NCAA 3 point line)**
- 4. All other rules will be the same as last year's that was played in the OCAA"**

The Ontario exceptions to the NCAA rules are these:

- 1. The three-point line will be the FIBA line – an arc 6.25 m from the end line.*
- 2. A 30-second shot clock will be used – not the 35-second shot clock as in the NCAA, nor the 24-second FIBA shot clock.*
- 3. Dunking will be allowed in warm-ups.*
- 4. Substitutions are allowed during all dead ball periods during free throws.*
- 5. The closely guarded rule will apply only to a player holding the ball in his or her front court and with the FIBA interpretation which requires the defender to be aggressively defending and within one meter.*

Officials should use the CCA 3-person mechanics. These are the mechanics used for NCAA games. They are not quite the same as the National Federation (NFHS) 3-person mechanics. You can access the FIBA 3-Person Manual at this address and then make adjustments from that to convert to CCA mechanics. <http://www.fiba.com/pages/eng/fc/expe/refe/p/openNodeIDs/1062/selNodeID/1062/faq20072211131516.html>

Here are the most significant differences in the CCA from the FIBA -3-person system:

- The Lead official does not maintain a position where the wide FIBA "key" would be. Instead the Lead official works wider on the end line, generally from where the 3-point line meets the end line on each side of the basket. The Center and Trail officials have their primary set-up positions closer to the division line, about six feet or 2 good steps, further from the near end line than in the FIBA system.
- On free throws, the Center goes opposite the scorers' table.
- Time out positions are at the low far-side box for 75-second time-outs, at the top of the 3-point arc for 30-second time-outs, and the official who is to administer the resumption of play will have the ball at the point where play will resume.
- The trail official in half-court coverage takes primary responsibility for decisions, especially on 3-point attempts all the way to the far lane line extended.
- On team control fouls in the front court, the Lead official, when making the call, reports and returns to his or her position.

If there is any doubt, use the NFHS 3-person mechanics manual. Though it is not identical to the CCA, it will have to be a close enough guide on most items.

Please feel free to make copies of this for your officials.

If you have questions, you can contact me at ted@opseu560.org

Ted Montgomery, Interpreter, OABO

AGM Pictures



Jack Armstrong, Main Guest Speaker



Robin Holbrook (Windsor) receives his 40 years OABO Service Award from Shah Zafar (OABO President)



Don Thorne (OABO Sec./Tres.) and Bruce Covert (OABO Prov. Supervisor) present CABO Ted Early Memorial Award to Sandy Bibeau (Niagara)



Shah Zafar (OABO President) Tom Lopes (IAABO Exec. Director) and Felix Addeo (IAABO Pres.) present 35 year IAABO Service Award to Guy Cipriani (Hamilton)

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT OFFICER *by Tino De Castro*

All books should have been sent out to your Local Board by the time you read this report.

The FIBA books proved to be a challenge this year, as I could not get an answer if and when they would be available. I even contacted FIBA Europe, who were ready to send us the books, but could not fill our order. To that end they suggested that I download what I needed and print it off. I hope the FIBA books meet with everyone's satisfaction. I suggest that boards either print their own FIBA books, or if they wish, let me know what is required and I will get them printed.

The CCA manuals and NCAA books were requested by only a few boards. This of course was understandable, since we were not sure which way the OCAA was going to go for their games. In these cases when the order is a small amount it almost makes more sense for boards to order direct, as it will get to you much quicker. However, I am still more than willing to place the order for you as long as you can wait the extra week.

Official evaluations will be sent to Board Presidents via e-mail in 2008-2009, instead of a hard copy at the Presidents' meeting or OABO AGM. In most cases boards will now be able to use these evaluations, when making local placement decisions in a more timely fashion. If as President, you wish to have the evaluation sent to someone else on your Executive please let me know.

Finally, I have taken on the task of webmaster for OABO and hope to keep the site updated on a weekly bases. Therefore if there is an item you think would benefit from being posted on the site, please send it my way.

Tino De Castro

IAABO Region 9 Representative *by Dennis Herbert*

OABO Niagara 2008 Fall Meetings attended by IAABO Officers..

I would like to thank the Niagara 2008 OABO Meeting organizers including Felix Addeo, President and Tom Lopes, Executive Director, as clinicians on the Saturday September 27 seminar format. Both men were extremely comfortable in speaking to a packed room of OABO Local Board Interpreters. The Power Point presentations on Live and Dead Ball Efficiency and Game Management were detailed and constructed so that everyone watching need not have to write furiously as the clinician spoke.

If you wish a copy of, "Game Management", e-mail me- I can forward it.

New Resources- IAABO Local Board Interpreters at Interpreter's Court

Local IAABO Board Interpreters *can download many resources* which will help in educating local members. Menu Tabs include: Message; Information; Responsibilities; Conference Call and Video Plays. E-mail Donnie Eppley to receive your password and your passport to new educational tools. I'm excited for IAABO making many positive strides in reaching out to members with educational tools that will produce results!

REFSCHOOL: Get this program to enhance your NFHS Rules Knowledge

AS PROMISED at the Spring Meeting by Executive Director Lopes, EVERY IAABO Board (secretary) is to receive a free copy of REFSCHOOL to assist local officials who purchase REFSCHOOL. This tool allows anyone who purchases the program a complete file of all past national federation case-book plays and rules questions that have been created by IAABO. There is no finer tool to assist candidates wishing to write the IAABO Rules Knowledge Test, which makes the officials CERTIFIED if they pass the standard of 86%, a mechanics test and a floor examination. Please see Don Thorne's e-mail to all Local Boards to get all the information.

IAABO FIBA Ad Hoc Committee Meeting in Niagara

A packed room of Ontario officials serving on the IAABO Ad Hoc Committee (dealing with FIBA growth in Region Nine) brain-stormed for 90 minutes with Felix Addeo and Tom Lopes (see above). E-mail members that attended to receive information about this year's agenda for the committee. Members include: Sandy Bibeau, Guy Cipriani, Bill Magnus, Tim Laurain, John Daugavietas, Charlie Ketter, Pat Laing, Lloyd Eidelman, and Ted Montgomery as a new addition to the Committee. Cathy Williams-Waruk (filled by Peter Andros) and Steve Mawhinney (BC) sent regrets. It promises to be a fun year!

Check It Out! CIO A Good Investment of your time!!!

Make sure *you* check out the IAABO website to see the live version of Dan Shepardson's NFHS Rule Changes and Points of Emphasis for 2008-09. The commentary and P.P. slides will be useful for everyone committed to officiating high school basketball. The rationale for changes and experiments that were carried out by NF to support changes are included.

A Word of Thanks and Welcome Back

My sincere thanks to Shah Zafar for his continued support to me during his term as provincial OABO/IAABO Bd. 102 President. I wish him well in future endeavours with basketball.

I would also like to welcome back Jaime McCaig as the newly elected OABO/IAABO Bd. 102 President. Jaime and I worked together on many IAABO initiatives for Ontario officials during his past terms as president and I'm confident we will strive to see IAABO have continued presence in Region Nine. As well, congratulations to Tim Laurain and Bruce Covert for their re-election to Executive positions- may your two year term be filled with successful ventures.

Require further information on IAABO? Please contact me.

Dennis Herbert- dennherb@rogers.com