



The National Governing Body
for the sport of ice hockey

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Registration: 2765 people registered with USA Hockey to become officials, 2476 completed the registration process. The completion rate increased to about 90%. This is an increase of about 3.5% and now makes Minnesota first in fully registered officials. Possible reasons for the increase are more user friendly exams and an effort to mentor new and second year officials. Overall registrants are up 4% from last season.

Seminars: Local seminars numbered 74 with 2725 attendees and 117 Instructors. This attendance is up by 2.4% from last year.

Evaluations: Evaluations totals are not yet compiled. Of the districts reporting, indications are that about 35% of our officials will have had a formal evaluation completed this season. This percentage is down from previous seasons by about 5%. This is probably due to more mentoring and/or informal evaluations taking place.

Mentoring: The Mentoring program remains a great teaching tool in districts One, Two, Three, Five, Eight, and Ten. This program puts a seasoned official on the ice to guide new officials, not to call the game for them but to instruct them in positioning and in some cases advise them of the penalty situations. At the conclusion of the game the mentor spends time with the officials on how to improve. District Eleven now assigns every new official a seasoned official at the start of the season. This mentor meets with the new official 3 times throughout the season to assist them in completing registration, getting games, and developing the tools they will need to be successful.

Physical Assaults: There were three "Attempt to do Physical Harm to Officials" this year. Of the three, two incidents were heard and the players were reinstated after a minimal suspension, the other is pending. Last season we had no incidents, and the preceding season we had five.

Injured Officials: We had eight incidents of injury that required medical claims to be filed. None of the injuries were serious or career ending. This is down from a total of thirteen last season.

National Tournaments: This year we were represented at Tier 1 & 2 (U18) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Having only two available slots, the selection process for officials was difficult. There were seven officials that applied to officiate at that level. We also had three female officials representing us in the Girl's and Women's national tournaments. I was assigned to supervise the tournament in Pittsburgh. Excellent hockey was played by all teams.

International Tournaments: Once again, Minnesota will be well represented in International competition. Tom Sterns, Rick Looker, Johnathan Morrison, Kristine Langley, Kelli Rolstad, and Leah Wrazidlo will work or have worked in IIHF tournaments this season.

Development Camps: Seven officials attended the Western Instructors Camp in Colorado. The appointments for other camps have not been made at this time. We have ten applicants for the Regional Camp and will receive five or six appointments. There are three applicants for the Men's National Camp. Continuing this year will be the Minnkota Camp. Twelve slots for Minnesota, four slots for North Dakota, and two slots for South Dakota. It will be held in conjunction with the National select 16's & 17's Girls Camp at St. Cloud in June. As always, we will hold the MHOA Men's camp. The MHOA Women's camp has been put on hold again for this summer. However, female officials are encouraged to apply for the MHOA or Minnkota camps. There exists an opportunity for 30 officials to develop and deepen the officiating talent pool.

Jr. Development Program: Minnesota has 24 officials working in this program. This program continues to develop officials above and beyond the scope of our camps. Our relationship has never been stronger and keeps the development door open for our officials.

Financial Audit: USA Hockey conducted a financial audit of all RIC's this winter. No issues or irregularities were found. It was suggested that MHOA as an organization take steps to make sure they are compliant with all IRS regulations. This endeavor is currently in progress.

Summary: Minnesota officiating has never been stronger. Our numbers and the completion rates continue to grow. I believe our officials are second to none and take pride in the fact that we are now number one in the nation.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Tatro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Steve Tatro, Referee-in-Chief