



Date: September 20, 2015  
To: MN Hockey Board of Directors  
From: Eric Olson, MN Hockey Referee Section Director  
Re: Referee Report

#### **MHOA Camp**

This year MHOA held our annual MHOA Men's and Women's Camp held in conjunction with the CCM/Reebok Boys and Girls Advance 15 festivals in St. Cloud. There were 12 camp participants and 5 instructors on the men's side. We had 10 participants on the women's side. Thank you to John Perry and Nancy Wefler and the rest of the Advance 15 staff for helping MHOA hold our camps. This year we had a young group at the Women's camp that didn't have a lot of experience in the 3 man system. By the end of camp the participants learned to work the 3 man system quite well. We look forward to watch their development throughout the year. Our MHOA board is committed to utilizing as many of these participants for post season assignments, based on their merits throughout the season.

#### **MHOA Fall Meeting**

MHOA held its fall meeting on August 22<sup>nd</sup> in Hinckley. We have moved our meeting earlier in the year to accommodate the seminar season. In conjunction with the meeting we hosted a seminar instructor training session. There were a number of issues we discussed including long range planning. I shared with the group my observations from the USA Hockey Annual Congress. Some of the better ideas that came out of the meetings included:

- New officials recruitment video – this video is aimed at new officials who are interested in officiating. The video outlines the registration process as well as how to get assignments.
- Equipment grant for new officials – there are a number of our officials groups that are currently doing this with used equipment. We are also working towards a statewide grant program for new officials. We would like to work with the district directors in developing a plan at the district level.

#### **Screening**

WAHA will not allow any officials from MN to officiate in Wisconsin unless they complete a Wisconsin screening. This will cause some issues with border cities such as Superior, Grantsburg, Hudson and LaCrosse. We continue to struggle with getting access to officials who have been screened in MN. It is important that we can verify their screens in order to allow them to participate in the Junior Development program as well as the Women's National Tournament this spring. We will continue to work with Scott Gray and Diane Y. in making this happen.

#### **Seminars**

We are already underway with the seminar season in Minnesota.

#### **Progressive Suspensions/Game Reporting:**

Changes have been made to the USA Hockey Incident Reporting system to eliminate duplicate filings of reports. We have been asked to come up with a way to report an ejection of a spectator from a game. We are able to create a report using the USA Hockey Incident Reporting form.

#### **Referee Ad Hoc Committee**

We are hoping to get this group together again to continue to discuss ways to improve completion rate of registered officials. USA Hockey has made numerous changes to the online training and testing that should greatly improve our overall completion rate.

This concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted,

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