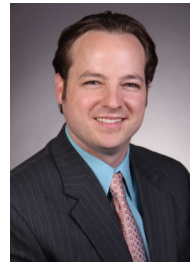




# AHOA NEWSLETTER

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Chris Zorza  
President

### Inside this issue:

Monthly Q&A Review	2
Scheduling Report	3
Upcoming Events & Association News	4-5
Meet The Stripes	6
Ask The Official	7
Scorekeeper's Corner	8
2016 Youth Travel Game Formats	9

### Motivation

Every year as officials we attend a seminar and one of the topics of discussion is what motivates us to officiate, and what are goals are for the season. In those discussions there are several common themes; work higher level games, improve rule knowledge, make money, have fun, etc. I would like to add a new form of motivation to our officials by implementing annual awards, however, I need your help.

I have a couple of awards in mind along with the qualifications for each, but would love to hear your ideas. Here is what I have so far, remember 'Official' refers to both **On and Off Ice Officials**:

**Official of the Year:** This is an Official that exemplifies all the qualities of a good official, someone that is a true ambassador of the game and gives back to help others in the hockey community.

**Most improved official:** This is someone that dedicated themselves to improving as an Official with demonstrated improvement on the ice.

**Educator of the year:** This is an Official that has done great things to help our Training and Development program have an impact on the education of Officials.

**DJ of the Year:** This is an Official that creates a unique entertainment experience during their games while using a high energy playlist during game stoppages.

These are just a few suggestions and will require board approval before making them official, but if you have other ideas please let me know. This is about motivating our Officials and having fun!!!!

Thank you,

Chris Zorza

AHOA President

### Helpful Links:

- ◆ [AHOA Website](#)
- ◆ [AHOA Facebook](#)
- ◆ [AAHA Website](#)
- ◆ [ArbiterSports](#)
- ◆ [USAH Officials](#)
- ◆ [Ref Closet](#)
- ◆ [Sham Sweatbands](#)



Pants looking a little worn? Helmet scratched up? Laces turning black? Whistle on its last gasp? Shin tights falling apart???

Then be sure to visit [Referee's Closet](#) for all your official's gear needs!

AHOA members receive a 10% discount from orders at Referee's Closet!\*

**Use promo code: 'AHOA' when ordering online or over the phone!**

\*The AHOA discount code is only valid to the members of the Arizona Hockey Officials Association. All use of the discount code is manually verified for eligibility after the order is placed. The discount cannot be used on any customized items or products that fall under Minimum Advertised Pricing structures.

Did you know that the Montreal Wanderer's Dave Ritchie scored the first official goal in the NHL on December 19th, 1917? The goal was scored against the Toronto Arenas.

## Monthly Q&A Review

### [Week 87 \(September 19th\)](#)

[Linesman Center Ice Face-Off](#)

### [Week 88 \(September 26th\)](#)

**Q. Team A is short-handed by reason of three minor penalties to different players. As play continues, the first penalty expires; however, this player cannot go onto the ice until the next stoppage. If the second penalty also expires, which player, if any, returns to the ice before a stoppage?**

**A. The first player whose penalty expires returns to the ice. Rule Reference 408(b). When two of the three penalties have expired, the team is entitled to have an additional player on the ice. The players return to the ice in the order that their penalties expire. If the third penalty now expires without a stoppage of play, the second penalized player is allowed to return to the ice as the team is now entitled to be at full strength. In this instance, the third penalized player will wait until the stoppage of play to return.**

## Scheduling Report



**Paul Withee**  
Alternate Board  
Member

The season is now in full swing with games being played across all divisions and levels. AHOA scheduled over 650 games in September alone, and we expect the number of games to rise over the coming months. One thing that is helpful from a scheduling perspective is for the officials to update their blocks in Arbiter. This allows us to see who is truly available for games as we assign and minimize the number of declines. If you need help updating your blocks please reach out to any member of the AHOA Board.

There are six tournaments being held through the end of the year as follows:

- [AHU Icebreaker \(October 7-10th\)](#)
- [Tier I 14U & 15U Showcase \(October 28-30th\)](#)
- [AHU Thanksgiving Tournament \(November 25-27th\)](#)
- [Tier I 16U & 18U Divisional Showcase \(December 2-4th\)](#)
- [Jr. Sun Devils Barnburner \(December 27-30th\)](#)
- [AZ Coyote Cup \(December 28-31st\)](#)

AHOA will communicate when we plan to publish schedules for each tournament in advance so blocks can be updated.



## Upcoming Events & Association News

### 2016 USA Hockey Arizona Seminar Dates & Locations

Date	Time	Level	Location
15-Oct	10:45am - 4:40pm	Level 2	Gilbert
15-Oct	6:30am - 10:30am	Level 3	Gilbert
19-Nov	1:00pm - 8:00pm	Level 1	Scottsdale
20-Nov	10:45am - 5:30pm	General (1/2/3)	Peoria

Subject to change. Be sure to confirm dates, times, and locations on the USAH website when registering. Please remember that there will be **not** be a December seminar this year so sign up early.

### Open Book & Rules Review Sessions

The Arizona Hockey Officials Association is hosting two more free USA Hockey open rule book rules reviews on October 11th at Oceanside Ice Arena and October 12th at Jay Lively (Flagstaff) where officials are invited to come and dig deeper into specific rules, proper application, unique situations, and the 16-17 USAH open book test. Our first review session was held last month and was a great success so we'd like to pass on another opportunity for the officials that could not be present in September. An email was sent to all registered officials providing specific details along with a sign-up sheet. Please note that this **IS NOT** a requirement for your USA Hockey referee registration, rather a voluntary review and discussion session.

### Sham Sweatbands

We are pleased to announce a good working relationship with another small company that offers a great product! If you're tired of sweat in your eyes during games, look no further!

These are the Original Sham Sweatbands not cheap knock offs. They have a special foam core that has been tested to hold 1/4 cup of water. As the material gets wet, it does not slip like terry cloth does and actually grips the forehead, holding your helmet in place better especially late in the game. Made in America, professionally sewn, durable, machine washable, and knowing that they are used at every level of the game make these a no-brainer! Order yours today and make sure to tell him that the Arizona Hockey Officials Association sent you! Also, keep an eye out for samples at upcoming USAH seminars.



## Upcoming Events & Association News

### Online Game Reporting System

As we embark upon a new season I wanted to be sure to point out the difference between the 'Save' button and the 'Submit' button when writing a Supplementary Discipline report.

The screenshot shows a web form for reporting an incident. Fields include USAH Confirmation #, USAH Association, Did injury occur?, Period Incident Occurred, Time Elapsed, Penalty Assessed, and Rule Reference. A large black speech bubble explains: "You may Submit the report once all data entry is complete. Only then does the report become available to the folks who need it. Clicking Submit determines whether you have SUBMITTED your report in time to meet the deadline." A red speech bubble points to the 'Save' button: "If you have incomplete information, you may Save a report to come back to it later." The 'Submit Report' button is highlighted with a blue border.



**Eric Thiem**  
VP of  
Administration

Please keep in mind the importance of submitting reports on time. If you are late submitting a report and a player who otherwise should have been suspended commits a foul that injures someone, whose fault is it? The official who waited too long to submit their report is at least partially to blame in the eyes of leagues, coaches, players and others. If an official is reported to be late submitting multiple reports in the same season, they will be asked to attend an AHOA Disciplinary Review which may result in consequences leading up to suspension of the official.

If you have questions regarding the deadlines for reporting different types of penalties please refer to your rulebook, contact the AHOA training team, or reach out to your State Supervisor of Officials.

### AHOA Referee Scholarship Program

The Arizona Hockey Officials Association is dedicated to encouraging, developing and training the association's members of all ages and levels. In addition to the local training that is place and being developed there are opportunities for officials to attend a variety of training camps, referee schools and tournament showcases where their officiating skills can be honed and developed. To help support the official who truly has the desire to further his knowledge, skills and abilities in order to advance in the officiating ranks AHOA offers a scholarship program to help defray the cost of attending these events. Following is an outline of the prerequisites, expectations and the application process for an AHOA Referee Scholarship.

#### Scholarship:

AHOA will reimburse up to 50% (maximum \$250.00) of the cost to attend including fees, travel and lodging (meals excluded).

#### Prerequisites:

The official must be a level 2 or higher USA Hockey registered official.  
Eligibility must commiserate with experience and knowledge in officiating.  
Completed application.  
The event must benefit AHOA by the official attending.

#### Process:

Complete application and submit to the AHOA Board.  
Applicant must submit the application in person at a scheduled Board meeting.  
If under 18 the official must have parental approval and release form.  
Applications must be submitted prior to the event.  
Applications will be reviewed at the regular monthly Board meeting. Depending on lead time the AHOA Board will make every effort to approve/deny prior to the official attending the event.  
Receipts for scholarship reimbursement must be submitted to the Board.  
If approved the reimbursement will be added to the official's next regular Arbiter pay cycle.

## Meet The Stripes (7th Edition)

### Collin Dykstra



#### **1. How many seasons have you been officiating with USA Hockey?**

This is the beginning of my 10th year officiating with USA Hockey.

#### **2. What were a couple of your main motivations in becoming an on-ice referee?**

I became an on-ice official while I was skating in an adult league in Lake Tahoe, CA. I approached the director of the league, Bob Pelkola, with a complaint I am sure many of us have heard, that is: The refs here are terrible! His response was to offer me a chance to referee the adult leagues there. He set me up with a whistle and a sweater and I started doing games. Once I was on the ice as an official, I enjoyed calling games, really learning the actual rules and being on the ice for good games. There weren't many referees in Lake Tahoe so it helped the local hockey organization to have someone local that could do games instead of paying for referees to come up from Sacramento. When I started coming down to Phoenix during the winter, I got involved USA Hockey and the referee organizations here.

#### **3. With it being a rule change year, what are a few improvements you'd like to see USA Hockey make to the rule book or situations manual?**

It seems to me that there are too many clarifications of rules and exceptions to rules that are only documented in the situations manual and it makes it difficult to really get a really good understanding of a rule by reading/referencing the rule book only. The rule book should be clear enough to understand without clarifications and exceptions needed elsewhere and the situation book should only be examples of the applications of the rules.

#### **4. Is there a certain level of hockey that you find most enjoyable to referee? If so, why?**

My favorite games seem to have been tournament Pee Wee games. The kids still seem to be having fun without so much pressure from coaches and parents and if you are lucky to get a couple of good teams, clean, highly-skilled PeeWee hockey is fun to watch. My favorite Pee Wee tournament game was a few years ago at the Chandler rink, where two teams from within an hour of each other in Canada met here in a semi-final game. We nullified a goal from one of the teams, which would have put them ahead, due to a man in the crease violation. When I explained the ruling, the boy from the Canadian team said, "But we don't have that rule in Canada." and lined up for the next face-off in tears. He wasn't disrespectful, just very sad that he had caused his teams goal to be nullified. At the puck drop, his team gained control of the puck, entered the zone and scored another goal! His tears turned into smiles...

#### **5. Are there any specific professional or local hockey officials you look to for inspiration or who have mentored you?**

When I first started officiating in the Phoenix area I was originally got involved with PIHRA and got a lot of great feedback from the officials and directors that were a part of that organization. One of the first officials I worked with often was Jeff Kollar. He is the official I would credit with mentoring me the most at the beginning of my officiating days and I continue to look forward to dropping pucks with him and getting his take on issues related to officiating. I've been lucky to be able to work within all the organizations that have been here in the Phoenix area and also with IHONC in Northern California.

#### **6. How does the Arizona Hockey Officials Organization compare to other referee associations you have worked with?**

So far I've enjoyed being a part of every referee association I have worked with and AHOA is not an exception to that statement. Arbiter has helped make signing up for and remembering games relatively painless and the schedulers are clearly trying to work together to get officials in games they are interested in being a part of. I've enjoyed the consistent and clear payment arrangements that AHOA has maintained. Of all the organizations I've been a part of, the communication channels used by AHOA are managed better than most. Group e-mails and updates on Arbiter about when payments are made, as well as upcoming activities, events and tournaments keep everyone up to date with the happenings of the organization and the hockey community.

#### **7. Describe one of your most memorable games that you were a part of.**

I described a memorable game I was a part of officiating above. As a player, my most memorable games have been at the USA Hockey Pond Hockey Championships in Eagle River Wisconsin. I was on a team with a group of childhood friends from my hometown in Waupun, Wisconsin (most of whom grew up on the same block that I did, just down the street from our local rink) and for three years in a row we captured the Silver Over-30 championship trophy!

#### **8. What are some passions or hobbies that you have and enjoy doing in your spare time?**

Of course, in addition to officiating hockey, I enjoy playing hockey. I also enjoy hiking, biking, downhill and backcountry skiing up in Lake Tahoe when I get a chance. I also love to waterski! But now, as a father of a toddler, it seems like spare time is a thing of the past.....



## Ask The Official

**QUESTION:** Does play have to stop immediately if a player is body checked through one of the doors (ice resurfacers door) and it is swinging open. Or does play only stop if there is not an immediate scoring opportunity?

**ANSWER:** This question is a little difficult to answer without seeing the incident first-hand. The situation might depend on whether the door was a team bench door, a penalty box door, an entrance/exit door or a resurfacers door. If the player immediately gets back up, there is no threat of injury and the door can be immediately closed (team bench or penalty box) then it's possible play could continue. However, a resurfacers door or rink entrance/exit door would likely require an immediate stoppage so the door can be closed.

Due to a reasonable possibility that a player could be seriously injured by falling through a door, the officials should always err on the side of caution when determining whether to stop play.

**QUESTION:** Is a painted helmet considered a modification to a player's equipment? Is painting a helmet permitted?

**ANSWER:** Player helmets may not be painted without voiding the HECC certification. Research supports that the chemicals in the paint might compromise the integrity of the plastic shell. That being said, Goalkeepers' face-masks are made of a different type of material and have been approved for painting.

**QUESTION:** My son is a goalie. We just purchased him a new helmet and he chose a "cat eye" face mask. It is an HECC certified helmet. Some of his older teammates are telling him that it is an illegal helmet. The sales person has assured me twice that it is legal and his coach is unsure.

**ANSWER:** All USA Hockey Goalkeeper Facemasks (helmet and wire cage) must be HECC approved. Look for a valid HECC sticker on both the facemask and the helmet. This should be in place at time of purchase.

HECC approved goalkeeper facemasks have smaller "cat-eye" holes that prevent stick blades and pucks from passing through. The "pro" models do not have this safety measure.

**QUESTION:** As a beginner official who wants to advance into higher levels of play I'm very interested in focused programs that build fitness both strength and cardiovascular modalities. Is there any examples that you can provide or resources to connect with?

**ANSWER:** The USA Hockey Officiating Program does not have a formal workout/fitness program that it endorses more strongly than any other resources. Since most of our 25,000 officials are grassroots youth hockey officials with limited time (or interest) to workout we find the better method is to point them in the direction of online and other published resources.

**QUESTION:** Is there a max number of goalies a team can roster?

**ANSWER:** Rule 201(a) in the USA Hockey Playing Rules states,

"A team must start a game with a minimum of six players. Any time that a team has been reduced to less than four players, the game shall be declared a forfeit. A maximum of 20 players, in which not more than 18 are skaters, shall be permitted to play in the game."

Therefore, there is no limit to the number of goalkeepers a team may have on their game roster as long as they do not break the "20 participant" maximum.

**If you have a scenario or situation that you'd like featured in next month's newsletter, send an email to: [AHOA.QA@gmail.com](mailto:AHOA.QA@gmail.com).**



## Scorekeeper's Corner

### Penalty Situations & Terminations

Time	Team "A"	Team "B"	Solution
4:00	X - 2 min. Y - 2 min.	Z - 2 + 2 min.	Even though Team "A" has two players penalized, the total number of penalties to each team are equal, therefore canceling each other out. Both teams will skate at full strength. Players X and Y will return at the first stoppage after two minutes while player Z will serve until the first stoppage after four minutes.
4:00	X - 2 + 2 min.	Z - 2 + 2 min.	Coincident minor penalties still applies because there is an equal number of minor penalties to each player.
4:00	X - 2 min. Y - 2 min.	Z - 2 min.	Player Z's penalty cancels out either X's or Y's penalty (captain's choice). Team "A" will skate shorthanded for two minutes or until a goal is scored. Player Z and either Player X or Y will remain in the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play after two minutes.
4:00	X - 2 + 2 min.	Z - 2 min.	Player Z's penalty will cancel out one of Player X's penalties. Team "A" will skate shorthanded (4 vs. 5 on-ice strength) for two minutes unless a goal is scored. Player Z will return to the ice at a stoppage after two minutes while Player X waits for a stoppage after the second minor penalty expires. Since Team "A" is entitled to another player on the ice after two minutes, they need to have an additional player enter the penalty bench to serve the minor penalty and enter the ice surface when it expires or a goal is scored.
4:00	X - 2 min. Y - 2 min. W - 2 min.	Z - 2 + 2 + 2 min.	Since there is an equal number of penalties on each team, coincident penalties would apply (5 vs. 5 on-ice strength). Player Z would be eligible to return during the first stoppage after six minutes. Players X, Y and W would return to the ice at the first stoppage after two minutes.





## 2016 Youth Travel Game Formats

We are in the thick of things for the 2016 travel season and there are lots of changes with levels going from squirt to 10U, peewee to 12U, bantam to 14U etc. A/B, AA or AAA teams are replaced by non-tier, Tier I or Tier II. Please find below the game formats for the state league as well as the tier level games that are mandated by the state.

## 2016 Travel Game Formats

### **Non Tier Games (AZYHL)**

3 minute warm-up.

10U & 12U — three 13 minute stop time periods.

14U & 16U — three 14 minute stop time periods.

Runtime in the third period with a 6 goal differential. If goal differential becomes less than 6, the game shall return to stop time.

### **AAHA Tier II Format**

5 minute warm-up.

14U — three 14 minute stop time periods.

16U & 18U — three 15 minute stop time periods

### **AAHA Tier I Format**

5 minute warm-up.

14U — three 16 minute stop periods. Ice cut between 2nd and 3rd period

15U, 16U & 18U — three 17 minute stop periods, two minute rest between the 1st and 2nd period, and ice cut between 2nd and 3rd period.