



Central Region Officials Committee

Referee-In-Chief Assigning Guidelines

The purpose of these Guidelines is to provide individuals with parameters and responsibilities of a community Referee-In-Chief (RIC) with regard to game assignments for officials.

How often do I have to assign hockey?

1. Hockey is generally assigned on a monthly basis
2. You will receive a schedule for your community and assign hockey to officials based on games being played
3. You may receive short notice requests for hockey in your community based on pre-season or tournament requirements. You will find that you have certain officials within your community who are willing to take hockey on short notice.

What does Central Region expect of me in assigning hockey?

1. Your role is to ensure fair assigning of minor hockey games to community officials
2. You should ensure that all hockey in your community has officials. In some circumstances, an official may need to turn back a game based on a family emergency, suspension. The RIC should use their best efforts to fill the game with another qualified official
3. Junior/new officials in your community must be paired with a senior/experienced official for the first two months of the season to ensure they can gain the appropriate experience and mentoring

What levels of hockey do I assign?

1. The RIC is responsible for assigning U9, U11 and lower levels of U13 hockey
2. For certain levels of hockey you will be responsible for assigning the linesmen while Central Region will provide the referee
3. The RIC will get to know and understand the issues facing local officials and work with their community and Central Zone to implement programs and policies designed to keep officials as long as possible

What tools can I use to track and hand out assignments?

1. The RIC may assign hockey using any tools at their disposal. Currently, Central Region sends all assignments via email
2. An Excel spreadsheet can be used to track dates, times, rink locations and officials assigned to hockey

How do I rank officials within my community?

1. RICs will implement the Central Region supervision program that will assist you in ranking officials for hockey
2. As you move through the season, the RIC will get to know the officials in the community and understand their capabilities.

As Referee-In-Chief, one of the more important tasks is the assigning of hockey. The time commitment required in order to be a successful RIC requires dedication and perseverance on behalf of the individual. It is a very rewarding position as the RIC plays an integral role in the mentoring and spearheading of initiatives in your community.

To become a Referee-In-Chief for your community, or if you have any questions, please email centralregionofficials@hockeyalberta.ca.



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Referee-In-Chief Guidelines

The purpose of these Guidelines is to provide individuals with an idea regarding the roles and responsibilities of being a community Referee-In-Chief ("RIC").

What qualities does a strong RIC have?

1. Passionate about the game of hockey
2. Don't need to be an official but having experience as an official is an asset
3. Ability to organize and schedule
4. Willingness to be a community leader and role model for young officials

What are the key responsibilities of an RIC?

1. Ensure fair assigning of minor hockey games to community officials
2. Recruit new officials and work to retain current officials
3. Assist with the development of current officials
4. Work with Central Zone clinic coordinator to set up a clinic in your community
5. Provide mini-clinics during the year so that officials can ask questions and be refreshed on rules and procedures
6. Attend meetings within the community and within Central Region
7. Act as point of contact and community liaison for matters concerning officials
8. Under the direction of the Central Region Coordinator schedule and run Provincial tournaments.

How do I ensure fair assignment of minor hockey to officials?

1. RICs can choose to assign hockey themselves or utilize volunteers from the community to assign hockey
2. Officials can expect a fair assignment of hockey games based on their availability. The RIC will try to ensure fair distribution based on availability and performance of officials

How do I recruit and retain officials?

1. The RIC works with local minor hockey associations and interested volunteers to find new officials
2. The RIC will get to know and understand the issues facing local officials and work with their community and Central Region to implement programs and policies designed to keep officials as long as possible

How do I develop my current officials?

1. Central Region provides development guidelines for the advancement of officials within our zone. These guidelines can help assess officials who are capable of working higher levels of hockey
2. The RIC will implement the supervision and shadow program designed to utilize the experience of older officials to develop the skills of younger ones. There are many volunteers within your community who are looking to give back their time to assist in the development of your officials

What are mini-clinics?

1. Mini-clinics serve as a supplement to clinics that are held midway through the hockey season. The mini-clinics provide opportunities for officials to ask questions and learn from past experiences
2. Mini-clinics allow the RIC to gauge the progress of their community and tailor their development program to the needs of their officials
3. Rule and procedure knowledge

4. Experience gained from going through scenarios with experienced officials

What is expected of an RIC in acting as a community liaison?

1. RICs provide an important perspective regarding officials in the community
2. RICs can expect to be contacted in the event of concerns surrounding officials (whether on an individual or group basis)
3. RICs provide a visible presence and positive example to the community and to fellow officials on the appropriate behaviors and expectations of officials
4. Hockey Alberta expects that RICs will make an effort to attend minor hockey association hockey meetings and Central Region meetings to ensure they have a strong understanding of current issues within their area.
5. The RIC provides a vital perspective with regard to the contribution and concerns that officials may have during the hockey season

What is involved in the scheduling of Provincial tournaments?

1. Minor hockey associations, in the fall of each year, bid to host provincial tournaments
2. Hockey Alberta notifies selected minor hockey associations of their provincial tournament in November of each year. The RIC must contact the Central Region Coordinator, upon successful award of a tournament, to work together in organizing officials for the tournaments.
3. RICs are responsible for selecting officials to work provincial tournaments. This list of officials must be submitted to the Central Region Coordinator for approval
4. RICs must arrange to supervise the tournaments so that valuable feedback and development can be given to officials who officiate in a more intense environment
5. RIC must submit the final list of assignments to the Central Region Coordinator within 1 week of the tournament's conclusion.

The position of community Referee-In-Chief is critical to the ongoing development and success of your community's officials. The time commitment required in order to be a successful RIC requires dedication and perseverance on behalf of the individual. It is a very rewarding position as the RIC plays an integral role in the mentoring and spearheading of initiatives in your community.

To become a Referee-In-Chief for your community, or if you have any questions, please email centralregionofficials@hockeyalberta.ca.