



# Post Play Express

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## NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

Submitted by Jim Cervo, CABO Education Officer

One of the most anticipated and exciting events each year as a player, coach, official or A/E is to earn a berth or be selected to work at one of the many national championships. When I first started officiating, my basketball sphere did not extend past the local area in my home town. Then I was selected to work at a national tournament and I discovered a whole new world! The first national tournament I attended as an official was the Junior Men's Tournament in Winnipeg. I met some great officials there that I have been friends with now for over 20 years. The A/E at the tournament was Don "Butch" Steponchev. His post game discussions with me and the subsequent evaluation did a lot to push my career forward and opened many new doors for me. I will ever be grateful for that opportunity.

Each year, with my present portfolio, I review the list of National Assignor/Evaluators and evaluate our needs for the current year and coming years. I like to work with a 3-year calendar....last year, the current year and the following year, and forecast the assignments accordingly. At the present time, we have 30 very capable and devoted individuals that are serving as National A/E's. In the last 5 years we have added 12 Evaluators to the National Panel and I am hoping to add 2 or 3 more in the next 2 years. At the same time, we have released some of our long serving members, moving them to the list of former National A/E's. Last year 3 individuals came off the list and we will be releasing 3 more this year. This is not the favourite part of my job, but I understand it needs to be done.

I am quite excited about a recent CABO initiative to use 3 A/E's at all tournaments where 3-person mechanics are used. The work required before, during and following a tournament is a lot to ask of anyone. Sharing it amongst 3 people will not only spread the workload but I think we will see a level of improvement in a number of areas as the

A/E's will be able to spend more time in post game discussions and in completing NOCP and CABO evaluation forms. The end result will be the benefit provided to the individual officials.

Prior to this year, there were 16 possible A/E assignments each year. That number has now increased to 22 so most of our panel members will generally have 3 to 4 opportunities over a 5 year period. The panel members that have received and accepted assignments to spring and summer tournaments are listed below. I have great confidence that the officials that attend these tournaments will be well served, well instructed and can look forward to a great experience.

### **Spring Tournaments**

<b>CIS Men</b>	<b>Ottawa, ON</b>	<b>CIS Women</b>	<b>Regina, SK</b>
Dave Morphy Bill Carr Mike Homsy	Manitoba Alberta Quebec	Markku Peuhkurinen John Weiland Bill Denney	Ontario Alberta British Columbia
<b>CCAA Men</b>	<b>Montreal, QC</b>	<b>CCAA Women</b>	<b>Truro, NS</b>
Mike Thomson Paul Deshaies Ted Montgomery	British Columbia Quebec Ontario	Dave Werry Rob Anderson Sandy Forand	Saskatchewan PEI Ontario

### **Summer Tournaments**

<b>U17 Men (Canada Games)</b>	<b>Sherbrooke, QC</b>	<b>U17 Women (Canada Games)</b>	<b>Sherbrooke, QC</b>
Warren Poncsak Jake Steinbrenner Mario Lessard	Saskatchewan Alberta Quebec	Grant Stewart Nancy Éthier Karen Lasuik	Alberta Quebec Alberta
<b>U15 Men</b>	<b>St. John's, NL</b>	<b>U15 Women</b>	<b>St. John's, NL</b>
Seward Nielsen Rob Ferguson	New Brunswick Ontario	Nadine Crowley Jamey Jennings	Ontario Newfoundland

## **OFFICIALS SELECTED FOR THE SPRING 2013 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **CIS MEN IN OTTAWA, ON MARCH 8-10**

John Hunt, Nova Scotia  
Sébastien Gauthier, Quebec  
Scott Critch, Newfoundland/Labrador  
Tanner Cervo, British Columbia  
Carl Artis, Alberta  
Neil Donnelly, Saskatchewan  
Earl Roberts, Manitoba  
Philip Lawn, Ontario  
Michael Falloon, Ontario  
Francesco Rizzuti, Ontario  
Geoffrey Astles, Ontario  
Colin MacAdam, Prince Edward Island

### **CIS WOMEN IN REGINA, SK MARCH 15-17**

Brent Stocker, Nova Scotia  
Éric Brouillard, Quebec  
Carlo Del Bosco, Quebec  
Craig Parsons, Newfoundland/Labrador  
Michael K James, British Columbia  
Marla Van Gelder, Alberta  
Scott Aaro, Saskatchewan  
Stacy Hawash, Manitoba  
Andre Ledoux, Ontario  
Oggie Sokolovic, Ontario  
Gary Schauer, Ontario  
Anna Maria Del Col, Ontario

### **CCAA MEN IN MONTREAL, QC MARCH 14-16**

Brian States, Nova Scotia  
Nathaniel Saunders, Quebec  
Denis Kismic, Quebec  
Max Audette, Quebec  
Marco Pelletier, Quebec  
Chris Gurunlian, Quebec  
Patrick Mischook, Quebec  
Matt Decourcey, New Brunswick  
Peter Tsui, British Columbia  
Matthew Kallio, Alberta  
Justin Walsh, Ontario  
Mike Zason, Ontario

### **CCAA WOMEN IN TRURO, NS MARCH 14-16**

Paul Hanson, Nova Scotia  
Jennifer McKenzie, Nova Scotia  
Mary Alice Butts, Nova Scotia  
Kevin Newcombe, Nova Scotia  
Larry MacKenzie, Nova Scotia  
Ryan Lutes, Nova Scotia  
Maripier Malo, Quebec  
Charlie Taylor, New Brunswick  
Frank Dallaire, British Columbia  
Stephanie Nordlee, Alberta  
Pascale Mapleston, Ontario  
Chriatopher Spooney, Ontario

**CONGRATULATIONS AND ALL THE BEST TO ALL OF YOU !!!**

**NEWFOUNDLAND ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL OFFICIALS  
NOMINEE FOR THE  
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL OFFICIALS**

***J.A. “Wink” Willox Award of Merit***  
for 2012

Terry Burton  
Gander, NL

The NABO nominee started officiating in Gander with the Newfoundland Association of Basketball Officials in 1990; however, his involvement with officiating in Central Newfoundland started with the formation of the first Gander Men's basketball league in the mid-1980's. At that time, the only recognized branch of the Newfoundland Association of Basketball Officials was in St. John's. The nominee was one of few people in the Central area that could be counted upon to officiate basketball games at all levels during this time.

The NABO nominee became involved with the local Central Newfoundland branch with its formation in 1992, becoming its first Vice-President. Two years later the nominee became the Branch President of CNABO, a post he held for 4 years. He currently holds the office of one of two signing officers for the Association, and has been called upon by the local branch to assist in various roles of the executive from time to time, especially in assisting in assigning tournaments and taking a lead role as the crew chief at tournaments for which he is assigned.

The NABO nominee has worked over 100 games per season locally and provincially during the last five seasons. Prior to that, our nominee had injured his knee in a workplace incident part way during the season. In order to get back on the court, the candidate had surgery to repair the damage done to his knee and worked diligently in the fitness and weight center at his place of employment in order to rehabilitate the knee and get back on the court to doing what he loves.

The NABO nominee has officiated every Senior Championship held in Newfoundland and Labrador. He has worked all levels of high school basketball in our province, has worked all levels of minor basketball sponsored by the NLBA, and worked the Gold Medal game at the Eastern Canadian Boys U14 Championships held in St. John's in 1998.

In 2004, the nominee was recognized for his outstanding contributions to officiating at the local and provincial level in our province by being selected recipient for the Frank J. King Award of Merit.

A teacher by profession, the nominee is also known in basketball circles in his part of the province as a teacher of the game and of officiating. He has been a successful junior high and high school coach of various sports, and has taken the avenue of teaching our avocation to new officials in the Central Newfoundland area of the province. He is one of the few officials in the Central Newfoundland area that new and older officials look to for his insight into the game we officiate. His court presence, rules knowledge and interpretation are second to none in his region, and in our province.

The 2012 J.A “Wink” Willox recipient from Newfoundland and Labrador is Mr. Terry Burton from Gander.



**CONGRATULATIONS TERRY !**

## **ARE THOSE OFFICIALS GETTING PAID THE SAME AS I AM?**

Submitted by Cam Moskal, Interpreter for Manitoba

As an official, have you ever walked into a gym as an innocent observer or, more than likely, as one of the officials ready to work the next game and as you watch the crew on the floor you ask yourself, “Are those officials getting paid the same as I am?”

I’m talking about the official who is clearly not giving his/her very best performance while on the court. It’s the one that walks up the court as a Trail official in transition while the play moves quickly into the frontcourt, or the one who cares less whether or not they rotate correctly after a foul call, or the one who signals a foul to the scorer’s table from 40 feet away, or the one who makes a foul call well out of position and has no chance of selling it, or the one who tells his less experienced partner “this is the way we’re going to do it today”, or the one who....well, I’m sure that you’re starting to get the picture here. Unfortunately, this type of official exists and for whatever reason they continue to take this approach no matter what the level of game they work. And I’m not even talking about the official who never opens the rule book or continuously performs poorly on the exam...that’s a topic for another day!

I often hear that these types of officials are working their third, fourth, or even fifth game of the day! But that’s not always the case. Or worse yet, these officials take the attitude that the game they are in is not really important (i.e. “it’s going to be a blowout” or “it’s only a Division 8 game”). So, does that excuse their lackluster approach? Does that excuse them from performing differently based on the “quality” or “level” of game? Why do these officials

continue to get away with poor performance? Would they get away with this at their full-time job? Likely not! Therefore, I need to know if these officials are getting paid the same as I am.

I certainly realize that there are other ways to reward great performance as an official – quantity and quality of games to name just a couple, but is it time to start basing an official's game fee on his/her performance over a period of time? Why not? It happens all the time in the workplace through merit pay increases or performance-based bonuses. Usually, an employee goes through some sort of annual or semi-annual performance review and is most likely being observed on a daily basis by a manager or supervisor. Why then, as officials, do we get treated the same regardless of performance...at least when it comes to pay rate? If I out-perform my work colleagues, I would at some point expect to be rewarded for my performance...and more dollars always makes me happy!

I take pride in the fact that I have always given the same effort no matter what level or type of game that I'm working. It could be a mismatched Junior Varsity game or a battle between two top university teams, but the fact of the matter is that my approach and my level of performance while on the court does not change. I want to be the best official that I can possibly be and there is no way that I can do that if I perform like the aforementioned officials. Why then, would someone like me get paid the same as the official who performs well below standard in the same game? It doesn't seem fair, does it? Poor performers reflect negatively on all officials and if coaches, fans, and players observe the poor performance of some, we all get painted with the same brush! Wouldn't it be nice to say, at least, that those officials are NOT getting paid the same as I am?

Individuals become officials for many valid reasons, but for whatever reason you chose to be an official, one of the most important traits that you must possess is professionalism. And that is directly linked to your performance on the court. Because you are receiving money for officiating, regardless of how much or what type of game you're working, you are expected to be professional. Professionalism includes:

- Making a good first impression
- Taking pride in your performance
- Being willing to make sacrifices
- Working hard at your craft and striving to improve
- Knowing what your role is and where you stand
- Enjoying coming to work

And, because you are receiving money for officiating, you owe it to all the stakeholders, especially the players, to EARN your pay. So, if I walk into a gym to officiate the next game and I witness my fellow officials slacking off or being less than professional, I'm going to ask them to give some money back or at least give it to me...because I take pride in my performance and my professionalism.

Now, don't get me wrong...officiating for me was never about the money, but if some officials are consistently under-performing, we have to address it....because I don't want those officials getting paid the same as I am.

Food for thought...