



Post Play Express

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NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Submitted by Markku Peuhkurinen, CABO Secretary-Treasurer

It seems to me that when the championships are behind us, spring should be well on its way. This year, there seems to be a bit of a lag in the seasons as many of us were still recently experiencing more winter like conditions. The CABO Executive met in Ottawa during the CIS Men's championships. I'm going to touch on some of the workings of the Executive and talk about the tasks that I perform.

On the Thursday evening prior to the CIS Men's tournament, the Ottawa Board held a reception for the officials, A/Es, and the CABO Executive. Thanks to those from Ottawa who organized this. It was greatly appreciated. After the meetings and the reception, the A/Es and the CABO Executive were in our room watching curling and talking basketball as usual. One person left and seven remained in the room. When the next person attempted to leave about eleven o'clock the door would not open. To make this story short, after about ninety minutes of being 'locked in' the maintenance crew passed an Allen key wrench under the door, we took the lock apart from the inside and the door was opened. That is the first time anyone had ever heard of people being locked in. The hotel provided a free breakfast for the seven locked in hostages and a free night for the two of us who had to pack up in the middle of the night and move to a different room.

Jim Walsh will finalize new contracts with our basketball partners, CB, CIS & CCAA. If you have any suggestions please forward those to Jim. Since CABO now enjoys the same status in the CB structure as the provincial basketball bodies, Jim also is a member of a few CB committees.

Dave Morphy heads the CABO Camp committee of Bruce Covert, Roger Caulfield and Warren Poncsak. It looks as if the next camp will be in 2014. Any helpful suggestions or comments should be forwarded to Dave and would be

greatly appreciated. Dave also is our liaison to CB with regard to all international appointments for Canadian FIBA officials. CABO now has 22 FIBA licensed officials.

Ted Montgomery and Ron Yeung from CB have completed the mechanics for 3 x 3 basketball which is becoming increasingly popular.

Paul Deshaies, as the National Interpreter, in conjunction with the provincial interpreters, prepares the national exam. There was some discussion on the development of a 'new candidates' exam. Some provincial executive indicated that the present exam was too difficult for beginning officials. Paul will take this matter under advisement.

Jim Cervo commented on NOCP. Provinces had indicated that a discrepancy existed from one province to another in the issuing of level 3 certification. Level 3 certification is a provincial responsibility, but it is hoped that reasonable uniformity in the granting of level 3 can be established among the provinces. Granting of level 3 certification is not just about 3-person competency (which is a must) but other competencies such as game management, teamwork and judgement.

The weekend following the Ottawa meetings, I travelled to Regina as one of the A/Es at the CIS Women's tournament. It was a pleasure to work the '3-person system' with Bill Denney and John Weiland. The 3-person A/E system was suggested by CABO Education Officer Jim Cervo and it was decided to experiment with it for a few years. Our experience with the new approach was mainly positive. Sitting close to the floor and at one end of the floor sometimes made communication difficult through the crowd noise. The person in the middle could hear all communications but the other two had to work at it. It was great to see so many new faces at this event for the first time. The hospitality by SABO and the Regina Board during the tournament was first class. On the Friday evening, these two organizations hosted a gathering for the officials, A/Es and local officials. It was nice to socialize with friends that we do not see often enough. Also the transportation arrangements were excellent.

I serve as the officials' liaison on the NPP (National Participant Program) Committee. The committee's main purpose is to explore avenues for increasing CB's membership numbers to more realistically reflect the actual numbers of players, coaches and officials participating throughout Canada. All officials who are CABO members already pay a CB membership fee. Also all club teams participating in provincial tournaments are members, but there are thousands of others who are not members. Although all participants receive benefits from CB which filter down to all, it is not always easy to convince individuals that tangible benefits exist. One benefit for participants is that all officials have received instruction from those who have benefited either directly or indirectly from mentors aided by CB and/or their provincial officials' organizations. At the high school level, younger coaches are the norm. I believe that CB must provide accessible programs to certify these new individuals. This will benefit the players and the game as a whole. Many of these players continue to play at some level after graduating from high school. An interesting observation is that some provincial officials' organizations have an excellent rapport with their PSO and others hardly talk.

CABO membership has declined by about 140 this season and sits at 4001 presently. Recruitment, training and retention of new officials continue to pose a challenge that the leaders within the provinces and the local associations must address on an on-going basis.

For me the planning for the AGM in Montreal, on September 19-21, is almost complete. Mike Homsy performed the legwork and the arrangements are well in hand. The location will be downtown at the Delta Centre-Ville. This will be an election year for all positions on the Executive. CABO Past President, Dave Morphy, will serve as the nomination chair person.

Cheers!

CCAA WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP 2013 CREW OF OFFICIALS



Back (l-r) Larry MacKenzie (NS); Paul Hanson (NS); Maripier Malo (QC); Mary-Alice Butts(NS); Jennifer MacKenzie(NS); Stephanie Nordlee(AB); Sandy Forand (A/E); Rob Anderson(A/E); Kevin Newcombe(NS)

Front(l-r)- Paul Coley(ON); Ryan Lutes(NS); Chris Spooney(ON); Charlie Taylor(NB); Dave Werry(A/E); Frank Dallaire(BC)

BECOMING THE BEST OF THE BEST

Submitted by Seward Nielsen, Interpreter for New Brunswick

Over the past forty-four years as an official, national assigner/evaluator, clinician and administrator, I have been afforded the opportunities and privilege of being in the presence of many of CABO's most respected and successful personalities. I have and continue to take advantage of these opportunities to listen and learn from the most experienced of CABO's ambassadors. It is from these numerous personalities that the points within this article have their genesis.

If one aspires to become "the best of the best ", as a CABO official, then the following points must become an integral part of the complete package that he/she presents to those who have the responsibility of identifying his/her talents and affording him/her officiating experiences appropriate to his/her individual developmental needs.

1) Physical fitness : a very high level of fitness that is achieved through a commitment to a yearly program that is tailored to the physical demands of the basketball official.

2) You are to conduct yourself as a professional both on and off the court at all times.

3) You are to be well-groomed at all times. There is no time for you to be "sloppy", either in appearance, attitude or commitment.

4) You are to always demonstrate support for your fellow officials whether on or off the court. There are private opportunities when you can offer constructive criticism to a struggling official who would appreciate your observations.

5) Rules, mechanics and interpretations : there is always something to be learned ! Commit to studying and reviewing these in a systematical manner throughout the year. Invite your officiating "buddies" to challenge your knowledge in these areas.

6) As well as knowing the prescribed individual and team mechanics, make a commitment to use them, as written, each and every time that you step onto the court. Be a positive role model for those who would aspire to the current officiating position that you have attained.

7) Each game, each official will have three to five situations to "sell a call " : these are opportunities to enhance your credibility and respect.

8) Communication : through your voice, body language and personal mechanics you must "tell " the players, coaches, partners and spectators why you chose to interrupt the game at that particular point in time. (An advantage was created or a disadvantage gained that was beyond the parameters of the rule and this is the consequence of that act.)

9) Coach's : most want only to be acknowledged ! If a coach says something in a respectful manner, then without being distracted, briefly listen to him. If a coach's behaviour is unsportsmanlike and/or distracting, then respectfully and concisely state that such conduct will not be permitted to continue. This is where your game management skills related to differing personalities will be tested. (A book could be written on this point alone !) Always take "the high road" and show respect for others. Remember silence cannot be quoted.

10) Be consistent : what you chose not to call in the first three minutes of each half should not be called in the last three minutes of the game.

11) Focus : this begins on your way to the gym and continues into the post-game analysis with your crew.

12) There are three teams on the floor : you and your partner(s) are one of the three.

13) The spectators pay their money to see the players compete. They do not pay to see us officiate. Know the rules, use the mechanics, work to understand the "complete game", be physically fit, develop a high level of interpersonal/communication skills and use all of these (and more) to enhance your ability to officiate a very fast paced game in which during the course of an hour and a half you will be expected to make one hundred and fifty or more decisions (each within the space of a second, at most) as to whether you will put air in your whistle and interrupt the flow of the game or not!

Becoming the best of the best is quite a challenge!

NABO MEMBERS RECEIVE ACCOLADES

By Gerard Brien, Interpreter for Newfoundland/Labrador

This past season saw basketball continue to grow in leaps and bounds in NL. One of the main reasons that our game is flourishing is the continued dedication of its officials. The Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association (NLBA) recently recognized the contributions made by NABO officials, when it announced that two of our officials will be inducted into the Provincial Basketball Hall of Fame in June.

Jamey Jennings, who will be inducted into the HOF as an Official, commenced his refereeing career in 1974. He has officiated through the entire province, including stints in Corner Brook, Plum Point, St. John's and Gander. He was a founding Executive member of the Central NL Association of Basketball Officials. He has officiated at numerous National and AUS Conference Championships, as well as at all levels of local, provincial and university ball.

He has been an Executive Member of NABO for several years and has served at various times as President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. He is currently the NABO Supervisor and serves on CABO's National Council. He has received numerous awards for his work as an official, including CABO's Wink Willox Award and NABO's Frank

King Award . He has conducted umpteen local and provincial rules and mechanics clinics and has served on the NABO Evaluation Board for several years. He is currently a CABO National Evaluator, as well as an Evaluator of the NABO University Panel. Jamey also organized the inaugural NABO Congress in 1984 and was a driving force behind the NABO Hoopfest in 2004. In addition to his outstanding achievements as an official, executive and organizer, he has also enjoyed success as a coach of numerous teams over the years.

Jamey's induction into the NLBA Hall of Fame has been long overdue and greatly deserved. He will now join the previous NABO inductees who entered the HOF as officials, namely Bill Redden, Bill Connolly, Frank King, Randy Ball, Peter Abbott, John Walsh and Gerard Brien.

Kevin Fitzpatrick, who will be inducted into the HOF as a Builder, has been involved in basketball since 1969, when, as a player, his beloved Holy Cross Crusaders won the first of Kevin's many championships. He has received several individual awards over his years as a player, including MVP, Top Scorer and Best Defensive Player Awards. Kevin has also had a successful coaching career and his teams have won numerous medals at the local, provincial and Eastern Canadian levels. His Holy Cross teams swept the gold medals of several tournaments for many years.

Kevin has also made his mark as an Executive member. He served as President of Metro Basketball for many years and was the co-founder of the extremely popular Margaret Breen Memorial Tournament. He received numerous awards for his work with the Metro League, including Lifetime Achievement and Honorary Lifetime Membership Awards. Kevin also served as an Executive Member of the NLBA for several years, and received many accolades, including two NLBA President's Awards and the NLBA Achievement Award. He was also a very good referee for many years, working numerous local and provincial championships. He served as President of the St. John's Association of Basketball Officials and was a driving force behind the development of novice officials in his region. Kevin enjoyed great success as a player, coach, official and organizer, and is well-deserving of HOF honours.

Both Jamey and Kevin have extraordinary basketball credentials. On behalf of NABO, I am extremely proud to recognize their outstanding achievements, and to congratulate them upon their induction into the NLBA Hall of Fame.

Welcome to the club!!!!