



Post Play Express

Vol.5, No.3, November 2013

HOMAGE TO DESERVING CABO MEMBERS

Each year, in conjunction with the CABO AGM, the contributions of distinguished CABO members are recognized by the attribution of the Wink Willox Award. Each province may recommend one of its members who has had significant contributions at the provincial level over the years,. The criteria are as follows:

1. *The candidate is recognized as a good floor official.*

In considering this criteria, it is expected that the individual is a good role model in his local area and is respected for the effort he puts into his game.

2. *Length of service.*

It is expected that the nominee has been active as an official for a minimum of ten years. The candidate who does not have ten years officiating may have significant experience as a coach or administrator which when combined with the years of officiating exceeds ten years.

3. *Varied forms of service.*

A candidate for this award must have had considerable experience as an official and some other experience such as executive officer in the local officials association.

4. *Administrative/Leadership Role.*

The candidate would, through demonstrated leadership, have made a significant contribution to the game of basketball through any number of roles or positions held within the local area.

For 2013, six persons were recommended and awarded the Wink Willox. Below are descriptions of their accomplishments.

Daniel Désilets of Quebec

Danny started his officiating career in 1979, and soon after, two years to be exact, he began refereeing at the university level which was then called the CIAU.

In the past 34 years, he has refereed at each national championship, including three CIS Women's and two CIS Men's tournaments. He is still active at the university level and at the minor levels in his region.

Danny is a very dedicated person in his region. He often undertakes multiple tasks in order to make sure that things are running smoothly. He has occupied almost all administrative roles and he is still the secretary of his regional association. He is also a supervisor. Provincially, Danny was the Education Officer from 2006 to 2009 when he accepted the position of Provincial Assigner/Evaluator of officials at the CCAA level.

In 2006, 2007, and 2012, he was in charge of the commissioners and table officials for the U15 and U17 national championships held in Sherbrooke, QC. This past summer, Danny was appointed as Director of transportation for the Canada Games in Sherbrooke.

Russ Boyle of Nova Scotia

In the game of basketball, there is a popular cliché that states, "Experience is the best teacher." One may say that this is especially true for basketball officials. Not many have had more experiences with the game in Halifax than this official.

For over 50 years, this official has been an integral part of the basketball community in Halifax. He didn't learn the game until his mid teens, but from that point forward he was an avid member of the community. As a player, coach, referee, scorekeeper, assignor and area supervisor, he has had the unique opportunity of holding every position. He has coached and officiated at the minor, junior high, high school and University ranks and when he walks into the gym, there is an air of acceptance and happiness felt by all (coaches, players and spectators). He was Halifax's Area Assignor for over 25 years. "The Basketball Hotline" was how you got in touch with him, and he would spend nights on the phone until 1 a.m. assigning games.

In the second half of his tenure as assignor, basketball's rapid growth in Halifax made his job a daunting one. Some weekends had over 400 games being played at all levels in the city. This required many hours on the phone and on the road, making sure that all games were played and officiated with the best quality. He took pride in doing his job with the utmost accuracy. He ensured officials had progressed through the Certification Program before assigning them a difficult game. All the while assigning, he managed raising a family of 5 and working full-time teaching high school mathematics.

He is the only Nova Scotian to win the Edith May Sliffe Award for outstanding mathematics teaching in North America. He also was the lone Scotian to receive a Descartes scholarship which is an upper-year prize or fellowship awarded to students in the Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Waterloo, based on outstanding performance in the previous year. The teacher in this official resonated on how he coached and how he currently officiates.

John McFarland of British Columbia

1983-2000, 2001-present	Member of Canada West University Women's Panel
1984-2000, 2001-present	Member of Canada West University Men's Panel
1985 to 1987, 1989, 1991	Selected to referee Canada West University Women's Final
1989, 1990, 1991	Selected to referee Canadian Intercollegiate Women's Championships
1992-2000, 2002-2010	Selected to referee Canada West University Men's Finals
1993, 1995-1997, 1999	Selected to referee Canadian university Men's Championships
2002, 2004	
1991	Received F.I.B.A. card for International Basketball
2000-2001	Member of Southern Basketball Officials Association-Raleigh, NC

International Assignments:

1991	Pre-World Junior Men's Championship Tournament
1992	Men's National Team Tour, Spain, Germany
1993	World University Games, Buffalo, New York
1995	Women's National Team Canadian Tour
1996	Jones Cup, Taipei, Republic of China
1998	Canada Summer Series
1999	Pan American Games, Winnipeg, Manitoba
2000	FIBA Diamond Bowl Pre-Olympic Tournament, Hong Kong
2001	Goodwill Games Basketball, Brisbane, Australia
2002	Senior men's Western Tour
2003	Olympic men's qualification tournament, Puerto Rico
2004	Senior Men's Western Tour
2005	World University Games, Izmir, Turkey
2006	Senior men's tour, China

Provincial Service

- Current member of the BCBOA Evaluators Panel**
- Current member of the BCBOA Clinicians Panel**
- 4 years Alberta Basketball Officials Association Vice-President**
- 3 years Alberta Basketball Officials Association President**

Local Service

- 2 years Member at large-Calgary Basketball Officials Association**
- 2 years Evaluation Committee Chairman-Calgary Basketball Officials Association**

Charles Ketter of Ontario

Charles Ketter was first registered as an official in 1957. He became a member of IAABO in 1976. He is still an active official. Charles' contributions over the last 50 plus years have been numerous at all levels in the province of Ontario.

Local Board

- 1958- 1961 President and Assignor of the North Bay Basketball Officials
- 1980- 1982 President Greater Sudbury Board of Basketball Officials (GSBBO)
- 2000-2002 Education Officer- GSBBO – College/University Assignor/Evaluator
- 2002-Present - President GSBBO – College/Elementary Assignor
- 2002- Present - Interpreter GSBBO

Provincial Board

- Assistant Evaluator with Referee-in-Chief to OFSAA High School Basketball Championships from 2002 to 2010
- Referee-in-Chief to OFSAA HS Championships: Sudbury (2003, AA-Girls)
- Provincial Evaluator from 2001 – present

Ontario Association Basketball Officials

- 2001 Interim Commissioner- development of OUA East Panel of Basketball Officials- Men & Women
- 2002-2007 Commission Member
- 2002 – present Observer for Men's and Women's OUA East Panel

Other Contributions

Greater Sudbury Elementary School Athletic Association

- Coach Elementary School , Grades Seven and Eight, Boys and Girls 35 years
- Convener of several annual high school tournaments since 2001
- President of the Sudbury Youth Basketball League (SYBL)
- Referee in Chief Valley East Youth League responsible for development of officials
- Attended OBA's Development Camps 2001- present

AWARDS and HONOURS

- 1996 Life Member GSBBO
- 2004 OABO Award of Achievement, Basketball Ontario
- Achievement Award 2006 – Greater Sudbury Elementary School Sports
- 2010 Life Membership award – International Association Approved Basketball Officials
- 2010 Provincial Community Sports Hero award
- 2013 Rainbow School Board Community Partnership award
- 2013 Kinsman Sports Hall of Fame Inductee in the Builder category

Jake Steinbrenner of Alberta

Alberta's 2013 Wink Willox Award Winner is certainly no stranger to basketball in Alberta, and his name is also one that will be recognized by many in Canada. This year's winner has long been regarded as one of Alberta's true leaders in basketball officiating.

He began his officiating career in Lethbridge right out of high school in 1975 - 1976. In 1981, he joined Keith Jorgensen, Steve Devcic, and Vlad Eshenko on a road trip to San Diego where he attended an Irv Brown Camp. There he met a number of officials including Dave Libbey and Freddy Carbonne and to this day our Award Winner and Dave Libbey remain very good friends. He joined the Basketball Alberta's Staff in the capacity of ABOA Program Co-ordinator in 1985. There, he spent several years working with Alberta's Executive Director, Don Warren, to help develop a fully functional Provincial Sports Organization which included officials along with players and coaches.

Over the years, this official spent time officiating in Lethbridge, Drayton Valley, Airdrie, Calgary and Edmonton and currently calls Edmonton his home. He is an accomplished floor official and has worked numerous City, Provincial and National Championships, including several CIS Men's Championships in Halifax.

He served as ABOA President from 1993 – 1997. He is currently the Assignor for all ACAC games in Alberta, a Panel of some 120 Officials. This role involves the game assignments for 14 ACAC schools or 28 teams, and requires considerable coordination with both the CWUAA Supervisor as well as the Local Boards who assign both High School & Recreational League games within their respective jurisdictions. In addition, he is currently a member of the CIS/CWUAA panel of officials and is an active member of CABO's Panel of National Evaluators.

But this award is not about this individual's on floor performance. It is about his work behind the scenes as one of the ABOA's premier leaders and mentors. This individual was a lead advocate in the launch of many of Alberta's highly successful Super Weekends and was often tasked with identifying, contacting and coordinating the travel itineraries and subject material for many of the featured clinicians that we have been fortunate to have over the years from across Canada as well as from the ranks of the NCAA and the NBA. He has also served as a Clinician at CABO's National Camps as well as CWUAA Camps, and was the driving force behind ABOA's first Officials Camp in 1994.

ABOA's 2013 Willox Winner currently serves as a member of the ABOA Executive as Chairman of Alberta's Evaluation Committee, a position he has held for many years. In that capacity, he coordinates the highly successful ACAC Exchange Program each year for the growing number of ACAC member schools. He is also very active every year both in the preparation for and during the ASAA High School Provincials. He tirelessly coordinates the appointments of Provincial Assignors/Evaluators to the 8 tournaments held across the province each March. The success of these programs is quite an accomplishment and is due in large part to the leadership of this individual. Forging these highly successful relationships with the ACAC and the ASAA, was an early vision and long term goal of our recipient and their continuing success is largely due to his determination.

But our award winner's work does not end there. He carefully scrutinizes the evaluations received on all officials locally, provincially and nationally to assist in the identification of potential leaders from across the province. As a result of his efforts in reviewing all provincial evaluations, officials in smaller centers such as Peace River, Vegerville and Ponoka have been identified and given opportunities to move up to the post secondary levels. Many of the officials he's identified have gone on to work key medal games nationally and some have been promoted to work in the Canada West Panel. He truly has both a Provincial and National officiating perspective, focussed largely on identification and development.

This one individual has probably done more to promote basketball officiating development than many organizations do over a 30 year time frame.

Todd Messer of New Brunswick

Todd Messer's involvement in the game of basketball began in Junior High School when he started playing in the community of Harvey, N.B. He continued to play during High School, then into Intermediate Men's play followed by the local Master's league in which he continues to compete. While in High School, he was asked to officiate Junior High School games, which provided him with his first taste of refereeing.

Todd officially began refereeing in 1987 while attending University. His class schedule enabled him to officiate 100 plus games each season at the mini and middle school levels. The experience he gained from these games allowed him to progress quickly to the High School levels and then on to the Collegiate and University levels.

Todd earned his "A" rating (now Level 3) in 1990 and he has been a fixture working end-of-season High School regional and sectional tournaments ever since. He has also worked a number of Final 12 Provincial High School Championships. Todd has worked ACAA games for the past 20 years and was a University panel member for nearly a decade before stepping down due to a knee injury a couple of years ago. He represented N.B. at the Canadian Junior Championships in Halifax in the late 90's and has been assigned to a number of ACAA Championships over the past 20 years.

In recent years, Todd has taken on administrative responsibilities at the local level and within the Provincial body of the NBAABO. Beginning in 2007, he represented our provincial Association as Vice-President for two years and was instrumental in striking a committee to overhaul travel policies for the officials. Todd has also served as Chair for the local zone in Fredericton for 10 of the last 12 years. During this time it has been a priority of his to ensure that there be an increase in the number of evaluations for every official regardless of experience, certification level or ability. More recently Todd has begun to divide his time on the court with more time in the stands as an evaluator of officials. He has found evaluating and providing feedback to be both rewarding and enjoyable. As a result of this initiative, the overall level of officiating within Zone 2 has been greatly improved.

Mr. Messer's past and continuing contributions as an evaluator, administrator and official enables him to be a very deserving candidate for recognition by NBAABO and CABO through the presentation of the Wink Willox award.

SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE VERY DESERVING CABO MEMBERS!