



May 2017 -Spring Edition

Jaime McCaig OABO President

OPENING REMARKS

Congratulations to Pat Laing who was formally inducted into the Basketball Ontario Hall of Fame on Tuesday, March 21 at halftime of the Toronto Raptors/Chicago Bulls Game. She was presented with her award by Stephanie Rudnick, President of Basketball Ontario and Jason Jansson, Executive Director of Basketball Ontario. At a reception prior to the game Sandy Forand, President of the Niagara Board made a very passionate speech about Pat's amazing contributions to the betterment of officiating over her illustrious career. We have posted pictures of the event in this edition of the Whistle and will recognize Pat at our annual Wall of Fame Dinner on September 30/2017.

OCAA

The final report of the Regional Assigning Committee was communicated electronically to all Presidents, Secretaries and Assignors on March 30. As part of the report

there was a survey to be sent to all College Officials via their Local Board Executive(s) to gauge feedback on the two year pilot project. I have also included a summary of the complete list of assignments for all Boards for the past two years. The feedback from Local Boards and results from the Survey showed support for continuing with OCAA Regional Assigning for 2017-2018. The report was also sent to the OCAA Executive Director, Athletic Directors and Head Coaches in order to have them review it prior to me attending the OCAA AGM on Thursday, May 4. I am pleased to announce the OCAA passed a formal motion to continue with Regional Assigning for 2017-2018.

IAABO

I attended the IAABO Spring AGM April 20-23 in Connecticut. Congratulations to Don Thorne IAABO Board 210 Kitchener Waterloo who was the recipient of the prestigious Life Membership Award. Don has been a huge supporter of IAABO in his many years as IAABO

Region 9 Rep and Secretary/Treasurer of OABO.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to Tom Lopes and Donnie Eppley. They played a key role as part of our Camp Staff at the Inaugural Canada Summer Games Tryout Camp held March 24-26 at the Abilities Centre in Whitby. Their experience was invaluable to our classroom sessions, postgame video review, overall rankings and Camp evaluations. We are currently working with IAABO to produce the 2017-2018 IAABO/FIBA Hand book with the Goal to have all books distributed to Local Boards by September 1, in time for their Fall Registration Meetings.

BASKETBALL ONTARIO

On behalf of the OABO Executive I want to thank the Local Boards for their support in moving forth with a two year Memorandum of Understanding with Basketball Ontario. We are currently working as well with Basketball Ontario on a

Recruiting Video to be distributed to all Local Boards.

The 'All Female' Officials Symposium was held April 29-30 at York University and the Abilities Centre in Whitby respectively. This was a follow up to the 'All Female' Officials Camp held in December. There was a combination of classroom sessions and observation of the OUA Women's All Star Game on Saturday. The game was videotaped so Campers could see the breakdown of video of University Officials. On Sunday there were classroom sessions followed by observation of Officials at the Midget Girls Provincial Championships. Special thanks to Bruce Covert for his organization of the Symposium and to all Camp Staff.

STAFF

Alyssa Ferreira	Lindsay Walsh
Frances Enns	Pamela Ferrante
Melissa Famme	Anna Del Col
Georgia Risnita	

CAMPERS

Kayla Larochelle	North Bay
Jessica Boutilier	North Bay
Nekesha Miller	Hamilton
Kelly Clark	Barrie
Stacy Newbigging	Hamilton
Carine DiMaio	Sudbury
Joanne Dexter	Seaway Valley
Rylie Grogan	London
Nicole Bennett	York

Atefeh Darvish	York
Eno Hemeng-Boateng	Toronto
Shauna Gravelle	S.S. Marie
Amy Cotton	Kingston
Ali Vlassman	London
Shanella Flemmings	Durham
Michelle Zander	Ottawa
Heidi Jaaskelinen	Guelph
Merrissa Martinuzzi	York
Tressa Joelle	Durham
Lei Lopez	Ottawa
Alexandra Yacub	York

2017 LOCAL BOARD PRESIDENTS MEETING

The meeting will be conducted by Conference Call this year and will be held on Thursday, May 11. Agenda Items discussed were as follows:

1. OCAA Regional Assigning
2. Provincial Evaluator clinic
3. 2017 OABO Seminar
4. 2017-2018 OFSAA/Modifications
5. NOCP Certification Levels
6. 2017-2018 IAABO/FIBA Handbook
7. OABO Development Camps
8. Demonstration of New OABO website
9. New FIBA Rule on Headgear

OABO DEVELOPMENT CAMPS

I am pleased to announce that all 2017 Development Camps are now full.

NOCP Levels

As previously mentioned, as an Executive we need to do a better job of working with our current National

Officials Certification Program and looking to promote officials not only at our Provincial Championships but as well at our OABO Development Camps. The OABO Executive in conjunction with OABO Camp Director Bruce Covert and his Camp Staff will be using the 2017 OUA Prospect and Elite Camps to evaluate NOCP Level 2 Officials to look at promoting them to NOCP Level 3 status

CLOSING REMARKS

The OABO Executive is very proud to be hosting the 2017 OABO Seminar & AGM September 29 to October 1 at the 4 star Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel located at 901 Dixon Road. You will find in this Edition a listing of the prices for purchase of Ads in the Seminar Program Booklet. We would certainly appreciate any and all support from Local Boards. The online registration will begin on May 15.

Jaime McCaig
President, OABO



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Rick Parnham OABO Vice President

Will spring finally get here and stay for the duration? It is hard to golf in the snow after all. It is the busy season both on and off the court for many of us. From provincial championships and AGM's, to development camps and political elections and appointments, this part of the year is filled with many things basketball. I want to take this chance to thank all those who have run for office and those leaving those offices held in your local boards. Our local boards are the backbone of OABO and without the dedication and commitment of people to volunteer to be executive members, part of committees and serve your local membership we would not be able to do the great things we do.

This leads me to a couple of special recognitions I would like to make to a pair of friends. At this

year's IAABO Spring meeting it was a great honor to witness my golfing buddy, OABO Secretary / Treasurer Don Thorne be presented with a most deserved Life Membership. The work you do for your local board, for Ontario and for IAABO is immense and we all benefit so much from your efforts. It was a proud day to share with you and Tina and your family and friends. Now if you could only hit a few more putts in the scramble... just saying. To my dear friend Dennis Herbert, words cannot express the gratitude we all owe you for the passion, vision and dedication to your work. Serving on the York Region executive for more than 30 years and advocating for Ontario officials at the IAABO table for all these years, it is humbling to see what you have given to support officials. I am proud to say you have been a huge reason for the opportunities I have been afforded in this game and I wish

you so much deserved rest and satisfaction in taking a small step back from the countless hours you have devoted to so many, for so long.

As chair of the OABO Constitution Committee I would ask that anyone looking to suggest amendments be aware of the August 15th deadline for submission. We are working on a couple projects, so the sooner you can reach out with your submissions the better we can work with you to get it prepared for September's AGM.

An update to the OABO golfers; I have secured ClubLink's The Country Club for our event. Details will be shared in the AGM registration package. Let's hope Mother nature treats us all with care and kindness that day.

For those who might have an interest, I have been returned by IAABO President Gintoli as chair of

the Membership Development Committee for a 4th term. The big task the committee is tasked to complete is to investigate practical and proven ways to develop interest and engagement in attracting new officials, especially in their teens. I know that many boards have programs

in place to help with growth in officiating. If you have ideas or some time to spare to be part of a group of talented and eager IAABO people to create tangible ways to grow our numbers and enlighten new people to our avocation, I would welcome you

to contact me and assist in whatever way you can offer.

As always, if I can be of assistance to any of you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Rick Parnham

Interpreter's Report-Mike McPhee

"Care". "It Matters". "There are two teams out there". These are perhaps the most famous words spoken by Peter Webb, the IAABO co-ordinator of officials (retired), who was honoured at the IAABO AGM in Connecticut, at the awards banquet on Saturday April 22. I personally heard him speak them at many fall rules seminars, and on Interpreters' conference calls.

He once asked a fellow official, "If basketball could speak what would it say about the way you officiate?" It is an excellent question to reflect upon as the long fall and winter season winds down, and the Ontario Cup games test our stamina, both physical and mental. Let us all take the time to think about how we officiate, and ponder our responsibility for some of the issues that will be discussed in this article.

To "care" about THE GAME means trusting its rules. There is no hierarchy about some rules being more important than others, and yet we seem to be caught up in believing that there are some

things that aren't important or some that shouldn't be enforced at "higher" levels. As a result evaluators are seeing an increase in illegal contact, and missed or misruled violations. While watching games either live, or on video three important areas of lack of care for the game are evident.

The "Set Aside" Rules:

There are a number of these, but the one that is a critical ingredient of the game is **3-seconds**. Officials don't seem to notice where players are located relative to the lane, or are in fact not willing to make rulings because of things they have observed or have been told. The "not noticing" factor seems to be because they are intent on watching the physical contact of players, or are in fact watching the ball instead of their PCA. The "not willing to rule" aspect is more of a concern. I have heard officials say they don't know when to "make a call" because "nobody else does" or they have been given information

to the effect that 3 seconds is a disruptive call. So they hear comments like; "Why are you interrupting the game for that?" "You can't call that at this point in the game" or "Get it early, or don't call it at all." As a result of these factors, we have players in excess of 3 seconds, who receive a pass, pass to a teammate, set a screen or even worse draw a foul. Those results are exactly why coaches keep harping about "how long in there". By not making rulings we send the message that in our opinion the offensive team is more important than the defensive team.

Missed/Misruled Violations:

Once again there are a number (ball handling, back court violations, basket interference) but the one that is of the greatest concern is travelling. That is why it's a continual CABO point of emphasis. I was the recipient of a collection of *15 Videos of Inaccurate Ruling in One Game.*

They all covered Travelling, and almost all showed blatant moves that were missed. There were some that showed up to 4 steps taken while holding the ball (on drives to the basket), some where a clearly illegal spin move occurred, and some that had a foul charged to the defender after a clear travel had been committed by the offensive player. The sad part of it all was that the game was an NCAA Tournament game officiated by highly rated officials. It would be bad enough if the errors were because of lack of pivot foot awareness, or not having a clear view of the play but the game was 3-person with two officials watching the play in most cases. What does come across

pretty clearly is that the officials seem to be caught up in the "show" of the game, the desire of the spectator to see "athletic moves", offensive success, and the "wow" factor.

I'm sure all of us have had one of the following comments tossed our way after blowing the whistle to make a ruling on illegal pivot movement:

"That's a spin move!" -In fact most spin moves are travels, and many videos that teach them demonstrate a move that is clearly a travel.

"It's a Euro Step!" - There is no definition of a Euro Step that allows the pivot foot to retouch.

"He was gathering the ball!" - Either the ball is in the hands of the player or it isn't.

The job of us as basketball Officials is to, "Monitor the activity and make accurate rulings based on the "written word" found in the Rules and the Interpretations". The rulings cannot be based on an Official's "feel for the game," some unique "philosophy," a personal "call selection" or even the Official's "judgment." No ruling can "go either way." Thanks to Ray McClure for the previous statement.

Illegal Contact

The last IAABO/OABO conference call of the season on March 21st gave the participants the opportunity to view some video clips that Don Thorne shared from the OCAA championships. They showed a number of illegal contact situations that were ruled legal by the officials by not sounding the whistle and stopping play. The issues were:

1. Dead Ball –contact not penalized.
2. Rough "wrestling" contact with players thrown to floor. –not penalized.
3. Illegal Displacement on "Box Outs"
4. "Piling On" Contact resulting in a held ball ruling.
5. Defender taking the landing spot away from a jump shooter.
6. Offensive player displacing defender when posting up.

Some of the rulings were missed because of positioning or coverage, but the main concern for us is that too many were illegal situations that the official saw, and decided not to enforce the rule. By doing so the officials on a game allow

an escalation of physicality and temperament that creates more and more rough play.

THE GAME is played by teams and individuals of different ages and varying abilities. The rules of the game are set out to allow for equal opportunities for both

the offensive team and the defensive team. We as officials owe it to the participants in the game regardless of their level of play a chance to succeed. The rules are set to allow for that. If an Official rules

illegal activity to be legal and/or legal activity to be illegal then the Official has "MISRULED" the game. We as basketball Officials cannot have our own opinion about a rule. The game isn't about you or me. We are there to honour it and to make it safe, fair and fun.

OFSAA 2017-18

Ofsaa will continue to use the FIBA rules modifications that were introduced this past season. They were pleased with the results, and didn't feel that there were any issues that needed to be dealt with. It is important to note that they did make

some tweaks, after we pointed out some problems with straight FIBA rules regarding disqualified players, or players not on the score sheet. From our point of view as officials, the time-out situation is the most problematic, and we did have some errors in local situations where an extra time-out was granted. The shot clock situation did not however turn out to be the problem that was anticipated.

FIBA Changes

The CABO updates from January were published in the February article. Since that time FIBA introduced Mike McPhee- OABO Interpreter

changes that were effective March 1st. They were adopted for play at the OBA level and will be included across the board for play beginning in the fall. The updates were communicated to each board, and will be published in the Whistle for the Summer edition.

In closing, I hope everyone has a rewarding and restful summer season. If you are hurting take the time to recharge. If heading to camps have a constructive experience.

Northern Report – Brian Seccareccia

NORTHERN REPORT

Northern Rep-- Brian Seccareccia

With Spring approaching the basketball season is winding down in the North as the local, regional, provincial and national championships concluded. We hosted two OFSAA provincial championships in the North in March and from all reports both were very successful as the coaches, players and officials enjoyed the Northern hospitality

that Sault Ste. Marie and North Bay when they hosted the OFSAA Boys AA and OFSAA Boys AAA Championships respectively. We wish all the teams participating in the OBA Championships all the best. Listed below are the highlights from of the following Northern Boards.

MUSKOKA and PARRY SOUND Submitted by Paul Doiron

Muskoka, Parry Sound had it's own form of "March Madness" this year except it occurred in January. Eight snow days in January of which seven were also game days for the High School Boys Basketball league resulted in a "madness" of trying to reschedule games. But when the league convenor and our assignor were having to reschedule games that already had been rescheduled, the madness became too great and two league tournaments replaced the

remainder of the season. Everything worked out very well considering all of the circumstances.

Coming from a small board, it is always necessary for us to bring in new officials to ensure we can meet our regional officiating responsibilities. This year through our interpreter/evaluator and senior mentors we were able to introduce three new officials to our ranks. This year in Muskoka, Parry Sound we have seen an increase in OBA teams in both boys and girls basketball and this has extended our officiating season. It is very rewarding to see the number of boys and girls playing basketball in our region on the rise! It is hard to believe another year is coming to a close and I want to thank all of our members for their support throughout the season.

NORTH BAY

Submitted by John Fong

We had a very busy March as we hosted the NOSSA “AAA” Regional Championships and the Boys OFSAA “AAA” Championships at Nipissing University and Canadore College. Our association had five officials (Phil Forbes, Rick Cowden, Desi Collins, Rob Roy, and Johnny Fong) working in the

tournament. It was a very successful tournament with all officials working many games. It was an honour and pleasure for our board to host the out of town officials who officiated in the tournament. The end of the OCAA men’s season concluded with a few home games for Canadore. They competed in many close games, but they were not able to make the playoffs as they lost out in a tiebreaker. The rest of the season is coming to an end as the elementary basketball league and OBA club teams are finishing their season. We will be hosting a FRANCO-ONTARIO Elementary Tournament in early May as well as our spring community league will keep us busy.

Our AGM took place at the beginning of April and our executive remains the same as last year: President: Johnny Fong, Vice-President: Rick Cowden, Secretary-Treasurer: Desi Collins, Assignor: Phil Forbes, Interpreter: Rob Roy.

SAULT STE. MARIE

Submitted by Jeff Bussineau

The spring of 2017 featured several high-profile events for the officials of the Sault Board. It

began with the Guy Vetrie Invitational high school tournament, in which in an exciting basketball final Toronto Academy came from behind to defeat Pickering. Our local playoffs resulted in some upsets as the number four seed ended up winning the city championship. Two of our members, Jeff Bussineau and Chris Spooney (dual Sudbury) were able to officiate metal games at the OCAA Men’s Championships. Sault Ste. Marie hosted the OFSAA “AA” Boys Provincial Championships and we would like to thank R/C’s Craymer Forth, Chester Graham and Brian Seccareccia for their feedback and the opportunities provided to all of the officials. The tournament was a huge success and everyone enjoyed the northern hospitality provided by the Sault. Three of our officials were selected to officiate the metal games: Jeff Bussineau and Chris Siegman were selected to do the gold metal game and Dave Zagordo was selected to do the bronze metal game. The other local officials Vito Tassone, Dan Bruni, Wyatt Poser and Shauna Gravelle also officiated in the tournament. We finished our season by officiating some OBA club games at the end of April.

SUDBURY

Submitted by Andy Bajc

The Greater Sudbury Board of Basketball Officials (GSBBO) is largely through the 2016-17 season with elementary and club ball accounting for the majority of remaining games. In 2017, GSBBO will have covered in excess of 400 elementary (Grades 5/6 and Grades 7/8) and youth league games providing valuable experience to our young officials. Boy's Junior and Senior NOSSA AA championships were held in Sudbury with 10 games covered by GSBBO. Local officials, Jesse Plouffe, Stewart Fairwell and Wayne Lozier attended the OFSSA AA championships in Sault Ste. Marie with S. Fairwell covering the consolation final and J. Plouffe awarded the bronze medal game. OCAA regular season games concluded at the beginning of February with 9 local officials covering games in North Bay, Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie. The men's winter league at Cambrian College recently concluded with 48 games being covered. To date, the local board has covered 20 OBA club games.

Notable opportunities for local officials include Alyssa Ferreira and Chris Spooney attending the OCAA women's and men's championships, respectively and

each being assigned the bronze medal games. Marty Nadeau, Chris Pakkala, Chris Spooney and Alyssa Ferreira were invited to attend an identification camp in Whitby for the Canada Summer Games. A. Ferreira's and C. Spooney's names were both forwarded to CBOC with C. Spooney being selected to attend the Canada Summer Games in Winnipeg this summer (U17 Boys). Local officials Steve Lafreniere, Jesse Plouffe, Carine Dimaio and Zack Henderson will be attending the Prospect 3-person Camp in Kitchener-Waterloo, May 5-7 and Chris Spooney, Alyssa Ferreira and Marty Nadeau will be attending the Elite Camp in Kingston, May 26-28.

THUNDER BAY

Submitted by Rod Miller

* We provided officials for all Varsity and Junior Varsity Boys (120 games) at the high school level in Thunder Bay, as well as select tournaments in nearby (within 600 km) communities. Our officials were key to the completion of all high school playoffs at the AA level in Thunder Bay, and at AA and A levels in nearby communities.

* Our group worked the St Ignatius Falcon Invitational Tournament which consisted of

90+ assignments over 2.5 days. A busy weekend for our small group of officials.

* We continue to provide officials for Lakehead University varsity scrimmages.

* We officiate the local Masters (16 games) and Mens league (98 games), which truly tests our officials' endurance and capacity.

* We provide officials for the local Grade 9 Midget annual tournament.

* Our group also supports the local Blaze and Junior Wolves program by providing officials. (24 games)

* We are training 2 new officials this spring, and into the summer.

* One of our officials, Matt Goble, is travelling this summer to the OUA Elite camp, Roger Caufield's Elite camp in Halifax and the Elite CPA camp in Montreal. A busy summer indeed for the young chap.

TIMMINS

Submitted by Pierre Thibodeau

It has been a busy time for the Timmins Board in the past few months. We had the High School Boy's, Intermediate, OBA, and the Men's and Women's leagues were

all in action. Evan Colameco, Rick Cornell, Angelo Lia and Pierre Paul Thibodeau travelled to the James Bay Coast to Moose Factory and Mooseonee to officiate the first Moose Cree Basketball Tournament. The tournament featured Intermediate, High School, and Men and Women teams. All of the games were played in front of appreciative crowds!

Timmins officials travelled to various parts of the North including Iroquois Falls, Cochrane and Englehart for regular season play. In the Boys High School Championships for Junior and Senior we travelled to Smooth Rock Falls, Kapuskasing, New Liskeard, as well as our local Timmins playoffs. With the help of our neighbouring Sudbury officials (Stu Fairwell, Wayne

Lozier, and Zach Anderson) we were able cover the Zenon Ziemba High School Tournament hosted by O’Gorman High School. Our association will wrap our Spring season officiating the annual Michele Belanger Women’s Tournament being held in early May

The PBOA sent four officials to Moosonee and Moose Factory to referee the first annual Moosonee Mens / Womens tournament . The crew drove the ice road up to Moosonee and enjoyed there time with demonstrative crowds and appreciative players



NOCP Certifications and Provincial Evaluators

Let's review where we are at and where we are going in respect to the National Official's Certification Program and Provincial Evaluators.

NOCP

Many of you have just completed and submitted the survey sent out by the CBOC on the National Official's Certification Program. This is a first step in a process to review, amend if needed and support the NOCP going forward. I look forward to what the survey reveals and where it may lead. The end game being, in my mind, further support in the areas of training and educational as well as certification tools. For those of you not familiar, the NOCP provides a framework for certification of officials across the Canada. The idea being that an official in one part of the country has been certified to each Level using the same criteria and standards. A Level 2 official in Ontario thus is equivalent to a Level 2 official anywhere else across

the country and should that official move keeps that Level wherever they go. Levels 0, 1 and 2 are the responsibility of local boards. The local board certifies officials to those levels. Level 3 is provincially certified. Level 4 nationally and Level 5 by FIBA.

A focus of this provincial executive is to ensure that all our officials across the province have an NOCP level, Boards are certifying their officials appropriately and we as a Province provide the support and opportunities for officials to certify to Level 3 and then to advance officials forward for Level 4 as opportunities present themselves.

I just returned from the OABO Pre-Elite Camp which was designated as a potential Level 3 certification opportunity. Level 3 certification involves officiating 3-person at a competition level such as a provincial championship and evaluation by 2 separate provincial evaluators who would provide assessments, make recommendations to the Provincial Executive. The Provincial Executive then makes the decision.

Of 28 officials at the camp, 5 were Level 3, 6 were Level 2, 8 were Level 1 and 9 were Level 0 by virtue of their designation showing as '0' or having no Level showing in the system. Every official has a file containing their basic info; address, contact info, what board you are with or dual to, year joined OABO, year joined IAABO and NOCP level. It is important to keep this information accurate. An example being the e-mail addresses and thus log-ins for the National FIBA Exam were used in setting up exam access. Officials had trouble accessing the exam as their e-mail address was different than what was in their file.

Every official can see their own file. For local administration purposes the local President, Secretary and Interpreter can see the files for their own local officials. There is a responsibility for both the local board and individual official to ensure accuracy. To check your file To see your file go to 'ooboadmin.ca', use your email address that your secretary used to set up your file and then enter your password. If you don't know what your password is select

"forgot password" and follow the steps.

There should not be officials in the system without an NOCP level. If you do not have a Level or are a Level O or Level 1 and feel you should be a Level 2, contact the appropriate person on your local Executive. Local Boards should be looking to certify all their officials to Level 2 as they meet the criteria. The Pre-Elite camp provided the opportunity to recommend 15 officials to Level 2 that weren't designated to Level 2 locally.

The Elite Camp and IAABO Referee School at the end of May will provide further opportunities for NOCP Level Certification. The intention is to actively identify and provide Level 3 certification opportunities to the OABO membership going forward.

Provincial Evaluators

To have an effective development, advancement and certification program you have to have personnel in place to affect that program. Local Boards each have their own set-up for education and training, generally the responsibility of the Interpreter or Education Officer, and for on-court development and assessment, the responsibility of an

Evaluation Officer or the like and their team. It is their responsibility to develop and certify officials locally.

Provincially, there is a panel of Provincial Evaluators. These Evaluators act as Referee-In-Chiefs at OCAAs, OFSAAs, Juel and Juel Prep. As well, they are available to travel to Boards outside their own on request to provide evaluations. To help cover costs of bringing in a provincial evaluator there was \$1000 budgeted this past season that Boards could apply for some funds from. Peterborough took advantage of that this past season. I know a couple of Boards that also had provincial evaluators come in that did not apply for any subsidy. Having an outside voice/perspective is often well received by officials. Another advantage is to have, in theory, the most up-to-date and accepted criteria and messages provided.

I did say 'in theory'. To be consistent in our assessments we need to focus on enhancing the consistency amongst the evaluators. One of those steps was the publishing of the FIBA Terminology and suggestions for evaluations that was published this past season. I am also looking at implementing some on-going professional development.

One such initiative is there will be a 1 day educational workshop this August. Details will follow as soon as finalized.

Besides the evaluators on the list, I am opening this up to others. I have been contacted by more than half a dozen people interested in being a Provincial Evaluator and what the process and criteria is to become one. There are presently 35 evaluators on the list but some are inactive. The list will be reviewed over the next months and more information published in respect to process and expectations. The numbers were roughly based on being able to provide each evaluator an assignment every 2 years. I am looking to increase the number. That said, how much is dependent on what we have as a vision for the list.

I will be contacting Boards for input. Stay tuned for more information and make-up of invitees and/or applications to attend.

Summer Selections

I would like to congratulate the following officials who will be representing us this summer:

Canada Games

Chris Spooner
Frances Enns
Kayla Herdman

Sudbury
Ottawa
Sarnia

U15 Summer Games

Daniel Falloon
Heidi Jaaskelainen

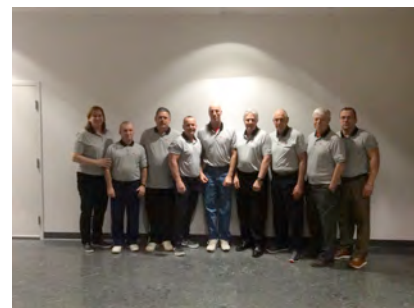
Toronto
Guelph

OFSAA CREW Pictures AA followed by A from Girls Nov 2016



Summer Camp Tryout

The first one is the Campers and
the second one is Camp Staff.



From the Desk of the Secretary/Treasurer & IAABO D9 Rep

IAABO News

The Canadian contingent who attended the IAABO spring conference at the Foxwoods Casino in Connecticut this past April included Jaime & Cathy McCaig, Rick Parnham, Dennis Herbert, Mike & Ursula McPhee, Brian Israel, Tim Laurain, Tina Thorne and myself. One of the highlights of the meeting was to hear that Harvey Bishop will

receive his 50 Year Service to IAABO this year.



I want to take this time to thank the Kitchener Waterloo board, in particular President Bill Milks, for nominating me for IAABO Life

Membership as well as the Ontario Executive for their support with the nomination process. Thank you so much to the above mentioned Canadians who made the trip and attend the banquet and to everyone who have expressed congratulations over the past few months. This award means a lot to me and I am very honoured and proud in being only the 12th Canadian (10th

OABO member) to have receive this prestigious recognition.



The 2017 IAABO Fall Seminar will be held in Newark, Delaware the 2018 Spring Meeting will be in Ocean City, Maryland.



OABO News

The OABO OUA Prospect Development Camp has just

completed. This Camp was geared towards officials wanting to improve their three person mechanics as well as those hoping to be looked at for future considerations to the OUA Panel. Tim’s article within this edition contains news of the NOCP advancements that the OABO Executive will finalize at our next Exec meeting in July.

2017 OABO AGM

Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel 901 Dixon Road September 29 to October 1st 2017

On-line registration will be posted on our web site very soon. All members will be notified when registration is open.

Pricing will be as follows

Full Weekend Package (includes all sessions, hospitality rooms for all nights, Wall of Fame Banquet \$275 Value) Before September 1st \$175 after September 1st \$250

Wall of Fame Banquet (does not include hospitality room) Before September 1st \$75 after September 1st \$100

Hospitality room for Thursday or Friday night before September 1st \$50 after September 1st \$ 100

Hospitality room for Saturday night only before September 1st \$30 after September 1st \$50

Saturday sessions only (does not include Wall of Fame Banquet or Hospitality room) before September \$100 after September \$125

Golf will be extra Country Club at Woodbridge (Golflink Course) will include green fees, cart and lunch – Before September 1st \$120 after September 1st \$150

OABO Deadlines:

Please review the next items carefully. The deadline dates are extremely important.

****URGENT****: Next year rule book orders must be in **no later than Friday**

July 1st. The OABO Executive encourages all members to purchase the IAABO FIBA Rules Handbooks. **NOTE:** IAABO members receive the FIBA handbook as part of their IAABO membership.

Nominations for OABO Award of Merit will be accepted up to midnight **July 1, 2017**. The OABO Award of Merit nomination must come from Local Boards and are presented annually to OABO members in recognition of their contribution to a Local Board.

As I mentioned at the recent President's meeting, we, the OABO Executive, are very disappointed that we do not receive an abundance of nominations yearly. Last year we presented two awards to truly deserving candidates.

Local Board Reports are due **no later than August 1st**. Please email them to me in either Word or PDF format. Reports should include the names and contact info of your Executive Committees, number of officials, number of games assigned, accomplishments of the members of your board i.e. OFSAA championships etc, and anything else you want to ramble on about as long as it can be printed on preferably one page, 2 pages max.

The three OABO Executive Positions that are up for election this year are Rules Interpreter, Membership Support Officer and Secretary/Treasurer. Mike, Tino have been reminded that they need to provide me with specific required information **no later than August 1st** if they intend to run for re-election. I

will notify the Local Board Presidents and Secretaries by email on or before August 15th of those intending to stand for re-election. After August 15th, according to Article 8.3.2: "Any member of the OABO in good standing, other than a present Executive member, who wishes to nominate an OABO member in good standing for election to a position on the OABO Executive at an AGM as per Article 8.2 must submit, to the OABO Secretary-Treasurer, **by August 31st** in the year of that AGM the following information: Name of the Candidate, Candidate's Local Board, Position being Nominated For, Consent to be Nominated, Name of the Nominator, Nominator's Local Board. The OABO Secretary-Treasurer will forward the names of all candidates to the last known contacts of all the Local Boards by September 5, of the year of that AGM by e-mail."

Any proposed change to the Constitution must be submitted to Rick Parnham **no later than July 15th**. The Constitution Committee will send back all proposed changes which I will send to the Local Board Presidents and

Secretaries by email on or before August 31st.

CABO's Ritchie/Nicurity Scholarship deadline for application is **August 31st**. Keep in mind there are several things needed to complete the application. Information and forms can be found at www.cabocanada.org and click the "Forms" button.

Well that's about it for me. I always end on a golf note especially since we are in that time of year so.... Last year I mentioned that I was team captain of The Bogey Men in our Men's Night League out at Conestoga Golf Course. My team won the league last year. Not bad for a rookie captain if I say so myself. Repeating will be tough but after week two we are in 5th place only 2 pts back of 1st place. It's going to be a photo finish.

Have a good safe summer.

Don

Membership Support Officer's Message - Tino DeCastro

NEWS AROUND ONTARIO

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of fellow active OVBABO member, Cliff Stark. Below is a message from his son. I do not

have any other information at this time.

Best Regards,

Tamara McNulty
OVBABO Communications and Liaison
Officer

Cliff William Stark 1938-2017

With a heavy heart I regret to inform you that Cliff passed away March 15. He spoke often of the wonderful

colleagues he had the pleasure of knowing and working with through OVBABO and cherished every moment that he spent on the court.
Sincerely,
Ryan

Please inform his friends colleagues as appropriate. Arrangements will be for cremation and private family time. Remember him as the true

gentleman that he was. Courage in red.

Rest In Peace Glen Selkirk- We take a moment to celebrate his life!

Glen had a lot of friends in the refereeing and the basketball community. He leaves behind a wife, Enid, and two young children named Alexander and Maja, respectively 11 and 9 years old. An education fund has been established for the kids. .

Glen had been living with a serious health condition for many years. His high level of fitness (he was a former Varsity Blues basketball player), positive attitude, indomitable spirit and will to live kept him going strong when many others would have succumbed to this affliction long ago. He displayed this courage and will to stay with his family until his final moments.

I have included a link to a short biography from the University of Guelph @ Humber where he was a professor of cellular biology, thermal physiology and kinesiology.

<https://www.guelphhumber.ca/news/dr-glen-selkirk-appreciation-human-life-and-those-who-sacrifice-theirs>

Ottawa Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials - Visit Canada's Wonderland

Good afternoon,

At Canada's Wonderland, we understand and value the hard work that you and your organization do to make the world a better place. We want to help you celebrate your successes with a fun day at Canada's Wonderland this summer! For any Contact me if you're interested in visiting Canada's Wonderland during our exciting 2017 season.

groups over 15 people, we can offer special group admissions pricing. For any group larger than 50, you can upgrade your day and add an All-You-Can-Eat catered picnic in one of our three exceptional dining venues.

Whether you come for the rides, or for our water park, **Splash**

Works, Canada's Wonderland is the perfect place to host your next celebration. Come join us in Canada's 150th year for all thrills and laughs that make Canada's Wonderland the premiere theme park destination in Canada!

Keeragh Robertson

Special Markets Sales Representative | [Canada's Wonderland Special Markets](#)

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(p) 905.832.7506 (f)905.832.7499

keeragh.robertson@canadaswonderland.com

OBA News

03/27/2017

SUCCESSFUL CANADA SUMMER GAMES SELECTION CAMP FOR OFFICIALS HOSTED AT OBLX WEEKEND

Ontario Basketball (OBA), in partnership with the Ontario Association of Basketball Officials (OABO), hosted the first Canada Summer Games Selection Camp for officials. Twenty-three high-level Ontario officials converged at the Abilities Centre in Whitby on March 23–25 with the hopes of being one of the six officials nominated to referee at the 2017 Canada Summer Games in Winnipeg this summer.

Officials were evaluated by camp staff while they refereed the Ontario Basketball League (OBL) X U16 Major Midget Girls games. Additionally, they participated in a number of professional development sessions throughout the weekend.

The camp featured three esteemed guest speakers: Tom Lopes and Donnie Eppley from the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials (IAABO) and Nancy Ethier, a former FIBA-carded official.

Lopes has been a member of IAABO for 45 years, where he currently serves as Executive Director. For 20 years, Lopes ran the courts of the NCAA Men's Division I tournament and three Final Fours.

Eppley works closely with Lopes as Assistant to the Executive Director at IAABO. Eppley has officiated over 800 Division I basketball games in ten conferences. A huge proponent of the Special Olympics, Eppley has volunteered as an official at both national and international events.

Quebec-native Ethier was a FIBA-carded official for 11 years. She officiated at the 2004 Olympics Games and at numerous world championships and other FIBA competitions between 1999 and 2009.

The speakers each led a professional development session and assisted in evaluating the officials. Provincial evaluators from OABO and Ontario University Athletics (OUA) were also brought in from across the province.

OBA's Manager of Officiating Development and camp organizer, Bruce Covert, was pleased with the top-notch group of evaluators assembled, "The knowledge and experience the evaluators shared was greatly appreciated by all camp participants. It will contribute to their future development, whether selected for the Canada Summer Games or not. Feedback from all involved has been extremely positive."

Camp participant and current OUA official, Frances Enns, confirmed, "The camp staff was exceptional and brought a wealth of knowledge to the classroom sessions as well as on the court. I was able to reconnect with fellow officials and meet new faces from across Ontario. Overall, I had an excellent experience at the camp."

Jaime McCaig, OABO President and camp evaluator, commended the camp participants, "The campers provided high-quality officiating for all the games and made our decision as camp staff a difficult one to select the top six officials to be nominated."

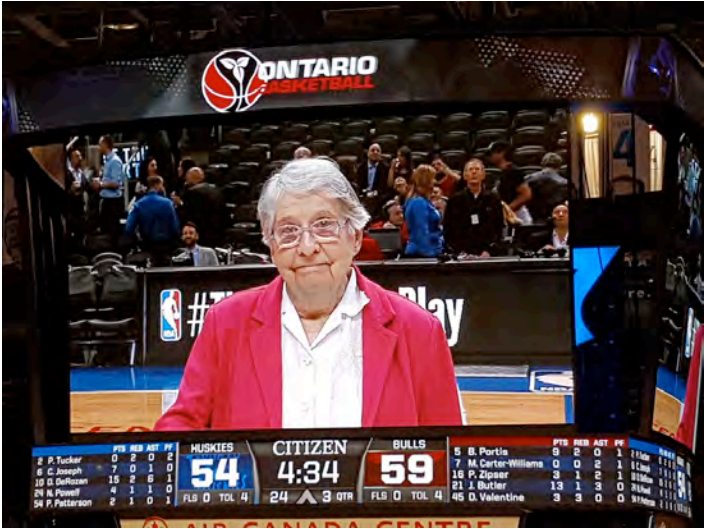
McCaig also conveyed his gratitude for the camp staff, "I give my sincere appreciation to my fellow camp staff for their dedication and time over the weekend. Thanks as well to Bruce Covert for all his hard work in organizing this inaugural camp. This new venture is a result of OABO's excellent working relationship with Ontario Basketball and our shared vision of officiating development across the province."

Ontario Basketball gratefully acknowledges the Government of Ontario for their generous financial support that made the first Canada Summer Games Selection Camp possible. Additionally, OBA thanks the camp's guest speakers and the following OABO and OUA evaluators who served on the camp's evaluation committee:

Donnie Eppley, IAABO Assistant to the Executive Director -----Nancy Ethier, Former FIBA Official
Doug Harris, OUA Observer; Former OUA Supervisor-----Brigg Harvey, OUA Director of Officials
Tim Laurain, OABO Provincial Supervisor----Tom Lopes, IAABO Executive Director----Jaime McCaig, OABO President
Don Thorne, OABO Secretary/Treasurer-----James Wallace, OUA Observer.

Pat Laing being inducted into the Basketball Ontario Hall of Fame

At halftime of the Toronto Raptor/Chicago Bulls game on Tuesday, March 21.





The one below of Pat receiving her OBA Hall of Fame award at Centre Court.

Left to Right

1. Jason Jansson Executive Director Basketball Ontario

2. Pat Laing Inducted in Officiating Category

3. Sue Stewart - Inducted in Athlete Category

4. Stephanie Rudnick President, Basketball Ontario



OABO EXECUTIVE-2016/17

President	Vice President	Secretary-Treasurer	Supervisor	Interpreter	Membership Support Officer
Jaime McCaig	Rick Parnham	Don Thorne	Tim Larain	Mike McPhee	Tino DeCastro
386 County Rd 28	272 Elmview Gardens	563 Westheights Drive	874 Graham Sideroad	Box 297 36 Thomas St	56 Rusholme Rd
Belleville, Ontario	Keswick, Ontario	Kitchener, ON	Newmarket, ON	Harriston, ON	Toronto, ON
K8N 4Z7	L4P1G1	N2N 1M6	L3Y4N9	N0G 1Z0	M6J3H5
<i>jaimemccaig@gmail.com</i>	<i>rparnham@rogers.com</i>	<i>donthorne@sympatico.ca</i> <i>dthorne@northfieldmetal.on.ca</i>	<i>timlaurain@rogers.com</i>	<i>oabo.interpreter@gmail.com</i>	<i>decastro123@rogers.com</i>

OCAA ASSIGNMENTS over 2 years						
Board	2015/16			2016/17		
	Old Format	New Format	+/-	Old Format	New Format	+/-
Barrie	51	43	-8	57	50	-7
Brantford	0	5	5	0	1	1
Cobourg	0	3	3			0
Durham	51	60	9	57	57	0
Guelph	0	4	4	0	11	11
Hamilton	108	104	-4	102	108	6
Kent	0	5	5			0
Kingston	51	62	11	57	59	2
KW	0	9	9	0	8	8
London	54	55	1	51	48	-3
North Bay	30	24	-6	30	16	-14
Niagara	54	49	-5	51	49	-2
Ottawa	81	72	-9	84	85	1
Peel	54	63	9	51	54	3
Peterborough	30	28	-2	30	22	-8
Quinte	51	41	-10	57	50	-7
Sarnia	54	50	-4	51	52	1
Sault	54	50	-4	51	43	-8
Sudbury	54	64	10	27	49	22
Toronto	207	201	-6	216	212	-4
Windsor	54	46	-8	51	49	-2
	1038	1038	0	1023	1023	0



2017

OABO FALL SEMINAR PROGRAM AD BOOK

Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel
September 29/October 1

Name: _____

OABO Board Name/Business Company

Address: _____

City _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail _____

AD Size: Please circle one

No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
Full Page	Half Page	¼ Page	Business Card	Patron's Page
\$125.00	\$75.00	\$50.00	\$35.00	\$25.00

All ads should be submitted in black and white and camera ready.

Business cards will be accepted and enlarged to fit ad size if requested.

ADS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY AUGUST 31, 2017

Submitting your ad today will ensure the success of the Hospitality Suite & Educational Sessions

CHEQUE PAYABLE TO: ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL OFFICIALS & ON THE CHEQUE PLEASE REFERENCE: OABO FALL SEMINAR 2017 PLEASE MAIL TO THE ATTENTION OF THE OABO TREASURER DON THORNE AT: 563 Westheights Drive, Kitchener, Ontario, N2N 1M6

Questions regarding the AD book may be directed to: Jaime McCaig at jaimemccaig@gmail.com

Receipts are available upon request.

The Organizing Committee thanks you for your generous support to help defray the costs of the OABO 2017 SEMINAR & AGM.



CBOC NEWSLETTER

FIBA's Mid-Term Congress ratifies new headgear rule



MAY 4 2017

HONG KONG - FIBA's first-ever Mid-Term Congress, which is bringing together representatives from 139 National Federations, on Thursday ratified the FIBA Central Board's decision for a new rule that will allow players to wear headgear.

It was developed in a way that minimizes the risk of injuries as well as preserve consistency of the color of the uniform. It will come into effect as of 1 October 2017.

The provisions of the new rule mean that headgear is allowed when:

- it is black or white, or of the same dominant color as that of the uniform;
- it is one same color for all players on the team (as all accessories) ;
- it does not cover any part of the face entirely or partially (eyes, nose, lips etc.);
- it is not dangerous to the player wearing it and/or to other players;
- it has no opening/closing elements around the face and/or neck;
- it has no parts extruding from its surface.

The new rule comes as a result of the fact that traditional dress codes in some countries - which called for the head and/or entire body being covered - were incompatible with FIBA's previous headgear rule.

FIBA initiated a revision process of its headgear rule in September 2014, with exceptions being granted at national level as part of a two-year testing period. This past January, the Central Board received a report and, upon reviewing it, approved for the rule to be modified. It issued a

mandate to its Technical Commission to come up with a proposal and this was approved by the Central Board on Wednesday.

Within that context, the Mid-Term Congress praised a historical moment that occurred in Iran on April 13, when a FIBA test game featuring women wearing hijabs marked the first time men witnessed a women's sporting event in person.

About FIBA

FIBA (fiba.com) - the world governing body for basketball - is an independent association formed by 213 National Basketball Federations throughout the world. It is recognised as the sole competent authority in basketball by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

For further information about FIBA, visit fiba.com or follow FIBA on [facebook.com/fiba](https://www.facebook.com/fiba), twitter.com/fiba, [instagram.com/fiba](https://www.instagram.com/fiba) and [youtube.com/fiba](https://www.youtube.com/fiba).

Canada Basketball FIBA Nominees



Ladies and Gentlemen of the CABO National Council,
I am providing this information to you as Chair of the CBOC.

The following officials have been nominated by Canada Basketball to FIBA World as candidates for licenses under the new FIBA Officials Licensing 2017+ program. In alphabetical order they are:

Nate Saunders

Teresa Stuck

Trevor Barss

Jean Phillippe(JP) Hebert

Kelsey Kisllevich

Reed Scott

Christine Vuong

Matt Boyle

Matt Kallio

Maripier(MP) Maio

Perry Stothart

Michael Welland

Anna Del Col

Ryle Kerrison

Some background for you and your provincial executive. Quoting from the FIBA Officials Licensing 2017+ Operations Manual Introduction Section:

The concept of Officials' Licensing 2017+ (OL2017+) was first presented to the FIBA Technical Commission in 2013. It was identified that the existing system, with an unlimited number of FIBA Officials in national member federations, led to a situation in which many active FIBA Referees were not being nominated for any official international competitions at all. Moreover, a "lifetime" FIBA Referee License hindered the progress of international referees.

The main idea of OL2017+ is to promote excellence and professional skills, which must be trained constantly to meet the requirements of the ever-changing and evolving game of basketball. A range of workshops have been held by the FIBA Referee Department, FIBA Technical Commission, the Licensing Advisory Group and other stakeholders in the past few years to develop the most effective and transparent system for the new OL2017+.

FIBA strongly believes that OL2017+ will be a game changer that will usher in a new era of basketball officiating, promoting long-term development, planning and follow-up as well as creating more opportunities and exposure for hard-working referees who want to improve.

OL2017+ is another natural extension of the FIBA Refereeing Strategy Development Plan 2014-24 to work closely with national member federations for the good of the game of basketball worldwide.

Prior to the final release of the policies and procedures for the new licensing system Canada had 21 license holders. Under the new system Canada has been reduced to 14. Beginning in September there will be three license categories. I have attached some documents from FIBA that explain in detail the various licenses and other relevant information. I apologize that the documents are currently only in English. When translated into French I will forward them accordingly.

I would like to thank the following officials who represented Canada so well over the past number of years and will not be part of the two year licensing cycle that begins on September 1, 2017.

Geoff Astles
Tanner Cervo
Scott Critch
Neil Donnelly

Sebastien Gauthier
Ahmed Ghanem
Reid Kenyon
Stephanie Nordlee

Steve Seibel
Rich Stehlik
Jayson Stiell

Under the new system Canada will have three FIBA commissioners. Once all documentation for those individuals has been completed I will circulate the names.

Morgan Munroe
Chair,
CBOC



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between:

Ontario Basketball Association
(Hereinafter referred to as "OBA")

and

Ontario Association of Basketball Officials
(Hereinafter referred to as "OABO")

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is to summarize the partnership agreement between OBA and OABO for March 31, 2017 to May 31, 2019.

The goal of the partnership between OBA and OABO is to collaboratively provide leadership through the development of amateur basketball in Ontario.

Whereas OBA and OABO recognize that it is in the best interests of both Associations that they work together to provide a safe, risk-free, affordable and fun environment for all participants of the game of basketball, in particular amateur basketball for youth. The Associations will enter into a relationship to facilitate the promotion of basketball within the province of Ontario.

Ontario Basketball shall, upon execution of this agreement, provide the following services and incentives to OABO, namely,

- Collaborate with OABO to secure funding support for officiating development through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.
- Support OABO Development Camps which will be held in conjunction with OBA programming, including but not limited to Ontario Summer Development Program or Ontario Cup Provincial Championships. OABO and OBA will meet annually to determine the plan of action and both parties will agree to the terms and conditions.
- One Non-voting member of OBA Board of Directors (and will put forward a motion at the 2017 OBA AGM that one OABO Executive member as chosen by the OABO Executive Committee will become a full voting member of the OBA Board of Directors)
- Work with OABO to create a screening program, similar to OBA's coach / volunteer screening program.
- Provide OABO with 10 clothing packages annually. In addition to the existing 2-for-1 discount, OBA will also provide additional clothing to OABO at no cost based on inventory from its premier clothing supplier sponsorship. OBA and OABO will work together to provide as much value to OABO members as possible.
- Support OABO in any new initiatives involving the development and training of officials, given the terms and conditions are mutually acceptable to both parties.

- OBA will be allocated a OABO Executive representative to be part of the OBA Fair Play Committee. This Committee member will be recommended by OABO Executive Committee.

Ontario Association of Basketball Officials shall, upon execution of this agreement, provide the following services and incentives to OBA, namely,

- Support OBA by providing game officials to approved and sanctioned entities.
- Submit to OBA on or about April 1st, fees that will provide annual membership to OBA at a rate of \$2.00 per OABO member. Any funds not required for administrative purposes will be used to exclusively support officiating development programs.
- Work with OBA to support the implementation of Young Player Rules for U10 to U12. OBA and OABO will designate representatives annually to review the rules and will establish terms and conditions that are mutually acceptable to both parties.
- Support OBA in any new initiatives involving the development and training of officials, given the terms and conditions are mutually acceptable to both parties.

Ontario Basketball and Ontario Association of Basketball Officials shall, upon execution of this agreement,

- always agree that the Local Boards of OABO will maintain their autonomy and be responsible for providing officials in their geographical area as per Article 14.5 of the OABO Constitution except for Article 16 Tournaments and or OABO Development Camps.
- create a committee to determine if fair and equitable rates for future Ontario Cup Provincial Championships and Ontario Basketball League are feasible and obtainable based on categories within the long-term athlete development model. The committee will consist of one representative from each Geographical Region (5) within the OABO Structure as well as up to 5 OBA representatives.

Terms of Agreement

This Agreement shall commence on March 31, 2017. The terms of this agreement shall be evaluated annually by the parties of this agreement, and may be amended at any time by mutual consent. This agreement shall be in effect until terminated in accordance with provisions which follow.

Notwithstanding any terms or conditions in this Agreement, either party of the Agreement shall have the right to terminate the Agreement as of September 1 of any year, upon the written notice to the other party, not less than 60 days prior to that date, namely, on or before June 1, of that year.

I, the undersigned, upon execution of this Agreement, hereby agree to the aforementioned terms and conditions.

Ontario Association of Basketball Officials

(Sign) Jaime McCaig

(Date) March 23/2017

Jaime McCaig
OABO President

Ontario Basketball Association

(Sign) Stephanie Rudnick

(Date) March 23/2017

Stephanie Rudnick
OBA President

THREE-POINT FIELD GOAL

CELEBRATES

30TH

ANNIVERSARY

By Ken Cerino



Ed Steitz

IT IS PERHAPS THE MOST FAMOUS BACKYARD BASKETBALL COURT IN AMERICA. It sits behind a well-maintained home in East Longmeadow, Mass., where the late Springfield College Athletic Director Ed Steitz, G'48, DPE'63, once resided.

Steitz was the secretary rules editor of the NCAA Men's Basketball Committee when the three-point field goal was officially introduced 30 years ago for the start of the 1986-87 season.

His oldest son, Steve '73, now lives in the house that is located just a few miles from where basketball was invented by Dr. James Naismith at the International YMCA Training School (now Springfield College) 125 years ago.

The court still looks the way it did in the summer of 1973 when the elder Steitz enlisted his youngest son Bob '80, G'81, and some friends to help gather data for a new rule that would change the college game forever.

Steitz would have the kids shoot jumpers at various points from beyond the foul line and write down the number of makes and misses each person compiled when guarded and unguarded.

"My father told us at some point the game would need a three-point shot and we had no idea what he was talking about," Bob Steitz recalled in a recent phone interview. "We thought it was a joke at first, but then it became serious."

By Ken Cerino

Former Springfield College Athletic Director Ed Steitz led way for rule that changed college game forever

“Then, it was just putting down some markings and etchings on the court and measuring things out. The foul line is 15 feet obviously and how far you need to go back. The other piece was that he knew at the end of the games, it was going to be an important part for teams to get back into a game, and it was also important to have the right people shooting the shot because percentages would dictate that if you always had your best shooters out there your team percentage was probably going to be pretty good.

“Sometimes you would have guys shooting the shot that wasn’t their forte and that’s where the percentages pretty much balanced out to where he thought they should be, and I think, at the time, it was between 36 and 38 percent. He always used the line that you had to be very careful with any rule change, that you don’t disrupt the delicate balance between offense and defense,” Bob Steitz noted.

Three-point field goal makes debut

Several conferences used the three-point field goal on an experimental basis (with varying distances) prior to the NCAA Rules Committee (which included Division II and III members) passing the legislation in time for the 1986-87 season.

The first official game with the three-pointer set at 19 feet, 9 inches (it was moved to 20’9” in

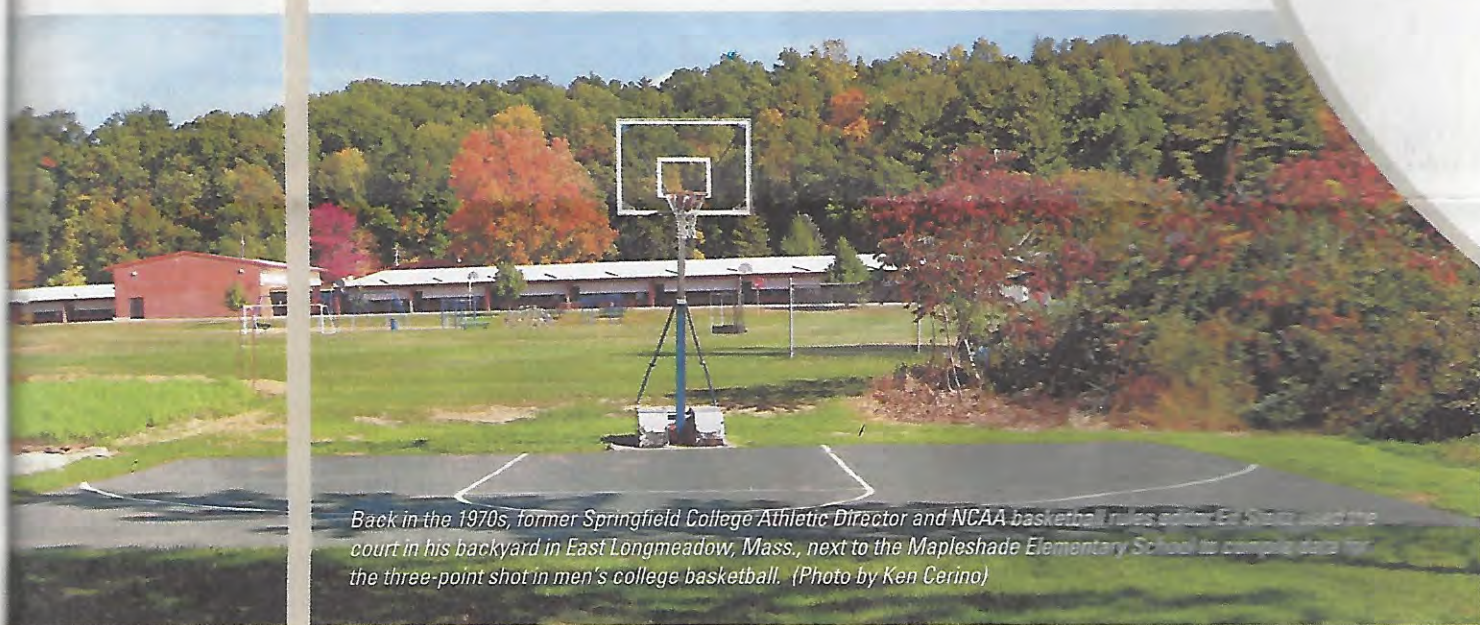
Steitz would have the kids shoot jumpers at various points from beyond the foul line and write down the number of makes and misses each person compiled when guarded and unguarded.

2008) took place on Nov. 22, 1986, when North Carolina State (NC State) defeated Navy 86-84 in the Tip-Off Classic at the Springfield (Mass.) Civic Center.

Forward Bennie Bolton led the Wolfpack with 20 points and connected on the first three-pointer just 2:59 into the game. He finished with four treys, as did Kenny Drummond who netted 18 points, including a winning three with 14 seconds remaining that accounted for the game’s final points.

Springfield native Vinny Del Negro contributed 19 points in 17 minutes coming off the bench, including a pair of three-pointers as

Continued on page 54



Back in the 1970s, former Springfield College Athletic Director and NCAA basketball rules editor Ed Steitz used the court in his backyard in East Longmeadow, Mass., next to the Mapleshade Elementary School to compile data for the three-point shot in men’s college basketball. (Photo by Ken Cerino)

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Three-point Field Goal *Continued from page 17*

NCSU made 10-of-20 of the long distance shots.

Navy had more field goals (33 to 32) and free throws (15 to 12), but finished with only three three-pointers in four attempts (all by Doug Wojcik). David Robinson had a double-double with 36 points and 10 rebounds before fouling out late in the game.

"As you guys can see, the three-point rule makes a difference," Navy coach Pete Herrmann said after the game.

"Robinson's the reason we went outside," stated NCSU coach Jim Valvano. "And we were living and dying with the outside shot. I don't like it, but we'll take it because these kids can knock them in."

Many of Valvano's colleagues didn't like the new rule either. Steitz, especially, received a tremendous amount of criticism. By the end of the season, however, the approval rate rose to a whopping 80 percent after two-thirds of the nation's coaches were against it a year earlier.

New rule helps Indiana win national title

The 1987 NCAA Championship between Indiana and Syracuse may have had something to do with it.

Steve Alford, a 6'2" guard, netted a game high 23 points that included seven of 10 attempts from beyond the arc,

as the Hoosiers captured their fifth NCAA crown with a thrilling 74-73 victory before 64,959 fans at the Superdome in New Orleans. Keith Smart's jumper in the final seconds gave Coach Bob Knight his third national title.

"I sit here and look at the box score and the thing that I like least of all in basketball is the three-point shot, and we make three more points from the three-point shot than Syracuse does, and that's the difference in the game. So, uh, thanks Ed," Knight said in the post-game press conference.

It's worth noting that Knight appreciated the hard work Steitz put into the game. Knight gave him the nickname "The Father of the Three-Point Field Goal" and both were good friends for many years before the three-pointer and right up until Steitz's death in 1990.

Ironically, Indiana shot 50.8 percent from three-point territory during the 1986-87 season, a record that still stands for Division I programs.

And who will ever forget Villanova's 77-74 victory over North Carolina in last year's NCAA title game before 74,340 at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas?

The Tar Heels' Marcus Paige made an off-balance three-pointer to tie the score with 4.7 seconds remaining. After a timeout, Kris Jenkins raced up court, took a pass



from Ryan Arcidiacono and connected on a three at the buzzer to give the Wildcats their second NCAA title and first since 1985.

Incredibly, North Carolina (11 for 17) and Villanova (8 for 14) combined to make 19 of 31 three-pointers (61.3 percent).

Strong hunch paid off

Steitz knew all along the three-pointer would have a tremendous impact on the game. He had the foresight and facts to realize the rule could be a real game-changer.

As a former coach, Steitz felt it was time to open the game up from players who were dominating the middle. He was quoted many times saying, "It's going to force teams to play more defense away from the basket. People will say, 'You're putting the little man back in the game,' and that's good."

Steitz also believed the rule made coaches more creative in devising strategies to defend the three-pointer.

Steitz was involved with several other significant rule changes during his career, including the 45-second shot clock in 1985, the elimination of the jump ball except at the start of the game in 1981, and the return of the dunk in 1976.

But it was the three-point field goal of which he was the most proud. He once said, "The dunk is no longer basketball's home run, the three-point shot is."

Tremendous passion for game

The Beacon, N.Y., native and Cornell graduate (where he was an All-Ivy League baseball selection) came to Springfield in 1948 and served as the school's athletic director

at Springfield, was the rules editor from 1997 through 2010.

"Ed was very dedicated and devoted to everything he did to help basketball and Springfield College. He was always analyzing things and coming up with thoughtful procedures that made him very productive," said Bilik.

Many agree that Steitz was a basketball visionary and one of the game's greatest ambassadors. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1984 and the Federation of International Basketball Associations (FIBA) Hall of Fame in 2007.

"Ed had a great passion and love for the game, and his knowledge of the rules was impeccable," said basketball broadcaster and hall of famer Dick Vitale. "He would do anything to make the game better, always researching, studying, and analyzing things. Ed loved what he was doing—he was special!"

Steitz died at the age of 69 on May 21, 1990, a day after serving as the grand marshal at the Springfield College commencement. Strains of the Harlem Globetrotters theme song "Sweet Georgia Brown" played at his memorial in the College's Blake Arena.

As Bob Steitz told Dana O'Neil of ESPN.com in an article in 2011, "I think my dad would be pleased but not surprised [by the success of the three-pointer]. He really believed it would work."

Today's generation of players has grown up with the three-point shot, and with numerous games on TV, crowd-pleasing buzzer beaters have added greatly to the excitement of the game on all levels. Many seem to occur in the NCAA Tournament.

That's exactly what Steitz was thinking about when

As a former coach, Steitz felt it was time to open the game up from players who were dominating the middle. He was quoted many times saying, "It's going to force teams to play more defense away from the basket. People will say, 'You're putting the little man back in the game,' and that's good."

for 33 years. As men's basketball coach, Steitz compiled a 160-86 record (65.0 percent) from 1956-66. During a two-month world tour in 1965, his team won all 25 games and conducted more than 100 clinics in 10 nations.

Steitz succeeded John Bunn (another former Springfield coach) as NCAA secretary rules editor in 1965 and held the position for more than a quarter of a century. Ed Bilik '57, G'62, who played for both Bunn and Steitz and later coached men's basketball and served as athletic director

he had his son and his East Longmeadow pals shooting basket after basket on a backyard court that is now a piece of the sport's history.

(The NBA adopted the three-point shot starting in the 1979-80 season, while NCAA women's basketball teams began shooting three-pointers in 1987-88.) ▼

Ken Cerino served as the sports information director at Springfield College from 1986-2000.