

Hello fellow OTA Referees:

This is a reminder about the referee seminar on January 14-15 at Kicks for Kids in Burlington. Please let me know if you will be attending, so that I can forward the new rule book to you by email; you can print it, review it beforehand, and bring it with you on the day of the seminar.

As mentioned earlier, if you are currently certified at 1st or 2nd class (qualified centre) you must refresh prior to centre refereeing at the Provincial selection. If you are unable to get to a refresher before the next event, but still wish to participate, you will be a corner judge, and will be paid accordingly as a corner judge, regardless of your certification class. Hopefully, you will be able to get to the seminar in Burlington before the selection game in London on Jan 29.

We have had some requests to clarify and/or standardize the method used to select officials for an OTA sanctioned (Saturday) event. Our target is to have 24 officials, at least 8 of which must be qualified to centre, and a Chair. According to the OTA club membership manual, any club hosting an OTA sanctioned event is to supply referees for a the game. The Referee Chair for the event will obtain this exact number from the tournament host. The Chair will then send an email to the OTA referees asking for their confirmation of participation. The number of officials from the host club will be subtracted from 24 and the balance of officials will be arranged by the OTA. Ensuring at least 8 qualified centres will be participating, the Chair will then use those referees who respond on a first come, first served basis. If an official arrives at a game unannounced, they may or may not be used as a referee. If someone fails to arrive, who said previously that they would participate, then that unannounced official may be used. It will also be offered to them that they could assist in the logistics of the event in some other fashion. They will not be asked to simply sit in the stands and pay to admission fee.

With respect to a selection game, OTA Referee Chairperson will appoint officials for the game.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

**Master Barbara Marian
OTA Referee Committee**