

**Chilliwack Minor Hockey Association**

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**Referee in Chief (RIC) Report 2018/2019**

The 2018-19 season started with seven officials from Chilliwack, with support from Chilliwack Minor Hockey, having the opportunity to attend referee schools during the summer. All officials enjoyed themselves and were thankful to attend these schools. These officials returned with an improved skillset, which they were able to utilize during Chilliwack Minor Hockey games. I feel it is important we continue to support young officials in attending these summer schools.

The beginning of the 2018-19 season Connor McCracken was appointed CO-RIC. He was in charge of assigning officials for PeeWeeA1 and below. This season there was 667 games played in Chilliwack which Connor assigned officials for.

We started the 2018-2019 season with 66 officials in CMHA’s Officials Program and gained 14 new officials at the end of September. One senior official returned to the officiating program after being away from refereeing for a couple years, giving us 79 officials in total. However, we did lose 16 officials this year (1 left to attend university in a different community and 15 left the program at the end of December for one reason or another). Losing 16 officials is a huge concern, . All 63 officials were evaluated at least once (some a few times) and written evaluation reports were done on the 35 young officials that worked Pee WeeA1 and below games, each of these evaluations noted the strengths and things they officials  needed to continue to work on. Many officials demonstrated the skills needed to be upgraded and started doing higher levels of hockey.

This year we had a referee’s clinic in Chilliwack for new officials. There was lots of interest and we finally needed to cap the new officials count at 14. We still have 22 potential officials on a waiting list. Next season, the clinic for new officials will be booked in the first week of September and will run at the end of September.  Unfortunately, we will only have room for 12-14 new officials be added to the CMHA officials list.

There were 6 tournaments held in Chilliwack this season and officiated mainly by Chilliwack officials. The feedback we received after each tournament was very positive.

This year we had two games where an official confirmed they would do the game then did not show up., both officials were suspended for 30 days as per the policy in the CMHA policy manual. We had a lot of problem with games not having the proper number official assigned to them. There were several reasons for this: several games scheduled on the same night, officials who also play had games, and the large number of officials who did not get re-carded this season. These are things we will try to correct for next season.

At the end of the year, four officials from Chilliwack were selected to work games in Provincial Championships, also Doug KEMP worked as a supervisor for a Provincial Championship series.  The officials from Chilliwack did an excellent job and were very professional on and off the ice.

It should also be noted two officials from Chilliwack started working games in the Above Minor program this season.

In closing, we feel we had another successful season and fulfilled the goals set out at the beginning of the season, with every official getting a formal evaluation at least once and up grading the officials that demonstrated they were ready for the new challenges of the higher levels. There were some issues that we need to address and try to come up with ideas on how we can resolve these issues.

Doug Kemp

Connor McCracken