



Junior Officials' Development Program

Alan Herbert, Junior Officials' Development Director

This is a reminder that the certification of players who were certified as scorekeepers and/or second referees during the 2000 or 2001 seasons expired on 10/31/02. Certifications are valid for

two years and so these players will need to be re-certified during the coming season that begins 11/01/02 and ends 10/31/03. Players who were certified in 2002 will still be valid for 2003.

Each year I offer to coordinate officiating clinics for your clubs. It is not too late to host a clinic for your players. You can contact me and I will locate a professional official in your area to present scorekeeping and second refereeing materials to the players in your club. Please remember that your club is responsible for paying the clinician \$75. But, these clinics are invaluable for the improvement of the officiating support crews at the tournaments. Also, large inter-regional and national tournaments typically require that you have certified junior officials on your team.

In addition to the certification of junior player officials, the OVR will be implementing a new program involving junior officiating for the coming season. Players are currently certified when they attain a passing score of 80 on either a scorekeeper or second referee rating during a match. They then are given a card to prove their certification. (The current process can be found at www.ovr.org/juniors/jodp/.) To encourage junior officials to continue improving their skills, I am implementing a second level of certification. If the player continues to be observed and successfully rated at 85 or above twice more by Regional or higher-ranked professional officials, they may obtain an *OVR Junior Official* patch. This patch could be worn on their uniform from then on when they keep score or work as a second referee. The professional officials were instructed on how to manage this additional program during their clinics in December.

Just a quick note to all tournament directors: please supply a *Junior Rating Form* (www.ovr.org/forms/Junior_Officials_-_Rating_Form.pdf) for each match at your tournaments. These forms are used by the professional officials to evaluate the players as 2nd referees and scorekeepers.

If you have any questions or comments, please send them to me at jodd@ovr.org. Have a great 2002-2003 season!

Certifications for Juniors' Coaches and Club Directors

The OVR certification database is now online for the benefit of club and tournament directors. Having that information readily accessible will ensure that the region has a record of those individuals who have been certified, assisting greatly in meeting certification requirements and verifying information for participation in Nationals. 1,327 IMPACT and CAP certifications are currently represented, with ASEP on the way.

The list of IMPACT, CAP, and ASEP certified individuals is available at www.ovr.org/dir/certification.php. Certifications are tracked by individual, matching that information to incoming registrations to handle members changing club

affiliations and/or various aspects of their personal information from season to season. That has been working well, with problems arising only for certain cases of incomplete or inaccurate registration. Also on that page is an overview of certification requirements and instructions for notifying the region of individuals who are certified but not yet in the database.

Club directors should review their staff's representation in the database at their earliest convenience, following through to notify us of anyone we're missing.

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