



Hello again all PC Referees

Christmas has come a bit early this year! Pickleball Canada has approved an Officiating budget for 2023 to support the Refereeing Program across the Country, in excess of \$32K! This is part of the strategic plan to encourage aspiring Referees to join the program and become a credentialed Referee, and for those already in the program, an incentive to move forward with their credentials. Pickleball Canada acknowledges the importance of having credentialed Referees available at their Championship tournaments. This includes the three Regional Tournaments, Eastern, Central and Western, and certainly the main event, the Pickleball Canada National Championships, which will be held in Regina 23 – 27 August 2023.

The approved budget will assist Referees with their expenses when travelling more than 150km to any of the tournaments with the sole intent to Referee at the event. The Referee will also have to meet the requirement of Refereeing a minimum number of matches over the course of the event to qualify for the per diem payment of \$200.00. The minimum is an average of 8 matches per day for Double Elimination tournaments and 12 matches per day for Round Robin Tournaments. This will go a long way in assisting the Referee with food, lodging and travel expenses incurred in attending the tournament.

Example: Refereeing at the Pickleball Canada National Championships:

Day 1 – 7 Matches

Day 2 – 10

Day 3 - 8

Day 4 - 9

Day 5 - 10

Total of 44 matches (must work 40 over 5 days to qualify)

Expenses allowance of \$1000 (5 X \$200) is paid to the Referee

The Pickleball Canada Board of Directors also approved a budget to have their National Leader of Officiating, or designee attend the before mentioned tournaments. The budget will cover the travel and lodging expenses, as well as a daily food and sundry allowance, so that the attendee will not be out of pocket to attend these important tournaments.

The budget will also cover the cost of new Referee ID badges with magnets so the ID's can be displayed on shirts or coats. Angela Weld (NS) is the PC Referee Database Coordinator and is doing a wonderful job in updating the information of all active Referees in Canada. She will be forwarding names by Province for the ID badges to be produced. A big thank-you to Ian

Campbell (PC member) for taking this job on and agreeing to mail each badge to the respective owner.

A Referee shirt for those being evaluated to Certified Referee will be provided by PC to the successful candidates. There are a few other miscellaneous budget items, to support the program, such as a Zoom account, and Test Marker that controls the on-line test program.

I think you will all agree a very positive endorsement of the Pickleball Canada Referee Program! Now is the time to get started in the program or move forward! Get involved in 2023!

Please Note – The signup for the Pickleball Canada National Championship being held 23 – 27 August 2023 is available on Pickleball Desk for notice of intent to Referee!
www.pickleballdesk.com/signup/453

Pickleball BC Referee Program Support

Pickleball BC has also approved an Officiating Budget to support Referees traveling to the Provincial Championships. Like the PC budget, PBC will provide a \$200 per diem for those travelling more than 150km working an average of 8 double elimination matches each day and attending the tournament with the sole intent to provide Refereeing services.

The Provincial Head Referee will also receive remuneration for travelling to both the Provincial & Western Regional Championship Tournaments.

Other Items

The other Provincial Head Referees have been asked to make similar requests to their Provincial organizations in support of the Referee Program. This will go a long way in encouraging Referees to travel to these events and provide a high standard of Refereeing across the country.

Recent calls to fill the RTC and CRC positions have been met with a degree of enthusiasm and all positions filled! This is great news, as it moves us one more step forward in the process of standing up a fully functioning Referee program, which sees interested candidates being able to move from trainee to Certified Referee, and being acknowledged as such, here in Canada, and the US!

- **Eastern** - QC, NL, NB, PE, NS.
 - RTC - Reg van Drecht(Lev 2)
 - CRC - Isabelle Gauthier (CR)
- **Central** - ON, MB, SK, NU.
 - RTC - Paul Aquin (Lev 2)
 - CRC - Karen Hill (CR)
- **Western** - AB, BC, YK, NT

- RTC - Sharon MacDonald (Lev 2)
- CRC - Roger Carrier (Lev 2)

The PC Officiating Advisory Committee has started examining the requirements of an evaluation program.

- Evaluation process
 - Documentation
 - Processes
- Evaluator selection
- Evaluator training
- Evaluator travel
- Evaluator remuneration

We are moving forward methodically, ensuring what we are putting in place works and delivers the desired results. Please join me in thanking all the members of the PC Advisory Board, the newly appointed RTCs/CRCs, and the Boards of Directors of PBC, and Pickleball Canada! For their support of the Referee Program here in Canada!

Merry Christmas to all!

Alan Thomson
National Leader of Officiating
Pickleball Canada
and
Head Referee PBC