

2017 AGM Officials Report

Over the past twelve months we have made good progress with our officials program. Our members have participated in Provincial, Regional, National and international clinics and competitions. The depth of knowledge, skill level and quality of calls of our officials continues to improve.

We have had a significant increase in the number of officials this year with the addition of people from various regions of the province. The increase in numbers is very encouraging and will allow us more flexibility setting up and running our competitions. At our most recent Grand Prix tournament in January of this year we had a surplus number of officials and we were able to run the tatamis continuously with referees being able to take the occasional break.

There were 4 provincial officials clinics over the last year as well as an Atlantic Regional officials clinic which was held in Conjunction with the Atlantic Championships in Fredericton, NB. In January 2016, a clinic was conducted with our officials, coaches and athletes to get our referees accustomed to working with high level athletes and to simulate competition conditions for the coaches and competitors going to the National Championships. In April 2016 an officials clinic was held in conjunction with the Horton grand Prix tournament. On Friday June 10, another clinic was conducted prior to the Yarmouth cup. In October 2015, several of our members travelled to Fredericton, NB for the Atlantic Regional officials clinic hosted by Karate NB. The clinic and certification was conducted by Yaro Tarana, chair of Karate Canada Officials Committee. At this clinic, Garret Chase received his provisional National Kata Judge A and Kumite Judge A. Both these licenses were ratified and completed at the National Champions later in February 2017. In October 2016, I attended the WKF Senior World Championships and received my Kumite Judge "B" license. On January 20, 21 and 22 I attended the Paris Open Karate Championships. This Paris Open was the first major tournament where the new "Senshu" rule was used. This rule dramatically changes the roles of the judges at hantei and adds a new dimension to the matches. On December 10, 2016 we held an officials clinic and certification where 7 people were upgraded or received new licenses. I would like to encourage all officials to study and train especially in the areas of C1 and c2 prohibited behaviours.

This year we have officials clinics scheduled for April 7 and June 2, the Friday nights before the respective tournaments. We will also have a provincial level certification at a date and time to be announced later this year, probably late summer or early fall.

Respectfully submitted David Griffin