

KARATE NOVA SCOTIA

Officials Report

Annual General Meeting - 2024

This year, 2023-24, has been a good year from an officiating standpoint. We have had a few new members join our ranks and, by all accounts, they seem to be doing a good job and are showing promise to becoming fine officials. This is encouraging to see.

We hosted the Atlantic Championships in May where Mr. Andre LaPlante of the Karate Canada OC put on an excellent clinic which was well attended. From there we sent 5 officials to the National Championships in Laval QC. Theresa Griffin, Ralph D`Entremont, and Doug Chetwynd all upgraded their licenses to Referee B. Congratulations to them. Mr. David Griffin attended the Pan-American Championships and had his Kata judging License re-instated so congratulations to him as well.

As well we managed to host 3 Provincial Officials clinics. Unfortunately, they were not as well attended as we would have liked. There was, however, some good information shared with those who took part.

Ralph D`Entremont attended the US Open on Easter weekend in Fort Worth Texas. By all accounts, he represented us well and got plenty of ring time, and valuable feedback to help him improve his officiating skills. Congratulations to Him.

This year the OC Committee has been working diligently to address safety concerns, especially in the under 14 divisions. The Committee has approved, and strongly recommends the use of Helmets, and thicker chest protectors, and forearm guards are now allowed in competition. The Committee is also working on a statement to be made to all concerned parties; Athletes, Coaches, and Parents, regarding the safety equipment as well as "Etiquette" as it applies to competition.

The Committee is also currently working on a new concept for offering officiating instruction. This concept would Divide the Province into 2 smaller, more manageable regions, and clinics would be partnered with local competitions. We hope to have everything in place for the fall of 2024.

Respectfully,

Milton Bourque

KNS Chief Referee / KNS OC Chair