

Officials Report

Dear Members,

This year has proven to be very challenging, much like the past number of years. We managed to gather up enough officials to run three KNS Grand Prix tournaments. Most of the competitions were completed using 3 officials per ring versus the preferred 5. The exception was the last Grand Prix, which had significantly lower registration which allowed us to run only 2 rings. We were then able to have 5 officials per ring. This was only possible due to Mahdyeh Shiri and Mandana Momen Ghalibaf who graciously joined our ranks having recently emigrated from Iran. They both hold National WKF "A" licenses there. So a big welcome and thank you to them.

Four of our officials participated at the Karate Canada Senior Championships held in Halifax in February. Myself and Ralph d'Entremont participated on the appeals jury during the championships. We also had officials working at the Battle of the Bridge and at the Yarmouth Cup and Dave and Theresa Griffin just recently officiated at the prestigious U.S. Open in Texas. So, congratulations and good job everyone.

We are looking at sending an unprecedented 8 officials to the Karate Canada Junior Championships in Edmonton in May of this year. We wish everyone well at this championships where 4 officials will be challenging for National licenses. We can only hope that this may mark a major turnaround as far as interest in officiating here in NS.

Respectfully,
Milton Bourque
KNS Chief Referee