

## AWARENESS

**“Every minute of every game”**

### A PROFESSIONAL STANDARD

#### Referee

1. Skate hard to the net. Do not coast. You do not want to count on the goal judge.
2. Be aware of the standards for head shots and hits from behind. Use the rules as written. Call the infraction, as it is and apply the proper penalty minutes and subsequent minor, major and game where applicable.
3. Protect the goaltenders.
4. Protect the puck carrier.
5. Use your whistle, your voice and your arms for emphasis during scrums.
6. Talk to the coach, if you feel the situation warrants it and listen. This can be done respectfully and quickly. Not between periods, only before and communicate to BOTH coaches.
7. Make calls on the puck carrier.
8. Be aware, at all times, for all situations on the ice, around the player's benches and the penalty box.
9. Make your signals on penalties and face off locations crisp and with emphasis.
10. Talk to and listen to your linesmen. Direct them, if needed, to handle altercation priorities.
11. Check the players for illegally or improperly worn equipment.
12. **HUSTLE**

#### Linesmen

1. Ensure that the right number of players are dressed before the game begins. Always check the number of players at all times, on and off the ice and the corresponding penalized players. Full strength/shorthanded.
2. Monitor all line changes and be prepared to position yourself between possible difficulties.
3. Check the clock at every whistle: back man!!!
4. Ice surface clear at all times. Check the nets and their condition!!!
5. Clear zones behind the Referee.
6. Cover and support your partner. Read the play to realize when your partner is going to be “squeezed” off his line and hustle up to his line to cover. Make ALL line and icing calls at the lines, not just “close.” GET THERE !
7. Face off alignments. Do not “time” your face-offs. Set, check behind, turn blow the whistle and drop the puck. Call the encroachment early and consistently throughout the game.

8. Commit to icing or no icing at the top of the circle and communicate it LOUDLY to the players, all the way to the goaline.
9. ALL PENALTIES – Majors etc. are to be communicated with the referee. Be aware and prepared to succinctly respond to Referees questions.
10. High sticks, hand passes, goals scored (make yourself available for consultation on all disputed goals)
11. Always POLICE the line changes by being between possible antagonists and players returning from the Penalty box.
12. Get 100% separation of players at stoppages of play and altercations. DO NOT enter “hot spots” without your partner. Communicate and take the most aggressive players. One “dance” at a time.
13. Hold the neutral ground on ICINGS between benches.
14. Watch when the goalie is leaving the ice for illegal substitution on delayed penalties.
15. Back linesman on icing infractions, skate hard to the team bench. Do not coast.
16. Remove players from the ice when there is insufficient time left to serve the penalties.
17. Check the players for illegally or improperly worn equipment.
18. Make a decision, make a SIGNAL.
19. **HUSTLE**

Tom Meagher – Director Supervision  
Bytown Referees

## GOOD TO GREAT

We often use the phrase: ***Be great when the game needs you to be great.*** Being great is about possessing some important qualities and working towards excellence. **Greatness is different for each of us and the accumulation of our individual greatness leads to and is the root of our collective greatness as a team.** To become elite officials, we must push ourselves to be great because, that is what the game demands of us.

**There is a distinct difference between good and great officials.** Going from good to great is about having a higher level of understanding about the game and the rules. Good officials know the rules and great ones understand the intent of the rules. Great ones have a feel for the game and react to the ebb and flow of it. They know a phantom call is worse than one that is legitimately missed. They process the play and respond accordingly.

### Characteristics of “great” officials:

- Great officials move smoothly and effectively giving them great functional movement. By keeping the same tempo throughout the game they have a greater ability to scan and see more while displaying a controlled presence.
- Great officials always fight for good sight lines.
- A great official knows the mechanics of the job instinctively, allowing him to focus completely on the plays.
- Great officials have attention to detail every night.
- Great officials know how to adapt their personality to the climate of the game. They know when to be loose and positive on the ice but they also have the ability to flip the switch to become firm and in charge when the game requires it.
- Great officials keep themselves in shape.
- Great officials have terrific communication skills and know when and how to use them.
- Great officials have thorough pre-game preparation, eliminating variables before games (for example, cell phones, late travel, outside distractions) in order to get mentally and physically focused for the task ahead.
- Great officials are prepared for the unexpected.
- Great officials have courage and do what is right for the good of the game.

- Great officials self evaluate and are aware of fine tuning that is necessary in certain areas.
- Great officials are humble and let their work speak for itself.