

I will unfortunately be out of town this weekend, therefore unable to attend the Board meeting.

Any issues or questions pertaining to the officiating community should be able to be addressed by either Joe Barth or Tim Zobel.

Please read the following comments as my report to the Board.

It was another declining year when it comes to the numbers across the state.

I would say we are on a 4 to 5% decline pattern over the past 5 years.

On a positive note though, the mentor programming has proved to be a huge success in the success of first year officials. As the program takes hold throughout the State

I hope to see signs of steady growth in the officiating community.

There are some major changes brewing at the National Office in regards to Officiating

registration again. More effort is being made to address the National decline in the officiating ranks amongst the mid to upper level officials. The new options for registration will be rolled out this June at the Annual Congress in Colorado Springs.

Would like to thank everyone involved in this year's State Tournaments.

With a specific THANK YOU

to Carol Hamming for all the time and energy she put in to make them all a huge success. I think the officiating

component of this year's tournaments was very good. Or at least that is the take away I got from

speaking to many of the host organizations.

I would also like to say that the Pacific District Tournament in San Jose was another fantastic event in which Alaska's

Officials shined brightly again. 5 officials from AK were on the staff in San Jose, and all 5 worked Championship games.

A truly amazing accomplishment.

Finally Alaska also sent 4 Officials to National Tournaments this season and again the men and women of Alaska stepped

up ad represented the State with great distinction. All 4 officials worked on either Semi final or Championship games.

Thank you to the Alaska Hockey Community for supporting the boys, girls, men and women of the officiating ranks.

There is no game without officials, and your continued support of those who wear the stripes is greatly appreciated.

Thank You

Eric