

Referee Committee

A referees committee shall be formed to organise, promote and develop the level of game officials (refereeing, timekeeping and scoring) within New Zealand.

The role of this subcommittee is to

- Work co-operatively with the NZIHA Executive Committee, and all regional committees to enhance the level of refereeing, timekeeping and scoring within New Zealand
- Serve as an active liaison between all NZIHA inline hockey game officials and the NZIHA Executive. Up to two members of the Executive will be deemed NZIHA delegates. and will be invited to meetings
- Keep in touch with In-Line hockey activities, assist NZIHA member clubs and generally promote In-Line Hockey activities, with a particular focus on enhancing the level of refereeing and off-floor official duties.
- Make recommendations to the NZIHA Executive on refereeing, timekeeping and scoring Policy & Programming
- Provide advice to the NZIHA and to co-operate with them in the solution of any problems
- Encourage the inline hockey community to support the training and development at all levels of refereeing, timekeeping and scoring.
- Develop and implement effective development initiatives for Referees.
- Make recommendations to the NZIHA Executive Committee on appointments of referees to level two and level three.

Members of the Referees' subcommittee must be approved by the NZIHA Executive and be current NZIHA members. Membership shall be determined by

- Each of the 4 regions electing, appointing or nominating up to 2 representatives to be a member of the Referees Committee
- The regional representatives be appointed to serve a two year term. One representative from each region will retire each year but will be eligible to stand for re-election.
- The Referees Committee having the "Power to Add", allowing them to seek out additional members for task based applications/projects.

The Referees Committee shall elect or appoint its own Chairperson and Secretary. A Chairman will be elected at the referees committee AGM from the regional representatives of the particular regions. The appointment will be for a term of 2 years with the incumbent being eligible for re-election upon expiry of their 2 yearly term. The retirement rotation of the representatives of the region from which the chairman is from will be adapted to suit the 2 yearly rotation of the elected Chairman's term.

The role of the Chairman is to:

- Conduct the day to day running of the NZIHA referees committee.
- Refer all correspondence pertaining to rules and/or interpretations directly to the NZIHA chief referee who responds to the inquiry directly to the NZIHA referees committee chairman.
- To chair all meetings of the committee.
- To report directly to the NZIHA executive on all matters concerning the committee.
- To act as spokesman for the committee.

The Committee shall meet a minimum of 2 times throughout the year at the discretion of the Chairperson. The Referee's Committee shall conduct its business in an efficient cost effective manner and in an appropriate format to suit the circumstances at the time. Meetings may take the form of teleconferences,

electronic mail or formal gatherings. Copies of the minutes must be submitted to the NZIHA Secretary

A Secretary will be appointed who shall be responsible for keeping records of meetings and reporting them through minutes to the executive no later than 28 days after each meeting.

Funds generated and controlled by the Referee's Committees are in effect NZIHA funds and accounts must be submitted to the Association Treasurer for Incorporation in the Association's Annual Accounts.

A Chief referee will be elected at the referees committee AGM by the referee's committee members. The appointment will be for a 2 year term with the incumbent being eligible for re-election upon expiry of their 2 yearly term. The position of the NZIHA Chief referee must be held by a suitably qualified and experienced referee of no less than Level 2 certification and preferably, if there is one available, by a Level 3 referee.

The position of the chief referee is subordinate to the position of chairman of the NZIHA referees committee and as such reports through the chairman of the referees committee on all matters other than:

- The rostering of referees for any of the directly sponsored NZIHA tournaments, and
- when acting as a tournament chief referee at any of the NZIHA sponsored tournaments.

The role of the NZIHA Chief Referee is to:

- Advise the referees committee members, through the committee chairman, on matters pertaining to the rules or the interpretation thereof as and when necessary.
- Set the refereeing rosters for the directly sponsored NZIHA tournaments. ie/. Nationals, Inter-Regionals and Oceania Games.
- Carry out the duties of tournament chief referee at the directly sponsored NZIHA tournaments.
- Answer any inquiries from referees, through the NZIHA referees committee chairman, regarding rules and/or interpretations.

The positions of Chairman and Chief referee may be held by the same person if the person elected as Chairman is suitably qualified, has advised of their availability and the referee committee members so decide.

Referee Qualification, Development Pathway and Maintenance Policy

Purpose

Level Referee Development Pathway

- To further advance the level of referee competency and development within our sport
- A grading system is necessary and that an ongoing evaluation system needs to be implemented and maintained.
- A database listing qualified referees, their contact details and the level of qualification achieved should be maintained by the NZ Referee Committee and copied to the NZIHA Executive Officer.

1. Referee Level Requirements for Qualification

Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum age be 14 years of age• achieve a 70% pass mark on written examination• pass a skating test (This is only required when the applicant is not
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	<p>known to the examiner ie/. players would not need to do a skating test, parents (unless a player) would.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applicants who fail their skating test but achieve a pass on the written examination be issued with a card that identifies them as a “Non Skating Referee”
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum age be 18 years of age • a minimum of 12 months regular officiating as a level 1 referee • achieve a 80% pass mark on written Level 2 examination • satisfactory assessment by three independent Level 2 assessors
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimum age 21 years of age • a minimum of 3 years regular officiating as a level 2 referee • attend and receive a pass at a NZIHA sanctioned Level 3 course • achieve an 80% pass mark on a written examination • final approval by NZIHA executive
International and/ or Ice Hockey Referees:	
<p><i>An international inline and/or ice hockey referee</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>holding certification gained outside New Zealand</i> • <i>who wishes to referee in New Zealand and can</i> • <i>provide documentation to validate their qualification</i> <p><i>will be awarded with the equivalent or appropriate New Zealand Referee Level Qualification after consideration by the NZIHA Referee Committee and on recommendation to the NZIHA Executive. The applicant will be required to show a thorough knowledge of New Zealand Official Playing Rules.</i></p>	

2. Maintenance of Referee Status

<u>Level 1</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current NZIHA registration. • Officiate in their local league.
<u>Level 2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current NZIHA registration. • Attend and officiate at a minimum of one NZIHA sanctioned tournament • “Mentor” at least two less experienced officials in their local league.
<u>Level 3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current NZIHA registration. • Committed to officiating in their local leagues across all grades. • Attend and officiate at a minimum of one NZIHA sanctioned tournament a season with a minimum of ten games. • “Mentor” at least two less experienced officials in their local league. • Carry out assessments as requested by the referee’s committee.

Referees upon retirement from active status who still wish to contribute would maintain their current status provided that they were registered but would be classified as “inactive”. An inactive referee may be reinstated to “active” duty on application to or by invitation from the NZIHA Executive and on recommendation by the NZIHA Referee Committee.

3. Promotion of Referees

Process and procedures for deciding on candidates for assessment and promotion to a higher level of competency.

<u>Referee Level 1 promotion</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regions decide, in conjunction with their referee committee delegates, upon their candidates.
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<p><u>to Level 2</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates to be named in order of preference. • Depending upon the number of candidates regions may be restricted to two (2) candidates for any one tournament. • The referees committee will have the final decision on the candidates for assessment. • Assessment will be carried out by a minimum of two (2) Level 2 referees. • The referee controlling the assessment programme will advise all candidates of their results and all candidates will receive a written copy of their assessment for their records with a copy being sent to the Referee Chairperson. • The chairperson will advise the names of the successful referees to fellow committee members and the NZIHA Executive Officer.
<p><u>Referee Level 2 promotion to Level 3</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of the referee's committee will recommend referees based on performance and competency to Chairperson for assessment to level 3 • Candidates will be invited to be considered for promotion • The referees committee will have the final decision on the candidates for assessment. • Assessment will be carried out by two level three referees • The referee chairperson will advise all candidates of their results and all candidates will receive a written copy of their assessment for their records with a copy being sent to the Referee Chairperson. • The chairperson will recommend to the NZIHA Executive that the successful referees be promoted to Level 3 status.

4. Referee Database

- Regional referee committee representatives to complete an end of season “Number of Game Duties” summary for each NZIHA referee
- Regional Referee representatives are to maintain a list of regional referees and their details and forward to the Referee Chairperson to ensure the master database is maintained. This database should also be forwarded to NZIHA Executive Officer for records and to provide contact details for bulletins and information distribution.

5 Referees Mentoring, Rule and Situation Interpretation, and Refresher Courses

- **Mentoring:** where at all possible when rostering junior referees “hard” games are identified so that a more senior referee is officiating with a more junior referee.
- **Consistency:** Frequent communication with referees via bulletins/ email detailing referee scenarios, highlighting different aspects of the rules and interpretations to ensure consistency of game officiating.
- **Training:** when a referees course is run all currently qualified referees are issued an invitation and encouraged to attend at no cost as a “refresher course” ie updated course materials will be provided but no need to re-sit the exam.
- **Feedback:** Ensure that all referees, especially junior referees, have access to contact information for their regional referee representative so communication channels are open on a one to one basis to talk about situations that occur in games, interpretations and concerns.

- **Regional Referee Representatives;** seek permission from referee representatives to circulate their contact details to referees to allow communication from referees within their region to discuss situations, interpretations and concerns.

Referee Support in abusive situations

- Ensure that referees conduct themselves in a professional manner when dealing with abusive behaviour
- That senior referees, support younger referees when being subjected to abusive behaviour
- Ensure application of rules and consistent interpretations in cases of abusive behaviour

Game Officials' Ethics and Referee Codes of Conduct

The referees are covered by the New Zealand Inline Hockey Association Codes of Conduct

The NZIHA Game Officials Code

The NZIHA Game Officials Code of Conduct has been established to provide guidance for all NZIHA registered officials in their endeavors within the sport. It is a public declaration by an official that they will at all times seek to abide by its directives.

Any behavior that causes doubt to be cast upon the integrity of NZIHA Game Officials or behavior that causes the sport of inline hockey to be brought into disrepute will be regarded as just cause for a Disciplinary Tribunal to be convened.

Game officials should:

Punctuality

- Be at the rink at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled game start time in accordance with the particular tournament rules.
- Referees must be dressed ready to officiate at least ten minutes prior to the scheduled game start time in accordance with the particular tournament rules.

Game Officials must:

Attitude

- Maintain a positive frame of mind regardless of the circumstances.
- Present themselves at all times in a manner that is polite and courteous and treat all persons as they wish to be treated.
- Accept the fact that occasional mistakes will occur, block them out, carry on and do not let them cloud your judgement.
- Must not engage in verbal conflicts with players, coaches, other game officials or spectators either before, during or after the game.
- By personal conduct and example attempt to improve the standard of the game in each game that they officiate.

Game Officials must:

Professionalism

- Conduct themselves at all times in a mature, confident and responsible manner.
- Present themselves dressed clean and tidily on and off the rink at all times.
- Exercise self-restraint at all times especially during a game when confronted with a difficult circumstance.
- Act as a team and present a united front. Referees in particular must back up each other's decisions and not discuss a decision with anybody

other than the other referee.

- Never criticize the performance of another game official.
- Carry out their duties to the best of their ability and in a professional manner regardless of the grade that they are officiating.
- Apply the rules of the game impartially and without bias at all times.
- Forward written Official Incident Reports, as necessary, to the appropriate authorities within the required reporting period.
- If asked to carry out a Referee Assessment; carry it out in a thoroughly professional manner. The assessment along with any discussions with the referee being assessed must remain confidential between the referee being assessed, the assessor referee and the NZIHA referees panel.

Cancellations

A Game Official must:

- Notify the referee co-ordinator if for any reason they cannot attend a game that they had been scheduled for.
- Give the referee co-ordinator a minimum of 48 hours notice of unavailability.
- Contact the rink manager and advise if they happen to be running late so that a temporary "official" can be arranged to commence the game and officiate until their arrival.

Behavior

Game Officials must:

- Conduct themselves in a manner which at all times be irreproachable, whether they are at a rink officiating, playing, managing, coaching or as a spectator.
- Abstain from the use of alcohol on game days until after they have completed all of their duties.
- Totally abstain from the use of illicit/illegal drugs, the use of which is absolutely unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

NZIHA Referee Reimbursement Policy

(Valid from February 2010)

This reimbursement policy reflects reimbursement schedules to assist with costs towards “out of pocket” expenses, accommodation, meals and travel* (for full time referees*) when participating at NZ National and/or Inter regional Championships.

Reimbursements are based on the following criteria;

Referee Qualification	Level One	Level Two & Three
Local Referee Per Game Fee <i>Criteria: Referee who lives within 30km radius of event venue.</i>	\$10	\$15
Part Time Referee per Game Fee (outside 30km radius) <i>Criteria: Referee available to referee but also has commitments a player/ team official/ parent or not available for whole event period.</i>	\$20	\$25
Full Time Referee per Game Fee (outside 30km radius) <i>Criteria: Referee available for all days, with no team commitments and completes a minimum of six (6) on floor duties per day.</i>	\$25	\$30
Travel Reimbursement <i>Criteria: Based on one off reimbursement for one round trip to and from venue when referee lives outside the 30km radius and is a full time referee for duration of event.</i>	\$0.35 cents/ Kilometre <i>NZIHA reserve the right to compare the kilometre reimbursement cost to that of a round trip airfare taking into consideration ground transportation availability at the venue location and determine the appropriate level of reimbursement in situations where the round trip kilometres are +/- to 850kms.</i>	
Referees Conducting Assessments <i>Criteria: Based on conducting assessments only and not otherwise involved in referee duties.</i>	Not applicable	\$25/day

All referees officiating at these events will also be required to undertake penalty time keeping and goal judging duties. There is no additional reimbursement for these duties.

International Assignments; Special Note

Due to the various venues both within New Zealand and outside New Zealand and the agreements made by the NZIHA Executive and the international body concerned regarding reimbursements to game referees a separate agreement will be required on a case by case basis for referees officiating at such events.