



## SSBC ODC Report to SSBC AGM - May 14-15, 2022.

### I. Introduction:

On behalf of ODC it is our pleasure to submit the 2021-22 Report to the SSBC AGM. This report (1) identifies committee membership and responsibilities; (2) 2021-22 achievements; (3) identifies goals for 2022-23 and (4) identifies the challenges this past year.

- **2021-22 Committee Membership**

The Committee consisted of Members Andrew Reith, Kristian Kriek, Vice-Chair Tina Peters, and Chair, Wim Kok. The Committee has also been more than ably assisted by Ted Houghton and Stuart Gibbs, both long-term officials on the speed skating scene provincially, nationally and internationally. Staff contributions have been very valuable and are much appreciated.

- **BCSSA ODC Responsibilities**

In broad terms, ODC is responsible for the training, development and mentoring of officials. More specifically, this is done through planning, identifying needs, organizing, hosting and supporting clinics throughout BC, assigning specific officials to competitions, accrediting and upgrading officials to just name a few.

### II. Officials Development:

ODC's mantra is that *officials' development must never stop*. While we passionately believe this, Covid-19 brought this to a grinding halt as competitions and other activities were suspended in early 2020. Most of the 2020-21 season was lost in terms of competitions and officials' development. No accreditations and upgrading took place that year. Fortunately, 2021-22 things eased up to slowly return to a limited form of 'normalcy'.

- **Clinics**

ODC delivered five (5) on-line **Level 1 Clinics** and one (1) **Face-to-Face Clinic** with more than 70 people attending. Participation in Online Delivery was sparse in the Interior and the North. There were few competitions; some clubs are struggling, while the two time zones may be problematic for scheduling a 2-2.5 hr on-line clinic. The clinics were presented in its original, but updated format to reflect some of the changes. ODC will continue this format. The contributions of clinic conductors Ted, Stuart and Wim is hereby noted.

- **Junior Officials' Program**

ODC has completed the review, simplified the requirements to make it (a) more achievable in the time frame; (b) to bring it in line with the existing Officials Development Program to ensure a seamless transition between the two. ODC gratefully recognizes Kristina Kriek and Andrew Reith's work to complete this task.

### **III. Financial**

Expenses associated with officials' assignment to competitions will be part of the Association's Annual Financial Report to be presented at the 2022 AGM. ODC in cooperation with ED Valerie Linton was successful in securing four SSC grants for development and mentorship of officials at provincial and national competitions (BC Open LT; BCST; CC#3 Jr ST). Kari Rae was supported for Recording at the BCST; Thomas McLennan refereeing at WEC (Calgary); Andrea MacIntosh refereeing at BC Open (Fort St. John), Candace Clouthier mentoring Kristie Poncia (Starter at BC Open) and assessing Tony Hanson (Starter BC Open). SSC support is greatly appreciated. ODC also submitted its budget for the 2022-23 season as part of a 4-year cycle.

### **IV. Accreditation, Upgrading and other Matters.**

Accreditation at Level 1 and Upgrading to Level 2 is an SSCBC ODC responsibility. Upgrading to Level 3 is an SSC's responsibility. SSCBC ODC recommends, SSC decides.

- a. **Level 1 Upgrades:** ODC accredited **53** individuals as Level 1 in one or more positions per individual for a total of 80. We should single out Valerie who as ED also took the Level 1 Clinic, volunteered in three positions at competitions and was accredited accordingly. See preliminary list of the new level 1 officials by club and position. Congrats to everyone!

- b. Level 2 Upgrades: ODC upgraded Tony Hanson (Fort St. John) to Starter 2 and David Wagner (Burnaby) to Lap Counter 2. Congrats to both of you, too! The cancellation of many competitions due to Covid, meant that the practical requirements for upgrading could not be met, which explains why only two officials received Level 2 upgrades. This has impacted officials' development at the specialty level. This is the critical bridge to ensure quality officiating, mentorship and development of clinic conductors,
- c. Level 3 Upgrade Recommendations: ODC has approved the names of six (6) Level 2 Officials to be recommended to Speed Skating Canada for upgrading to Level 3 in their respective disciplines. We expect a decision after the SSBC AGM and will share the announcement at the appropriate time.
- d. Other Achievements: The following BC officials received SSC national and ISU international assignments:
- Stuart Gibbs, Video-Referee Short Track (Women) at two World Cups (Debrecen, Hungary and Dordrecht, the Netherlands) and the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing
  - Hans Terstappen, Starter World Jr Championships ST, Gdansk, Poland
  - Donna Bilous, Referee, CC Jr St Richmond
  - Tina Peters, Recorder CC Jr St Richmond
  - E.W. (Wim) Kok, Chief Referee Canada Cup#4- Oval Finale (LT) Calgary

Confirmation of (re) appointments as ISU officials – Competitor Stewards, Referees, and Starters for the 2022-23 season usually takes place in June.

## **V. Goals for 2022-23 Skating Season**

- a. SSBC Officials Assignments 2022-23: Once the competition schedule is known, ODC will be calling for officials to indicate availability, and then assign chief officials. With an eye toward the BCWG (Vernon), Provincial competitions (LT/ST), BC Team qualifiers; Canada Cup LT in Fort St. John and possibly other national event(s) in BC, ODC wants to ensure that we (a) have experienced officials in place, and (b) create development opportunities for officials training, mentoring and upgrading.
- b. Officials' Development Clinics: The need for clinics (new and refresher) is essential to ensure quality officiating at all levels. ODC is planning an ambitious list of activities for the upcoming season:

Speed Skating BC  
724-8623 Granville Street  
Vancouver, BC V6P 5A2  
bcspeedskating.ca



**Level 1:** ODC will again offer Level 1 Clinics using *G-Meet* and *Face-to-Face*

**Level 2:** Based on the list of recent Level 1 Upgrades in 2021-22, ODC has compiled a list of individuals who will be identified for specific **Level 2 Clinics** this year. Anyone who earned Level 1 in previous seasons is also encouraged to sign up.

**Level 3:** There are officials who need Level 3 clinics. As SSC is the lead agency on this, ODC will be working with SSC to make this possible.

To enable greater participation, ODC will run some of these clinics on-line using **G-Meet** as well as **Face-to-face** delivery.

To make the on-line clinic delivery participant-friendly ODC is currently

- (a) preparing focused PPT presentations for clinic conductors.
- (b) Reviewing, updating and creating specific official's manuals;

The latter is a proactive initiative by ODC and a collective effort between ODC members and senior officials in BC. The unfortunate absence of the manuals on the SSC website, necessitated this unusual ODC initiative.

The current focus will be on the following clinics

- (a) Meet Coordinator 2 (On-line G-Meet)
- (b) Finish Line Judge 2 (On-line G-Meet and FtF)
- (c) Timer 2 (On-line G-Meet and FtF)
- (d) Starter 2 (Theory on-line; practical with mentor)
- (e) Referee 2 (to be determined)
- (f) Recorder 2 (to be determined)

ODC is also finalizing the officiating component for a Coaching @ Competitions clinic. This includes rules changes and competition practices.

c. Mentorship and Competitions:

**Mentorship** is critically important for Level 2 upgrades, not only at local competitions, but more importantly higher levels. In every case it requires assignment of mentors. There must also be options for officials to be mentored outside BC. The recent ISU announcement of the Center of Excellence at the Calgary Oval (skaters, coaches and officials) should open exciting possibilities.

## VI. Challenges

**Competitions:** There is a critical need to develop officials in the N. and S. Interior. Offering clinics is one component to build capacity; the other is hosting higher levels sanctioned competitions in those regions. This means that SSBC must actively pursue BC Cups and BCST being held in these regions starting in 2022/23. That's the only way to build officials' capacity beyond Level 1. It is critical for the benefit of the skaters in preparing them for next level competition

**Ice regs – clinics – upgrading:** While ODC recognizes that IceRegs is still in its developmental stage, relying on the data within that system is problematic. ODC could not readily identify ALL those members who registered as volunteers who were also officials. ODC could not, although staff could, identify if working officials were members of SSBC. There needs to be better user-friendly access to this data”

**Policy changes:** It would be useful if the committees/stakeholders that might be impacted by proposed policy changes were involved at the draft stage rather than after Board approval.

**Clinics at major competitions:** There have been suggestions that some official's clinics could be held in conjunction with major competitions. ODC does not support this. ODC sees major competitions as opportunities for mentorship and practical experience

## VII. Conclusion

ODC has achieved quite a few goals in terms of clinics and certification with the gradual transition to normal. ODC is developing an ambitious agenda for the coming season. Finally, a word of appreciation for your help, cooperation and contributions. On behalf of SSBC ODC

E.W. (Wim) Kok, Chair  
Kristina Kriek, Member  
Tina Peters, Vice-Chair and ODC rep. on Competition Committee  
Andrew Reith, Member  
Ted Houghton, ex officio member  
Stuart Gibbs, ex officio member; also liaising with SSC and ISU

Attached: Level 1 and 2 Certifications.