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# STRIPES

Official Publication of USA Hockey's Officiating Program

Spring 2008

## WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK



*By: Mark Wilkins*

This past January, Dave LaBuda, Matt Leaf and myself sat down and discussed each of the programs that the officiating department oversees. Since the recent changing of the guard we wanted to make sure we are all on the same page with regard to the direction the officiating department is headed. We spoke about our summer camps, District Officiating Seminars, National Championships, Junior Development Program and our publications. After a long discussion on our manuals, we

continued to discuss the way we communicate to the officials in our program. STRIPES Newsletter has been the voice of the USA Hockey Officiating Department for over twenty years and since its inception it has had little change except the way in which we distribute it.

We started talking about the changes we have made sending it out electronically and whether, if we are going to continue to do an electronic version, should we change the layout to match our website? Our website developer suggested us making the change to match the website, but if we change our electronic version and still continue to mail out some to people who do not want the electronic version we are creating more work than needed. We continued to talk about what would be interesting to the readers to make sure we continue to keep the interest of all levels of officials.

In the last month the three of us had a conference call with Harvey Cohen and Matt Nilles, two of the original founders and writers of STRIPES Newsletter. After bouncing ideas off each other for an hour or so, we came to a conclusion that we need input from you, the official, to see what you like and do not like so we can continue to keep this publication intended for you, the official.

We have a survey on our website and we would like you to please take the time to fill it out. Go to: <http://survey.usahockey.com/wsb.dll/3/STRIPESsurvey.htm>. It will only take about ten minutes to complete, but will provide us with valuable information as we review the changes we can make to best serve our membership. Your input is very important to us because this is your newsletter. Please tell us what you want to see so we all can become better informed officials.

*Mark Wilkins is USA Hockey's Referee Section Director.*

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# CHRIS CIAMAGA GETS HIS CALL FROM THE NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

By: Matt Nilles

Imagine yourself a young, talented referee, working a full schedule in the American Hockey League. Your dream is "The Big Time," and, well, you've almost made it. You receive your schedule via email and scan the list of games. It looks, at first, pretty typical. Vertically listed; AHL, AHL, AHL, AHL, NHL ...

You pause at that last one and read on ... "March 22, New Jersey Devils at Pittsburgh Penguins."

You reread until you know you've read it correctly. It's your very first regular-season National Hockey League game. And not just any game. An intense rivalry between two teams in the thick of a playoff race. That was how Buffalo native Chris Ciamaga, 30, found out about his first NHL assignment.

"I had an inkling that it might be coming sometime soon," said Ciamaga. "[The supervisors] had told me that the games they had watched had all gone very well."

Despite obvious anticipation, Ciamaga knew his first order of business was to tend to his busy AHL schedule. "I was thinking more of the AHL games, to be honest," he said. "I was in Philadelphia working an AHL game the night before [March 21]."

You would expect a "first-timer" to be set-up with an experienced and supportive crew for their first game, and this was no exception. Ciamaga lined up next to veteran Mick McGeough, Shane Heyer and Johnny Murray that night in Pittsburgh.



R. L. MEYER

"It's Mick's final year, so it was nice to work with him before he retires," said Ciamaga, who has done seven preseason NHL tilts.

Ciamaga "came of age," so to speak, in the USA Hockey development program, under the tutelage of Scott Brand. "We found him at the Eastern Regional Camp," said Brand. "We hired him as a linesman, then he switched over to a referee and went on from there."

*Matt Nilles is a youth hockey official in the Central District.* 🇺🇸

## USA HOCKEY WINTER MEETING REVIEW



DAVE LABUDA

*By: Dave LaBuda*

Good day to all.

I hope all of you had a successful second half of the season and a rewarding post-season.

In January, USA Hockey held its Winter Meetings and all of the District Referees-in-Chief met to

review how this year's registration, testing and seminar season went along with other officiating program related topics.

Here's a recap of the highlights of those District Referees-in-Chief meetings.

The first order of business was to officially welcome Bob Cunningham to his first Winter Meeting as the Central District Referee-in-Chief. We were also pleased to welcome one of our retired District Referees-in-Chief from New England, Lyman Dimond, as well as, Todd Anderson who is the Officiating Program Manager from Hockey Canada. Lyman reported that his retirement is in full swing and going well.

Pat Britt was hired as the newly created coordinator of the Officiating Education Program. Several very qualified candidates were interviewed for this position and the selection committee of Dave LaBuda, Mark Wilkins, Matt Leaf and Helen Fenlon found it a difficult decision to make.

This season's registration, seminar and testing programs were discussed extensively by the Referees-in-Chief. The group received data and feedback on this year's testing results. While there are real indicators that there is still not enough preparation time being given to review the rulebook and prepare for the testing portions of the registration process, the Referees-in-Chief discussed options for change and asked the exam committee to explore new approaches. The committee will report back to the Referees-in-Chief at the Annual Congress in June. The exam committee is chaired by Tony Mariconda with Chris Milles, Sean Jacques and Bob Cunningham as committee members.

While the new website platform is not yet available for hosting an on-line recertification seminar for officials, the Referees-in-Chief are still developing the concept for implementation at some future date. The group charged with first developing a curriculum base for this concept is chaired by Larry Cote with

Tony Mariconda, Owen Thompson and J.B. Olsen as committee members.

A brief presentation was made by the Illinois Hockey Officials Association regarding its four-person officiating system pilot program. The District Referees-in-Chief approved the establishment of a sub-committee to monitor, evaluate data and submit recommendations to the District Referees-in-Chief about alternate officiating systems for future consideration. The members of this sub-committee are still being established.

Scott Brand reported on the Junior Officiating Development Program (JODP). That program continues its success in developing and promoting officials to higher levels of hockey. It should be noted that this program took a leadership role regarding screening officials and this season required all officials participating in the JODP to be fully screened in compliance with USA Hockey's screening policy.

This year is a legislative year and the Referee-in-Chief group was briefed by Mark Wilkins on any legislative proposals that could impact the Officiating Section.

The "Chet Stewart Award" selection committee for this year was established. That committee will be chaired by Dave LaBuda with Mike Shapey, Steve Tatro, Tony Mariconda and Matt Leaf as members.

A detailed report of the District Referees-in-Chief Winter Meeting can be found on the USA Hockey website along with each of the other councils, committees and sections that met.

Until we talk again in the summer issue remember "to always skate hard and have fun" out on the ice.

*Dave LaBuda is USA Hockey's National Referee-in-Chief.* 🇺🇸

### DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Minutes from the Officiating Section meeting as well as each of the other council, committee and sections can be found on [usahockey.com](http://usahockey.com).

## 2008 DISTRICT OFFICIATING SEMINAR SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The dates and locations for the 2008 District Officiating Seminars have been awarded for the upcoming season. These three-day advanced-level seminars offer grassroots officials of all ages and ability a chance to hone their skills and learn officiating techniques from some of the top instructors within the USA Hockey program. All Level 2, 3 and 4 officials from the host districts will receive an invitation in the mail from the national office over the summer months. A second mailing of invitations to officials from surrounding districts may be sent out, if necessary, to fill the seminar. Attendance is limited to the first 50 participants and there is a nominal fee for attendance. Officials from outside the host district who wish to attend may receive an application by contacting the District Referee-in-Chief of the host district.

The format for the District Officiating Seminar is similar to our summer development camps. An experienced staff of

instructors will present in-depth classroom and on-ice instruction. Power skating will also be taught. Unlike our development camps, no actual game experience is offered at the District Officiating Seminars in order to condense the program into a three-day session that is convenient for everyone.

### **West Palm Beach, Florida**

*August 8-10, 2008*

### **Manchester, New Hampshire**

*September 12-14, 2008*

### **Cody, Wyoming**

*September 18-21, 2008*

We look forward to seeing you at a District Officiating Seminar near you! 🇺🇸



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## A FAMILY AFFAIR

Walt Behre and his family have officiating in their blood. Don't believe me. Imagine the patriarch of a good size family lacing them up and donning the stripes with four children, all finding the challenge of officiating a worthwhile part of their hockey experience.

The Behre family calls the Rotary Veterans Memorial Pavillion (Palouse Ice Rink) in Moscow, Idaho, home during the hockey season. Walt attended the Western Instructors Training Seminar last spring and is the current officials scheduler in Moscow. He, and his oldest son, Walt Jr., have coaching duties for the local bantam and midget teams while the younger



*Pictured from left to right are Thomas (13), Margaret (16), Patrick (18), Walt C. (20), and Walt L. Behre at the Rotary Veterans Memorial Pavillion in Moscow, Idaho.*

family members all currently play with their respective age groups.

The youngest, Thomas, is a level 1 referee, Margaret is level 2, Patrick and Walt C. are both level 3 and Walt L. is level 2. Thomas was first in the family to have an interest in hockey, joining the local mite team when he was 7 years old. Later that year, the older brothers and sister started followed by

Dad. Margaret plays with the boys' midget team since there is no girl's team in Moscow. Walt L. says "it is pretty amazing that not that long ago, we were all new to hockey and now we are a hockey family." 🇺🇸

ERIK JACOBSON

## PATRICK BRITT NAMED USA HOCKEY'S COORDINATOR OF OFFICIATING EDUCATION



**PATRICK BRITT**

Patrick Britt has been named coordinator of officiating education for USA Hockey.

Trained in the USA Hockey

Officiating Education Program, Britt spent the 2007-08 season as the director of officiating development for the National Ice Hockey Board of Holland. He is a former East Coast Hockey League and United States Hockey League referee

having worked more than 550 games in 11 seasons between the two leagues. Britt also officiated USA Hockey's Junior A National Championships from 1999-2001 and has been a member of the national instruction staff for the past seven years.

"We couldn't be more pleased to have Patrick on board," said Matt Leaf, director of officiating for USA Hockey. "His knowledge and passion will be of tremendous value to USA Hockey."

Britt will be working out of the USA Hockey National Office and will be

assisting the staff with the day-to-day operations of the officiating education program and working closely with volunteer leaders for the betterment of the game.

"I am looking forward to working with all of the volunteers within USA Hockey while we continue to strengthen the best officiating program in the world," said Britt. "I'm honored to be a part of the great team of officials USA Hockey works with."

A native of Richboro, Pa., Britt officially began his duties on April 14th. 🇺🇸

## TAKE A CHANCE WITH INLINE HOCKEY

By: Jon Elvy

You are likely looking at your referee season and schedule as it now has an end in sight. As fast as the season begins, it ends just as quickly. It can also be difficult for referees to exhibit the same energy level and passion for the game at the end of the season as was done at the beginning. Yet, with playoffs and players improving, referees need also to step up and be much better, if not flawless. A major league baseball umpire was once quoted as saying, “we are expected to start the season and be perfect, then get better from there.”

As the season winds down there can soon be a relief from hockey ‘burn-out,’ a disappointment from not going deeper into the playoffs, or a desire to improve skills through more hockey in various ways. On the ice side, USA Hockey offers a number of summer camps for those identified as having potential for elite levels. Those that have aspirations to be identified for those camps, it sometimes means gaining more hockey experience to improve decision management, situational positioning, or just skating stride, speed and balance.

Many areas of the country do not have much organized “off-season” ice hockey. Those places likely have some sort of hockey, and perhaps only inline hockey. The season of inline is in full swing and the officiating world for inline hockey is in need of referees with experience – those having an officiating mentality and solid understanding of hockey basics. The game is still hockey, yet the attitude can be a bit different from ice hockey as often times there are players with only inline experience. This should not be perceived as a negative, only different, and that difference can expose referees to a more well-rounded approach to the game if not improve the officiating experience for both games.

USA Hockey InLine’s regional playoffs begin in the spring, with national championships in the summer. For those ice referees that wish to extend their season, yet move away from ice ‘burn-out’ while improving skills, please contact your District InLine Referee-in-Chief or USA Hockey InLine offices for more information. Registration is available online, it is affordable and the experience is invaluable. Many of the best inline referees which are identified for playoffs, nationals, and ultimately the World Championships also officiated ice hockey games at one time or another. As Referee-in-Chief of the IIHF InLine Hockey Officiating Program, I can attest to the fact that the very best inline referees have ice experience, and are usually the same ones that go deep into the playoffs.

Take a chance! It’s no chance really, only an extension of your officiating experience. As a 26-year registered USA Hockey ice referee, I can assure you that inline hockey is worth it!

*Jon Elvy is the InLine Referee-in-Chief in the Central District.* 🇺🇸



USA HOCKEY INLINE

## INCOMPLETELY REGISTERED OFFICIALS

The Direct Registration Program implemented over the last several years marked a major change in the enforcement of registration rules. Unfortunately, however, there are still too many officials who continue to receive officiating assignments who are not fully registered. Officials who work without a current card place their partner(s) in danger of facing serious consequences should an injury to a participant occur.

The bylaws of USA Hockey clearly state that “all games hosted by an Affiliate Association’s member team within the United States must be officiated by properly registered USA Hockey officials.” Incompletely registered (not possessing current

card and crest) officials not only put themselves at risk of insurance liability, they jeopardize the teams, other official(s) and, ultimately, the supervisor of officials and game scheduler in the same manner.

All officials at this point in the season should be completely registered and should have received their USA Hockey Officiating Program card and crest. If you have not, there may be a problem with your registration and you are **not eligible to work games after November 30th**. Assignors should not assign, under any circumstances, an official who does not possess the current card and crest to any USA Hockey sanctioned game after that date.

Officials who have met all of the registration requirements (submitted an exam and attended a seminar) and have not received their membership card and crest in the mail should contact their local supervisor of officials to determine if there is a problem with their registration. Officials may also check on their registration status at any time through USA Hockey’s automated phone system. Dial 719-576-USAH and follow the prompts to officials registration.

Please correct your registration status as soon as possible so that you are eligible to work games and to minimize potential problems during the next registration season. 📞

## WORKING NON-SANCTIONED GAMES

USA Hockey takes pride in its officiating program. In fact, we are the only ice hockey organization existing in North America that offers extensive, formalized officials training and education to its members. Whenever you officiate a non-sanctioned game, the players of that league are directly benefiting from the USA Hockey Officiating Program, at no cost to them. This is unfair to the 600,000 members that do register with USA Hockey.

Although we highly encourage officials to work only USA Hockey sanctioned games, there remains a number of officials who work non-sanctioned games, particularly at the adult age classifications. Any questions regarding the registration of a team with USA Hockey should be addressed to your district or affiliate registrar. If you officiate in a game

that is not sanctioned by USA Hockey (NCAA, National Federation of High Schools, and minor professional leagues are affiliate members of USA Hockey and may provide separate insurance coverage for their officials), please be aware that:

1. You are not covered under the USA Hockey insurance plan while officiating these games.
2. You are prohibited from wearing the USA Hockey officials crest.
3. You may face repercussions from the USA Hockey affiliate association.

Please help us in our endeavors to encourage these teams to register with USA Hockey by refusing to officiate non-sanctioned games. Thank you. 📞



**MATT LEAF**

## **INSTRUCTOR TRAINING SESSIONS**

*By: Matt Leaf*

Information on the 2008 Instructor Training Program has been distributed to the District Referees-in-Chief and Local Supervisors. As one of our more popular programs sponsored by the officiating program, these sessions tend to fill up quickly and are attended by a wide variety of officials from throughout the country. The dates and locations are printed in this issue of STRIPES in the Calendar of Events.

Officials who have attended this session in the past have been pleasantly surprised as to the quality of information and caliber of teaching involved. The Instructors who teach these sessions are the most experienced teachers/educators that are involved with the USA Hockey Officiating Education Program. Many of them have participated in this program previously as a student. These sessions are more relaxed than the summer development camps and the subject matter focuses on providing resources for our local pre-season seminar instructors to become better teachers. Each participant also has the opportunity to practice teaching on several occasions both in the classroom and on the ice with their performance critiqued by their peers and the instructors staff.

Our most efficient means of improving the quality of grassroots officiating lies within the performance of our local seminar instructors. As the teaching techniques and abilities of the Instructors improve, so does the overall officiating ability of our officials. The commitment the officiating program has received from past instructor training participants has been outstanding. However, the continued success of the officiating program will largely depend on the continued involvement of quality individuals as local seminar instructors. We look forward to seeing you at one of these sessions. 🇺🇸

## **CHICAGO SHOWCASE OFFERS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY**

For the fourteenth year, the USA Hockey Officiating Education Program will conduct an Officials Development Program during the Chicago Showcase high school all-star event. High school teams from throughout the country converge on the Chicago area for five days of tournament action. The 24 teams are formed in an effort to provide exposure to players that may normally not have extensive exposure to junior, college and professional scouts.

The District Referees-in-Chief have forwarded recommendations for participation to the national office. From those recommendations, eight officials are selected to participate. National tournament caliber officials are required and the intent is to involve some high level officials that may normally not have the opportunity to officiate a national tournament because of geographical location or lack of exposure. The Chicago Showcase Officials Development Program will also provide much needed experience for those officials that have attended one of the summer development camps and need additional upper level experience to advance to the next level.

Each official will work two games per day for which they will be paid a game fee. A USA Hockey Officiating Education Program supervisor will critique each official and provide constructive performance feedback. At the end of each day, a brief training session conducted by the national instructors will be held to review the day's events and address certain aspects of officiating. Each selected participant is responsible for travel expenses and meals while USA Hockey and the Chicago Showcase will provide hotel accommodations. 🇺🇸



## SUMMER DEVELOPMENT CAMPS

Development of elite young officials will continue over the summer months as the officiating program announces the dates and locations for the Summer Officials Development Camps. These camps are used to identify and prepare potential college, professional and international officials. Many of the top officials in all areas of the United States have worked their way through the Summer Development Camp system. USA Hockey provides the top instructors available from the National Hockey League, Minor Professional Leagues and the National Collegiate Athletic Association to teach and evaluate the participants in all aspects of officiating. Here is a brief synopsis of each of the camps.



USA HOCKEY

The regional camps are divided into Western and Eastern camps. Each of the regional camps has 27 participants from their respective parts of the country. Officials range from 18-26 years of age and have a strong desire to achieve higher levels of officiating. Other criteria for attendance includes being an excellent skater, being proficient at working the three-official system and the official needs to be willing to take learned information back to his local area and assist others with this information.

The USA Hockey Officiating Education Program will also be conducting Women's Regional Officials Camp during the summer of 2008. A total of 12 female applicants between the ages of 18 and 35 will be invited to attend the regional session, which is designed to train and identify future high-level women officials. The camp format is similar to that of the regional camps.

Next on the ladder for the up and coming official is the National Camp. USA Hockey invites 24 applicants to participate in a program that has a higher level of instruction and higher level of expectation than the regional camps. Officials between the ages of 20 and 29 that have attended a regional camp are eligible and these officials are expected to have displayed a drastic improvement in officiating skills when compared to their regional camp attendance. Once again, they need the desire to officiate higher levels of hockey and the willingness to give information learned back to their respective local areas to be considered a viable candidate.

The District Referees-in-Chief have more information and the necessary applications for each of these development camps. Interested officials that meet the criteria for application should contact their District Referee-in Chief. For those officials who want to pursue a career in officiating, the USA Hockey Officiating Education Program has put together this elite development program to help you achieve your goals. 🏒

### ELITE OFFICIATING EXPERIENCE

The officiating program would like to announce the continuation of the Elite Officiating Experience. This program will be run in conjunction with the USA Hockey Junior Hockey Challenge and the USA Hockey Women's Festival. There will be two separate programs for officials, one for the men and one for the women with both scheduled for Lake Placid. Both programs are scheduled for August. These programs proved to be highly successful in the past as several of the participants have gone on to receive international assignments.

The purpose of this program is to identify potential international officiating candidates and then train them in the rules, procedures and mechanics of the International Ice Hockey Federation. USA Hockey will select six of our top men and women officials who have high-level officiating experience and have a desire to become involved at the international level of officiating to participate in a week-long session. The participants will also have an opportunity to gain game experience by officiating the games between the top junior- and college-aged players and our elite women's players.

Additional information on the Elite Officiating Experience Programs, and applications, are available from your District Referee-in-Chief. 🏒

## 2007-08 JUNIOR OFFICIATING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WRAPS A SUCCESSFUL SEASON

USA Hockey's Junior Officiating Development Program is completing its 2007-08 season. Officials in this program worked in the United States Hockey League, North American Hockey League, Minnesota Junior Hockey League, Central States Hockey League, Metropolitan Junior Hockey League, Atlantic Junior Hockey League, Central States Collegiate Hockey League and the Upper Midwest High School Elite League, as well as advanced into minor professional hockey, throughout the season.



Tom Albindia, Minn.	Jason McCutchen, N.Y.
Robert Albury, Ariz.	Bill McGoldrick, Mass.
Chris Allman, Mich.	Fraser McIntyre, N.Y.
Ken Anderson, Minn.	JM McNulty, Calif.
Shaun Andring, Mich.	Steven Meyer, Conn.
Colin Bacanskas, N.Y.	Matt Miller, Mich.
Brandon Baetens, Mich.	Geoff Miller, N.J.
Matt Barnett, Colo.	Aaron Mills, B.C.
Landon Bathe, Maine	Bevan Mills, B.C.
Steve Berry, Calif.	Anthony Montes, Ill.
Andrew Bethmann, Mo.	Josh Montgomery, Wyo.
Eugene Binda, Mass.	Brian Oliver, N.Y.
Boone Bruggman, Wash.	Bryan Pancich, Mont.
Dan Cohen, Ind.	Dana Penkivech, Minn.
Brent Coulumbe, Ontario	Chris Pitoscia, N.J.
Marcus Currie, D.C.	Jesse Pletsch, Mich.
Jeff Dagher, Mich.	Joe Poczowski, Ill.
Dan Dreger, Colo.	Jarrold Ragusin, Ill.
Kevin Graber, N.Y.	Dan Rankin, Mich.
John Grandt, Colo.	Jarod Reid, Mich.
Mike Greaney, N.Y.	Judson Ritter, N.J.
Justin Greene, Mass.	Andrew Russell, N.S.
Chris Hoy, Ind.	Johnathan Sandos, N.J.
Dan Houle, N.H.	Jim Scarpace, Mich.
Joe Hutek, Mich.	Ian Shaver, Pa.
Dan Issac, Mich.	Jon Shaw, Colo.
Don Jablonski, N.Y.	Brett Sheva, Pa.
Craig Kneale, Mo.	Alex Stagnone, Mass.
Nick Krebsbach, N.D.	Steve Stankevich, Minn.
Colin Kronforst, Ill.	Tom Steinel, N.J.
Tim Leonardo, N.Y.	Andrew Suhovic, N.J.
Ben Lord, N.H.	Joe Sullivan, Mo.
Justin Lyle, Mich.	Peter Tarnaris, Ill.
Paul Maciejewski, N.Y.	Andrew Thackaberry, Mich.
Curtis Marouelli, Alberta	Bob Walter, N.J.
Lucas Martin, Wis.	Joshua Wesley, Mich.
Tim Mayer, Mich.	Chris Woodworth, N.Y.
Mike McCreary, Ontario	

"Our first nine seasons were a huge success and this season is gearing up to be just as productive. Over 200 officials who participated in this program the first nine years have advanced on to minor professional or college hockey. We were able to identify a crop of new officials at the various USA Hockey Officiating Summer Camps and with the commitment of the participating leagues to officiating development, we are confident that our on-ice officiating product will be equal to the task of officiating these Junior and collegiate leagues," stated Scott Brand, USA Hockey coordinator of officiating development.

The full time officials generally range in age from 18-26 years old with a few exceptions for those individuals who started officiating at a later age. Each of these full time officials are committed to advancing their officiating career and worked roughly 60-100 games the season. During this process, they were also supervised for roughly 35% of their games and drove thousands of miles throughout the course of the season. 🇺🇸

### DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?

For more information regarding the Junior Officiating Development Program, contact Scott Brand at [refnchief@earthlink.com](mailto:refnchief@earthlink.com).

## USA HOCKEY MOURNS THE PASSING OF TWO OFFICIALS

**Gary Anderson**, 50, died unexpectedly on February 2, at his home in Havre, Mont.

Born in Great Falls, Mont., Gary graduated from C.M. Russell High School in 1975, then went on to work for BNSF Railway for 33 years.

Gary was an active participant in the Havre local sports scene. He coached hockey and baseball. In addition to officiating hockey, Gary was a baseball umpire. He was well-known as the Referee-in-Chief both locally in Havre and statewide for Montana. He was awarded the Milt Kaufman Award in 2005.

Among his interests were fishing, hunting, playing golf and cooking.

Gary is survived by his wife, Charleen, and three sons, Andy, Tyson and Seth.

**Christopher Krassowski**, 15, passed away on February 3.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Christopher moved to Wayne, N.J., six years ago.

A sophomore at Wayne Valley High School, Christopher was a forward on the Wayne Valley High School varsity hockey team, having also played for the New Jersey Bandits.

Christopher coached Wayne boys and girls floor hockey club teams last year and was currently a USA Hockey official.

USA Hockey's thoughts and prayers are with the families of Gary and Christopher. 🇺🇸



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USA Hockey, Inc.  
STRIPES Newsletter  
1775 Bob Johnson Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906-4090



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Officials who are interested in attending any of the events listed below should contact their local district personnel for details. (All dates are tentative and subject to change without notice).

## **2008 Instructor Training Sessions**

### **Western Instructors Training Session**

May 1-4, 2008  
U.S. Olympic Training Center  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

### **Eastern Instructors Training Session**

May 1-4, 2008  
U.S. Olympic Training Center  
Lake Placid, N.Y.

## **2008 Officials Development Programs**

### **Eastern Regional Officials Camp**

July 12-19, 2008  
Rochester, N.Y.

### **Western Regional Officials Camp**

June 21-28  
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

### **Women's Regional Officials Camp**

July 26 - August 2, 2008  
Rochester, N.Y.

### **National Officials Camp**

June 21-28, 2008  
Rochester, N.Y.

## **Other Events**

### **USA Hockey Annual Congress**

June 4-8, 2008  
Colorado Springs, Colo.