



Shadow Program – On-ice Guidelines

Objective: Create better officials during the first few years of their officiating career through guidance and supervision on and off the ice. Shadows are a large part of this program and will work to increase the knowledge and skill level of all new officials and help form a good working relationship between senior and junior officials.

Before The game

- Be at the rink one half hour before scheduled game time start, as if you were working the game itself.
- If you get a chance, introduce yourself to the coaching staff of both teams and inform them of the shadow program and let them know you'll be on the ice. Ask if they have questions.
- Don't scold officials if they are not there at the half hour mark too (especially 7am games) but make sure that they are aware of the expectations and explain the importance that we arrive on time at the arena.
- Spend time before the game answering questions about rules and situations that the officials might have and have conversation about certain situations that will come up. Keep it light but relevant.
- Prepare a couple simple situations and ask each official how they would handle it. Then ask them to look it up in the rulebook and discuss. Curve balls are good, but make sure they are relevant to the hockey they are doing.

On the Ice

- If you didn't get a chance before dressing, during the 'Fair Play Initiative,' introduce yourself to the coaching staff of both teams and inform them of the shadow program and if they have any questions, let them know you will be available after the game when you're finished your de-brief with the officials.
- During the game allow officials to work the game, you are just there to help with positioning and show them proper techniques and where to be standing on face-off situations etc.
- After each period have a quick talk at the penalty box about the period, point out any concerns. Switch officials for the second period and have another quick talk at the next break. If you have a coach's whiteboard, bring it to the penalty bench when you hit the ice or go to the spot on the ice to demonstrate a procedure. Ask the timekeeper to allow an extra minute or two if you need it.
- After the second period let the officials know that you are now going to leave them and watch from the stands. This is when you will fill out your supervision forms. If one or both officials need more guidance you can stay and continue through the third period with the shadow and send the supervision forms later... **DON'T FORGET!!**
- When leaving after the second period, let the coaches know that you are leaving and thank them for allowing us to run the shadow program during their game.
- It is important that the Shadow allows the official to make mistakes and avoid calling penalties. If it's necessary, the shadow does have the power to assess a penalty as covered in the current Hockey Canada rulebook.
- The shadow should avoid discussions with the coaches regarding the game except at the games conclusion.

After the game

- Have the officials review and sign the game sheet just as you would do if it was your game.
- Enter the room and discuss the game, answer questions and go through the supervisions together then individually. Let them know what each point means and how to work on it. Don't be too critical and present each point in a positive manner. These are formative years and there will be plenty of time for critical supervisions!!
- When filling out the Supervision form, please write *SHADOW* on the top so proper statistics can be kept.

HAVE FUN AND MAKE SURE THAT THE OFFICIALS ARE HAVING FUN AND LEAVE THE RINK FEELING LIKE THEY HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB TODAY!