

# **REFEREE / INTERIM TOURNAMENT CHAIR REPORT 2008**

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## **REPORT OF REFEREE CHAIR / INTERIM TOURNAMENT CHAIR NL WTF TAEKWONDO ASSOCIATION AGM SATURDAY, 2008-11-29**

The past year has been a relatively busy one with regards to refereeing. We saw representation at all National Events by at least one referee with two at the Junior Nationals.

Provincially, we have had two tournaments in 2008, the first being the Association run Provincials with the second being a fun tournament hosted by Hi-Performance Taekwondo. The Provincials were a resounding success on many levels. Not only did the tournament run smoothly, but also the athletes enjoyed themselves tremendously. The most important success of the tournament was the working together of the Tournament committee. We worked well together and solidified a good rapport.

During the Provincial Tournament, we also implemented a principle from the LTAD model of non-competitive tournaments for ages eight and under. The benefits of this are many -the most significant being the confidence and pride of accomplishment gained by each and every child who participates. This principle also worked well for the new referees who felt more confident about stepping into the ring to apply their newfound skills in an extremely low- pressure environment.

Only one Referee Course has been offered so far this year, with one being cancelled recently due to lack of interest. We have certified four new referees this year, two from the West Coast and two from the East. It is hoped that another course will be offered in St. John's in the New Year as well as one on the West Coast at a later date, perhaps to coincide with a Provincial Tournament. The introduction of a new referee shirt is expected to entice new referees as well, as a referee is eligible to receive one free after participating in four tournaments, beginning in June 2008. They also have the option to purchase one for themselves. The shirts have received favourable comments from all.

My personal goal this year as Referee Chair will be to once again work to certify new referees and provide refreshers to previously certified. I will also be speaking with all club owners to encourage them to introduce refereeing skills to all their students on a regular basis. Rules have been changing on a National level to reflect similar ones introduced internationally, and it is

important to ensure all club owners/head instructors are aware of these changes as they occur.

Finally, I will close by saying that I have greatly enjoyed the past two years on the Board and I look forward to serving once again as Provincial Referee Chair. I will continue to ensure that we maintain open communication and join with the rest of the New Board in developing the martial art and sport of WTF Taekwondo in Newfoundland, as well as proudly representing our province as an official at National events.

I wish to thank the current Board for their dedication and hard work and for those who are moving on, I wish them continued success in their future endeavours both in and outside of Taekwondo. I would like also to welcome the new members of the incoming Board. I look forward to forging new paths in the growth of Taekwondo in our province, to establishing a greater presence for our provincial athletes on a National Level and most especially forming new friendships as we work together.