

INTRODUCTION TO OFFICIATING – VANCOUVER CLINIC  
SATURDAY MAY 4<sup>TH</sup> AND SUNDAY MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2019

Thank you for your interest in the Introduction to Officiating Clinic. We are happy that you are considering joining our team!

**PLEASE NOTE: The clinic is for those who are interested in working as a tennis official.** This is not a "rules school" for players! Rules Schools are held in the early spring in preparation for league play and details of these will be available on the Tennis BC website nearer the time.

The clinic will teach you the Rules of Tennis and basic on court techniques. In order to obtain certification and work as an official, attendees are also required to complete on-court training at upcoming tournaments. New officials start as roving (on-court) umpires and line umpires, and are invited to progress to chair/chief/referee as their experience grows.

Attendance at the clinic, and the subsequent on court tournament training is mandatory to obtain certification.

#### **Saturday and Sunday morning**

This is the classroom module of the course and is will be held at the Tennis BC office in Vancouver. You will be provided with the Tennis Canada rulebook "Rules of the Court" and the Introduction to Officiating Manual. You may want to bring a notepad and pen to take notes.

This session consists of a PowerPoint presentation, videos and interactive role play and a short knowledge test. You will learn the Rules of Tennis, Code of Conduct and the basic techniques of Roving and Line Umpire work.

You will also be introduced to the Officiating Pathway and the structure of the Tennis Canada Officiating Program and we will cover the opportunities for work in BC, and as you progress, across Canada and International work.

#### **Saturday and Sunday afternoon**

The afternoons will consist of Line Umpire training only and will be held at Hollyburn Country Club. Roving umpire on court training will be held in conjunction with some of the upcoming Junior tournaments over the next several weeks and you will be able to sign up for those sessions as your schedule permits at the training weekend. Please wear comfortable or athletic gear and tennis shoes to the afternoon sessions at Hollyburn.

Those who progress quickly may be offered trainee positions at the combined ITF/ATP event, the Vancouver Open in August. In order to be considered for selection for this event other live match training sessions are required. Details of these are provided later in this document.

#### **Working as an Official**

Once certified, you will be added to the BC Officiating group and will start to receive the regular email communications about upcoming work opportunities and other officiating events. In addition, you will have access to the Tennis Canada officiating intranet with news, resources and applications for events across the country.

In order to remain certified, Officials are required to agree to the Officiating Code of Conduct and Social Media Policy, submit annual Work Records, pass the Annual Officiating Test and have a clear Criminal Records Check.

The majority of officiating work for new officials in BC is as a Roving Umpire and takes place on evenings and weekends in the indoor season. During the summer there are more events and these can be during weekdays, evenings and weekends.

Officials advise their availability and are scheduled accordingly. (See **Working in BC**)

### **Development and Progression**

The more you work, the more you learn – there really is no substitute for on court experience. Some officials find that they really enjoy work as a Roving Umpire and just work in that role, others take it to the next level and train to become Chair Umpires. Others focus on Line Umpire work and spend their summers travelling to work at various tournaments. The majority of the officials in BC do some work in all of the various roles.

As an official you may choose to do all roles (RU, LU, CU) or just to concentrate on one or two. We can discuss your preferences once you start your officiating journey.

### **Working in BC**

The majority of the work in BC year round is for roving umpires at junior events. Typically these events run from Friday afternoon to Sunday evening and are held on average 3 weekends a month.

During the summer months, there is more demand for officials in a variety of different roles, and tournaments often run both in the daytime during the week and weekends as the adult and senior event season gets busier. The Summer Series Open events, along with Junior and Senior Provincial championships and Junior ITF tournaments use Roving Umpires, Line Umpires and Chair Umpires.

The Stanley Park Open now in its 89th year, uses around 10-15 officials per day for a 17 day period in July, and more on weekends when finals are played. All officials are asked to provide at least 3 shifts of availability during this busy period.

The Odlum Brown Vancouver Open combined Men's ATP and Women's ITF event is the highest level of professional event held in Western Canada and uses around 35 local Line Umpires every August. All BC Line Umpires are encouraged to apply to work this event.

### **Notable Tournaments in BC**

U14 Indoor National Championships - April  
Van Lawn Masters - April  
BC Senior Provincials - May  
Panorama Junior ITF - May  
Stanley Park Open - July  
Summer Series - May to August  
Vancouver Open - August  
Vancouver Junior ITF - October

**Vancouver Open – Odlum Brown**

In order to be considered for selection as a trainee at this event, you will need to complete the Intro to Officiating Course and at least 3 of the live match training opportunities listed below. Those wishing to be considered as Line Umpires for the Van Open should have full day and evening availability from Monday Aug 12 to Friday Aug 16.

Richmond Open Finals June 2

Delta Open Finals June 16

Burnaby Open Finals June 30

Stanley Park Junior ITF Finals July 12 (eve) and July 13 (day)

Stanley Park Open July 20 & 21

**International Work??**

If you enjoy working as an official, and you have the aptitude and flexibility to work at numerous events to increase your experience, you will find that there are opportunities to work at events around the world. This year BC officials have been to Brazil, Acapulco, Rome, Madrid, Los Cabos, Peru, the US Open and of course our home event Rogers Cup. BC was proud to have 9 officials at the Rogers Cup/Coupe Rogers last year.

We hope you will enjoy officiating as much as we do, and look forward to welcoming you to our team!

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at [abees@tenniscanada.com](mailto:abees@tenniscanada.com)