

INTRODUCTION TO OFFICIATING

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY TO SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2020

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 beginning of the year in preparation for league play and details of these will be available on the Tennis BC website or through your league coordinator 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.

Friday February 28 6pm to 10pm and Saturday February 29 9am to 12pm

This is the classroom module of the course and is will be held at the Oak Bay Recreation Centre. (1975 Bee Street, Victoria)

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 and some food. Dinner is not provided on Friday but you are welcome to bring something to eat during class. We will take a short 15-20 minute break during the evening session. The clinic will continue on Saturday morning from 9am to 12pm and attendance at both sessions is mandatory to achieve certification.

This classroom work consists of a PowerPoint presentation, videos and interactive role play. You will learn the Rules of Tennis, Code of Conduct and the basic techniques of Roving 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.

After the classroom session in Oak Bay, we will all proceed to Panorama Recreation Centre for a light lunch (provided) and then on court practice.

Saturday February 29 1pm to 6pm and Sunday March 1 9am to 1pm

This is the on-court module of the course and is held in conjunction with the triple knock-out tournament being held at Panorama Tennis Centre. You will be involved in pre-match talks, coin toss etc and on court match supervision. Please wear a black top, khaki pants and tennis shoes to this session. On court training is mandatory to obtain your certification and this first training session will be in 2 hour shifts (depending on number of clinic participants). You will not be required to stay for the entire time on both Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, but you are welcome to do so if you want to. There will be a separate sign up for shifts on these days prior to the course and during the classroom session on Friday night.

Line Umpire Training

Line Umpire work does not really start until the summer season begins. In the early spring you will be advised of the training opportunities, usually at the Open/NTRP Series events in Vancouver. There will also be an additional training sessions before our biggest event - the combined ITF/ATP event – Vancouver Open in August. You are welcome to attend these sessions, but note that all LU work is usually in Vancouver.

Working as an Official

Once certified, you will have access to the Officiating system where you will be able to access communications about upcoming work opportunities, news, resources and other officiating events.

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 many more events and these can be during weekdays, evenings and weekends.

Officials advise their availability on the TCOMS system and are scheduled accordingly.

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.

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 Lima, Sao Paolo, US Open, Acapulco, Rome, Madrid, Los Cabos China, and of course our home event Rogers Cup. BC was proud to have 9 officials at the Rogers Cup/Coupe Rogers this 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