



INTRODUCTION TO OFFICIATING

MARCH 19TH 2022 – 9:30AM TO 4:30PM

Thank you for your interest in the Introduction to Officiating Clinic. We are happy that you are considering joining our team! We are excited to be able to combine this women only clinic with the Billie Jean King Cup tie in April. Please read the following document for all the information you need to know.

Getting started

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 sometimes held 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.

Introduction to Officiating – Classroom session

March 19 2022 – 9:30am to 4:30pm

This is the classroom module of the course. This will be held at the Creekside Community Centre in Olympic Village, Vancouver.

You will be provided with the link to the online 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. A light lunch will be provided. Attendance at the classroom session and subsequent on court training is required to achieve certification.

This classroom work consists of a PowerPoint presentation, videos, quizzes 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.

Introduction to Officiating - On Court Training

March 26-April 1 and April 1-10

This is the practical module of the course and is held in conjunction with the U12 Indoor Junior Nationals and the Van Lawn ITF Seniors events. A number of training session times will be available during these events and participants should aim to attend at least 3 sessions during this time. These will be 2hour shifts, although you are welcome to stay longer if you wish. You will be involved in pre-match talks, coin toss and on court match supervision. For these on court sessions please wear a black or blue top, khaki pants and tennis shoes. There will be a separate sign up for shifts during the classroom session on Saturday.



Billie Jean King Cup

April 15-16

Participants who complete the training and are interested in continuing as a tennis official will be invited to the BJK Cup Canada vs Latvia tie in mid April.

You will receive entry to the tie (exact day to be confirmed at the clinic) and a “Behind the scenes” tour. We’ll also have some sessions with other female officials from around Canada, who will share their experiences, and you will also meet the International officials who have been assigned to the event.

Line Umpire Training

March 24 6-7pm

A line umpire training session will be held on March 24 from 6-7pm at the Richmond HUB. This is for those of you who may be interested in working as a line umpire at the summer series events (Burnaby, Richmond, Delta and Stanley Park Opens) in preparation for our biggest event, the Odlum Brown Vancouver Open at Hollyburn in August. This does not form part of the requirements of the certification course, but is another fun aspect to being a tennis official.

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. Most of the officiating work for 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??

Even though we are seeing increased use of the electronic line calling systems, 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 in various roles. Despite the pandemic, in the past year BC officials have been to several events across Canada and travelled internationally to various tournament in the US, Mexico, South America and the Middle East. 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 us at officiating@tenniscanada.com