

**ALASKA STATE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION BOARD
MEETING 25 AUGUST 2018**

REFEREE-IN-CHIEF REPORT

Board members and guests, Please excuse my absence from today's board meeting. I am currently in Seattle Washington helping Steve Stevens in supervising the Pacific District Women's Officiating Camp.

On behalf of the Officiating Community I would like to wish you all a successful and productive season.

I look forward to seeing so many of the familiar faces of Alaska Hockey and eagerly anticipate meeting new folks who all share the love of our great game.

Registration for Officials began on the first day of August, and is off to a good start. I hope that we can continue to grow the numbers of officials in our state and continue to meet the demands of you all.

I want to take this time early in the season to plead with you all, as leaders of our State, to help me spread a message through out our Hockey community regarding " Code of Conduct" and abuse of officials.

The undisputed number one reason for attrition and retention rates amongst officials continues to be "Abuse of officials" Abuse from players, coaches and fans is at a

all time high across the country, and the primary focus of USA Hockey and the officiating section. Please please, please, review the Player, Coach and Parent Codes of conduct Policies with EVERYONE involved in your organizations. This is not just another form that needs to be signed in order to complete registration and fill out your credentials books, it is a culture that needs EVERYONES attention if its going to get better. Please help me by being Leaders, and lets show the rest of the country and USA Hockey that Alaska is at the forefront of addressing the problem.

If you see it, stop it, if you hear it, address it, and if it's happening in your programs extinguish it. There is NO PLACE in our game for abuse of officials.

If there are any questions, or concerns please address them to your area supervisors, or contact me directly.

Thank You All.

Have a great Season

Eric Simmons
Referee-In-Chief
Alaska