



RUGBY CANADA REFEREE SOCIETIES **SEEKING APPROVAL TO ENABLE VISITING** **REFEREES TO OFFICIATE IN CANADA**

Rugby Canada encourages the development of referee exchanges and opportunities for visiting referees to officiate in Rugby Canada endorsed tournaments and games during short term visits.

To Referee in Another Province

Referees who are registered with Rugby Canada do not have to seek additional insurance coverage to referee in another Province of Canada provided that:

- their four-year accreditation remains current;
- they are currently registered with Rugby Canada **AS A REFEREE** (i.e as an “Official”);
- they are a member of a Canadian Referee Society or Provincial Union;
- the fixture where they are officiating in Canada is endorsed by the Provincial Union of the Province being visited;
- the arrangements that are made are made with the full knowledge and endorsement of the referee's regional or Provincial Referee Society or Union and the authority(ies) of the Province being visited;
- there is a "paper trail" (or electronic documentation) that identifies that the above mentioned endorsement was gained and completed before the event (and retained after the event); and,
- documents are filed and retained in the relevant Referee Society files and the office of the Provincial Union.

Referees from Another IRB Nation

Referees who are registered with an IRB affiliated nation do not have to seek additional insurance coverage for refereeing in Canada provided that:

- their referee accreditation is confirmed by their home nation Referee Development Manager (or equivalent officer);
- they are currently registered with their home nation as a referee and it is confirmed by their home nation Referee Development Manager (or equivalent officer);
- the fixture where they are officiating in Canada is endorsed by Rugby Canada or a Provincial Union;
- the arrangements that are made are arranged with the full knowledge and endorsement of the referee's home nation Rugby authority(ies);
- there is a "paper trail" (or electronic documentation) that identifies that the above mentioned endorsement was gained and completed before the event (and retained after the event);
- Rugby Canada is informed (in writing) of the arrangements;

- documents are filed and retained in the relevant Canadian Referee Society files, the office of the Provincial Union and/or the Rugby Canada Development Manager’s office; and,
- the Rugby Canada Referee Development Manager is kept informed of all of the above, preferably in writing.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

If the cross border experience is planned well ahead, referees can officiate in full confidence that Rugby Canada will support their experience.

The administrative expectations would require that the referee’s home union, (not just the referee) has supplied confirmation of:

- i. the referee’s recent appointment levels
- ii. the referee’s current level of accreditation; and,
- iii. the referee’s registration in his/her home country.

In addition the referee’s home country would need to inform Rugby Canada’s Referee Development Manager of the 3rd Party legal liability insurance that the referee brings to Canada as part of their registration as a referee as well as any medical insurance coverage.

It is essential to inform visiting referees that Rugby Canada (and/or its insurers) does not fund any health or medical expenses of the referee even if injury or illness results from an on-field incident.

Documentation: The complete documentation process for some of the above processes can take many weeks to complete. Planning time-lines should take this issue into account. All documentation should be completed and filed in the appropriate office before the event and retained on file in case of any potential enquiries.

Crossing National Borders: There is an IRB expectation that refereeing in another country (other than USA) requires the involvement and endorsement of BOTH the visiting and host nation’s Referee Managers.

“Endorsed” Fixtures: Visiting referees should only be appointed to tournaments and games that have been endorsed by Rugby Canada through a Provincial Union.