

INTRODUCTION TO OFFICIATING

16TH TO 18TH NOVEMBER 2018

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!

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 other roles (chair/chief/referee) as their experience grows. Attendance at both classroom sessions, and the subsequent on court tournament training is mandatory to obtain certification.

Clinic Overview:

Fri 16 th November	5:30pm to 9:30pm: Rules of Tennis
Sat 17 th November	9am to 12:30pm: Duties & Procedures, Code of Conduct, Roving Umpire Intro 1:30pm to 5:30pm: On Court Practice 6:30pm to 9:30pm: <i>Situations and Procedures (optional session)</i>
Sun 18 th November	9am to 12:30pm: On Court Practice

Friday 16th November 5:30pm to 9:30pm (approx.) and Saturday 17th November 9am to 12:30pm

This is the classroom module of the course and is held at the Saville Tennis Centre. 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 for taking notes.

This session 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 a Roving Umpire. We will also take a brief look at the role of the Chair Umpire and Referee.

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 Alberta, and as you progress, across Canada and International work.

There will be time for a Q and A session before you take your multiple choice test at the end of the morning session.

Please feel free to bring your own food. Water will be provided and there will be a couple of short breaks during the sessions. There is a restaurant at Saville very close to the meeting room with food for purchase.

Optional Session: There will be an additional session for current certified officials on Saturday night. This will focus on Situations and Procedures that Roving Umpires encounter on a regular basis and review the correct procedures for handling these. This will be a more advanced clinic, but you are welcome to attend if you are interested.

Saturday 17th November 1:30pm to 5:30pm and Sunday 18th 9am to 12:30pm

This is the on-court module of the course and is held at the Saville UBC Tennis Centre. We will review roving umpire techniques, pre-match talks, coin toss etc. This is where you will really start to learn! It is one thing to know the rules, and quite another to be able to solve an on court dispute in the appropriate manner. You will be working on court at a junior tournament. Please wear tennis shoes and dress as close to the Tennis Canada Officiating uniform as you can – khaki pants and a black shirt or top.

On Court Training and Evaluation

Once the clinic is completed, in order to complete your certification, you will be required to complete several sessions as a trainee roving umpire on court at tournaments in your area. It is important to build a database of experiences in order to make correct and timely decisions on court. No match or tournament will be the same when you work, and you are expected to be able to apply the correct procedures and maintain a fair play environment for all players. Even the most experienced of officials who have been working for many years are still learning at each tournament they work.

On court, we find that people progress at different paces and after your first session we will be able to give you a better idea of how long your certification may take. You will be given a list of tournaments that have trainee spots available at the clinic and you will be able to sign up for your on court training at that time.

Line Umpire work does not really start until the summer season begins. In the spring you will be advised of the training opportunities, usually at the Junior ITF events. Those who progress quickly may be offered trainee positions at the ITF Futures men's professional events and other circuit tournaments.

Working as an Official

Once certified, you will be added to the Alberta 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 Portal with news, resources and applications for events across the country.

The majority of officiating work for new officials in Alberta 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.

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.

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.

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:

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