

Maurice Sheppard  
NLJA Referee report  
AGM, 2016

This past year I participated in the tournaments in British Columbia, New Brunswick, Stephenville Crossing, Montreal, Gander and St. John's and gave a clinic on the evenings prior and also at the tournament and discussed the latest International Judo Federation rules and Judo Canada interpretation of same. In Gander we were fortunate to have the services of Mr. Joe Serianna, former Chief Referee of Judo Canada to conduct our clinic and aid in our referee

*I now have a certified provincial level referee in all practising clubs in Newfoundland and Labrador and I hope we will have continued development at the club level.*

I have distributed all the high level new information on to the referees that I receive from JC referee committee and have endeavoured to increase the referee knowledge base especially in Labrador and Gander. To be fair to all coaches, athletes and referees a high level of protocol and professionalism is necessary at all competitions.

I encourage more referee development at the club level and encourage referees that are Provincial "A" level now to make the next step to National "C". There is a National "C" referee here know that is quite capable of moving to National "B" with high level practise off the island and will help facilitate this action if so desired. **Referees looking to referee after taking an extended period away from refereeing should practise their skills at the club and attend referee clinics prior to competition before presenting themselves on the mat to be fair to all concerned as rules are changing all the time.**

I have attended a special referee clinic with Joe Serianni in Gander and I attended the Judo Canada referee process meeting and the referee seminar at the Quebec Open last year.

I am available to continue this referee development effort if the NLJA executive requests or I would be happy to assist a new chairperson if the situation arises.

Thank you.  
Maurice Sheppard  
Chair. NLJA referee committee