



# BACK TO THE FIELD

Eastern Ontario Tackle  
Football Association

Ottawa, ON  
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## EOTFOA NEWSLETTER

### *Presidents Podium*

This is the first of what we hope will be a continuing effort on behalf of the EOTFOA. As all of our lives become busier, our time is becoming more and more precious. While each of us can do some individual study of rules and mechanics to better prepare us as football officials, we need to look at other means of passing along information that will help all of us become better officials and thus improve the game of football.

In today's society, we are flooded with information and in too many cases, we assume that because we may be made aware of a rule change, a change in administrative procedures, etc everyone else is also aware of the change. As officials, we strive for consistency and the more we all are aware of interpretations of rules, approved rulings from Football Canada or Ontario Football Alliance, the better it will be for the game of football.

The intent of this periodic newsletter, will be an attempt to summarize what of significance has transpired since the last newsletter, pass along key information and also provide the membership as a whole, another forum, in addition to conversations, telephone calls, emails and attending meetings, to air their concerns, problem areas and potential solutions.

The success of the newsletter depends on each of us to participate. Rest assured that no one has all the answers so we encourage you to read this, respond if you disagree but please come up with an alternative recommendation. There will be certain columns in each newsletter but in order to make this work, we need volunteers to forward articles to our editor. John Kachuik, has volunteered to get this started using his home computer but is more than willing to work with anyone who has experience in desk top publishing.

We envision that there will be an update from your Executive in each newsletter. As well, there will be updates on the Leagues that we cover with respect to administration, rules, etc. There are other sources that will allow you to check standings, statistics, etc.

Another key area will be Approved rulings that we may have received from the Rule Book Editor. As well, if there has been area of the game that may need emphasis to improve our overall consistency, this will also be included.

I believe this will be a worthwhile venture and I encourage all of you to send your comments/suggestions to John.

## *Secretary's Book*

As Secretary of our association, I wholeheartedly support the implementation of our Newsletter and will ensure that items of common interest to our membership are provided in a timely manner to our Editor, Mr. John Kachuik. I would also like to thank John for taking the time and demonstrating the dedication to undertake this major task.

The accurate generation and dissemination of information is vital to effective communication. My role is to keep all our members well informed of what is required of them to ensure we have a record of pertinent datum. Such information includes virtually everything needed to maintain a high level of connectivity between you and members of your Executive. From having the correct telephone numbers on file to scheduling meetings to circulating timely articles on the subject of officiating, our stated goal is keeping you well informed.

We all know how much we enjoy receiving emails, but they are a necessary evil and form a critical link between you and the executive. I foresee the Newsletter as another viable conduit permitting an even higher degree of connectivity.

I trust you will lend your support to our Newsletter and I actively encourage each and every member to submit ideas, thoughts and comments to our Editor.

## *Editors Comments*

The newsletter will be produced periodically and once completed, will be published on the EOTFOA web site and an email will be forwarded to all to let you know when the newsletter is available for viewing.

We have not gone to the degree of a having a formal editorial board, so I will serve as your Editor for now unless someone else would like to volunteer. I will have at least one other person proofread the newsletter before we go final.

I am currently using Microsoft Works on my Vista operating system. If someone else would like to take the inputs and produce a more professional looking newsletter, please let me know and we can work something out.

In order to provide a wider perspective, we will need some volunteers draft up articles for the newsletter. At this point in time, there are no firm ideas on what should be included. We are open to suggestions and volunteers. This first edition is intended to get the dialogue initiated. Please provide your inputs on areas that you believe should be widely shared with Association members and I will do my best to make your Newsletter an informative tool for all of us.

## *Treasures from the Treasurer*

It's my intention to use our Newsletter periodically to report our general financial situation to the membership.

We are in good financial shape as of the end of April having collected all of last year's receivables and paid all of our bills with money still left in the Association Account. We completed three excellent Training Sessions in late March on a very close to break-even basis and have enough money to cover the \$30 per person Registration/Insurance fee that has to be forwarded to the OFOA. (This Registration fee will be deducted from your year-end cheque).

We are considering the possibility of issuing mid season cheques (potentially September) that would cover Ottawa Junior HS, Cornwall/Russell Spring League and OVFL Pee-Wee and Stick Crews. Of course this will be dependent on the ability to invoice and collect from these leagues on a timely basis. While the Assignment by Web has simplified the calculation of Invoices and Official Fee's, please keep in mind that 2 separate cheque issues effectively doubles the accounting workload. I will keep you informed on this initiative and the progress of Invoicing and Collection.

## *Three Minute Warning*

1. For Junior HS, Referees are requested to log the actual times it takes to play each quarter, the actual time it takes it to play the last three minutes of each half (stop time by the book) as well as the length of time between quarters and half time and report their results to Kevin Horton. This information will then be used as the basis for game fee increases and for the scheduling of games and allowing for time between doubleheaders.
2. On field six man training/familiarization is being coordinated by the Training Officer, Sat May 16 at the Gee Gee practice field. For details and to let us know you are coming, contact John Pinches.
3. Ottawa Junior HS and Cornwall Russell Spring League are underway and OVFL will be starting the weekend of 23 May. Ensure your availability has been entered on the Web Assign system. . Unfortunately there are still many members who have not entered the Web Assign system yet this season. Please log on and mark your availability or non- availability for May and June. For assistance contact John Pinches.
4. As suggested at the AGM, we will be forming a Financial Review Team to conduct periodic reviews of our financial position. Pierre Laporte has volunteered to head up the Team. If you are interested in being on the Review Team, contact Pierre (ref19@eotfoa.ca)