



## New Referee Written Assignment 2026-2027 Season

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**NOTE:** All answers must be written in full paragraphs using your own words (no copy-paste from resources and no bullet points). Make sure to answer every part of each question completely and in your own words to demonstrate your understanding.

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### Question 1 — Why Do You Want to Be a Referee?

Before diving into the rulebook and procedures, take a moment to reflect on your own motivations for becoming an official.

- a) In your own words, explain why you want to become a hockey referee. What draws you to officiating rather than playing or coaching?
  - b) What qualities or personal strengths do you believe will make you an effective on-ice official? How do you plan to develop those qualities throughout this season?
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### Question 2 — The Hockey Canada Officiating Pathway

Please access the following document from the Hockey Canada website:

**Officiating Pathway:** <https://cdn.hockeycanada.ca/hockey-canada/Hockey-Programs/Officiating/Downloads/hc-officiating-pathway-e.pdf>

Review the information provided by Hockey Canada, then answer the following:

- a) In your own words, describe the main purpose of the Hockey Canada Officiating Program (HCOP) and what it offers to participants of all ages. Why is following the levels of development important for new officials?
- b) The pathway describes the steps a new official must complete before getting on the ice for the first time. Explain what those steps are, including the role of the *Intro to Officiating* online course and the provincial clinic process.
- c) Officials are required to register and re-certify with Hockey Canada every year. Why do you think annual re-certification is important for maintaining a high standard of officiating across the country?

### Question 3 — The Hockey Canada Rule Book: Rule 7.3 Body-Checking

Please access the 2024–26 Hockey Canada Playing Rules and Case Book using the link below:

**Rule Book (2024–26, Updated November 2025):** Available through the Hockey Canada Officiating Downloads page at <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/hockey-programs/officiating/downloads>

You can also access the online version of Rule 7.3 directly at:  
<http://rulebook.hockeycanada.ca/english/part-ii-gameplay-fouls/section-7/rule-7-3/>

Find **Rule 7.3 – Body-Checking**, then answer the following:

- a)** In your own words, explain the difference between *body contact* and *body-checking* as defined under Rule 7.3. Why is this distinction important for a referee to understand, especially in younger age divisions?
- b)** Rule 7.3 describes three specific situations that result in a body-checking call. In your own words, describe each of those three situations. Give a real-game example of what one of them might look like on the ice.
- c)** Which divisions does Rule 7.3 apply to, and what penalty/penalties is/are/can be assessed when a player is found to have intentionally body-checked an opposing player in those divisions? As a new referee, why do you think it is important to know which rules apply to the specific age group you are officiating?

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*Submission Instructions: Please write all answers in full sentences and paragraphs. Your own words show your understanding — copying text from the documents will not be accepted.*