

# #thankthestripes



## December 4-6, 2020

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To: Officials & Mentors in APSJ

From: The APSJ Officiating Administration Team

Hello Officials,

This weekend would have marked the third annual #thankthestripes weekend in Hockey Manitoba and in APSJ. As with many parts of our lives, COVID-19 has made it impossible for us to gather in-person to celebrate the work completed by Timekeepers, Referees, Linesmen, Officials, Mentors, and Admin persons. Therefore, take a moment to thank yourselves and your colleagues for the work done both in past, present and future seasons. You are all part of the APSJ community. Thank you for your time.

In a recent email, you were offered the opportunity to sign-up for a cloth mask (there are still masks available, request one on [apsjmentorships.com](https://apsjmentorships.com)). Part of the online form asked you to share what you enjoyed about Officiating. The responses received have consist themes of community, staying involved with the game, and doing a good job. So, thank you for being part of the APSJ Officiating Community; Hope to see you all in an arena soon. Stay safe.

Here are some of the responses:

In the past I enjoyed officiating for the love of the game and the great connections I've made with others who I'm happy to call friends. Over the last few years I've enjoyed passing my knowledge on to the younger officials supporting them on their development and providing a welcoming environment!

I enjoy timekeeping because I love sports and when the coaches thank me after I feel good about doing a good job.

One of the most memorable moments I've experienced is being recognized by one of my former hockey coaches as doing a great job, he shook my hand and complimented me on the game I just officiated - this spoke volumes because this same coach was someone I highly regarded.

One time while I was in the dressing room, a group of very nice coaches brought me and my partner cups of Tim Horton's hot chocolate.

It has allowed me to become more independent and be engage in amateur sport in my community.

I enjoy officiating because it's great exercise, the people I've met and get to work with are great and officiating is a ton of fun!

It's fun to be part of another family. It's fun to stay in the game, I get to experience the game from a different perspective.

In my first two years of Officiating I have gained a lot of knowledge and experience as an official thanks to many mentors along the way from the APSJ area. I have had a lot of mentorships every year which have undoubtedly help me progress so much as an official.

Almost all the players came to me on the ice after the game and thanked me or said good game. When I played, I never did that but now that I am a ref I know what it means to get that thank you, it may not be much but it shows you that people are noticing the work you put in.

I like being at the rink and seeing familiar faces. I love all things hockey and it's also a good way for a young kid like me to earn a pay cheque!

It reminds me of when I was younger and how much I enjoyed playing this sport with my friends. I also know many people in the Charleswood community and so it's nice to see all the familiar faces.

This Weekend We Say...

# THANK YOU TIMEKEEPERS AND REFEREES

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My most positive experience has been as a mentor. I've been fortunate enough to help get some young women and men started as officials, and then years later I get to sit and watch them work high tier leagues, knowing that I played a small role in getting them to where they are today.

Helped me gain more confidence and I enjoy meeting the reffing community and how helpful they have been.

We get to be on the ice, helping players stay safe, play fair, have fun, and have an overall great experience