

ARTICLE XX- Provincial Referees

- 1) O.P.A. OFFICIALS CAN ONLY OFFICIATE AT I.P.F./C.P. U MEMBER SANCTIONED CONTESTS.
- 2) Category I Provincial Referee (eligibility)
 - i) Must attend a referee's clinic
 - ii) Must pass a written test
 - iii) Must pass a practical test with two Category I Provincial Referees or higher
- 3) Duties of O.P.A. referees - must be active and willing to participate in O.P.A. activities.
- 4) Referee Uniform - the uniform shall consist of grey dress pants, light coloured shirt with collar, dark coloured shoes with socks, an OPA/CPU/IPF tie and dark blue blazer or suit jacket. Upon passing of the OPA referee exam, the Officiating Chair will present the new referee an Official OPA tie.
- 5) Referees are required to join the Ontario Powerlifting Association annually, as an associate member or higher.
- 6) Provincial referees who do not attend mandatory referee Rule Change clinics within 6 months of the I.P.F. Rule changes, be dropped one Class in their Provincial Category standing until such time as a test is passed on the new rule changes with a score of 90%.
- 7) A goal of the O.P.A. is to increase our National Referees by two and our International Referees by one. To assist, the O.P.A. will fund Provincial Referees, the same amount as lifters when they travel to competitions to obtain their National or International Referees badge.
- 8) Ontario will use a 2-level referee system. Level 1 referees remain the same. Level II referees are only permitted to referee as side judges. Those referees who have passed the written exam but not the practical will be classified as Level II referees. Once the practical portion has been passed the referee becomes a Level I referee.
- 9) Referees are eligible for expense reimbursement as per the schedules listed in Article XXVI.
- 10) Provincial Referees must officiate at least two meets per calendar year, plus one of the two Provincial Championships, and attend a Referee Clinic once every 2 years to maintain active status subject to the availability of meets within their region. No referee will be required to leave their region to complete this quota provided the referee has made every attempt to officiate two meets within the region. Failure to comply will result in the referee being dropped to inactive status. An inactive referee shall maintain all qualifications but may not be considered for the purposes of a club sanction.
- 11) Qualifications for a Category 2 Referee are as follows:
 - i) Must take the Category 2 written examination.
 - ii) Must attend Referee Seminar.
 - iii) Must achieve a passing score of 90 percent or more on both written and practical examinations.
- 12) Qualifications for a Category 1 Referee are as follows:
 - i) Must be a Category 2 Referee in good standing for a period of at least one (1) year.
 - ii) Must have adjudicated at least 4 competitions.
 - iii) Must take Category 1 practical examination at 3 lift competition with at least 20 lifters.
 - iv) Must adjudicate at least 75 attempts, 35 of which must be squats, while serving as Chief Referee. First round attempts by lifter will not be counted.
- 13) The candidate will be credited with 25 points/marks and observed competence by the examiner/s during gear check, weigh in and while seated at the platform. A deduction of 0.5 (half a point/mark) will be made for any error that may contravene the technical rules. The examiner will be a Provincial Category 1 Referee or higher.
- 14) The candidate must score at least 90 percent on their total examination. This includes the 75 points on his decisions made at the platform as compared with those of the Jury members and not those of his fellow platform referees. The other 25 points come from decisions and performance of the necessary duties (i.e. equipment checks, weigh in and platform control).
- 15) To be recommended by the OPA president and/or OPA referee chairperson for National Referee test, a Category 1 referee must have adjudicated a minimum 12 three lift competitions and two provincial championships (in succeeding years).