

**HOCKEY:** OHL official worked World Challenge in Timmins

# Linesman hopes to get call to NHL

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Like many Canadian boys, Andrew Hubbard had a dream of playing professional hockey.

But when the Stouffville resident hit a roadblock in his development, he still had a desire to remain involved in the game.

## FORMER PLAYER

These days, the 28-year-old Hubbard remains as close to the on-ice action as he did when he played.

Only now, he dons a striped shirt and serves as an on-ice official. He's

in his second season as a linesman in the Ontario Hockey League and Ontario Hockey Association.

Making his officiating debut in 1995 when Ron Goldenberg, a referee-in-chief in Markham, assigned him to work weekend youth house league games, Hubbard began as a Level One official.

He graduated to rep games and continued to work his way up the ranks to where he attended the Officiating Program of Excellence two years ago in Oshawa as a linesman.

Hubbard was informed in November by Rick Morphey,

branch referee-in-chief, and Todd Anderson, Hockey Canada Manager of Officiating, he would work the lines at this month's World Under 17 Hockey Challenge in Timmins.

Acknowledging the news caught him offguard, Hubbard made his debut in this competition and worked one pre-competition game, three round-robin games and the semifinal game between Sweden and USA.

His previous highlight was working the championship game of the Dudley Hewitt Cup, the central Canada Jr. A finals, two years ago in Newmarket.

A Town of Markham employee when he's not on the ice, Hubbard hopes he can continue his ascent up the officiating ladder.

He knows the competition for officials is just as competitive as it is for players.

## FEW OPENINGS

"Every kid has a goal when playing or refereeing to one day be involved in the National Hockey League," he said. "If I was able to officiate in the NHL it would be a dream come true. However, the competition is very competitive across North America with not many openings available."



Stouffville's Andrew Hubbard began officiating hockey in 1995.



## 'STARRING' ROLE

The Stouffville Markham Stars girls' hockey association honoured president Dianne White for her 25 years with the organization at its second annual alumni game at the Angus Glen Community Centre during the Christmas holidays. Taking part were John Wilson (from left), association vice-president, Fran Rider, Ontario Women's Hockey Association president, Mrs. White, Bill Williamson, OWHA regional director, and Sharon O'Shaughnessy, former SMGHA vice-president. Mrs. White is a former Whitchurch-Stouffville sports person of the year.

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## SPORTSBOARD

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### HOCKEY

#### Stouffville Amateur Hockey League

Standings as of Dec. 29

35 and Over Sunday Men's				
	W	L	T	P
Schell Lumber	10	1	1	21
Painters Edge	7	6	0	14
Dundee Securities	6	6	1	13
Steve & Liz Nofrills	5	6	2	12
Final Touch Dev.	5	7	1	11
Plan Group	5	6	1	11
MTB Plumbing Services	4	7	4	10
Mackenzie Insurance	4	7	2	10

  

50 and Over Sunday Men's				
BMO Nesbitt Burns	9	3	0	18
Robillard	8	3	1	17
Dermody Insurance	5	5	2	12
Williamsons Uxbridge	4	6	2	10
Jago Homes	2	6	4	8
Hamilton Resources	2	7	3	7

Open Sunday Women's				
Laser Clinic Unionville	6	3	1	13
GTA Trailer Rentals Inc.	5	3	2	12
U Weight Loss	5	4	1	11
Robillard & Associates	5	4	1	11
Wild Wing	5	4	1	11
Boyd's Sports	4	5	1	9
Sensible Financial Service	3	6	1	7
Jack, Tarry and McCalmont	2	6	2	6

  

Open Wednesday Men's				
pendesign	8	3	1	17
Rougemount Electric	7	3	2	16
William R Lee	6	3	3	15
KenDon Contracting	6	5	1	13
Boston Pizza	5	6	1	11
Fusion Physio	4	5	3	11
Boyd's Sports	3	6	3	9
Miller Waste Systems	1	9	2	4

#### Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association

House league	10
Atom	8
Mayor's Tournament: Dominion Lending 5 (Teegan Shantz 3, Joshua Hassam, Brenton Jackson) vs Timber Creek 2 (Justin Miller, Reese	7

Graham); Canadian Tire 5 (Justin King 3, Luke Avoledo, Dylan Cusack) vs Royal Legion 4 (Matthew Particka 2, Jesse Wilson, Nicholas Murray); Canadian Tire 8 (Justin King 3, Luke Avoledo 3, Blake McNeil 2) vs. Southwire 4 (Aidan Hamilton, Liam Gallagher, Devyn Cameron, Justin Day); Timber Creek 13 (Justin Miller 6, Ryan Houghton 3, Kyle Gordon, Jake Dilley 3) vs Royal Legion 3 (Riley Cusack, Matthew Particka, Gavin Tulk); Dominion Lending 6 (Kyle Hembruff, Joshua Hassam 2, Teegan Shantz, Andrew Stonehouse 2) vs Canadian Tire 2 (Blake McNeil); Dominion Lending 4 (Teegan Shantz, Brandon Jefferies, Joshua Hassam, Benjamin Rundle) vs Southwire 3 (Brydon Jewett, Justin Day 2).

Jan 2: Canadian Tire 3 (Blake McNeil, Justin King, Max Samu) vs Royal Legion 3 (Riley Cusack, David Vecchiarelli, Matthew Particka); Dominion Lending 3 (Andrew Stonehouse, Teegan Shantz, Joshua Hassam) vs Southwire 2 (Paul Assal, Jack Creeggan).

#### Stouffville Markham Girls Hockey

House league  
Jan. 4  
BANTAM DIVISION: Entertainment One 5 (Allie Kemp 2, Lauren Jeffs 2, Amanda Romano) vs Pace Savings 0; Stouffville Fish n Chips 1 (Tanis Melvin) vs ATC Corral 0.  
MIDGET: Southwire Canada 2 (Lizzy English, Courtney Gibson) vs William R. Lee-CA 1 (Jess Paguirigan); Moller Insurance 5 (Meaghan Todd 3, Samantha Burr, Kristie Liu) vs Fairgate Homes 3 (Rachel Mathieu 3).