



## STEP AHEAD OFFICIALS CAMP

### TESTIMONIALS

I want to again thank each of you personally for your time and attention at our camp again this year! The regimen and detail is outstanding. As a camper the passion, energy and love that each of you has for teaching and sharing is truly evident! I leave each year with a ton of things that I can use to improve at home with my wife, at work with my team, with my Calumet County Officials Association members, and in life in general.

Thank you again for truly making an IMPACT!  
~ Larry Dietz

**Success!** I finally have had a response from Larry Fell assigner for the Southeast Conference. Between all my emails and yours he is feeding me a few games. Thank you again for taking the time to send him a note about your observations while at camp. The season is not starting soon enough!  
~ Greg Gunhus

The Step Ahead experience this past weekend was great. To have the opportunity to receive fantastic instruction from your highly talented and well decorated staff is very beneficial. I think everyone realizes the benefits received from the on-court instruction, but it is difficult to put a value on the amount of time that is spent discussing officiating philosophy with fellow campers as well as the clinicians. To be able to sit down with and talk about how to become a better official with others who are also passionate about officiating is something that a price tag cannot be put on. As usual, it was well run and very organized. Once again, thank you very much for the opportunity to attend your camp this past weekend.  
~ Tim Treder

### **Repeat Customers Steve Lyles**

**2008** - Since I've relegated myself to non-physical duties today while my 39-year-old legs work their way out of riga mortis, I'd like to take a moment to thank you again for you feedback during the Step Ahead Camp.

Like everyone else, I came there to get better. The only way to do that was to receive honest, direct, sincere feedback and advice. It means a lot to know that someone like yourself is willing to take everything you've learned and share it, all of it, with others for the betterment of the game.

The best is that you shot straight, and your suggestions clearly had the best interest of the game in mind. Your passion for basketball and officiating resounds clearly in your communication and teaching.

I looked at the list of personal points of emphasis I wrote down for next season; there's something from everyone that worked with our group - a reflection of the caliber of clinicians. When I ranked each of the points - yours were 1 and 2; clean up post play/non-basketball moves and better angles at the C on action towards the rim/lane. You had one other; tossing the ball on FTs with two hands, but I'd be lying if I told you that was ranked 3 - I think I got that fixed the rest of Saturday and Sunday.

Step Ahead is a timeless camp in that in my three trips, each time what I have learned, undoubtedly has built onto what I had taken from previous camps. And I know if I went back, again and again, I'd learn more and more.

I know now and then we run into each other, so know that you always have a license to critique. Along with Wiese, we've been fortunate each of the past few years to be assigned games further and further in the tournament. I don't know what this season will bring - which weekend you finish in March doesn't necessarily weigh into the greatness of a season. Based on what I picked up this weekend, there's a whole regular season full of games coming that I'll walk on the court knowing more about officiating than last season. That is a success and makes me look forward to taking the court even more.

~ **Steve Lyles**

**2007** - All instructional elements were excellent - best feedback I have ever had. I know it will make me a better official therefore better game for the players.

~ **Steve Lyles**

### **Jack Fleming**

**2008** - I certainly appreciate your taking your time to talk to me and asking for my input----I feel fortunate to have been able to experience your comments and approach to handling officiating and how this avocation more importantly impacts our personal life.

The camp was great. I thought the new emphasis was excellent. I came away again from the weekend with a number of things to work on and consider, which I am confident will help me in the future.

~ **Jack Fleming**

**2007** - Just wanted to say that I thought that the camp this weekend was excellent. Was very informative. You and the clinicians do an excellent job. Thanks

~ **Jack Flemming**

Thanks for helping me out this weekend. You are the best, the Clinicians that you brought in are amazing and the guest speakers are unbelievable. Drawing a blank on what to say about Norm because he is a one of a kind guy...thanks for him also.

I never would have thought that Deb would have spoke to us with her busy schedule. I know that the Step Ahead Camp is the best one that I've ever attended. Thanks again Dave!

~ **Todd Mangin**

I just wanted to thank you for allowing me to attend your camp this past weekend. I considered it a privilege to be instructed by you and your staff. This really was a working camp. I especially enjoyed the fact that your clinicians not only evaluated us on paper, but were not hesitant to step onto the floor, or even stop the game for a brief moment, to further explain. I look forward to next years camp.

~ **Rob Arent**

I know that I filled out a questionnaire at the end of the clinic, but I had to express my thoughts of this year's clinic to you and your staff.

First, and foremost, I can see why all of the experienced officials that I know, call this Clinic the best in the state. It may be one of the best clinics for X's and O's of officiating, but it is THE BEST CLINIC of any kind that I have been to that the clinicians have a true dedication to the improvement of officials as both referees and individuals. YOUR PEOPLE REALLY CARE. You can tell in the way they instruct and by their passion for the game itself. They are willing to listen, and answer a question, especially from an inexperienced 3 person official like myself.

I was the official that Mike Bunge was referring to, when he said on Friday, " I had no idea what I was doing". Through everyone effort, including myself, I feel that I have the ability to step onto a court and do a Basketball game with a 3 person crew and do it comfortably.

I also know that I will have to get better through experience and hard work, but the groundwork is there to start.

I was going to wait a few days to sent this, but I felt like I wanted to do this now. Thanks  
~ **Mark Decker**

Just wanted to write and let you know how great an experience last weekend was. Not sure I've ever been involved with or attended a camp with as many passionate people regarding officiating. And I've never ever seen any event like that one stay on time. A true credit to you and the staff you assembled. I've heard and received nothing but positive comments from campers since I've returned.

You are providing a very valuable weekend for those officials that choose to take advantage of it. I appreciate very much the chance to have been a part of it and always love the opportunity to share my "passion" and relative expertise regarding officiating. Thanks again.

~ **Ken Koester**

Referee/NASO Associate Editor (National Association of Sports Officials)

The Step Ahead Officials Camp received an overall camp rating from the 2005 participants of 4.9 out of 5. Listed below are some comments we received from those attending the camp.

Thank you!!! This was one of my best experiences of my officiating career. The quality of people at this camp was awesome!!! I will recommend this to all my fellow officials.

~**Mark Chrisinger**

For the second time I came to this camp because it is top quality. I have recommended this camp to others and will continue to recommend. Thanks for everything!

~ **Jeff Wolf**

Last time I was here I rated the camp excellent. This time it was much improved!

~ **Jim Rath**

I enjoyed the camp immensely. I learned so much about 3 man mechanics and game management. Communication being the key. Thanks! I look forward to returning to the camp next year to continue my education.

~ **Kirk Grimes**

Excellent camp again. Very commendable of Deb Hauser to take time to be here. Thanks for everything!

~ **Mark Jandrin**

Great camp. Quality clinicians. Well structured. Good balance of classroom / game instruction. Working one half, sitting / observing one half worked well.

~ **Craig Fenrick**

Undoubtedly the best camp I've attended. Communication amongst staff and campers was exceptional. You have such a great group of guys and gals. Tremdous learning experience not only for mechanics but game management and officiating philosophies. Excellent, excellent, excellent!

~ **Mike Klein**

Great camp - I have learned so much the past two years I have been here. Great job! I hope you continue to run this in the future. Thanks!

~ **Ryan DeLong**