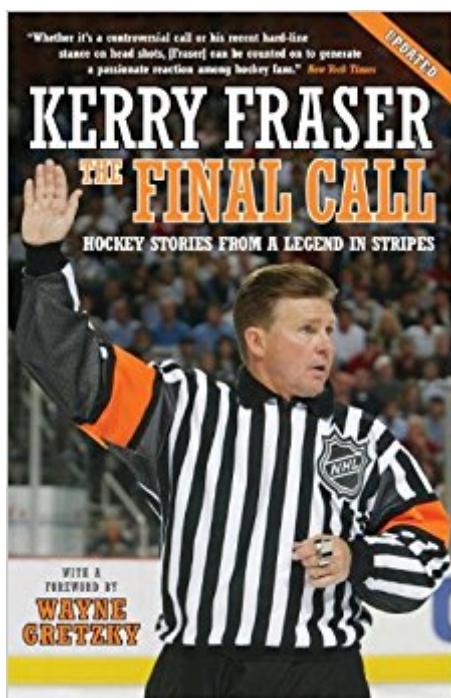


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# The Final Call: Hockey Stories From A Legend In Stripes



## **Synopsis**

After almost two thousand games and thirty years of wearing the Stripes, legendary NHL official Fraser dropped his final puck at the end of the 2009/2010 season and relives his colourful career officiating hockey in his candid book. After thirty years in the NHL, legendary referee Kerry Fraser has decided to hang up his skates and enjoy the game from the other side of the boards. Never shy about offering his opinion, nor afraid to step in and separate an on-ice fight, the diminutive Fraser is without question one of the most respected officials in today's NHL. Fraser entered officiating after recognizing that his size would limit his chances as a player. Over the course of the almost two thousand NHL contests, he has shown himself to be an exemplary referee. In *The Final Call*, Fraser uses the seventy two games he is officiating in his farewell season as the centre piece of his story. He relives candid memories from each city he visits, such as the night he was pulled from the ice by the Boston police after a threat was made that if he skated out for the second period he would be shot. Fraser offers a colourful, behind-the-scenes portrait of our national game, recounting stories of pulling apart enraged 250-lb men in on-ice battles and divulging the politics behind which games are assigned to which refs. Although a referee's job and story may not appear as glamorous as that of a superstar player, it is every bit as entertaining!

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Kerry brought tremendous enthusiasm and energy every time he officiated. I was a younger player at the end of Kerry's officiating career but it was very clear to see his passion for what he did and for wanting to be the best he could be every time he took the ice. He always took the time to explain

things when it was needed and remained professional at some of the most intense moments. He was fair and accountable, which is all you could ask for from any official, and of course he never had a hair out of place."--Sidney Crosby "I always felt Kerry understood the psychology of hockey, and was always aware of the intimidation factor that was being presented by the teams or certain players. Kerry had the ability to maintain complete control of the game. I really believe he wanted the players themselves to play the game the way it was meant to be played. With courage, honour, and respect."--Mark Messier "I always felt comfortable when Kerry Fraser was refereeing a game.

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KERRY FRASER, born May 30, 1952, in Sarnia, Ontario, is the most senior referee in the National Hockey League. He joined the NHL Officials Association on September 1, 1973, and officiated his first game in the 1980-81 season. He will retire from officiating after the 2009-10 season. Fraser lives in New Jersey.

As a former ice hockey referee myself, I can relate to a lot of what Kerry Fraser has to say. I watched him over his career and rarely disagreed with him. I admire him as an official. I always felt he was fair and unbiased. I would recommend this book to anyone. Over the years ice hockey referees have gotten better thanks to the standard that Mr. Fraser set. This book shows how incredibly tough this job is and how dangerous, but Kerry always seems to keep his sense of humor.

One of my favorite sports books so far! Great insight into the on-ice world of Hockey and how a ref really works. This is one of the toughest sports to ref and Kerry was one of the best ever. The book tells a lot about the game but also gives insight into what a refs life is like around the game. I love these types of sports books because they tell you the real story. If your a hockey hooligan or have one your looking to buy a gift for, then pick up this book!

I loved Mr. Fraser's book! Everything from his personal stories about his career, the chapters about the Rangers, Hockeytown USA, the meadowlands, buying Mike Keenan's old house to his stories I can certainly identify with and that's living in Southern New Jersey. A very neat and informative book for hockey fans of any kind!

Worth the time and money for NHL fans (me!). Mr. Fraser clearly loves the game, as I do. His positive feelings for many oft-penalized players is insightful. His on-ice verbal interaction with the

players was fascinating. I am a 60-plus-year Leafs fan and I forgive him the "call". He explained his position and consultation with his colleagues very well. More information about his negative feelings for Steven Walkom and his bosses would have been welcome. Sorry about the pun!

Any book on hockey is a good book to me. This book caught my interest because it always seemed whenever I watched a hockey game on TV or went to a game Kerry Fraser always seemed to be the referee.. I liked Kerry's style of refereeing. He always seemed to bring a different energy to the game when he was in charge.. Sadly for me, I missed the last few years of Kerry refereeing... Infact I missed the last few years of hockey in general due to a neck and back injury.. I was so consumed from the pain I did nothing but look for someone to surgically repair me.. Back to the book, all I can say if you love the NHL and enjoy reading about "behind the scenes" going ons, then this book will not disappoint you

There are two types of sports biography: the honest, no holds barred, locker room talk exposed, funny stories and then there are the "golly, my life has been swell and I'd never say anything negative about anyone because I've been blessed" type. This book is the one of the "everything is swell" types and it makes for a somewhat boring read. There were a few stories that were interesting but for the most part I found the book to be just Fraser talking himself up. Not poorly written but simply not my cup of tea.

I loved Kerry Fraser more before I read this book. I completely respect the work that he did as an NHL ref and I am sure that he was held in high regard by players and coaches. I just wish that he wouldn't have taken every opportunity to toot his own horn in this book. I guess as the author you can do that but it got to be a little off-putting. Aside from Fraser stroking his ego, the book was a quick and entertaining read. I had hoped for more "behind the scenes" material about the players but in hindsight I was probably dumb to think that a referee would be able to provide the amount of material that I was looking for in that regard. I think I will try Sean Pronger's book for that type of coverage.

This was a "like new" purchase from a seller through , and I discovered it as a recommendation from other sports items I have searched for. Hockey is my favorite spectator sport, and this book approaches the game from the referee's point of view. I always felt that Kerry Frasier was an excellent official, and reading about his career puts a new perspective on how I now view a

game. The book is filled with tidbits and highlights that I remember as a hockey fan, and he approaches his life with humor, selflessness and generosity to both his fellow refs and the players he faced through his 30 year career. I highly recommend this book to all hockey fans.

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