

FLAG & WHISTLE



BCSRA NEWSLETTER

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President's Report

Fellow members of the Referees Association, Thank you for taking the time to read this edition of the newsletter. This issue, the second of the calendar year was put together by our new Editor Jon Paris-Seeley. We hope you like it. For my first report, I would like to focus on the task ahead of us - educating referees. With over 65% of all Referees at the Class 4 level and 18 years or younger, we have a once in a lifetime opportunity in front of us. We have the chance to steer the entire Refereeing fraternity, now and for years to come, in the correct mechanics of refereeing. This is not an easy task but over the next 2 years I want to work with the Area Associations to:

- give newer referees a fighting chance by working at the grassroots level to pass on the "tricks of the trade"
- develop a mentor system, for referees of all levels
- work within the system to raise the referee infrastructure to a higher level of professionalism

This cannot be done overnight and not just by executives, both Provincial and at the Area level. It will mean all of us have to work at it. It means those who have been refereeing for many years will have to pitch in to help out, perhaps taking one less game than we used to, in order to make way for our new colleagues. (continued on back page)



President Elvio Chies (left) with past-President Tony Troughton



Annual Jack Tinnion Memorial Challenge Cup 2002 (aka 250-604 Match)

Zero Tolerance On Swearing For BCCAA College Games

Members being appointed to officiate games in the BC College Athletic Association (BCCAA) are being asked to help cut down on extraneous swearing by players, at any time, in the game. In a letter sent by Joe Iacobellis, BCCAA Discipline Coordinator, the member colleges of the BCCAA have adopted a zero tolerance policy toward swearing by players.

" The use of foul and abusive language is of serious concern to the membership of the BCCAA" , the letter said. " We look to you (BCSRA President) and your officials to assist us in implementing this policy in college games so that we can significantly minimize such unacceptable behaviour."

The BCCAA has implemented a graded penalty structure where a first offence would merit a yellow card and the second offense a red card. Work is underway to help clarify the situations for those officials appointed to BCCAA games. The BCCAA membership last season included Camosun College, Capilano College, College of New Caledonia, College of the Rockies, Columbia Bible College, Douglas College, Kwantlen University College, Langara College, Malaspina University College, Okanagan University College, University College of the Cariboo, University College of the Fraser Valley, and University of Northern BC.

(Ed note: at press time it was thought this policy was not changing the existing Laws concerning Foul and Abusive Language towards an official-clarification is forthcoming).

Discipline Cases Thrown Out- AND IT'S OUR FAULT!!!!!!

At the June 6th meeting of the BC Soccer Referee Development Committee it was noted that OVER 100 discipline cases of the 2001- 2002 Winter playing season submitted to the BCSA Discipline Committee had to be thrown out. The reason? REFEREES NOT TURNING IN REPORTS.

For example, In one case, a senior provincial cup match, a red card report was to be submitted to BC Soccer. The process requires a player must show up for a discipline meeting after the game immediately during the week the game was played. The report never arrived so when the player turned up for his discipline meeting he was told to go home.

THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

The referee never finished his duty. Was the offence a greivous foul? If so, how would you feel as a player if you see someone given a red card gets off scot free? Wouldn't you start to think you can do anything you want because justice is never served? As such, this kind of lackadaisical attitude in the future may land referees in front of the BC Soccer Ethics Committee. Many members may not realize that there is a time frame in which reports must be handed in. If a league or youth district deems the matter must go to BC Soccer there is a time frame in which the case must be heard. In most cases, especially assaults on referees, a report should be handed in within 24-48 hours- depending on which league or youth district needs to see them.

Moral of the story: starting with your next game, make sure all your reports, whatever they may be, are submitted to the relevant people in 24 hours (yes 24, not 48).

World Cup Dreams - Quentin O'Mahony

Quentin O'Mahony is a transplanted BCSRA member, and unabashed Ireland supporter, now working a co-op term in Japan. He was fortunate enough to take time off from his work to watch Ireland's first round matches. He is now a member of the Tokyo Referees Association and mentions that a female referee from Tokyo will be coming to Canada for the inaugural FIFA Women's U-19 World Cup (I tell you, it's a small world). Here he presents us with his experiences from this summer's soccer orgy.



(continued next page)

Names in the Games

BCSRA Member Latest Ray Morgan Winner

At the CSA Annual General Meeting **Mauricio Navarro** (VASRA) was awarded the Ray Morgan award, named after the late CSA Referees Committee Chairman. As Mauricio was not able to receive the award in person at that time, CSA President Andy Sharpe presented the award to him at the BC Soccer Annual General Meeting in June.

2002 Dan Kulai Scholarship Winner

Elke Grimsrud is this year's recipient of the Dan Kulai Memorial Scholarship which is sponsored by a donation from the BCSRA General Account. Dan Kulai was one of Canada's first FIFA referees, making the list in 1956 and was inducted in the BC Sports Hall of Fame into the Builder's section for soccer.

The BCSRA at the CONCACAF Women's U-19 Qualifying Tournament

The BCSRA's **Jill Proctor** was appointed to the inaugural FIFA Women's U-19 Qualifying Tournament, held in May in Trinidad and Tobago. Her report for the CSA will be reproduced at a later date as a supplemental of this newsletter.

Hector O. Vergara 2002 World Cup Report

Mr. Vergara has sent a copy of his World Cup report and given us permission to print it in our publication. In his report, Mr. Vergara covers many different aspects of his experience. This a very detailed report from the pinnacle of soccer refereeing and deserves not to be edited for content to fit this newsletter. A supplemental edition will be produced to cover this report in detail.

"Cafu had told me that David Seaman usually moves forward preparing to take the square balls. It was a bit far, but I tried it"

-Ronaldinho insists he meant it.

Jack Tinnion Memorial Challenge Match a Draw

In what some are calling a politically correct result, the score from the annual 604-250 game was a 3-3 draw. The match was played in typical style, including water balloons from the assistant referee and a kazoo for a whistle. Many cards of dubious colours were shown producing the desired carnival effect to match the clowns on the field.

Goal scorers from the 604's were Albert Chow, Mohammed Kazami and Paul Ward. The goals for the 250's were from Philip Frias (2) and Emil Udovich ? Thank you to VISRA for hosting this fine event and we hope this annual game continues to provide such wonderful camaraderie amongst it's participants.

WORLD CUP DREAMS

"Come on ya bhoy's in green"
"KEANEO, KEANEO, KEANEO"

"...HARTE with a long ball in...off the head of QUINN...on to KEANE...he's done it... Ireland has equalized at the last possible moment!"

The stadium is in sheer pandemonium (apart from the 200 German supports). 300-pound men with tattoos kissing others of like build, Irish of all shapes and sizes, leprechauns, nuns, and scoundrels erupt into sheer madness after one of the World Cup's greatest ever finishes. It's a dream.

That sums up my World Cup 2002 experience. I was one of over 10,000 Irish supporters that made their way 2 hours north of Tokyo to Kashima Stadium on June 5. Not a match I will ever forget.

Attending the World Cup in Korea and Japan was the fulfillment of a life dream. Born in Kilkenny City, the Republic of Ireland and raised on soccer I could not believe my luck when Ireland qualified and was drawn to play near Tokyo. I made it out to see Ireland three times in June including the Second Round battle with Spain in Suwon, South Korea.

All in all it was a tremendous tournament that, aside from some perplexing on field decisions, was a victory for the underdog – Senegal, South Korea and Turkey. However, the atmosphere in Seoul was more festive than in Tokyo. Tokyo is just too big a city with too many distractions for even an event the size of the World Cup to keep Tokyoites from going about their regular business. Seoul on the other hand shut down on national team game days. Having visited Korea on previous occasions it amazed me to see the friendliness of strangers to one another. Ah the magic of soccer.

So with the World Cup finished what am I going to do? I will remain here for a couple more years. I am learning just too much professionally and on the pitch. When not consulting business strategy with global companies I am refereeing for the Tokyo Football Association and training with some of Japan's top young officials. The standard of fitness is high and the players are very technical yet not that interested in getting stuck in.

B.C. has trained me well for my time here in Japan and I look forward to returning to B.C. to share what I am learning from Japan.

Now to find a way to reach another dream...to officiate in a World Cup.

kyo sukete ne (take care)

Quentin O'Mahony

Refresher Courses Reminder

BCSRA members are advised to contact their respective Area Associations regarding the required BCSA refresher courses that are mandatory for registering with BCSA. The registration dates for referees has been altered to accommodate the different soccer seasons that are at play throughout the province. Lower mainland and Island referees will re-register with BCSA in September and the rest of the province has had their registration date stay in May. The BCSA requires all referees to attend a mandatory refresher course to be eligible for re-registration. Please be aware that registration with BCSRA does not give you the licence to referee in this province, this is granted through registration with BCSA. The registration date for BCSRA will remain as it has been with the year running from April 1st to March 31st.

BCSRA Elects a new Executive

As is the annual custom, a new Executive was voted in by the Referee Association membership at the BCSRA 2002 Annual General Meeting, held Saturday, May 4th, at the Cordova Bay Clubhouse in Victoria. The new Executive is as follows (those actually elected shown in parenthesis):
President: Elvio Chies-VASRA (by acclamation for a 2 year term)
Vice-President: Joe Branco-VASRA
Secretary: Kevin Duliba-FVSRA (by acclamation for a 2 year term)
Treasurer/Registrar: vacant- to be appointed by Executive
Directors:
Interior: Bill Jaswal-KSRA (ratified for a 2 year term)
FVSRA: Torb Lindhede (ratified for the last year of a 2 year term)
VASRA: Paul Ward (ratified for a 2 year term)
VISRA: Randy Stenner
Past President (until 2003 AGM): Tony Troughton-VISRA
The Membership also approved a change in the By-Laws whereby the Winter Council meeting, held normally in January, will now become an optional meeting called at the discretion of the BCSRA Executive. The meeting adjourned to the Annual Jack Tinnion Memorial Shield between the '604's and '250's. Next Council meeting will be the Fall Council meeting to be held sometime in October or early November (date TBA).

President's Report cont.

It will mean creating new relationships with groups in the soccer community, which we have not extended our assistance to in the past. It will mean we have to bring these officials who have not thought about joining the Referees Association, to give it a try. But if we are able to accomplish what we set out, I am sure those will see that being part of the Referees Association is just part of the entire package of refereeing itself. As I said, this cannot be done overnight, we can but try. Lets set small goals which we can easily attain. This will build our confidence so we can move forward. I urge every member to talk to his or her Area Association Executive (for Direct Members via BCSRA Secretary or myself as President). Offer your support and your time, and be happy with what you can do (even if it's not exactly what you might want to do). Little by little, step by step, we will make it to the light at the end of the tunnel.

Good luck in your games,

Elvio Chies
BCSRA President

Flag and Whistle- BCSRA Newsletter

Editor: Jon Paris-Seeley

e-mail: parissee@interchange.ubc.ca

The material presented is from contributors and the BCSRA assumes no responsibility for their contents.

All submissions may be edited for reasons of clarity, brevity and taste.

Thank you to all who've contributed articles and apologies to those whose submissions never made it in this edition.