

MINUTES OF THE VANCOUVER AREA SOCCER REFEREES ASSOCIATION

Held: Monday, February 23, 2009 at South Burnaby Metro Club, Burnaby, B.C.

President:	Marc Bowley	(604) 278-9302	(marcbowley@primus.ca)
1 st V-President:	Philip Leung	(604) 723-1823	(philip.c.leung@gmail.com)
2 nd V-President:	John May	(604) 298-2561	(johnmay429@hotmail.com)
Secretary:	Bill McNaughton	(604) 986-4529	(wmcnaughton@blgcanada.com)
Treasurer:	Ron Schaeffer	(604) 922-6628	(ron_schaeffer@hotmail.com)
Directors:	Mauricio Navarro	(604) 253-0042	
	José Fraquas	(604) 929-0736	(fraguas@shaw.ca)

FOUNDED 1969

Call to order: 7:20 p.m.

GUESTS WELCOMED: Neil Ellett

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED: None

ADOPT AGENDA: On motion by Werner Winsemann seconded by Domenic Pace, M/S/C

MINUTES OF January 2009 MEETING: Minutes of the January 26, 2009 meeting were previously circulated by email and were adopted on a motion by Werner Winsemann, seconded by Jose Fraquas, M/S/C.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- Continued discussion on the Christmas Party, continue it or drop it?
 - We received three emails from members all asking that the party continue one suggesting that the date be changed.
 - Discussion from the following members:
 - Werner Winsemann: Yes we should have a Christmas party, we need to continue the tradition, he was very disappointed that referees did not support it, referees get paid more now for games than they did before but complain about the costs when really they have no basis to do so;
 - Neil Ellett: Fraser Valley has moved their party to the end of November;
 - Michelle Pye: Suggested moving the venue to a restaurant [it's possible this would cost more than Lockwood Hall and there's a number of issues in getting the numbers and guaranteeing how many would show up, etc.];
 - Elvio Chies: The party is a good idea but we need to build the social network within the association to ensure that people are comfortable to come;
 - Many comments from various members on the need to have some friends attending in order that you want to go out with them to go to the party, for example, we need to get some people in our ethnic refereeing communities to get other referee members from the same ethnic communities out to the party;
 - Should we re-think the date, re-think the music and use a DJ so there's all sorts of music?
 - It's difficult for younger referees to get out to the party. It is seen as a "mom & dad generation" to them. It's not that interesting for them to come out. To get them out we need to change things some how.

- Dominic Pace: One of the main things with the party was to bring out spouses so that people meet each other, we need to delegate the work and organize more with telephone trees to get people out. Suggested we delegate specific tasks to specific people;
- Bill McNaughton suggested we put a push on to try one more time and look carefully at the dates that are available;
- Art Duran suggested tying it in with another function such as going to a Whitecaps game and then having the party afterwards so that we could bring in younger people;
- Some other suggestions concerning changing the date, the music or the food.
- Dominic Pace made a motion, seconded by Sandro Giardi that VASRA continue to hold an annual party. The motion was voted on and passed. We will try the party again but look at holding it in November in order to avoid conflicts with dates.
- VASRA library: A request was made for a volunteer with space to hold the library, there were no volunteers forthcoming. Bill McNaughton will email members and ask if we can get a volunteer. Elvio Chies has offered to convert the videos which we have into DVDs in order to reduce the volume of the material.

EDUCATION: Michelle Pye gave a presentation on her recent events, including the U17 World Cup:

- Leading up to the World Cup, Michelle refereed the Brazil v. Canada game at BMO field in Toronto. She played a clip of the game and discussed a number of issues that came up, including a caution to a Brazil player and dealing with wall management in a direct free kick situation.
- Michelle also refereed at the CONCACAF U17 qualifying tournament. This involved difficult travel arrangements in order to get there (Trinidad I believe) and then a fitness test that occurred on the day of arrival after all that time sitting in airports and airplanes. The fitness test was very hard and needed a lot of mental toughness to get through.
- The U17 World Cup took place in New Zealand. This was much better for travel arrangements, there was great training and lots of preparation pre-tournament. Michelle got to use the microphone headsets. FIFA has psychologists there to help deal with the pressure. She discussed the games, the preparation, the discussions after each game and how matters that arose in the games were addressed. She also played a clip of the Brazil v. England game and discussed the issues that arose for her in that game.

LEAGUE ITEMS: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ron Schaeffer was away out of the country and unable to attend but had provided information for the Minutes. [Our current account situation as of Feb 13/09 was: Chequing Account \$7,365.00 and GICs \$5,500.00]

REFEREE ASSOCIATED REPORTS

BCSRA EXECUTIVE:

- Elvio Chies provided a written report to the people at the meeting (attached with email as a PDF) and also mentioned that Paul Ward had refereed the finals in the Pan Pacific Championships. This is a tournament of club teams set up by the LA Galaxy. It involves teams from Japan, Korea and China as well as LA Galaxy. The finals were between LA Galaxy v. Suwan Flying Birds, held in Las Vegas. Please note the membership gift this year will be a coin. Coins have been the most popular gift that the association produces. If people want an extra coin they can order one by contacting Elvio. The extra coins are available at \$3.75 plus applicable taxes and postage.

CSA REFEREE COMMITTEE: No Report

BC SOCCER REFEREE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: José Branco was unable to attend.

- NOTE: the BC Soccer Conference 2009 is being held on May 1 – 3, register early and save (see the BC Soccer website)

NEW BUSINESS:

- Our mentorship initiative is underway. Please do some mentoring.
- In addition to the Las Vegas game mentioned by Elvio, the meeting was advised that Paul Ward will be going to the Men's U20 FIFA World Cup qualifying tournament in Trinidad, held March 6 to 16. Congratulations to Paul.

The 50/50 raffle was held and the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD: MONDAY, March 30, 2009 @ 7:00 P.M.
AT THE SOUTH BURNABY METRO CLUB