

MINUTES OF THE VANCOUVER AREA SOCCER REFEREES ASSOCIATION

Held: Monday, June 29, 2009 at South Burnaby Metro Club, Burnaby, B.C.

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FOUNDED 1969

Call to order: 7:17 p.m.

GUESTS WELCOMED: Many guests were attending and all were welcomed.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED: none

ADOPT AGENDA: On motion by Jose Branco, seconded by Joe Ciresci, M/S/C. The agenda was then modified and adopted on motion by Joe Ciresci and seconded by Ian McHugh, M/S/C.

MINUTES OF May 25, 2009 MEETING: Minutes of the May 2009 meeting were previously circulated by email and were adopted on a motion by Werner Winsemann, seconded by Marco Arruda, M/S/C.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

- none

EDUCATION: Bob Sawtell lead the session dedicated to honoring Werner Winsemann on the 35th Anniversary of his World Cup 1974 appointment and appearance as the referee in Netherlands v. Sweden:

- Werner's game took place in Dortmund, Germany with 53,700 fans in attendance. The assistant referees were from Germany and Wales. The referee's station for the 1974 World Cup was in Frankfurt.
- Bob presented portions of the Netherlands v. Sweden game and we discussed changes in the laws from 1974 to now, utilizing illustrations taken from Werner's game.
- Many differences were noted including: the referee's position at the start of the match; free kick procedure and referees position on the wall; assistant referee technique and position on free kicks; assistant referees with flags in the right hand and not changing hands; the law on obstruction (impeding) and the high level of physical contact allowed in 1974; deliberate pass back to the keeper in the box where the keeper was allowed to pick up the ball; keepers could handle the ball, release it, handle it, release it, handle it without violating the laws of the day; there were a lot of hard fouls where only an indirect free kick was awarded for "obstruction"; a direct throw-in to the keeper was allowed; a yellow card given for what is now a red card offence (denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity).
- Werner answered a number of questions: Referees did talk a lot about tactics in advance of the World Cup Games; Werner also refereed in the 1972 Olympics and there were no real changes in the laws of the game between the 1972 Olympics and the 1974 World Cup; in those days, referees would do both the middle and act as assistants as people were not specialized in their functions. That meant you could be called on for either a middle or a line for a particular game. Werner did two lines in the 1974 World Cup in addition to his game in the middle.
- In watching the second half of the game, there were also some items that were noted: a bad throw-in is still a violation and charging an opponent in the back is still a foul; it was noticed, however, that the fourth official had a quite a different role than today; yellow card technique was excellent but somewhat different; the assistant referees used many hand signals to the referee; positioning on deep free kicks: on some the referee moved right down onto the goal line and the AR stayed with the second last defender but on others the AR's position was not at the second last defender, but rather right down on the goal line, and this meant the referee had to watch the offside on one of those plays; advantage was utilized but it was an instant decision and if you played advantage it never came back (Werner commented that this meant you could look very good or very bad depending on whether the advantage actually would accrue. It is now much easier as you can pull the play back if no advantage accrues).

- Werner made a number of comments on the big changes that he has seen in the game. These include the use of new balls and much better footwear; there is still the big pressure on referees but the referees are much better equipped now (beep flags and communication sets in the big international games); there are a lot more duties now for the fourth official; offside signaling is much better now with the assistant referee procedure; back in 1974 on a penalty kick, the goalkeeper was not allowed to move; players in 1974 accepted the hard challenges, got back up and played on without much animosity and no dramatics or diving.
- A number of people who were not able to attend sent their comments and congratulations on the anniversary including Mauricio Navarro, Michelle Pye, Paul Ward and Charlie Cuzzetto (BCSA President).
- Some presentation materials were available at the meeting highlighting Werner's career as a referee, then on the CSA Referee's Committee and now as an assessor.
- Marc Bowley presented a plaque to Werner from VASRA in recognition of his career and the 35th anniversary of his World Cup appearance.
- Werner told a number of stories concerning the 1972 Olympics, 1974 World Cup, and the 1976 Olympics at which he also refereed and the sacrifices that had to be made in order to make it to that level. He mentioned how hard it was to get recognition 35 years ago as a referee coming from Canada.

LEAGUE ITEMS: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ron Schaeffer advised our current account situation was: Chequing Account \$6,255.05 and GICs \$5,500.00.

REFEREE ASSOCIATED REPORTS

BCSRA EXECUTIVE:

- Elvio Chies expressed his congratulations to all who had Provincial Cup appointments.
- Elvio provided a written report for the meeting touching on: members with international duties, the web forum now operational, the 2009 commemorative coin will be available for those renewing and extras are available at cost, the summer edition of the Flag and Whistle will be out soon, the next edition of CANSOREF should be out in a few weeks, and the finishing touches are being put in place on the Referees' Association Manual for distribution shortly. A copy of the written report will be sent out by email with the Minutes.

CSA REFEREE COMMITTEE:

- Bob Sawtell advised the meeting that appointments are shown on the website. Today at the Confederation Cup Tournament, Hector Vegara, Winnipeg, was acting as the Fourth Official. The CSA Referees' Committee had held a meeting recently in Alberta and the next meeting is scheduled for New Brunswick. This is part of a three year program for holding meetings across the country. The United Soccer League (Whitecaps and Montréal) appointments are going well.

BC SOCCER REFEREE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: José Branco reported as follows:

- Mentioned that Mauricio Navarro has a friendly game coming up between Guatemala v. Mexico.

NEW BUSINESS:

- José Branco made a motion that Bill McNaughton's secretary, Pearl Chin, be taken out for lunch by VASRA to recognize the work she does in getting the Minutes done for Bill. Motion seconded by Joe Ciresci and carried. Marc Bowley will take up this onerous task.
- BeachBlast: get signed up for BeachBlast with Marc Bowley.

The 50/50 raffle was held and the meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m. for all to have some of the refreshments on hand to celebrate Werner's anniversary and mingle/meet with colleagues.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD: MONDAY, August 31, 2009 @ 7:00 P.M. AT THE SOUTH BURNABY METRO CLUB