

MINUTES OF THE VANCOUVER AREA SOCCER REFEREES ASSOCIATION

Held: Monday, January 28, 2008 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 Fraguas	(604) 929-0736	(fraguas@shaw.ca)

FOUNDED 1969

Call to order: 7:20 p.m.

GUESTS WELCOMED: John Jukes (MWSL) and Neil Ellet

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED: Arp Singh, Ralph Bigio and the 36 new members that Laurie Miller has signed up from the Sunshine Coast.

ADOPT AGENDA: Agenda was circulated at the meeting and was adopted on a motion by José Branco and seconded by Michael Nemeth, M/S/C.

MINUTES OF November 26, 2007 MEETING: The Minutes were circulated by email in advance of the meeting and were also available at the meeting. Adopted on a motion by José Branco and seconded by Nick Hawley, M/S/C.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: None.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: It was noted that a quorum was present and the Annual General Meeting could proceed. The Nominating Committee Report was presented by Joe Ciresci and the floor was also opened up for other nominations. The election of Executive members proceeded as follows:

- 1st Vice-President: Paul Walker declined to stand again. Philip Leung was nominated. No one else wished to stand for the position. Mr. Leung was elected by acclamation.
- Treasurer: Ron Schaeffer agreed to stand again and accept the nomination. No one else put their name forward. Mr. Schaeffer was elected by acclamation.
- At Large Director: José Fraguas agreed to put his name forward again and accepted the nomination. No one else put their name forward. Mr. Fraguas was elected by acclamation.
- There were no other Executive positions that needed to be filled.

Ron Schaeffer, VASRA Treasurer, presented the year-end report and financial statements including the income statement, balance sheet and the notes concerning investment assets and tangible assets. A handout was given to those at the meeting. It will be circulated by email with the Minutes as a PDF file. Mr. Schaeffer's report indicated that his mid-year concerns had not materialized. We ended with a surplus of \$1,201.14. Ron went through and explained the income statement and the balance sheet. Our year end liquid assets were \$10,011.53. There were some questions on the receivables which were answered. The financial statements are not audited and Ron indicated he was seeking one or two people to act as auditors. Dominic Pace's name was put forward and Ron will contact him to audit the statements.

A motion was made by Joe Ciresci to accept the financial statements and Ron's report as presented, seconded by Tony Kwan. Motion was carried.

This ended the Annual General Meeting and the meeting was handed back to the new Executive for 2008, all of whom are listed at the very top of these Minutes.

EDUCATION: none [Note: for this meeting, due to the Annual General Meeting, the elections and the year end financial reports, there was no formal education session. Education will be back and prominently featured next meeting.]

LEAGUE ITEMS:

- John Jukes for MWSL again requested that game and incident reports be submitted promptly including details on the incident reports. They still have issues with jewelry being allowed. There is a simple rule: do not allow jewelry. Coaches in MWSL should have an identification card. If they don't please put this in your report. MWSL has started Cup play. If games are tied they go directly into penalty kicks. No youth players and no inter-club permit players are allowed in Cup play. If for some reason you attend at the field and the game does not proceed then do not request your fee from the teams, put this in your report and the league (John) will look after sending you a cheque.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ron Schaeffer provided the report as part of the annual general meeting. See above.

REFEREE ASSOCIATED REPORTS

BCSRA EXECUTIVE:

- Elvio Chies invited all to attend the Canadian Soccer Referee Association's Annual General Meeting to be held in Winnipeg. See the notice that was emailed out. Please RSVP directly to Elvio or to Richard Brownley.
- Elvio mentioned that we have (on information from José Branco) a member in England who will be coming back and joining us again and has been sending him information about English soccer.
- Elvio discussed a membership loyalty form. The Association cannot run without assistance from its members. Please consider donating 20 minutes of your time to assist the executive in some task in order that we can make the association stronger. A sign-up form was available at the meeting. If you were not at the meeting you can advise by email that you are willing to assist. Sample jobs are to review a video tape and pick out a couple of clips to use at the meetings for education purposes, or to assist in making phone calls to members.

CSA REFEREE COMMITTEE: See BCSA Report below.

BC SOCCER REFEREE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: José Branco reported on a number of items as follows:

- This weekend (February 2/3) the CSA referee committee is in Vancouver and has set up an assessor training day which is open to all assessors. There will be a new assessment form being produced and provided by the CSA in order to provide a uniform approach across Canada. The idea is to get assessors to be consistent in their marking. The training day is open to head referees from the various areas so they can come out to see what assessors are doing and what they are looking for.
- There is a new entry level course that is coming out. BCSA plans to bring in all instructors for training. The CSA is now trying to bring all instructors together and be consistent in the entry level courses for referees across Canada.
- José reiterated the call by Elvio (above) to have members give some time to mentor and assist in developing referees. He encourage people to sign up on Elvio's form to give some time to grow the next group of referees and encourage them to come to BCSA training, etc

A question from a member as to when will assessor clinics be held? José Branco answered that there is no fixed date but dates will be rolling out in the next few weeks. If you are interested in being an assessor then the upcoming weekend CSA session is open to all at the South Burnaby Metro Clubroom.

A question from a member on the timing for refreshers. José Branco answered that in the Vancouver area refreshers will be held in August even though the new membership year is now April 1 to March 30 as mandated by the CSA. They hope

to have their data base up and running by March 30, 2008 so that people can go online to see all of their information, who assessors are, who instructors are, etc. They also hope to use this for online registration and for reminders by email, etc. Eventually the data base information will be available for assignors to ensure that they are using only registered referees. José encouraged people not to referee in unaffiliated soccer.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Marc Bowley, as president of VASRA, brought to the meeting's attention, and a round of applause was given for, the service that Paul Walker has provided to the association.
- Recognition given to the people who have made the new list of FIFA level referees in Canada: This includes from British Columbia our own Mauricio Navarro, Paul Ward and Michelle Pye. Darren Clark from Kamloops is now on the FIFA list as an assistant referee.
- Mauricio Navarro was questioned concerning some recent games he had been doing. He did a "friendly" between USA and Sweden last week. This was a hard game. There were eight cards in the game. Mauricio awarded a penalty kick and issued a yellow card on the play and afterwards, with the video review, was able to confirm that he was right and no red card was warranted. Next week he will be doing a CONCACAF qualifier in Bermuda. The US Soccer Federation has also invited him to do a "friendly" between Argentina and Guatemala. Everyone expects this will be a hard game, not very friendly.
- José Branco raised the question about whether local park referees are allowing too much to go by without issuing cards. The answer here is yes: referees need to be tougher in their local parks. Do not accept bad conduct. Keep your tolerance level down. Part of the role for the referee is to police the game and keep it the "beautiful game".
- Joey Kenward mentioned to the meeting that praise is warranted for BCSA and José Branco for the soccer forum they put on at BC Place. He found it was a great experience.
- Marc Bowley made a recommendation to the membership that Joe Hrgovic be recognized as a life member of the Association. Mr. Hrgovic has been a member since the late 1960s. He was on the Executive. He was the founder of the Western Cup Tournament. He raised money for the Association for numerous years. In his refereeing days he reached the class 1 level. He is now on long-term disability. This nomination was made by Joe Ciresci and seconded by José Branco. The motion was carried unanimously.

After the 50/50 raffle the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD: MONDAY, February 25, 2008 @ 7:00 P.M. AT THE SOUTH BURNABY METRO CLUB.