

FLAG & WHISTLE



BCSRA NEWSLETTER

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Area Assoc. Reports

VASRA - Joe Branco

Stronger attendance at meetings has been acknowledged. The beach blast of August 2002 raised \$3000 for the association. Christmas party scheduled for November 30 at the Portuguese Club was well attended. A new logo for VASRA has been voted on and approved. New ideas for yellow and red cards with the logo and a black and white setting have been discussed.

FVSRA – Walter Vetoretti

AGM held in March – Walter Vetoretti re-elected as president, Andy Pinter as secretary and Gary Docherty as Director. Thank you to Mark Budda for past service as director. Membership remains stagnant 35-40% at meetings with a noticeable increase in younger attendees. Congratulations to referees at national championships:

Jill Proctor – U19 World Cup

Andy Pinter – Western Canada Masters

Mark Budda – BC College Provincials

Disappointment expressed regarding rejection of fee structure. Treasurer – Allan Ferrier has resigned, Ken Robyn has agreed to take his place.

VISRA – Randy Stenner

149 members currently registered. Visra reports all financial records were stolen from a members vehicle. (cont. page 4)



Western Canada Masters Classics

l-r back row: Bogdan Botoi, Elvio Chies, Bob Sawtell (Chief Referee), Dave Bazzett
front row: Andy Pinter, Colin Smith, Michelle Pye, Jay Nagra, Mary-Anne Legg

Fall Council Mtg. Nets Change In Referee Assoc. Membership Year.

-Ideas discussed to fund scholarships
-House-keeping changes to By-Laws

-Spring Council Mtg. set at Sat. Apr.5, 2003.

At the semi-annual BCSRA "gathering of the clans", otherwise known as the Fall Council meeting, representatives from the various Area Associations and Life Members came together to handle the business of refereeing. With apologies from the Kamloops and Prince George Area Associations, plus a number of Direct members, in all 18 members attended.

"It's always a tough meeting to hold", commented BCSRA President Elvio Chies. "For most of the Membership it comes right in the middle of their main playing season, and holding it early in the day is an inconvenience for everyone. However, we have to hold it because it's in our By-Laws and there are decisions which must be made before the end of the calendar year. Obviously, to get more input from the Membership, we'll have to be creative and see if we can delay some of those decisions to perhaps early January. This would allow moving the meeting to when there are no or few games present in the province." "Still, the meeting was over and done with in record time: 2 hours, 20minutes. This could be attributed to a common,base understanding and business-like attitude amongst the participants the President felt. "I think I can honestly say that our background as referees, that is making decisions quickly and moving on, helped.

(continued on page three, see Fall Council meeting)

Game Fee Proposal to be Amended

The controversial Game Fee Proposal which was submitted last year, and scheduled to be voted on by those BCSA Leagues in membership at the 2003 BCSA Annual General Meeting, will be amended to remove the gender distinction for games of the same level, was decided by Council at the recently concluded 2002 BCSRA Fall Council Meeting. Under the original proposal, Council developed a tiered game fee structure which saw games of a more competitive level paid more than those deemed as a recreational level. However, there was a distinction between men's and women's games of the same level. Although no formal feedback was ever given to the BCSRA, informal verbal feedback indicated that women's leagues did not like the distinction and were willing to have their equivalent levels paid the same as those in men's games. Thus the proposal will be amended so that Women's Competitive matches would be paid the same as Men's Competitive matches (i.e. R=\$60, AR=\$30, 4th=\$20) and Women's Recreational matches would be paid the same as Men's Recreational matches (i.e. R=\$50, AR=\$25, 4th=\$20).

The proposal must be resubmitted through BC Soccer to be distributed to the Leagues. The BCSRA Executive intends to send it to the Leagues just the same. The current proposal was adopted in principle, including the tiered game fee structure, by the BC Soccer Board of Directors in May of this year although time did not allow for a vote to be tabled at the 2002 BC Soccer Annual General Meeting. Leagues in membership were given the option of adopting the proposal.



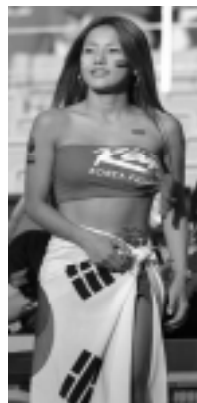
Why Soccer is Struggling in the USA.



USA Fan



Brazil Fan



S. Korea Fan

The Referees' Opinion

Two referees, both out of work
(Not that their duty they did shirk),
one afternoon, when it was wet,
within a warm bar parlour met.
Said one, "It really seems to me
the lot of a poor referee
gets worse and worse with every day."
"Quite true," the other one did say.
"The men most fitted for the job
refuse to face the angry mob."
"It's very strange," his friend replied,
"to do my best I always tried.
A man now needs a face of flint,
a memory stored with every hint
that in the Handbook finds a place,
if he would keep up in the race;
for players have got thousand tricks,
all meant to put us in a fix."
"Ah," sighed the first, "the referee
almost like mighty Jove should be,
thunderbolt in either hand.
Such men would be in great demand.
A tithe of Atalanta's speed
would suit him very well. Indeed,
a touch of Hector's warlike power
would help him in an evil hour.
While old Ulysses' silver tongue
would aid him well to get along.
On Mercury's wings if he could fly,
with loud applause the mob would cry,
to see a referee on wing
would make the wildest ruffian sing."
Stop there, the other answered quick,
"This really is too thick.
In mortal shape where can you find
all these good qualities combined?"
And with their faces filled with gloom
the worthy couple left the room.

**William Pickford, c.1900,
England**

(thanks to Dieter Stenschke)

Two New Area Assoc. to Form ?

With the goal of bringing more organizations who agree on the goals and ideals of the BCSRA, Council voted at the past Fall Council meeting to empower the BCSRA Executive to incorporate two new, fledgling societies under the Referees Association banner, should the Executive feel they are viable entities. To assist in the discussions, Council included a proviso that a set of draft guidelines be used in its research (note: the names of the two organizations have been withheld pending verbal notification to the societies' respective liaisons and official written overture to be sent in early 2003).

Did You Know ?

While God forbid that we as referees should ever be sued for a decision to play/not play on a field in inclement weather. However, for those members that own their own homes, did you know that your house insurance may cover you in these circumstances? BCSRA and VASRA-affiliated member Len Dudley, a lawyer himself, relates a story from the past. A member at the time allowed a game to be played on a field in which an injury took place during the game. The member was threatened with a lawsuit. However, lo and behold the member's home insurance covered him in this instance. Moral of the story: have a look at your home owner's policy for hidden gems.



A New Religion?

Fall Council meeting cont.

Yes there are always differences of opinion but it was our professionalism, as usual, that carried the day".

Of the items which needed to be firmed up before the end of 2002:

- Proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws, as required by the Companies Office in Victoria, were carried unanimously.

- A change to the Game Fee Proposal to remove distinction between games of one gender versus another was passed (see related story).

- Council voted unanimously to give approval to the Executive to allow the inclusion of two potential, new Area Associations if merited (see related story).

- Council voted to change the Referee Association membership year to match BC Soccer's registration year. Membership renewal forms would still go out as planned near the end of March 2003 however to better notify people of the change.

- BCSRA President was endorsed as the Association's representative to the Canadian Soccer Referees Association (CSRA) Annual General Meeting.

- Various fundraising ideas were put forward. The intent was to use these to help fund scholarship and other charitable areas and therefore not put a huge drain on the Association's cashflow. At close of business the date of Saturday, April 5, 2003 was set for the date of the Spring Council/Annual General Meeting. Also being the date of the annual Jack Tinnion Memorial Shield Game, and traditionally held in Victoria, the venue will be confirmed in the coming weeks as there was interest from some members in the Fraser Valley Area Association to host the game on the mainland. The FVSRA and VISRA Area Associations were asked to confer with each other and inform of their decision.



Area Assoc.Reports cont.

VISRA cont.

Standardization program uses the existing assessment form for referees and 10\$ is charged for everyone who gets one. Scheduling for the central men's and women's leagues and metro youth continues. Localized control of class 1 and 2 referees being assigned to appropriate games. Next to host spring council meeting, date TBA.

PGSRA-George Kaweesi

President George Kaweesi indicates they have wrapped up a fine season and now head into their winter break. This year saw an increase in the number of officials. VP Randy Reiter participated in the BCSRA Executive teleconference call of September 10th in place of Mr. Kaweesi. In closing, the PGSRA wishes everyone the very best for the upcoming holiday season.

KSRA

Kamloops soccer season has come to a close in the Kamloops area until next spring. The Icebreaker, held in the spring of 2002, marked the start of senior soccer in Kamloops and was once again a success. The May long weekend youth tournament continues to grow, with over 130 teams this past year. Meanwhile, over 60 teams played in the Kamloops Summer Invitational Senior Mixed tournament on the August long weekend. Officials from throughout B.C. were invited to help local referees in the latter two tournaments, and the KSRA was pleased to host its annual BBQ for out of town refs in August, even if the weather didn't co-operate. This year saw an increase in fees paid for officiating for all referee levels and across all leagues. New rates paid to our referees are linked to classification, and these rates are now consistent for all senior level leagues. 3 new Class 3 officials joined the KSRA in 2002, including **Jesse Coster**, **Dimas Carvalho** and **Eric Voss**. Efforts to develop Class 4 referee's are ongoing, and included a number of "pre-assessments" by trained District Assessors to aid these up and coming officials. Annual General Meeting saw the election of a new executive. Congratulations to **Mario Salituro**, our new KSRA president, **Chris Butcher**, our new Vice President, **Danny Nikolic** elected as our treasurer/allocator and new directors **Dimas Carvalho** and **Ernie Cupello**. **Mike Galesloot** and **Darren Clark** remain in their respective positions of Secretary and Director for the new year. Please join the rest of the KSRA membership in thanking the years of service and hard work by Past President **Bill Jaswal**, **Loyed Shwydiuk** (past Allocator/Treasurer) and **Claudio Klarich** (past Director).



8 Week Ban for Kissing Referee

The Hague - A player for Dutch amateur soccer club Wilhemminas school was barred for eight weeks because, angry about being sent off, he kissed the referee. After Martin Bennink was sent off for arguing, he grabbed the referee and planted a kiss on his head. He was suspended for "physical violence against a referee and assault on the dignity of a referee".

It's a Man's Game

Germany- The Bundesliga Premiere League has notched up a record number of red cards this season, prompting an emergency meeting of the DFB (National Federation), the league, the clubs and the referees. Player violence was the only item on the agenda. German prosecutors are investigating Bayern Munich player Oliver Kahn, after thousands of fans saw him trying to strangle rival striker, Thomas Brdaric in the middle of a game. Mr.Kahn dismissed the matter saying " I didn't really touch him; I only put my hands on his neck. After all, football is a man's game."

Flag and Whistle- BCSRA Newsletter

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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.