

# FLAG & WHISTLE



BCSRA NEWSLETTER

Feb. 2005

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## Héctor Osvaldo Vergara, Canadian International Assistant Referee,

Mr. Vergara, who participated in the World Cup 2002 in Japan / Korea and in the Athens 2004 Olympic Games in Greece, was in Victoria to give a lecture on his experiences of the two events. (Report by Dan Greco)

This is a short report on the symposium we had over the week-end of January 8th.

We had 35 tickets sold for the event, but only 23 came due to the snowy and icy weather over the week-end and the inability for the up-island refs to come down. In any case, considering the situation it was well attended in my opinion. All the leading and up and coming refs were there and as a result you will have trickle down effect of the information learned.

First we had Bob Sawtell, former FIFA referee and chair of the CSA and BCSA Referee Development Committee, speak. He spoke for 3.5 hours on gamesmanship and man-management. It was a very advanced level of instruction which will have an immediate impact on the refereeing. He used numerous video presentations as well as case studies. Bob was very forceful in his approach, hammering home the need to control the game through effective communication and required discipline. Loss of control is a direct result of letting things go unpunished.

After lunch we had Hector Vergara, currently one of the highest ranking AR's in the World. He's been to the World Cup and Olympics and spoke for about an hour on the Olympic experience and about 1.5 hours on advanced AR techniques.

He spoke about his personal experiences at the Olympics and the fact that he enjoyed the Olympic experience very much. He felt a part of a greater spirit of the games and felt as if he was representing Canada at the event. A lot of the events he got to enjoy as a fan.

( cont. page 3 see Vergara )

## BCSRA Members at BC Soccer Awards Banquet



*(l - r) CSA Referee Development Committee member and past BCSRA President Bob Sawtell pictured with BCSRA President Elvio Chies and FIFA Referee ,Mauricio Navarro (VASRA)*

### **Congratulations to those BCSRA members who were honoured at the recent BC Soccer Assn Awards Banquet:**

Daniel Greiner (VASRA) BCSA Junior Official of the Year.

Werner Schwan (VISRA Life Member) BCSA Award of Merit.

Ken Fowler (FVSRA Life Member) Aubrey Sanford Award.

Also honoured were BC-based Canadian FIFA Referees for 2005:

Mauricio Navarro (VASRA) , Simon Fearn (VISRA), and Jill Fedirchuck (FVSRA). President Elvio Chies also accepted the BCSA Senior Official of the Year on behalf of the BCSRA's Simon Fearn.

(more photos page 5)

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## BCSRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SATURDAY, MAY 28th -VICTORIA

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DID YOU GET YOUR ANNIVERSARY COIN? IF NOT, SEE YOUR AREA ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE (Direct members have been sent directly from BCSRA Executive)

## German 'match-fixing' ref resigns

A football referee in Germany has resigned over allegations of match-fixing.

Robert Hoyzer, 25, is suspected of betting on a cup tie last August, in which top division Hamburg lost to lower-ranked Paderborn. Mr Hoyzer gave Paderborn two penalties, and sent off a Hamburg player. Germany's Football Association said there was evidence of manipulation in other games involving Mr Hoyzer. He denies any wrongdoing. The association is holding an emergency meeting on Monday. Spokesman Harald Stenger said: "We will leave no stone unturned in this investigation." In the match at the centre of the allegations, Hamburg took a 2-0 lead but went on to lose 4-2. Mr Hoyzer sent off Hamburg striker Emile Mpenza for insulting him, and awarded two penalties to the regional league side.

Hamburg were bottom of the Bundesliga at the time, after losing their first two games. Manager Klaus Toppmoeller was later sacked - and he now blames his dismissal on Mr Hoyzer. "The referee cost me my job," Mr Toppmoeller told Bild newspaper on Sunday. "I always hoped that football was clean but you have to doubt that now." It is the biggest scandal in German football since 1971 when the Bundesliga was hit by a big match-fixing scandal.



## VASRA AGM Report

Vancouver Area Soccer Referees Association held their AGM for 2005 and the following were re-elected to executive positions:

President	Jose Branco	Re-elected for a 2 year term
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Marc Bowley	Re-elected for a 2 year term
Secretary	Paul Walker	Re-elected for a 2 year term
Director	Mauricio Navarro	Re-elected for a 2 year term

## Upcoming in future issues of the Flag & Whistle

- Report on the status of the BCSRA Penny/Nickel/Dime drive . The pennies and nickels are being used for local food bank donations, the dimes for scholarship contributions (either Area Assn or the BCSRA Dan Kulai Award).
- Know your fellow member, features a profile of a different BCSRA members.
- Area Association reports as they are available.

## 2005 Officials Development Program

The British Columbia Soccer Association is pleased to present John Baker, Head of Refereeing at the English Football Association, as a guest presenter at the Shawnigan Lake Officials Development Program.

The 2005 Shawnigan Lake Program has two programs running at the same time with cross over instruction from John Baker.

**Referee Symposium:** This program is offered to any Class 3, Class 2, Class 1, Nominated National, National and FIFA Referees along with any Referee Instructor and Assessor. This three day intensive program is a great opportunity to gain refereeing knowledge for all levels of refereeing.

**Class 3 Clinic:** This program is available to all BCSA officials who are currently active at the Class 4 level and no less than 16 years of age. This three-day intensive program will further develop and improve the knowledge level of Referees in all aspects of the game. This will be achieved through guest lecturer John Baker, Head Referee of the English Football Association, experienced Referee Instructor Lectures, and video. All program participants will receive shorts, t-shirt, and a golf shirt. Instructors: John Baker and BCSA Instructors

Date: June 30, 2005 pm check in – check out pm July 3, 2005 Program Fee: o“Early Bird” \$375 – prior to March 1, 2005 o\$450 – after March 1, 2005 o(includes Program / Clinic Fee,accommodation, meals, and souvenirs) Please visit [www.bcsoccer.net](http://www.bcsoccer.net) to confirm date, time ,cost and to register.

**EXCITING NEWS CONCERNING SHAWNIGAN LAKE COMING UP FROM BCSRA EXECUTIVE -STAY TUNED!**

## Esse Baharmast in Quebec

A symposium will be held in Montreal on the April 22 - 24 weekend. It will be conducted in English and in French with Esse Baharmast as the Guest Lecturer / Instructor. Symposium cost was stated at \$100 For further information please contact Martin Hamel E-mail: [m.hamel@federation-soccer.qc.ca](mailto:m.hamel@federation-soccer.qc.ca) Business Information: Referee Coordinator / Federation Soccer du Québec . Phone: (514) 624-4755 Fax: (514) 252-3070

## Vergara cont.

Regarding his refereeing duties, he ended doing the semi-final between Italy and Argentina. He mentioned that he felt his crew was destined to the the final, except if Italy and Argentina met, since this was considered a bigger game than maybe the final. He mentioned that the heat was overwhelming at times and was a big factor. Hector also spoke at length about advanced AR techniques. Hector has sent us the power point presentation he used. He spoke on the following relevant points, just to name a couple (keep in mind these are FIFA AR's):

1. AR's have been asked to raise his flag if the keeper saves a PK AND he is off the line; no silent signal

2. Offside is the major concern of AR's and should do everything else second to managing the offside line

What struck of great interest is his total sense of professionalism to his craft and how he seeks to excel to the top of his profession. The main benefit was to show the young guys what is possible in refereeing and to strive for the top. Hector sure was able to convey that message. All in all, everybody was impressed with the event. I've been told that we should do this more often. I'll play it by ear for now and see what comes up in the future. It took a lot of planning that's for sure. I think you will see an immediate benefit to our referees and leagues. This was a very worthwhile event. Sincerely, Dan Greco



Hector Vergara and Dan Greco (l - r)

## CSRA AGM, Jan 22nd, St. Catherine's, Ont.

### PROVINCIAL REPORTS

NOTE: where no name is mentioned the report was read out by CSRA President Basil Gill.

**Newfoundland:** Class 2 clinic to be held early spring. Proud of Rob Antil being appointed to Nominated National. There is a shortage of officials in the province with heavy reliance on those in their 30's and 40's

**Nova Scotia:** the province does not recognize Class 4 officials. Nova Scotia Soccer will no longer accept Assessor reports which arrive 3 months after the game was assessed. Class 1 and 2 referees to be assessed annually.

**New Brunswick:** 401 registered officials (first time over 400). Held 8 entry level courses and 2 Class 3 courses.

**Quebec:** 85 Class 3 clinics were held and 2 Class 1 clinics were held over the past year. The province has 5,000 registered officials.

**Ont. Soccer Referees Assn (Joe Licandro):** Two branches rejoined the OSRA but unfortunately one branch left due to what they felt was non-support in a dispute with a league. There has been a decline in #'s (900, mostly senior). The province has 10,252 referees registered with the OSA. There were 200 entry level courses held in the past year. With a new OSA Technical Director, Guy Bradley, the OSRA hopes to sit down and discuss how each association can help each other.

**Manitoba Soccer Referees Assn (Orrest Konawalchuk):** There are 123 members in the MSRA. The association took pride in Hector Vergarra being appointed to the 2004 Olympic games. In October the Manitoba Soccer Association (MSA) abolished its Constitution and By-Laws in order to create a new set of regulations. At the MSA Awards dinner two MSRA members were bestowed with honours: Dick Derrett was honoured as the Frank Major Award recipient, given to someone who has spent 10 years in Referee Development. Darcy Konawalchuk was this year's recipient of the Mario Perino Award.

**Saskatchewan:** Prince Albert hosted the National All-Star Girls competition. Looking forward to hosting the 2005 Canada Summer Games. There is a desire to create a Saskatchewan Soccer Referees Assn.

**Alberta:** the Alberta Soccer Association (ASA) is comprised of six area associations. Medicine Hat is trying to create a local Referees Assn. Mike Siefert retired from the FIFA list; Kim Chalmers continues as a FIFA AR. Proud to see Dave Gantar was appointed to National and Calvin David was appointed to Nominated National.

## THE ROAD AHEAD (FOR NOW...)

For those looking to the lofty heights of officialdom, CONCACAF Referees Committee member and former Canadian FIFA Referee Emerson Mathurin had a few words to say. Speaking at the CSRA Annual General Meeting in St. Catherines he outlined the CONCACAF Referee Development Plan to 2006. The CONCACAF Referees Committee, in their considerations of appointments, want to use the best, experienced referees they have keeping in mind such criteria such as age, cost, proximity to the match in question, and FIFA Regulations. The FIFA regulations include the need for referees to be refereeing in top flight matches, be eligible for the 2006 World Cup or the 2010 World Cup (eligibility for the latter being 32 years of age in 2006). Age is an issue with regards to the CONCACAF Referee Development Plan to 2006. The following are the goals of the plan for the region as a whole with the wish for an average age for Men at about 36 years of age. Due other issues, the average age for Women is wished to be about 32 years of age. In addition, CONCACAF Referees will have to overcome some of the common problems they encounter such as: -differentiating between fair, careless, and reckless challenges. -improperly punishing unfair challenges including unfair tackles. -late identification of flash points. -turn one's back to the ball at restarts. -identification of persistent infringement. -reading the play, too narrow a diagonal. ( Submitted by E. Chies )

## Emerson Mathurin receives CSRA Life Membership



l-r : OSRA Pres. Joe Licandro , CSRA Pres. Basil Gill , Emerson Mathurin , Peter Johnson (refereed Cosmos/Whitecaps 1979 @ Empire Std.)

## BCSRA Member Left Out

BCSRA member Mauricio Navarro was regrettably not chosen as one of the CONCACAF officials that will be used for the final round of 2006 World Cup qualifying. In a statement issued January of this year the pool of referees includes some familiar names: Benito Archundia (Mexico) who refereed Honduras v Canada in Edmonton, Peter Prendergast (Jamaica) who refereed the Oct 13<sup>th</sup> qualifier Costa Rica v Canada at Swangard, Rodolfo Sibrian (El Salvador), who refereed the Aug 18<sup>th</sup> qualifier Guatemala v Canada, and Kevin Stott (US) who was partnered with BCSRA member Simon Fearn at the 2003 FIFA U-20 Championships in UAE and refereed Honduras v Canada in Honduras. The other two referees are Marco Rodriguez ( Mexico) and Carlos Batres ( Guatemala). Of the list of Assistant Referees, Canadian Hector Vergara was amongst the list of those chosen.

## Q's Adventures in Japan

To those referees back in Canada. I am still plying my trade here in Japan. I want to share this web link with you so you can take a look at the British Football Club (BFC) soccer team report that features me in two photos with a little humour thrown in. <http://www.bfctokyo.com/> (Click under the match report: "Solid BFC to third with 4-0 win) Some background. This game was in the Tokyo Metropolis League (TML) Division 1 (top division). It is a senior amateur league with a lot of Japanese and non-Japanese teams. This game was last Sunday afternoon (Jan 30) in Saitama, a prefecture next to Tokyo. It was cold, dry and very windy. Here is a photo, one taken of me in the Kanto High School Championships. Like the B.C. High School Championships. This was a game between St. Mary's (blue) Catholic High School (Tokyo) and the German (white) International School (Yokohama). A bit of a strange position for me. I guess I was moving to avoid being hit by the ball.

All is good over here and am getting some good matches to keep me sharp.  
Cheers, Quentin



## MWSL Referee Program a Success

In a unique approach specifically designed to develop female referees, the MWSL sponsored program is one-of-a-kind in Canada. Endorsed by the B. C. Soccer Association, the program combines practical training under the guidance of experienced referees with a series of four seminars of technical instruction. The emphasis is heavily weighted to practical training, as the six participants are placed with their Mentors in three groups of refereeing "trios." During the course of the two-month program, they participated in at least seven matches both as a referee and assistant referee. All participants receive "on-field" instruction from the trio Mentor beginning as an assistant referee. From there, they referee one half of a game sharing the responsibility with the Mentor, then progress to games where each referees one half. In the "final" field test, each participant referees a full game on her own, a mere six weeks from the first game!

( cont. pg. 5 Ref. Program )

## BC Soccer Awards cont.



Daniel Greiner (VASRA) pictured with BCSA Director Ed Kennedy: BCSA Junior Official of the Year.



Werner Schwan (VISRA Life Member) pictured with BCSA VP Youth Bob Hope: BCSA Award of Merit.



BCSA VP Ken McKenzie: pictured with Ken Fowler (FVSRA Life Member): Aubrey Sanford Award.

## Ref. Program a Success (cont. from pg. 4 )

The seminars focus on technical information essential for referees from "The Laws of the Game" and outline the mechanics necessary to successfully perform on the field. The seminars reflect the practical focus of the program, which requires the participants to devote their own time to study the 17 laws. It is to their credit that they all passed the final written exam. A highlight of the program was meeting Canadian FIFA Referee, Jill Proctor. Jill, herself a graduate of this program, spoke at the final seminar and shared her unique insight with the participants based on her 13 years of experience and as B.C.'s first female FIFA Referee. Jill's talk energized and inspired everyone. Then, as guests of the Vancouver Whitecaps, all program participants were invited to watch Jill referee the Whitecaps women's game against Arizona, a great opportunity to learn from the best. Thanks to the Whitecaps for their generous support! An important aspect of the program is the cooperation of the teams involved in the games the participants officiate. It is critical that first experiences take place in a supportive environment. The MWSL would like to thank all the teams involved for their sympathetic and sensitive attitude. (article reproduced from MWSL website with permission by MWSL Rep. J. Jukes)

## Suffragettes and shinpads (Courtesy of the World Football Pages )

Why do some people snap and become referees? To answer such we questioned three new recruits to the field of refereeing - Nadia Blanchard, Kelli Glass, and Linda Finch. With women referees still a bit of a novelty, we thought it would be interesting to get the view from a female perspective, what with FIFA's directive to encourage more women to take up the whistle. All were players and all still play to some extent yet their reasons for refereeing are varied. Blanchard admitted she didn't really give it any thought until she saw an advertisement on the Metro Women's Soccer League website. Finch did however, and seriously considered it as a way to keep involved with the game after injuries took their toll. Glass, a player for 30 years, strongly agreed that women should take a more active role in the game, beyond simply playing. With her family growing up, and more time on her hands, she finally took the plunge.

### A crash course in carding

A common thread emerged. It is sad but fair to say that frustration grew over how some referees would approach the women's game. Referees not moving outside the center circle or showing a disinterest in calling certain fouls was notable if not entirely intentional. Blanchard summed it up from a player's perspective suggesting, "The way a game would go would largely depend on how interested the referee was at doing his job. I felt I could do just as good a job if not better."<sup>2</sup>All three women were part of a trial MWSL mentor program, in cooperation with the BCSA Referee Assessment Sub-Committee, to initiate them into refereeing. High praise was bestowed upon their mentors, including former FIFA refs Bob Allen and Dave Brummitt and each pupil came away directly influenced by their new experience. Their awareness of what is involved in becoming a ref and also actually managing a game, now, far exceeds what they knew about the Laws of the Game and seeing everything on the field, as players. Their new-found knowledge has now been imparted to the rest of the soccer community. Blanchard for example, has been able to coach her teammates about a different way at looking at the game, which in turn has increased their understanding of the sport.

### Referees are people too

But not all things have been rosy. A lack of refereeing inexperience has highlighted some negative aspects which, each one hopes, will vanish as they gain more confidence and more matches under their belts. Armed with new perspective Glass can lament, as one mentor does, the lack of willingness of the soccer community at-large to spend more effort on referee development, and yet to still demand a flawless game. We are very tolerant about player development, coaching new players and allowing them the time to make mistakes and learn from them. However, we are not [so tolerant] of referees.

## Human Eye Cannot Detect Offside ?

The human eye is unable to detect an offside position during a football (soccer) match, claims a doctor from Spain in this week's Christmas issue of the BMJ. This may explain why so many offside decisions are controversial.

Dr Francisco Belda Maruenda analysed the physiology of the human eye to clarify if it is able to process all the visual information needed to apply the rule.

To apply the offside rule correctly, the referee must be able to keep at least five moving objects in his visual field at the same time (two players of the attacking team, the last two players of the defending team, and the ball).

This is beyond the capacity of the human eye, especially as these five objects can be anywhere within the defenders' half of the pitch, an area of at least 3200m<sup>2</sup>, says the author. This may explain at least some of the instances when television replays of a game clearly show that the offside rule was not properly implemented.

The relative position of four players and the ball cannot be assessed simultaneously by a referee, and unavoidable errors will be made in the attempt. The use of modern technology during games, such as freeze frame television and frame by frame analysis is advisable to limit these errors, he concludes.

## Stretching the Key to Muscle Pain

How often do we overlook the importance of stretching our muscles? A lot says Paul Biandich, a chiropractor who was one of several guest speakers at the recent Canadian Soccer Referees Assn (CSRA) AGM in St. Catherine's, Ontario. Among the tidbits Paul informed the audience was that 70% of low back pain can be traced to tight hamstrings and 80% of knee pain is not caused by the joint. With this in mind, Paul centered his talk on three areas: Hamstrings: these muscles start at the front of the knee and attach to the lower back. Short or tight hamstrings will pull on the lower back. To stretch this muscle, which can be done gently when cold, is to lie flat on your back and raise your leg. Bending over to touch your toes causes the pelvis to rotate slightly and does not help stretch the muscle. A gentle stretch and hold for 20-30 seconds, three times per day will help keep them loose. Similarly, quadriceps and your glutes are part of the equation. To stretch one's glutes, sit cross legged, where the ankle of your bent leg is on your knee, and slowly bend forward. To prevent scar tissue, train immediately the day after. Paul indicated many will take a rest day which is the worst thing possible as this in fact leads to the development of scar tissue. This scar tissue must be cleaned out before one can work to strengthen a tight muscle. Ice should be used immediately after to heal a strain or tear. Products such as Rub A535, Tiger Balm, and Ben Gay are useless but Paul recommended a natural product called Bionica to help heal oneself. And lastly, Paul stressed that your training must match what you're training for. So if you're training for the 12 minute run, riding a bike or the treadmill won't cut it; to train for the 12 minute run you have to run for 12 minutes.

### Do you have a submission for the Flag & Whistle?

Please email all material to:  
[parissee@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:parissee@interchange.ubc.ca)

or

[Ivo@direct.ca](mailto:Ivo@direct.ca)

**Note : Deadline for submissions in the next issue will be Apr. 15 / 05**

BCSRA is looking for a few good writers / volunteers to help update the directory and to write articles for the Yellowbellies column in the World Football Pages , as well to submit articles for the Flag and Whistle newsletter. Anyone interested please contact Elvio Chies via email - [Ivo@direct.ca](mailto:Ivo@direct.ca)



**BCSRA member and voice of the WHL Vancouver Giants, Joey Kenward, got a picture with well-known Canadian icon Don Cherry.**

## Jersey Removal "Unsporting"

Referees are reminded of a recent decision concerning the removal of a players' jersey when celebrating a goal.

**Law 12- Decision 6** ( IFAB Approval Feb.28/04)  
States that effective July 1st /04 -A player who removes his jersey when celebrating a goal, **must** be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

The removal of the jersey after a goal has been scored is unnecessary and players must avoid such excessive displays of celebration.

The removal of the jersey is defined as removing the jersey over the head or covering the head with the jersey.

### 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 into this edition.