

FLAG & WHISTLE



BCSRA NEWSLETTER

May 2005

2007 FIFA U-20's: A CHANCE TO LEARN TO SERVE

By now you have heard the great news: FIFA's 2nd highest tournament, the World U-20 Championships are coming to BC. Like the inaugural Women's U-19 (WU19) tourney, both Vancouver and Victoria will be host sites. The world is coming to our door! This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to show FIFA, and by default the rest of the soccer world, that they can have confidence in Canada.

Now it's up to us to make it successful.

I urge everyone who is around these two sites to answer the call for volunteers for this tournament. Referees have always been leaders in promoting the game and making the game work. Case in point, during the WU19 in 2002 the head of the Transportation group admitted that if it wasn't for the referees he would not have been able to do his job.

Do you have a passion for the game? How would you feel to hear people leaving our fair land with good thoughts about the organization, the character of the people, the interest for soccer here? If you're like me you want to put your heart on your sleeve and do whatever it takes to put on a good show, and especially show that referees are the biggest supporters of the game. The local game will always be with us. But FIFA won't look our way again if we don't do it right.

E. Chies, President BCSRA

BCSRA appoints Webmaster

The BCSRA is pleased to announce the appointment of KSRA - affiliated member Amanda Pinchbeck as the new BCSRA webmaster. She is looking for any input or feedback and can be reached by her email: wwap@telus.net

Jack Tinnion Memorial Shield



BCSRA President Elvio Chies presents the Shield to victorious 250 captain Phillip Frias.

The Annual Jack Tinnion Memorial Shield, competed after every BCSRA Annual General Meeting between the 250's and 604's in memoriam of the late BCSRA Life member, saw the 250's take the trophy back to the Island. A thrilling match which the victors came out ahead 4-1, all goals being scored in the first half, was ably officiated by a representative from each corner: 604 rep Bob Sawtell doing the honours in the first half with 250 rep Alex Milne complimenting the work in the second.

While down in the scoreline, the 604's put on a respectable showing in the second half holding their counterparts off the scoresheet. Above BCSRA President Elvio Chies presents the Shield to victorious 250 captain Phillip Frias. The participants then enjoyed a stunning BBQ put on by the host Vancouver Island Soccer Referees Association. A splendid time was had by all

FVSRA Inducts Life Members

Congratulations go to Rob Brown and Bob Sawtell who were recently inducted as Life Members of the FVSRA.



Rob Brown pictured with Ken Fowler



Bob Sawtell pictured with Al Docherty

Photo courtesy of VISRA-Central affiliated member Les McGrath

Victoria Plays Host to CISM Military Soccer Tournament

By Phillipe Menard

From 15-21 February 2005, Victoria, BC, played host to the CISM (Conseil Internationale des Sports Militaire) Military Soccer Tournament. This competition was to determine the winner of the Cup of the Americas, who would advance to the World Finals in Netherlands in June of 2005. The teams comprising the tournament were military teams from Canada, USA, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago, and Brazil.

With such a diverse array of international representation, one would expect a high caliber of officiating staff, and this competition was no exception. FIFA referees, Silviu Petrescu (Canada) and Ricardo Salazar (USA) in addition to Trinidad & Tobago national referee Derek Archer comprised the nucleus of a top-notch team of officials. Complementing these men were referees drawn from the Canadian Forces: Phil Thompson (New Brunswick), Philippe Menard (BC), Glen Currie (BC), Christian Palovicino (Ontario), and Randy Stenner (BC).

Although Canada did not fare as well as I would have hoped, Barbados and Brazil claimed the first and second prize, respectively, not surprising anyone. All in all, the skill level brought forth by each of the teams impressed me. In some of the exhibition games prior to the tournament, Victoria's top-flight teams gave many of them a run for their money.

There are not many opportunities for a referee at the Class 3 level (such as myself) to become actively involved in an international tournament and work directly with FIFA referees. The lessons learned from my experience as Silviu Petrescu's AR, with respect to game and man-management, I have already tried applying in the games I officiate. I hope these lessons will stay with me until the next time I get the chance to work at that level.

Until then, I will continue to endeavour to reach those lofty heights myself and perhaps be a positive example to another developing referee. - P.M.



Names in the News

BCSRA members in Provincial Cup Finals
Congratulations go out to all the members of the BCSRA who were chosen to participate in this years Provincial Cup Finals.

Men's Open : Darren Clark (R), Andy Foster (AR), Martin Reid (AR), Rene Para (4th).

Women's Open : Michelle Pye (R), Lisa White(AR), Isabelle Neilsen (AR), Joe Branco (4th).

U 21 : Marco Aruda (R), Randy Giles (AR), Nick Hawley (AR), Joey Kenwood (4th).

Frequent Flyer

FIFA referee and BCSRA member, Mauricio Navarro has been logging some serious airmiles. He was in Trinidad for a World Cup qualifying match of Tobago vs Costa Rica on March 24. On April 6th he was in Mexico City for the CONCACAF Club Championship featuring DC United (USA) vs Pumas (Mexico).

Mr. Navarro will be in Panama City on June 8th for another World Cup qualifier. VISRA-affiliated member Simon Fearn has been selected to officiate in this match as well. The other A/R will be Zoran Christo and the 4th will be Silviu Petrescu. This game will feature the USA against Panama . Good luck to all !

BCSRA Members selected for Canada Summer Games

The quadrennial Canada Summer Games, to be held this August in Saskatchewan, will see BCSRA members Kevin Duliba and Paul Ward represent BC in the men's competition and Romy Kozak and Michelle Pye in the women's competition. Best of luck to all

Flag & Whistle welcomes new Staff Writer

It is with great pleasure that the Flag & Whistle welcomes Tom Babic who has agreed to become a staff writer for our publication. This newsletter is dependant on all members of the BCSRA who wish to contribute in whatever way they can. Our aim is to connect all members through a forum of open communication, so please feel free to send articles, photos etc. **Deadline for next edition is Aug.31st/2005**

BCSRA AGM

Victoria May 14th 2005

BCSRA Election of Officers complete:

The results of the election of officers at the May 14th Annual General Meeting of the Referees Association is as follows:

President: Elvio Chies

V-President: Ken Montague (elected to a new term)

Secretary: Richard Brownie

Treasurer/Registrar: Robin Woods (elected to a new term)

Area Association Appointed Directors:

Fraser Valley: still outstanding

Interior: Darren Clark (KSRA)

Vancouver Area: still outstanding

Vancouver Island: Larry Cade (elected to a new term)

Area Association Reports

KSRA :

-The new season is beginning

-have elected a new President; Brian Flamank and Vice President; Bill Jaswal

-there will be new faces on the executive

-have established a regular venue and date for monthly meetings

-are better organized and heading in the right direction

-report that member Mike Galeshoot attended the Class 1 Clinic in Alberta

VISRA :

-report having had a good year in 04-05

-the referee education coordinator has done a good job with content and delivery of topics

-have had 16 assessments done on Class 2 and 3 referees and will continue to do more next year

-the budget surplus will be well spent

-have committed to purchase 200 tickets to U-20 World Cup

Area Association Reports cont.

FVSRA :

-have seen some monthly meetings moved to different locations to be closer to the membership

-have made a major investment in educational equipment by purchasing a Sony projector and large screen

-the annual Christmas was enjoyed by all who attended

-have appointed Martin Reid as Recruitment and Retention Officer

-report that attendance at monthly meetings is poor and had to cancel the annual barbecue for lack of commitment

-are still seeking a member to fill the Association director position with BCSRA

-announce new executive positions; Vice President, Dennis Cain;

Treasurer, David Woodward; Director, Ward Simon

-announce two new Life Members; Mr. Bob Sawtell and Mr. Rob Brown

-express their thanks to outgoing members of the executive for their time and dedication

-in future plan to focus on four key areas; membership, education, mentorship and socialization

VASRA :

-past events for 2005 include World Cup qualifiers, "A Day with John Baker of the English FA", and the Annual Christmas party

-has helped newer members with obtaining match appointments

-commend Mauricio Navarro for being appointed to some high profile international matches and express appreciation for his commitment to the Association and for setting a very high standard for everyone to follow

-this years attendance at monthly meetings and other events has been very good with an increase in attendance from younger referees and greater contact between senior referees and Class 4's.

-the mentorship program is continuing at Burnaby Mens Soccer League with the help of Dante Maglio and plans are to continue in this direction

-will take a greater role in assisting members in areas such as Education, Tournaments, Referee Gear and Match Support

-have set a goal to increase the attendance of Class 4's at meetings and bring as many referees as possible into education

-Jose Branco, as President of VASRA, would like to issue 5 challenges to every Area Association;

1) Increase the time it spends on education

2) Decrease the time spent on business at monthly meetings

3) Increase mentorship of referees

4) Spend more time helping younger referees

5) Spread the word about your monthly meetings

Who would be a referee?

By Tom Dart

HACKNEY MARSHES; SUNDAY morning. Stand on the East Marsh and the babble of a dozen games washes over you. The thud of boot on ball; the howl of player at referee. "Oi ref! F***ing hell ref! Foul, referee, come on!" The referees' room at the Marshes is so small you suspect that Anders Frisk would struggle to find enough space for his personal grooming equipment. Several of the door panels have been repaired with duct tape where they were kicked in by someone trying to get at a referee after a game. At half-past ten yesterday, four men sat inside, dressed in black and readying themselves for the fray. A stench - cannabis, liniment and testosterone - wafted across from the adjacent dressing-rooms. Robert Radzvilavicius, a 31-year-old from Lithuania who has been a referee for eight months, was making preparatory notes. "Usually it's all right but some players just come to fight," he said. "If they're winning it's all right, if they start to lose it's a problem. Actually, one player tried to head-butt me once." He is paid £25 per match.

"I've never been physically assaulted but verbally it's getting worse," Stefan Jozefczyk, an official for 23 years, said. "Being on the pitch, it's like legalised violence - if someone spat at you in the street, you'd call the police. In a sense it's character-building. If you can handle this you can handle most things." Ten years ago he sent a player off who returned to the scene - in a car with blacked-out windows, which he drove across the pitch.

At this level, Wayne Rooney'd be sent off," Jozefczyk said. "None of us would take that level of abuse, we'd send him off. But because they don't do that in the Premiership, the players think we're wrong."

"Everything that happens at Premiership level is mimicked at grass-roots level," David Fowkes, the chief executive of the London FA (LFA) said last week. At the lower levels, bans are for lengths of time, with exclusions of up to 112 days for serious offences. This week the county football associations meet for their annual conference on discipline. The LFA oversees 128 leagues. In them, 1,389 players have been sent off so far this season - 218 for abusing match officials, the most common reason for a red card. "In the last 20 years there's never been as many referees as there are games. It's a massive crisis," Fowkes said. "Being a referee is down to man-management techniques," Andre Marriner, a Football League referee, said on Friday, the day he took charge of the televised Coca-Cola Championship clash between West Ham United and Leicester City. "If it is in the heat of the moment and the player uses an expletive, you can deal with it: 'Calm down, away with you', and issue the caution," Marriner said. "If it's premeditated, where they run a distance to come into your face and personally call you an 'effing so and so', you deal with it with a red card. It happened to me coming down through the system, in the lower leagues. You have to be thick-skinned." With yesterday morning's fixtures almost over, all seemed orderly on the East Marsh, but a few hundred yards away a match was about to detonate. A tackle on Kazakh's goalkeeper by an FC Bulwer player ten minutes before the end of the game left him with a nasty leg injury. At the final whistle, a pitch battle engulfed Pitch 14 - a 15-man brawl. The referee, Michael Blatchford, trudged away with an air of helpless resignation and left them to it: "The game's over, I've blown the whistle. You want to fight, you f***ing fight.

(cont.)

Referee ? cont.

"How can one man control 22 players if they chase each other and want to fight?" he said, gloomily, from a safe distance. "I'm not a boxing referee. I come out here to enjoy it and all I get is this. Ask those players, would they be a ref, and all 22 would say no. What would my wife think if I had to miss work for weeks with a broken nose?" Five minutes later, an atmosphere of subdued regret descended. "Refs get abuse, full stop. We give abuse even when it's a good ref like Mick," Zahid Sadeeq, a winger with FC Bulwer, said. At one o'clock an ambulance carted off Kazakh's goalkeeper as a convoy of cars arrived for the Turkish league afternoon games - said to be the most violent of all. Radzvilavicius, working on the adjacent pitch, walked back to the changing-rooms. Good game? "Three yellows, one red. I went to give a yellow card for deliberate handball, he said to me 'f*** off', so . . . bad language, straight away a red card. They were winning 3-0. I don't understand it."

Additional reporting by Gary Jacob

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Traveling Refs

To All Referees

The spring / summer is upon us and that means holiday time for some and hopefully all. This time of year also lends itself to traveling outside the province to officiate. This e-mail serves as a reminder that BCSA Registered Referees who are looking to officiate inter-provincially or inter-nationally must receive approval from the British Columbia Soccer Association. Applications to officiate interprovincially or internationally can be download from the CSA website (referee travel application form). Once you have filled this form out please forward it to the BCSA office for approval. Please note when officiating abroad the same rules apply and referees are not able to officiate in unaffiliated soccer. Remember you are representing British Columbia and the Referees from British Columbia when you officiate outside the province.

Enjoy your travels.

Collina to quit refereeing in June

ROME, Italy -- Italy's Pierluigi Collina, the most widely known referee in the world, is set to retire in June, the *Gazzetta dello sport* has reported. Collina, who turned 45 on February 13, has not received the necessary exemption from world football's governing body FIFA to continue refereeing until the 2006 World Cup. He will become a referee coordinator for the Italian Football Federation

Collina, a financial adviser by profession, has been a referee since 1977, taking charge of his first Serie A match in 1991 and was awarded his FIFA badge in 1995. Collina, famous for his bald head and commanding presence, has officiated four finals in top international competitions: the 1996 Olympic Games, the 1998-99 Champions League, the 2002 World Cup and last season's UEFA Cup.

He has also been named world referee of the year five times.

Give the refs a break

Article courtesy of Emil Udovich
from the world wide web

Football referees are a bit like foxes. They've always been there to be shot at. But rarely have they been hounded quite as ferociously as this season. Barely a commentary goes by without someone carping on about the incompetence of Premiership officials. No post-match interview, it seems, is complete without the ritual haranguing of referees by players and managers. And hot on the heels of the foul-mouthed thuggery which saw Southampton's David Prutton banned for 10 matches for shoving referee Alan Wiley in an attempt to get at his assistant comes the sending off of Hearts midfielder Saulius Mikoliunas for swearing at referee Hugh Dallas and jostling the linesman in the SPL match against Rangers.

Incredibly, Hearts coach John Robertson defended his player's actions, saying: "People have got to take into account why he was incensed." The reason?

According to Robinson because Rangers had been awarded a soft penalty.

(cont. see Ref's)

Ref's cont.

You really do have to despair at the thought processes which drive football managers north and south of the border. Has football really become so jaundiced that it is deemed understandable to assault an official for doing his job fairly and honestly? True, like estate agents, solicitors, journalists even, there are good and bad referees. And it would be absurd to suggest that they should be beyond criticism.

Graham Poll at times is too familiar with the Premiership stars, Steve Bennett too fussy, Sweden's Anders Frisk, as John Motson noted, "likes getting his picture in the papers". Others make mistakes, but invariably they are honest errors, made at a time when the game has never been as quick and when players have never been as willing to, or adept at, conning officials.

"The trouble with referees is that they know the rules, but they don't know the game," was Bill Shankly's famous take on the men in the middle. It's a sentiment that doubtless would be echoed today by every Premiership manager and until former players show an interest in taking the whistle and a liking for having their parentage questioned on a weekly basis for a salary which amounts to loose change for the average top-flight footballer, it is likely to remain ever thus. But that does not mean referees should be fair game. Restoring respect for officials should be the number one priority of new FA chief executive Brian Barwick. More urgent than bringing Wembley in on time, more important than ensuring England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson has his four-week build-up to the next World Cup. The 10-match ban which effectively keeps Prutton out of football for the rest of the season was a decent start. He could continue by banning television cameras from the tunnel where interviewers stick microphones under the noses of perspiring players and seething managers when the adrenalin is still surging and the wounds of injustice still weeping. Reporters might miss the odd juicy headline, but that is a small price to pay for more reasoned coverage of the national game. Then he might just look at the way the Rugby Football Union have dealt with England rugby coach Andy Robinson's outburst at referee Jonathan Kaplan after the Six Nations defeat in Dublin. "The RFU does not condone abuse of match officials at any level of the game," proclaimed rugby bosses before referring the matter to their disciplinary committee. The message could not be clearer. The referee in rugby is not for abusing. Funny how that dovetails quite neatly with the fact that rugby is a game where the referee is entirely safe from physical assault by men happy to knock seven bells out of each other but who invariably call him 'Sir.' It's fanciful to suggest football could ever reach that level. But if the game is to retain a last vestige of its own respect the ref-hunting has got to stop.

Must be a slow hockey season !



CSA Referee Development Committee member and past BCSRA President Bob Sawtell pictured with the great Canadian icon Don Cherry.

Law Interpretations - BC Soccer

To all Referees in British Columbia:

Shown below is an official policy position of BC Soccer developed by the Referee Education Sub-Committee. These will be released from time to time, to address areas of known inconsistency in referee practices. For in-depth support information about the topic below, please go to the BCSA Website www.bcsoccer.net. On the menu, click on Technical, then Law Interpretations. There you will find a link to further explain this decision. The Sub-Committee invites feedback from referees to identify other areas where there is inconsistency.

Quick Free Kicks:

It is the duty of the Referee to let the team taking the free kick to do so as quickly as possible, without interference by the other team or by the referee. The team does not have to ask permission to take the quick kick, nor is any form of signal required from the referee. The right of the offended team to take a quick free kick includes free kicks close to the other team's penalty area.

Reason for this decision: Many referees have been observed interfering with the right of the offended team to take a quick free kick.

Substitutions

- Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage in play.
- The team announcing a substitution need not have possession of the ball.
- The player leaving the field may (and preferably should, so as not to delay the game) leave at the nearest boundary line.
- Incoming players must wait until the exiting players have left the field, and then enter from the touch line at half way.

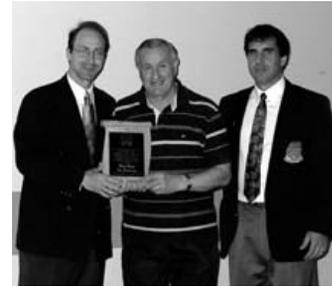
"My ball!"

The calling of "my ball!" is not an offence unless the referee determines it was done with the intent to deceive the other team.

Reminder

BCSA Referees Fitness Testing

A full schedule of the 2005 fitness test dates are available on the BCSA website.



Dante Maglio receives Life Membership Award from BCSRA President Elvio Chies and VASRA President Joe Branco

Do you have a submission for the Flag & Whistle?

Please email all material to either parissee@interchange.ubc.ca

or

Ivo@direct.ca

or

F&W Staff Writer
stdy@telus.net

Note : Deadline for submissions in the next issue will be Aug. 31 / 05

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.