

FLAG & WHISTLE

Official Newsletter of the BC Soccer Referees Association – Oct. 2012

In Pool of 2014 World Cup Officials

Canadian Assistant Referee **Joe Fletcher** of Ontario has been included in the pool of trios vying for appointment for qualifiers for the 2014 World Cup Brazil. He has been teamed up with Referee **Mark W. Geiger** and fellow Assistant Referee **Mark Hurd**, both from the United States.

Joe was in the past part of the Canadian trio featuring **Mauricio Navarro** and **Hector Vergara** which officiated many international matches and, amongst other games, the 2007 friendly at BC Place between Vancouver Whitecaps and LA Galaxy.



University and College Nationals

The CIS Women's and College National Finals will be played in B.C. November 7-11. The University of Victoria hosts the CIS Women's final. The collegiate men's finals will be hosted by Douglas College in Coquitlam.

Many BC referees will take part in both tournaments.



Officials at the PACWest Provincial Championship semifinal between Thompson Rivers University and Vancouver Island University. L-R: Kiyoshi Kosky, AR-1; Stefan Tanaka-Freundt, R; Mohammad Ezzo, AR-2; Dirk Lange, 4th, not in picture.



BC Board nominates Werner Winsemann for Sport BC Award

At its September 15th meeting, the Board of Directors for BC Soccer agreed to submit the name of Founding and Life Member **Werner Winsemann** for the Sport BC *Daryl Thompson Award*.

The award, named after the former chair of Sport BC, whose contributions to sport as an athlete, coach, and executive officer were exemplary.

This award recognizes an individual who has contributed their time in an extraordinary way to sport over a long period of time and/or has made a major contribution to amateur sport in British Columbia. Recognition is for contribution on a provincial, national or international scale. Past recipients include **Dave Fryatt**, **Fred Jopson**, **Charmaine Crooks**, **Rick Hansen** and **Terry Fox**.

The BCSRA suggested the name to the Board of Directors who in turn agreed to have Werner's name stand for soccer.

The Referees Association will be put-

ting together the supporting information for the nomination whose deadline is November 15th. The recipient will be chosen by Sport BC's Board of Directors in early 2013.

Werner Winsemann is a former Canadian FIFA Referee who officiated in two World Cups – 1974 in the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany), 1978 Argentina – and two Olympic games Munich 1972 and Montreal 1976.

He refereed the 1975 Soccer Bowl final in the old North America Soccer League (NASL), was on the line for the Olympic Gold Medal final in 1976 and remains the only Canadian to have refereed a World Cup match (Holland versus Sweden, 1974 World Cup).

He is a Founding and Life Member of the BCSRA, a Past President of the Vancouver Area Association branch (VASRA) and a former Director of BC Soccer.



Left to Right: **Marie-Soleil Beaudoin**, AR-2; **Sheena Dickson**, 4th, **Michelle Pye**, R, **Suzanne Morisset**, AR-1

Morisset at U-17 Women's World Cup

from canadasoccer.com

Canadian **Suzanne Morisset** of Beauport, QC was appointed to the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup Azerbaijan 2012. Morisset was one of 41 international referees and assistant referees selected for the 16-team tournament.

The World Cup ran from 22 September to 13 October. Her matches included the semi-final between Ghana vs France, the latter eventually becoming champion.

Assistant referee Suzanne Morisset is the second Canadian to serve as an official at the biennial FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup since the tournament was inaugurated in 2008. Referee Michelle Pye was previously appointed to the tournament at New Zealand 2008 and Trinidad and Tobago 2010.

This year marks Morisset's fourth year on the FIFA List of Referees and Assistant Referees (2008-10 and 2012). Earlier this year, she was appointed as an assistant referee at the 2012 CONCACAF Women's Under-17 Championship in Guatemala.

2013 Dan Kulai/Jack Tinnion Memorial scholarship

Discussions are in process with BC Soccer as to the awarding of a BCSRA scholarship designed solely for a member of the refereeing community.

It is hoped the criteria for the award will be posted on the BC Soccer website in the near future. Further details will be provided in the Holiday issue. The eventual recipient will be presented with the scholarship at BC Soccer's annual Scholarship and Awards Celebration in June 2013.

Member starts Mentor Programme

In his position as Head Ref for Coquitlam Metro Ford Youth Soccer, Fraser Valley Area-affiliated member **Pete Dragan** has started a Mentor Referee Program for Small-sided Games with the help of fel-

low members in the BCSRA.

By Pete's own account, the program is working well and feedback he has received has been valuable to better slot referees to games.

BC Officials at W-League Finals

Canadian FIFA Referee **Michelle Pye** and BC Provincial Level referee **Candace Brown** were of an all-Canadian eight official group appointed to the W-League finals held in Ottawa over the summer. Both were involved in the semi-finals with Candace on the line for the Quebec City-Pali Blues match and Michelle was forth official of the other semi-final involving Ottawa Fury and DC United. The final of the four team tournament saw the Ottawa Fury beat Pali Blues of California with Michelle officiating in the middle. Candace was assistant on the Consolation final held on the same day.

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Fraser Valley Area Meeting Date

Unanimously agreed to by members on an experimental basis, the November monthly meeting will be moved to **Wednesday, November 7th**, the first Wednesday of the month. The venue will again be the Ground Floor Meeting Room of the Langley Legion, 20570 -56th Ave. Start time is 7:30 pm. At this time no firm decision has been made to use the December meeting as a Christmas social as was done during the past 2 years with great success.

REMINDER

Annual Referees Party

November 30, 2012

Operating Engineers Hall

4333 Ledger Ave., Burnaby

Open to all referees, family and friends

Tickets: Marc Bowley

(604) 278-9302



Melissa Wandt (top photo) and Dennis Cain were seen early Thursday morning officiating a school soccer tournament at Southridge School in Surrey

REFEREE NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Elite referees meet in Zurich

(FIFA.com) Tuesday 25 September 2012

Potential referees for the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil™ are meeting for the first time in Zurich this week, with 52 people hailing from 46 different countries taking part in an initial referee workshop being held from 24-28 September. Having undergone medical tests over the past few days, the 52 candidates were officially welcomed by FIFA President **Joseph S. Blatter** on Monday morning.

“I would like to congratulate you for being selected for this trip to the World Cup at Brazil 2014,” said Blatter. “The preparations ahead of the tournament are incredibly important. You will form my team, which will be the 33rd team at the World Cup and one of the most important.”

Blatter gave an insight into the latest changes concerning referees, including the decision to introduce goal-line technology, which will be implemented for the first time in December at the FIFA Club World Cup Japan 2012.

The FIFA President thanked the various referees for their work thus far for football

and wished them all the very best on the road to Brazil 2014: “You dedicate a significant part of your lives to football, a game of self-discipline and respect and one that represents a battle where fair play must reign. And you are the ones who oversee these games.”

The referees will be treated to a varied programme designed to prepare them for their upcoming tasks and in particular for their work at the world's foremost footballing tournament, the FIFA World Cup.

On Monday, the focus was on fitness and medical information as well as theory and match analysis. Head of the FIFA Refereeing Department, **Massimo Busacca**, gave the candidates an insight into the subjects of physical fitness, diet and the avoidance of injuries. In the afternoon, scenes from matches were discussed and debated using video analysis. On Tuesday, after a fitness test, the referees went on to the pitch at FIFA's headquarters for the first practical units of the programme.

In his opening speech, Busacca called

upon his wealth of experience as a former world-class referee and gave an overview of the forthcoming tests and the content of the seminar, as well as plans for the coming months as far as Brazil 2014 is concerned. “It is important to underline that this is an open list,” he explained.

“It is like a national team, and we're the FIFA national team. Those referees who are not here today need to know that they can still make it, while others can always drop out of the group. We want to have the best referees available at the 2014 World Cup.”

The 43-year-old underlined what an honour it is to take part in a FIFA World Cup. “Seize the opportunity – they don't tend to come along very often in a referee's career. In fact, this morning I was wondering whether I ought to make a comeback for 2014,” he said with a wry smile.

This week will see the referees become attuned to the specificities of FIFA tournaments, since FIFA World Cups see teams

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Critical situation in Swiss refereeing

(from *Der Sonntag* as appeared in *US Referee Connection.com*)

“1,150 francs - and the free “black pig” - this is what a top Swiss referee gets. We are currently poor,” says **Daniel Wermelinger**. The problems in the Swiss refereeing are profound: lack of respect and lack of financial support. The result: by the end of this year, 4 out of the current 12 top referees will retire. Not because they have reached the age limit of 45. Daniel Wermelinger (41) had his peak in 2012 with the Cup final, but now he wants to change the triple burden job-family-football in a two-way load.

Damien Carrel (30) says: “We are expected to have a professional attitude, but the conditions are amateurish.” **Cyril Zimmermann** (36) says: “I see no perspectives. It needed a fresh start. One would have to devote more resources to work full-time as a referee.” And **Ludovic Gremaud** (32) is frustrated. He was responsible for ensuring that Bellinzona players Pergl and Yakin have been suspended after the last game because of insulting the referee for four, respectively, three games. He had noticed later that the President of the Appeals Committee had removed their suspensions. “Or take the case Jahovic,” says Carrel.

“The striker was initially suspended for ten games because he said after the match to the referee “I will kill you!” After the appeal, the sentence was reduced to a seven-match suspension. We feel let down.” It is in the nature of the referees that their resignations do not throw big waves of regret. However, the four resignations are alarming. Because of the phrase “no soccer without referees” is correct and the smaller the selection of referees, the lower the quality.

What is going wrong? Everything, be-

cause nothing or too little is being done to improve the situation referee. **Urs Meier**, former Head of Swiss refereeing, was frustrated over a year ago, because the Football Association did not support his concept. This provided for three professionals, four semi-professionals and five referees with a 20-percent employment with the Association. Cost: CHF 1 million.

Meier also presented a light version for 650,000 to 700,000 francs. But it was not approved. The referee is not just about refereeing the matches, but about training, courses, travel, analysis, public relations. That takes time. At least half of the holiday quota is spent on the hobby. “We have to decide: occupation or referee. Refereeing will be chosen only by those who are absolute idealists,” says Wermelinger.

“The association would have to seriously think about it,” says Meier. “Today, hardly anyone stays as a referee until the age of 45. Also, **Massimo Busacca**, who was a “positive crazy,” has stopped early. If the Association would have offered him a professional status, he would have stayed.”

With CHF 140 million for five years of contract between the Swiss SuperLeague and InfrontRingier, only 200,000 francs go to refereeing, says the current Head of Refereeing, **Carlo Bertolini**. “We pay the social security contributions for new referees. More is not in it,” says Meier's successor. But that's not enough to halt the decay of the Swiss refereeing.

Or as Meier says: “In the past, there have been periods when Switzerland had four referees in the Top 30 in Europe. Today we do not even have a referee in the Top 50. As long as the Association treats the referees the same way as farmers are treated, that will not change.”

AR killed over disallowed Goal

Monday, October 22, 2012 NewsdzeZimbabwe

An assistant referee in a social game played in Chief Nemangwe's area in Gokwe South died on the spot after he was struck with a log on the head by a soccer fan for allegedly ruling that the fan's team had scored an offside goal.

Police identified the deceased as **Isaac Mbofana** (34), of Takawira village. It is alleged that on the said date there was a soccer tournament at Jomboringo Primary School. Isaac Mbofana, of Takawira Village and **Onismo Sichani**, a male adult aged 31 years, of Ndaruza Village also under Chief Nemangwe brought their

respective teams to compete in the tournament. Their teams clashed at about 3pm and the now deceased Mbofana was an assistant referee in that match.

The ruling did not go down well with Sichani who then confronted Mbofana. Sichani picked up a log, which he used to strike Mbofana once on the head. Mbofana fell down and died instantly.

After realising that Mbofana was dead, Sichani fled from the scene.

The acting police spokesperson for Midlands said Sichani was still at large and the police have launched a manhunt.

AR sent off for

A dispute about a penalty at a Sunday league game escalated when a furious linesman swore at the referee, earning him an improper conduct hearing at the Hampshire FA.

It's not often a linesman is given a red card for failing to keep his language in check, but when **John Smith** thought referee **Tony Wells** had awarded an unjust penalty he let his feelings be known.

He claims he shouted ‘shame on you’ during the Andover and District Sunday League game but Mr Wells insists he swore which is why he told his assistant to take an early bath.

“Tony Wells came across and said give someone else the flag and move away from the playing area,” said Mr Smith.

Mr Smith was charged with ‘improper conduct’ following Mr Wells's match report on last month's Barton Stacey and Clatford Arms clash.

Fastest Send-off

A striker for the minor English soccer team Chippenham Town made history for all the wrong reasons at the weekend, when he set a new world record for the quickest ever sending off. **David Pratt** 21, received the red card from the referee after just 3 seconds, having made a dangerous tackle in the match against Bashley.

The previous record for the quickest sending off in soccer history, was the 10 seconds it took for Bologna's **Giuseppe Lorenzo** to receive the red card back in 1990, when he struck an opponent in an Italian league game.

Elite referees referees

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from different countries and different cultures pitted against one another, unlike what happens in the domestic game.

This will be a new sensation for those in the elite group looking to make their FIFA World Cup debuts, but an experienced team of instructors will be looking after the referees both this week and throughout the next two years on the road to Brazil.

Once this seminar is over, the next few months will focus on communication and observation. All 52 referees will officiate at FIFA tournaments in 2013 and be monitored by the FIFA Referee Team in their national confederations. A second seminar will then be held at the FIFA Confederations Cup Brazil 2013, before a final one the following year.