

FLAG & WHISTLE

Official Newsletter of the BC Soccer Referees Association *October 2013*

Ed note: events unfolded after the editorial deadline for this issue such that the Chairman has changed since this story was written. The new chairman is now John Reed. Full story in the Holiday 2013 issue.



New Referees Committee Chairman

Rob Brown has been appointed as the new chairman of BC Soccer's Referees Committee.

Rob, a Life Member of both BC Soccer and the BCSRA's Fraser Valley Area Association branch (FVSRA), takes over from **Rick Connors** who stepped down after completing his term at the BC Soccer AGM this past June.

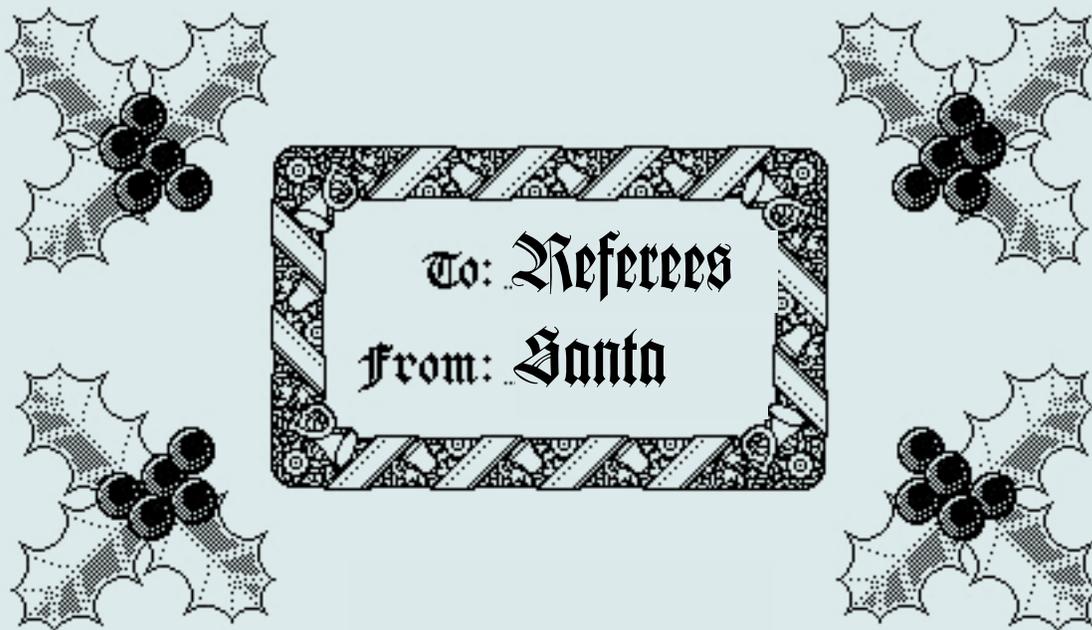
The chairman of the Committee is always a member of the BC Soccer Board of Director, which Rob is.

The Committee is comprised of seven other individuals:

BC Soccer Referee Development Coordinator **Jose Branco** is the staff member.

Also on the committee are for-

mer Canadian National Referee **Arnar Bernhardsson**, **Roy Branco**, Secretary and former Canadian National Referee **Pat Harkness**, former Canadian FIFA Assistant **John Nielsen**, Canadian FIFA Referee **Michelle Pye**, and former Canadian FIFA Referee **Bob Sawtell**.



Referees Christmas Party in November

This year's annual Referees Christmas Party will be held on Friday, November 29th at the Operating Engineers Hall, 4333 Ledger Avenue, Burnaby

*The event is always put on the Vancouver Area branch (VASRA) of the BCSRA. Tickets for the event can be bought from **Marc Bowley** or Director **Jose Fraguas**.*

Marc can be reached at (604) 278-9302 or marc.bowley@telus.net

Jose can be reached at (604) 929-0736 or fraguas@shaw.ca



QUICK KICKS

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Believe it or not, what you are about to read is a true story. It's half-time of a heavily contested, local match on a local park. The teams have gone to their respective benches. You see a player from Team A walk to the middle of the goal area of the goal where Team B will be defending in the second half.

He then, no word of a lie, urinates in this goal area. Several players from Team B also notice what is happening. One of those players is Team B's keeper who has is terribly upset and has to be restrained by his teammates.

You are the ref- what would you do?

Hint: The decision is right here in front of you.

Offside – No Goal

It happened a few weeks ago during a high school match between senior teams. Two forwards on a break-away. The centre forward carries the ball closing in on the penalty area. The keeper comes off his line, rushes forward trying to make a save close to the line at the top of the penalty area.

Keeper dives for the ball. Striker moves to his right, dribbles the ball around keeper, takes a few more steps then shoots ball towards far post on his left ... because an on-rushing defender had closed in and was waiting on the 6-yard line to cover part of the empty goal.

The shot would have completely missed the goal ... if it wasn't for the second forward who now had positioned himself between the goal area and penalty spot. It was an easy tap-in for a goal.

But the team's celebration was unceremoniously cut short by the referee's quick whistle and clear hand signal: off-side – no goal.

We all know what followed next. The coach could be heard, "Hey Ref, what's the call, can you explain your decision?"

At the end of the match and after the customary handshake, coach mentioned to the referee: "It couldn't be off-side, their defenseman was between our forward and the goal-line."

Yes, but your keeper had moved far out of his net, therefore he became the 2nd last opponent, and we both agree that the position of your other forward was clearly between keeper and last defender. You need two opponents -- one of them is usually the keeper." Coach said: "I never heard of such a thing having two opponents for an off-side. I'm coaching Div-1. Show me the rule."

Assistant coach stated: "The position of the goalkeeper has absolutely no bearing for an off-side call. The goalkeeper can be as far ahead as the centre line. And if our forward is between goalkeeper and the single last defenseman, it cannot be off-side."

Do the players actually know about off-side? Following up on this issue and putting forward the question: *how many opponents must be between the goalline and yourself not to be off-side?*

With the exception of two players from a total of 8 teams 15 years and over the answer was one (1) opponent.

by DKW

BCSRA Members went to Nationals

Congratulations to BCSRA Director and member **Chris Wattam** who had been appointed to this year's U-18 Nationals. This year's event was held in St. John's Newfoundland.

Stephen Lebrechthausen took part in the U-16 Nationals.

The U-18 is part of 5 national club championships sponsored by SportChek: U-14 (Lethbridge, AB); U-16 (Kamloops, BC); Jubilee Trophy (Women's Nationals held this year in Halifax, NS) and Challenge Trophy (Men's Nationals held in Halifax, NS) (*Ed note: information also taken from CSA's website*)

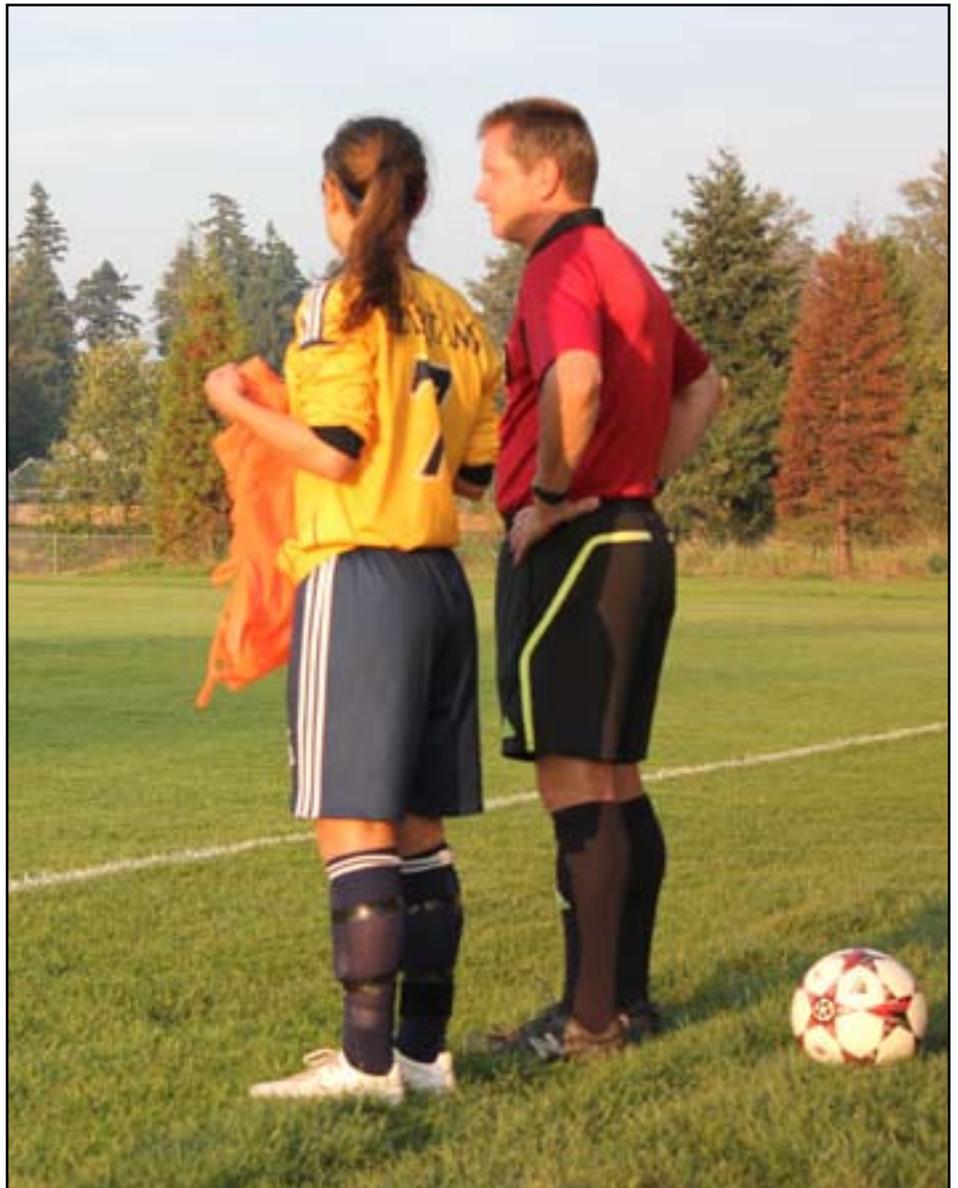
Fraser Valley plans two Socials

The Fraser Valley Area Association (FVSRA) will be setting hosting two socials: the regular December social on **Thursday, December 5th** in the ground floor meeting room of the Langley Legion (20570-56th Ave, Langley) and a Night at the Races at Fraser Downs Racetrack on **Friday, January 10th**.

The January event is a ticketed event and seats are limited. To reserve a spot please contact FVSRA Secretary **Paul Toop** (mail: paul.toop@gov.bc.ca or 604-533-8085).



National Referee Marco Aruda



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4th Official Martin Reid at Trinity University

MLS and PRO work together

Major League Soccer's **Nelson Rodriguez** has praised the work of the *Professional Referee Organization*. Just under a year after the inception of PRO, Rodriguez, the Executive Vice President of Competition, Technical and Game Operations, believes General Manager **Peter Walton** and the organization are ahead of where he expected them to be at this stage. He told *proreferees.com*: "The organization under Peter Walton's leadership has taken great shape.

"Starting a company from scratch is difficult enough but having it in a competitive environment where everyone can watch you and measure your progress week-in, week-out, can be daunting, but he's kept it steady and he's assembled a great staff base.

Also, importantly, we have a sense from the body of officials themselves that they feel we're on the right path and that things are improving, and there's a seriousness about their craft, not from them but from everyone else.

"While there will always be moments and decisions that create levels of debate, those have diminished greatly this year compared to last so we're very pleased with the progress, even though we've only just begun."

Rodriguez has vast experience in American soccer having begun his career as Head Coach of the men's team at Lafayette College between 1995 and 1997, before serving as Director of Soccer Operations for the MetroStars from 1998 to 1999. He joined MLS in 2000 and is heavily involved in on-field competition and technical matters, including regular dialogue with PRO, which he believes is extremely positive.

"We think there's very honest and direct dialogue, and there's healthy disagreement in the few instances when there is disagreement.

I don't believe that our direction or idea is to work towards an outcome, like wanting to be at a certain number of fouls per game average. You have to referee each match and each situation as it presents itself.

"This is more about creating a career arc for the officials themselves so that young officials can really say, 'Hey, I could make it to the pros in a capacity other than a player or a coach.'

At the same time, I think it's about creating a philosophy of professional officiating. PRO is also responsible for NWSL, NASL and USL PO and I don't want to speak on behalf of those leagues but

would hope there is some similarity in thought of how officiating should run through a professional spectrum.

"Of course there will be different answers based on the level but I'm pleased with the philosophical progress that we're seeing."

MLS and PRO both have clear targets to achieve by 2022 and Rodriguez is of the belief that both are firmly heading in the right direction, hand-in-hand. And he is anticipating further improvement in the near future, particularly with regards to young referees coming through the ranks and making the grade.

"Major League Soccer has a vision of being among the best leagues in the world by 2022 and PRO has its vision to set the worldwide standard for officiating in 2022. In 18 months time, what I would hope to see are more full-time officials, a greater level of consistency- understandably beauty is in the eye of the beholder in some debates.

"I hope that there are a few more younger, newer referees who have come through, so we start to create a systematic pipeline and there's a blend of officials in that full-time crew of seasoned veterans, mid-level veterans, and then those newer officials." ■

Comment: This Candid Camera Lark is no joke

Mick Dennis August 16, 2013 on www.express.co.uk

GOAL-LINE technology made the Community Shield and the England game so much better, didn't it? Oh no, wait. It didn't. It wasn't needed. The system has been hailed as a game-changer but, in all but a miniscule handful of games, nothing of any significance will alter at all.

Hawk-Eye, who supply the kit, will receive £10million over five seasons. Every Premier League club has paid £250,000 – £15k of which goes to our impoverished friends at FIFA as a licence fee – just to install 14 special cameras and all the necessary gubbins. The four match officials at every game will have fab new gizmos on their wrists: scaled-up versions of something Buzz Lightyear might wear.

Helpfully, the word "GOAL" will flash when the ball crosses the line, in case the officials thought the watches were signalling something else, perhaps that the kettle in their changing room had

boiled. But, even using figures cited by the most fervent advocates of the innovation, it will be effective on an infinitesimal number of occasions.

Premier League chief executive **Richard Scudamore** claimed: "There were 31 incidents last season that could have benefited from this technology." But according to the study on which Scudamore based his claim, 28 of those close calls were made accurately by the officials. There were only three goal-line mistakes in 380 games. So the technology would only have helped once every 11,400 minutes - more if you include injury-time. And even if the Hawk-Eye set-up prevents three mistakes this season, the arguments will not stop. Not a chance.

The first time the new kit prevents an error – about mid-October – there will be furious rows about something else.

Cont'd on page 5

This Candid Camera Lark is no joke *Cont'd from page 4*

Was the scorer offside? Did he foul an opponent? Should the corner from which he scored have been a goal-kick? So nothing much will change.

And, despite what a host of ill-informed broadcasters and writers are claiming, the offside law has not been amended. There is just a tiny clarification of the instructions on how the law must be interpreted. The important fact remains as it has since 2005: to “interfere with play” a footballer has to actually touch the ball. It is about time **Alan Hansen** and Co understood that. It's only their job, after all.

And fans, players and managers will continue to see every incident through the prism of their partisanship. Beaten, bleating managers will continue to scapegoat referees.

In a different world, things might change. In a different game, they don't need to.

Rugby Union has little justification for its holier-than-thou snobbery towards football but it did provide a moment of blinding clarity and cheering sanity in the summer. Leicester Tigers director of rugby **Richard Cockerill** swore repeatedly at the fourth official during the Premiership final. He was banned for nine games and the disciplinary panel said he was guilty of “an

insidious and petulant act intended to threaten match officials into altering the way they officiated.”

They added: “Certain core values – namely respect, discipline and sportsmanship – seem to have passed Mr Cockerill by.”

Those clarion words are magnificent. Any chance of a similar suspension and a similarly stirring statement from a football commission? Well, let's consider the Community Shield. Wigan's **Grant Holt** and Manchester United's **Nemanja Vidic** swapped insults and referee **Mark Clattenburg** intervened.

Or he tried to.

The two footballers continued until, finally, Holt turned to Clattenburg and briefly addressed the official. My lip-reading is not perfect, so it is possible Holt wanted to discuss fracking.

But I think not.

Clattenburg is one of our best referees. But he endured the shameless insults and brazen indifference because he knew if he worried about “respect, discipline and sportsmanship” he would receive scant backing from the media and none from the authorities.

No, nothing has changed. Cameras trained on the goal-line are a costly irrelevance. ■

Meet the Iron Lady of Musina soccer

As appeared on Zoutnet.co.za

Meet the only female soccer referee in the border town of Musina. **Hilda 'Iron Lady' Mugwedi** (30) has been the centre of attraction to sports lovers whenever she officiates at soccer matches.

Since she seriously took up soccer refereeing two years ago, she has officiated at more than 100 soccer games, including local leagues and competitions. She is now one of the trusted referees of the Musina Local Football Association and the Castle Soccer League.

Herself a gifted soccer player, Hilda also alternates between her roles as referee and as coach for old ladies soccer team the **Musina Gogo Getters**. As a single parent of three children and an active member of the Musina Sports Council, Hilda does not have time to rest, due to her tight schedule.

“I started playing ladies soccer for the local ladies soccer team, **Bongi Stars**, in 2008. Being a ‘dribbling wizard’ by then, people enjoyed seeing me scoring goals. My dream was short-lived when the owner and sole sponsor of the team, **Bongi Madima**, died three years ago. We did not manage to get any sponsors and the team ceased to exist.”

Dubbed Iron Lady by soccer lovers because of her firm decisions on the soc-



cer pitch, Hilda says that after the end of Bongi Stars, she decided to do something about her soccer talent. “I did not want to stay idle and I trained on my own to make sure that I'm always fit. I got involved in several sporting codes, but soccer remained in my blood. I kept on watching soccer matches, because I knew that one day I would get a chance to display my talent.”

She said her dream came true when she heard that the local soccer league needed candidates to become referees two years ago. “I took the bull by the horns and told

myself that it was the correct time to realise my potential. Being the only lady among the six trainees made me feel so proud, and I completed the training without any difficulty.”

She says she is happy that men do not look down upon her when she is in control of the games. “I make sure that I adhere to all the rules and this makes me respectable on the soccer pitch. The fact that I'm a woman has nothing to do with my authority on the pitch and I'm proud that I have never been assaulted throughout my career.” ■

Adidas 2014 World Cup Referee Jerseys

Adidas will be supplying kits for many national sides for the FIFA World Cup 2014, and they will also be responsible for the Referee's kits and here are some of the kit images doing the rounds on internet and we post it on this page as leaked jersey's however they are not confirmed yet by Fifa or Adidas.

Leaked Design #1 ?????



Another design which is doing the rounds on Internet, is very much similar to the first design, but the adidas logo in on the right pocket, while the collar of this kit is round but has a short zip. While there is Red colour lines towards the bottom of the shirt unlike in the first design where red lines are on shoulders

Leaked Design #2 ????



Closer look at the Black and High Res Yellow Referee Kits:

Here are some leaked images of which suppose to be the new Referee kits for FIFA World Cup. Lets Take a look at how both colour designs looks from front and backwards.

Note: These jerseys are not official yet, and not been confirmed bur rest assured we will be updating this once Adidas or Fifa has released official kits here, and in the meantime we will keep looking for more information about Referee's kits.

Countdown to the World Cup

Ed note: As we approach the end of qualifying for next year's soccer extravaganza, we're starting with a new section which we've called "Countdwn To The World Cup". Here we intend to present information about the leadup to the quadrennial event, mostly on referees. In this debut we focus on the referee's kit.

The use of coloured jerseys for the

referees came into being at the 1994 World Cup USA. Prior to then, referees always wore black.

And since the 1978 World Cup in Argentina, Adidas has been the supplier of referee kit. Ironically, the reason for changing the kit: it was thought having coloured uniforms would make refereeing more attractive as a profession (FIFA News 1993).

Referee Jerseys 2014 FIFA World Cup

*August 6, 2013 By Admin
www.tsmpug.com*

Okay so we are just less than a year away from FIFA World Cup 2014, which promises to be one of the biggest sporting event in the world and today we bring you football kits of referee's which are designed by Adidas, and although they are not official confirmed yet, we can expect something similar if not the exact same things in the next year's FIFA World Cups.

From Footyheadlines.com

Even the 2013-14 just started in some countries, we can present you the new Adidas Referee 14 Kits, which will be used at the 2014 World Cup and during the 2014-15 season. The new Adidas Referee 14 Kits will be released

in January 2014 and are worn in the Bundesliga and in La Liga. Some people don't care about the referee kits, but we think those kits are important as the referees may take a big role during the 2014 World Cup.