

VANCOUVER ISLAND SOCCER REFEREES' ASSOCIATION

President: Dan Greco
 Vice-President: Sal Johal
 Treasurer: Darin Shimell
 Director 1: Christian Hauer
 Director 2: Darren Clark



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Regular Meeting Minutes

Gorge Soccer Association Clubhouse, Victoria, B.C.

May 17, 2004

Members: 24

Guests: 2

Apologies: 4

Education Simon Fearn	National Referee & Assessor Symposium FIFA DVDs – new VISRA Library acquisitions
Minutes	Reviewed and Accepted Moved by Boris Glazar; Seconded Scott Bakker
Correspondence Rick Firestone	Referee Assessment Committee Minutes - April 2004 BCSRA Fees Update BCSRA Annual General Meeting Update from BCSRA President Elvio Chies (attached)
Registrar Rick Firestone	Registration for 2004-05 year is open, forms available. New fees result from BCSRA levy – Class 3+ = \$50, Class 4 = \$10, Associate = \$40 Dan Greco: Levy is a result of \$2000 BCSRA budget deficit due to Online Registration costs also members to receive BCSRA shoulder badge and coin. for clarification: BCSRA has agreed to Online Registration as add-on to BCSA online registration. Online registration will be mandatory for BCSA but optional for BCSRA. VISRA will continue to offer and encourage direct registration with VISRA. It will take months for the online registration to go through, the lists to sort out, and the money to be transferred. Further clarification: to be eligible to referee in BC each referee must attend an annual refresher course and then register online with BCSA. Note: Cowichan intends to include a certified Referee Fitness Test as part of its Refresher session.
Treasurer Darin Shimell	In Vancouver on summer job. Budget will be prepared for August meeting.
Standardization Tony Troughton	Note: All games at Rec Cup the first week-end of June will be assessed.
Assessments Tiberio de Frias	4 requests were received late in season. Not all requests were able to be completed, for different reasons. Get your requests in early in the season to ensure that they get done.
BCSRA Dan Greco	We did not have enough players for the 250-604 game and so forfeited the shield. We must organize better for next year. Note: BCSRA letter on AGM above (attached)
CSRA Tony Troughton	The CSRA AGM will be held in Ontario January 2005.
BCSA Lower Island Referee Coord Mike Seal	19 referees completed the recent Class 3 clinic and 30 completed the class 4 clinic. For info the minimum ages are: 12 for Class 5, 14 for Class 4; and 16 for Class 3. New clinics will appear on both LISA and BCSRA websites. 19 completed Fitness Test last week, next one is June 23rd – get out and get it done. Refresher training will take place in August and September - info will be available on VISRA Website (www.visra.org) BCSA website Referee section (http://www.bcsoccer.net/bcm/bcsoccer/bcsoccer-website.nsf/AllDoc/6035D43C2D4C916B87256C9700282DE0?OpenDocument); and LISA website Referee section (http://www.lowerislandsoccer.com/Tech/Ref/index.htm)
Old Business	Christian Hauer asked since assessors are now to be paid \$50 per assessment whether referees will now have to pay \$50 for an assessment. There was some discussion but no definite answer. Note: The assessment request form available on the BCSA website does indicate that the cost is now \$50.

New Business	<p>Dan Greco – Initial Report as President</p> <p>1) I have opened a dialogue with VISL Vice-President Kjeld Brodsgaard and is confident that the VISL will not pursue its referee association initiative. I would like for VISRA to work and cooperate with the leagues accepting concerns from them as suggestions, not as directives. Concerns from VISL include: consistency; education; fitness; youth recruitment; and reporting. Brian Royer-Collard questioned how VISL can comment on education unless they attend VISRA meetings to observe education.</p> <p>Tiberio de Frias asked whether it was formal or informal dialogue. Reply: formal</p> <p>Tiberio suggested that VISRA's main lack of material is due to funding, that VISRA should make proposals to the leagues for assistance with funding for programs including education, standardization and library.</p> <p>Dan underscored his belief that VISRA needs to maintain its status as an independent organization, that we need to be our own association but should heed valid concerns from leagues.</p> <p>2) LIWSA Scheduling – VISRA will not pursue scheduling for any leagues but should focus on education and recruitment.</p> <p>Christian Hauer enquired whether Hoody would consider scheduling for LIWSA if asked. Reply was 'Yes'</p> <p>3) What can VISRA work on? Dan suggested that one way of improving referee consistency and competency would be for more referees to attend meetings. For discussion Dan suggested a system of fines for absence, that money collected would be used to fund standardization, library and education programs. Discussion followed with the member consensus that a system of fines for missing meetings is not a good idea and is not supported.</p> <p>Other points discussed include: encouraging youth association referee coordinators to bring their youth referees to VISRA meetings, at least to the education portion; the need to encourage youth referees to join; methods of improving the profile of VISRA with Youth Associations and youth referees by greater interaction – VISRA members taking part in youth association training programs, mentorship etc.</p> <p>Dan queried whether the membership was in favour of using VISRA's ongoing surplus funds to fund programs. A suggestion was made for VISRA to develop programs to improve referee knowledge and consistency. VISRA should then make formal proposals to the leagues for assistance in funding these programs.</p> <p>Sal Johal summarized the discussion saying that it underscored VISRA's intention to improve refereeing and referee by its education, standardization, and mentorship programs.</p>
Adjournment	Moved by Tiberio de Frias; seconded by Mike Wignall

Meeting Adjourned: 8:48 pm

Next Meeting: Monday, Aug 16th 2004, Gorge Soccer Clubhouse, Hampton Park

Respectfully Submitted,
Rick Firestone

BC SOCCER REFEREES ASSOCIATION

An associate member of BC Soccer working to be the educational arm of refereeing.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

President : Elvio Chies
Vice-President : Ken Montague
Secretary : vacant
Treas./ Reg'r : Ed Custer
Directors : Darren Clark (Interior)
: Dan Greco (Van. Island)
: Kevin Uppal (Fraser Valley)
: Paul Ward (Van. Area)



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May 16, 2004

REPORT TO VISRA (SOUTH) MEMBERSHIP

Dear VISRA-affiliated members of the BCSRA,

Another Annual General Meeting is in the books and I would like to thank the VISRA Executive for once again hosting this year's event. I will leave the outcome of this year's elections to VISRA President Dan Greco to inform you all.

Those who were at the meeting will agree that in some ways, we hit bottom. As such, I would like to pose certain challenges on ourselves to help us move onward and upward:

1) Find a way to make it mandatory to join the BCSRA.

Each Area Association has been asked to provide the name of one person to sit on a committee which will devise a proposal to the BC Soccer Board of Directors where we show what the Referees Association can do for them, if they do this one small thing for us. The candidate need not be on the Area Association executive, but should be passionate about the refereeing fraternity and the Referees Association.

2) Find a way to implement the BCSA Education Sub-Committee's vision for Class 3 and 4 referees meetings.

The Area Association meetings are great for adults, and especially, journeymen referees. However, newer Class 3 and 4's need a different setting at times. The BCSA Education Sub-Committee has an idea to hold mini-seminars/meetings outside of the regular monthly meetings. I am asking we become the vehicle for those.

Lest anyone look upon the Education Sub-Committee and equate it with the general perception that many do of BC Soccer, ie, a faceless corporate entity, I ask them to remember that those that sit on this Sub-Committee are members of our own association. They are our own flesh and blood.

3) Create a mentor system that reaches out to ALL referees.

Many youth clubs and districts have small groups going. Let's work with them to bring them into the fold, and in so doing attract new members to our merry band.

4) Work with RRC's, or get members to become RRC's, to spread the refereeing gospel and bring new recruits into the fold.

I envisage that our bi-annual Council meetings will now become a chance to chart the course of our progress and make adjustments to steer ourselves on course. With this philosophy in mind I look forward to at the 2004 Fall Council Meeting, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 20, 2004 in the Vancouver Area.

Lastly, the next edition of the Flag and Whistle newsletter will be ready by early June. The updated pages to the Directory/Handbook should be ready by this time as well.

Yours truly,