

VANCOUVER ISLAND SOCCER REFEREES' ASSOCIATION

President: Dan Greco
 Vice-President: Suzanne Flannigan
 Treasurer: Sergiu Surdu
 Director 1: Andrew Foster
 Director 2: Philippe Ménard



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Regular Meeting Minutes

Gorge Soccer Association Clubhouse, Victoria, B.C.

Nov 21, 2005

Members: 33

Apologies: 6

Guests: 6

Education Jason Austin / Tiberio de Frias	
Minutes	Reviewed. Minutes Accepted. Moved, Boris Glazar; seconded, Herb Harzan
Correspondence Rick Firestone	Nil
Registrar Rick Firestone	Membership is close to 60
Treasurer Sergiu Surdu	The account is now active again.
Ways and Means	\$50
Mentorship Herb Harzan	Progressing.
Assessments Herb Harzan	If you have submitted an Assessment request to BCSA and have been assigned a good game for an assessment call Herb to tell him so that he can arrange for an assessor.
Library Philippe Ménard	Thanks to Jason Austin and Simon Fearn for providing material to the library. Pick: In Search of Fair Play
BCSRA Elvio Chies, BCSRA Pres.	Fall Council was held Saturday. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Council approved VISRA's nomination of Len Bridgeman for the Long and Meritorious Service Award. (This announcement was given a lengthy standing ovation) bio attached. 2) Spring Council will be held in Vancouver followed by the 604/250 Shield game. 3) Following a suggestion made by Jason Austin an award is being created to recognize the contributions of John Nielsen who resigned in September. The John Nielsen Award for Outstanding Contribution to Referee Education will presented at the BCSRA AGM to its first recipient - John Nielsen. 4) The CSRA AGM is to be held Jan 21st. Manitoba had been designated to host this meeting but will be unable to do so. It will now be hosted by VISRA on behalf of BCSRA. Elvio thanked VISRA for stepping forward to take this on. 5) At the most recent BC Soccer AGM the Burnaby Youth Association put forward a notice of motion to make Referee Association mandatory for all referees registering with BCSA. This youth association wants referees to have more say in education, mentoring and discipline of referees. The RA sees this as an opportunity to bring all referees into the family. We must look into ourselves. Do we believe that there is more to refereeing than just being out on the field? We could be the first province in this country to be in this position and we should do everything possible to support this initiative - other Area Associations are promoting this initiative to the senior leagues and youth associations in their areas. It has been suggested that the RA create an Education and Development Committee of its own. 6) Technical Referee Coordinator - Mike Siefert will not be coming to BC after all. The job is being advertised again.
CSRA Dan Greco for Tony T	VISRA will host the CSRA AGM in January at the Empress Hotel. Mauricio Navarro is to be the guest speaker with a presentation entitled "What CONCACAF Wants"
LIWSA Boris Glazar	Nil
VISL Dan Greco	Referee reports are still slow. Game and Discipline Reports are to be turned in within 48 hours of the end of the game. There are only a small number who are late. Player cards are delayed and are still being worked on.
LISA	Sergiu Surdu and Scott Bakker have been at the Y League Finals in Florida. LISA did not

Mike Seal	provide any funding but should have some in future budgets for both teams and referees.
BCSA Ref Coordinator Mike Seal	There will be a Class 4 Clinic with Tony Troughton instructing January 7, 8, 9. Register online with BC Soccer There should be a Class 3 Clinic in Victoria at the end of April or the beginning of May. Go onto the BCSA website in early December to check for this clinic to be scheduled. Class 4s are warned to prepare and to ensure that the necessary assessments are done. There are 2 different websites that offer online Referee Reporting (prepared by Ryan Perkins): LISA - to be used only for Island Youth games VISRA - to be used for Metro, VISL, and LIWSA games only. Herb enquired about a possible Class 2 clinic. Mike replied that if one is announced referees must register online at least 1 month in advance and also must meet all criteria.
Old Business	<u>Beep Flags</u> - This topic is tabled.
New Business	<u>Promotions</u> - Jason Austin and Phil Ménard have been promoted to Class 2. <u>Club Nationals</u> The FIFA U20 Committee is trying to bring the Canadian Club National Championships to Victoria. <u>Ed Hipsey Award</u> The executive will spend money to purchase a permanent Ed Hipsey Award. Andy Foster is leading this effort that will cost about \$300. <u>Assistance to Y League Referees</u> The executive has discussed providing \$250 each to Sergiu Surdu and Scott Bakker to assist with their expenses in going to the Y League Finals. Moved by Dan Greco, seconded by Mark McNally-Dawes. There was considerable discussion during which Dan Greco made the point that the 2 have not asked for VISRA support but that this is an initiative of the VISRA executive. Elvio Chies, BCSRA President, said that BCSRA has allocated some funds to support Scott and Sergiu providing they submit a report. Motion carried. <u>Christmas Dinner</u> - Andrew Foster - Everyone should have received the email announcing the VISRA Christmas Dinner to be held December 2 nd in James Bay. There will be 3 or 4 entrées available and each on will pay for themselves. Price are reasonable. <u>Tiberio de Frias</u> - announced that he retired as an active senior official on October 27 th to devote his time to other commitments including assessing, instructing, and organizing. <u>Christmas Pot Luck</u> - The December meeting will be the annual Christmas Pot Luck on December 19 th . <u>Suzanne Flannigan</u> - Herb welcomed Suzanne Flannigan back to VISRA after her year at the University of Texas. <u>Vice President</u> - Dan Greco announced that Sal Johal has felt it necessary to step down and that Andrew Foster has offered to move up to Vice President if no one else is willing to assume the position. Herb Harzan, seconded by Christian Hauer nominated Suzanne Flannigan as Vice President. Suzanne accepted the nomination and with no further nominations was acclaimed. <u>50 / 50 Draw</u> - \$36 won by Dean McGeough
Adjournment	Moved by Dave Karp; seconded by Boris Glazar

Meeting Adjourned: 20:45 pm

Next Meeting: Annual Christmas Pot Luck
Monday, Dec 19th 2005, Gorge Soccer Clubhouse, Hampton Park

Respectfully Submitted,
Rick Firestone

Len Bridgeman - 50 Years in Soccer in British Columbia

Len's involvement with soccer has deep roots. He arrived in Canada in 1953 and has given his time, energy and leadership skills in various capacities for 50 years.

Throughout this time his dedication to the various associations has been exemplary. Len's work with British Columbia Soccer was prominent in four areas:

Coaching / Managing; Youth / Senior Refereeing; Vancouver Island Soccer Referees Association Executive; and Lower Island Soccer Association Executive.

Coaching / Managing

Len was a founder of the Lakehill Soccer Association in 1956 and for the subsequent 18 years, he coached and managed with considerable success up to Men's Division 1 level. Throughout this time his enthusiasm for the game and his good sportsmanship were trademarks of his leadership.

Refereeing

Len qualified as a youth referee in 1956. During this time it should be noted that Len generously donated his game fees back to the applicable youth organisations. He enjoyed exceptional success in this capacity, which was recognized his appointment to the following high profile events:

Referee - Vancouver Island Championship League games in Port Alberni; Nanaimo; Campbell River; Powell River; and Vancouver (Empire Stadium)

Referee - Division 1 Sun Tournament of Champions for three years

Referee - Provincial Championship, Empire Stadium for six years

Referee - Canadian Provincial Championship, Swangard Stadium for four years.

Referee - Canadian Cup Championship, Etobicoke, Ontario, including the final match.

Referee - Manchester City Schoolboys v Victoria All Stars, Royal Athletic Park, Victoria.

Len qualified as a Class 3 Senior Referee in 1968, Class 2 in 1972 and Class 1 in 1975. He actively refereed at all levels of Senior soccer from 1968 to 1983. Thereafter, a serious accident forced him to restrict his refereeing, but he continued to contribute by refereeing Senior Women's and Men's Master soccer until 1998. A remarkable total of 30 years.

His more notable appointments as a Senior referee were in the Pacific Coast League where he was the only Vancouver Island referee to be assigned Provincial Cup Play-downs, Quarter Finals as well as being appointed by Darryl Hughes to the Provincial Cup Final between Columbia United and Victoria Athletics at Royal Athletic Park. In addition, Len qualified as a Provincial Assessor and was appointed to be the VISRA Liaison to the Assessment Board for many years.

V.I.S.R.A. Executive

Of great significance as a Senior referee was Len's involvement and demonstrated leadership with VISRA. He served as Secretary/Treasurer from 1969/1973, then as President from 1973 to 1987 and finally as Past President from 1987 to 1989, a remarkable total of 20 years on the executive. Aside from managing and leading the association through some difficult times, he was also a consummate host at various clinics to several top officials including Sid Stokes, England, Stan Lovat and CONCACAF representative senior Marco Durantes. Len is a life member of VISRA, and, through his extensive experience and willingness to help, continually provides assistance and guidance to the organization wherever and whenever the need arises.

L.I.S.A. Executive

LEN was asked to join LISA as a Director because his great interest in Youth soccer. He served as Chairman of the Discipline Committee diligently for 7 years.

Len is one of those rare contributors to soccer who personifies the slogan "For The Good Of The Game"

Len has just retired after 50 years in the game he loved best.