

Canadian Soccer Referees' Association Canadienne Des Arbitres De Soccer



President B. Gill

Secretary

Eric Evans

757 Millwood Rd

Toronto

Ontario M4G 1V7

Tel. 416-487-0597

Fax. 416-487-2022

e-mail eeeinc@hotmail.com

web site csra_1.tripod.com

14th November 2005

3rd Conference Call 9th November 2005 Minutes

Participants: B. Gill (Pres.), T. Troughton (1st V.P.), K. Montague (2nd V.P.),
E. Evans (Sec.), L. Eloy (Treas.)
P. Avis (Hon. Life Member), E. Chies (B.C.), D. Cope (Ont)
Apologies: J. Licandro (Ont), K. Jones (CSA Referees' Committee)
C. Golden (Manitoba), DCE Mathurin (Hon. Life Member)

Delegate Reports:

B.C. Elvio Chies indicated that the BCSRA would be prepared to host the 2006 AGM now that Manitoba had confirmed they would not be able to handle it. The most probable date would be 21st January to ensure proper notice could be given as per the Constitution. BCSRA indicated that both Vancouver and Victoria had shown interest in being hosts but Vancouver could not obtain Hector Vergara's services to run a clinic as part of the AGM and had withdrawn their offer. Victoria will confirm actual venue in due course. A short discussion followed regarding guest speakers. No decision taken.

There have been numerous resignations from BC Soccer's Referee Committee. Elvio mentioned problems regarding an incident involving Sikh head wear. BC soccer held a refresher clinic at the end of August. BCSRA's Fall Council meeting will take place soon. The provincial assessment program appears to have ground to a halt because of the series of resignations and there seems to be a general malaise in the province regarding referee matters. Two BC officials will travel to Florida for the Super Y League courtesy of negotiations concluded by Bob Sawtell. The campaign to have Werner Winseman inducted into the BC Hall of Fame is back on track again thanks to numerous letters of endorsement from prominent people within Soccer. There will be a Futsal clinic on December 9th. There is a move from within BC Soccer to mandate all referees belong to the BCSRA, although it was not initiated by the referee association.

"WITH FAIRNESS & FORTITUDE" - "COURAGE ET ÉQUITÉ"

Ontario: David Cope was standing in for Joe Licandro and mentioned that the OSRA would be holding its own AGM on November 20th in St Catharines with OSA Chief Executive Officer, Guy Bradbury as principal guest speaker. Branches of the OSRA are in the process of holding their own annual general meetings prior to 20th November. Joe Licandro had requested that John Nielsen be contacted to see what educational videos and DVD's he still had in stock as the new branch in Niagara Falls wanted to develop a library of educational material. David mentioned that the malaise affecting things in BC appeared to have spread to Ontario. Paul Avis commented that he had observed similar problems across much of the country. Eric Evans mentioned that the new referee development program the OSA introduced in 2004 in a pilot area was nearing the end of its 2nd year. It will be expanded into an additional 2 areas in 2006. There is an additional fee of \$300 per year over and above the normal registration fee for officials to join the program. David mentioned that Ontario would have offered to host the CSRA AGM if there was no other association willing or able to handle the event.

Manitoba: Larry Eloy had indicated that he was attending the MSA annual general meeting at the time of the conference call but would probably join in at some point. President, Chris Golden, also at the AGM, had submitted a short report read by Eric Evans. The indoor season had already commenced and the MSRA had reached an agreement with the Women's league for a \$5 per game increase in referee fees, taking the game fee to \$22. The men's league had only offered a \$2 per game increase and negotiations continue. A new men's Futsal league has started and 11 officials completed a course as Futsal referees. Only 14 officials have taken the mandatory indoor refresher clinic, including the new 11 Futsal referees. Referee abuse and poor facilities has seen several officials cut back on their indoor activity. Over 70 members recently attended the MSRA banquet and awards night. There was a disappointing turn out that the MSRA's annual general meeting. The new executive will hold their first meeting in a few days time. All contracts for game fees for the outdoor leagues expired at the end of the season and negotiations will commence in earnest shortly. The MSA have declined to have discussions with the MSRA on fees and propose to mandate a fee structure for 2006 in provincial tournaments.

The MSRA will join forces with Winnipeg Youth Soccer Association and have a recruitment video produced by the broadcasting department of a local college. The MSRA would welcome additional ideas and recruitment strategies from across the country.

Eric Evans had spoken to Kevin Jones for about 5 minutes prior to the conference call and passed on details of several items discussed. The CSA had forwarded the names of those officials to FIFA they would like to see on the list of international officials. 2006 would see 4 male referees and 6 male A/R's. The women will see 2 referees and 3 A/R's. Carol Anne Chenard is the proposed addition to the referee list. A number of FIFA officials decided to retire early because of the lack of game appointments. Eric mentioned he had heard from Emerson Mathurin that Jean Francois Corriveau had been nominated as a FIFA A/R. This official had formerly been a FIFA A/R then a FIFA Referee prior to being removed a year ago. It appeared to be sending mixed signals to

FIFA. It was speculated that perhaps the official had requested being nominated in this capacity. The CSA program in 2005 had removed the mandatory retirement age of 45 and adopted a performance based criteria. Eric had questioned the wisdom of such a move given the shortage of high level domestic games for our National and FIFA officials. Kevin had started to explain the rationale for this but had to attend another commitment as part of the CIS championships in PEI. Conference call participants again mentioned that perhaps a potential legal challenge may have influenced the CSA's action. There will be a National Clinic in 2006.

Secretary's Report: Eric covered the main items of correspondence and brought delegates up to date on the Meachin Award, fund raising efforts and how it was hoped to link the award with the CSA's program which included the Dallas Cup Referee Academy, USSF National Clinic and a possible referee exchange with Qatar. A letter and e-mail had been sent on behalf of the CSRA to Sonia Denoncourt, congratulating her on being appointed by FIFA to head up the Women's Referee Development Program.

Treasurer's Report: Larry Eloy came on late and indicated he did not have all the latest account figures at hand but mentioned that no fees had been received from either BC or Manitoba and would follow up on them.

An expense form will be sent to participants incurring long distance telephone charges. Please complete and attach a copy of your phone bill and forward to Larry Eloy.
Conference call ended at 10:25pm EST (duration 85 minutes)