

John B. Meachin Memorial Soccer Award

The Canadian Soccer Referees' Association and the Meachin Family joined forces several years ago to preserve the memory of former FIFA Referee, John Meachin, after his sudden death. The culmination of our efforts was the establishment of the John B. Meachin Memorial Soccer Award. John believed that Canadian officials never received enough international appointments and were too often ill prepared when they did.

The goal of the Award is to provide a maximum of \$1000.00 each year to subsidize the expenses of a member of the National Referee Program to travel outside of Canada to attend an international symposium, tournament or event and be exposed to international protocol whilst furthering his or her officiating career. Payment of the grant follows the completion of the scheduled trip and the filing of a written report to the Canadian Soccer Referees' Association.

John strove to maintain the highest personal standards and encouraged others to follow suit. In keeping with John's exacting standards, the Award is intended to assist those officials who are fired with ambition and are goal oriented, who are prepared to look beyond Canada in order to promote and further their officiating careers. This Award may help in achieving the necessary exposure for an official prior to stepping on to the international stage and establishing the all important network of contacts that can prove so critical later on.

All members of the CSA National Referee Program are eligible to apply for the Award and receive details of how to apply, along with the requirements to be met. John's widow, Virginia, will donate a suitably engraved plaque each year to the winner of the Award. An evaluating committee has been established to review applications each year and the presentation is made, if possible, at the annual general meeting of the CSRA.