



CanSoRef

CanSoRef is the official Newsletter of the Ontario Soccer Referees' Association.
March 2010

From the Secretary

The first Board of Governors meeting has been set for April 11, 2010 and will be held at the Dixie Soccer Club, Mississauga.

This meeting completes the transition to our new constitution, allowing the organization to deal with business in a more timely fashion and to drastically reduce our overhead.



Lisa Waywell
Secretary, OSRA

OSRA to host CSRA AGM

Imagine for a moment you are refereeing a World Cup Match between Brazil and Germany...

If you have wondered what the experience of preparing for and officiating a high level soccer match is like – here is a presentation you won't want to miss: Carol Anne Chenard, F.I.F.A Referee will be the Featured Guest Speaker at the Canadian Soccer Referees' Association (CSRA) 2010 Annual General Meeting. Carol Anne has been a FIFA Referee since 2006 and her topic is, "The Road to the World Cup". All referees are invited to attend this free event hosted by the Ontario Soccer Referees' Association – we simply ask you to confirm your attendance through your local association by Friday, March 19.

Date: Saturday, March 27, 2010
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Place: Holiday Inn Toronto West
100 Britannia Road East
Mississauga, ON L4Z 2G1



Joe Licandro,
President, CSRA

A special presentation will also be made at this event to Eric Evans who will become a Life Member of the CSRA.

For further information, contact Lisa Waywell, OSRA Secretary [here](#)

2010 Referees' Soccer Tournament April 25th 2010

So far these are the teams that are confirmed:

Scarborough A
Scarborough B
York Region A
York Region B
North York
Brampton

The followings teams are confirmed verbally only

Mississauga
Toronto
Hamilton

The registration deadline is March 31st 2009.
Registration cost \$300.00 per team and is limited to a maximum of 12 players.



2009 winners Lawrence Addo and Nicholas Lindsay (Brampton) with the Trophy

Please make cheque payable to **OSRA Scarborough Branch**

Contact person is: Leslie Wong 416-282-4272 or email lwongn623@rogers.com

2010 Robbie International Soccer Tournament The Robbie and Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation need your help!

The Ontario Soccer Referees' Association is a major sponsor of The Robbie International Soccer Tournament. The SSRA is also the oldest sponsor of the Robbie. The SSRA has been associated with the Robbie since its inception about 44 years ago.

The dedication and support of SSRA referees in Ontario is unquestionable, without their support the Robbie would not be as successful as it today.

The Robbie is 100 % volunteer run and it supports a worthwhile Canadian Charity. The Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (C CFF). This year the Robbie will be held on July 3rd, 4th and 5th across Scarborough and neighboring districts.

Once again The Robbie and C F are asking for your support for this worthwhile Canadian Charity. No refereeing help is too small, you can ref as an individual or you can bring a team of 3.

Contact Leslie Wong @ 416-282-4272 or email lwongn623@rogers.com

Please visit our website www.osra.ca

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Around The Branches

Brampton

Rich Carman and Steve Potts were elected to represent Brampton at the OSRA Governors meeting on April 11.

Barrie Fineman and David Cowl volunteered to attend as Branch Representatives the PHSA course “OSA Volunteer Screening Workshop” on March 28..

Our Branch continues to grow, we have nearly 90 members signed with the potential for many more. More importantly, meetings continue to be well attended, we had 83 referees at our last meeting!.

At the March 1 meeting, Don Pearce presented on the subject of Starts and Restarts. Don’s power point presentation, interspersed with much audience participation and his usual array of amusing anecdotes, made for an interesting evening.



Don Pearce instructing at OSRA Brampton

On March 15, we had a “double header”. First, Kathy Knafelc and Laura McGill from Region of Peel Secondary School Athletic Association (RoPSSAA) gave us the low down on the upcoming spring school soccer season.

Afterwards, Peel Halton Soccer Association (PHSA) Director of Referees Francis Martin presented the FIFA power point presentation on Law 5 (The Referee) and Law 6 (The Assistant Referee).



Francis Martin instructing at OSRA Brampton

Our remaining meetings are as follows:

- 29 March Justin Tasev "Communication"
- 12 April John Friehaut "Law 12 (Fouls and Misconduct)"
- 26 April Mike Winstanley "On Line Appointments and Law Changes"
- 10 May Kick Off Meeting and Annual Awards Night



Packed Room for OSRA Brampton Education on March 15

Scarborough

Scarborough selected Joe Piacente of York Region to instruct at our education session on March 2nd on the subject of Law 12, Fouls and Misconduct



His presentation was done in Power Point format and was supported by Video Clips, highlighting various levels of offences committed during games, followed by a Video Quiz.

The instructor engaged those present in many questions, answers and discussions



Great job Joe, keep up the good work! Scarborough is happy with your presentation

GREAT NEWS ON DAVID BARRIE - LATEST NATIONAL REFEREE



Last year David completed all but two of his requirements needed to be recognised as a National Referee.

David was required to take and pass the FIFA fitness by March of 2010 and attend a special meeting.

He did attend this meeting and was successful in passing this fitness test.

The Canadian Soccer Association has now upgraded David to National Status

CONGRATULATIONS to David on this prestigious accomplishment. David has worked diligently over the years for this

Way to go David!

North York

At the OSA AGM awards banquet to be held on May 1, Ron Edwards will be recognized with a Centre Circle Award. This recognizes his 52 years as a referee and officiating more than 6,000 games.

Don Pearce presents Ron Edwards with a plaque recognizing Ron's 50 years as a member of the OSRA at our 2007 AGM.



Peterborough

In Peterborough beside the indoor season, we are enjoying the nice weather and shifting into full gear to prepare for the upcoming outdoor season.

We recently had on March 5/6 the OCAA Indoor Tournament in our area.

Pretty soon we have planned an upcoming KSSL indoor tournament.

Our educational clinic for this month is on March 25 at 7:00pm at Eastgate Park Building with instructor Don Wiles and the topic of the clinic is Law #12.

Our executive members have elected as our governors (permanent representative at OSRA meetings) our President Carlos Ferreira and one of our directors Rich Brooks.

We are welcoming back our returning members and trying to recruit new members as well.

Commentary on Referee Instructor Refresher Course

By Wolter Wagter, Huronia

On March 13, I attended the refresher course for referee instructors in Sudbury at Laurentian University. The purpose was to instill in the current instructors the new methods and ideas of the CSA for the Basic Level Referee course. The location was organized by Eric Sanderson, the SRSA DRC. The room itself was a good size and it was not crowded. There was ample parking.

The OSA instructors were Amato DeLuca and Claude Henoud. They did a good job. It was great to see them again. Amato for some unknown reason kept on calling me "Eric" even though we have known each other for many years. I only hope Eric from Sudbury was not insulted. By the way, Amato has a full head of hair; he is not bald as you would have seen him as a FIFA Assistant Referee while on the line for the MLS games or as a National Referee.

They delivered the new standard as set by the CSA. Some of the class topics made a lot of sense. Yet, even though theoretically, we are to teach every topic in the same manner across Canada to standardize the course delivery; that was recognized as an near impossibility. Simply put, each of us has/her own style and mannerisms; therefore, the delivery and amount of content for each Law will be different. It might be reasonably close. We are to teach the Law. Other items that were emphasized by Claude and Amato is to avoid the use of 'war stories' and the word "I".

I personally believe that 'war stories' whether they are your own or belong to someone else give validity to the points we are trying to put across to new referees. It personalizes the content and makes it easier for the new referee to accept the point. If he/she hears that the instructor or another referee has had similar problems and these problems were resolved, then the sense of foreboding can be overcome. It may give an 'out' to the new referee at a later date. The thought process is very quick -similar incident handled by a referee in a certain way; good, that's what I'll do. Now the new referee appears to be brilliant person by the coaches and players. They see an apparent quick and bold decision made. It was based on pre-experience -experience offered by the instructor but not yet experienced by the new referee.

This has occurred to me. I heard from a good referee of a odd situation that had occurred in one of his games. This decision was debated between us. The following year the same incident occurred in one of my games. I made the same decision based on his experience and our debate. The "War Story" had a positive effect.

We were also told to emphasize the LAW with respect to the correct wording. This is an extremely good point. Small things such as the incorrect use of 'sideline' instead of 'touch line' and the use of 'round' instead of 'spherical' to describe the shape of the ball are very valid points.

Another aspect that was emphasized was to use the LAW for all interpretation of the action. This becomes problematic. The new referee not being able to have an 'out' for an improper throw-in for U10 or U11 House league game is not right. By the letter of the Law the throw-in goes to the other team every time a foot is lifted too early. This means that in many instances, we could have 5 or 6 throw-ins before one is done properly. Early in the season, referees normally have the throw-in done again by the same player. This minimizes disruption to the game. The purpose of house league is fun and participation and not to have so many problems that there is no game. Forcing multiple throw-ins to be exact according to the Law takes all of the fun out of the game for this age group. If the age group is older and is a competitive team, then the tolerance for an improper throw-in is down to zero. These players should know better.

The CSA has suggested timings and what to say including a PowerPoint slide show for each Law. Delivery by constant PowerPoint presentation is boring. Unfortunately, there are some instructors who are in love with PowerPoint presentations. So, even though we received a CD with the Laws in PowerPoint, we still need to vary the delivery. Another drawback to this are some Clubs may not have the right equipment for this type of course presentation or there are equipment breakdowns. Without the electronics a portion of the exam cannot even be completed. As an instructor, I cannot afford to buy the laptop, screen projector and screen to bring to each course.

The other issue from my personal perspective is not enough emphasis is given to the practical aspect of being a 'referee'. The program gives some 50 minutes to Law 5. That is not enough time to practice game appointment responsibility, taking game appointments, discussing what a referee needs to do to prepare for a game and pre-game duties before a kick-off. We are trying to teach the new referees to survive the first year and be interested enough to return and not be taught how to be FIFA referees in a year. You only need to look at me and you can see I am still a major work in progress for level. However, I survived and returned.

I had informed the OSA several weeks before of my intent to participate. However there was an internal glitch. Luckily, an OSA Staff member realized I was not on his list. He contacted me on the Monday before the course asking if I was going to attend. I replied that I had informed the OSA weeks before. His email stated we had to prepare a 10 minute presentation as if we teaching new referees. Thus, I was assigned my topic - Law 8. We were to be paired up with another participant and at the time, he was not sure who that might be. I was informed on Tuesday afternoon that my session partner was going to be Irene Koutsoukis from Sudbury. Since Irene is a very smart person and an excellent referee, we had our little program worked by email and one phone call by Thursday evening.

Our presentation went well. At least Claude was laughing hard when he went up to give his critique of us; so, I think that meant we did well. The last time I went through this, our presentations were 10 minutes each with critiques given by designated peers and an instructor. Another positive point from this course was the video taping of our session. The OSA will be sending our clip to us for our own review.

The best aspect of the course was the critiques given by the instructors and our peers. What we heard about the others was positive in the sense it gave us ideas of what was good and pitfalls to avoid.

The major pitfalls were material showing on the screen but was unrelated to the discussion (distraction to class); other were hands in pockets, using a 'war story' or use of word "I". Body language and position of the instructor in the room were listed as important points. The positive items were good body language and clear and well-modulated voice, class was engaged and the method of instruction.

We did an unannounced test at the beginning. Everybody passed; which is as it should be. As instructors, we should know the Laws. The video test portion is still too hard for new referees. For someone who has not officiated any games or experienced the game from the referee's point of view, it comes out of the nowhere. I think it should be used as teaching tool only. The video is based on professional and World Cup games with FIFA or National referees. Even the referees in the video clips erred according to the correct answers. The referee's body language in one clip indicated he was awarding one type of restart but the correct answer was something completely different. Give this test to the new referee after one season of experience.

I knew most of the class as well as the instructors. It was good to meet new people. Having been a 'southerner for many years, the big eye opener to me was the number of dedicated people in the North. The OSA needs to provide more assistance because the area is twice as big as the 'South' with greater distances between the towns offering soccer. Some of the class travelled for long distances. My effort took me 10 minutes from my apartment. How nice it was to be able to be close to the action for a change.

Generally speaking, the refresher sessions are a good thing to have. We all slip into some bad delivery habits and only by giving a short lesson can these things be noted spotted by third parties. I enjoyed the session and thought it was worthwhile.

IFAB decides not to pursue goal-line technology

(reproduced from FIFA.com)

The International Football Association Board (IFAB) convened at the Home of FIFA in Zurich today, Saturday 6 March, for the 124th Annual General Meeting, which, as is the case with every FIFA World Cup™ year, was chaired by FIFA and its President Joseph S. Blatter.

A presentation was provided on the experiment with additional assistant referees in the 2009/2010 UEFA Europa League, following the 144 matches played so far. It was agreed that following the conclusion of the competition on 12 May 2010, a special meeting of the Board will discuss the final analysis of the experiment on 17-18 May.

Concerning goal-line technology, the Board concluded that goal-line technology would not be pursued.

It was also agreed that Law 12 (Fouls and Misconduct – Sending-off Offences), Law 14 (The Penalty Kick) and the roles and responsibilities of the fourth official would all be further discussed on 17-18 May.

Regarding amendments to the Laws of the Game, approval was given to the proposals submitted by The Scottish Football Association in relation to Law 5 (The Referee – Injured Players) agreeing to the treatment of injured players from the same team who have collided on the pitch. It was also approved that stretcher bearers will now only enter the pitch following the signal of the referee.

The proposal of The Scottish Football Association also in relation to Law 5 (The Referee – Injured Players) to allow players to be treated on the field of play “if the injury was sustained as the result of an offence committed against him by an opponent” was not approved. The decision was made that the IFAB Technical Sub-Committee would further discuss this proposed amendment.

The decisions concerning the Laws of the Game taken today by the International Football Association Board will come into effect on 1 June 2010.

The 125th Annual General Meeting will take place at Celtic Manor, Newport, Wales between 4 and 6 March 2011.

The Games That Never Were

(reproduced from FIFA.com)

Football: a sport where the ball never stops rolling, irrespective of circumstances or weather conditions. Or so one might think. If it were up to the players and fans, there would doubtless be football matches every day of the week, without interruption. The former because they are never happier than with a ball at their feet, and the latter because of the joy their footballing heroes bring. However, sometimes matches do have to be called off, mainly due to terrible weather, but every so often slightly more unusual factors come into play, as **FIFA.com** recalls.

We start our review of curtailed competitions and missed matches by taking a look back at the German title-deciding match between Hanau 93 and Viktoria Berlin in 1894. The Hanau players were unable to muster enough money to travel to the capital, thereby

handing the Championship to Viktoria by default. A century later, the two teams, now languishing in the country's regional, amateur divisions, decided to re-open this page of sporting history by playing the match that never was, 113 years after the fact.

And so it came to pass that in 2007 the 1894 German Championship was finally decided, but on the pitch this time. Statisticians will note that the two teams faced each other over two legs, using the same heavy, leather balls from the late 19th century, and that Viktoria again emerged victorious (3-0, 1-1).

Papers, please

A change of century provided no let-up in unusual administrative problems besetting the beautiful game. Also in 2007, FIFA was forced to cancel the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa™ qualifying match between New Zealand and Fiji, following the New Zealand government's refusal to grant a visa to Fiji goalkeeper Simone Tamanisau. In order to maintain the integrity of the competition in the Oceania zone, FIFA made the decision to call off the encounter, which would finally take place a year later in November 2008. In the meantime, the Kiwis had secured their qualification for the next round, which may have rendered the result meaningless, but not the decision to postpone the original fixture, as Fiji earned a 2-0 victory on the day.

Rather than a visa, it was papers of a very different kind that led to the abandonment of the Dutch league match between Groningen and Ajax Amsterdam in April 2008. Fired up by the prospect of welcoming one of the Eredivisie's giants to their ground, the Groningen supporters threw copious rolls of toilet paper on to the pitch. Unfortunately, some had the bright idea to light them beforehand, leading to fires breaking out within and in front of the main stand, and causing serious smoke inhalation problems for players and fans alike. Not surprisingly, the match was called off and rescheduled for a later date.

This was nothing especially new to the Ajax supporters, as a month earlier they had endured the cancellation of one of their team's matches, versus their great rivals PSV Eindhoven, who were league leaders at the time. The reason was one of security, but not the kind at times associated with this fixture. Instead, the Dutch police happened to be on strike that particular day.

In an odd coincidence, a police-related decision during the very same week led to the cancellation of a full programme of matches in the Zimbabwean Championship, so that the country's presidential elections could proceed without distractions. While football can stir great passions among its followers, it at times has to take a back seat when other national priorities arise.

This was never clearer than the weekend following the events of 11 September 2001, when the scheduled fixtures in Major League Soccer and in many other leagues across the world were called off as a mark of respect. In the same vein, but with a more localised effect, the death of Princess Diana in August 1997 led to the postponement of

the English Premier League match between Newcastle and Liverpool, as well as the Crewe-Port Vale match in the division below.

Madonna, Beckham and boars

More recently, the French Ligue 1 match between Marseille and Lille, due to be played at the Stade Velodrome in August 2009, had to be moved to Montpellier. The reason? A stage erected for a Madonna concert had collapsed, leaving Marseille's material world out of commission. And then there was the friendly match arranged in Australia between Los Angeles Galaxy and Queensland Roar (now Brisbane Roar) in November of 2008. As David Beckham had injured himself in the week leading up to the match and was not completely certain to make an appearance, the match was simply cancelled!

But the professional game does not have a monopoly on call-offs. In the quirky world of amateur football, the reasons behind matches being abandoned or postponed become more original and unusual. In March 2008, an English regional league match in Gloucestershire had to be called off, but neither the weather, a referee strike, nor a flu epidemic was the cause of the cancellation. Soudley were due to host Charfield at their Recreation Ground, whose pitch had been returfed just a few months before. But when the Soudley team arrived on the morning of the match, they were met with a scene of devastation, their home pitch having been completely ruined. The culprits of this wanton act of vandalism were never prosecuted, because they were wild boar.

Aside from the weather and wild animals, health precautions are a relatively widespread reason for calling off matches. The recent H1N1 flu epidemic forced French football authorities to postpone the eagerly-awaited match between Marseille and Paris Saint-Germain, as well as the match involving Monaco and Montpellier. A similar problem arose in the Czech Championship, where Teplice had to pull out of their match with Viktoria Plzen, as they only had ten fit players left in their squad.

That incident brings to mind the SARS epidemic in 2003 that caused the cancellation of numerous matches throughout the world of football. That year, a whole tournament was affected, namely the FIFA Women's World Cup™, which had to be abruptly moved in its entirety from China to the USA.

We bring this quick world tour to a close by hoping that no other competitions will need to be postponed or cancelled upon such short notice, and by wondering about the weird and wonderful reasons that will provoke new call-offs over the next few years.

We would like to publish your Branch Report, or any article you may consider sharing (including photographs) in future issues of CanSoRef.

Please send to us [here](#).

Copy deadline for April 2010 issue is April 18, 2010.