



Extra Time

The official newsletter of Capital Football Referees

Issue 1

November 2007

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Welcome to Extra Time

Welcome to the first ever issue of Extra Time, the new newsletter of Capital Football Referees. Extra Time has been designed to keep referees in the loop about what's happening with refereeing and football in and around the Capital, as well as providing coaching tips, news from our globe trotting FIFA officials, important appointments and achievements and a little fun as well.

This issue we hear from RSC Chair Roger Prowse, FIFA AR Ben Wilson takes us behind the scenes of the Australia v Argentina friendly and Walter Kmet reviews the recent Canwarra Cup. So sit back and enjoy and don't forget to keep an eye out for the year in review issue early in 2008.

Cheers
Daniel Murphy
Capital Football Referee Administrator

From the Chair

With Referee Standing Committee Chair Roger Prowse

Welcome to the first edition of the occasional referees' newsletter. The credit for the idea and work getting it out lies entirely with Daniel Murphy, the Referees' Administrator.

Refs may wonder what the Referees Standing Committee does. Opinions would vary between nothing to little to a fair bit to a lot. The RSC, which took over from the old referees' body, is comprised of 9 elected referees- some active and some non-active and some in between.

The RSC ostensibly advises the Board of Capital Football about policy and other matters concerning refereeing in all its aspects. In practice, the RSC and Daniel effectively "run" refereeing acting in the Board's name meaning that the day to day matters are handled by the RSC with oversight from Heather Reid, the CEO of Capital Football.

Meetings are held about once a month and a whole range of issues are dealt with. The results of those meetings are set out in the Minutes. Previously, these were published on the Capital Football Referees' website. However, we have decided to email them out to referees after each month as well as maintaining a central point for anyone to access easily. Hopefully, this means that each referee will have the chance to read the minutes soon after the meeting so that they are kept up to date and also so that any individual or groups of referees can raise matters with any member of the RSC or with the RSC as a whole.

So far in the period of time the RSC has existed it has dealt with among other things:

formulating the Rules and Regulations to provide a structure for referees to operate within, disciplinary matters involving complaints against referees, uniform design and cost, match fees, costs of courses and uniforms, provision of courses and seminars, liaising with the Technical committee and appointments officer, producing the field handbook, monthly educational meetings liaison with Capital Football over disputes and disciplinary matters involving assaults and abuse of referees, addressing recruitment and retention issues and so on.

A lot of the work the RSC does is not visible and not all of it is recorded in the minutes. However, all of the members of the RSC carry out their duties often whilst juggling full time work commitments so that the interests of all referees are protected and advanced. We are not always successful in achieving these goals and not always good at communicating what's happening to all the referees but this newsletter together with the broadcasts may go some way to addressing that shortfall.

The entire RSC can be contacted at rsc@canberra.ausref.com while I can be contact on 0412 993 779 or rprowse@courts.nsw.gov.au or jberman@grapevine.net.au. State Coach Clive Mackillop can be contacted on 0403 179 134 or at clive.mackillop@dest.gov.au.



On the Sideline

With FIFA Assistant Referee Ben Wilson



It was interesting to watch a full replay of the Australia versus Argentina match on TV the other day. I noted with mild amusement the professional manner in which the broadcaster stayed true to the motto, "The show must go on". Here's what you didn't see on TV:

I was appointed as an assistant referee to the match between Australia and Argentina, played at the MCG a few weeks back. The referee was Mike Dean, a professional referee from England. We arrived at the ground about 70 minutes before kickoff, some twenty minutes later than we intended, which was a sign of things to come. We soon discovered that our dressing room was not the normal referee's room, located between the teams' dressing rooms near the entrance to the field, but a dressing room adjoining some indoor practice cricket nets, two floors and two security checks from the teams. We quickly changed and went out on to the field to warm up. We finished our warm up after the players and were last to go back into the rooms.

Our liaison officer got a phone call (we were too far away for people to walk) giving us a two minute warning and we got our flags, shook hands to wish each other luck and went down to the tunnel.

We were about to go down the side corridor to get the teams when a security guard told us that the players were already out on the field. "WHAT?" we all cried. Apparently our running sheet was 2 minutes behind everyone else and the TV got tired of waiting for us and sent the teams on without us. I ran up the ramp and sure enough, both teams were lined up in the middle of the MCG – without the referees! (For those not familiar with pre-match protocol at these matches, the referees usually lead both teams out on to the field, with the FIFA anthem playing in the background. Everybody then lines up for the teams' anthems, there are handshakes, team photos and the toss and then it all starts.)



As the other three refs bemusedly made their way up the ramp behind me, a floor manager hurriedly rushed up and told us to quickly go out on to the field. Mike Dean politely suggested that we wait for the anthems. No sooner had he made the suggestion than the anthems started playing. Thankfully we hadn't started to walk out or we would have been awkwardly trapped, halfway between the teams and the MCG boundary, waiting for the anthems to finish.

On television, the broadcaster carefully showed the Argentines singing their anthem and then flicked to vision of the Aussies singing theirs. At the conclusion of the anthems, we made a hasty walk to the centre. We joined our place in the line-up (thankfully Lucas Neil had arranged for both teams to wait for us) and then, to the amusement of the players, we all proceeded with the handshakes. Simon Hill rambled on for a bit and then smooth-as-silk said, "... and the referee for tonight's game is Mike Dean from England," (cue shot of four smiling refs wondering how it all happened) and the viewers at home were non-the-wiser.



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Capital Football Presentation Night

Congratulations to all those who received honors and awards at the Capital Football Presentation night on the 12th of October.

Bill Simeonovic and Chris Conti were recognised for their outstanding long term commitment to both refereeing and football in the ACT.

Bill was awarded a life membership to Capital Football for his long service to refereeing, while Chris Conti became the first person since 2004 to be inducted to the Capital Football Hall of Fame for his contribution to not only refereeing but the administration of football and involvement with school sport.



Other award winners included:

Les O'Donoghue– Men's Premier League Referee of the Year, Men's Premier League Grand Final, Men's Federation Cup final

Jenna Hinton– Women's Premier League Grand Final, Women's Premier League Referee of the Year

Laura Davis– Women's Premier League Referee of the Year

Walter Kmet– Women's Federation Cup Final

Ben Williams– Australian Representative

Ben Wilson– Australian Representative

Allyson Flynn– Australian Representative



Williams takes his place in the hot seat

Canberra's own FIFA referee Ben Williams recently sat down with Capital Football Media man Chris Gottaas for Channel Visions Sports Vision program to discuss what its like to referee at the highest level.

To watch the entire interview visit www.channelvision.com.au



End of Year Drinks

End of year drinks for both senior and junior referees will be held at the Deakin Club on Wednesday the 28th of November from 7pm to 8:30pm.

The drinks will be free but for catering numbers can you please RSVP to Daniel at the Capital Football Office (refadmin@capitalfootball.com.au) by Tuesday the 27th of November. The awards that were to be presented at the Referee Dinner will also be presented on the night.



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Grand Final Appointments

Congratulations to all those who received appointments to Grand Finals this season.

Receiving a Grand Final is reward for professionalism and high standard of officiating, dedication to the sport and exemplary representation of the Referee organisation in Capital Football competitions during the season.

The full list of Grand Final Appointments were:

Women' Premier League: Jenna Hinton
State League 1: Boyd Jonas
State League 2: Samantha Ockerby
State League 3: Zoe Power
State League 4: Owen Watson
State League 5: Daniel Jonas
State League 6: Virginia Henderson
Under 18s: Leon Harris
Masters: Ian Hotchkiss

Men's Premier League: Les O'Donoghue
Premier Pathway League: Chris Young
Premier 18s: Walter Kmet
Division 1: Richard Naumovski
Division 2: Ross Yarnold
Division 3: Alasdair Grocock Division 4: Stephen Jones
Division 5: James Lee
Division 6: David Ockerby
Division 7: Robert McComas
Division 8: Tony Gill
Division 9: Inpong Hanxomphou
Masters Division 1: John Jenkins
Masters Division 2: Willy Weyers
Masters Division 3: Jacky Gibson



Summer Competitions

Interested in refereeing over summer? The following Summer Sixes Competitions will be held over the summer break:

Capital Football Women's Summer Sixes

Held at the Mawson playing fields on Sunday nights from late October to late February. Fees \$18.

Contact Daniel at Capital Football for more information at refadmin@capitalfootball.com.au

Mega 6s Summer Competition

Held on Tuesday nights at Hackett oval until the 18th of December. Match fees are \$18 per game.

Contact Jeremy on 0404 064 858 for more information.

Capital Football Academy Matches

The Capital Football Academy will also be playing Monash City from Victoria on the 10th, 11th and 12th of December. If you are interested in refereeing please contact Daniel at Capital Football (refadmin@capitalfootball.com.au).



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Latest News

Congratulations to Ben Wilson on his appointment to the FIFA World Club Cup to be held in Japan in December.

The World Club Cup is contested by the best club teams from around the world including European Champions AC Milan and South American Champions Boca Juniors. Ben will be joined by the Australian World Cup team mates Mark Shield and Nathan Gibson.

Ben has also been appointed as Assistant Referee to the Hyundai Club Challenge between Sydney FC and the LA Galaxy on Tuesday the 27th of November at Telstra Stadium in Sydney.

Canwarra Cup

The Annual Canwarra Cup was held in Wollongong on Saturday 13th September. The Canberra referees were keen to retain the Cup after a first win for many years in 2006.

From the outset on the day it was clear that the Wollongong referees were prepared to forsake style for substance bringing an equivalent of 2 squads along to the game. Other factors came into play but were successfully, and for that matter tactfully, managed by Bill Simeonovic, including:

- Use of the 3 hour trip, with a captured audience on the mini bus, to play various Frank Sinatra songs allowing everyone to get some sleep before the game.
- A number of quick phone calls in the morning retrieving a missing David Kurthi. As it turns out he confused the fixture with Newcastle v Sydney A- league clash the following week;
- Appealing on behalf of Richard Naumovski his near disqualification on technical grounds. The appeal demonstrated that his goatee was developed without the use of performance enhancing hormones, but could not account for his Illawarra heritage;
- At tempts by Wollongong to use their numerous "bigger" blokes to mark our younger participants, including Greg Taylor, Bill's young fella, Kgosi Modiga and Leon Harris. This was quickly (with the emphasis on quickly) exposed as a poor option when Bill employed cunning positional changes to the original squad.

On near perfect day Wollongong did get a 3 goal head start in the first of the 2 thirds. This was after a long period of very close midfield play with few chances. The strong midfield effort was key to this with Guy Aveyard and Roger's young bloke towers of strength, ably supported by wide players Richard Brown and Willy Weijers. A solid squad of 17 Canberra Referees was available, and needed for interchange in warm conditions which began to take their toll as the game wore on.

In any case Canberra referees were able to pull back goals early in the third period. A penalty conversion by Chris Young following his own barnstorming run in the box and a shot by Walter Kmet, resulted in the 2 goals in quick succession. Soon thereafter a chance seemingly went begging when a close range shot by Michael Logue found Lake Illawarra. This was seen an opportunity lost until Michael explained it was a time wasting tactic that Bill had employed. Once again great tactical instruction by Bill. It could have been much worse that 5-2 otherwise.

A cleverly disguised league tackle by Roger Prowse, who was in goals for the third period, stopped a certain goal but this was not enough and Illawarra found the ascendancy. Sam Ockerby provided a real spark at the end of game with a cunning attempted chip of an out of position Illawarra keeper, but alas it just wasn't going to be Canberra's day in the end.

Many thanks again to Bill for organising and driving the bus; and the hospitality of the Illawarra Football Referees especially Greg Smith the organiser at their end. Also well done for the participation of the younger referee contingent especially the contribution of Greg Taylor and Leon Harris by way of respective Cold Chisel and Green Day renditions later in the evening. Catch all the action on you tube. A final word goes to the referee on the day for a solid job, in what was ultimately a good natured and enjoyable day. Looking forward to next year in Canberra.