



# The 5<sup>th</sup> Law

The VOICE of the Manitoba Soccer Referees' Association

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## NEWS



Scrooge Cup 2011

### Spirit of the season at Scrooge Cup

The Scrooge Cup proved to not be a Bah Humbug affair. With approximately 25 members out to face off against one another and Ricardo Rodriguez as the match official, a fun game of footie began. Red v. Green (note the Christmas theme) had Green leading at half-time but Red under the coaching of Lisa Sansregret, changed tactics at half-time and came back to win the game. Sadly our actual Cup was locked away in the MSA office and we only had our Grinch for picture time!

The other winner that night was Winnipeg Harvest as we collected a "tin for the bin" at the game and it was nice to see support for this cause. Food and drinks were enjoyed by many upstairs at Korner Kicks Lounge after the game and a good time was had by all. Thanks to all who came out and God Bless Us Everyone!!



### Golden U18 National Club Championships for Lagiewka



*Nominated National Referee Kyle Lagiewka was selected as a Referee to the U18 National Club Championships in October. He reflects below on his experiences at the competition.*

To be selected to participate at the 2011 U18 National Club Championships in Fredericton, New Brunswick was both a great privilege and valuable experience. And being able to share it with a colleague, Peter Manastyrsky, made it even more special.

After arriving in Fredericton, we attended a pre-tournament meeting that was led by Mario Perrino, Supervisor of Officials and Tiger Liu, CSA Head of Refereeing. At the meeting, we got a chance to meet with the other nominated candidates from other provinces along with the local officials that would help out throughout the week. We then got into some of the important points that should be maintained throughout the week, including:

- uniform colors for officials (1<sup>st</sup> choice is black, 2<sup>nd</sup> is yellow, and 3<sup>rd</sup> is blue),
- importance of accurate game sheets (ended up requiring a 2<sup>nd</sup> discussion later in the week because some officials were not providing all the details - goals, cautions & write up's, final scores, etc.) and detailed dismissal reports.

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- thinking about positioning, team tactics & formations, and having good cooperation with AR's,
- cut out time wasting,
- get the 4 critical conditions right - yellow card / red card; offside or not; goal or no goal; and penalty calls / kick.
- every night at 7pm would be an hour long educational session going over the day's games (including video highlights of the games) along with other items of importance (i.e. handballs, teamwork, flag technique, etc.).
- the 1<sup>st</sup> two days the assessors will judge our path - either referee or AR as all games were assessed.

During the nightly education sessions, they would go over videos of the day's games, and we hoped to not see ourselves as it seemed that they wanted to point out an area of improvement; and luckily I was able to avoid the TV time. Some of the areas they covered were mechanics - whether it is card administration, ceremonial free kicks, or flag technique, all of which would seem to be straight forward. It's important to know what to do, but it's equally important to apply it, and the video analysis helped to see this.

- Mechanics - card administration was discussed and agreed that the proper technique was to isolate the player, tell him what he's being cautioned for, write it down, and then show the caution, knowing to keep your distance from the player. Then video analysis was shown, which pointed out the difference in knowing what's to be done and applying it on the field (referee isolated the player, administered the caution, and then wrote down in book). CSA does however, recognize the need for a quick card should the situation require it.
- Mechanics - For ceremonial free kicks, the proper way would be to show the whistle to wait for play to restart, walk out the distance and around players in a wall (not through them), get the defenders to retreat the distance, get yourself into the optimal viewing position, and then whistle for the restart. Again, video

analysis indicated differences in knowledge and practical where the referee counted the distance and stopped to move around the players and took up position, without showing the whistle or getting into a better position. They emphasized the need to tell / show everyone (players, coaches, spectators) what's going on.

- Teamwork - Cooperation amongst the team is important, especially in decisions taken near the penalty area as this is one of the 4 critical decisions (penalty call / kick). Therefore, fouls called close to the edge of the penalty area should have some sort of communication (i.e. eye contact, body language) between the referee and AR, no matter how certain the referee is. Video analysis emphasized a lack of attention to this and the assessors and Tiger stressed its importance to at least make eye contact.
- Flag & Running Technique - The implementation of the new flag technique once the AR is in line with the penalty area was discussed. This technique requires the AR to keep the flag in the right hand when side shuffling inside the penalty area. Another flag issue was when the referee whistles and AR signals at the same time - the AR should keep the flag up until the referee signals so that the AR can mirror the referee and avoid mixed signals. For running technique when covering short distances, the AR should side shuffle so that they are directly facing the field. For longer distances, the AR is to run with the flag held in the hand that is inside the field so that it's visible to the referee.

The education sessions were important for the officials and the tournament as it promoted consistency in applying the laws in specific circumstances as well as having the officials learn from the common mistakes in their assessments, and take back this information to their provincial associations.

As for the actual tournament, heading into it, I felt that I would be better suited as an AR and Peter as a referee.

*...conclusion on page 3.*

However, after the 1<sup>st</sup> two days, the feedback I got from the assessors was the opposite, and as a result, the rest of the tournament I would only receive middle assignments and Peter would receive line assignments. It was a great experience and confidence builder given that I always felt more comfortable as an AR; and with the feedback from the assessors, I became more comfortable with the whistle. As for my assignments, I was a referee in 5 games, AR in 2 games, and 4<sup>th</sup> official in 1 game. And my last assignment was as the referee in the boys gold medal game in which Peter was AR2, which made it an even greater experience. Unfortunately, there was a critical decision that I got wrong in this game, one that cost me my chance to be on the National List. However, the experience I gained can only help to improve myself as an official, and hopefully, get a chance at being nominated again in the near future.

Overall, the tournament was a great experience, one that I would not trade, and being able to share it with a colleague and friend made it even better. I congratulate Peter on this great achievement and look forward to the opportunity of joining him in the near future on the CSA National List of Officials.

*Congratulations to Kyle and Peter for an excellent Club Nationals competition. Check out the March edition of the 5<sup>th</sup> Law for a report from Peter Manastyrsky on his experience at the February CSA National Camp.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Manitoba Sportswriters and  
Sportscasters Association Awards

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, **Hector Vergara** will be awarded the MSSA Dallis Beck Memorial Award (the Good Guy Award) for this year as an individual who has shown extraordinary support to the Manitoba Sports Media.

The Award will be presented at the Annual Manitoba Athletes of the Year Dinner, January 29<sup>th</sup> at the Delta Hotel.

## MSRA REFEREE PROFILE

### DAVID HOLDER



**Birthdate:** August 10, 1957

**Home Town:** Winnipeg, MB

**Year Joined the MSRA:** 2002

**Current Class:** District

**Career Highlights:** Ontario Provincial High school girls' Consolation final in Kenora. Playing a small part in the U16 Nationals in Winnipeg.

**Who has been the biggest influence in your career?** My Father.

**Reason you became a Referee:** I took the Referee Course as a part of a Coaching Course and I Referee for the love of the game.

**Favourite Referee Memories:** Any of the Children's Hospital Tournaments.

**Favourite Referee:** Willie Laidlaw.

**Current & Future Goals:** Staying fit & healthy so I can enjoy time with my family & friends, especially with my new best buddy – my Grandson Joe.

## APPOINTMENTS

**Héctor Vergara**, Canada's longest-serving official on the FIFA List of Referees and Assistant Referees (now retired), has been appointed to the FIFA Referees Committee.

Congratulations to Hector on this high level committee appointment.



**Ricardo Rodriguez and John Dela Cruz  
at the 2011 MSRA Awards Banquet**



## RED CARD TRIVIA

### January Trivia

If a goal is scored directly from a throw-in, what decision should the Referee make?

- Award the goal.
- Disallow the goal and order the repetition of the throw-in.
- Disallow the goal and award a throw-in to the opposing team.
- Disallow the goal and award a goal kick.

*Send your answer to [fifthlaw@live.ca](mailto:fifthlaw@live.ca)  
Correct answers will be entered to win a  
\$25 Gift Certificate from Red Card Soccer.*

### November Trivia Answer:

Is it necessary for the ball to leave the corner arc at the time of taking the corner kick, to be considered in play?

- Yes the ball must leave the arc to be in play.
- No, the ball is in play at the moment it is kicked and moves.**
- No, the ball is in play when it has travelled its circumference.
- None of the above.

*Congratulations to the November Trivia winner,  
Gilles Gareau.*



### MSRA 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March	MSRA Potluck TBA
March 17	MSRA SAGM 10:00 am @ Hilton Suites
May 19	Champions League Final Upper Deck Sports Bar
August 18	Provincial Championships Winnipeg Soccer Complex
September	Referee Soccer Game & BBQ Kilcona Park
October 11	MSRA AGM 7:00 pm @ Hilton Suites
November 17	MSRA Awards Banquet 6:00 pm @ Hilton Suites

Check the MSRA Website for more details on our events for 2012!

### NEXT EVENT: MSRA POTLUCK IN MARCH!



Have a request for something you would like included in the next edition of the Fifth Law? We welcome any ideas or contributions from our members!!!

Contact The Fifth Law at [fifthlaw@live.ca](mailto:fifthlaw@live.ca).  
Look for our next edition in March 2012.

