

NZ SOCCER REFEREES NEWS-1

March 2006

THE LAWS OF THE GAME

- Challenges can still be reckless even if a player cleanly plays the ball first before making contact with the opponent

Referees must consider the following:

- Has the tackler considered the potential danger to (safety of) the opponent? (RECKLESS)
- Has the opponent's safety been endangered? (EXCESSIVE FORCE)

Criteria to consider:

- Force/violence of the challenge
- Speed
- Where was the contact
- Opportunity to play the ball - direction
- Intention
- Tactical appreciation
- Match atmosphere

HEY REF

Six players were kicking and punching the referee. A spectator said to the Assistant Referee, "Aren't you going to help?"

The Assistant replied, "No, six should be enough."

CONGRATULATIONS

- New Zealand v Malaysia
Peter O'Leary, Brent Best, Darrin Mitchell, Ian Walker Feb 19
- New Zealand v Malaysia
Neil Fox, Paul Dunham, Stephen Budai, Kevin Stoltenkamp Feb 23
- OFC U-20 Women's Championship
Lisa Benson March 30-April 8
- OFC Women's Course
Leigh Perry, Shannon Smith, Jacqui Stephenson March 27-29
- Dallas Cup
Peter O'Leary April 9-16
- OFC Club Championship
Paul Dunham, Neil Fox, Peter O'Leary May 8-21

THE NZFC - REFEREES

Stephen Fletcher

Family: Married to Lynne
Sons - Matthew aged 13 & Ryan aged 11

Occupation: Operations Finance Manager –
Fuji Xerox New Zealand

Referee Since: 1994 No. of Games: 942 to 30th September 2005

Memorable Games: 1994-5 Lynndale v Warkworth –
First Refereeing Assessment
1995-6 Mt Roskill v Eastern Suburbs -
NZ Badge Test

U17 Poland v Glenfield Rovers

1998-9 Glenfield Rovers v Papatoetoe – Ist Northern Premier Game

2000-1 US1 v Cook Islands
Mt Albert Grammar v Samoa

NZ Secondary Schools v Australian Secondary Schools

NZ Under 17's v Central United

2001-2 Auckland University v AKAL Canada

2002-3 NZ Under 17's v Central United

Kingz v Samoa Kingz v Soccer 2

2003-4 Three Kings United v Vanutau

Samoa v Cook Islands

21 Games Gold Coast Champion's Cup

2004-5 NZ Under 20's v Waitakere City

Eastern Suburbs v Wellington Olympic - Chatham Cup ¼ Final

Nikao v AS Magenta - Oceania World Club Championships

Referee Mentors & Influences: Graeme West, Perry Tompsett, Paul Smith, Graham Whitford
Neil Fox and United Soccer 1 Referees & Board

Refereeing Goal: To Referee well at the highest possible level within New Zealand and to prove to a few that I am a more than capable referee at any Level.

Refereeing Achievements: 1994-5 Awarded Auckland Soccer Referee's Badge
1995-6 Awarded New Zealand Soccer Referee's Badge
2000 Appointed to National Club Championship – Assistant Referee
2002-3 Awarded Level 1 Referees Instructors

Other Refereeing Positions held: Treasurer Auckland Soccer Referees
Chairman United Soccer 1 Referees
NZ Soccer Referee's Committee

Playing Career: Canterbury & South Island Junior Representative
Southern League – Shamrock AFC & Western AFC
Northern League – Lynndale AFC, FC Northland, ASB Whangarei City, Green Bay Titirangi, Waitemata City and Onehunga Mangere United

Coaching Career: Canterbury Junior Representative Teams
Shamrock AFC – Junior & Woman's Teams



FC Northland, Green Bay Titirangi, Waitemata City and Onehunga Mangere
United – Northern League
Bay Olympic – Youth Teams

Other Qualifications: NZ Soccer - National Academy Coaching Licence
NZ Soccer - Coach Educators Instructor Certificate
Board Member United Soccer 1

Career Highlight: Setting up and being involved with United Soccer 1

Career Disappointment: New Zealand's refereeing community is very small and can be easily influenced/controlled by a few allowing politics/personalities involvement in our great game.

NEWS

FIFA has resolved to press ahead with professional refereeing. At the same meeting of the Executive Committee they approved new regulations regarding the nominations for the FIFA International Lists. Each Confederation has a set allocation being (male referees): AFC 191, CAF 233, CONCACAF 93, CONMEBOL 74, UEFA 268 and OCEANIA 25.

A new Under 17 World Championship for women will start in 2008 with 16 teams.

A Bosnian referee may be banned from soccer for a year after he knocked out a player who disagreed with one of his decisions. Dusko Pekija was in charge of Wednesday's derby between FC Sarajevo and FC Zeljeznicar when Sarajevo players, unhappy at not being awarded a penalty kick, attacked him. Pekija hit Samir Saric, knocking out the player for several minutes. The Bosnian Cup match was halted after the incident, with FC Zeljeznicar leading 1-0. *(DATELINE: Sarajevo, November 18, 2005)*

Perth Glory striker Damien Mori agreed to have his wedding ring cut off his finger after he had not been allowed to take the field in an A-League game the day before. In accordance with A-League Rules, Mori was told to remove the ring by FIFA referee Mark Shield prior to kick-off for his side's match against Melbourne. The 35-year-old was unable to do so, even drawing blood as he and English coach Steve McMahon attempted to remove it.

After the Posusje v Sarajevo (0-1) game, referee Lazo Aleksic was beaten up, allegedly because the game should have ended 1-1 in accordance with a supposed agreement with a betting ring. Police had to defend Aleksic who was hit by a number of individuals that included the Posusje coach Vjekoslav Lokica.

FIFA is holding a workshop for the 46 referees who are in consideration for appointment to the 2006 World Cup in Frankfurt 21-25 March. They will have to pass various tests:

- English
- The Laws of the Game
- Fitness
- Medical
- Psychological

Assistant Referees will have a similar workshop in Frankfurt April 18-21, however it will feature more practical sessions on judging offside and teamwork

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