



Head Referee Report **2021-22 Fall/Winter Season**

The 2021-22 season presented some challenges due to the referee shortage we experienced across the province. MWSL overcame some of the challenges by sharing resources with local youth clubs and leagues. We developed a partnership with the FVSL, where we provided them with referees in areas they needed supports, and the FVSL in turn provided refereeing crews in areas we required assistance. We look forward to continuing and developing this partnership with the FVSL.

During the 2021-22 season, over 95% of AR spots were covered. Again, we partnered with some local clubs and utilized the assistance of the clubs' head referees to ensure we had assistant referees for most of the games which required them. Unfortunately, we had three games being played without a referee this year. All those games had referees assigned to the game, but the referees were not able to attend the game for reasons beyond their control (two stuck in traffic and one with car issues) in which we could not replace the referees by game time.

All the game reports and emails from the members are read and reviewed. The game reports are used as a tool for us to gauge referee performance, and whether the referee should be observed in person. This year, I observed numerous games across all divisions and all areas of the Valley and Lower Mainland. This was done to witness referee performances firsthand and provide support where needed. Your reports are very important to the referee program - please keep filling them!

Lastly, I would like to thank all the referees, players, coaches, and managers for making this a great season, despite the numerous challenges our society, and more specifically the soccer community faced.

Thanks for your continued support, and I look forward to a great Spring season!

Emad Ghashghaee
Head Referee
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