



### **Head Referee Report 2021-22 season**

This year is unique due to the previous year's cancelled season due to Covid. Many referees across the province chose not to return to refereeing after being off for more than a year. This presented a challenge across many leagues, as there was, and still is a referee shortage across the province.

In years past, we avoided assigning referees to multiple games in a day, or back-to-back games. This year, because of the referee shortage, referees were often assigned to multikey games a day, often going from one field to another.

There are also some issues with BC Soccer and their ability to register referees who did not attend a refresher course during 2020-21 season, which saw very few games played in the province. BC Soccer is still dealing with registration and refresher issues. We have asked BC Soccer to take leadership in those areas, as well as to provide more entry level courses and mentoring to help alleviate the referee shortage. Although many referees did not return this season, we did recruit a few referees to join our team! We're very happy to have these referees join and contribute to our league,

MWSL hosted a female only Entry Level Course in August. This course was not greatly attended but has produced a few referees who have been officiating in the league since the start of the season. The league would like to host another course if there is interest from the membership.

We continue to work with the local clubs and leagues to share resources and coordinate referee assignments to ensure all games are covered. We look to continue and grow our collaborative efforts in the months and years to come.

Despite the challenges the season has presented, to date, all the games have been covered. Most Premier and Selects A games have also been assigned assistant referees

We ask the teams to continue to submit their match reports and include any valuable (factual) information regarding the referees' performances. The reports are reviewed and are a very valuable feedback mechanism to evaluate and provide feedback for the referees.

I look forward to continued success for the MWSL as a league, its teams, members, and the refereeing team.

Thanks for your continued support.

Emad Ghashghaee

Head Referee/Referee Assignor

MWSL