

Len De Julius
Director of Member Services Candidate

Lower Mainland BCFOA Members:

I would like to start by introducing myself to those of you who don't know me. My name is Len De Julius and I am running for the position of Director of Member Services for Metro Vancouver. I am employed as the Principal of Archbishop Carney Regional Secondary School in Port Coquitlam. I have been a part of the BCFOA for the past 13 years and thoroughly enjoy my time on the field officiating high school football games. Perhaps the most enjoyable part, is being able to officiate with such a terrific group of people. I enjoy the camaraderie before and after the game as well as working together in the classroom to improve our performance on the field. I am running for this position as I would like to help try to make a wonderful organization better for all of us.

I believe the main focus in this position should be the recruitment of new members. It is important to our organization's survival that we work to have new officials for both Canadian and American football. Through my years of working in schools I have been able to make numerous contacts throughout the Lower Mainland in both basketball and football. I plan to use these contacts to help with recruiting. I will contact coaches of football high schools following the completion of each season and ask to give a presentation to the graduating seniors. In addition, I will use my basketball contacts and consult with the many football officials who also work basketball games to attend basketball meetings to speak about becoming a member of the BCFOA. I will work to provide new recruits with the necessary information for things like ordering gear and the basic expectations of our association. The hope with this is that we can bring in new officials who are ready to officiate sooner and understand what is required of them. This information would include everything from their rate of pay per game to expected arrival times to their deportment and more. I believe that one of the things we have been lacking in years past is not just getting people to make the original commitment to officiate but more that there hasn't been enough follow through once that commitment is made. Adding new members will benefit all of us as it will eventually eliminate the need to have officials work more than one game in a day and thereby prevent the rush from a game in Abbotsford to another in Burnaby.

In addition to recruiting, I believe the health, welfare and happiness of our current members is of vital importance. In the past few years I have observed a number of different officials and have worked to help mentor some of our newer officials. I have also spent the last 3 years as the HS Education coordinator. In that time, I have realized that the Director of Member Services plays a vital role in our association. This person must continually think about how they can help their colleagues and must do so in a variety of different ways. In addition to

recruiting, I will try to work with the schools to secure changeroom and shower areas wherever possible. I will also try to increase the BCFOA brand by discussing with suppliers the possibility of including the BCFOA logo on hats and jerseys and other items. Most importantly, I will listen to our members and do what I can to help them with whatever issues they may have.

In short, if I am elected I will help the Executive work to make the BCFOA stronger by adding new members and speaking with our current members to make sure they have access to what they need to be happy and continue to improve. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at: lendejulius@gmail.com or 604-376-8189.

Sincerely,

Len De Julius