

## 2022 AGM Report

### Club Head Referee (CHR)

This year was again a difficult year for referees for KDSC but it was also an issue across the province. The number of games returned closer to what we had in 2019 but the number of referees was only 40% of those registered in that year. By the end of the season the number of referees KDSC had was about 50% of the pre-pandemic numbers.

Due to the uncertainty of whether there would be a soccer season a number of referees did not register this year. Others didn't register due to changed situations that didn't allow for them to be involved as referees.

In 2019 we had 23 referees of which 3 were adults and 3 were mini soccer referees. In 2021 we only had 9 referees of which 3 were adults and 2 were mini soccer referees. In 2022 we started the year with 9 referees of whom 5 were adults and 2 were mini soccer referees. That number increased to 13 by season end. Given this situation we will be looking at how to recruit more referees during the off season to build our numbers back up to pre-pandemic levels.

Those referees that we did have included 5 who returned, 1 who returned using a special Ontario Soccer program and 1 from Brockville who offered to assist KDSC where needed. We added 6 new referees including 2 adults. Because of these low numbers a number of house league games were played without a referee. In addition we also were not able to consistently provide Assistant Referees (AR's) for the competitive teams in the EODSA League and the teams in the OCSL. The main issue was on Sunday nights when 3 men's games were played and at least 4 adult referees were required for the games being played. We were unable to provide assistant referees to the Men's C4 team for most of their season. As well we had issues on Tuesday nights when the U16 competitive boys and girls teams played home games on the same nights. The effort made by our referees to be available to cover games was greatly appreciated. A number of them were on the field up to 6 nights per week to ensure that a game had a referee or assistant referees.

Hopefully this winter, education sessions can be conducted from January to March via Zoom for all returning referees and an assistant referee refresher can be held in May. The winter education sessions for returning referees will focus instruction on any changes to the Laws of the Game as well as other topics such as dealing with coaches and foul recognition.