



**We can put **YOU**  
in the game!**

**Lower Mainland Football Referees Association**  
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#### LMFRA BRIEF

The Lower Mainland Football Referees Association (LMFRA) has been working with some football communities since the early 1970's. Our association provides football referees for our two major clients the VMFL the Vancouver Mainland Football League their games are played on weekdays and Sundays in the municipalities of: Vancouver, Westside, New West Minister, Coquitlam, Richmond, North Delta, South Delta, Langley, Cloverdale, White Rock and North Surrey and the VCFL the Valley Committee Football League their games are played on weekdays and Saturdays in the municipalities of: Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Meadow Ridge, Mission, and North Langley.

Our football season begins in August. Most communities in both leagues (VMFL and VCFL) hold annual tournaments. The tournaments involve teams from all levels of football: Atom (7-9 yrs.), Pee Wee (10-11 yrs.), Junior Bantam (JB) (12 - 13 yrs.), Bantam (14 - 15 yrs.) and Midget (16 - 18 yrs.). A number of mini games are played over a period of one, two or three days depending the number teams registered. Our association provides football officials for these games. This is our pre-season; we use these games to train our new officials and to keep our members tuned up for the regular season that kicks off on Labour Day. The regular season is normally ten weeks long followed by playoff games and the committee and Provincial finals.

Our new members begin by completing a Registration Form and sending the completed form to LMFRA Secretary. Criteria for prospective members they must be 13 years old or older, we would like to have people that have played football or other sports, but it is not a requirement. We begin by having all our new officials attend a required training session (Level 1) usually held in early July. This one day course made up of class room and on field training, introduces the new members to the organization of the CFOA (Canadian Football Officials Association) and an overview of the Canadian Amateur Rule Book for Tackle football. When the new members make the decision to join our organization they must purchase a uniform (requirements are in the LMFRA Handbook given to each members at the Level 1 course.

Then it's on to the field in August to put the rules to work.