



Referees from across BC are gearing up for the third season of the EA SPORTS BC Soccer Premier League

Vancouver, BC – February 14, 2014

When referee Stephen Lebrechthausen steps on the field to officiate BC SPL matches, he does so with a sense of development and purpose in mind. Lebrechthausen commented, "Officiating in a league with professional standards, top youth players, and dedicated coaches means each match has a focus and certain energy that I love". Over the course of 7 years refereeing soccer, Lebrechthausen has officiated at all levels of high performance play including the Super Y League, Whitecaps academy, BC SPL, and CIS/PACWEST university matches, with the highest level matches he's officiated being USL matches in the W-League and PDL. Lebrechthausen went on to add, "The BC SPL is an environment which every young up and coming official should be a part of. These matches are very competitive and demand a high standard of performance. Meeting and exceeding this standard is what I personally strive for and to ensure the laws of the game are adhered to, with safety and enjoyment a top priority".

Lebrechthausen is one of many officials from across the province who has officiated in nearly every weekend of BC SPL play since the league launched its inaugural fall exhibition season in 2011. As a BC Soccer registered referee with regional certification, Lebrechthausen now often finds himself assisting other young developmental officials who are getting their feet wet in BC's high performance youth league. In 2011, Lebrechthausen was awarded BC Soccer's "Official of the Year – Youth", and regularly gets called upon for elite level competitions around the province.

League General Manager Matt Holbrook noted, "Stephen works tirelessly in pursuing his passion, and along with his other duties officiating in adult and college leagues, he always finds time to make himself available to us. It is a joy to see professional young officials who give their all for the game and to help grow the BC SPL. Stephen will be officiating on our opening weekend Feb 22/23, and we look forward to seeing all the other top officials officiating in the BC SPL in 2014."



About the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League

The EA SPORTS BC Soccer Premier League was designed to create a new high performance level of competition and support player development at the Provincial, Professional and National team level. It will simplify scouting of top young players, provide an elevated level of competition and increase the chance for players fulfilling their potential and creates a dynamic new commercial property at the pinnacle of youth soccer in BC.

For further information about the EA SPORTS BC Soccer Premier League, please contact:

Matt Holbrook, General Manager: qm@bcsoccerpremierleague.net