



# MEMORANDUM

# FOOTBALL CANADA

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**DATE:** March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
**TO:** CFOA Member Associations & Football Canada Provincial Offices  
**CC:** CFOA Executive  
**FROM:** Shannon Donovan, Director of Operations  
**SUBJECT:** **Tom Cheney Award**

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The Tom Cheney Award, inaugurated in 1978 in honour of the late Tom Cheney, a nationally respected football official and educator, will be presented to a worthy recipient at the 2012 CFOA Biennial Conference, which will be held in Quebec City, May 18-21, 2012.

This award is presented every two years to an individual for his or her outstanding contribution and service toward the improvement of football officiating in Canada.

Football Canada and the Canadian Football Officials' Association are seeking nominations for this most prestigious Award.

Please review the attached document, which outlines the criteria by which nominees are evaluated, and forward your nominations to:

**Football Canada**  
**c/o Shannon Donovan, Director of Operations**  
**2255 – 100 St-Laurent BLVD, Ottawa, ON, K1G4K3**

**OR via e-mail**

[operations@footballcanada.com](mailto:operations@footballcanada.com) and [mgroleau@cogeco.ca](mailto:mgroleau@cogeco.ca)

The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2012.

Sincerely,

Shannon Donovan

**CONFIDENTIAL:** *This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and contains confidential information. If received in error, please notify us immediately and destroy this copy.*

## THE TOM CHENEY AWARD

The Tom Cheney Award was named after the late Tom Cheney, Football official and educator, a member of the Calgary Football Officials' Association, a field official in all levels of football from minor league to CFL, an original member of the Officials' Working Committee and the Editor of the Football Canada Officials' Training Manual.

His coordination of the material for the Manual was responsible for the excellence of that manual, which is respectfully dedicated to Tom.

After his death, in 1977, the CFOA executive purchased a trophy named for Tom. In view of his long years of dedicated service to the improvement of officiating, it was decided that the trophy would be awarded bi-annually to the person who most nearly approached the Cheney level. The Award is, therefore, given for "outstanding contribution and service toward the improvement of football officiating in Canada."

It is fairly obvious that such a contribution and such service will be built up over a number of years - although this does not preclude an outstanding effort in a single year. At the same time, the performance should be within the reasonably recent past - say the last 10 years, rather than something which happened 30 years ago. Once again, there should be enough flexibility in the decision making process to allow for variations in recommendations.

The type of criteria by which such outstanding contributions may be evaluated will probably include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

1. Executive-type position on local, provincial or national officials' association, where the effect of his/her leadership has moved the association forward in officiating competency.
2. Clinician on local, provincial or national clinics, where the knowledge and ability to impart the knowledge to other officials has produced a marked improvement in officiating competency.
3. Organizer of clinics, meetings, or other educational forums whose purpose is to improve officiating competency.
4. Developer of educational material, such as rule material, case book material, manual material, teaching and instructional techniques, visual aid material, or any other type of instructional material, on a local, provincial, or national basis, whose purpose is to improve officiating competency.
5. Evaluator of officiating performance at the local, provincial or national level, where the result of such evaluations and constructive criticism has produced a noticeable improvement in officiating competency.
6. Field official work: while it is not necessary that the person be an outstanding field official, it is probable that the person would be a competent field official. The fact that the person is an outstanding field official only, without some or all of the capabilities covered in 1 to 5, would not normally make the person a candidate for the Tom Cheney Award.

In making the final selection, the CFOA executive should be provided with as much supporting data as possible as evidence of the contribution and service of the individual recommended. Concrete results, e.g. publications, number of clinics held, number of officials trained, etc., should also be provided as evidence of the effectiveness of the contribution.

## Recipients of the Tom Cheney Award

Year	Recipients
1978	Jack Gurney, Ottawa
1980	Wayne Fleming, Edmonton
1982	Bob Turnbull, Winnipeg
1984	Jacques Decarrie, Montréal
1986	Harold Ferguson, Edmonton
1988	Tip Logan, Hamilton
1990	Ken Green, Toronto
1992	Dave Shields, Ottawa
1994	Bernie Young, Montréal
1996	Don Kent, Regina
1998	Bill Glendinning, Moncton
2000	Ron Walsh, Saskatoon
2002	Jack Leitch, Toronto
2004	Vern Heath, Calgary
2006	Murray Taylor, Toronto
2008	Ron Hallock, Winnipeg
2010	Jack Anderson, Moncton