

THE TOM CHENEY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT 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."

A contribution of this level will be built up over a number of years. Consideration of contributions within the reasonably recent past will be weighted more heavily. However, dated or historical information will still demonstrate consistency and set the framework for a lifetime award.

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, 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.