



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

October 29, 2002

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BIG TURNOUT TO HEAR BOB EVANS; CSL GAME COUNT UP TO 615; LEAGUE CUP STARTING; UCLA HAS A TOURNAMENT

A crowd of 48 jammed the Employees' Lounge at the Redondo Beach City Hall to hear the featured speaker of the evening, ex-FIFA referee **Robert Evans**, whose theme for his long, entertaining and insightful talk was What is Best for the Players and the Game.

[The complete recorded speech, at least as complete as could be understood and taped despite all the shouting and laughter, will be sent out as a separate ten-page e-mail attachment.]

Assignor **Bill Cook** noted that we have officiated 615 CSL games so far in September and October, all but seven with three referees, a record which is making the league very happy. We are now doing League Cup games, and have been assigned eight premier-level games.

In addition, we have been awarded 15 games on November 9 and 10 at UCLA sponsored by the Anderson School of Business for a tournament involving two UCLA men's teams and six others from business schools at Chicago, Pepperdine, USC, UCI, UC Berkeley and Stanford. *[Business majors-soccer players. Oxymoron?]*

Bill is in the process of making the assignments for this and other upcoming events.

IN OTHER NEWS

North H.S. An incident at North H.S. involving a parent who threatened to sue one of our referees if he allowed play to continue on a muddy field was discussed. The referee terminated the game. The league has put the team on notice and has banned the parent from attendance at future games. Several in the audience were of the opinion that the referee should not have been influenced by the parent. Another suggestion was that he could have had the player taken out of the game at his parent's option.

The Roster. The secretary announced that the roster has grown to 85, and several more are expected to be added in the near future.

Visitors. The group welcomed four visitors: **Rick Duvall, Aldo Ginossi, Victor Gutierrez** and **Manuel Barahona**. All have expressed interest in joining SSBRA.

Door Prizes. Winners included **Paula Borstel** (write-on cards), **Jon Ziegler** (flags) and **Reza Pazirandeh** (referee bag).

The Treasury. The treasurer reported that we have \$2452 in the bank.

THE FEATURED SPEAKER

Training director **Keith Gendler** launched into a lengthy biographical introduction of the featured speaker of the evening, Bob Evans. (The same information was recently sent out by e-mail, and is also in Evan's book "For the Good of the Game.")

Briefly, Evans is a former player in Wales, Texas and elsewhere, an ex-NASL and FIFA referee (1979-1987), and a USSF national instructor and assessor.

In his talk, interrupted often by comments, applause and laughter from the audience, Bob's main points were that referees are not the most important people in the game, players are. That refereeing for the feeling of authority it gives is wrong. That too many in the room should not be doing games in the older, competitive brackets because they are not fit enough (he hopes that in a year from now more than 60% would be under 55 years old, that we should be recruiting and training younger referees, and that older referees should be moving down to the 12s and 10s). That linesmen are superfluous in under-14 games, and that the two-man system is discredited.

He illustrated his approach to managing players with examples of how to use psychological "stuff" to deflect dissent, and using positive actions, such as compliments for good play and cooperation, learning and using the names of the players, sharing their pleasure in the game, showing concern for their welfare, and so on, to become a "colleague" of the

players and provide the best service to the players and the game.

In dealing with coaches, his approach is to ask for cooperation early, and when it is not forthcoming through sideline dissent, to quickly caution them and send them off.

He advocates every referee learn from all sources how to be more confident in ones ability as a referee, and develop a persona and a reputation as a referee.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 21, 2002

Agenda Items and Decisions:

- We have committed 30 referees for the 2003/4 Mission Viejo Invitationals.
- A referee in another association has been accused of sexual harassment.
- New members: **Brian Miller, Martin Haynes, Mike Hassani, and Harry Markowitz.**
- October speaker: Robert Evans. Keith coordinating his travel and housing arrangements.
- Web site technical committee should meet ASAP.
- Received two responses for member-at-large.
- Incident at North game reviewed.
- Complaint about a member's actions in upsetting teams. He will be looked at in next game.
- Two new members to be assessed and fined for several no-shows and late cancellations.
- One member incorrectly retained blue card of coach he sent off.
- Another member's faulty AR technique to be looked at at his next game.
- Goalpost anchors: **must** be anchored. Use tire irons as temporary solution. Field at premier games not anchored; CSL not correcting matter.
- CSL League Cup games starting up.
- We received compliments from CSL officials.

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NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: *NOVEMBER 26, 2002*

TIME: *7:30 P.M.*

PLACE: *REDONDO BCH. CITY
HALL EMPL. LOUNGE,
CARNELIAN & BWAY.*

AGENDA: *TRAINING, BUSINESS
AND ASSIGNMENTS*