



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

June 27, 2003

Editor: Dick Eastman

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

Pres.: L. Stern; VP: J. Ziegler; Secr.: R. Eastman; Treas.: T. Mallen; Assignor: W. Cook; Membership: K. Gendler; At Large: W. Howell, B. O'Donnell

LIVELY TRAINING SESSION BUT SMALL ATTENDANCE; WEB SITE TO GROW

A small crowd of 25 members came to the June meeting, attracted possibly by distribution of fee checks, but they stuck around for a boisterous training session led by **Keith Gendler** in his best rabble-rousing style.

Taking his cue from the 2003 USSF version of the famous 7 + 7 Offenses publication, Keith picked out some items from the list of cautionable items to stir up sometimes heated discussion among the members. Hopefully, more clarity on the intent of the Laws and USSF's interpretations was shed.

He pointed out that some actions (those in bold print in the publication) were mandatory, giving the referee no choice but to administer a yellow card, and some are judgment calls. But he noted that even for the mandatory items the referee is allowed to view an action in alternate ways (e.g., diving is a mandatory yellow, but you can judge that the diver was just clumsy and do nothing). A deliberate handball is also a mandatory caution, but only if you judge that it was a tactical move to interfere with an attack.

By this thinking the crafty referee is still the master of his domain, *if* he knows how to interpret the rules.

Keith has a "professional" version of the 7 + 7 paper, which assigns severity points to each of the offenses, the least severe rating a 1, and the most serious a 4. Player statistics are assembled by MLS to keep tabs on individual misconduct throughout the season.

Following president **Larry Stern's** cue, Keith briefly described the board's intention to greatly expand the SSBRA Web site (www.ssbra.org) from a simple game assignment system to a full-blown information source on the association, current announcements, the Laws and various advisories, edu-

cation and training, and licensing, plus links to other useful sites.

[Some of this information is in the recently-published Guide to the Association.]

This ambitious plan requires someone to act as Webmaster, both to do the initial setup and to keep the contents current. The Webmaster is yet to be named.

As envisaged by Keith himself, the site would eventually contain current and past issues of this publication, as well as various useful forms for membership application, availability, etc.

OTHER ITEMS, IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER

Longtime member **Marty Jeffers** was given a round of applause at the meeting. He is back among us after bypass surgery.

Secretary **Dick Eastman** has updated the roster to highlight those whose dues (1 July deadline plus 60-day grace period) have not yet been paid. 37 out of a total of 98 on the roster are in that category.

Treasurer **Tom Mallen** distributed his current financial summary statement, showing a build-up of the treasury to \$1872 as a result of dues payments so far. He also handed out the aforementioned tournament fee checks.

Assignor **Bill Cook** stated that his phone hasn't been ringing (for requests to support tournaments) but last-minute calls are always possible. An event on the July 4th weekend by Coastal Quest and one on August 9-11 by South Bay Soccer Club (at the Home Depot Center fields) are strong possibilities.

Bill also mentioned that from time he e-mails communications from CYSA-S, USSF, Coast Soccer, etc. to the entire membership. If some item doesn't apply to you, just ignore it. He has been getting many unnecessary calls on some of these items: remember, he's just the messenger!

+++++

USSF registration paperwork starting to arrive in the mail should NOT be mailed in: **Penny Rehm**, CYSA-S registrar, will be coming to our August 26 meeting and will collect them there for speedy handling.

Larry announced that we are tentatively planning to go to a Galaxy game on Wednesday, July 30. Group ticket rates apply. We might possibly be able to meet with the refs after the game. All those interested are to let him know ASAP.

The subject of match reports was brought up: any time a serious event occurs at your game requiring a match report be sent to the organizers, a copy must be also sent to SSBRA. In addition, the assignor or the president should be called about the matter. We have a game report form that may be used (see the secretary for copies).

Lastly, Larry reminded everyone that we are dark in July: **NO MEETING**. The next monthly gathering is on August 26.

+++++

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING,
JUNE 18, 2003**

- Keith presented his master plan to expand the SSBRA Web site by creating a repository of information about the association, including a home page, a menu, a president's message, announcements of upcoming events, data describing the association, the Flag and Whistle, competitions and assignments, the Laws, education and training, re-certification and upgrading, etc., etc. The aim is to enhance communication with the members.
- A fight during one of our refs' games resulted in inquiries by the tournament organizers and the police being alerted. Report written and matter resolved.
- \$1872 in treasury.
- Holding tournament checks until next meeting.
- Status of outstanding fines reviewed. To send out reminders.
- Marty Jeffers called about organizing a group to go to a Galaxy game. Need 15 to 20.

+++++

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING,
JUNE 24, 2003**

Following the monthly meeting, the board met briefly to discuss the matter of a Webmaster for the Web site. Tabled for further action.

REMINDER: MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: *AUGUST 26, 2003*
TIME: *7:30 P.M.*
PLACE: *REDONDO BCH. CITY HALL EMPL. LOUNGE, CARNELIAN & B'WAY.*
AGENDA: *BUSINESS AND TRAINING.*
SPEAKER: *PENNY REHM*