



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

August 26, 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, L. Jordan, B. O'Donnell

HUGE TURNOUT FOR USSF REGISTRATION WITH THE REHMS AND TOM BOBADILLA

A crowd of over 54 members and five guests jammed the Redondo Beach City Hall employees' lounge to turn in their 2004 registration forms and monies to **Penny Rehm**, CYAS-S registrar, take a written test administered by **Tom Bobadilla** (chairman of the State Referee Committee) with help from **Mike Rehm**, Penny's husband, and grill those worthies about badges and requirements.

Tom promised that badges and referee ID cards will be mailed much sooner than in previous years, but also asked for mercy and understanding, since the office responsible is only three deep to service 170,000 (?) referees.

The 50-question written test, something of a "snap" quiz since no one expected to take it at the meeting, was a cooperative affair, with small groups huddled to read each question and agree on the right answer.

Notably among some controversial questions was one asking: true or false, the assistant referee should raise his flag for a player in an offside position. Tom attempted to restore calm by explaining that no trick was intended by the wording and that the question referred to an *offside* player, not one who is only in an offside position.

Referees in grades 7 and above are still expected to take a physical fitness test to retain their current status.

MALLEN DISTRIBUTES TOURNAMENT CHECKS BUT WITH A WARNING

Treasurer **Tom Mallen** gave out tournament fee checks to all those present, but warned that checks dated August 25 were NOT to be cashed until September 2nd. These checks will bounce and cost us a big overdrawn account fee.

He continues to deduct 2003-4 dues from the fees where applicable. He reported that the treasury has grown to \$2601.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Dick Eastman reported that membership has shrunk a little to 95 on the roster, but that new names coming in are beefing up the totals.

Eight members on the roster have yet to send in their renewal checks or indicate their intention to drop out. YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE! This F&W is the last mailing to delinquent members.

ASSIGNOR BILL COOK SPEAKS

Bill noted that the over \$18000 in tournament fees we have received to date are a strong indicator that we have been very busy and that we get these assignments because we do a very good job.

He has 130 games to assign this (Labor Day) weekend, requiring about 64 referees, but that between 50 and 60 slots must be reassigned because of many holes in his schedule.

He warned that he assigns by going down his list from best to worst: if you decline games after indicating your availability, you will drop down toward the bottom. The message: **he needs your correct availability status!**

Coast Soccer League's fall season begins in a couple of weeks, and assignments will go out by the CSL's own Web-based system. He has over 1400 games to assign from September 6 through the end of November, not including League Cup games.

He explained that everyone has the same ID and password as last season, but that you can change your password or other personal data once you are into your own site. Do not reregister, since the CSL system cannot accept multiple entries for the same person.

If you decline an assignment, you no longer have to e-mail him separately of that fact; the system has been changed so he now can see it on his assignor's display.

The J-League starts on September 6.

Bill made a suggestion that those traveling to far-flung tournaments should remember to set up car-pools to save on expenses. Look at those assigned on adjacent fields at the same game times to arrange car-pools, not just your own referee team personnel.

THE PRESIDENT: THE CSL, THE HIGH SCHOOL GROUP, AND OTHER MATTERS

Larry Stern reported that he and Bill Cook attended the CSL's preseason planning meeting. Some tidbits he learned there: their premier-level games will be at the Carson Home Depot Center, so we might expect to get more of those prestigious assignments which formerly were in far Orange County.

The league is also starting an elite program, teams that will compete at high levels against semi-pro and professional teams in the U.S. and Europe.

He advised that if there is a fight or referee abuse in any of your games, pull the ID cards of the responsible parties, go to the CYSA-S Web page and make a report there immediately, as well as notify the SSBRA board.

As to tournament field marshals, if they ask you to do something, such as run a reverse diagonal, DO IT! Some fields will be pulled from club or league use if the owners are unhappy with our response, and of course the association will suffer accordingly.

He informed the group that team members MUST be in the same color shirts. This requires that all have in their bags one of each of the four official USSF colors: gold, black, red and blue. He is considering a fine system for any referee who does not bring all four to games and therefore does not match the other two refs. His advice: use your tournament fees to buy the shirts you are missing. Sleeve length, he stated, is less important.

As an aside, Larry mentioned that the SCSOA, the high school referee group, will begin its mandatory preseason clinic series on October 15/16 at a site yet to be determined.

Larry announced that another member-at-large has been appointed to the board. He is **Lee Jordan**, Webmaster for SSBRA's Web site.

Finally, he promised everyone that Tom Bobadilla will be the speaker at September's meeting.

DRAWING WINNERS

Winners of the door prize giveaways were:

- **Kirk Zielomski**, who got a Galaxy key and card holder,
- **Reza Pazirandeh**, a set of A.R. flags, and
- **Derek Taylor**, proud recipient of a leather referee bag.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, AUGUST 19, 2003

- Reviewed list of paid and unpaid members, known dropouts (5), those still owing dues (13).
- Reviewed and approved applications from: **Rick Guerin, David Jernigan, and Eric Winter**.
- \$1891 in bank account.
- Discussed members without full complement of shirts colors or with shabby uniforms. Fines considered.
- All J-L games are at Trident.
- CSL meeting on August 20.
- PSL has elected **Umberto Castro** as referee coordinator.
- Suggestion to set up a mentoring program.
- Discussed how to proceed with Web site changes.
- Penny Rehm at next meeting.

At short meeting on August 26, **Ernesto Perez, Don Young, and Matthew Boles** were approved.

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MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: *SEPTEMBER 23, 2003*

TIME: *7:30 P.M.*

PLACE: *REDONDO BCH. CITY HALL EMPL. LOUNGE, CARNELIAN & B'WAY.*

AGENDA: *BUSINESS AND TRAINING.*

SPEAKER: *TOM BOBADILLA*