



# The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

January 27, 2004

Editor: Dick Eastman

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

www.ssbra.org

President: Larry Stern

VP: Jon Ziegler

Secretary: Dick Eastman

Treasurer: Tom Mallen

Assignor: Bill Cook

Training & Membership: Keith Gendler

At Large: Warren Howell, Brian O'Donnell

Webmaster: Lee Jordan

## A LESSON IN REPORT WRITING; STATE CUP ASSIGNMENTS OUT; CSL HAS 1800 TEAMS

A game incident report written by one of SSBRA's rookie members got a severe roasting at this the first meeting of 2004 on January 27. The assembled group of 35 received a snap assignment from president **Larry Stern** to rewrite and/or criticize a report about an incident at the Fury Cup after he read out loud the original report--of course somewhat redacted to conceal the author's identity.

Assignor **Bill Cook** reported that assignments for the State Cup games at Bakersfield and Lancaster have been posted on the Web site for January 31/February 1 and February 7/8. All slots have been confirmed for the first weekend's games; a few openings are still available for the second weekend.

Bill emphasized that rules, directions to the fields, etc., are available on CYSA-S's Web site at [www.calsouth.com](http://www.calsouth.com), so it's not really necessary to bug him about these matters. Webmaster **Lee Jordan** added that our own site (see address at the top of this page) has a link to Cal South's.

Coming soon after these games will be those for the National Cup, the J-League and the Spring League.

### The Roster.

Secretary **Dick Eastman** reported that the membership roster continues to grow: currently consisting of 106 names. Tragically, one of those members is no longer among us: **Steve Oates** passed away on December 19 after a short fight against cancer.

A memorial service for Steve on January 9 was attended by upwards of 400 of his family, friends and fellow referees at the Manhattan Beach Community Church. The affair was at once somber, humorous and life-affirming of a well-liked man with many interests and accomplishments.

A memorial fund for him has been set up to receive donations. The fund's address is c/o American Youth Soccer Organization, Section One, 7815 Yorktown Place, Los Angeles 90045. The fund will be used to help impoverished AYSO regions throughout Southern California with uniforms and other soccer supplies.

Coincidentally, another familiar name also passed away on December 19: **Bob Fraser**, the organizer and mainstay of the USALSO, the local women's league. Until a few years ago, SSBRA worked all of that league's games at Columbia Park in Torrance. A fund in his memory has been set up; send contributions to North High School Girls Soccer, Atten. Mizzy, at 3620 182nd St., Torrance, 90504.

### Finances.

Treasurer **Tom Mallen** reported a treasury balance of \$1600. He is currently awaiting the check for the Fury Cup fees.

Tom showed off the final design of the SSBRA polo shirt: black with gray collar. Cost is \$23. He took orders at the meeting and invites others interested to e-mail him at [thmallen@earthlink.net](mailto:thmallen@earthlink.net). Include quantity and size.

### The President Speaks.

Larry did not give a State of the Association speech for January, but more a grab bag of miscellaneous information.

He first read an e-mail from **Tom Bobadilla** of CYSA-S asking for donations from referees who know **Dio Cordero**, a longtime referee in this area, a former member of various referee groups including SSBRA and SCSOA, and a top-level instructor, to a fund to help his family with medical expenses for him.

Dio was injured when struck by a car in Costa Rico where now lives. Donations are being collected by **Penny Rehm** of Cal South, 385 South Lemon Ave., Suite E-390, Walnut, CA 91789, and will be turned over to **Heinz Wolmerath** for Dio's family.

At Larry's request, new members **Erik Lee** and **Christiaan Wagener** introduced themselves to the group.

### **Training.**

Substituting for training director **Keith Gendler**, who was unable to make the meeting, Larry undertook the training portion of the evening's agenda by reading a very lengthy and colorful game report written by one of our members following an incident at the Fury Cup.

Apparently a spectator took umbrage at an offside call, repeatedly shouting his opinion that it wasn't an offside. When the center referee went over to turn off this unwanted critique, the person in question would not leave the area, because, quote, "I'm not with this team, I'm coaching the next game."

After some further verbal exchange between this person and the referee, the fellow was led away from the field and the game resumed. To make a long (*very long*) story short, the referee agreed with the tournament organizers' request to move to another field for the next game, in order to put some separation between the combatants.

Our fearless member wrote a game report about the incident which Larry read aloud and asked the group to rewrite. Breaking up into little teams and discussing how *they'd* do it, the teams' overwhelming consensus was to delete almost all of the verbiage, sticking to the bare facts of what was said and done in the incident. All extraneous material was excised as unnecessary and/or unflattering, thus turning "One of the worst reports I've ever seen," according to Larry, into something much more acceptable.

### **Drawing.**

Attendance prizes were won by **Scott Ziegler** (*again!*), **Marty Jeffers** and **Kirk Zielomski**. **Greg Sirbu's** name was pulled out of the hat but trashed because he had left earlier in the evening, so he lost out on the grand prize of a \$50 gift certificate at Soccer Central.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JANUARY 21, 2004**

- We have at least three fields at the State Cup Bakersfield games on 1/31-2/1. 20 have volunteered to go. U11 the first weekend; U12 and 13 the next weekend.
- Suggestion for Association to pay car expenses to distant sites turned down.
- Fury Cup was poorly organized. Examples given.
- Game report read. To be used at next monthly's training session.
- Treasury at \$1889.
- CYSA-S Youth Camp: do we have any candidates? To investigate.
- To push to get more (any?) premier level games next CSL season.
- Decision made on association shirt: Cross Creek, black, \$23.

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0

## **NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

**DATE:** *FEBRUARY 24, 2004*  
**TIME:** *7:30 P.M.*  
**PLACE:** *REDONDO BCH. CITY  
HALL EMPL. LOUNGE,  
CARNELIAN & B'WAY.*  
**AGENDA:** *TOURNAMENTS,  
BUSINESS AND TRAINING*