



# The Flag and Whistle

## Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

April 30, 2006

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, Ca 90505

Editor: Warren Howell

[www.ssbra.org](http://www.ssbra.org)

President: Keith Gendler

Vice President: Ed McClure

Secretary: Warren Howell

Treasurer: Tom Mallen

Assignor: Bill Cook

Past President: Larry Stern

At Large: Gabriel Goldsman

Training: Heidi Garlick

Webmaster: Lee Jordan

### MEMBERS TOLD TO ASSUME THE POSITIONS; ADVICE TO “STAY COOL” COMES FROM A SURPRISING QUARTER; TOM GETS NO SUPPORT

Breaking sharply with tradition, President **Keith Gendler** opened the April meeting with something other than reports from the Board. The happy occasion was the presentation of our annual Sportsmanship Award, which this year went to **Jonathon Ableson**, who was present to accept and even to say a few words to the assembly - please see the full text and picture below to get all the details of this special event. The program will continue into next year, and we hope to have many opportunities to recognize special young South Bay soccer players in the future.

Moving on to more mundane matters, Secretary **Warren Howell** then took the floor, and quickly mentioned several items. This included a reminder that the window for renewing 2006 USSF registrations was closing, dues were payable starting July 1 (though **Tom Mallen** would be happy to withhold tournament fees from referee checks for this purposes where appropriate), and that the ballots for the elections in May would have both offices (President and Secretary) on one ballot with room for write-ins, rather than a ballot for each office, so as to save on paper handling at the meeting.

Taking a break from the tedium, Keith then welcomed newcomer visitors to the meeting, including **Mike Clifford, KiNam Kim, EunJin Kim, and Roberto Macias**. Keith then recognized **Ernesto Perez** and his

successful effort to pass a field assessment at National Cup as part of the process of upgrading to a USSF 6 badge. All of course were given the usual warm SSBRA welcome and encouragement that has become our trademark.

Per the bylaws, Keith then asked if there were any proposed modifications to those same bylaws. In somewhat of a surprise, there were. The first was from Treasurer Tom Mallen, who wanted a modification to the way SSBRA is required to pay forfeit/no-show fees to referees directly out of the treasury rather than wait for the collection of those fees from the various tournaments. Showing his well-known way of worrying over each and every SSBRA dollar like a mother-hen looking over her chicks, Tom was concerned that we should have the explicit power to suspend these payments if funds were low. But not only could he not get a second from the 50 Members present (out of 156 on the roster), a chorus of boos, catcalls and angry mutterings descended from the crowd at his proposal, causing him to withdraw his suggestion. Better luck was had by Vice-President **Ed McClure**, who wanted an amendment to give the Board the explicit power to suspend or remove any Member for cause, which was seconded after Keith, **Larry Stern, Lee Jordan, Larry Savell, Gene Ogle and Pablo Diaz** shared their thoughts. Not to be outdone, Lee then offered an amendment that Board Members must also be SSBRA Members in good standing, which was seconded too after **Derek Taylor** said a few things.

Tom Mallen then reported that there was \$2536.15 in the bank, which is down a bit because of over \$800 recently paid out in no-show fees. He passed out a number of checks to those present, all of which were printed via the nifty new check-printing/recording software he recently acquired.

Assignor **Bill Cook** then took the floor, and reported that we did a good job in Lancaster despite the cold and wind. Spring League Cup is starting, as are the SBPSL playoffs. **Marty Jeffers** then started speaking, but upon further reflection, withdrew his own comment(!). **Alvar Kabe** asked for some clarifications from Bill about availability, and **Jon Ziegler** shared a few words. Pablo suggested that SSBRA look into using the Arbiter system, and was told that it had been looked at but it was determined that the current system, over all, worked better for us right now (editor's note - research afterward revealed that the current fee for using the arbiter is in the range of \$600-\$650 a year, while the current system is paid for and cost-free).

Then it was time for training, so Training Directory **Heidi Garlick**, with the able assistance of our newest Member **Steve Elliott**, put on an impressive and informative presentation. The subject was referee field positioning and, using the SSBRA video equipment to maximum effect, various positions and options were shown and explained, depending on the game situation. It was a professional-grade session, with many in the audience participating and expressing their views and opinions. Those joining in the discussion included **Dick Lujan**, Pablo Diaz, **Blake Harper**, Lee Jordan, Warren Howell, Jon Ziegler, Ed McClure, Marty Jeffers, **Reza Pazirandeh** and Larry Savell. Steve also talked about the pre-meeting on-field training that took place, and told that it would happen again on Tuesday of the following week (6 PM, North Torrance High School).

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, APRIL 18, 2006**

- The Board agreed with the suggestion to have one ballot for both offices on May 30
- Outstanding no-show fees will be paid out of the treasury
- New computer checks passed out, and the system is working fine for Tom
- \$3222 in the bank
- Agreement was reached on an Honorarium for the March presentation
- May meeting at Shakey's is reserved

- Heidi has a training session with an offside clip etc. planned for the next meeting
- Lee talked about minor website stuff
- Gabriel reported on the status of the new Welcome Wagon
- A Member spoke to the Board about some misconduct allegations. After hearing the Member's side of it and a long internal discussion, the Member was sanctioned.
- Another Member spoke to the group about a misconduct allegation, and was also sanctioned by the Board after another internal discussion.
- Larry presented the latest rankings and a new ranking system, and a long discussion resulted
- Ed presented a Sportsmanship nominee, and the Board voted to award him the honor at the April meeting

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, APRIL 25, 2006**

- Approved applications for Membership for **Jeff Hutchins**, KiNam Kim and EunJin Kim
- Discussed and set proposed fees for our talks with South Bay Sport (new league that SSBRA is negotiating with to supply referees), including charges for 7v7 matches
- Talked about who, if anyone, to nominate to send to the yearly USSF youth camp

**Quote of the Month** (attributed to Winston Churchill):

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."

## **NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2006, AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE SHAKEY'S ON TORRANCE BLVD. - PLEASE NOTE THE SPECIAL TIME AND PLACE. AGENDA TO INCLUDE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS, ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, AND FREE PIZZA AND BEVERAGES.**

News item of the month (submitted by Keith Gendler):

### **Soccer player arrested after fight with referee**

The Associated Press

CHELAN, Wash. -- A Chelan High School soccer player was arrested after a fight with a referee who also is a sheriff's deputy.

Chelan County Sheriff Mike Harum says the 18-year-old (Jose Santos) was angry about penalties called against his team yesterday and pushed the referee to the ground. No one was injured. The 18-year-old is jailed for investigation of assault and resisting arrest. After the fight, both teams were ordered off the field.

(From Steve Hair, KPQ)

### **SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:**

Based on an initial nomination from referee **Scott Ziegler** and further research by Vice-President Ed McClure, this year SSBRA awarded **Jonathon Ableson** a \$100 gift certificate and a plaque to honor his outstanding soccer skill, sportsmanship and general citizenship. Scott observed him in a match displaying hard play but at the same time doing all he could to keep teammates and opponents calm and focused on the game at hand.

Jonathan is a U13 soccer player with the South Bay Soccer Club and is coached by **Paul Revill**. His love of soccer began when he was very young while watching his older brother, **Alexander**, play. Jonathan started playing soccer in South Redondo AYSO Region 34 and has continued with the Region as an AYSO Referee for the past three years. Jonathan feels that this volunteer work has helped him achieve a high regard for the laws of the game. Jonathan is currently a 7th grade student at Rolling Hills Country Day school where he maintains a straight "A" grade point average. In addition to his academic and Club responsibilities Jonathan also participates in extra curricular soccer and basketball and is coached by **Ira Smith**. In his first year with the soccer team as a 6th grader he was awarded "Rookie of the Year" for his contributions to the team. In 7th grade Jonathan was awarded prestigious the "Most Valuable Player" award as he took the role of team-leader on the field. Jonathan's academic and athletic accomplishments speak for themselves at this highly regarded south bay private school. Finally, Jonathan, is a scout. He has been involved in scouting since first grade in the cub scouting program and has achieved the highest cub scouting award the "Arrow of Light" as he aged out. He is currently a registered member of Boy Scout Troop 860 in Hermosa Beach where he recently achieved the Star rank. The coveted "Eagle Scout" rank is his goal and he continues to make progress against this in his spare time.

In accepting his award, Jon, though taken by surprise (the award was somewhat of a secret), did manage to say a few words, and stressed that he felt it was important to always "keep your cool" on the pitch. Though not eligible for Membership in SSBRA at this time because of his age, he was also presented with an honorary SSBRA referee badge for his referee shirt, and President Keith Gendler promised him free Membership as soon as he reached the age of 14.

Below is Jon Ableson and Ed McClure (with Lee Jordan looking on) at the award ceremony at the April 25, 2006 meeting of SSBRA (photo courtesy of **Gabriel Goldsman**)



**I don't think so** (submitted by **Michael Dewart**)

The Annual General Meeting of the IFAB was held in Zurich on March 4, 2006. The following proposed changes to Law 5 were **not** approved and will **not** become effective April 1, 2006.

Law 5, Decision 3:

- (i) the referee **MUST** use a whistle that bears the FIFA logo.
- (ii) the whistle blast **SHALL** be not less than 75, nor more than 125, decibels.
- (iii) multiple blasts may be used, provided that: a) the interval between blasts does not exceed the duration of any individual blast and, b) the total number of blasts is less than number on the home captain's jersey.

Law 5, Decision 4:

In an effort to bring the games under tighter control, the Referee shall now be compensated on a per whistle basis. Each whistle blast **SHALL** be worth \$.02. This way you can always get your 2 cents in.

Law 5, Decision 5:

Because they haven't made proper offside calls since the 1997 revisions to the LOTG, the Assistant Referee position **SHALL** be immediately eliminated.

Law 5, Decision 6:

National associations have mandated the following: referees must now wear disposable gloves at the

handshaking portion of the pre-game and post-game festivities.

Referees must now disinfect the game coin after the traditional coin toss unless the referee allows the coin to land in the palm of his hand and not on the ground.

Referees must now wear ear muffs at the handshaking portion of the post-game festivities.

Law 5, Decision 7:

Referees shall only wear the approved Gold, Black, Red or Blue striped jerseys. If a team is wearing any combination of gold, black, red or blue, then the referee shall switch to the first alternate jersey, Orange with Pink roses - unless, of course, the goalkeeper is wearing orange with pink roses. In that case, the referee will switch to the second alternate jersey, Pink with Orange roses.

**Men in Black: Henry Gibson, “Handsome” George Heggie and Ed McClure at the recent Korean Church Tournament held at the HDC:**



**“There’s someone outside to see you...”** (Illustration below submitted by **Dick Eastman** - there is no evidence whatsoever that this refers to Henry Gibson):



OC "So, Henry. Just exactly how 'controversial' was that call you made in tonight's game?"