



# The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

August 31, 2006

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, Ca 90505

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

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## UNEXPECTED, MAJOR SHAKEUP OF SSBRA LEADERSHIP; SSBRA ASSISTANT REFEREE ATTACKED AND INJURED BY SPECTATOR DURING MATCH; BOARD MEMBERS MAKE A FASHION STATEMENT

A possible-record crowd of 84 Members filed into the North High School cafeteria on August 31 to prepare for the upcoming season and to hear the latest news. President **Ed McClure** got right to it, and explained that **Keith Gendler** had been removed from his post as President of SSBRA. With past-president **Dick Lujan** acting as a neutral observer, Ed went through the steps taken wherein a list of complaints against Keith was presented to the Board (Ed read the entire list to those present), along with a proposal for his removal, which was approved by the Board in accordance with our bylaws. Per the applicable sections of those same bylaws, Ed, as the Vice-President, becomes President. It was further decided by the Board that **Gabriel Goldsman** would become the new Vice-President, **Paul Kelly** would join the Board as Member-at-Large (taking over Gabriel's former position), and the post of Past-President will remain vacant. Again in accordance with the bylaws, the post of President will be up for election in May 2007, as will the posts of Vice-President and Treasurer (Gabriel has indicated that he is not interested in running for re-election at that time). Those present listened intently to the news, asking a few questions and giving all of this the serious attention it deserves. **Ed Beverly** then proposed a vote of confidence in favor of the Board and the way it handled this difficult situation, which was passed by acclamation.

Moving on, Treasurer **Tom Mallen** reported \$6531.03 in the bank and passed out a thick pile of checks to those present, which included the \$7 UCI parking fee to those who had to pay it. Because Keith Gendler's signature was previously required on all Association checks (along with Tom's), our payments got behind when Keith's signature became unavailable. Any two of Ed McClure's, Tom Mallen's or **Warren Howell's** signatures is now sufficient to make our checks valid. Later on Tom also shared his idea to re-start the raffle/door-prizes and his vision of how that might work. His remarks also inspired **Don Young** and **Harry Ross** to share their views with the gathering. Further on in the meeting still, Tom talked to the issue of 1099s, which made Don Young feel obligated to make some further remarks (see below), as did **Larry Stern**.

Ed M. continued, and next addressed the South Bay Sport 7v7 league. The season has started at Crossroads, with the games being fairly informal and easy to handle compared with many of the other games we do (rules etc. are on the website). More of their games are coming, including 11v11 at Aviation Park when the field is ready.

Moving on to the South Bay Peninsula Soccer League, Ed M. announced that SSBRA had signed a contract with them to handle both of their division 2, and their division 3, games, with a three man system. **Steve McCall** then took the floor in his role as SBPSL referee representative, and asked that the ID cards be checked, the details of any cards given written on the match report, and pull ID cards for ALL send-offs in division 2. **Larry Savell** and "**Reza**" **Tabatabaei** also expressed themselves, and it was agreed that the game watches should start on time whether the teams are ready or not, with the referees making a loud and clear announcement when they do so. Ed M. also shared that he had started efforts to get the J-league under contract, not because there had ever been a problem with our informal arrangement but because of consistency with the way we do business with the other leagues. Ed also mentioned that the green cards could be passed out at CSL games, and that Assignor **Bill Cook** would be late because he was attending a CSL function. Not willing to give up the floor just yet, Ed then introduced the head of the new Mentoring program, **Rick Roberts**. Rick said a few words about how he would be trying to help our Members improve their performance on the field, and asked for both mentors and those wanting to be mentored to give him a call.

Next up was Webmaster **Lee Jordan**, who related an unpleasant recent incident with a member of a Ventura referee group being verbally abusive of SSBRA Members at a match. Lee reported the ethical violation to that group, and was awaiting a response. He also informed the group about the upcoming America Scores event (see below and contact Lee directly if interested). A little later, Lee also explained how the online roster would work and answered related questions. The Members would add in their own info, and be able to print out a list at any time, all of which inspired **Alan Sampson** to say a few words.

Secretary Warren Howell stood up to speak about the roster and payments, his remarks being mercifully brief.

It was then Gabriel's turn, and he talked about the new Welcome Wagon program, which is designed to help new Members fit into the Association by explaining how things work, calling before and after their first games, and so on. Call him directly if you want to help out.

Training Director **Heidi Garlick** then took the floor, and talked about insurance. It soon became clear that this is a complicated topic, and that it behooves each Member to look into his or her own situation. While there apparently is some kind of coverage for USSF games, there seems to be none for non-affiliated games. High school insurance may, or may not, cover non-high school games, and buying NASO insurance was brought up as an alternative. The idea of a SSBRA group buy was introduced, and will be looked into further, with Don and Alan also adding their thoughts to the discussion.

At this point **Bill Cook** arrived, and was encouraged to immediately speak to the group. This he did, announcing that he had the new CSL handbooks to give out to one and all. Starting with the good news, he related how he was in the midst of assigning the many games available to us within the various groups that we now service. He also told the story of how, with short notice, SSBRA recently responded to a cry for help from the USSF State referee group to cover games in Santa Maria, a round trip of about 350 miles (!). Starting at about 4 AM on a Sunday, our Members drove up there for what they thought was a day of kid's games, only to discover upon arrival that it was in fact a competitive adult State tournament of some kind, and they would have their hands full. While in a couple of instances matches were stopped due to fighting etc. on non-SSBRA fields, no such unpleasantness occurred on SSBRA's watch, and all went well. Those who participated in this longest of days were Bill Cook, Ed McClure, **Rudy Chavez, Eric Takaki, Mel Webster, Arno Liecht, Steve Brandon, and Tom Horwitz**. (This writer would also like to recognize that other Members have stepped up recently for the good of the game and the Association, including **Martin Haynes, Vince Delmonico, Mike Takaki, Michael Dewart, Roger Stevenson, Jim Wharton and Michael Copley**, among others). Turning to less pleasant stuff, Bill complained that some of us were still turning back games at the last minute, and that there was an incident at a recent tournament where some of our Members refused to help out some referees from another group on the next field when they could have easily, causing bad feeling and doing harm to our reputation. Bill then suggested that we use SSBRA.org for all our information needs, carpool when at all possible, and told us that verizon users were sometimes not getting his e-mails as it had identified SSBRA as a spammer (this was being worked on). Going on, he reminded us of the CSL assigning system you need to use, that CSL now substitutes on any dead ball, it is the referee's decision if a player can play with a cast or not, coaches from the same club can coach any team in that club, the fees are the same as last year, and CSL wants the games to take place if at all possible (report irregularities and play). **Dan Ayala and Derek Taylor** also shared their thoughts on these subjects with the group.

After a few more remarks from Ed M. about keeping tournament matches on time and miscellaneous items, some thoughts from **Marty Jeffers**, and the introduction to the group of **Florian Pop and Paul Copley**, the meeting was adjourned.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, July 19, 2006;**

- The Board met with **Dennis Fox** of South Bay Sports to discuss taking over the referee duties for his league. Many specific items were discussed, and the structure of a contract was determined.
- Problems with Keith were discussed, and a course of action decided on to try to determine his status
- Ed and Bill saw a demo of the USSF registration system on 7/18
- Lee Jordan reported that the online roster was not ready, but he expected it to be by September
- No news to report on the welcome-wagon
- Sportsmanship/green-cards were discussed
- Heidi Garlick to make a statement about referee insurance at the August meeting
- Dues payments tracking and progress was reported to the Board
- Bill is assigning for the upcoming week-end
- Need to add additional signatories to the bank account, Warren to prepare declaration for the Bank
- Exchanged information on another referee group and their situation as it applies to SSBRA

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, August 8, 2006** (Past-President **Dick Lujan** attended as a non-voting observer);

- Keith is not present and does not choose to participate in this meeting nor other SSBRA business. Ed introduces a list of problems and a proposal to remove Keith as President. A long discussion follows, and by unanimous vote (Bill absent), Keith is removed as President. Warren to handle Keith's notification, who will be given 72 hours to respond per the bylaws. He remains a Member of SSBRA, but the post of Past-President will remain vacant, and the new makeup of the Board will be decided after Keith's removal becomes official.
- About \$5700 in the Bank
- SBPSL contract will be discussed at another meeting on 8/15 with SBPSL representatives
- Gabriel presented the draft welcome wagon document he has been working on, and it was approved. Don Young and Jim Wharton to be involved with the program
- Mentoring program needs to be started
- The website was discussed
- Printing of the green-cards is to take place as discussed at the last meeting
- Online roster testing results were talked about, and it was decided that it looks good
- The SSBRA yearly training requirements and training in general were discussed. It was decided that what we have been doing is working fine and that we will continue along the same lines in the future

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, August 15, 2006**

- Met with **Joe Boulanger** and **Andy Strasner** of SBPSL. The evening started with a general discussion of referees and past games, and moved on to contract negotiations. A 2 year combined contract for division 2 and division 3 was agreed to after much discussion and exchange of views. Division 1 and 4 will not be handled by SSBRA at the present time.
- UCI parking fees were handled OK, ongoing HDC parking problems were discussed
- New Members **Alex Noroce** and **James Luciano** were accepted
- With the additional games, the Board felt that encouraging certain highly thought of referees in the area to join SSBRA should be done
- The Mentoring program is good to go
- \$5600 in the bank
- Bill will attend the CSL dinner on 8/29
- A Member has now paid their fine in full
- No response from the Ventura group about the recent ethics violation
- The idea of re-starting the raffle/door-prizes was brought up, Tom to create a proposal
- Lee told us about the L.A. Scorers Cup, will make a pitch to the Members to get officials
- Online roster will be done soon
- Gabriel is in the process of contacting participants of the welcome wagon program
- Gabriel reluctantly agrees to be the new Vice-President, but says he is not interested in running for election next year. A new Member at Large is needed, Paul Kelly will be asked.
- The bank signatures have been changed to include all three remaining elected Members (Ed, Tom and Warren).
- We need to fetch various SSBRA equipment from Keith's house
- Bill says there are lots and lots of games this week-end

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, August 29, 2006;**

- Accepted applications for Membership for Flonian Pop, Paul Copley, **Shannon Cleary, Jessica Marsella and Eve Marsella.**
- Discussed the insurance situation, more research to follow

## **NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006, AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY OF NORTH TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL, YUKON AND 182<sup>ND</sup> ST., WHEREIN BEVERAGES AND FOOD ARE PROHIBITED BY THE SCHOOL. AGENDA TO INCLUDE USSF 2007 RECERTIFICATION BY STATE REFEREE OFFICIALS.**

### **More Westside Soccer Opportunities** (submitted by Lee Jordan);

Those who attended the last general meeting will remember me speaking about the program LA SCORES on Sept. 24. It is a program for elementary and middle school children in the Palms area, working with over 200 children. The program comprises three aspects, reading, poetry and soccer. You can find out more info about them at <http://www.LASCORES.org>.

The reason for this message is that their big fundraiser is coming up and it could involve YOU. They run an adult 7-a-side tournament at the Home Depot Center and need capable referees. The teams pay \$3,000.00 to enter so this is a serious event. All volunteers (that means no pay for the officials) are well treated. It looks like they need 3 referees for the AM and 3 for the PM.

And as an interesting note, many of these teams already participate in a 7v7 league on the Westside called EA Sports.

### **LOCATION OF A SENT OFF PLAYER** (USSF position paper, submitted by Lee Jordan)

Subject: The Status of Players Who Are Sent Off

Date: July 6, 2006

In a recent World Cup match, several players who had been sent off were seen to be still within the stadium walls and arguably within the area of the field. This has raised questions as to the practical result of being "sent from the field."

The Laws of the Game provide that players, substitutes and substituted players who are sent off for misconduct are required to leave the field. There is no further indication of what this means, what someone who has been sent off may or may not do thereafter, or what authority the referee has regarding this person. Except as may be otherwise noted, the term "player" hereafter is intended to include substitutes and substituted players. Referees must keep in mind the following four basic principles:

The purpose of "sending off" a player is to ensure that this person no longer takes any further part in the match (sometimes referred to as being "out of sight, out of sound").

"Leaving the field" is generally interpreted as meaning "the area of the field" and is therefore not limited to its

formal boundaries (touch lines and goal lines). Accordingly, technical areas and team benches are to be considered within the area of the field.

With the exception of youth players where continued adult supervision might be needed, players sent off are expected to have no further contact or involvement with their team.

The rules of competition may define, for any given facility or match location, where players who are sent off are required to go. To the extent such rules are not inconsistent with these principles, they should be followed. Based on the above principles, referees should note the following guidelines for specific situations that may arise:

In the absence of more restrictive rules of competition, the referee has the authority to define "the area of the field" and to require players who have been sent off to exit this area. The referee is encouraged to use existing features which clearly demarcate the area of the field (e.g., fences, walls, ropes). A player who has left the area of the field but who remains in or returns to the facility (e.g., sits in the stands or spectator area) should not continue to wear the team's uniform. The referee, with the assistance of the fourth official and the assistant referees, is encouraged to enlist the aid of competition authority officials, facility managers, and on-site security staff to enforce these requirements. A youth player who is being allowed to remain with the team or any player who is out of the area of the field but still within the general facility cannot continue to commit misconduct since the most serious penalty allowed by the

Law (send off) has already occurred. Further inappropriate conduct by a player under these circumstances may, depending on the severity of the behavior, result in the referee suspending or terminating the match. Under all circumstances, full details must be included in the match report.

### **C'mon, Get Involved** (by Bill Cook)

I thought you all might find this interesting. I just finished sending out invoices for our 2 Labor Day weekend tournaments. The 2 invoices totaled \$11666.00 and 73 of our members had games assigned to them throughout the long weekend. I also looked at the total amount for the entire summer from the first tournament in June through Labor Day and the total is \$37910.00, which is an increase of over \$4000.00 from last summer. While most of us aren't refereeing primarily for the money, our spouses can do a lot of shopping - I know mine does 😊

For those of you who have been sitting on the sidelines, you may want to rethink your involvement. Aside from the extra money you could be making, I find it even more rewarding just sitting around under the tent at these tournaments getting to know one another. We have a lot of new members and we all have interesting lives so it is a great time share our stories with each other. And what better time than when carpooling, or sitting around after the games, when we get the opportunity to tell the biggest lies.

Those of you who aren't there don't get the thrill of watching Warren Howell make change for \$20 or run a reverse diagonal, looking for but never finding his ARs. You are also missing watching Lee Jordan passing out cards: Lee is like a Chicago voter when giving cautions, he gives them early and often. You are missing the fun of **Jon Ziegler's** pre-game or getting to use Larry Stern's or Derek Taylor's "special" flags.

So, quit missing all the fun, come on out and join us on the pitch. We really do have a great group of people and we do a pretty damn good job of refereeing as well.

## **SSBRA AR Attacked and Injured During Recent Match** (by Dick Lujan as told to Warren Howell):

It was a glorious day for a recent CSL tournament game, and with Dick Lujan in the middle assisted by two worthy SSBRA Members, no problems that couldn't be handled were anticipated. In fact, shortly after the start of the match, a fast-break developed and the players went streaking to the far end of the field, with the Dick swiftly giving chase to keep up with the action. Looking to his right sideline, he checked on the status of AR **Dick Haber** – but alas, AR Haber was nowhere to be immediately seen. Bewildered, referee Lujan continued his visual search, while trying to keep play in sight too. He finally spied D.H., flat on the ground near mid-field. Stopping play, D.L. ran over to see what was up. Mr. Haber then told D.L. a story about being attacked and knocked over by a dog while running down the line, injuring his thigh in the process (!). Stunned by the news. D.L. asked for more details, like what kind of dog was it and where was it now? D.H. could not supply any of that information, but was of the opinion that the canine must have been a St. Bernard or some such to have delivered such a punishing blow. On the other hand, since no one except D.H. saw this so-called dog, D.L. concluded that it was likely to have been a Chihuahua or some similar breed, if it existed at all. Indignantly, D.H. also claimed it was his “good” thigh (not the one he has been wrapping for each game for the last 23 years) that was injured by this alleged attacker. This put him in a quandary as to whether to move the wrapping from one leg to the other, leave things as-is, or secure another ace bandage. D.L. left D.H. to decide this on his own, and since no one else was ever found who saw this phantom dog, D.L. has been offering his various theories on what really happened ever since. Feel free to call D.L. directly and get the latest version of the story, or offer a version of your own.

## [DONYOUNGISMYPAT@earthlink.net](mailto:DONYOUNGISMYPAT@earthlink.net) Speaks

...we as a club are required to give a 1099 to anyone we give \$600 or more to, even if it comes from a tournament. If we write the checks, then we're responsible for the 1099's. Below is a quick, somewhat satirical, summary of the tax reporting requirements and some other thoughts relating to the income received by referees.

1. The IRS would most likely classify you as a “hobby”, unless of course you are refereeing for a living like Ed McClure
2. You are required to report all your hobby income.
3. You may deduct expenses relative to that hobby, e.g, mileage, uniforms, meals in part, association fees, education expense, etc.
4. Your hobby expenses cannot exceed your hobby income.
5. The IRS doesn't care if you do or do not get a 1099, they still want you to report all your income.
6. The IRS doesn't care if you make \$100, \$400, \$600 or \$20,000, they still want you to report all your income.

7. Obviously getting a 1099 makes your accounting easier...doesn't it?
8. Yes, I would agree, cash is harder to keep track of...you got your referee fees for one game in the same pocket with the money you came with...then you get more money for your second game, but put it in your bag and forgot until weeks later...and where did you put the cash you got for the third game?? You're too exhausted to care at the moment, huh?
9. For those of you who deposit you game money in the bank, well, since you have a record, so would the IRS if they looked.
10. Bottom line, you should accurately account for your hobby income and expenses so you can include them on your tax return. If however you fail to keep track of your cash income, it's obvious you are not very good at accounting and may need to seek professional help.
11. Disclaimer: no, this isn't tax advice. It's just stuff I've observed over the years. If you want tax advise, you'll have to pay for it, but it is a deduction!

**One Night at an SSBRA Board Meeting with Heidi and Lee (created by Gabriel Goldsman and Ed McClure)**





I wonder if I Could get away  
With wearing those Earrings.

SOCCER  
ASSOCIATION