



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

September 30, 2006

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, Ca 90505

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www.ssbra.org

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Webmaster: Lee Jordan

Treasurer: Tom Mallen
At Large: Paul Kelly

SSBRA MEMBERS GET EVEN WITH USSF; GEORGE FINDS A USE FOR PLAYER ID CARDS; NO TUESDAY MEETING NEXT MONTH

Quickly getting down to it, Assignor **Bill Cook** opened the monthly meeting by reporting to the 96 or more present that, in spite of the unprecedented number of games we are now handling, things are by and large going well – 103 games were assigned and all covered last Sunday alone. He again asked that everyone confirm their matches as early as possible, so he would have time to handle the large number of changes that he is faced with every week.

Next up was **Tom “The Tightwad Treasurer” Mallen** who, giving lie to his professional name, passed out a bunch of checks, also gave out some cash for parking, and reported about \$6766 in the bank accounts.

Secretary **Warren Howell** then reported 170 Members on the roster, explained the processes of collecting dues and purging non-returning Members from the roster, and other miscellaneous items. During the meeting and afterwards a number of Members were seen getting paper rosters, SSBRA badges and other goodies from Warren’s mysterious bag of wonders as well.

Webmaster **Lee Jordan** then shared with the group the progress on the online roster, and reminded all of us that Warren’s manual version would be going away soon.

Since he is, after all, the President, **Ed McClure** decided at that point to say a few words. He read part of an incident report involving long-time Member **George Heggie** recently at Aviation park (see full text below) where George came to the rescue of a seriously injured player. After a round of applause, George was invited to speak to the group, an honor that he declined after making a comment about having finally found a use for the #\$\$*# player ID cards. As a service to the Members, Ed then mentioned that high school training is starting October 18, and pointed out that anyone who is interested could get in touch with the SSBRA Board Members or Members of the High School Board (which include **Heidi Garlick**, Lee Jordan, **Dave Mallen** and **Dick Haber**), or anyone else who has been a member of that group. **Steve McCall** then spoke briefly in his role as referee coordinator for SBPSL, and reported that all was well there too.

At that point **Tom Bobadilla** and **Penny Rehm** from the State office were introduced, and took over the meeting for the USSF re-certification process. Tom started with some words explaining what that organization was trying to do and their plans for the future, and said some kind words about the Board and SSBRA in general (see their after-meeting comments below). He reported that the online registration system is not working, and that the “extra” \$15 yearly fee (\$40 total instead of \$25) was permanent and earmarked for education and special events. He then administered the written test, banishing Penny to the back of the room to handle the payments and paperwork of the 96 Members who took advantage of the opportunity to request their 2007 badges. Tom wanted only half the 100 questions on the test to be answered, and chose the even numbered ones for attention. The tests were taken, corrected, and the answers discussed, with the usual suspects protesting every answer they got wrong - to no one’s surprise, this included **Derek Taylor**, **Vince Delmonico**, **Bob Hildreth** and **Ed Beverly**, with others mumbling various comments under their breath. Unexpectedly, even **Brian O’Donnell** asked a question. Despite all the whining, everyone passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Incident Report (submitted by Warren Howell):

I was officiating the second half of the South Bay Sports 3 PM 7v7 match at Aviation B today 9/23/06 when a commotion on field A got my attention. I observed a player down on the field in obvious convulsions, being attended to solely by George Heggie, who was the referee for that match. Stopping my game, I ran over to offer whatever little assistance that I could. Showing no concern for his own safety nor the fact he was getting the players blood all over himself, George had used a stack of player ID cards to put between the teeth of the injured player so he would have something to bite on. The convulsions did eventually stop, and George ensured that the player could still breathe. This was not easy, as the player was incoherent and so not able to help himself, and was in fact having some difficulty breathing. We positioned him as best we could, repositioned him as needed (he insisted on moving around in his distress), and offered him words of encouragement. After an interval, the paramedics arrived, and after treating him on the field they placed him on a gurney and put him in an ambulance. George stated that the player had been head-butted in the nose during the course of play, and at that point the convulsions had begun.

All of those in the area agreed with my statement that the 21 year old gentleman (I never heard his name) was lucky this day to have George there nearby to help him when he needed help.

EMAILS to Ed McClure:

Good Morning Ed,

I just wanted to thank you, the board and all your officials for a great meeting last night. Thank you again for allowing us to attend and reconnect with the members. It is always nice when I get a chance to speak one on one with the officials.

And dinner was great also, please thank the board again for me.

Have a great day.

Penny Rehm
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From: Bobadilla, Thomas
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2006 8:43 AM
To: McClure, Edward
Cc: 'Penny Rehm'
Subject: RE: South Bay Meeting

Ed,
Your association makes it very easy for us to do our job :)
Thanks.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, September 18, 2006;

- Accepted Membership applications of **Dean Thomas, Danielle Zavala, Robert Appel** and **Richard Reaser**
- Heidi Garlick has arranged the details of the re-certification meeting at the end of the month. Problems with training, assessments and upgrades were discussed
- Ed reported that a J-league contract was being negotiated. They now have an active over-40 division too
- The South Bay Sports 7v7 and 11v11 games and coverage are going well so far
- SSBRA business cards for the Board Members were created by Ed at no cost and handed out to those present.
- nothing to report on the insurance issue, but that did not stop the Board from talking about it again anyway
- the mentor program with **Rick Roberts** is ongoing
- the Board, by a split vote, decided to take out Penny and Tom B. to a local 5-star eatery (Coco's) before the monthly meeting
- ongoing problems with one Member were discussed, a meeting will be arranged
- a monthly raffle/door-prize was approved, to be started in October
- Lee Jordan will assign the L.A. Scores games. Website and online roster were discussed
- **Gabriel Goldsman** reported that the welcome wagon program is going forward with **Don Young's** assistance
- the EALA league negotiations are in progress. These are 7v7, 50 minute games
- it was decided that a separate meeting needed to be held to get the ranking process back on track
- next Board meeting will be at Gabriel's house
- the new fee schedule is now on the website
- three Members were fined for being late/no-shows

- a mystifying on-field argument between two Members was discussed
- Tom reported \$7200 on hand. Both 1099s and the lack of a formal budget were discussed
- Warren reported on no-pays and youth Members. It was decided to delete several obvious cases from the roster immediately

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS, September 26, 2006 (pre- and post General Meeting);

- the entire Board met with Penny R. and Tom B. before the general meeting, where a long discussion encompassing a number of subjects, with a frank and open exchange of views, transpired
- new Members **Caroline Kabe, Erik Kabe** and **Keith Sena** were accepted
- problems with on-field performance of a Member was discussed
- another Member's pleasing performance and rapid development were commented on
- after discussion, it was decided that no fine was to be issued from a recent confusing incident

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

THE NEXT MEETING IS ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2006, AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY OF NORTH TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL, YUKON AND 182ND ST., WHEREIN BEVERAGES AND FOOD ARE PROHIBITED BY THE SCHOOL. NOTE THE SPECIAL DAY – THIS IS A MONDAY, NOT TUESDAY, DUE TO HALLOWEEN. AGENDA TO INCLUDE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS, TRAINING AND OTHER STUFF.

This Sounds Like an Excuse to Me (recent news article):

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- Too much testosterone can kill brain cells, researchers say, in a finding that may help explain why steroid abuse can cause behavior changes such as aggressiveness and suicidal tendencies. Tests on brain cells in lab dishes showed that while a little of the male hormone is good, too much of it causes cells to self-destruct in a process similar to that seen in brain illnesses such as Alzheimer's. "Next time a muscle-bound guy in a sports car cuts you off on the highway, don't get mad -- just take a deep breath and realize that it might not be his fault....."

This Is How the Professionals Do It (news article):

A match involving Argentine Champions Boca Juniors was abandoned at halftime on Sunday amid allegations that referee **Daniel Gimenez** had been threatened by officials of home team Gimnasia La Plata, who was winning 1- 0.

This Guy Never Made it to Germany (another news article):

“As all we snobby Americans know, the only thing worse than soccer is warm beer,” wrote **Jim Armstrong** in the Denver Post. “So it’s official then. There’s no good reason for anyone to go to Germany to watch the World Cup....Just because Europe and a half-dozen llama herders in the Andes care about kickball doesn’t mean I have to.”

That Explains It (attributed to **Vlade Divac**):

“We all get heavier as we get older because there is a lot more information in our heads.”

Then Why Do I Wear a Timex? (attributed by Reuters to Italian Juventus official **Antonio Giraudo**):

“All kinds of things go on in football: people give Rolexes to referees, people fix the accounts...this is an environment in which you have to protect yourself, in which you have to look after your own interests.”

One Sunday Morning at an O/40 SBPSL Match with Gabriel Goldsman (see below):

