



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

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www.ssbra.org

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Training: Heidi Garlick

Webmaster: Lee Jordan

At Large: Paul Kelly

**HEIDI LISTS IT;
LEE RANKS IT;
BRIAN GETS IT**

Leaving no time for anyone else to get a word in edgewise, President **Ed McClure** opened the October meeting by introducing the head of South Bay Sports, **Dennis Fox**. Dennis asked that the games be called tighter and that the rules be more strictly adhered to in the 7v7 matches, while indicating that there were no comments about the 11v11 matches, which were going fine. Dennis wants no slide tackling at all, with the punishment a DFK and yellow or red card. The players can not be in the box unless the ball is there first (punishment; a goal or penalty kick). Bicycle kicks and other overly athletic moves are fouls and the restart is a DFK, with a caution also often needed. He asked that we issue cautions and send-offs for foul language too, as this was getting out of hand. In some cases (playing only 2 females on the field at a time) a goal by a female confusingly counts as 2 goals. Ed McClure has also been working with Dennis on the language of the 7v7 rules so they would be clearer to everyone. Naturally all of this could not go by without a lot of discussion from those present, so **Lloyd Lehr, Harry Ross, Dan Damian, Rudy Chavez, Don "the Tax Man" Young, George Heggie, Bruce Rudman, Bob Slater** and **Veto Galati** all shared their views.

After thanking Dennis for coming by to speak with the Members, new comers **Mark Zerba, Keith Sena** and **Eric Greenlief** were introduced to the gathering, and made to feel welcome as is the Association tradition.

Not stopping to catch his breath, Ed M. continued down his agenda and asked Member at Large **Paul Kelly** if he was ready to share his insurance findings to the meeting. He declined, saying that he was actively researching the issue, had made a lot of progress and hoped to be able to have a definitive report soon. **Rick Roberts** likewise declined to give a formal report on the ongoing mentoring program. But, to no one's surprise, Webmaster **Lee Jordan** was not shy at all about talking to the group. He reported that about 50 Members had still not entered their data in the online roster, and that they should as it was becoming the roster of record – initially your “name” is your Email address and password is ssbra. Lee also noted that you should contact him if two Members are sharing the same Email address, as it can cause a problem the first time you logon to enter your data. At this point Veto explained that he was having a problem printing the new roster, and Lee suggested that downloading it to his local machine first before printing would probably help. Lloyd and **Ed Beverly** also had something to say, but, alas, their exact words went unrecorded.

Lee next shared the working of the rankings with the Members. There are 10 criteria for rankings, with each weighted (some categories being more important than others). These are:

- meeting attendance (0.5)
- USSF grades (0.8)
- experience (0.8)
- fitness (1.0)
- appearance (0.5)
- game management (2.0)
- availability (0.5)
- dependability (1.0)
- attitude (1.2)
- seniority (0.5).

The ranking committee (the membership is constantly changing) currently consists of Lee Jordan, **Larry Stern**, **Heidi Garlick** and Paul Kelly. If you want to know your own rating, send an Email to Lee directly and he will discuss it with you. **Joe Robelotto**, Dan Damian and Ed Beverly had some questions and comments for Lee on this subject too. Lee stressed that one's overall point total puts you in a range, and the exact order was not overly important – a point or two either way makes no practical difference.

It was noted that Vice-President **Gabriel Goldsman** was conspicuously absent, with speculation on his whereabouts centering on hiding in a bunker from disgruntled players and coaches, or more likely at Aviation Park covering 7v7 matches. This was all the opening Assignor **Bill Cook** needed to take the floor. He talked about the upcoming UCLA tournament, Special Olympics-related games on 11/15, the contract negotiations for the South Bay Gunners April tournament at CSUDH, the remaining holes that needed filling in the upcoming week-end, requested (again) to confirm your matches early so he can start making his adjustments to get everything covered, and reminded us that everything you need to know is available at SSBRA.org. He then revealed that SSBRA, in the 9 weeks since Sept. 9, had covered **1527** games, a figure that stunned the room into momentary silence. **Jonathan Hebben** then suggested that Bill adjust the game schedules to more clearly indicate the league the games were in, as SSBRA does so many games in so many leagues nowadays that it can be confusing as to what is what, especially for newer Members. Upon reflection, Bill agreed that it this could be a problem that had not been thought of before, and that he would modify the game listings accordingly. **Mike**

Takaki also had a few words to say, before it was revealed that Verison users were still having problems communication with SSBRA.org.

Ed M. then turned to the Sportsmanship award, and handed out new “green cards,” which motivated Harry Ross and Larry Stern to offer their views.

Training Director Heidi Garlick then began her formal presentation for the evening, and she did not disappoint. After some remarks about college-bound players, she launched into a lesson on the responsibilities of assistant referees, which have several duties;

- indicate when the ball is in/out of play
- indicate fouls unseen by the referee or better seen by the AR due to being closer to play
- indicate off-side
- help with player substitutions
- detect goal-keeper movement on penalty kicks
- indicate misconduct that occurs outside the view of the referee
- assist in other ways as instructed by the referee

Other points she highlighted included having everyone on the referee team carrying flags to the matches, keeping eye-contact with each other (AR’s should remind the referee to look at them more, if needed), stay with the second to last defender or the ball, take turns writing so that at least one member of the referee team is always watching the players, the AR should adjust to the referee (level of violence on fouls etc.), and she suggested that if at all possible, one should let the referee (not an AR) call the first foul of the game, all of which caused **Warren Howell** and Ed McClure to contribute to the discussion.

Sensing the meeting was drawing to a close, Ed M. asked Treasurer **Tom Mallen** to draw the name of the raffle winner. Not following the script, Tom rebelliously announced he was going to give his Treasurer’s report first, which he did, mentioning that there was \$4614.06 in the bank and so forth. Secretary Warren Howell never was allowed to give his precisely-planned report (sigh), no doubt disappointing greatly most of those there. However, **Brian Miller** was pleased to win the \$40 gift certificate to Soccer Central, and the meeting was adjourned.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, October 16, 2006;

- The evening started with a wide-ranging general discussion of various recent games and Members
- No response from the J-league on the contract we sent them
- South Bay Sports 7v7 and 11v11 games being covered and handled OK. Same for the C-league, and EALA still needs a formal contract.
- Applications for **Eric Greenlief** and **Kefer Greenlief** were accepted
- Discussed the recent performance of several youth/new Members, most of whom have been doing well
- The new roster and unpaids were reviewed. Sixty Members are still not entered on the online roster, Ed will do a clean-up.
- Verison Email problems persist, one Member is very annoyed
- High school insurance is currently for high school games only, with SCSOA to look into adding SSBRA to that policy. **Larry Zaller** to be invited to speak to the Members about getting SSBRA policies and insurance in

general

- mentoring is slowly going forward
- After a long discussion, the Board unanimously decided by formal vote to expel a Member from the Association
- Another Member will be asked to appear before the Board to discuss some recent incidents
- Two Members were fined for being late to games
- Another late Member was not fined as it was determined that he was given contradictory information
- a number of Members are habitually arriving at their games “at the last minute” and need to be reminded to get to the field _ hour or earlier before kick-off
- a local club is now on “zero tolerance” status because of recent verbal referee abuse
- an unrelated problem game involving another Member was discussed
- the raffle will start at the October monthly meeting. Tom will do the arrangements
- The current ranking committee (Lee Jordan, Larry Stern, Paul **Kelly** and Heidi Garlick) will meet on 10/23
- a spirited discussion on what to do with the SBPSL reviews took place
- Tom reported there is \$6693.48 in the bank
- As midnight approached, Lee shocked the Board with the unprecedented announcement that he had to get up the next day and go to his new day job! Because of this stunning news, and since they all also had their own jobs to go to in the morning, the Board decided at that point to adjourn the meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS, October 30, 2006;

- Three new Members were accepted; **Bob Oster, Mark Zerba, and Glenn Zordes**
- The Board met with a Member at their request and listened to what he had to say.

Quick Action on the Pitch:

At a recent match, long-time Member **Walt Hoovler** suddenly showed signs of having a stroke. His team Members, **Claudius Haynes** and **Steve Brandon**, were quick to recognize the problem and insist Walt get immediate medical attention. With the help of **Anita Giovannucci**, an E.R. nurse who happened to be on the sidelines, Walt was quickly tended to. After several days of hospitalization, he is getting better, and working towards a full recovery. The Board, on behalf of all the Members of SSBRA, have expressed our gratitude to Anita and presented her with a greeting card and a small gift. Many thanks to Claude, Steve and Anita, and best wishes for a quick and complete recovery to Walt.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 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. ALAS, THIS IS THE LAST MEETING OF YEAR 2006. AGENDA TO INCLUDE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS, TRAINING, RAFFLE AND (POSSIBLY) A SECRETARY’S AND TREASURER’S REPORT.

Meanwhile, the Other Football Makes Headlines (news article);

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) -- Authorities are considering charges against a Pee Wee football coach who was caught on videotape attacking a referee after being told to stop cursing on the sidelines in front of his 5- and 6-year-old players, police said.

The amateur video of the incident shows the coach charging onto a field and tackling the 18-year-old referee, who police Capt. **John Houston** said was briefly knocked unconscious.

"The coach had been warned several times about cursing on the sidelines. When the referee ejected him from the game, that's when he rushed him," Houston said.

A crowd of parents ran onto the field and surrounded the pair, he said.

Investigators plan to meet with Nueces County prosecutors to determine if the coach and at least one other man should face charges, Houston said. He said assault on a game official is a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

Police did not release the identities of the coach or the referee.