



# The Flag and Whistle

## Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

February, 2010

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

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

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### ***SPRING LEAGUE, BEACH SOCCER, AND LAW 11 – OH MY!***

#### ***GENERAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 23, 2010***

Before getting down to business, Warren recognized Manny for contributing a great set of flags for our evening's raffle. He then turned the stage over to Manny who noted that he has Olympus old style jerseys on sale for \$10 each, socks for \$10, devastator whistles, and write on cards with pens, among many other goodies.

Warren then noted that the Ranking Committee – comprised of Paul Kelley, Gabriel Goldsman, and Warren Howell – will meet on Wednesday February 24, 2010. If you are interested in your ranking, contact Bill or Vince.

Warren then gave us a heads up about what's on the horizon: he told us that Spring League was to begin that weekend and will run through May (with the exception of Easter Sunday and Mother's Day). He clarified some questions: Spring League is not CSL; but it does use the same fields as well as a similar website assigning system where your log-in and password are actually the same as they are for CSL (if you don't have a user id and password, email Bill and ask him for one). Note, Spring League assignments can only be found on the Spring League website – which is: <http://www.scheduleetc.com/soccer/referee/default.aspx?id=ss10>.

He then gave us a heads-up about the Manhattan 7 v. 7 league: SSBRA signed a contract with them which will run through December 31, 2010 and adopts the same terms and same fees that we've had in the past. He also noted that they like us over at Manhattan Village and that they will continue to not require rosters, ID cards, or shin guards for the foreseeable future.

The late refs and no-shows are getting a lot better, we're seeing fewer and fewer lates and no-shows. BUT we are going for 100% - stated otherwise, we're going for no lates and no no-shows. SO, remember, call if you are going to be late, or do not accept your assignment if you will not be able to make it.

The new members and first timers then stood up and introduced themselves. Among them were: Ashleen, the Andersons – Jillian, Jenna, and Erik; Loren Drake; Christian and another Eric.

Warren noted that there were still some problems with the assignment availability and assignment email notifications and that Lee our webmaster was still working on getting it fixed. In the meantime, you can still give Bill your availability by emailing him with it. Also, you can use an old availability link, if you still have one, to submit your availability. Remember, if you've submitted availability, it is your responsibility to check the schedule for the days that you submitted availability even if you don't get an email with your assignment. Then you can email Bill and tell him to accept the assignments for you.

Finally, Warren announced that according to our bylaws, we need to do a financial audit this year. The board has decided that the audit will be conducted in July 2010 because the fiscal year ends on June 30, 2010. Warren noted that we've got a top-notch volunteer to conduct the audit for us.

Steve then took over and talked a little bit more about the audit. Apparently, every two years, our bylaws require a financial audit on the treasurer and 2010 marks two years since Steve has been the treasurer.

Steve then noted that as of January 31, 2010 we have 206 members on the roster and that we have money in the treasury that is all budgeted. He finished up with informing us that he was working on the Manhattan Village checks, there was a slight delay because contracts had to be signed with the Manhattan Village league as well as the city of Manhattan Beach. Warren took care of signing the contracts so we should be current with Manhattan Village very soon.

It was then my turn, and all I had to talk about was the roster. If you note that changes need to be made to your information on the roster, I've been informed that it is your responsibility to log in and make the change. So, log on – at the SSBRA Member Log-In link (your log-in username is your email, the password is SSBRA unless you've changed the password in the past) and make whatever changes you need to make. If your changes don't stick, contact Lee Jordan our Webmaster.

Larry then took over and stated that he had the copies of the 2009/2010 Guide to Procedures for those who had attended the first training session in January. He then talked about the Aviation 7 v. 7 league and noted that we need to make sure that the player's cards are stamped at the bottom. Specifically the 2010 must be stamped. If the 2010 is not stamped, simply send the player over to the office to sign the 2010 waiver.

Bill then took over and noted that State Cup and Nationals were winding down for the youngsters. He said we got a lot of games this year for State Cup and most were in the higher – president's – bracket. As for what's coming up: Spring League begins in March and will run through May; State Cup and Nationals for the olders will begin in April; and Beach Tournaments in Santa Monica, Long Beach, and Seal Beach will be coming up.

Bill spoke more specifically about Spring League. He stated that it's a good way for new and rusty people to get experience and noted some general rules, such as: we still need to check in players; we still need proper ID cards from the players and coaches, they just don't have to be from same club – so cards can be mixed and matched; we don't have to mail game reports because standings are not kept in Spring League BUT remember, SSBRA refs will still need to prepare a report for violent conduct send-offs or serious injuries and/or other problems that you think might warrant a report. Note: call Vince to discuss whether you need a report if you are not sure. Also, call Vince before you write your report to discuss it with him.

Gabriel then took the stage and stressed two very important points: (1) referees need to have at least two to three color referee jerseys, and (2) referees need to get to their games early – at the very least – 30 minutes before the game. The goal is to look professional. The more professional we look, the more games we get.

The floor was then opened up for questions, most of which concerned whether we'd heard from Cal South. Warren informed us that he hasn't heard back from Cal South concerning our questions, but that there was an instructor at the meeting who might be able to answer any questions.

Then Cal South's instructor took over. Joe Roblado (who was SSBRA's president for about ten years, while also serving as president of high school reffing, and also stepped in to help with the January training sessions) introduced the instructor Chuck. Chuck is a national referee – USSF and College – and a national level instructor.

The Cal South topic for the night was Offside. The following were the main points to take away from the presentation:

- The offside position is when a player is:
  - o 1) In the opponent's half AND
  - o 2) Nearer to Goal Line than
    - A) the Ball AND
    - B) the second to last defender.
- Offside judged
  - o At the moment the ball is touched or played by a teammate.
- Active Play is one of the following three (3)
  - o 1) Interfering with play (ex. playing the ball);
  - o 2) Interfering w/opponent; or
  - o 3) Gaining advantage from being in that position.
- The three exceptions to offside are when the ball is received from:
  - o A throw-in;
  - o A goal-kick; or
  - o A corner Kick.
- Remember
  - o Deflection off a defendant is still offside because it was "not played" by the defender

For more on offside, check this out: <http://www.fifa.com/flash/lotg/football/en/flash/start.html>

### **WHAT THE BOARD'S BEEN UP TO:**

#### ***BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 16, 2010***

- New Apps – Accepting all
- Suggestion: make new members probationary until a training class is attended.
  - o Maybe do some informal observing too
  - o Probationary members will still be assigned games

- More to come re this program and will probably need to fix apps/amend them to include notice of probationary period to applicants
- New members: Must have at least jerseys in two colors
- Rankings: Committee to meet next week
- January Training reviewed
  - Set out 60-80 emails; 35-36 people didn't attend
  - Solution for people that didn't attend: one possible solution, not to assign games until training sessions are attended
  - Also for future training sessions – we'll publish dates further in advance
- Cal South issue discussed in detail
  - 10 hrs instruction to upgrade
  - 5 hrs to remain Grade 8
  - They haven't contacted us re February's general meeting, so Larry will prepare something in case they don't show
  - Our duty: support members of SSBRA
- Feb. Gen Meeting
  - Larry will plan something re training in case Cal South doesn't send an instructor
  - Suggestion: Cal South needs to bring their own equipment
- Manhattan Village
  - Sent signed contract and mailed it to Manhattan Village
  - They are happy with us
- Nagging
  - We go for 100%
  - We don't mess up that much but we don't want to mess up at ALL
- Discussed lates and no-shows, issued fines and discussed suspensions
- Financial Audit
  - Every even year: at the end of our fiscal year which is June 30
  - Discussed potential volunteers to do audit
- Rankings: Committee - Gabriel, WH, Paul Kelley
- Discussed referees with gripes and concerns
- Assigning/emailing problems: Lee says he's working on it
- Fines – discussed what to do with money getting from fines
  - Solutions – set up a separate fund to possibly use for charitable donations
  - YTD = collected \$257 in fines
- Steve
  - As of Jan 31, 2010: \$8,282.77
  - 206 registered members as of Jan 31, 2010
    - 144 paying members (approx 65%-72%)
    - 15 youth
    - 10 honorary
    - 2 waived
    - 60 new
    - 19 prior year carry over
  - January = light
  - Mailed tax notices to IRS
  - Sent 40 1096 forms
  - MB owes us approx \$2,100 = expect pmt soon
- Discussion re how Bill assigns compared to other assignors
  - We are actually very well taken care of at SSBRA – Bill really takes care of us

- Other assignors just give their refs a piece of paper with the field, start time, and # games – no info as to which teams, etc
- SSBRA contract with SBS
  - Elected to go w/agreed upon fee for one more year
  - May want to talk to SBS now re fees for next year
  - WH will look into SBS contract status
- Discussed contracts in general
- Vince's Report
  - No defense for ssbra members if late/no shows
  - Possible exceptions – i.e. flat tire, accident – we understand valid excuses
  - Point – make the phone call
- Roster Changes
  - Log-in and change info yourself
  - Contact Lee (webmaster) if you can't change the info
- Bill
  - Cal South = screwed up re canceling at Lancaster
  - Suggest = pay anyone who went to Lancaster to compensate for gas/mileage – so a few members got \$20 compensation
- Larry
  - 1<sup>st</sup> January training session: Larry needs to give the people who attended the first session a Guide to Procedures
  - Training sessions
    - Went well = good feedback
    - Next time: will talk more about administration on field – i.e. checking in players for CSL, JLeague, etc
  - Do something for instructors who helped: Roger, Rick, Joe Roblado
  - Future
    - If Cal South sends someone every month, what do we do re bd position re instructor
    - Bd reply
      - Instructor does much more that Cal South doesn't do – ex
        - Gen mtg
        - Probation
        - Newbie training
        - 7v7
        - Local stuff
- Discussion re SSBRA suggestions re committee if someone has bad game – tabled till next meeting
- Retired refs are available to help w/observations
- GG – has shirts to give away to new members

**BOARD MEETING FOLLOWING GENERAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 23, 2010**

- Accepted new applications
- Informal probationary period for certain new members until go to a training class
- Spring league: Good time to watch new refs
- Send informal observers to watch refs
- Discussed offside presentation by Cal South

***"In the end, it is not the years of your life, but the life in your years."***

---- Abraham Lincoln

Keeping them honest: SSBRA Member Valle Altobelli's Letter to the Editor (Referee Magazine 3/2010)  
A closer look.

## 'Chauvinist Hypocrites'

Wow! What incredible male chauvinist hypocrites you are!

In most issues, including 12/09, you recognize and give kudos to female referees who work hard, especially to overcome male bias and justly deserve the recognition they receive. In "The News," you recognize Terri Valenti as the first female UFL official, and ... you say that referees should not put up with sexist comments, but report them. Little did we know you were just being politically correct!

In the "List of Our Opinions," you hypocrites laud the Lingerie Football League, showing a busty Barbie doll in a skimpy "referee" top! Now you're showing your true colors, what you think women are really only good for, objectified sex objects, to watch prancing around in lingerie for your male scintillation, under the guise of an athletic contest to make watching

legitimate. Here revealed is the female "referee" you truly value!

Totally pathetic.

If it's all in fun, why aren't the sexes treated equally and the male referee on the opposing page a Chippendale's type wearing only a referee-striped jock strap to highlight his equipment? That way your female readers can get some eye candy and the male readers can feel banal and demeaned, instead of it always being the other way around. Think about it.

Valle Altobelli  
Culver City, Calif.

**A nice World Cup 2010 commercial**

<http://www.soccer365.com/home/index.php>

Scroll down about halfway on the page and you can view and/or download it.

**Wind scores an own goal**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tYJttBJq6lw&feature=player\\_embedded#](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tYJttBJq6lw&feature=player_embedded#)

**Make sure this doesn't happen to you:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WliaXWq1KHY&feature=related>

**How's this for a different GK jersey?** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mIK8NAEyu0E&feature=related>

## ***Lee Jordan in the NEWS!!!!***

As told by Lee Jordan:

Yesterday [March 2, 2010] I was the referee on a so cal southern section boys semi- final game. The game went fine, a few cautions, no dq's went to kicks to find who advanced.

The problem was the home team fans who chanted a few choice words on free kicks. At the half I told a school admin if it happened again I would clear the stands. He said ok. 25 minutes into the second half they did it again. I stopped the game and told them to clear it. I was persuaded to allow the parents to remain. That was a mistake. We waited about 15 minutes to clear the students.

The rest was fine. The home team won on kicks. We waited for a while to allow the dismissed fans to dissipate. As we were leaving some of the parents who were there yelled some more choice words.

Here's a part of the article:

### ***No fans, no problem for Pirates***

Published on March 3, 2010, Long Beach Press-Telegram (CA)

PARAMOUNT - Paramount High lost most of its fans, but won the game. Indeed, it was drama of the highest sort. In the 54th minute of the Pirates' CIF Southern Section Division III boys soccer semifinals match against Canyon Country Canyon on Tuesday, lead official Lee Jordan ordered the stands on Paramount's side of the stadium cleared of students. Parents and children were allowed to stay. The typical vulgar taunts heard at most soccer matches was

And the full article can be found here: [http://www.presstelegram.com/sports/ci\\_14502664](http://www.presstelegram.com/sports/ci_14502664)

***"If it isn't fun, stop"***

----- Unknown

**Soccer South Bay Referee Association**  
**Income/Expense Comparison by Category**  
**7/1/2008 through 02/28/2010**

Category Description	7/1/2008 - 02/28/2009	7/1/2009 - 02/28/2010	\$ Difference	% Difference
<b>INCOME</b>				
Interest	\$ 16.93	\$ 4.09	\$(12.84)	-75.84%
Membership Dues	5,225.00	5,935.00	710.00	13.59%
Fines - Referees	135.00	315.00	180.00	133.33%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 5,376.93</b>	<b>\$ 6,254.09</b>	<b>\$ 877.16</b>	<b>16.31%</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Assigning Expenses	-	-	-	n/a
Checks & Bank Charges	258.67	438.97	(180.30)	-69.70%
<b>GAMES - ADULTS</b>				
7 v 7 Leagues	2,763.10	(26.80)	2,789.90	100.97%
Men's No-shows	-	-	-	n/a
Men's Tournaments	12.60	33.89	(21.29)	-168.97%
Other GAMES - ADULTS	(38.06)	53.00	(91.06)	239.25%
<b>TOTAL GAMES - ADULTS</b>	<b>2,737.64</b>	<b>60.09</b>	<b>2,677.55</b>	<b>97.81%</b>
<b>GAMES - YOUTH</b>				
Kid's No-shows	-	-	-	n/a
Kid's Tournament	101.06	447.72	(346.66)	-343.02%
Other GAMES - YOUTH	(76.58)	244.00	(320.58)	418.62%
<b>TOTAL GAMES - YOUTH</b>	<b>24.48</b>	<b>691.72</b>	<b>(667.24)</b>	<b>-2725.65%</b>
Insurance	1,066.74	672.00	394.74	37.00%
Meetings	1,350.91	1,121.17	229.74	17.01%
Stamps & Supplies	211.43	179.88	31.55	14.92%
Parking & Exp				
Reimbursement	587.05	691.00	(103.95)	-17.71%
Office Supplies	-	208.06	(208.06)	n/a
Tax Notices & Reporting	-	408.71	(408.71)	n/a
Telephone & Fax	252.00	288.00	(36.00)	-14.29%
Training	210.00	744.87	(534.87)	-254.70%
Web Site	-	100.00	(100.00)	n/a
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 6,698.92</b>	<b>\$ 5,604.47</b>	<b>\$ 1,094.45</b>	<b>16.34%</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$(1,321.99)</b>	<b>\$ 649.62</b>	<b>\$ 1,971.61</b>	<b>-149.14%</b>