



# The Flag and Whistle

## Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

January 31, 2012

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

Editor: Warren Howell

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

President: Warren Howell	Vice President: Ralph Quiroz	Secretary: Deepika Saluja	Treasurer: Steve Brandon
At Large: Vince Delmonico	Assignor: Bill Cook	Training Director: Larry Stern	

### **YEAR 2011 WAS AWESOME FOR THE ASSOCIATION SSBRA AND CAL-SOUTH ARE IN FAVOR OF NEEDED REPORTS THE LARGE MEMBER SEES SOMETHING**

It was revealed in the January meeting that the Association covered 7416 games in 2011 with its' willing and able 235 Members doing the heavy lifting. The Board also expressed their opinion that the number of legitimate problems was at an all-time low, and as a result 2012 would probably turn out to have more of the same – many games at all levels and ages available to the Members to handle in the skillful way that has become our trademark. All of this was no small accomplishment, and the Members present took a moment to feel good about all they had done.

It was next mentioned that Larry, Bill and Warren had attend a Cal South meeting recently, at which they were emphasizing youth training, upgrading badges and the increase of teams signed up for State Cup and National Cup. It was also announced that SSBRA would be handling the referee chores for the “new” Beverly Hills 7v7 league (actually more like version 2.0 than new), which would be starting in February at Beverly Hills high school, and then new comers were introduced to the crowd. All of this was apparently overwhelming, as no one had any amendments to the bylaws to propose (there are several chances each year to do so).

The Board told the group that they had been trying to get a clarification as to how to handle informal SBPSL games. After a long discussion with the league, the new directive is now:

*- if the game is a forfeit and the players present with valid SBPSL ID's they may, with everyone's consent, mix players to form up teams and play a scrimmage game. This is a sanctioned SBPSL event that SSBRA referees can officiate, after collecting the usual game fees, and with the usual SSBRA insurance in effect*

*- if the game is not a forfeit, but one team is short-handed, the players present with valid SBPSL ID's can, with everyone's consent, mix players to form up teams and play the game. This is a sanctioned SBPSL event that SSBRA referees can officiate, after collecting the usual game fees, and with the usual SSBRA insurance in effect.*

*This is based on our receipt of a SBPSL directive that such games, where registered SBPSL players play for a team other than their own in these two limited cases, are sanctioned SBPSL games/events and all rules and coverage should apply. Per this (revised) directive from Andy Strasner, players may now switch sides once the match has begun.*

*If there is a sendoff to one of the players, be sure to report it to THE TEAM TO WHICH HE IS REGISTERED.*

Warren admitted in the discussion that followed that this was still not perfect and that there would probably be further modifications on the way. He then said some other forgettable stuff, and turned the floor over to **Larry Stern**.

Larry told us about his ongoing training schedule for new Members, and reminded all that these sessions were now mandatory for new Members.

It was announced that **Vince Delmonico** was not at the meeting because his mother had recently passed away, with many of the Members expressing their sympathy and plans to send their condolences to his family. **Ralph Quiroz** then spoke, and reminded all of us that the proper referee uniform does NOT include long pants, and that we are to be professional looking and acting at all the games we cover.

**Bill Cook** then took over, and had lots of good news. Not only did he emphasize the growing number of 2011 games, but the coming increase in State Cup, National Cup, CSL/DSL/ J-League, Spring League and Beverly Hills. He then reminded us to keep doing the best professional job that we can out there, and the good times should keep rolling on.

**Steve Brandon** then took time out from passing out checks to say something about the Association finances (they are in good shape) and the usual fiscal year ending and beginning chores that he was doing.

The Cal South instructor for the month then took over, and it was none other than our own **Gabriel Goldman**. He went through the Cal South report presentation (CALSOUTH.com has the details), with much discussion back and forth with the Members.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, January 18, 2012**

- Approved Membership application for **Scott Taylor**
- Another Member was fined for a no-show
- The Cal South meet attended by Larry, Bill and Warren was discussed
- The new, improved Beverly Hills 7v7 league was talked about
- Contracts and PSL informal game rules were debated
- A Member was praised for his recent outstanding performance on the pitch
- **Bruce Anderson** will be taking over Facebook duties
- The old game purge is on-going
- Mentor program for new Members is being activated
- Vince continues to process reports and smoothing out the way they are handled
- Steve has about \$5,000 in the bank and is doing the year-end (1099 etc.) stuff

## NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY OF NORTH TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL, 3620 182<sup>ND</sup> ST. (AT YUKON - SEE SSBRA.ORG FOR DETAILED MAPS), WHEREIN BEVERAGES AND FOOD ARE PROHIBITED BY THE SCHOOL. THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE ASSOCIATION BUSINESS, CAL SOUTH TRAINING AND OTHER STUFF.**

### **Is There Anyone Out There Who Still Thinks This Football is a Good Idea?** (Written by T.J. Simers)

“You love this game because people try to send other people into tomorrow without remembering what happened today. Violence is as critical to the success of the NFL as the ability to bet on games or play fantasy football.”

### **The Large Member Makes a Decision** (submitted by W. Howell)

It was January and the high school soccer season had come once again, and as is usually the case at this time, the referee sometimes called the Large Member was seemingly getting games nearly every day. This, as is normal, creates constant fatigue, coping with minor injuries that do not have time to heal, and driving all over town fighting traffic. In a word, it was a little slice of heaven, with the LM enjoying it all and only wishing that it would never end.

On this particular week-day afternoon, the LM was at North Torrance stadium, watching the varsity game while waiting with his game partner and friend **Warder Mackenzie** for their double-header (girls JV and frosh) to begin. Because of the relatively late scheduled starting time for those games, Warder and the LM were plenty early for their matches, and were involved in one of the LM's favorite pastimes - talking things over with a fellow referee. But this time Warder quickly expressed a concern he was having. He had refereed the visiting JV team of that day's upcoming match only a few days ago, and it had not gone well. It seems that this team lost, mainly due to a play run by their opponents involving a decoy attacker in offside position but not involved in play. While Warder called it correctly, the losing team was unhappy and took it out on the referee. Now they were back, and Warder did not want them to recognize him before the match. So, it was decided that a disguise was in order! Digging around, Warder found the biggest pair of sunglasses he had, and put them on. Then, loosening his cap, he was able to pull it down over his face, and then he turned up the large collar on his new-style uniform shirt, carefully buttoning it over the front of his face, so that he could not be easily identified. Then he stayed out of sight as much as possible as the pre-game chores began, planning to stay on the side away from the visiting team when the match started. All of this worked well, with the LM doing the coin flip alone (and the winning captain of the flip running off holding the coin the LM gave her above her head and shouting to the sidelines in her joy at getting a souvenir), and the game started with everyone in good spirits.

Being on the visiting team's side, it became quickly apparent to the LM that the coaches and spectators there could be hard to handle, as they were very, uh, vocal and expressive in voicing their opinions about everything that was going on. But on this day they were winning easily almost from the beginning, and would not cause any problems. In fact everything was going fine, till shortly after the start of the second half. There was a throw-in for the attacking team on the far side of the LM's end of the field, and he had wandered down into the attacking penalty area to stand among the defenders while someone chased down the game ball that had gone astray. Just then, substitute teammates of the defender's team were walking toward the LM along the goal-line behind the goal

toward their team bench. One of them was carrying a large box of food and drink, having obviously gone off-campus at half-time to get her teammates some good stuff to eat and drink. The defender standing about 3 feet from the LM saw this, and the following shouted conversation took place:

Defender: "Hey, that stuff looks great, what all do you have there?"

Food-carrier: "Nothing for you!"

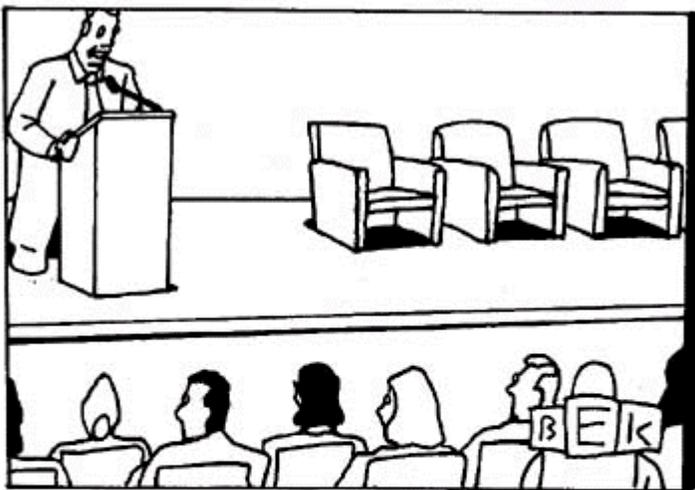
Defender: "Oh yeah? Well, I have this for you!"

At that point the defender thrust her hand skyward for all and everyone in the stadium to see, clearly giving her teammate the, uh, single-digit salute. The LM at that point had several options:

- (A) - Immediately display the red-card for an obscene gesture
- (B) - Show the yellow card, letting everyone know that such actions would not go without punishment
- (C) - Deliver a stern and visible lecture to the young player, letting her know in no uncertain terms that such behavior is never, ever to be allowed at a school function
- (D) - Stand there and laugh his ass off

The LM went with plan (D), and to top it off, the food-carrier commented out loud for everyone that the defender had "even got the referee to laugh." No harm was done, and with everyone in good spirits, the game continued without further incident to a fair conclusion.

**Let's Hope the Board Can Prevent This at the Monthly Meetings** (reprinted from August 2005 F&W)



"AFTERWARDS THERE WILL BE A BRIEF Q AND A WHERE AT LEAST ONE AUDIENCE MEMBER CAN HOLD US HOSTAGE WITH THEIR BLATHER FOR WHAT FEELS LIKE AN ETERNITY."

SSBRA  
TREASURER REPORT  
BOARD MEETING  
January 19, 2012

The Checking and Savings accounts were reconciled to the Western FCU bank statement for the month of December 2011. In addition, the Petty Cash, Postage Stamps and Referee Advances accounts were balanced as well. The cash and related account balances as maintained by the Quicken database are summarized below.

12/31/2011

Checking \$ 5,160.48  
Savings \$ 7.49  
Petty Cash \$ 25.00  
Stamps \$ 4.84  
New Member Deposits \$ (325.00)  
Totals \$ 4,872.81

Advances:  
Manhattan Beach \$ -  
Referees \$ 366.95  
CSL \$ 76.00  
Total Adv. \$ 442.95

Checking \$ 5,603.43  
Savings \$ 7.49  
Petty Cash \$ 25.00  
Stamps \$ 4.84  
New Member Deposits \$ (325.00)  
Adj. Totals \$ 5,315.76

SSBRA Cash Balances  
SSBRA dues paid thru December 31, 2011 total:  
Count Fees  
Regular Dues 120 \$ 7,200.00  
Youth Referees 40 \$ -  
Honorary Members 8 \$ -  
Waived Dues 4 \$ -  
New Member Waivers 18 \$ -  
Prior Year Carry Over 22 \$ -  
Totals 212 \$ 7,200.00

SSBRA 2012 Dues  
During December the following payments were made and consist of the following:  
Games 96

Referee Fees \$ 2,784.00 35  
Assingor/Coord. Fees \$ 240.00 1  
Treasurer Fees \$ 55.50 1

Postage \$ 15.40 n/a  
SSBRA Payment Totals \$ 3,094.90 37  
Billed to Manhattan Beach \$ 3,120.00  
Net SSBRA Surplus \$ 25.10  
Manhattan Beach - Cks Issued 12/09/2011  
SSBRA  
TREASURER REPORT  
BOARD MEETING

January 19, 2012

Referee Fees \$ 3,146.00 48  
Assingor/Coord. Fees \$ - n/a  
Treasurer Fees \$ 61.25 1  
Parking \$ - n/a  
Postage \$ 13.20 n/a  
SSBRA Payment Totals \$ 3,220.45 49  
Paid to SSBRA \$ 3,146.00  
Net SSBRA Expense \$ (74.45)

Referee Fees \$ 3,772.00 45  
Assingor/Coord. Fees \$ - n/a  
Treasurer Fees \$ 57.50 1  
Parking \$ - n/a  
Postage \$ 12.32 n/a  
SSBRA Payment Totals \$ 3,841.82 46  
Paid to SSBRA \$ 3,772.00  
Net SSBRA Expense \$ (69.82)

\$ Cks  
Referee Fees \$ 1,274.00 21  
Assingor/Coord. Fees \$ - n/a  
Treasurer Fees \$ 27.50 1  
Parking \$ - n/a  
Postage \$ 6.16 n/a  
SSBRA Payment Totals \$ 1,307.66 22  
Paid to SSBRA \$ 1,258.00  
Net SSBRA Expense \$ (49.66)  
SCDSL - Cks Issued 12/23/2011  
PSA Holiday Cup - Cks Issued 12/22/2011  
Orange County ToC - Cks Issued 12/23/2011

Lastly, I issued payments to the referees for the October 29th South Bay Sports scheduling error. The following year to date financial reports have been attached as well:

- Income and Expense Comparison
- Budget Variance Report

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Brandon  
SSBRA Treasurer