



P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505
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The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

March, 2012

Editor: Bruce Anderson

Board Members

President: Warren Howell
Treasurer: Steve Brandon

Vice President: Ralph Quiroz
Assignor: Bill Cook

Member At Large: Vince Delmonico

Secretary: Bruce Anderson
Training Director: Larry Stern

Important Dates

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday April 24, 2012

NEW MEMBER CLINIC
Saturday April 28, 2012

In this issue...

Look Out Lawndale

Better than Pants: Black Soccer Referee Shorts

Singles: Don't Forget to Call

GENERAL MEETING: MARCH 27, 2012

The March general meeting was held in the school cafeteria, rather than the library. This caused some confusion, so the meeting was started a bit later than usual - at 7:45p

Warren Howell announced that we won the Lawndale Spring League bid. We won the bid based on a number of factors, including the fact that our referees are all live-scanned, but mainly because of our reputation as professionals which was supported by references from other leagues.

We learned that we are assigning the most Spring League games other than the Inland Empire, and complaints are not rising despite the increasing number of games.

Bob Hildreth, Dick Lujan, Frank Troeger, and Deepika Saluja have completed their review of our bylaws and have proposed a number of changes. The board will bring candidate amendments to the April general meeting for voting in May. Nominations are due in April for board President and Secretary, with voting to occur in May.

All contracts are signed and remain in place through 2012, except for PSL which expires in September.

Manny Fineberg has parted ways with SoccerOne and is now representing Inaria, a Canadian company that specializes primarily in team wear. He still has relationship with SoccerOne, and the SSBRA membership still enjoys a free SoccerOne VIP membership. Manny is also still offering SSBRA logo apparel through C S A Sports.

Larry Stern reported that the next New Member Clinic is April 28 from 9-12:30. There are 25 people on the list that need to attend the clinic. Please contact Larry for information.

Steve Brandon reported that we are current on all payments.

Vince Delmonico reminded the members of the notification protocol for one-man crews. The referee must call the Soccer Line (310-316-0808) at least 30 minutes before the match to confirm that s/he is at the field or on the way and that s/he will be covering the match. If Bill does not receive that call, he will assign a replacement referee. If you arrive at the field, you can determine if you will relinquish the match(es) or do the match(es) and relinquish your fees to the replacement referee. No call means no fees.

Vince also reminded the members that the referee uniform includes referee shorts. Black referee shorts. Not basketball shorts. Not shorts with stripes down the side. Not cargo shorts. Referee shorts. All black.

The board is aware that some members are attending the general meeting only long enough to sign the roster, and are then leaving. It should go without saying that this behavior is unacceptable.

Ralph Quiroz discussed the need for senior members to tutor new members.

Bill Cook reported that Lawndale will run through June. This is a recreational league, with all of the matches on Saturdays. Most of the matches are at U10 and younger, so please act and referee accordingly. Please remember to referee these matches in a manner that is consistent with the age and skill level of the players. Coverage and fees vary by age level, and are as follows:

U5-7 \$28 One Referee	U11-13 \$31 Two Referees
U8-10 \$38 One Referee	U14+ \$35 Two Referees

DSL's spring league schedule has been received, but there are only 6 matches per weekend.

The West Coast Tournament is on August 4 & 5, and we expect to have between 10 and 12 fields. The South Bay Force Tournament is on August 11 & 12, and we expect to have 20 fields.

Brian from CalSouth conducted a training session entitled "Deception at the taking of a penalty kick".

Iturralde retired early: "My honesty is above all" (Marca)

"I am very grateful to the football and refereeing, but my honesty and my credibility are above all", explains Eduardo Iturralde Gonzalez his farewell from refereeing. The referee with the most matches in Primera Division has decided to hang up his whistle early, although he would have been age-eligible until the end of 2012. The referee from Vizcaya has taken this decision after a disagreement with the Spanish Referees Committee following his injury during the game Betis Sevilla – Real Madrid. Iturralde suffered a puncture in the muscle during the first half of the match and was replaced at half time by the fourth official, Gorka Sagues. After recovering from the injury, he has not been appointed to any matches due to a somewhat surreal situation: the Referees Committee requested a medical proof for his injury, but Iturralde was not able to provide it because he had not requested any medical certificate.



"The truth has to be ahead of everything. I cannot provide a certificate because I do not have one. How can I cheat by submitting a certificate that did not exist in the first place? My honesty and my credibility are above all this", said Iturralde Gonzalez. After 31 years of refereeing, he chose to retire instead of providing a document that would distort the reality. The recommendations to reconsider this decision did not make him change his mind. He had consulted with his wife and daughters, and always came to the same point: "Lying? Never!" Iturralde spent 15 years (1998 - 2012) on the FIFA List and was selected for the 2002 UEFA U-21 Euro, 2003 FIFA U-20 World Cup and 2004 OFC Nations Cup. He did El Clasico, Real – Barcelona, three times: 1999, 2005 and 2010. Iturralde goes into the history of Spanish refereeing with the record for the most games refereed in the Spanish First Division, 291, since his debut on 3 September 1995, Espanyol – Salamanca. It also carries two other records: the most yellow cards (1647), and most penalty kicks awarded (104). He hang up his whistle with a feeling of profound gratitude to the football and refereeing, but convinced that his conscience would not let him carry out what he was demanded by the Referees Committee. When he ended the first half of the Primera Division match Betis Sevilla – Real Madrid, on 10 March 2012, Iturralde Gonzalez blew the last whistle of his career.

Source: Marca

FIFA referee Diego Abal suspended in Argentina (Yahoo Sports)

Posted by Francisco Davila, Sunday, March 25th, 2012 @ 6:00pm

Argentinian FIFA Referee Diego Abal caused a storm in a match played last weekend by awarding a goal after the players had stopped for an offside flag. He was in charge of the Primera Division clash between San Lorenzo and Colon in Buenos Aires and sparked ugly scenes on the pitch by awarding a goal in controversial circumstances.

Colon were looking for an equaliser with just over 20 minutes left, but their latest attack seemed to fizzle out when winger Federico Higuain was flagged for offside on the right touchline. With the assistant referee's flag raised, the players stopped and began walking upfield for an expected free-kick. But Higuain had already crossed before he realised this and Colon striker Ariel Garce tapped the incoming ball home without any hope that it would be awarded as a goal. Abal saw things differently and overruled the AR Julio Fernandez. He decided that Higuain was not offside, allowed play to continue and then pointed to the centre spot to indicate that Garce's strike would stand. It was enough to earn Colon a 1-1 draw. Furious San Lorenzo players surrounded the referee to argue their case, to no avail. The San Lorenzo fans attacked Abal, who took an hour and a half to leave the stadium, with police escorting him home.



Former World Cup referees Horacio Elizondo and Angel Sanchez, two of the leading referees in the last quarter century in Argentina, publicly expressed their views on the play: Abal was wrong. He admitted his error in a meeting with members of the Referees Committee and was suspended. After having been appointed last year to the U-17 World Cup, Diego Abal has been regarded as Argentina's candidate for the next FIFA World Cup in Brazil.

Source: Yahoo Sports

REMINDERS

PHONE NUMBER(S) TO KNOW

Soccer Phone Line Number	(310) 316-0808
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GAME ASSIGNMENT LINKS

SSBRA Assignment Link	http://ssbra.org/list.php
CSL Assignment Link	http://www.coastsoccer.com/referees/
Spring League	http://www.scheduleetc.com/soccer/referee/default.aspx?id=ss11
Spring Cup	http://www.scheduleetc.com/soccer/referee/default.aspx?id=ss11cup

PROCEDURES TO REMEMBER

Forfeits: Game Fee Collection	<p>For any State/National Cup, Spring League or CSL game when there is a forfeit or a no-show, we DO NOT collect game fees from either team.</p> <p>Instead, Bill files a no-show report with the League and the League pays SSBRA and SSBRA reimburses the referees.</p>
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HELPFUL LINKS

Cal South Website for Referees	http://www.calsouth.com/en/referees/
South Bay Sports Rules	http://www.southbaysports.com/rule.asp (go here to select the rules that apply to the day/league/venue you're reffing)
Manhattan Village Rules	http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7.html http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7/7on7-Laws-of-the-Game.pdf

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Referees must carry at least **three different color** jerseys to all games. The board recommends the following: **Gold, Blue, Red**

Should you wish to bring more, the board recommends, in order of preference: **Green, Black**

And, of course, your **all-black soccer referee shorts!**