



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

April 30, 2013

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

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www.ssbra.org and Facebook

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Secretary: Chris Nevil

Treasurer: Steve Brandon

Assignor: Bill Cook

Training Director: Larry Stern

At Large: Vince Delmonico

SSBRA DUES ARE GOING UP BOARD MEMBERS ARE GOING OUT THE LARGE MEMBER IS A BIG MEANY

The April monthly meeting started on time, more or less, on April 30. **Warren Howell** quickly turned the floor over to our Member-at-Large, **Vince Delmonico**. Vince announced that he was resigning his position, as he has retired from refereeing himself and moved out of the area. The Members then thanked and applauded Vince for his efforts over the years, and it was noted that his position would be up for election in May.

There were many games in April for what is normally a quiet month, and our Members handled them well. In one incident, **Bill Raventos** and **Alex Cruz** had the good sense to “get out of Dodge” when the spectators after a tough BU15 National Cup match in Lancaster started fighting each other (players were not involved). There was a no-show and a couple of late arrivals – these were bad enough, but it was compounded by the crew members who were at the field not calling for help soon enough to fix the situation.

After new attendees were asked to introduce themselves, new Member **Pedro Perdomo** did just that, telling us that he was coming over from El Segundo AYSO and receiving the famous SSBRA welcome in return.

Warren then droned on about the web-site a bit, thanking **Gabriel Goldsman, Jonny Joseph** and **Rick Roberts** for helping him out and saying something about the changes that had been made. Then he went on about Facebook and the newsletter, asking for help and submissions for those too. Thoroughly bored by all this, the Members then heard that the next meeting was the annual election and party meeting, that will be held at Lamppost Pizza (see below for details).

Ralph Quiroz then announced that he would not be seeking re-election as Vice-President, thanking the Members for the opportunity to serve in that capacity, with the Members in turn thanking him for all the work he has done on their behalf. It was time to call for nominations for the offices up for election, and after the dust settled this is how we stand:

Vice-President. Nominees: **Michael Hinz** and **Ed Beverly**

Treasurer. Nominee: **Steve Brandon** (incumbent).

Secretary. Nominee: none (the incumbent, **Chris Nevil**, is seeking nomination for Member at Large and has withdrawn as a nominee for Secretary). This position is up for election due to the earlier resignation of the elected secretary, **Bruce Anderson**.

Member-at-Large. Nominee: none (**Veto Galati** is seeking nomination for Secretary and has withdrawn as a nominee for Member at Large).

Nominations can also be made just before the elections for these offices at the AGM. And, since no bylaw amendments were offered, none will be voted on at the AGM.

Warren then announced that SSBRA was changing the way new Members would be accepted. The \$25 refundable training fee will be replaced by a \$40 non-refundable assessment fee. The new Member will be on formal probation till such time as the Board decides to remove him/her from that status, after being formally assessed and trained. All this sparked some comments and questions from the floor, with **Dan Ayala, Larry Savell, Harry Ross** and **Tony Amalfitano**, among others, sharing their thoughts.

It was time to talk finances and a proposed increase to SSBRA yearly dues (please see below and ssbra.org). While SSBRA is very much non-profit and does all it can to preserve Member funds, there are some expenses that cannot be avoided, so yearly dues are necessary. SSBRA does not ever take assigning fees directly from the Members but instead charges the leagues/tournaments directly for this, administration fees and even parking fees (which are returned directly to the Members). A discussion followed, with Ralph Quiroz, Steve Brandon, Bill Raventos, Harry Ross, **Donat McKinley**, Jonny Joseph, Larry Savell and others adding their thoughts.

Warren then turned the floor over to our fellow Member and friend **Manny Finberg** of www.soccerone.com who had loads of nifty stuff for sale: as always, the best stuff at the best prices, and he even brings it all to the meetings - the best deal in town.

Moving on, Ralph thanked Veto for arranging a group buy on the Preventive Officiating books recently. **Larry Stern** announced that the next training clinic would be at North Torrance high school on June 29. Chris Nevil told us about a good NISOA National Clinic coming up on May 4 that anyone could drop in and attend.

Steve Brandon then revealed that a Member had applied for EDD (unemployment) payments due to his past activity with SSBRA – naturally this did not fly, since ALL Members are independent contractors, with SSBRA having never had any employees ever. Because of the yearly chasing of referees for W-9 forms, he told us that he would be requesting them from all Members for who he does not have them already on file (this is a once-in-a-lifetime chore for each Member), and that this would be a requirement for all new Members. Bill Raventos and

Larry Savell made some comments at this point, and Steve wrapped up with some excuse or other about slow Manhattan Beach payments.

Bill Cook then told us about all the games we have been covering and that were coming up. He reiterated that we need to carry our partners' contact info with us, and keep our own contact information current on the roster. He said that we were called back to cover some fields in Simi Valley last week-end, so we must be doing a good job. The South Bay Force club was making some changes, and would now go by the name of L.A. Galaxy Alliance, playing their next two tournaments at the Home Depot Center.

The Members were then pleased to learn that this month's training would be conducted by fellow Member and good friend Gabriel Goldsman. He got right to it, the lesson here being that "advantage" can now also be called for violations of the LOTG other than Law 12. He gave several examples of this, and the usual questions and exchanges of opinions ensued. These included offside, second-touches, failing to respect corner-kick distances and others, with the usual advantage arm motions and verbal signal being given if the ball remains in play.

It being late, and everyone being talked out (even Harry), the meeting was adjourned.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, April 9, 2013

- An application for Membership was accepted
- Talked about a recent evaluation of a new Member
- Steve is getting the spreadsheet for the new/old ranking system ready
- Larry suggested we should add a reminder to our application form that Members are independent contractors
- Discussed at length the need for a dues increase, current and future finances
- No response to recent SSBRA proposals to new leagues
- Warren talked about the web-site
- Talked about upcoming nominations
- Noted that Michael Hinz was heavily involved in fund-raising for recent addition of turf to Marine Field
- Culver City high school is scheduled to have its new turf field ready by September
- Steve has received and is processing Eagles tournament and M.B. checks
- There is a new contact for the Beverly Hills 7v7 league

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, April 30, 2013

- Agreed to increase annual dues from \$65 to \$75, effective immediately for new Members, and July 1 for renewing Members
- Discussed the details of reserving Lamppost Pizza and creating ballots for the May meeting
- Talked about an invoice received for Cal South training, will look into further
- Approved a proposal that will remain secret at this time

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY MAY 28, 2013 AT 7:00 PM IN THE PARKING LOT OF LAMPOST PIZZA, 2955 ROLLING HILLS RD., TORRANCE 90505, (310) 325-4864. THIS IS THE DAY AFTER MEMORIAL DAY, AND THE GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING AND PARTY. WHEN WE HAVE A QUORUM PRESENT, WE WILL HAVE A SHORT MEETING, VOTE FOR OPEN BOARD POSITIONS (SEE ABOVE), AND THEN MOVE INSIDE FOR PIZZA AND BEVERAGES COURTESY OF SSBRA (MEMBERS ONLY PLEASE). YOU CAN BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR FOR THE MEETING IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO STAND.

Here We Have a Good Example of What NOT To Do (submitted by Jonny Joseph)

Following the conclusion of a Russian reserve league match between Amkar Perm and Terek, linesman **Musa Kadyrov** committed an unforgivable act. Right after the final whistle blows, the linesman drops his flag and begins to assault an 18-year-old Amkar defender. After punches and kicks were landed, his teammates swooped in for the rescue.

To add insult to injury, Terek players took the opportunity to create even more chaos.

The attacked defender told the **Guardian**:

“The ref blew the final whistle and I started walking to our bench, when suddenly someone came from behind, pushed me to the ground and began kicking and punching me,” the 18-year-old Amkar player told reporters. “Terek players then joined the attack. Someone grabbed me by the throat, another hit me ... bloodying my face.” The Russian football association has, rightfully, acted quickly and pushed for a lifetime ban for the out of control linesman.

If Only Coaches Felt the Same Way (recent fortune cookie)

”Your thoughts are highly regarded”

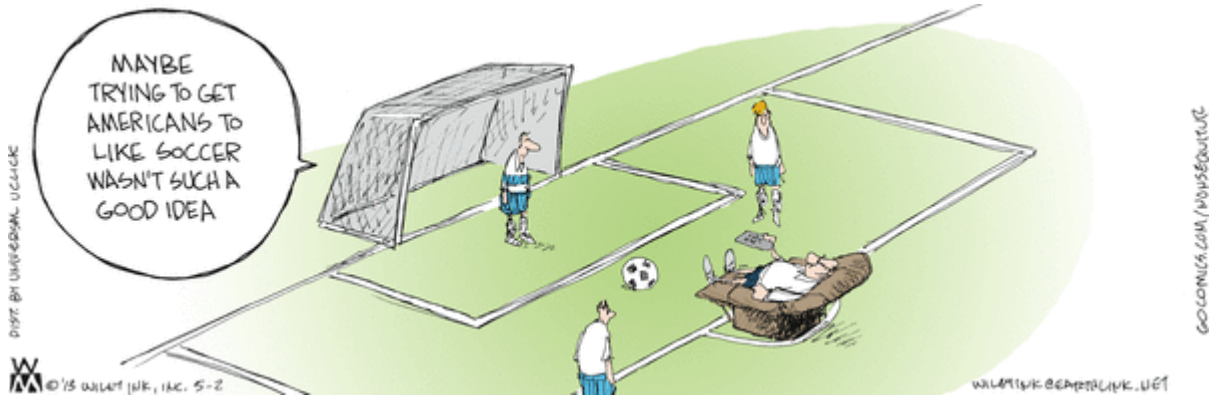


I'm not sure what the call is here....

Clumsy Is As Clumsy Does (News item)

Labeled “clumsy” for his part in one of soccer’s biggest corruption scandals, FIFA President **Sepp Blatter** was cleared of any criminal wrongdoing or ethics violations in a case involving millions of dollars in bribes for World Cup contracts.

Blatter’s predecessor as FIFA President, **Joao Havelange**, was forced to step down as honorary President because of his involvement in the case. FIFA made the announcement, saying the 96-year-old Brazilian, who led soccer from 1974-98, had resigned on April 18.



Utah soccer ref punched by teen player remains in critical condition

 (submitted by Chris Nevil)

Man in critical condition after he was hit in the face during game Saturday.

By Bob Mims

The Salt Lake Tribune

First Published Apr 30 2013

A soccer referee remained in critical condition Wednesday, five days after he was punched by a 17-year-old player apparently upset with a call.

Unified Police Lt. **Justin Hoyal** said that while the teen was arrested on suspicion of aggravated assault, the incident on the field of Eisenhower Junior High School in Taylorsville remained under investigation. Hoyal said the Salt Lake County district attorney's office would review the case and decide whether the youth could be charged as an adult. Until then, the suspect — in custody at a youth-detention facility — is considered a juvenile and his identity was not being released.

The referee, 46, reportedly was punched in the face after he gave the 17-year-old a "yellow card" warning for committing a foul.

There was no buildup to the incident or previous exchange of words between the referee and the player, Hoyal said, adding: "It was almost an instinctive reaction."

Initially, the referee was thought to have suffered only minor injuries. However, after the man lost consciousness, doctors at the hospital discovered he had far more serious head injuries than thought; he was then downgraded to critical condition, Hoyal said. Granite School District spokesman **Ben Horsley** said the Fut Continental soccer club is listed as having reserved the field at the time of the incident. Efforts to reach a spokesman for the club were not immediately successful.

The popular Utah Youth Soccer Association does not list the Fut Continental club as one of its sanctioned member teams, which includes Taylorsville Park and recreation clubs and numerous other organizations. The game was part of a "rogue league" unaffiliated with the association or any city or town recreation department, association CEO **Andrew Hiatt** said. The association has 50,000 youth players and 15,000 coaches statewide.

In the state association, any player or coach who puts a finger on a referee faces immediate suspension. Players and coaches also sign a code of ethics.

"It really is a sad situation. I don't think the kid went into this thinking he was going to assault somebody," said **EJ Reyes**, president of the Taylorsville Youth Soccer League, which is one of the 46 clubs statewide affiliated with the Utah Youth Soccer Association.

Editor's note: the referee, **Ricardo Portillo**, later died from his injuries

The Beautiful Game Seems To Be Catching On Outside the USA Too

The value of the Real Madrid soccer club is \$3.3 billion, No. 1 in Forbe's latest annual rankings, supplementing Manchester United (No. 2 at \$3.17 billion), which had topped the list every year since it debuted in 2004

- Sports Illustrated magazine



This can't be good

Well, Hydration IS Very Important (News item)

Josip Gaspar was fired as the coach of Croatian soccer team NK Precko Zagreb after he allegedly stole a credit card from one of his own players and used it to buy 36 bottles of Jagermeister.



The Large Member Refuses to Help Out When Needed

Early in 2013 the referee who is sometimes known as the **Large Member** found himself as the center referee for a State Cup match of BU9's in semi-beautiful Lancaster. Since it was the playoff/elimination rounds, the tension was high and the crowd was loud as the game got under way. The players, who normally are the most relaxed ones out there at this age, had got caught-up in the competitive atmosphere, and were taking things Very Seriously. Working hard, as is his nature on the pitch, or something, the L.M. nevertheless had things well in hand, until about mid-way through the first half. At that point an 8 year old player came up to him, looking like a serious event had occurred. Since the L.M. had never, ever seen ANY player look that worried before, he whistled the ball dead, asked what was wrong, and the following ensued:

8 year old (to the L.M.): Mister?
 L.M.: Yes, what's wrong?
 8 year old: Can you tie my shoe?

This immediately crushed the L.M.'s spirits, as he could NOT help him out without appearing to be biased. Feeling like a complete jerk and monster – not even being able to do a small favor to a very worried child! - he did blow the whistle again, signaled that he was stopping his watch, and called the coach out to handle the situation, which he did. The game eventually ended fairly and safely, with no one anymore remembering the score or who won, but with at least one player well on his way to learning to hate all referees for life.

Coach Strangles Referee, Linesman Hit by a Stone in Brazil

An amateur final in Brazil at the weekend descended into chaos with a referee choked and the linesman hit by a stone.



Internacional coach chokes the referee in anger after a controversial red card against his team

Photo: **Willians Biehl**

Internacional played São Defende in the final of the Copa Sul dos Campeões, and, after Inter took an early lead, things turned controversial when a São Defende player was given a red card for apparently punching an opponent.

But then referee **Edésio Weber** became his own worst enemy as he also delivered a red to the Inter player who had been punched to the ground, sparking an angry reaction from the Inter players.

The official managed to shimmy away to safety with the aid of his linesmen, but moments later he was gasping for air as, unbelievably, Inter's coach choked the bewildered referee.

The match somehow continued until a stone thrown from the crowd flattened a linesman for several minutes, during which time he received a soda shower from another furious supporter.

Somewhat incredibly, the match continued until the end, with Inter eventually running out 3-0 winners, and according to local reports there were no complaints received by the police for violence at the game.

Quote of the Month

“WHAAAAAATTTTTTTT????????!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

- incredulous reaction of an 8 year old player to a GK decision by the Large Member at another recent match