



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

February 2015

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www.ssbra.org

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Member-At-Large: Chris Nevil

Kirk Jackson

Notes from the President –

I would like to first let everyone know that Bill recovered quickly from his slip and fall which occurred at and just before the start of the February meeting. The paramedics insured that he was fine before leaving and Larry Stern and I teamed up to get Bill and his car home after the meeting ended. As you can tell from his assigning emails and other communications, Bill has quickly got back into the saddle.

The SSBRA Board would like to welcome our newest member, Ramon Pulido, to the Association. This brings the new member total since the 4th Quarter of 2014 to 24 members. Let's all keep up the recruiting efforts. If you know an experienced Referee who is USSF and Cal South approved, please give her/him an application. If she/he is approved for membership, you can get a waiver for your dues next year per the SSBRA New Member Incentive plan.

At the February General Membership meeting (see minutes below), the City of Bell proposal was discussed to address the Board's concerns about SSRBA referees being able to provide enough availability to ensure all matches are properly covered. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to leave the proposal as is and await the City's decision on who they will select to supply referees to the for their Youth Soccer program which starts in April.

28 SSBRA referees attended the first 2015 SSBRA sponsored Referee Professional Development (RPD) on Tuesday February 17, 2015. These were 48 total referees in attendance. The next RPD is scheduled for March 17, 2015 starting at 7:00 pm. RPD is the best opportunity for any and all referees to obtain high quality physical fitness training and classroom instruction so your board encourages all SSBRA members to attend the class. As of March 8th, 2015 there are 40 referees signed up for the class with 18 of them being SSBRA members. In addition, all Grade 6 and Grade 7 need to attend at least 3 RPDs to maintain they Grade so please sign up at the following link; <http://cysa.affinitysoccer.com/eventmanager/public/event.asp?calid=6986707&eventtype=RPD>.

The other main topics at the February meeting involved voting on the proposed By-Law changes, hearing from, our Beverly Hills League customer, Jennifer Leuning, and general status from the other leagues SSBRA supports. Details can be found in the meeting minutes listed below.



(Draft) SSBRA Membership Meeting – Minutes

February 24, 2015 7:30 PM - North HS Library (Note: The Official February minutes can be obtained from the SSBRA Secretary after they are approved by Membership vote at the March General Meeting.)

Board members present: Michael Hinz, Veto Galati, Chris Nevil, Kirk Jackson, Chris Nevil, Bill Cook (Absent: Bruce Anderson, Steve Brandon)

Michael Hinz Opens Meeting: MH opened meeting at 7:35 PM asking for motion to approve minutes of January 2015 General Meeting. Motion for approval made by Bill Yee, seconded by Bob Slater. Minutes accepted by acclamation.

New Member Introduction: New applicants introducing themselves were Ramon Pulido and Javier Cervantes

Guest: Beverly Hills League: MH introduced Jennifer Leuning, representing the Beverly Hills League. Jennifer took the floor, stated the league's satisfaction and thanked us for a job well done by SSBRA for the past five years. She said that they currently have 10 teams in their Sunday 7 v 7 league and that they are looking into establishing a weeknight league for games this summer.

CAL SOUTH TRAINING: At 7:45 Cal South Instructor Toros Kibritjian took the floor and began the session by projecting questions from the FIFA exam onto the screen and asking us to discuss in groups before replying. Unfortunately he was unable to access the film clips prepared for this month's training and instead discussed handling calls and the laws and advice covering them. Toros also entertained us with "war" stories for his long international career. Cal South training session ended at 8:30 PM

Bylaws amendments: MH then moved on to the Bylaws amendment proposals { (A) submitted by Sue Pascoe & (B) submitted by Veto Galati } introduced and discussed at the January meeting. Veto took the floor and mentioned that although the two proposals were variations of the same issue, it was not an either/or situation that required a choice, and that membership could vote "NAY" on either or both proposals. At that point Bill Raventos made a motion, seconded by Alan Sampson, that we first take an advisory vote to see if members even wished to proceed with voting on the proposals or to allow bylaws to remain unchanged. By a 32 to 12 margin, members chose to continue with the voting process. Proposal A (Sue Pascoe) was defeated by a vote of 17 YEA to 27 NAY votes. Proposal B (Veto Galati) was defeated with only 5 YEA votes to a vast majority of NAY votes. Thus, Bylaws will remain unchanged.

2015 Recertification: MH informed members that all 2015 Recertifications must be completed by June 14, 2015.

Improper Member Behavior (When Not Refereeing): MH mentioned an issue in which one of our members caused a problem at a recreation department venue operated by one of our customers. He reminded members to be aware that we are representing SSBRA, even when off the field, and that we must always act professionally.

Friendly Fees: In addition to referee fees for friendlies, assignor fees of \$2.00 per game per referee have been added and are now part of the friendly match fee schedule. Referees will collect the additional \$2.00 (each) per game and pass this fee along to Bill.



City Of Bell Proposal: MH expressed Board's concern that although survey results showed more than adequate numbers of referees willing to travel to Bell to cover those games, these numbers exceeded the reality of the numbers giving availability for our weeknight MB 7 v 7 League, and asked for input. Warren Howell stated that he didn't give availability for MB games because he didn't want to deal with the accompanying adult dissent and several others agreed. Kiku Anon added that she would be available for Bell because they are youth games and she does not give availability for adult games; again several members agreed. Based on this info, a majority of the attendees voted to go ahead and formalize the proposal to the City of Bell.

Annual AGM venue: Chris Nevil and Veto Galati have been tasked with searching for more centralized location for the May AGM. Members were invited to submit ideas to either Chris or Veto.

OTHER LEAGUES:

MB 7 v 7: Contract completed & signed.

Beverly Hills 7 v 7: SSBRA has signed contract, now awaiting their signature to finalize.

Cienega Elementary School: Again, using SSBRA refs for their Friday mini-season beginning on March 6.

LA Riot League: We covered this league last year and have been asked to cover again this year.

Long Beach Classic (AYSO): We were asked by Long Beach AYSO to provide referees to supplement the shortfall from within their ranks for this tournament on Feb. 21/22 and we sent twelve referees. Feedback from AYSO is that they were very pleased by our professionalism and flexibility and will ask us back again next year.

BOARD MEMBERS SPEAK:

Chris Nevil: CN reminded members to read the rules for all leagues (MB & BH) before going out to referee their games. He also stressed that ALL USSF Incident reports be sent to him, NOT DIRECTLY TO THE LEAGUES.

Kirk Jackson: KJ announced that our New Member Orientation & Training will be held on Saturday March 21 starting at either 8:30 or 9 AM. Details to follow.

Bill Cook & Veto Galati: Both had nothing to report.

No raffle this month.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 24, 2015 at 7:30 PM – North High Library.