



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

March 2015

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Secretary: Veto Galati

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Training, Mentoring, & Assessments:

Member-At-Large: Chris Nevil

Kirk Jackson

Notes from the President –

The SSBRA Board would like all our members to join us in welcoming our 4 newest members **Lauren Carr**, **Albert Cristi**, **Andrew Denyer**, and **Bruce Levy**. These four new members bring the total new member count for the 2014 – 2015 season to over 35. 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.

Web Security and Identify Theft - In order to ensure SSBRA is properly protecting its members personal information we have moved the Game Assignments and Game Search links behind the Membership Log-on with the Association's Financial Reports and Membership Roster. We will be moving the Game Accept and Decline link behind the Membership Log-on during the week of 13 Apr 2015 so **all members need to make sure they know their membership User ID and Password** in order to accept their weekly match assignments. Please let me know if you have any questions.

At the March General Membership meeting (see minutes below), Michael told the membership that the City of Bell did not select SSBRA for their City's youth league.

28 SSBRA referees attended the March 2015 SSBRA sponsored Referee Professional Development (RPD) on Tuesday March 17, 2015. The next RPD is scheduled for April 21, 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 April 11th, 2015 there are 45 referees signed up for the class with 22 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 March meeting included, the monthly Cal South Training, our Coast Soccer League customer, Bernie Towers, discussions on the upcoming tournament season, and general SSBRA business. Details can be found in the meeting minutes listed below.



SSBRA Membership Meeting – Minutes (Draft)

March 31, 2015 7:30 PM North HS Library

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

Michael Hinz Opens Meeting: MH opened meeting at 7:30 PM asking for motion to approve minutes of February 2015 General Meeting. Minutes accepted by acclamation.

New Member Introduction: New applicants introducing themselves were Andrew Denyer and Albert Cristi.

Guest: Coast Soccer League (CSL): MH introduced Bernie Towers, representing the Coast Soccer League. Bernie took the floor and stated he considered SSBRA to be one of the best referee associations. He also mentioned that the league will be switching to a new assigning system; they are looking at replacing current system with either Arbiter or gotsoccer.com. He informed members that managers will now be required to have an F license. Bernie also stated that CSL will have 2400 teams for the 2015-16 season.

CAL SOUTH TRAINING: At 7:50 Cal South Instructor Wayne Merrick took the floor and began the session focusing on proper identification and enforcement of misconducts, along with appropriate restarts in such situations. Cal South training session ended at 8:40 PM

City Of Bell Proposal: MH informed membership that our proposal to the city of Bell was not accepted and that they are going with another association (AULA).

OTHER LEAGUES:

MB 7 v 7: MH informed members that it is not our job to set up fields or to clear previous occupants from the fields; the team captains are responsible. Also, we must start the clock at 8 and 9 PM sharp and must end last game by 10 PM. Note exceptions on game card and notify Chris Nevil. Also, MH brought up a recent problem in which referee terminated game early (no send offs) due to player behavior and the threat of escalation. MH said that cards should have been issued for match control. Also, because there were no sendoff, referee did not submit a misconduct/incident report, which caused problem for Archie in determining the winner. MH stressed that misconduct/ incident reports MUST be submitted for any early termination of a match.

Beverly Hills 7 v 7: MH reported a recent incident at BH in which a player cursed and spat at the feet of a referee. Player was suspended for two games (in addition to the two week break, totaling four weeks in the eyes of the league) for his behavior. BH League requested that this referee not be assigned to their matches. SSBRA responded that we are very concerned at the level of contempt expressed toward our referee and that, upon review, we found nothing that would merit their requested action and we will back our referee.

LA Riot League: We will cover only games in our area. League will ask local associations to cover games in outlying areas (Orange County, San Bernardino, etc.).



FINANCIAL REVIEW: Bruce Ashton has completed the financial review, correcting two minor issues and making a few suggestions for board discussion.

Mike Clifford: Johnny Joseph took the floor to report on the health of our comrade Mike Clifford. Michael is currently hospitalized and in a diabetic coma and his wife is currently undergoing chemotherapy. Johnny said that any contributions towards their healthcare would be appreciated and suggested that members speak to him after the meeting if interested in helping.

BOARD MEMBERS SPEAK:

Kirk Jackson: New Member Orientation & Training was held on Saturday March 21. We will try to schedule every couple of months, depending on need. KJ also asked members to review new offside videos on our website as we will be discussing this in the near future. KJ also reported the following suggestions received from members:

- When we whistle a foul our next step should be to point direction.
- When AR raises his flag, next step should be to signal direction.
- Once AR raises flag, they should keep it raised until CR sees you and either stops play with whistle or waves you down. Call CR by name, if necessary, to get their attention.
- AR should not signal while moving. Proper procedure is to stop and face the field before raising flag. -CR should use Advantage, when appropriate; don't whistle fouls so quickly if advantage may develop. In addition to advantage signal with arms raised, CR should loudly call out "advantage" so that everyone knows he has seen the foul and is applying advantage.

Bruce Anderson: Lawndale League rules have changed. Website has been amended to reflect these changes. Please check website before doing Lawndale games. BA also announced that we will begin a new ranking process in the near future with a committee comprised of rotating board members and member volunteers. In Chris Nevil's absence, BA also reported the following:

- RPD dates are fixed for April 21, May 19 and June 10. We are still looking for RPD sponsors to cover the \$90.00 per session fee imposed by North High. The above three dates have been sponsored by Kirk Jackson, who will forgo his assessors fees to cover these expenses.
- When submitting misconduct/incident reports for leagues which do not require player rosters, we must, at minimum, include the names of the players reported.

Bill Cook: BC took to floor to discuss the upcoming tournament season. In addition to our local Galaxy Tournament in July, he is fairly certain that we will also be asked to provide referees for the WCC tournament in August and probably will be asked to participate in other tournaments also. Members can check our website for a list of 2015 tournaments and dates but BC will not know until a week or two before each tournament whether or not we will be given fields.

Regarding Galaxy Tournament BC said that last year there were 412 games and that they expect that number to be 500 this year. Also, they want three man teams on the U-8 & U-9 games this year, which will mean that we will need even more referees. BC said that we will need 130 – 150 referees per day to cover the Galaxy



Tournament. Last year we had to give away half of our fields to other associations just to get it covered. BC will put out a tentative availability list at the end of next month (April) to gauge SSBRA availability. If you show availability, please continue to update when necessary. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL GAMES ARE ASSIGNED AND THEN TURN THEM BACK.**

Annual AGM venue: AGM will be held on Tuesday May 26 at a new venue: Tony's Pizza, 5544 W. 119TH St. (119TH & Aviation Blvd.), El Segundo, CA. MH thanked Alan Sampson for taking the time to analyze our members by zip code, determining the center point to be south Hawthorne, quite near Tony's. We will try this for 2015 and see how it works.

Assigning System: MH informed membership that board is discussing the possibility of switching to Arbiter and wants member input; asked for a straw poll vote by show of hands. A majority of members present indicated that they already used Arbiter for high school soccer or other sport and many felt moving to Arbiter sounded like a good idea. After a brief discussion, MH stated that the board still needs to understand all the aspects related to switching to another assigning system and this was still in the bringing stages in determining the best course of action for the association.

Meeting concluded with raffle. In addition to ref supplies (*provided by Manny Fineberg and CSA Sportswear*) and several home baked loaves of bread were raffled; thank you Ed Beverly for supplying the bread.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 28, 2015 at 7:30 PM – North High Library.