



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

- 41 Years Serving the Soccer Community -

Jan 2017

PO Box 1613, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Editors: Michael Hinz/ Jay Pignatello

www.ssbra.org

President: Michael Hinz

Treasurer: Bruce Ashton

Member-At-Large: Chris Nevil

Vice-President: Steve Morgan

Secretary: Jay Pignatello

Assignor: Valle Altobelli

Mentoring & Assessments: David Welch

Training: David Welch

Notes from the President

- **FREE Referee parking at Silver Lakes** - Thanks to your Association President and several other Association Presidents, Referee parking is now FREE at Silver Lakes with your 2017 Cal South Photo ID card. \$8 without a Photo ID card.
- **2017 Match Fee Schedule** - The 2017 Fee Schedule has been posted on the Association's Website. Print out the new schedule and bring it to the pitch.
- **Referee Professional Development** - The 1st RPD for 2017 is scheduled for Feb. 21, 2017. Please go to the Cal South Website or the SSBRA training page and sign up. SSBRA will be hosting 10 RPDs in 2017 starting in Feb.
- **New Style Referee Shirts** - Don't forget that the new style referee shirts are available at the SSBRA monthly meetings for half the price of the OSI shirts. I've used them during the Cal South State Cup tournament and they look and feel great.
- **New Members** - SSBRA continues to look for qualified Referees. If you know of a qualified Referee have them apply to SSBRA and you could be eligible to get your 2017 dues covered by the Association via the New Membership Initiative program.
- **2017 Season has started** - State Cup continues; National Cup starts this week; DirectKix – started last week; Zog Sports – started; Beverly Hills – started; Aspire - started; J-Liga – Starts 3/4/17; MB continues; PSL continues. Please make sure your blocks are correct as there is a lot of assignments.
- **Beach Classic Tournament** - SSBRA will be supporting AYSO's R177 in Long Beach for the third straight year. The tournament will be held 2/25/2017 and 2/26/2017 in Long Beach. Please update your Blocks accordingly.
- **Please check your mileage limits in Arbiter.** We have an increasing number of games to cover at State and National Cup, and if your mileage is too restrictive then you will not get assignments and the association may not have enough referees to cover our allocation.

Jan General Membership Meeting –

The Draft minutes for the Jan General Membership meeting can be found below. These minutes will be voted on for approval at the Feb General Membership Meeting on the 28th.



SSBRA September General Meeting

1/31/17 Tuesday 7:30 start @ North High School - Library

Board Member Attendees:

Steve Morgan - SM	Bruce Ashton - BA	Chris Nevil - CN
Valle Altobelli - VA	Michael Hinz - MH	Jay Pignatello - JP
David Welch - DW		

MH called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Approve November minutes:

November minutes were approved by the membership

New members introduced:

Jack Holds
Martin Perez

Upgrades:

We had several members upgrade their USSF levels –

Mario Arita	George Anthony
Yoel Miller	Greg Sirbu
Michael Takeda	Erol Thompson
Alexander Arita	Ebive Udo-Udoma
Musa Abdelshife	Mike Hawthorne
Valle Altobelli	Jay Pignatello

General Discussions

Parking Reimbursement

MH & BA discussed the Board updating the SSBRA Guidelines to include a maximum of \$10 parking reimbursement for carpools. It will be included in any monthly checks members receive. Also discussed was that thanks to the Referee Association Presidents, referee parking at Silverlakes is now free with the presentation of your CalSouth photo ID card.

SSBRA Secretary

MH informed the membership that due to business and personal issues Mike Takeda needed to step down and secretary and based on responses from members to the call for volunteers to replace him, Jay Pignatello was selected by the Board to fill in as Secretary until the next AGM.



SSBRA Training

DW discussed looking professional and ready when arriving at the field for any event. He also mentioned making sure members reviewed the rules for that event prior to working the event to help eliminate any confusion. Finally, DW mentioned working with your Ref Team for constructive feedback and informal assessments so that we could continuously improve as referees.

New Style Jerseys

MH mentioned that the new jerseys were for sale by Manny at half the price of the OSI jerseys. Manny then mentioned that he had jackets for ordering and some other SSBRA specific items for sale as well.

Introducing the New ProRef (USSF) jersey style for 2016-17. New fabric, styling and features.
World Class quality at affordable prices.

SIZES: XS - 2XL
\$24.95
Quantity discounts available

PRO REF



Service Failures

MH and VA discussed the service failure at MB 7v7. Service failures are very rare and very bad for the association as a whole. The take away from the discussion was to eliminate any napping before events. **NO NAPPING BEFORE EVENTS.**

State Cup & Contracts

- a. State Cup started last week, and VA spoke about every one opening up their distance travel limits on Arbiter. It is important for the Association to make sure we cover the games we are given, especially early on in the State Cup, so that we can get some of the higher level games later in the event. VA reinforced the idea of reading the rules prior to working the event. Bill Raventos brought up possibly the association subsidizing gas fees to members willing to go to Lancaster, and he reinforced the importance of being our best and filling our requirements to get better games later in the tournament.
- b. DirectKix – 2017 season started last week
- c. Zog Sports – restarted 1/21/17 and we have the MOA
- d. Beverly Hills – Starts 2/12/17 through 5/21/17
- e. J-Liga – Starts 3/4/17
- f. MB – work is ongoing and the 2017 contract is signed but the association needs a copy. Veto Galati discussed the new 2 minute “penalty box” rule instituted for this year, and the discussion revolved around how to maintain the ratio of male/female players if a female player was sent off.
- g. Aspire – CN and MH discussed this contract and are trying to gain a fixed fee for the one-off game that exists each week.
- h. Lawndale – Contract expires 2/3/17 and must be renewed
- i. PSL – ongoing
- j. LA Riot – no 2017 season – cancelled



Financial Matters

BA spoke about the finances and reminded everyone that the financials for the association exist on the website behind the firewall. He also mentioned that the checks for December and 1099s were available after the meeting. Finally, BA indicated that based on the financial condition of the Association at this time, he did not recommend a dues increase.

Assignor Matters

VA spoke about opening up travel limits again to include Lancaster. She also discussed that we have 113 referees on the ROL and 18 not on the ROL and asked the 18 not on the ROL to complete their training. She further indicated to the membership to keep Arbiter up to date with your blocks so that she could staff some requests for Friendlies that are starting to pop up. She also mentioned making sure that everyone had a picture of themselves in Arbiter. Finally, she mentioned that with any last minute turn back issues – a phone call must be placed to VA – an email is not sufficient. Members must call her to avoid a service failure.

Member at Large Matters

CN reminded the membership the importance of timely submittal of match reports and any supplemental reports.

Vice President Matters

SM spoke briefly about ranking and invited membership to contact if they would like more details related their ranking in the unit. He reminded everyone that it is time for rankings again and the goal is to review rankings twice per year.

President Matters

MH spoke about the requirements for maintaining USSF certification and CalSouth certification

- a. SSBRA meeting requirements – 5 per year
- b. Cal South training requirements – 5 per year
- c. Grade 7 PRD requirements – 3 per year and 5 to upgrade

Other Matters

General discussion was had concerning the LA Galaxy tournament in the summer. The work will be split between SSBRA and Long Beach, with Long Beach taking the oldest of the age groups in the Showcase Division. CN and MH discussed their efforts to work with Galaxy on this matter. As a result of their efforts, there are actually more games for SSBRA to cover, but they are not the Showcase level games. Membership agreed that the more games to cover was ok with them. MH and CN also discussed that Long Beach is creeping into this relationship and eventually this could cause us to lose the tournament eventually.

Next RPD: Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Next General Membership Meeting: Tuesday, February 28, 2017