



The Flag and Whistle
Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association
-- Over 45 Years Serving the Soccer Community --

May 2019

PO Box 1613, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Editors: Jay Pignatello/ Michael Hinz

www.ssbra.org

President: Michael Hinz

Vice-President: Steve Morgan

Referee Coach: Taidgh Simpson

Treasurer: Bruce Ashton

Member-At-Large: Chris Nevil

Secretary: Jay Pignatello

Training & Mentoring: Taidgh Simpson

Assignor: Gabriel Goldsman

Notes from the President

1. Please take the time to read through all 8 pages of this Flag and Whistle as it contains both the May GMM minutes and the latest SSBRA information along with the information related to the Open Board Position Nominations and information on the Proposed Bylaws changes. Per the Bylaws "Members in Good Standings" will be able to vote for the Nominees and Bylaws changes at the 2019 AGM on June 25th.
2. The 2019-2020 membership year starts July 1st. There are several actions every member needs to complete in order to be ready for the new membership year;
 - a. All Returning Members must **submit [an on-line "Returning Member Application" \(RMA\)](#)** form by June 30th. A link to the form is on the "Association" page on the SSBRA website.
 - b. The **2019-2020 dues of \$100 are due June 1st** and become past due on June 30th.
 1. You can bring your dues to the June AGM on the 25th or pay via the PayPal link on the SSBRA website. (There is also [a link to pay your dues](#) when you finish your RMA.)
 2. You can also utilize your referee fees which are payable to you by SSBRA for **any match refereed before June 30th** to cover your dues. Note: If you do not want the Treasure to withhold your dues from your referee fees check let him know.
 - c. **Members with current dues as of June 30th will receive assignments as of July 1st.**
 - d. As we do every year, we will be resetting the assignment history in Arbiter for the start of the new membership year. This is early notice that if you want to keep a history of your

assignments you need to do that before the system is reset.

3. Remember that Cal South is now requiring every Referee to complete the new

SafeSport Training – All Referees must complete the training before 9/1/2019. You can use the [link in the SSBRA Certification page](#) to access the training.

4. [SSBRA covered the recently released changes to the FIFA LOTG](#) which go into effect on June 1st 2019 at the May GMM. Please review the changes, so you understand how to properly implement them. Each league may decide to implement the new changes or delay them until the start of their new season so make sure you are aware of what the league you are assigned to have decided to do in regards to the new laws. (SBPSL is delaying the changes until the start of their new season in Sept) A copy of the presentation can be found on the SSBRA Training Page.
5. The Torrance RPD hosted by SSBRA has had the largest attendance for any RPD for three months in a row. 91 referees at both the March and April RPDs and 97 at the May RPD with about half of the referees in attendance being SSBRA members. The June RDP is on the 18th.
6. As discussed at the May GMM, SSBRA is being asked to assign more fields at tournaments than we have Referees available to cover so we are having to turn back fields and accept less work.

If more SSBRA members provide availability for these tournaments, we can accept more work for everyone.

7. The 2019 AGM will be held on June 25th at [Tony's Subs and Pizza](#) on Aviation Blvd in Inglewood. The following Proposed Bylaws changes along with the following nominations for open Board positions will be voted on by “Members in Good Standings” at the AGM.

- a. Proposed Bylaws changes (The Board recommends a vote for each of the following 6 Bylaws changes.)

1. **VII ELECTED OFFICERS C.3.f.**

- a) **Was:** Provide a financial report at a minimum of 5 membership meetings per year spread out across the year.
- b) **Proposed:** Provide Quarterly financial reports at General Membership Meetings.

2. **VII ELECTED OFFICERS C.3.i.**

- a) **Was:** N/A
- b) **Proposed:** Post copies of the Financial reports on the SSBRA website and maintain them for a minimum of 7 years.

3. **VII ELECTED OFFICERS C.3.j.**

- a) **Was:** N/A
- b) **Proposed:** Present draft tax returns to the Board of Directors for the Board to review and approve before the returns are filed and then maintain copies of the approved Tax returns for a minimum of 7 years.

4. **VII ELECTED OFFICERS C.4.a.**

- a) **Was:** Take minutes and maintain a book of the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the General Membership.

- b) **Proposed:** Take Board of Directors meeting and General Membership meeting minutes and maintain them for a minimum of 7 years.

5. XIII GENERAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

- a) **Was:** The Board of Directors shall choose a non-Board member(s) to perform an informal assessment of the Association's financial records in even-numbered years. The results of the assessment will be made available to the Membership.
- b) **Proposed:** The Board of Directors shall choose a non-Board member(s) to perform an informal assessment once every two years covering the last two years. The assessment will occur during the odd-numbered years. The results of the assessment will be made available to the Membership and maintained for a minimum of 7 years.

6. I NAME

- a) **Was:** The name of the organization shall be: Soccer South Bay Referee Association.
- b) **Proposed:** The name of the organization shall be: South Bay Soccer Referee Association.

7. Board Nominations (The Board recommends a vote for both of the Incumbents.)

- a) **VP**
- Steve Morgan Incumbent
 - Stephen Resnick
- b) **Treasurer**
- Bruce Ashton - Incumbent
- c) **Secretary**
- Jonny Joseph
 - Veto Galati

Candidate Statements

a. VP

1. Steve Morgan – Incumbent

I am Steve Morgan and am pleased to be running for re-election for the position of Vice President of SSBRA.

A little about my background, I started refereeing over 20 years ago in AYSO as many of us have. My referee path in AYSO took me to the Advanced Ref level which I obtained through attending the Ken Aston Camp, I also attended the Referee Assessor course thru Ken Aston Camp. I am also familiar with the game as a National Coach in AYSO and in addition have my "D" License for which I used as an assistant for my daughter's club team. I am an Advanced Coach Instructor, Advanced Management Instructor and

Referee Instructor in AYSO and I am on the Area 1F staff. I was a Regional Commission for six years honing my "running an organization skills". Finally I am a Grade 7 USSF referee and a ROL Certified Assignor thru Cal South.

I would like to continue working on the Board to keep pushing for improvement of the Association. I will continue to develop more positive communication and transparency, helping members to have opportunities to get better.

I have worked to establish positive relations with neighboring referee associations to keep increasing tournament access and game count. I've helped grow the Association's client base and I am currently working to increase the amount of work from one client and add another large client to SSBRA's growing client base.

I put forward the suggestion that in order to increase the professionalism and knowledge of the LOTG that the Association should provide current law books to the members, which everyone should have received for the 2018/2019 season. I have successfully ensured this will continue this year providing the Law books for the 2019/2020 since it is another year of many IFAB changes.

I look forward to continued growth in the association, in numbers and in quality and professionalism. As part of the Board, I will try to continue with the communication and listening to member's concerns and trying to address them the best way possible.

2. Stephen Resnick

The association has made great strides in the last several years. Significant and positive changes. We are a more professional association. But there is more to be done and I would like to be a part of it. I want to become Vice President so I can help our association continue its march forward as a respected and top referee association in Southern California.

I am confident I can make a positive impact because of my years of experience as a Community Leader. In that regard, I am the President of the Westwood Homeowners Association and an elected board member and Secretary of the Westwood Neighborhood Council.

For many years, I have been contributing to the association by mentoring new referees

and assisting my colleagues when needed. And I have made a further and significant contribution by assisting the board in obtaining higher fees from one of our customers. I know what it takes to help lead SSBRA into a bright future for us, and the teams, players, and coaches we support.

I have experience serving on the board of a referee association. Quite some years ago, for another referee association, when a board position opened up, I stepped forward and was appointed to the board as Treasurer. I changed their way of doing business as I implemented a modern accounting system for the association.

I'm currently an AYSO National Referee, and AYSO National Assessor. I am formerly a USSF State 5 referee. And I was a NISOA National Referee with assignments in conference playoffs, and the first and second round of the NCAA Tournament.

I am a long-time member of SSBRA. This is my association. I want to step up and donate my time and offer my extensive experience on and off the pitch to help my association. I look forward to your vote for Vice President.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephen Resnick

b. Treasurer

1. Bruce Ashton – Incumbent

Over the past 3+ years, I have kept the Association current with all federal, state, and local government regulations, maintained the insurance on a current basis, maintained the data of the accounting and member dues on regular basis, and performed any and all tasks that I have been given. More important to all of you, I have implemented and maintained a policy of paying all referees for games refereed in one month by the general meeting the subsequent month.

This is what I do for a living and I have gotten really good at it. That means even if I would have to run against another member, I would still ask for your vote as the best candidate, and I do, therefore, ask for your vote again.

c. Secretary

1. Jonny Joseph

The term soccer fan is used for many who enjoy the game. I consider myself to be a true soccer fan-atic! For as long as I can remember, I have been an avid fan. First as a player in elementary school, then as a fan of my local professional team and reading the results of my favorite English soccer club in the newspaper. Later becoming involved in AYSO - a coach for my daughter's U10 and U12 teams, a National 1 referee and Advanced badge coach, coach to various All Star teams, without any of my kids on the team and now being a full-time watcher of English premier League and FIFA games on television, and the occasional attendee at MLS games. Soccer is truly a major passion in my life!

Additional involvement in AYSO has included serving as Referee Administrator of my region, webmaster for the region, Area Treasurer and being on the Board of Directors of the CalSouth Foundation.

I have offered to serve as your secretary to serve you, the membership. I will strive for greater transparency, improved governance of the organization, building on the tremendous strides to become a cutting edge, professional and recognized association of excellence within CalSouth that we have achieved over the last few years. However, we should not lose sight of the fact that most of us do this for fun. We want to enjoy what we do and this is important to me, as I know it is important to many of you. I also just happen to be an experienced scribe of meeting minutes.

So in summary, I am serious about taking on this role – serious about having fun and serious about being serious when on the pitch!

2. Veto Galati

I am asking for your support in my candidacy for SSBRA Secretary. Having served as SSBRA Secretary in the past I am very familiar with the duties and requirements of the secretary position. I resigned from this position in January 2016 for personal reasons. Since volunteering to fill in for some of Jay Pignatello's duties while he is dealing with health issues I realized two things. 1): How much I missed being of service to SSBRA and 2): How much I think I can contribute to the organization as a member of the Board.

While serving on the Board, in addition to my duties as Secretary, I took on the responsibility for in maintaining our relationship with many of the leagues we served. I was the Board's Point of Contact with the J-League and had developed a strong relationship with their

director, which helped us maintain this client. Even today, my relationship with J-League remains strong and I still act as the de facto Point of Contact. I was also the Board Point of Contact for the Lawndale Youth League. During this time our contract was up for renewal. I volunteered to assume the task of preparing the extensive RFP (Request for Proposal) required for their municipal contracts. The many hours I spent in preparing and submitting the documents required resulted in SSBRA being awarded a new three-year contract for this league. If elected to the Board I will continue to use my real world sales experience to develop new business and to maintain our current clients.

Additionally I have a thorough working knowledge of both the SSBRA Bylaws and Guidelines and will work diligently to be sure our Board actions on behalf of our members follow all established protocols.

I look forward once again being of service to our SSBRA membership. Thank you for your vote. Veto Galati

The Association's Annual General Membership meeting (AGM) will be held on June 25th at Tony's Subs and Pizza on Aviation Bld.

The draft minutes for the May General Membership Meeting which will be voted on at the July meeting can be found below.

SSBRA Membership Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2019 7:30 PM - North HS Library

Board members present: Michael Hinz, Bruce Ashton, Chris Nevil, Gabriel Goldsman & Taidgh Simpson (Absent: Steve Morgan, Jay Pignatello).

Michael Hinz Opens Meeting: MH opened meeting at 7:35 pm requesting approval of April 2019 General Meeting. Alan Siegel pointed out that discussion of SCDSL procedures covered in the April meeting were not included in the minutes. MH then asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the inclusion of this suggestion. So motioned by Tim Reynolds, seconded by Tony Calandra and approved by acclimation.

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION: New applicants Omar Gomez, Bill Wilkins, Rider Want, Damien Want, Will Padian and Joanne Rose introduced themselves to the membership.

CAL SOUTH TRAINING: MH introduced Cal South instructor & fellow SSBRA member Chris Nevil who offered a presentation on "Writing Supplemental Reports." Chris also pointed out SSSBRA policy for State & National Cup games for which we write supplemental reports and submit them at the venue. We must take a photo of said report and send to Member-at-Large the same day/night of the game so that we may properly archive these reports. Training ended at 8:25 PM

FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT: MH announced that Financial Assessment has been completed and that Bruce Ashton will make a full report at the next Board meeting, after which assessment results will be posted onto the SSBRA website (behind the firewall). Bruce also mentioned that financial statements are available on our website (behind the firewall).

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Bruce informed members that due date for 2019-2020 year dues in June 1, with a thirty day grace period. For any referee with payable fees accrued, Bruce will deduct them from the next check.

RETURNING MEMBER APPLICATIONS: MH pointed out that due date for submitting Returning Member Applications is June 1. Application is available on the SSBRA website and must be submitted electronically.

SAFE SPORT TRAINING: MH informed members that they MUST complete Safe Sport training by September 1, 2019 to remain eligible for assignments.

IFAB LAW CHANGES: MH introduced Taidgh Simpson who offered a presentation on upcoming changes to IFAB Laws of the game and announced that these will be posted on our SSBRA website.

BOARD ELECTIONS: MH opened nominations for Board positions to be filled at the AGM on June 25. Per bylaws, offices of Vice-President and Treasurer are up for elections this year. In addition, there will be an election to fill the remaining one-year of the Secretary position following Jay Pignatello's decision to step down.

****VICE-PRESIDENT:** Michael Hinz nominated incumbent **Steve Morgan**, seconded by Andrew Denyer. Tim Reynolds nominated **Steve Resnick**, seconded by Steve McCall.

****TREASURER:** Veto Galati nominated **Bruce Ashton**, seconded by Kiku Anon. No other candidates were offered and nominations were closed

****SECRETARY:** Bruce Ashton nominated **Jonny Joseph**, seconded by Sue Pascoe. Steve McCall nominated **Veto Galati**, seconded by Tony Amalfitano.

At this point nomination for all offices were closed with the caveat that nominations could still be made prior to the election at the AGM.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS: Although no changes were suggested from the floor during the meeting the following written bylaw amendments were offered and will be voted on at the AGM:

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6. ASSOCIATION NAME

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Discussion ensued on the proposed name change.

-Greg Sirbu wants it to stay the same for historic reasons.

-Veto Galati offered that our identity for several decades has been SSBRA and that even though grammatically incorrect everyone knows that we are the association that represents the South Bay, “if it isn’t broke, don’t fix it” and why risk confusion by trying to change the name so that it no longer aligns with our well-known acronym (SSBRA).

-Joe Robelotto explained that Soccer South Bay Referee Association, hence SSBRA, was how the name was registered upon its origin.

-MH and Jonny Joseph favored the name change to reflect more properly that we are an association of soccer referees from the South Bay.

ASSIGNOR: Gabriel Goldsman then took the floor and said that we have a tournament in Norco (Silverlakes) next weekend (June 8 & 9) and he needs more availability. GG had a sign-up sheet for this tournament at the meeting. For informational purposed GG also mentioned tp our refs that belong to the SCSOA Valley high school unit that their training dates will conflict with SSBRA RPD sessions and General meeting dates and that the Valley Unit suggests that their members who are also in SSBRA make arrangements to attend South Bay Unit G training in order to earn their credits for SCSOA.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: All stated that they had nothing further to add at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Next Meeting is the AGM: June, 2019, at Tony’s Pizza starting at 7 pm. Additional details to follow.