



The Flag and Whistle
Newsletter of the South Bay Soccer Referee Association
(Also known as Soccer South Bay Referee Association)
- Serving the Soccer Community for over 46 Years -

February 2020
PO Box 1613, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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www.sbsra.org

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Vice-President: Steve Morgan
Member-At-Large: Chris Nevil

Referee Coach: Taidgh
Secretary: Jonny
Assignor: Gabriel
Goldsman

Notes from the President

There is lots of information to share in this copy of the Flag and Whistle so please take the time to read through all the information and please let me know if you have any questions.

Obviously the first topic has to be the Coronavirus (COVID-19). As you probably have read, Cal South has suspended all program and competition activities through April 17, 2020. In addition all of our other clients have suspended their seasons until future notice. TUSD has closed its schools and canceled all school permits for the use of their facilities for at least the next two weeks.

With the interest of our member's health and wellbeing in mind, SBSRA is canceling both the March RPD on the 17th and March GMM on the 31st. We will decide on the April activities as more information becomes available in the next few weeks. The Board encourages all our members to follow the guidelines outlined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Please take care of yourselves and your family and friends as we all work through this situation.

We had 52 referees in attendance at the February PRD and we hope to see more when Cal South resumes the RPDs. You can still sign up for all the remaining 2020 RPDs on the Cal South website at <https://cysa.affinitysoccer.com/eventmanager/public/event.asp?calid=11343203&eventtype=RPD>.

If you do not have a new SBSRA Badge, or you did not order a new SBSRA shirt please let me know so we can get you a badge and/or add your shirt to the next order.

SBSRA has provided 1,088 referee assignments so far in 2020 and the State Cup is working its way through the Mayors, Governors, and Presidents divisions. National Cup is doing the same for the Younger and Older divisions, so if you are not getting "your fill" please open your blocks and let the Assignor know you are ready and willing.

Joe Robelotto notified the Board that one of the original SBSRA members, Fritz Schmid passed away in late Feb. Fritz was the father of the late Sigi Schmid, the former Los Angeles Galaxy, Columbus Crew, Seattle Sounders and UCLA coach. Fritz refereed for leagues all across the South Bay.



As we move forward into the 2020-2021 season, I am interested in hearing from the membership on any idea's, suggestions, or comments that you may have on how we can continue to improve the association in regards to our service to the soccer community. And yes, that includes any improvements in how the association or the Board can better serve the SBSRA membership itself. Just send me an email or give me a call. My contact information as well as the contact information for all of the Board Members is on the SBSRA website and in Arbiter, under "LISTS" and "Officials."

Included below are the minutes of our February General Membership Meeting for your review. These minutes along with the minutes from the January General Membership Meeting will be on the agenda for approval at the next General Membership Meeting.



**SBSRA General Membership Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2020
North High School, Torrance, California**

Board Members in Attendance: Steve Morgan (Vice-President), Bruce Ashton (Treasurer), Chris Nevil (Member-At-Large, Gabriel Goldsman (Assignor), Taidgh Simpson (Training Director)

1. Meeting Called to Order – 7:40 pm.
2. Approve January GMM minutes – As the draft minutes had not been made available to the membership, this was tabled for the March General Membership Meeting.
3. New members – the following new member applicants introduced themselves and were warmly welcomed - Jamil Zraikat, Justin Knoll, Guillermo Martinez, Devin Webb, Steve Hannant and Jorge Valdivia
4. New Member Orientation/Training class - Taidgh Simpson explained the orientation process and provided details of the session held earlier in the evening.
5. Cal South Training - SM introduced Cal South instructor Wayne Merrick who explained the new Cal South Referee Coach (formerly Assessor) and Instructor certification process. The training session included videos illustrating various situations involving challenges, ball handling, offside and penalty kick decisions. Members were asked to make choices using the Considerations as a basis for their decisions. Training also included referee positioning, using various video clips.
6. Registered Officials List (“ROL”) - SM reported that there are still some members who have yet to finish requirements to appear on Cal South ROL. SM stressed that members MUST be on the ROL and also have their Arbiter account up to date in order to receive assignments.
7. Fee Schedule - An updated Fee Schedule is now available on the SBSRA website.
8. League/Competition Updates:
 - a) State Cup has begun and due to an incident at a recent Cal South tournament, Cal South has changed several policies for Cal South tournaments:
 - i. Spectators now sit on the same side as their teams AND on the opposite end of the pitch from the AR,
 - ii. Cal South requires a meeting between the Referees and Coaches at the center circle before the start of the match,
 - iii. Zero tolerance of spectator/coach misconduct.
 - b) As done in the past, if you want to work the "Olders" in a few weeks you need to work the "Youngers" now. Members who work the "Youngers" will be at the top of the assignor's list when the "Olders" are being assigned.
 - c) Miraleste Middle School league was a success. Thanks to your participation the School has indicated that they want us to support them again next year.
 - d) El Segundo City League - Veto Galati (Co-Assignor for Weekday/Weeknight games) reported that based on our performance in their A League, which we



covered this past fall season, we have now obtained the B League. So we now have a total of 3 A League games and four B League games each Friday. As requested by the League, opposed to their previous referee association, SBSRA assigned different referees every week and they never saw the same referee more than once during the regular Fall Season. We intend to continue this with the addition of the B League but they will be treated as separate leagues and some referees may get both an A League and a B League assignment. VG also stressed that referees who wish to work the El Segundo League must also give some availability for the MB 7v7 and Zog weeknight leagues to be considered for ES assignments.

9. LA City Business License (BTRC) - Members wishing to work the Mar Vista and Penmar Leagues, paid directly by LA City Parks & Rec, must renew their BTRC by the end of February to avoid penalties.

10. Board Member Reports:

a) Assignor - GG commented on SBSRA performance at State Cup. Younger referees impressed the Cal South Ref Coordinators and GG got good feedback from some of the PRO & MLS referees at the site. But some of our experienced refs had issues. GG noticed some problems with foul recognition and gauging the temperature of the game. We need better game management.

b) Treasurer - BA discussed AB5 (CA independent contractors/employees) and noted there is an amendment before the State Legislature that will exempt youth sports officials. More information will follow as it progresses.

BA also asked that all members notify him of any changes in their contact info (phone numbers, mailing addresses) even if they change it in Arbiter. The accounting system for SBSRA is separate from Arbiter and he needs to be informed of any updates in member contact info to facilitate check payments and 1099 purposes.

11. Input from Members -Dave Martin noted parking issues he's experienced for the Sunday Beverly Hills League (at Beverly Hills High School). With other events going on at the same time parking is inadequate and refs (and teams) are having to park as far away as Roxbury Park, then walk to the fields. GG said that either he or CN (League Point of Contact) will discuss this problem with the league to seek a resolution.

12. Bylaws Committee - Sue Pascoe reported that, led by Jonny Joseph, the Bylaws Committee is considering various amendments to clarify bylaws. One area the committee is exploring is term limits for Board Members. Sue took an informal poll to gauge interest in board term limits to bring member feedback back to the committee.

13. The meeting concluded at 9:20 pm.

Thank you to Veto Galati for recording the minutes of the meeting.



Given the current situation, in lieu of an article related to referees, we provide you with Cal South's guidelines, best practices and updates regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19)

<https://calsouth.com/coronavirus/>:

- Listen to and follow the directions of your **STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES**.
- **IF YOU FEEL SICK**, stay home. Do not go to work. Contact your medical provider.
- **IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE SICK**, keep them at home. Do not send them to school. Contact your medical provider.
- **IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS TESTED POSITIVE** for the coronavirus, keep the entire household at home. Do not go to work. Do not go to school. Contact your medical provider.
- **IF YOU ARE AN OLDER PERSON**, stay home and away from other people.
- **IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A SERIOUS UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITION** that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or heart function or weakens your immune system), stay home and away from other people.
- Work or engage in schooling **FROM HOME** whenever possible.
- **AVOID SOCIAL GATHERINGS** in groups of more than 10 people.
- Avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts – **USE DRIVE-THRU, PICK-UP OR DELIVERY OPTIONS**.
- **AVOID DISCRETIONARY TRAVEL**, shopping trips and social visits.
- **DO NOT VISIT** nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE:

- Wash your hands, especially after touching any frequently used item or surface.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
- Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.

We ask that you keep monitoring our (Cal South) website and social media channels for all updates regarding Cal South and its programming and activities. Thank you.

Additional and updated information may be obtained from the California Department of Public Health at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/New-Release-2020.aspx>.