



The Flag and Whistle
Newsletter of the South Bay Soccer Referee Association
Serving the Soccer Community since 1976



Written by: Jonny Joseph and Warren Howell
 Edited by: Jonny Joseph

April 2022

Notes from the Board

Membership Dues

At the April Board Meeting, a budget for the July 2022 – June 2023 SBSRA Membership Year was presented to the Board for approval. The Board unanimously approved the budget, which was prepared with the following key assumptions and estimates:

Membership Numbers

- Returning Members	120
- New Members	<u>30</u>
Total	<u>150</u>

Expenses

- Arbiter Costs	\$ 1,138	
- Membership Insurance	1,500	
- Annual Meeting Costs	1,000	
- Members' Merchandise (Law Books and T-Shirts)	1,000	
- Ratings Observations for Members	3,500	
- Monthly Training	<u>1,200</u>	
		9,338
- Other Expenses	<u>6,413</u>	
Total Expenses	<u>\$15,751</u>	

Based on the above numbers and a target of Income = Expenses, your Board is happy to announce that Annual Dues for the 2022 – 2023 SBSRA Membership Year will be as follows:

Returning Members	\$ 90
New Members	\$130

Professionalism

We are pleased to announce the free SBSRA logo t-shirt (short or long sleeves) for all new members and existing members who chose to buy shirts will be available for pickup at our next membership meeting on April 29.

Board of Directors

President: Jonny Joseph	Vice-President: Steve Morgan	Secretary: Jack Desemone
Treasurer: Bruce Ashton	Member-At-Large: Tim Martinez	Assignor: Gabriel Goldsman



Futsal

We have reached agreement with the LA Galaxy Sports Center to provide Futsal Referee Services for their next league session. Youth and Adult games will take place Monday – Friday, approximately 10 - 15 games each day on 4 or 5 courts/fields. Games are expected to begin June 6 and continue through August 29. For more information, please visit <https://sbsra.org/competitions/futsal/>.

We are offering two trainings, all interested members must attend one of them, on Thursday, April 21 and Monday, April 25 from 7:00 – 9:30 at North High School in the Cafeteria. All attendees must sign up in Arbiter and with Cal South at <https://cysa.affinitysoccer.com/eventmanager/public/event.asp?calid=13891108>. Please read the Futsal Laws of the Game before the class AND take the online test accessed through the Cal South website at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpCRaWo8e9BKn-XsJy3LY_VhoQZ0nE8wb-pujLrITILKfdLQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0.

All Referees MUST attend one of these training dates to be able to officiate in this league.

Availability and Blocks

All members have an obligation to minimize the number of times we decline games after we are assigned usually after accepting referee assignments elsewhere. As independent contractors, we all are entitled to accept assignments wherever we can get them. However, in fairness to all of assignors, Gabriel and Veto here, and others elsewhere, we are all requested to block the days that we are unavailable to the applicable assignor(s). Choosing who we want to work for on specific days is perfectly fine, waiting to see which games you are assigned and then declining the less favorable ones is simply not acceptable. The extra work it creates for the assignor, is more than most of us can imagine. Please block ahead of time!

New Ratings System

Observations/Evaluations are underway! We have begun to implement the new system and a number of referees have already been observed. Our Vice President, who is responsible for the Ratings of Members, will be reporting on progress and the results of the evaluations, in a general way, not of individual members, at our next General Membership Meeting.

Training Opportunities

The following training opportunities are coming up and all members are encouraged to attend as many of them as we are able to do:



Cal South Monthly In-Service Webinar

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

7:00pm – 8:30pm

Guest Speaker: Anthony Vasoli, former FIFA Assistant Referee, who officiated 187 Major League Soccer games from 2005 to 2017

Topic: Mastering Offside

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS WEBINAR

Please be reminded that after viewing the presentation, live or recorded, one must take the Review (Quiz) to receive In-Service Training credit.

New Member Training

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

6: 33pm (1 hour before monthly membership meeting)

This training is required for all new SBSRA members to become full members of our association. All referees, new and with prior referee experience are required to attend so we can share all the details of how to maximize your enjoyment and experience as a referee in **our organization**.

CORE Training at North High

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

7:00pm – 9:30pm

Please sign up any time before the course and future course, at no cost, at

<https://cysa.affinitysoccer.com/eventmanager/public/calendarlist.asp?calguid=&eventtab=current>

What is CORE?

Center of Referee Education (CORE) is a program established by Cal South State Referee Committee (SRC). It is open to all USSF certified referees. It consists of physical trainings & lectured meetings for referees who are looking to be at some point be at the elite level of Cal South.

Emphasis is placed on both physical fitness and classroom instruction. Referees attending this event are expected to come prepared with material for physical fitness (i.e.: tennis shoes, whistle, cards, flags) as well as material for classroom (i.e.: FIFA Laws of the Game, Guide to Procedures, paper and pen).

While these trainings are for referee self-development, please note that Regional or Grassroots Elite certification or recertification require referees to attend at least 5 CORE trainings per year. The same requirement applies to instructors and assessors.

New Referee Training at North High

Do you want a year's free membership of SBSRA? DO you know of anyone who wants to be a referee?

Please let them know of the next opportunity to attend Cal South's next New Referee Training:

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

7:00pm – 9:30pm



Monthly Membership Meeting

Our next in-person, monthly meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 in the **Cafeteria** at North High School, starting at 7:33 pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Tim Martinez will have coins and badges for new members and we will have a new members' orientation class one hour beforehand.

Supplemental Reports

Due to ongoing challenges, we continue to provide the following guidance for all members:

Please be reminded that whenever we have serious situations, a supplemental report is required:

- The **Cal South Supplemental report form**, on the SBSRA website, must be used,
- The report is required to be prepared ASAP, **within 24 hours** for **all serious situations**, including:
 - **Red cards**;
 - **Serious injuries** (paramedics called, player taken to emergency room/hospital), attended to by the trainer; or,
 - **Game terminations**, etc.,
- Take a **copy of the Match Report** to prepare the Cal South incident report,
- Use **simple language** and include the **facts of the incident** only:
 - **When** – date and time, point in the match;
 - **Where** – venue and specific location on the field;
 - **Who** was involved? The player's name, number and team; and,
 - **What** happened? Don't speculate, just note what you saw.

Note there is no "**Why**." Not our job to speculate on why someone did what they did and we should not include a diagnosis of the injury, even if we have the ability to do so.

- **Do not use abbreviations**, only use **language in the Laws of the Game** to describe the applicable misconduct.
- **Call the Assignor**, after any game that requires an incident report, so he is informed when the league calls him.
- **Submit the supplemental report** to our Member-At-Large (MAL) and the Assignor (and Co-Assignor if the game was assigned by the Co-Assignor) who will review the report and possibly suggest edits.
- Following submission of the incident report to the MAL, please call him to ensure it has been received if you have not received an **acknowledgement of receipt within 2 hours**.
- **Following review and approval** of the report by the MAL and Assignor, the **Assignor submits the final report** to the applicable league.
- **If you have kept ID cards**, not required for all red cards, the card(s), together with copies of the match report and incident report must be sent to the applicable league administrator **by the end of the first business day (likely Monday)** following the game.
- The **importance of this process** cannot be stressed strongly enough! These reports are really needed by the leagues and everything we do needs to **reflect our professionalism** as individuals and as a referee association.



Two Person (Whistle) Referees

IFAB and USSF prohibit the use of the two-person referee system. While many of us may use this system for high school and middle school games, it may not be used by any USSF-sanctioned games that we do. If any doubt, unless assigned to do this by one of our assignors, please **DO NOT USE THE TWO-PERSON REFEREE SYSTEM** unless you have been assigned by one of our Assignors to be on a two-man crew.

Conversely, if you have been assigned as a **TWO-PERSON REFEREE CREW** for **non-USSF-sanctioned games**, please honor the assignment regardless of what your assigned partner may say. If there is an issue, please contact the appropriate assignor – Gabriel for weekend games and Veto for weekday games.

Monthly Referee Quick Tip

Following is this month's Referee Quick Tip. Members are encouraged to submit quick tips that work for them for consideration for future issues.

What's the Call (Should there even be a call)?

The goalkeeper gathers the ball in her/his hands. No other players are nearby and the goalkeeper runs forward to punt the ball up-field. Apparently unaware of her/his location, the goalkeeper steps over the top of the penalty area before releasing the ball and punting it. The Assistant Referee on that side of the field immediately realizes that the goalkeeper has handled the ball outside of the penalty area.

Considerations

Technically, this is a direct free kick offense, right? IFAB Law 12 - *"The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area."*

Effect of the infraction? Limited to the ball travelling an extra few inches up-field. This is very different to the goalkeeper stepping outside her/his penalty area to touch the ball with her/his hands with a rapidly approaching attacker.

Consequence. Attacking team is provided with a very good opportunity to score a goal (Direct Free Kick on edge, likely in the center, of the penalty area).

An overriding concept of refereeing is this statement that used to be included in the introduction to the IFAB Laws of the Game. "The Laws of the Game are intended to provide the games should be played with as little interference as possible, and in this view is the duty of referees to penalize only deliberate breaches of the Law. Constant whistling for trifling and doubtful breaches produces bad feeling and loss of temper on the part of the players and spoils the pleasure of the spectators." Also known as Law 18.

So, what to do?



Discussions with multiple members have led to the following options:

- 1) A foul is a foul, penalize it as prescribed by Law 12,
- 2) Yes, it's a foul, but this is trifling. Very rarely called at any level of the game. Warn the goalkeeper about going over the line. Do it a second time, if it happens again. Third time, perhaps it's not trifling anymore and needs penalizing.

What will you do? What type of referee do you want to be? This is definitely a "must-discuss" in your pregame instructions. Your AR is going to be the one who has to make the initial decision but you as the referee will have to penalize it or not and will hear about it, VERY LOUDLY, from one of the coaches whatever you decide as they will have seen your AR signaling the infraction.

Do you have a quick tip to share? If so, please email it to President@sbsra.org.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, June 28. There are several items to be decided on and important matters relating to the AGM:

- 1) Location, location, location – in prior years, we used to hold our meetings at various pizza restaurants. Pizza and soft drinks were paid for by the Association and members were free to purchase beer. Last year, the meeting was held at North High and we enjoyed fried chicken and soft drinks from a food truck. Alcohol is not permitted on school grounds. What would you like for this year? Please let us know.
- 2) Board Elections – every year, we have multiple Board Positions up for election. This year there are three positions we will be voting on:
 - a. President,
 - b. Secretary
 - c. Member at Large

Each position requires a certain level of diligence and continuing time investment to be effective throughout the two-year term. We have a relatively small board and each member must be a fully contributing one for our Association to run effectively and efficiently.

Might you be interested in making our Association even better than it already is? If so, contact any of the incumbents or other Board Members to find out more about the specifics of each position.

Board candidate nominations are requested at our May meeting with Members-In-Good-Standing voting at the AGM.

- 3) Bylaws Amendments – There are several opportunities for Bylaws amendments to be made. Any proposed amendment must be submitted in writing to the Board prior to the May General Membership Meeting and is voted on at the AGM.

Membership Meeting Minutes Approval

Included below are the March Minutes for Membership approval at our next meeting.



SBSRA General Membership Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Board members present: Jonny Joseph, Gabriel Goldsman, Jack Desemone.

1. Call to order at 7:39
2. Approval of February 2022 MM minutes – Dave Martin motioned to approve the February minutes, Sue Pascoe seconded the motion, approved by acclamation.
3. SBSRA Training – It's All Mental! – JJ introduced Jim Madrid founder of ADVANCE SPORTS TECHNOLOGY, INC. (AST), the official Cal South Mental Fitness Group. Jim gave an interesting presentation geared towards how referees can push themselves to achieve more and provided ideas about how to manage oneself when conditions get difficult on the field.
4. Treasurer's Report – In BA's absence, JJ informed members that he had checks for games officiated in February and reminded everyone:
 - a. Cash Checks – please do so when received,
 - b. Address Changes – need to be done in Arbiter and sent to BA ASAP,
 - c. Social Security Numbers – need to be provided to BA as soon after as one becomes a member.
5. President's Report
 - a. Board Meeting Report – March 2022:
 - i. Budget for 22/23 season to be prepared for approval at the April Meeting,
 - ii. New Ratings System survey responses were finalized for inclusion in the March Flag and Whistle and on our website,
 - iii. The Board reviewed our Membership Listing and the Cal South ROL and discussed members who are not on the ROL,
 - iv. With a number of new members, we decided to have a New Member Orientation this month, which we did with at least 10 new members in attendance,
 - v. We received two Returning Member Applications from two members who were previously declined, discussed the reasons why they were declined previously and decided the decline their new applications. Both applicants had multiple transgressions in the past with little or no remorse or accountability expressed by them,
 - vi. El Segundo adult league had an incident between two teams which was discussed. Referees need to recognize the rising temperature in games and take steps to calm the players down. This is not always possible, misconduct can appear out of nowhere sometimes.
 - b. Futsal – A new Futsal officiating opportunity was discussed at the last Board Meeting and earlier today, JJ received some exciting news. We have been invited to provide referees for a Futsal league in Torrance. We quoted \$60 for a Single Referee, 50 minute game, which has been accepted!



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There could be as many as 5 fields per evening, 5 games per field, from Monday – Friday. The season goes from May 16 – August 5 and games could run from 4:00 pm through 9:00 pm.

Referees will have to be Futsal certified by Cal South which requires online and in-person training, a 40 question test and a registration fee of \$45.

To determine if there is enough interest and availability, a survey will go up on our website soon and we ask all members who are interested to complete the survey ASAP.

Members asked various questions and JJ provided answers that he had.

- c. New Ratings System Update – JJ noted that the Observations Team met the previous note to discuss the details of the observations which will begin this weekend.
- d. New Member Introduction – JJ invited any new members or prospective members to introduce themselves telling us about their backgrounds in soccer and refereeing. Jonathan Detwiler and Jeffrey Orellana did so and received a warm SBSRA welcome.
- e. JJ reminded members to place their orders for the Dry-Fit Association t-shirts which enhance our professional appearances. Orders will close this Friday and be sent to Manny for fulfillment.

6. Vice President's Report

- a. Cal South ROL – In SM's absence, JJ shared the following data:
 - i. We have 141 total members,
 - ii. 122 are on the ROL and "Active" in Arbiter and able to be assigned games,
 - iii. 17 have not recertified with Cal South but are paid up members through June 2022 and will hopefully return to be active referees soon,
 - iv. We have 2 Honorary Members
 - v. Also worth noting, we have 12 female referees – our highest number ever? Given the number of girls' games we do, the ladies are still under represented so this is an opportunity for us.

7. Assignor's Report - GG recognized 9 members that are exceling in their referee career. They performed well at a Showcase tournament last weekend, and 2-3 will be going to Regionals next week. We are assigning many games each week and there are tournaments coming in May and July.

Veto Galati provided an update on weekday games and informed members who were interested in refereeing Futsal games that they would be required to referee at Manhattan Beach, El Segundo and South Bay Sports weekday games too.

8. Other Business

- a. Congratulations to:
 - i. Lizzie Kapoor and her El Segundo High School teammates for winning the CIFSS Division 3 championship game,
 - ii. Alan Siegel for having his first crossword published by the New York Times!
- b. JJ encouraged members who needed them to step forward and take:



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- i. Association Referee Badges,
 - ii. Association Coins,
 - iii. Law Books,
 - iv. Association pens
-
9. The meeting adjourned at 8:45



Warren's Howellers and Some Things to Think About

The Keystone Cops Have Nothing Over These Guys (as told, more or less, by Bill Cook, former president and assignor of SBSRA)

Long, long ago during a State Cup tournament weekend in Bakersfield, no less than 20 SBSRA Members converged at the infamous Noriega Basque eatery on a Saturday night. As near as we can tell the group included **Michael, Paul and Lauren Copley, Kiku Annon, Marty Jeffers, Scott Ziegler, Steve Fox, Michael, Eric and Stuart Winter, Gabriel "Mario" Goldsman, Amanda and Rudy "Wet-Chair" Chavez, Melanie Veintimilla, Eric "Slammer" Takaki, Alan Sampson, Ed Beverly, Steve Brandon and Bill Cook.**

After a long evening of enjoying such dishes as smoked tongue and oxtail soup (some enjoying them more than others), the group piled into several cars after dinner for the drive back to the motel, with Stu taking over the wheel for Ed B., as Ed was, uh, temporarily incapacitated after over-indulging on Noriega's mystery red wine. Almost immediately upon leaving, the group witnessed a hit-and-run accident, with a pedestrian being hit and thrown across the road (it was later determined that her injuries were minor).

Taking matters into their own hands, our band of Members gave chase. Alas, things did not go well in the pursuit, as Stu immediately cut-off Rudy (driving his own car), causing Rudy to do a quick maneuver to avoid another accident. Mario, at the wheel of his own vehicle, also gave chase, with speeds reaching 95 MPH, or so he claimed.

Our Members, taking advantage of available technology, then started calling each other on their cell phones to coordinate the chase, leaving a number of messages on Bill's phone (he was in Ed's Car), which had, regrettably, been left back at the motel. Despite all these efforts, the evil-doer escaped anyway, after a chase that lasted about 2 blocks, or something. All the vehicles then circled back to the scene of the crime to give their statements to the police.

Being careful, trained observers all, the law enforcement officers present could not believe their good fortune in having so many witnesses, and after detailed interviews with the Members, determined that:

- if the getaway car had a license plate at all, no one noticed the number
- the driver was no doubt a man
- unless it was a woman
- regardless, the car was white
- or, maybe it was black
- in any case, it was definitely a BMW
- or, it could have been some other make.

Completely baffled, the police did the interviews again, with the same results. Thanking our Members, the police sent them on their way, no doubt hoping never having to see them again. Too excited to sleep, the group adjourned to Denny's for coffee and conversation, with "Slammer" taking advantage of the opportunity to down his fourth grand slam breakfast of the day and having another one packaged up for a snack later.



Eventually, fully spent, everyone retired to their rooms to prepare for the next day's games and new adventures.

That Will Leave a Mark



This Doesn't Look Too Good Either



This Has Always Been My Attitude When being an AR for Gabriel (author unknown)

If a man smiles, smile with him.
If a man laughs, laugh with him.
If a man is happy, be happy with him.
If a man is working, let him work.

----- Keep 😊 Smiling! -----