



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 and Alan Siegel

August 2022

Notes from the Board

Returning Membership Applications (RMAs)

We are excited to share that over 124 members have rejoined at this time. Please be reminded that every member needs to submit an RMA to continue membership in the Association. We have several members who have paid dues, had dues deducted from tournament fees or received New Member Incentives (NMIs), that have not submitted an RMA and thus are not members at this time.

Professionalism

Match Reports

Our referee duties do not end when we blow the final whistle. We usually need to complete a match report. This is usually in the form of a printed document provided by team managers. We need to be aware of league requirements and ensure we comply with them.

In particular:

1. For all SBPSL games, complete the Line-Up Cards with match result, misconduct, and all other information requested. Ensure the names and jersey numbers of carded players are legible. Retain the SBPSL ID card of all players and Managers sent off. Submit completed Line-Up Cards **to the assignor** by email on the same day as the game, by attaching a scan (in PDF format, preferably) or a picture of the report.

For more details about the completion of any match reports and the reporting requirements for all of our leagues, please visit our competitions page at <https://sbsra.org/competitions>.

Availability and Blocks

All members have an obligation to minimize the number of times we decline games after we are assigned.

As independent contractors, we all are entitled to accept assignments wherever we can get them. However, in fairness to all 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) ahead of time.

Choosing which association/league/organization we want to work for on specific days is perfectly fine. However, 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!**

Board of Directors

President: Jonny Joseph **Vice-President:** Steve Morgan **Secretary:** Kiku Annon
Member-At-Large: Stephen Resnick **Assignor:** Gabriel Goldsman



Training Opportunities

The following training opportunities are coming up and all members are encouraged to attend as many of them as you are able.

CORE Training at North High

The next training is scheduled for August 16, 2022.

Please sign up any time for future courses, 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 the 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 ambitious to rise to the elite level of Cal South refereeing.

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, Considerations for Match Analysis, 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 dues 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 in August at North High School at the same time as the CORE training.

Ensure they include your name on their SBSRA New Member Application, <https://sbsra.org/association/nma/> so you can benefit from our NMI program.

New SBSRA Member Training

Date: Tuesday, August 30, 2022

Time: 6:03 pm (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**.



We require a minimum of 10 new members to accept the Arbiter invitation to present the class, please accept the invitation at your earliest opportunity to do so.

Cal South Monthly In-Service Webinar

On Wednesday, July 20, **Brian Hall, FIFA World Cup and Olympic Referee, Instructor, and Assessor** presented an enlightening 1.5 hours. In particular, he highlighted the four “Fs.” If you missed it, be sure to watch the recording and take the quiz on the Cal South Referee webpage.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR OR TO VIEW THESE WEBINARS](#)

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

Look out for the August presentation to be listed by Cal South soon. We expect it will feature referees discussing their experiences at the recently held USYS Regional Tournament.

Other Cal South Offerings - 2023 New & Recertification Courses

For those who are interested in becoming Mentors, Assignors, Coordinators, or upgrading your Referee Badge and taking a Fitness Test.

As applicable, Zoom links are included below, however, candidates need to register for your selected courses on the Cal South Referee Website under the “Classes & Clinics offered” tab (<https://cysa.affinitysoccer.com/eventmanager/public/calendarlist.asp?calguid=&eventtab=current>).

Instructor/Assessor/Mentor Recert /New Mentor Course (Virtual)

Wednesday, August 31, 2022 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82508084623>

(Make up TBA)

Assignor/ New Assignor Course (Virtual)

Saturday, October 8, 2022 8:00 am - 11:00 am Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82326242447>

(No make-up course available)

Regional Referee/ Grassroots Elite Course (Virtual)

Saturday, November 5, 2022 8:00 am - 11:00 am Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81253038888>

Regional Futsal/ Futsal Grassroots & Beach Referee Course (Virtual)

Time: November 30, 2022 7:00 pm Pacific Time



Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86214270533>

(No make-up course available)

Referee Coordinator Course (Virtual)

Saturday, December 10, 2022 8:00 am - 11:00 am Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85850906686>

(No make-up course available)

Final Make up: Regional Referee/ Grassroots Elite Course (Virtual)

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84339602872>

Fitness Test- All Categories (National, Regional, Grassroots Elite Men & Women)

Thursday October 6, 2022 Hawaiian Gardens 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Saturday November 12, 2022 Hawaiian Gardens 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Saturday December 17, 2022 San Diego 9:00am - 1:00 pm (Make up)

Fitness Test - (National Referee/ Regional to National Upgrade only)

Saturday July 8, 2023 Hawaiian Gardens 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Monthly Membership Meeting

The next Monthly Membership Meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 30, 2022, starting at 7:03 pm at our regular location at North High School Cafeteria.

We look forward to seeing you there!

This is a very important meeting as we will have a league representative as a guest speaker, and we will be reviewing the league rules and SBSRA Standard Operating Procedures for the club league season.

Board Vacancy

At the July membership meeting we invited nominations for the vacant Treasurer position with a vote to take place at the August meeting. Jeff Ford was nominated, and he has submitted the following candidate statement:

My name is Jeff Ford, and I am very grateful to be nominated for the position of SBSRA treasurer. I have been attending SBSRA's monthly meetings since 2012 and, along the way, I have had the good fortune to referee alongside many of you from this association. Should I be fortunate enough to earn your vote as the treasurer, I would be honored to continue to serve you as well in this new capacity off the field as the SBSRA treasurer. An MBA with more than 10 years of experience in the field of accounting, I believe I am highly qualified to fulfill this role as



treasurer. For example, in my current role as an accountant at CCUSD, I am responsible for developing district budgets and reporting to the state on a monthly basis. As a result, should I be elected, you can rest assured that you will continue to be able to pick up your check - business as usual - at each and every monthly meeting. Thank you for considering my nomination. Sincerely, Jeff Ford

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 in any USSF-sanctioned games that we do. If any doubt, 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.

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.”** It is 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 a supplemental 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/her 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** (which may not be required for all red cards), the card(s), together with copies of the match report and supplemental 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 on our professionalism** as individuals and as a referee association.

Monthly Referee Quick Tip

This monthly Referee Quick Tip is very simple, but important:

“Use sunscreen - avoid skin cancer” and “Hydrate continually - avoid heatstroke.”

Once frowned upon, caps are now recommended to protect our heads from the sun. Please ensure caps are plain black, with the only permitted logos being Cal South or USSF.

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

From the Vacant Office of the Treasurer

Please be reminded:

- 1) **Address Changes** - Provide me with your change of address at the same time that you make the change in Arbiter,
- 2) **Cash checks** received from the Association for games you officiated in a timely manner,
- 3) **Forfeits** - Notify the applicable Assignor and me within 24 hours of forfeited games. This way we can ensure the applicable league is billed for the ref fees that would have been paid on the field and that the referees are paid the fees owed to them.

Biennial Informal Review – The bylaws provide that an informal “assessment of the Association’s financial records will be performed every two years, covering the prior two-year fiscal period.” Thank you to Jeff Ford who is in the process of performing the assessment for the two-year period ended June 30, 2022.

Monthly Membership Meetings

To maintain our high standards of refereeing, the Association provides two vehicles to share information and instruction with our members – this *Flag & Whistle* monthly newsletter and our monthly membership meetings. Please try to attend the meeting and read the newsletter every month - this is how we share important information with all of our members.

Approval of Minutes

Included below are the July General Membership Meeting Minutes for Membership approval at our next meeting.



SBSRA General Membership Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 7:33 pm

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:36
2. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. May - Motion made by David Martin, seconded by Bill Yee, approved by acclimation
 - b. June - Motion made by Steve Resnick, seconded by Veto Galati, approved by acclimation.
3. Cal South Training - Offside and Positioning (Wayne Merrick)
Key take-aways:
 - a) Positioning
 - When keeper punts the ball, CR needs to know the drop zone and anticipate where the ball will land so CR can be close to the next potential action point,
 - don't turn back on the ball, always keep the ball in sight to be prepared for quick restarts,
 - always keep ball between CR and AR so you can see both in your line of sight,
 - get to the corners on far side away from the ARs (dead zones),
 - discuss pregame zones with ARs and division of responsibilities,
 - wall management - ARs to assist when close,
 - maintain eye contact with ARs at stoppages in play,
 - run at an angle to keep ARs in view and to stay out of passing lanes,
 - Beware of the "high risk zone" (just outside the penalty arc in the middle of the field) as you can get in the way of the play.
 - b) Law 11 review
 - AR's primary focus,
 - Offside position v. offside infraction,
 - Wait for involvement in play,
 - No need to delay flag when only the offside player is moving for the ball,
 - Keep flag up until CR recognizes it (blows whistle or waves down),
 - Lower flag if ball goes to defense or changes direction.
4. Treasurer's Report: JJ reported Bruce Ashton had resigned and JJ noted the Association's appreciation for his 6 years of service. JJ explained that as this is an elected Board position, we need to open the floor for nominations for Treasurer. JJ noted that candidates can self-nominate and that he will speak to anyone who has an interest in the position to discuss the details and the related time commitment required. The position could include the controller function, which Bruce has graciously offered to do on an ongoing basis or until someone new is elected. Nominations will be accepted until the vote takes place at the next membership meeting and those interested in the position are encouraged to submit candidate statements by August 12 for inclusion in the August *Flag & Whistle*.

Veto Galati nominated Jeff Ford and the nomination was seconded by Kiku Annon

In the absence of a Treasurer, JJ presented the year end Treasurer's report:



- a) Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2022,
 - i. Balance Sheet - At June 30 we had \$21,000 in cash and had accounts payable of \$25,000. Fortunately, by the time checks needed to be cut additional funds needed to pay everyone came in.
In the liabilities section, "Prepaid Billings" relates to Season Sports whom we bill in advance of the dates the games are scheduled to be played.

Dues payments received prior to June 30 are included in Prepaid Dues and will be reflected as Dues Income in the July Profit & Loss statement.

This leaves Total Equity of \$20,000 which represents our working capital balance and enables us to pay referee fees in the month following the month in which games are officiated.
 - ii. Profit & Loss Statement - Income over expense was \$8,000 for the year due to the 18-month budget and to cover the \$5,000 loss incurred in the prior year as we had no dues income during the pandemic interruption. Expenses were reduced wherever possible during this year and we negotiated a substantial saving from Arbiter. The Board was also happy to be able to reduce membership dues to \$90 for the 2022-2023 year.
 - a) Annual Membership Dues - JJ reminded the members of the following:
 - i. Options for Payment
 - 1. PayPal on our website,
 - 2. Check to be handed in at the meeting or mailed the next day,
 - 3. Deduction from Game Fees officiated in May or June.
 - ii. Late Payment of \$20 needs to be added after July 31 whether paid by PayPal, Check or deduction from July or August Game Fees.
 - c) Informal Report on the Association's Financial Records - Jeff Ford was nominated by the Treasurer and approved by the Board. Work will begin shortly.
5. Secretary's Report:
- a) KA reported that we have received and approved Returning Membership Applications (RMAs) for 103 of our members before the meeting. An additional few had been received and would be discussed for approval after the membership meeting.
JJ reminded members that submission of an RMA AND payment of dues is required for continuing Association membership. Some members have submitted one and not the other. Games cannot be assigned to those members who have not completed both steps.
6. President's Report:
- a) Board Meeting Report - July 2022:
 - i. Newly elected Board Members - JJ welcomed Kiku Annon, Secretary and Stephen Resnick, Member-at-Large. JJ noted he was re-elected and committed to serve for the next 2 more years only.
 - ii. Appointed Board Members - The Board is delighted to announce that Gabriel Goldsman and Veto Galati were reappointed as our Assignors and Chris Nevil continues as a non-Board Member Referee Trainer assisting us with new member and monthly trainings.
 - iii. Goals for New Membership Year:



1. a large part of our first meeting of the membership year was spent orienting our two new Board Members and discussing how we as a Board can best serve our membership,
 2. Completing implementation of the New Observation System,
 3. Continuing to recruit new referees,
 4. Raising referee and assigning fees wherever possible,
 5. Obtaining new business by adding customers.
- b) Monthly Membership Meeting Survey a few weeks ago, we invited members to answer a survey for us to determine your preferred day and time for our monthly meetings. We received approximately 30 responses, and the overwhelming preference was to continue to meet on the last Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 rather than 7:30 as we have done from time to time. From now on meetings will start at 7:03 to respect member's time.
- c) New Members - Sara Samir introduced herself and shared that she had played at a high level and refereed at a professional level in Egypt.
6. Vice-President's Report:
- a) Cal South ROL Update 120 on ROL, 24 of whom have not submitted an RMA. 2023 USSF registration is now open (4 members on it).
JJ mentioned that a member had received a notification from USSF regarding expiration of clearance which he was informed only applies to National Referees. If any members receive anything like this from USSF, please contact Laura at Cal South.
7. Assignor's Report:
- a) USYS Regional and National Tournaments - Cal South had 12 referees representing us at the National Championship held earlier this month and SBSRA had two referees amongst the 12 - record breaking representation for both of us. The membership congratulated Alex Arita and Servando Berna, our two representatives! Alex spoke about his experience at Regionals in Idaho and National Championships in Orlando, where 18 of 25 did finals at the Regionals, 12 went on to the National Championship.
GG spoke about building SBSRA into a premier referee association and recognized the efforts of the senior members who helped foster younger members which has contributed to their successes.
- b) CORE Training - GG noted that Torrance, which we host, is the only site that continues to hold monthly trainings, other than June, which was dark, and noted that some referees travel from afar to attend.
JJ noted that our role has gained us recognition and traction with Cal South leadership and recognized Chris Nevil who had worked hard to bring this training to us a number of years ago.
- c) Tournaments - GG reported that we had successfully operated as the host referee association for the Cerritos Premier Cup the previous weekend, but had to include four other associations as only 46 of our members participated. Forthcoming tournaments where we will be supporting other associations include:
- August 6 - 7 in San Clemente,
 - August 13 - 14 in Great Orange Park,
 - August 27 - 28 in Thousand Oaks and San Clemente
 - September 3 - 4 in Simi Valley
- Club season starts in early September!



The Flag and Whistle

August 2022

8. Other Business

- a) Ref fees have been raised for some leagues, significantly for Zog and others, premium fees being earned at Futsal.
- b) Another ref association may be opening in East LA but is not expected to compete with us.
- c) Gabriel reminded members to open Arbiter blocks. He asked for more referees to be available for the tournaments next month, ensuring their Travel Limits reflect their desire to do games.
- d) Veto spoke about Futsal and who is eligible to do it and to use the LA Galaxy rules, instead of FIFA or US Futsal Laws. He also reminded refs to perform the four-second restart count in a visible and an audible manner.
 - a) Badges, coins etc. - please see Steve Resnick.
 - b) Checks were distributed outside the meeting to allow for a timely departure.
 - c) Law Books (21-22) for New Members were also offered.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.



Warren's Howellers and Some Things to Think About

Everyone's a Wise Guy

It was a fine day in January, the heart of the high school soccer season. The referee sometimes known as the **Large Member** (aka L.M.) was assigned to a double header at Beverly Hills High School with an old friend, **Chris Nevil**, using the 2-man system.

The L.M., having obtained the coveted, cherished and prestigious title of **Lead Referee** for the match arrived on the pitch a few minutes ahead of his partner. With much ado, he began his officious, pompous and important pre-game duties, which included putting on a blue long-sleeve referee shirt. Chris arrived shortly thereafter, wearing his yellow shirt, and immediately started questioning the Large Member.

Chris: Why are we wearing blue instead of yellow?

L.M.: First of all, I am the Lead Referee, and it is my decision to make. Second, Beverly Hills is wearing their traditional orange, which is somewhat conflicting with yellow. Third, BOTH goalkeepers are wearing yellow. And finally, but most important of all, I look good in blue.

Chris: You think you look good in blue?

L.M.: Yes, actually I do look good in blue.

Chris: Would you like a second opinion?

L.M.: @#!\$%&^\$!#*& (extended version of "no thank you")

Works for me.....



Things in the South Bay are not so Bad for Referees After All

This Stuff Really Happened:

- The ball boys at the match between Real Betis and Atletico Madrid also thought they were being bullied. The referee showed eight of them the red card and the 10 to 12-year-olds left the stadium in



tears. The referee claimed that the ball boys had deliberately tried to delay play after the home team had taken the lead.

- The Belgian referee of a Young Start Eeklo v. Zelzate game was equally annoyed when a would-be fan rushed onto the pitch and pulled the referee's shorts and pants down.
- In the Netherlands, a referee caused the crowd to burst out laughing and shake their heads during a Twente Enschede v. Feyenoord match. After a controversial penalty that resulted in a goal for Feyenoord, the beaten goalkeeper handed the ball to the referee with the words: "This is your ball; it's obviously also your game." The referee reacted by sticking out his tongue - not once, but seven times
- In Laurel, Miss. (April 2022) an umpire of a 12-year-olds softball game was ambushed by a parent in the parking lot and hit in the face after a game. The assailant - wearing a "Mother of the Year" t-shirt - was arrested, charged with simple assault and fined \$422.

You Make the Call



This Sounds about Right (survey by NASO)

"Some 87% of referees participating in the survey said they had suffered verbal abuse, 13% had been assaulted and 47% had felt unsafe because of administrator, player, coach or spectator behavior."

Quotes of the Month

I Usually Do Not Worry Too Much Anyway (attributed to **Holiday Mathis**)

"It is only human to care what others think of you, but there comes a time to act honorably without a worry as to the popularity of your choices."

----- Keep 😊 Smiling! -----