



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



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

April 2023

Notes from the Board

While we continue to experience more inclement weather than we are used to, the game schedules tend to be very robust, and we need as many members to be available as possible. We are currently officiating for the following leagues:

- Elite Academy
- Girls Academy
- ECNL
- ECRL
- SOCAL Spring League
- CSL Spring League
- Seazon Sports
- YMCA
- South Bay Sports (7v7 and 11v11)
- Beverly Hills
- Manhattan Beach
- El Segundo
- LA Galaxy Futsal
- DPL
- South Bay Peninsula Soccer League
- ZogSports

WHEW! It is tiring just typing that out!

Yes, it is supposed to be the off-season or “quiet time” but this weekend alone we have over 100 games!

We are approaching our annual membership renewal period and soon thereafter we will start another club youth season. While it is months away, time goes quickly (our older members can tell the rest of us all about it) and we anticipate having more games than we can handle comfortably.

Please be reminded that we have a New Member Incentive program whereby you can enjoy a year’s membership with no dues payable for any new member you recruit when they pay for their second year of membership. Please start thinking about any new members that you may be able to recruit. We are anticipating a very busy fall season. With huge demand (of many games) we need additional supply (of referees). We created a flyer (copy attached at the end of this newsletter) for us to hand out at the fields. Please print a supply to take with you to the fields from our website after you insert your information at the bottom so you get credit from the Association.

Rule Change

For those doing SBPSL games, please note their change of definition for a slide tackle to:

- To protect players from serious injury, in Division 48 and 58 slide tackling is not permitted when an opponent is within playing distance. This does not apply to the goalkeeper in his own penalty area. The restart can be an Indirect Free Kick (dangerous play) **or** a Direct Free Kick and **may** be accompanied by a Yellow Card or Red Card, depending on the severity of the challenge. Note – a tackle with one knee on the ground is **not necessarily** a slide tackle and the goalkeeper is like any other player outside the penalty area.

Board of Directors

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



Congratulations!

Seven of our members were selected to represent CalSouth at the US Youth Soccer Far West Regional Tournament to be held in Boise in June.



**Hani
Alameddine**



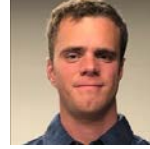
**Alex
Arita**



**Iain
Hannant**



**Justin
Knoll**



**Ignacio
Lara**



**Mario
Morena**



**Tyler
Peltier**

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 mostly 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:

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 John Moody (jmomoods@verizon.net) and our Member-At-Large** by email on the same day as the game, by attaching a scan (in PDF format, preferably) or a picture of the report. **Please ensure the report is legible before sending it!** **NOTE** – there are a number of great scanning Apps available for use on smart phones from which one can email the pdf directly to any contact.

In cases which require misconduct reports, members are reminded to send the misconduct reports to our Member-at-Large and the applicable assignor and **not to any leagues**.

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!**

Honesty

Our assignors' jobs are complex, and they spend a significant amount of time assigning games each week. Periodically, we have members turning back games (declining after receiving the assignment) for various reasons. A common reason is games from another assignor that the member prefers. In many of these cases, we learn about the other assignments and know that any reason given for turning back our association's games is not the truth!

This is not acceptable. Please pick up the phone and call the assignor to discuss your situation. They will work with you to make you happy and will not deny you the opportunity to referee a "better game."

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 **USSF Supplemental report form**, on the SBSRA website, must be used (**NOTE – we no longer use the Cal South report form**),
- 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 assist you with preparing the USSF 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 applicable Assignor (who assigned the game) who will review the report and possibly suggest edits. **Do not submit supplemental reports to any leagues.**
- 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.

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 sessions at North High are scheduled for April 18 and May 16, 2023.

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.

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.: IFAB 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 March 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 New Member Initiative (NMI) program.

New SBSRA Member Training

This training is required for all new SBSRA members to become full members of our association. All referees, both those new to refereeing and those 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 expect to set the next new member training date shortly. All members who have not attended this training previously will receive an email and Arbiter invitation at that time.

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

Cal South Monthly In-Service Webinar

[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.

Other Cal South Offerings - 2023 - National Referee/ Regional to National Upgrade only

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>).

Fitness Tests - (at Fedde Middle School in Hawaiian Gardens) – TO BE CONFIRMED

Friday July 7 8:00am to 12:00pm

Monday September 18 6:00pm to 9:30pm

Sunday December 10 9:00am to 12:00pm

Two Person (Whistle) Referee System

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-person referee 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

Ensure that your false teeth are firmly secured before every game! See Warren's Howellers below.

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

From the Office of the Treasurer

If you believe that you were paid in excess of \$600 in 2022 you should have received a Form 1099 by e-mail. If you did not receive one, please request it by email from Treasurer@sbsra.org. Please be reminded that regardless of amount received and whether you received a Form 1099 or not, all income is reportable on Schedule C in your Federal income tax return.

Please be reminded:

- 1) **Home/Mailing Address Changes** - Provide the Treasurer with your change of address at the same time that you make the change in Arbiter,
- 2) **Checks** – please cash these in a timely manner,
- 3) **Forfeits** - Notify the applicable Assignor and the Treasurer 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,
- 4) Please submit your W-9 form <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf> to the Treasurer. Everyone is required to do so by Federal law. We will include this as a requirement to include the completed document in our Returning Membership Application process for the 2023 – 2024 season.

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 General Membership Meeting Minutes from our prior meeting for Membership approval at our next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next Monthly Membership Meeting will take place on **Tuesday, April 25, 2023**, starting at 7:03pm at our regular location in the North High School Cafeteria. We look forward to seeing you there!



SBSRA General Membership Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 28, 2023

1. Call to order at 7:34pm by Jonny Joseph
2. Approval of February 2023 Meeting Minutes - Motion made by Sky Rosenstein, seconded by Bill Yee, approved by acclamation.
3. Monthly Referee Training - Randall Reyes - showed the following videos emphasizing that we focus on the incidents rather than the action of the referees:
 - a) PSV versus Feyenoord was about keeping track of who scored and what happened when an extra ball was tossed on the pitch during a promising attack in the penalty area of a close game. Referees must be aware of many details.
 - b) Video of France-Denmark game, everyone agreed there was a foul, was it careless, reckless or with excessive force and/or a tactical foul? To decide, the considerations were reviewed.
 - c) Wales vs Iran, goalkeeper collides with attacker outside the penalty area, same dissection as before, agreed it endangered the safety of the opponent with excessive force (it ended up being a red card after VAR intervention).
 - d) Qatar v Senegal, possible penalty, careless foul from behind, DOGSO.
 - e) Videos on handball, looking into the LOTG on considerations for deliberate vs non-deliberate actions. Discussion of what the game needs/expects.
4. President's Report
 - a) Board Meeting - March 2023
 - i. We have had challenges collecting from two customers over the last couple of months, even though referees are always paid in the month following the month in which they have done games. For one customer, Seazon Sports, we are insisting on payment in advance before we assign referees.
 - ii. Annual General Meeting - starting to think about the location for this year's meeting. Last year was held near LAX, this year we want to be closer to North High which is really our base. We have a modest budget so this needs to be taken into account. If members have any ideas for a location, please let us know.
 - b) League News
 - i. SBS 7v7 - New season just started. They have increased from 30 games to 33 games per week. They now have 7 games on Monday and Tuesday, 8 games on Wednesday and 11 games on Thursday, which includes two 10:00 kickoffs. With this heavy schedule on Thursday nights, SBS has mentioned the possibility of adding a Friday season.
 - ii. New 11v11 Adult League Opportunity - We have been approached to provide 3 referees per game for 80-minute adult games played at Campus El Segundo. Games are played on Monday and Friday nights. They are single games with 9:00pm kickoffs. The question is whether we have enough members who do adult games that would be willing to referee these games? We need 6 referees on Mondays and 3 referees on Fridays. The games will pay rates comparable to SOCAL 80-minute rates (@\$2 per minute) plus a \$10 premium as they are single games. Questions about how referee fees would



be paid and whether teams would have player IDs and rosters were discussed. Approximately 10 referees indicated they would be interested and available for these games.

- iii. El Segundo - the restart has been delayed, "A" and "B" leagues are hoping to start April 14.
 - iv. JJ shared his impressions of another, non-SBSRA member, referee that he watched doing a game and noted that he did not display the professionalism that we see with our members, e.g., long pants, low energy, weak whistling, no urgency with injured players, lack of communication.
 - c) New Member/Applicant Introductions - Yanis Fekih introduced himself and he was welcomed warmly by the members.
5. Vice President's Report
 - a) ROL Update - There are unlikely to be any more members trying to get on the ROL at this time. The NMA process will reveal who still intends to be part of the association.
 6. Secretary's Report
 - a) SBSRA Membership Report
 - i. Full Members 98
 - ii. Probationary Members 32 - To become full members they have control over two of the three requirements - attending one CORE Training and the New Member Orientation
 - iii. Members Not on ROL 17
 - iv. Honorary Members 2
 7. Assignor's Report:
 - a) Cal South Update - National Cup this weekend, approximately 8 of our members were selected to officiate
 - b) Game Expectations for the second quarter of 2023 - Not that many games for SoCal and CSL spring seasons, Seazon Sports, South Bay Sports, SBPSL and two Tournaments in Simi Valley in May
 8. Member-At-Large Report - SR was unable to attend the meeting
 9. Board Position Vote - Treasurer
 - a) We have one nomination - Bruce Ashton. JJ invited additional nominations. None received, David Serrano moved and Veto Galati seconded to close nominations, Bruce Ashton was voted in by acclamation.
 10. The meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.



Warren's Howellers and Some Things to Think About

Don't You Hate It When This Happens?

In a Danish football game, league local side Ebeltoft were robbed of a deserved draw when playing Norager in the domestic competition.

Norager were leading 4-3 with seconds remaining when Ebeltoft went on the attack. As they pressed forward, however, referee Henning Erikstrup went to blow the final whistle. Only problem was that his false teeth fell out as he went to blow the whistle - meaning that no noise came out and play continued as normal.

Ebeltoft scored to make it 4-4 by the time that Erikstrup found his false teeth and put them back into his mouth. So, 4-4 right? Mmmm. Not so much.

Erikstrup disallowed the goal and blew the final whistle, handing Norager a 4-3 win. Ebeltoft protested the match to the Football Association in Denmark immediately following the loss, but their protest was denied.

Final score: Norager 4, Ebeltoft 3



A Tale from the Referee Experiences of the Large Member

“WHAAAAAATTTTTTT????????!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!” - incredulous reaction of an 8-year-old player to a decision by the Large Member at a recent match.



The Things They Say ...

"I'd been ill and hadn't trained for a week, and I'd been out of the team for three weeks before that, so I wasn't sharp. I got a cramp before half-time as well. But I'm not one to make excuses." Clinton Morrison, Birmingham City

"I'm a bit proud of my first red card as coach. I approached the fourth official and said: 'How many mistakes are allowed here? If it is 15, you have one more.'" Jurgen Klopp, Liverpool

Thought of the Month

"Try not to identify so strongly with your mistakes. Just because you mess up sometimes does not make you a bad person."

Quotes of the Month

"Try not to identify so strongly with your mistakes. Just because you mess up sometimes does not make you a bad person." Unattributed

"It is better to be beautiful than to be good. But... it is better to be good than to be ugly." Oscar Wilde

----- Keep  Smiling! -----



This is YOUR Opportunity!

Following the Covid Pandemic, we are at historically low numbers of soccer referees. This is significantly impacting the ability to have referees on all youth and adult soccer games in Los Angeles.

Pick your color, pick up a badge, join us on the field!



This is a real opportunity for you to make a tangible difference for the soccer player in your family. No experience necessary, we will train you.

Just 4 steps to get on the field as a soccer referee in Los Angeles:

- 1) Sign up with CalSouth to become certified
<https://calsouth.com/referee-faqs/>,
- 2) Join your local referee association <https://sbsra.org/>,
- 3) Set **your parameters** of when you are available and would like to referee. You can also set how far you are willing to go from home and the team(s) you have a conflict with.
- 4) Buy your referee gear, flags, shoes, watch and whistle and earn back your investment in just 2 – 3 weeks.

Any questions – contact Jonny Joseph, President, South Bay Soccer Referee Association – President@SBSRA.org.

The Youth Soccer Community Needs You Now!



Referring Member: _____ Email: _____