



# The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

April 30, 2002

Editor: Dick Eastman

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Pres.: L. Stern; VP: J. Ziegler; Sec.: R. Eastman; Treas.: T. Mallen; Assignor: W. Cook; Membership: K. Gendler; At Large: W. Howell

## BILL MASON ATTRACTS CROWD FOR LAWS TALK; COOK HAS SUMMER GAMES

A record group of 42 unusually attentive, respectful referee members, plus two guests, came to the April monthly meeting to hear well known referee instructor **Bill Mason** give us a preview of the as-yet-unpublished 2002 Law changes, first reminiscing about the early days of SSBRA and his role in instructing some of the first members.

**Bill Cook** reported on games he has assigned for a tournament in Camarillo, and on the previous weekend's games at the National Cup at Lancaster. He has also assigned the J-League schedule. **Heros Baghoumian** informed him that the L.A. Cup has been postponed or may even be cancelled for paucity of interest. *[Subsequently the Cup was back on, now May 11-12 in Lancaster. Perhaps "L.A." stands for "Lancaster Again"??]*

Bill also amused the group with a description of a Nike-sponsored inner-city tournament at Lafayette Park near downtown L.A. (this time Los Angeles), where a team of five hastily recruited members were fed, regaled with lots of Nike merchandise, and paid \$100 each to do a series of 3-minute (or less!) youth games.

Later this summer he expects to give out assignments for the Pateadores, Mission Viejo and Capistrano Cups in June and July, providing he gets sufficient numbers of referees to commit to these games.

Also in the works is the J-League's annual ANA Cup, consisting of three weekends in June at Arnold field for the league's youth teams.

**Joe Robelotto** again made a plea for more referees to volunteer for the Watts tournament. He has been given responsibility for more of these games, held June 15-16 and 22-23. Call him at 540-0545 to sign up.

In addition, he described his past involvement in the ODP (Olympic Development Program) camp formerly held in Bozeman, Montana every year, when he and

VW participated, and is now in McMinnville, Oregon near Portland. The dates are June 30-July 6, July 6-12, 12-18 and 18-24 for the four age groups. He guaranteed that anyone participating would have a rewarding experience. The arrangement is 2 games and \$30 per day, plus room and board, but transportation is on you. Call **Jerry Thompson** at (562) 692-0108 if this intrigues you.

## \$\$ AND BOARD NOMINATIONS

**Larry Stern** reported for absent treasurer **Tom Mallen** (on his wedding anniversary) that the treasury is at \$1402.76 and we are owed a combined \$653.56 by the State Cup and the J-League.

Larry introduced the two guests, **Paul Matlock** and **Alan Sampson**. *[Both applied for membership and were approved by the board following the meeting.]*

At this point he opened the floor for nominations for secretary and president of the board of directors, in advance of the annual elections next month. Both **Dick Eastman** and Larry are at the end of their current two-year terms. With very little discussion, both were nominated, with no else put forward for the jobs. Nominations may also be made at the May meeting, which starts a half-hour earlier, at 7:00 p.m., for elections and the annual pizza party.

No bylaw changes were submitted, much to Larry's relief.

## SECRETARY: ON THE ROSTER AND F&W3

Dick Eastman reported that we are at 82 on the roster. He pointed out two errors in the last Flag & Whistle: he had changed **Ed Beverly** into a local politician named **Bob**, and he got the gender wrong for the selected winner of the first annual sportsmanship award, which is a she, not a he.

## BILL MASON AND THE LAWS OF THE GAME

Training director **Keith Gendler** introduced the evening's speaker, Bill Mason, without actually telling the group who he was, but it appeared that everyone knew him, at least by reputation, and some were old comrades, including Joe Robelotto and **Frank Troeger**, whom Bill had instructed and tested in the earliest days of SSBRA, circa 1976-77.

Bill is FIFA Law Interpreter for AYSO, a member of the USSF Referee Committee, a friend and confidante of the late **Ken Aston** and FIFA's **George Cumming**, and a local resident (Palos Verdes). Every year he gives a tutorial at his Spring Workshop for AYSO's Sections 1, 10 and 11, and his talk at our meeting covered much the same ground, although in more intimate surroundings.

He started out by announcing that there was good and bad news: the good was that there were no changes for 2002; the bad that he would have nothing to talk about. Despite this disclaimer, he proceeded to go into the contents of a preliminary, unofficial draft of FIFA's annual circular. Publication of the final version is late again this year.

At the 116th annual meeting of the IFAB (International Football Association Board), the board's information, instructions and directives sections were more interesting than the changes, in his opinion. Of most concern was that advertising is permitted on players' jerseys only, and that undershirts shall contain no slogans or advertising, including messages of a political, religious, commercial or social nature. Also, jerseys MUST have sleeves. Other items:

- A seriously injured player must be removed from the field, and cannot return until play has resumed.
- Temporary suspensions are not allowed, i.e., sitting out 5 minutes for a yellow card, a la SBPSL.
- Simulation ("diving") must be cautioned. This edict will be drilled into the upcoming World Cup referees--watch for a spate of cards for this heinous crime.
- Time-wasting by celebrations after scoring a goal, delaying restarts, etc., was again a subject of concern, but Bill doubts there will be any concerted effort by the referees to enforce the rule.
- Artificial surfaces must be approved by FIFA.
- Scissor kicks are dangerous play if an opponent is adversely affected.

After covering a number of other such points, Bill brought up a pet interest of his, the Ken Aston Memorial Project. Funds have been collected to make a bronze plaque in memory of Aston's innovation of

yellow and red cards, and install it at the Chelsea intersection whose traffic lights gave him the original idea for the cards. A U.S. copy is also in the works.

Bill, in his discussion of offside, made the interesting observation (quoting **Joe Machlik** of MLS) that 50% of all offside flags are in error, and that 90% of non-flags are correct!

### WINNERS OF THE DOOR PRIZES

This month's winners were **Steve McCall** (a Galaxy calendar), **Lilia Moncayo** (write-on cards), **Ed McClure** (flags) and **Paula Borstel** (referee bag).

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, APRIL 17, 2002

- Purchased Adobe Acrobat software for sending F&W, etc.
- Cook has made assignments for National Cup.
- **Mike Beeman** has rejoined.
- Keith talking to Bill Mason about speaking at meeting.
- Incident at Bakersfield of a member antagonizing a coach.
- L.A. Cup May 4,5 in Lancaster.
- Complaint from O.C. tournament on March 24 re foul language at parents by an A.R. Larry to follow up.
- No-show at Bakersfield to be fined.
- Discussed how many CSL fields to take this year.

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## NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

**DATE:** *MAY 28, 2002*  
**TIME:** *7:00 P.M. NOTE*  
**CHANGE.**  
**PLACE:** *REDONDO BCH. CITY  
HALL EMPL. LOUNGE,  
CARNELIAN & BROADWAY*  
**AGENDA:** *ELECTIONS, OTHER  
BUSINESS, PIZZA PARTY*