



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

APRIL 29, 2003

Editor: Dick Eastman

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

Pres.: L. Stern; VP: J. Ziegler; Sec.: R. Eastman; Treas.: T. Mallen; Assignor: W. Cook; Membership: K. Gendler; At Large: W. Howell, B. O'Donnell

CSL U-9s, EAGLES COOL CLASSIC AND J-LEAGUE LEFT BEFORE SUMMER HIATUS

Assignor **Bill Cook** told the 36 April monthly meeting attendees that all he had left on his plate were a few unexpected CSL under-9 games, the Eagles Cool Classic tournament in Camarillo and the last J-League games that were shifted from the previous week. He noted ominously that he is still lacking a few confirmations of his assignments to these matches.

Those events are all he has at this time to assign until August, when there is some potential work for us from the South Bay Soccer Club and other groups, such as one in Mission Viejo. He urged everyone: **be available!**

Bill reported that things went well at the National Cup tournament in Lancaster, and that the group had a good time, including finding a very good restaurant in town.

HOW TO UPGRADE OR TO STAY PUT

Joe Robelotto was invited by president **Larry Stern** to give the group a rundown on the process for upgrading one's USSF referee level.

Going from grade 8 to 7, he said, requires a field evaluation in an U-19 or higher (!) game, the usual physical fitness test, a minimum score of 85% on the entry level test and 12 months in grade 8. He, Joe, volunteered to do the assessment if you can arrange a U-19 assignment from Bill Cook (unfortunately, there aren't too many of those around).

To upgrade to level 6, which is the first state class, you need, again, 12 months in 7, *two* assessments in U-19 games as center and one as A.R., 75% minimum score on the state level test, 19 hours of advanced referee training and the usual fitness test.

Just to stay in your present grade, grade 8 requires 5 hours of in-service training (which we get at the monthly meetings, courtesy of that sterling trainer **Keith Gendler**), and a refresher test, but no physical.

For 7, they add the physical. For 6, it gets tougher, since a field assessment is now needed.

Joe took the opportunity to once more plead for referees for the LA Games, for which he still has openings.

He passed on to the group that our founder, Dr. George Faragallah, is reported to be seriously ill.

THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

Your secretary reported that the roster is up to 95 names and may soon reach 100 if the trend continues.

As to the last Flag and Whistle, the only hitch was that Keith felt cheated by a reference to VP **Jon Ziegler** as the originator of the discussion on non-calls for challenges for air balls. It should have said that this subject was part of his (Keith's) training material.

A suggestion was made to add a section on badge upgrades to the Guide for Referees recently published. It should be mentioned that the principal author of the Guide is **Warren Howell**, who also had some help from the other board members. Your secretary served as editor and publisher. The Guide will be e-mailed to all members in the near future.

A few copies of the guide were given out, as were some SSBRA patches.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Mallen indicated that the bank account is once again going up as dues are collected from referees' tournament fees. The current figure is \$1096.

The change of banks ran into a small snag when the checks from the TRW Credit Union showed up listing our name and address incorrectly.

THE PRESIDENT HAS HIS SAY

Larry reminded all present that the May meeting is the so-called **Annual General Meeting**, which is reserved for election of officers, bylaw changes, and pizza.

NOTE: Starting time is 7:00 p.m., half an hour earlier than usual to give us more pizza time after the meeting.

For the vice presidency, Warren nominated Jon to succeed himself; **Dick Haber** nominated treasurer Tom Mallen to do it again, and no one else was named for either position. Nominations may be offered at the May meeting.

The only bylaw changes proposed were formulated by the board and read by Larry: adding "or e-mailed" to section IX (c), and not counting for quorum purposes members whose dues are waived.

THE TRAINING SESSION BY GENDLER

Keith brought up on the screen some USSF National Referee Case Studies, hypothetical situations with multiple "correct" responses, as points of discussion by the group. In some of these cases, *very* heated discussions. You had to be there to appreciate the full flavor of the positions of various members when asked to interpret some relatively obscure provisions of the Laws. (In fact, you *should* be there.)

Getting more hot air was the question of what to do when a free kick is taken before the referee signals that it may be taken (after he makes the usual request). The two contending positions were: (a) retake under all circumstances, and (b) retake only if a goal is scored.

The ruling by USSF was that (b) is correct. Later, **Jim Allen** was contacted, and he indicated that the Advice book was wrong, it should be (a). This position was felt by many to be a wrong one, since it gives the misbehaving shooter a second bite of the apple if the kick is wide or saved. However, USSF has spoken.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, APRIL 29, 2003.

Following the general meeting, the board convened to hear a member's challenge to a no-show fine. After hearing his explanation of the miscommunications that led to the no-show, the board voted to suspend the fine for one year and place the member on probation.

In addition, the board voted to accept the membership application of **Jeff Takaki**, a youth referee.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, APRIL 23, 2003

- Accepted **Bob Foster** for membership.
- Voted to fine two members for no-shows.
- National Cup assignments are out.
- Discussed candidates for Good Sportsmanship award and decided on the winner, a student at Leuzinger High School.
- Will invite **Penny Rehm** to speak on upgrading.
- Both bank accounts (Washington Mutual and TRW Credit Union) are active.
- Secretary urged to complete orientation pamphlet (now called the Guide).
- A member is to be reminded of the fine that is still unpaid.
- Proposed bylaw changes discussed and approved for submittal to membership at next meetings.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: *MAY 27, 2003*

TIME: *NOTE: 7:00 P.M.*

PLACE: *REDONDO BCH. CITY
HALL EMPL. LOUNGE,
CARNELIAN & B'WAY.*

AGENDA: *BUSINESS, DOOR PRIZES,
ELECTIONS AND BYLAWS,
PIZZA PARTY.*



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