



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

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May 27, 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

MALLEN AND ZIEGLER REELECTED AT AGM; K-A KAMARA ON HAND FOR AWARD

An unusually well-attended Annual General Meeting reelected by acclamation **Tom Mallen** and **Jon Ziegler** to treasurer and vice president, respectively, for another two years. The group, 50 strong, did not nominate any other candidates to run for the two board offices.

Another item on the agenda, a bylaw change to shave the quorum for meetings by excluding honorary members in the membership count, also passed without opposition. The quorum is 25% of the newly-defined membership total. Also adopted without objection was a change to allow meeting notices to be e-mailed, saving the cost and work involved in sending out 95 (now 98) notices by snail mail.

Kei-Ansu Kamara, a senior at Leuzinger High School, came to the meeting with his club coach, Bruce Myhre, to receive SSBRA's annual scholarship award for the player exhibiting the best combination of sportsmanship, leadership and soccer skills in games officiated by referees of the association. The award, this year for \$300, will be used, according to the modest, soft-spoken winner, to help pay for a soccer training trip this summer in Europe. He plans to attend Cal State Dominguez Hills in the fall.

[Kei was also named the 2003 Daily Breeze Player of the Year, according to a brief article in that paper published the following day.]

Following the meeting, the group, augmented by a few more late-arriving members, Kei and his coach, and a couple of visitors who were accepted for membership, retired to Round Table Pizza for the traditional post-AGM party.

ALL WENT WELL AT CVSC TOURNAMENT, BUT CALE'S WEDDING IS OFF

Assignor **Bill Cook** reported that the Conejo Valley tournament went well during his absence to attend his son **Cale's** wedding in Norfolk, Virginia.

According to Bill, president **Larry Stern**, who took over assigning cleanup duties while Bill was away, had very few changes to make, as there was only one last-minute cancellation and one unconfirmed assignment, a great improvement over prior experience. Over 40 members participated in the tournament.

For now, he has no more games to assign until August, although he did not rule out last-minute requests for officiating help from tournament organizers in the area. Stay tuned.

As for son Cale's wedding plans, the couple agreed to call it off at the last minute, and he has left the Navy and will start looking for a job. In the meantime, he might be available for some refereeing assignments.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Mallen reported that the treasury is down to \$833 and change *[how will he pay for all that pizza and beer?]*. He made a plea for anyone holding game fee checks made out on the old account at Washington Mutual to cash them immediately, since the account will close very shortly after 1 June. The new account at TRW Credit Union (soon to change its name) is fully operational.

Tom also reminded the group that 2003-2004 dues will be subtracted from any tournament fees owed by those who officiated recently, unless he is informed otherwise by someone not wishing to retain membership in SSBRA.

FROM THE SECRETARY

According to secretary **Dick Eastman**, the Guide to SSBRA was recently distributed to all members with e-mail addresses. Hard copies will be mailed to those not on line.

There is one minor error in the Guide: the Redondo Employees' Lounge is reached from the *southeast* corner of the Carnelian/Broadway parking lot, not the southwest corner. The error did not appear to have hampered the AGM turnout, which was more than twice the required quorum. *[The lure of pizza? Or as Homer Simpson would say, pizzaaaaa.]*

If any other mistakes are spotted, or material changes need to be made, he will be pleased to collect them and publish a revised version in the future.

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING,
MAY 27, 2003**

Following the AGM, the board met briefly to consider membership applications from three candidates: **Steve Brandon, Anthony Mason** and **Bill Shank**. All three were approved. This brings the current roster total to 98.

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING,
MAY 20, 2003**

Items covered:

- Correctly-addressed TRW Credit Union checks were received. Washington Mutual account closes in June. All outstanding W.M. checks need to be cleared in time.
- Larry spoke to **Marty Jeffers**, who was in the hospital for a quadruple bypass procedure. He would appreciate calls.
- Costs of group buy of tickets to Galaxy games are \$22 for corner seats, \$18 for upper sections, and \$16 for goal line seats. Proposing to organize an SSBRA outing to a game.
- Referee Guide to SSBRA e-mailed.
- Secretary to send postcard notices for AGM.
- New Web address is SSBRA.org. Podinteractive.com to be dropped.
- **Warren Howell** doing assigning for Westside Breakers on non-interference basis with Bill.
- South Bay Peninsula Soccer League again talking about changing referee organizations, according

to **Brian O'Donnell**. We will not pursue matter unless league management changes.

- Have started implementing assessments of referees.
- **Keith** happy with training session at April meeting which provoked clarification on how to deal with free kicks taken before the whistle. All members should follow new USSF interpretation, which is to retake no matter what the outcome of the kick.
- Discussed alternative hosting and other changes to our Web site.
- Discussed how to make award to Kamara. Tom to set up.

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MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: JUNE 24, 2003
TIME: 7:30 P.M.
PLACE: REDONDO BCH. CITY HALL EMPL. LOUNGE, CARNELIAN & B'WAY.
AGENDA: BUSINESS AND TRAINING