



# The Flag and Whistle

## Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

June 30, 2008

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

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[www.ssbra.org](http://www.ssbra.org)

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Assignor: Bill Cook

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At Large: Gabriel Goldsman

### SOCCER SOUTH BAY REFEREE ASSOCIATION REACHES NEW HEIGHTS ED DOES IT BY THE NUMBERS LARRY GETS FUNNY

In an attempt perhaps to get the worst over with first, President **Ed McClure** opened the June meeting by turning the floor over to Secretary **Warren Howell**. Warren actually pleased those present by announcing that the number of names on the roster had grown to a new record of 196, compared with 184 this time last year (there were 80 names on the list at this time of the year in 2002). Those who hoped that Warren would quickly sit down then were sorely disappointed, as he launched into a tale of the last issue of the F&W, which generated some warnings from both **George Heggie** and **Ed Beverly**, that **Steve McCall** might have taken offense to an article therein. Fortunately the secretary was able to report that Steve reacted with the good humor for which he is known, and no harm was done. But that was not the end of Warren's speeches by a long shot, as he then went on to explain that the SSBRA dues were to be paid starting July 1, with a grace period of 60 days per the bylaws, and that he would be doing the collecting, along with Treasurer-elect **Steve Brandon**. Everyone has to pay up (\$60 with a useable Email address, \$70 without), except for those who have NMI credit, youths under the age of 18 on July 1, 2008, (who must so certify to the secretary in order to stay on the roster), honorary Members who have had their payment obligation waived, and new Members who have joined since January 1, 2008. Dues will be withheld from summer tournament checks as always by the Treasurer, unless he is notified otherwise.

It was then Assignor **Bill Cook's** turn to tell us able more interesting stuff, and tell us he did. There are going to be very few games in July (longtime Member **Larry Stern** helped with some of the June assignments), but there would be plenty of pre-season and other games in August and beyond. Bill reminded us that these will require some travel (sometimes 60 miles or more one-way), and that you should send him an Email if you do not want to go that far. He then mentioned that the recent assigning system problems had been solved, and that one should look at the schedule (from SSBRA.org/competitions etc.) if you are expecting games, even if you do not get the Email notification for some reason. The news was then passed on to the crowd that USSF registration for 2009 via the online system was still up in the air (don't try to use it yet), and in any event Cal South representatives would be coming to the September SSBRA meeting to handle it in person, as usual.

In his last Treasurer's report, **Tom Mallen** told us that there was \$7354.75 in the bank, that he has been Treasurer since 1997, and that he had left his ugly shoes at home for once. The Members again showed their appreciation for all the work he has done for the Association over the years, and expect to continue to see him around as a regular Member and friend.

A recent situation was discussed, the result of which had a Member, as a referee, contact the league directly for a problem event. The Board asked that complaints and confrontational comments be directed to the Board instead, who can then deal with the leagues. It was also mentioned that the SBPSL contract was up for negotiation again, and that that was going forward. Ed reminded everyone that there will be no meeting in July.

It was time for Vice President **Paul Kelly** to say a few words, and he was more than up to the task. His topic was the recent Cal South survey of referees. This was basically a bust, as only 325 out of 6000+ referees bothered to respond, as did 3 of the 20 referee association's Boards. Paul then tried to find out what our Members want and/or expect from Cal South and USSF, causing **Harry Ross, Larry Savell, Joe Robelotto, Jim Lucania, Heidi Garlick** and **Alan Sampson**, among others, to say a few words. In general, the consensus was that the Members are looking for training and guidance as to how to do a better job.

**Gene Ogle** invited all of us who are interested to attend a summer AYSO referee training clinic that will be going on soon, and that he will once again be playing a critical role in it.

It was time for training and general discussion, with Heidi and **Steve Elliott** taking over. They had both been in Hawaii for the USSF Regional games, and told us about how that went, with Steve encouraging our younger Members to consider making themselves available for such future matches. Steve then showed us some videos of the Euro Cup 2008 competitions, and informed us of the new AR signals for PK and goalkeeper movement. To no one's surprise, this inspired **Alex Mebane, Larry Savell, Dick Haber, Jim Lucania** and **Ed McClure** to speak up. Moving on, an 11v11 SBS verbal abuse incident was brought up, as was a case where a sub rushed out on the field to prevent a goal in a 7v7 match, and a situation of a "stalled" game. All of this caused the usual uproar of course, with **Andy Kmita, Veto Galati, Joe Robelotto, James Marsella, Harry Ross, Alex Mebane, Ed McClure**, and others, proactively expressing their views.

Having heard enough for one evening, our President decided it was time to bring the meeting to a close, but not before the usual swell prizes were given away in the raffle. The lucky winners this month turned out to be **Greg Sirbu, Jeremy Gerson, Shawn Danbeli, Ike Miura, Mike Copley, Musa Abdelshife, Kiku Annon**, and **Andy Kopulski**.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, June 11, 2008**

- On-field problems with 3 Members were discussed
- The payments and USSF registration situation was reviewed
- The bank account signature authority will have to be switched from Tom Mallen to Steve Brandon

- The Board talked about ways to protect youth refs from verbal abuse, and how to encourage upgrades
- Steve and Tom reported that the Treasurer transition was happening and that there is \$4613 in the bank
- The election was recapped, with the collective opinion being that it went fairly well
- A training issue, "fair play," was discussed
- Paul Kelly will talk about the referee survey at the June meeting
- Ed and Larry Stern went to the Cal South awards ceremony. Harvey is ref of the year.
- A former youth Member has re-joined
- Recent new SSBRA servers installation and problems were discussed
- The COPA sand tournament went OK
- SBS 11v11 time management issues were discussed, will be brought up again with SBS leadership



Euro 2008 action, Poland versus Austria (news photo)

## **NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

**ALAS, THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN JULY, NOR (CURSES!) WILL THERE BE AN EDITION OF THE FLAG AND WHISTLE. THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2008 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY OF NORTH TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL, 3620 182<sup>ND</sup> ST. (AT YUKON - SEE SSBRA.ORG FOR DETAILED MAPS), WHEREIN BEVERAGES AND FOOD ARE PROHIBITED BY THE SCHOOL. THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE REVIEW OF SUMMER TOURNAMENTS SO FAR AND THE PASSING OUT OF RELATED CHECKS TO THE DESERVING, INFORMATION ON LABOR DAY TOURNAMENTS, UPDATES ON THE COAST SOCCER LEAGUE AND OTHER LEAGUES THAT WILL BE STARTING UP AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER, ASSOCIATION BUSINESS, TRAINING, RAFFLE, AND FASCINATING MEMBER COMMENTS.**



**Michel Lubos** demonstrates his displeasure as he shows-off his spiffy yellow shirt (news photo)

### **You Want Numbers? You Got Numbers...**

Ed McClure has scoured the SSBRA assignment data base and come up with a list of who has been doing the most games. This is just for the SSBRA assignment system – not CSL – for the last year. There is no difference made between being a referee and an AR, nor between 11v11 and 7v7 matches. With those caveats, here are the names and numbers of the top 25:

REFEREES	GAMES
<b>Steve McCall</b>	232
<b>Shahram Danbeli</b>	217
<b>Rudy Chavez</b>	192
<b>Ralph Quiroz</b>	184
<b>Steve Brandon</b>	182
<b>Gabriel Goldsman</b>	157
<b>Vince Delmonico</b>	155
<b>Alex Mebane</b>	146
<b>Warren Howell</b>	138
<b>Reza Pazirandeh</b>	135
<b>Joseph Abebe</b>	131
<b>James Marsella</b>	128
<b>Bill Mindlin</b>	119
<b>Dan Ayala</b>	112
<b>Richard LaGraff</b>	106
<b>Ed McClure</b>	105
<b>Lee Jordan</b>	104
<b>Sean Ji</b>	104
<b>Paul Kelley</b>	99
<b>Tom Mallen</b>	96
<b>Surendra Menon</b>	94
<b>Glenn Zardes</b>	93
<b>Alvar Kabe</b>	91
<b>Dick Lujan</b>	90
<b>Lillia Moncayo</b>	88
<b>Jeff Wilson</b>	87

<b>Michael Copley</b>	87
<b>Musa Abdelshife</b>	87
<b>Dan Damian</b>	86

**Joke of the Month, Part 1** (submitted by Larry Savell)

Ask the players if they know the difference between a terrorist and a referee....  
and when they say no...  
Tell them that you can sometimes negotiate with a terrorist....



Referee **Herbert Fandel** gets ready for a booking (news photo)

**That's All Folks** (submitted by **Penny Rehm**, Cal South)

2008 (USSF) Registration is now officially closed. I will be posting the final 2008 list of registered officials around July 7. There will be no more updates until that final one. Remember that a referee must be on the list of 2008 registered officials in order to work matches the remainder of the year.

Thank you for all your help and support during the 2008 registration period and I look forward to working with you all for the 2009 registration period.

Penny E. Rehm, [www.casreferee.com](http://www.casreferee.com), 909.598.3500

**Thought of the Month** (attributed to singer **Shania Twain**)

"I'm not very good at doing things I'm not good at."



This is a good example of how NOT to head the ball (recent news photo)

## **I've Heard of Biting Commentary Before, But...** (recent news article, see photo below)

A 28-year-old soccer player was arrested after biting a referee who gave him a red card and ejected him from a soccer game in Newark, Delaware. "The player was so enraged that he just savagely attacked the official, biting him almost in an animal manner about the chin," Cpl. **Trinidad Navarro** said. (WCAU / NBC Philadelphia)



## **It Sounds Like this Guy Was Having a Little Bit Too Much Fun** (recent news article)

MINSK, Belarus (AP) -- Referee **Sergei Shmolik** was helped off the field with back pain while officiating a Belarus league match, but later was shown to be drunk.

In TV footage shown Wednesday on Russian television, Shmolik staggered as he was helped off the field at the end of Saturday's match. The Belarusian sports Web site Presball reported that the crowd in Vitebsk stadium, where the local team was hosting Naftan, was amused with the referee's strange behavior through the second half.

Shmolik was hardly moving by the end of the match, which ended in a 1-1 draw, officiating from the central circle by the end of the game. Presball said Shmolik got help after the match but later was taken to the hospital for a test, which showed high levels of alcohol in his system. The Belarus football federation said Shmolik's case will be subject to a disciplinary committee.

## **Cal South Announces New Referee, Instructor, Assessor & Assignor Fees, Effective 06/16/08**

### **Referee**

Grade 1 \$100

Grade 2 \$100

Grade 3 \$100

Grade 4 \$100

Grade 5 \$75

Grade 6 \$75

Grade 7 \$45

Grade 8 \$40

Grade 9 \$40

Grade 12 \$40

Indoor/Futsal - Grade 8 \$45

### **Instructor**

Grade 3 \$100

Grade 4 \$100

Grade 5 \$75

Grade 7 \$45  
Grade 9 \$40  
Grade 11 \$40

**Assessor**

Grade 3 \$100  
Grade 5 \$75  
Grade 6 \$75  
Grade 7 \$45  
Grade 9 \$40

**Assignor**

Grade 8 \$100



You don't see this every day (recent news photo)



**Joke of the Month, Part 2** (submitted by Larry Savell)

What do you get when you cross a referee with The Godfather?  
A call you can't understand.



This is what you would have seen if you had watched a recent Columbia-Brazil match (news photo)



Referee **Saad Kameel** makes a gesture (news photo)

### **Let's Hope SSBRA Does Not Start Running It's Raffle Like This** (submitted by **Jeff Schuh**)

An old country farmer with serious financial problems bought a mule from another old farmer for \$100, who agreed to deliver the mule the next day.

However, the next day he drove up and said, "Sorry, but I have some bad news: The mule died."

"Well, then, just give me my money back."

"Can't do that. I went and spent it already."

"OK, then. Just unload the mule."

"What ya gonna do with a dead mule?"

"I'm going to raffle him off."

"You can't raffle off a dead mule!"

"Sure I can. I just won't tell anybody he's dead."

A month later the two met up and the farmer who sold the mule asked, "Whatever happened with that dead mule?"

"I raffled him off just like I said I would. I sold 500 tickets at \$2 a piece and made a profit of \$898."

"Didn't anyone complain?"

"Just the guy who won. So I gave him his two dollars back."