



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

February, 2011

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

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www.ssbra.org

President: Warren Howell Vice President: Ralph Quiroz Secretary: Deepika Saluja Treasurer: Steve Brandon
Assignor: Bill Cook Training Director: Larry Stern At Large: Vince Del Monico

SBS SUNDAY'S 11 V 11 MOVES TO 45-MIN HALVES PROTECTING THE PLAYER WITH THE BALL

GENERAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 22, 2011

Warren opened the meeting and announced that March's general meeting would be held in the cafeteria. He further announced a change in the Sunday SBS games – they halves are now 45 minutes. The new members then stood up and introduced themselves. Warren then reminded everyone about SSBRA's facebook pages and requested pictures for posting on the page.

Prior to this meeting a bylaw proposal was submitted, requiring a speech by members nominated for positions prior to elections. Warren brought this up for discussion, a motion to table this for now was passed.

Then Vince took over: he announced the time, place, and date for Cooke's memorial service. He also announced that not all USSF 2011 patches have been mailed and that he's looking into this.

Then Ralph spoke about SBS's check-in procedure and that they no longer allow temporary cards. Larry then announced a potential date for the next new member clinic. Bill then reminded everyone that spring league would be starting soon and to expect the Galaxy Tournament at the end of March.

Then Warren turned the meeting over to Chuck from Cal South to discuss "Protecting the Player with the Ball."

WHAT THE BOARD'S BEEN UP TO:

BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 15, 2011

- New Applications: all accepted
- "Bad boys" discussed, fines and suspensions implemented where necessary, decisions to send assessors out for others
- Discussed proposed bylaw changes
 - o Lee's Proposal: Requiring speech where more than one person is nominated for a position
 - Perhaps this can be tweaked to provide an opportunity to speak rather than making it mandatory
 - WH to contact Lee to see if he's ok with this change
- Assigning System – still kicking Bill and Larry out regularly – WH to talk to webmaster
- Beverly Hills 7v7: WH to contact them before general meeting
- State Cup
 - o WH was there, SSBRA did a good job, WH heard good things from people about SSBRA refs
 - o There were fewer games because they are trying to spread out games among associations and they're doing things differently this year – they're doing the Governors and President's cups on different weekends
- Cal South monthly training starts in February
- SBS 11 v 11 changed to 45 min halves
- 1099-invoice: WH authorized invoice for Steve Brandon to issue 1099's (46 of them)
- Board discussed whether we need to get an accountant to explain how to report soccer earnings
 - o Important to note that those people who got 1099's – need to pay social security and medicare taxes if made over \$400 from reffing– contact your tax preparer and ask about this
 - o Steve will mention this at the Feb. general meeting
- Discussed compensation for assignor for referee failing to turn in multiple CSL reports last year
- Facebook: SSBRA has a Facebook page
- Bill – what's coming up?
 - o J-League starts up again
 - o March 26th is supposed to be a big weekend
 - o Galaxy tournament – paid in Galaxy tickets
 - o State Cup – more games
 - o Crossroads starts up
 - o Spring league starting up
- Larry
 - o List of people who attended the Jan 29th clinic – gave list to Steve so attendees can be reimbursed if they paid the \$85.00 membership fee
 - o Next clinic – March
 - o Instructors will be paid after the March clinic
- Vince
 - o 2011 Badges – contact Vince if you don't have yours, he'll contact Cal South
 - o But as long as you're on the 2011 registered officials list and you're live scanned, you can ref
- Steve
 - o Will send amended treasurer's report
 - o PSL paid bill
- Discussed memorial service for Cooke

Check out Referee Instruction Online's Webinar on February 7, 2011 "Let's Talk Misconduct" (Part 2) at: <http://refereeinstructiononline.com/custpage.php?cid=85>

YOUTH REFS SHOULD EMULATE WILLY WONKA, NOT PIERLUIGI COLLINA

Thursday, Feb. 10, 2011

By Randy Vogt

Officiating professional soccer is definitely not for the faint of heart. This is not surprising as people's livelihoods are based on the results.

Officiating youth soccer is sometimes not for the faint-hearted either. The majority of youth soccer referees quit within their first two years with verbal abuse by kids' parents being the No. 1 reason for quitting.

New and relatively new refs are trained by the best and brightest referees, many who officiated professional games. They are often many years removed from the girls under-7 or boys under-9 games that inexperienced officials referee when starting out. Unfortunately, this often shows in the clinics as new referees are taught that they are "judge, jury and executioner" when officiating a game.

The emphasis in clinics for professional referees is correctly on enforcement but it's a mistake to emphasize that for youth soccer referee clinics as the games are so different. On the youth level, the emphasis needs to be on compassion.

Yet when was the last time you thought of "referee" and "compassion" in the same sentence? Youth soccer refs are taught to be the next Pierluigi Collina, the bald ref from Italy who officiated the 2002 World Cup final and is considered the best referee of the past generation. Being Signor Collina is a noble yet unrealistic goal, when youth referees should strive for something within their grasp by being more like Willy Wonka instead.

In the games that referees start out with, the young players are thrilled to be running around with their friends. The parents, who can terrorize new refs, are happy when their kids are having fun and they see a smiling, hard-working referee. If the ref could briefly explain the decisions that the adults do not comprehend, all the better.

Referees need to treat coaches, players and their parents as allies unless they clearly indicate otherwise. It's important for refs to know and enforce the Laws of the Game but equally important is the knowledge how the rules should be applied to the age and skill level being played.

Law 18, common sense, applies as much to youth soccer games as Laws 1 to 17 combined. Kids say the darndest things on the soccer field, such as when I signaled and said "Corner kick" during a Boys-Under-8 game as the ball went over the goal line and the forward asked, "For which team?"

Referees should take the attitude that they are being given the privilege to officiate that day. After all, you meet new people, have an opportunity to make a positive difference in other people's lives, get exercise and, hopefully, have fun, all while earning a little money.

The best refs bring out the best in everyone, including themselves. If the ref is having a good time, you'd be surprised how many other people are being affected with that positive attitude. Those song lyrics often come true, "When you're smiling, the whole world smiles with you!"

This positive attitude has worked for me for more than three decades as refereeing has been one of the highlights of my life. I cannot tell you how many people warmly greet me on the street, sometimes years or decades after I have officiated their games.

But just like Willy Wonka, I cannot go on forever as new and younger referees need to develop to their potential. If referees can make it past the critical first few years of their career, they can advance up the ranks. Who knows, maybe they could be the next Pierluigi Collina one day!

(Randy Vogt has officiated over 7,000 games during the past three decades, from professional matches in front of thousands to 6-year-olds being cheered on by very enthusiastic parents. In his book, Preventive Officiating, he shares his wisdom gleaned from thousands of games and hundreds of clinics to help referees not only survive but thrive on the soccer field. You can visit the book's website at <http://www.preventiveofficiating.com/>.)



SSBRA
TREASURER REPORT
February 22, 2011

The Checking and Savings accounts were reconciled to the Western FCU bank statement for the month of January 2011. In addition, the Petty Cash, Postage Stamps and Referee Advances accounts were balanced as well.

SSBRA dues paid thru January 31, 2011 total:

SSBRA 2011 Dues		
	Count	Fees
Regular Dues	127	\$7,619.00
Dues Owed	n/a	\$ 1.00
Youth Referees	20	\$ -
Honorary Members	9	\$ -
Waived Dues	5	\$ -
New Member Waivers	11	\$ -
Prior Year Carry Over	26	\$ -
Totals	198	\$7,620.00

The cash and related account balances as maintained by the Quicken database are summarized below.

SSBRA Cash Balances		
	1/31/2011	2/21/2011
Checking	\$ 2,858.01	\$ (382.03)
Savings	27.49	7.49
Petty Cash	-	-
Stamps	12.76	7.04
Totals	\$ 2,898.26	\$ (367.50)
Advances:		
Manhattan Bch	\$ 2,925.00	\$ 5,555.00
PSL	-	-
Total Adv.	\$ 2,925.00	\$ 5,555.00
Checking	\$ 5,783.01	\$ 5,172.97
Savings	27.49	7.49
Petty Cash	-	-
Stamps	12.76	7.04
Adj. Totals	\$ 5,823.26	\$ 5,187.50

During January, initial payments for the Manhattan Beach 7v7 Winter 2011 season were made. Payments were also issued for the Copa Real Nike Tournament. Payments for each are summarized below.

Copa Real Nike - Cks Issued 01/22/2011		
	\$	Cks
Referee Fees	\$2,604.00	39
Treasurer Fees	\$ 50.00	1
Postage	\$ 7.04	n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$2,661.04	40
Billed to Manhattan Beach	\$2,604.00	
Net SSBRA Surplus	\$ (57.04)	

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Manhattan Beach - Cks Issued 01/29/2011			
Games		90	
	\$		Cks
Referee Fees	\$ 2,610.00		33
Assingor/Coord. Fees	\$ 225.00		1
Treasurer Fees	\$ 52.50		1
Postage	\$ 13.64		n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 2,901.14		35
Billed to Manhattan Beach	\$ 2,925.00		
Net SSBRA Surplus	\$ 23.86		

SSBRA's 2010 tax reporting notices "1099-MISC" were distributed to 46 referees with income totaling over \$54,000. Final reporting to the IRS will take place in February 2011.

Given we are entering tax season, one of our SSBRA members was recently audited by the IRS. The IRS noted that referee income should **NOT** be reported as Other Income on your tax return. Rather, referee income should be reported on Schedule C, Profit or Loss from Business. One reason for utilizing Schedule C is to allow for the collect of self employment taxes as well.

Hence, our member is now revising their tax returns and potentially has additional taxes due. However, utilizing Schedule C also allows you to recognize your referee expenses such as shoes/cleats, whistles, patches, dues, mileage, uniforms, socks as well as other business related expenses. Notably, you should always consult with a tax professional to address your individual tax situations.

As always, an Income and Expense Comparison by Category for 2010 vs. 2011 has been attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Brandon

Steve Brandon
SSBRA Treasurer

REMINDERS

PHONE NUMBER(S) TO KNOW

Soccer Phone Line Number	(310) 316-0808
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GAME ASSIGNMENT LINKS

SSBRA Assignment Link	http://ssbra.org/list.php
CSL Assignment Link	http://www.coastsoccer.com/referees/
Spring League	http://www.schedulesetc.com/soccer/referee/default.aspx?id=ss11
Spring Cup	http://www.schedulesetc.com/soccer/referee/default.aspx?id=ss11cup

PROCEDURES TO REMEMBER

Forfeits: Game Fee Collection	<p>For any State/National Cup, Spring League or CSL game when there is a forfeit or a no-show, we DO NOT collect game fees from either team.</p> <p>Instead, Bill files a no-show report with the League and the League pays SSBRA and SSBRA reimburses the referees.</p>
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HELPFUL LINKS

Cal South Website for Referees	http://www.calsouth.com/en/referees/
South Bay Sports Rules	http://www.southbaysports.com/rule.asp (go here to select the rules that apply to the day/league/venue you're refing)
Manhattan Village Rules	http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7.html http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7/7on7-Laws-of-the-Game.pdf