



The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

May, 2011

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

Editor: Deepika Saluja

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

***PIZZA PIZZA PIZZA!
AND ELECTIONS, OF COURSE!
ALSO, THE 2011 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP SCHEDULE***

GENERAL MEETING: MAY 31, 2011

We all gathered outside Lamp Post Pizza and dutifully waited and chatted until it was determined that a quorum was present and the meeting could start. Warren kicked off the meeting with some very good news: (1) Steve's knee is good to go following knee replacement surgery, he has been cleared to ref games!; and (2) Gabriel became a grandfather for the first time very recently! Congrats to both!

Warren then surprised us with even more news, that there was nothing bad to report this time. SSBRA has had a great year, the association is growing, and SSBRA has a very good reputation. So keep up the good work everyone!

Then the new people introduced themselves and we were told that dues are due (or will be shortly) so pay up! Otherwise they will be deducted from any tournament checks you get (along these lines, Steve mentioned that he doesn't have the checks for the most recent tournaments, but when he gets them, he'll send out checks less dues owed). Let us know if you're not renewing with SSBRA, that way we won't hunt you down for dues when we review who has and has not paid.

Ralph had nothing to say. Vince then reminded us that at SBS no card = no play. No exceptions. No temporary cards are allowed either. It's simple: no cards, no play. Larry had nothing. Bill didn't have much to say other than he was waiting for the weekend's schedule to assign game.

Then the election began. The bylaw proposal regarding absentee ballots was withdrawn and thus, not considered. The following offices were up for election and here are the results:

Vice President: Ralph ran unopposed and was reelected.

Treasurer: Steve ran unopposed and was reelected.

Following the elections our members filed into Lamp Post for dinner!

WHAT THE BOARD'S BEEN UP TO:

BOARD MEETING: MAY 18, 2011

- I was unable to make the May 18, 2011 Board meeting so Steve kindly took notes.
- Treasurer pmt error for Manhattan Beach discussed and addressed
- 4 applications accepted
- Bad boys and girls discussed and solutions determined
- Discussed game management skills for younger referees
- Discussed follow up with SBS game incident
 - o Bill talked with Dennis and noted we deal with fouls AFTER they have been committed
- Talked about referees who get game assignments then turn them back; Bill drops them to bottom of assignment list
- Received complaint that SSBRA web site does not show single game call in requirements. Noted this is mentioned at every monthly meeting and in the FW
- Assignment system seems to be working correctly for last two weeks.
 - o Assignment problems seems to be due to memory problems and needs upgrades.
 - o The computer guy we use was unable to duplicate assigning system crash problems to actually see what's going on with the assignment problems
- Board further discussed assignment system vs. arbiter assigning system and what else board would like to see re the website and its capabilities
 - o Arbiter assigning seems is too sophisticated and expensive for SSBRA needs
 - o Larry would like to see improvement in referee availability listing by showing referees in alphabetical order. Assignors spend about 1-2 hours sorting ranks list.
 - o Appears to be an Excel spreadsheet sorting issue. Bill and Larry to work with Steve to sort assigning spreadsheet.
 - o Decision to keep Easy Assigning system and NOT move Web site from SQL Fusion.
- Need to tell Lee: Items that need to be updated on web site, Warren to send notification to Lee
- Warren cancelled Cal South training for May.
- Confirmed Lamppost Pizza has been reserved for May membership meeting.
- Discussed Bylaws amendment that was received
- Next board meeting at Steve's house?
- 14 minutes left till 10:00 pm. Board notes, no Pika, no time deadline!!
- Ralph would like to know if SSBRA can purchase another set of electronic flags?
 - o Members seem to be luke warm towards them
 - Board needs to reinforce benefits of flags
 - Bill suggested crew is selected for electronic flag usage or flags assigned to a field.
 - Cal South does not permit electronic flags; Bill to question at next Presidents meeting
 - o Purchase deferred for now.

- Bill noted more tournaments and probably will have a Thanksgiving tournament as well.
- Larry discussed:
 - o Training dates for summer. Would like to spend \$125 to use Torrance High School library.
 - o Issue is summer vacations and are multiple training dates offered. Was decided to spend \$125 and have multiple dates.
- Rankings were discussed and who was going to be on the ranking committee. Decided Steve Brandon, Ralph Quiros, Barry Giberman & Larry Stern should be committee.
- Steve discussed:
 - o 2012 fiscal budget will be presented next month.
 - o Fee income should increase approx. \$3,000 due to less annual fee waivers.
 - o SSBRA referee insurance payment is due this month.
- It's 11:10 pm were done!!

But it's the Meat. . .

Mexico blames tainted meat after soccer players fail dope test

Reporting by Carlos Calvo in Mexico City; writing by Rex Gowar in Buenos Aires; editing by Ian Ransom

June 10, 2011

Available at: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20110610/sp_nm/us_soccer_concacaf_mexico_doping_1

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (Reuters) – Five Mexico players suspended from the Concacaf Gold Cup after failing a doping test had eaten contaminated meat and should be cleared after a second test, a Mexican soccer official said.

The Mexican Football Federation on Thursday said the players had all tested positive for the banned substance clenbuterol from tests carried out in Mexico on May 21.

Clenbuterol can be used to speed up and increase muscle mass in animals. A number of athletes, including three-time Tour de France champion Alberto Contador, have blamed their positive test results on eating meat adulterated with the steroid.

Hector Gonzalez, Femexfut's director of national teams, said the players had eaten tainted meat at Mexico's High Performance Center where the team prepared to defend the Gold Cup.

"Unfortunately, by accident, these players ate beef contaminated with the substance clenbuterol," he told a news conference following Mexico's 5-0 win over Cuba in Group A.

Gonzalez said Mexican farming officials were looking into beef supplies at the center.

"We're confident that with the investigation that is being carried out we'll be able to clarify (the situation) and reach a happy conclusion," he added.

Femexfut general secretary Decio de Maria earlier named the players as goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa, defenders Francisco Rodriguez and Edgar Duenas, and midfielders Antonio Naelson 'Sinha' and Christian Bermudez.

De Maria said the players, who face bans of up to two years, had all been suspended from the tournament.

Gonzalez said the players would fly to Los Angeles on Friday for another test at the University of California Los Angeles's certified laboratory which would "surely be negative."

"We will ask also for the B samples (of the original tests) to be opened and we will await the results," he added.

Mexico had only 17 players available for their match against Cuba, their second successive 5-0 victory that qualified them for the quarter-finals. Defender Ricardo Osorio left for home earlier in the week due to illness.

Gonzalez said Mexico had appealed to be allowed to call up five replacements, a request that would be dealt with by the organizers at a meeting on Friday.

He added that tournament rules stated the team could not be docked the points of their win against El Salvador on Sunday because the results of the doping tests were unknown when the match was played.

El Salvador's Uruguayan coach Ruben Israel said he hoped the Mexicans had not obtained Sunday's victory through cheating and he did not want to make a premature judgment.

"It's a tremendously delicate matter that touches the morals of the (Mexican) players and national team," Israel said after his team's 1-1 draw with Costa Rica in an earlier Group A match.

"I'm sure my (Salvadorean) federation will come down with all their might on this issue if it's confirmed (that Mexico faced us with doped players)," he said.

De Maria earlier said there was a health alert in Mexico because of food contaminated with clenbuterol.

Mexico denied in April that its beef contained clenbuterol days after Germany's anti-doping agency advised athletes not to eat products from Mexico because it might increase the risk of involuntary positive doping results.

STADIUM LOCATIONS FOR 2011 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Available at: <http://www.suite101.com/content/stadiums-for-2011-womens-world-cup-a215401>



You've become a good ref when ...

By Randy Vogt

May 25, 2011

You will know that you have become a good referee when:

- After the game, players and coaches go out of their way to say “Good job,” “Great job!” or “You were the best ref we’ve had all season!”
- People say to you, “Could you officiate all our games?”
- Your phone and e-mail account become hot with more and more assignments.
- You are assigned top games.
- You are asked to officiate tournaments out-of-state and maybe even abroad.
- You receive officiating awards from leagues and referee associations.

This means you have succeeded. Congratulations!

Now you come to an important fork in the road. Or as Yogi Berra has said, “When you come to the fork in the road, take it!”

Some successful referees take the correct road. They know that they have succeeded because of their knowledge of the Laws of the Game and their application, their hustle, their positive attitude, their fairness and firmness plus their approachability. And they continue doing all these great things.

Other successful refs take the wrong road. Their success goes to their head and they somehow think the game is now about them.

I have heard these comments about refs:

- “He used to be really good and now all he wants to do is argue with the coaches.”
- “He was one of our top referees but he no longer runs and gives decisions that seem solely to create attention for himself.”
- “He’s a good ref. The problem is, he thinks that he is a great ref and lets everyone know it.”
- “She was a very good referee. Now people don’t take her seriously as her body has become as big as a house.”
- “He was one of our best referees. Now he hardly moves out of the kickoff circle.”

Which road are you going to take?

*(Randy Vogt has officiated over 8,000 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/>). [Post your response to the public Youth Soccer Insider blog.](#) See what others are saying on the [Youth Soccer Insider blog.](#) **FEEDBACK:** Send comments to letters@socceramerica.com. Please include your first and last name and hometown.*

AN INHERENT BIAS????

Referees unconsciously favor teams in red uniforms

By Antonio Pulido, Revista Arbitros

Available at: <http://www.usrefereeconnection.com/#!referee-articles/referees-unconsciously-favor-teams>

"A team manager's choice of a red uniform can affect a referee's decision making and benefit the team during a game."

This statement was made by a group of psychologists and teachers at the University of Münster Germany.

Norbert Hageman, Bernd Strauss and Jan Leibing, conducted the study which was published in the journal Psychological Science.

Penalized fouls compared in video

Although the initial experiment was conducted with judges from taekwondo, the researchers then tested referees in other sports where the competing teams wore red shirts and other colors.

In the study, officials viewing the match in a video must punished the fouls committed from both sides in the first half of the match.

They were then shown the same video a second time but with the uniform colors reversed, using a video trick.

Red is favored

According to the researchers there was an increase of 13% in foul calls compared to the average for the first time They noted that decisions of the referee's favored a red uniform when the teams were on an even competitive level, but had little influence when a team was clearly superior.

Research continues

Although further research is needed, especially on the effects of color, "results in the study conclude with recommending a change in the rules or where the officials utilize "electronic technology" where the color of the uniform may not be a problem."

Next time you're watching a game where one of the teams is wearing red, pay attention and find out if this study is true or not.

2011 FIFA Women's World Cup Schedule

Available at: http://espn.go.com/sports/soccer/topics/_/page/fifa-women-world-cup

A .pdf version of the schedule is available here:

http://www.fifa.com/mm/document/tournament/competition/01/11/73/26/fwwc2011_match_schedule_en_25032011.pdf

First Round

Group A

Sunday, June 26
Germany vs. Canada (at Berlin)
Nigeria vs. France (at Sinsheim)

Thursday, June 30
Germany vs. Nigeria (at Frankfurt)
Canada vs. France (at Bochum)

Tuesday, July 5
France vs. Germany (at Moenchengladbach)
Canada vs. Nigeria (at Dresden)

Group C

Tuesday, June 28
United States vs. North Korea (at Dresden)
Colombia vs. Sweden (at Leverkusen)

Saturday, July 2
United States vs. Colombia (at Sinsheim)
North Korea vs. Sweden (at Augsburg)

Wednesday, July 6
Sweden vs. United States (at Wolfsburg)
North Korea vs. Colombia (at Bochum)

Group B

Monday, June 27
Japan vs. New Zealand (at Bochum)
Mexico vs. England (at Wolfsburg)

Friday, July 1
Japan vs. Mexico (at Leverkusen)
New Zealand vs. England (at Dresden)

Tuesday, July 5
England vs. Japan (at Augsburg)
New Zealand vs. Mexico (at Sinsheim)

Group D

Wednesday, June 29
Brazil vs. Australia (at Moenchengladbach)
Norway vs. Equatorial Guinea (at Augsburg)

Sunday, July 3
Brazil vs. Norway (at Wolfsburg)
Australia vs. Equatorial Guinea (at Dresden)

Wednesday, July 6
Equatorial Guinea vs. Brazil (at Frankfurt)
Australia vs. Norway (at Leverkusen)

Quarterfinals

Saturday, July 9

Group A Winner vs Group B Runner-Up
(at Wolfsburg)
Group B Winner vs Group A Runner-Up
(at Leverkusen)

Sunday, July 10

Group C Winner vs Group D Runner-Up
(at Augsburg)
Group D winner vs Group C Runner-Up
(at Dresden)

Semifinals

Wednesday, July 13

Wolfsburg quarterfinal winner vs. Augsburg quarterfinal winner (At Frankfurt)

First Round

Group A

Group B

Leverkusen quarterfinal winner vs. Dresden quarterfinal winner (At Moenchengladbach)

Third-Place Game

Saturday, July 16

Semifinal losers (at Sinsheim)

Championship

Sunday, July 17

Semifinal winners (at Frankfurt)

SSBRA
TREASURER REPORT
May 31, 2011

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

SSBRA dues paid thru April 2011 total:

SSBRA 2011 Dues		
	Count	Fees
Regular Dues	140	\$ 8,400.00
Dues Owed	n/a	\$ (1.00)
Youth Referees	24	\$ -
Honorary Members	9	\$ -
Waived Dues	5	\$ -
New Member Waivers	11	\$ -
Prior Year Carry Over	26	\$ -
Totals	215	\$ 8,399.00

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

SSBRA Cash Balances	
	4/30/2011
Checking	\$ 7,885.11
Savings	7.49
Petty Cash	84.00
Stamps	13.20
New Member Deposits	(175.00)
Totals	\$ 7,814.80
Advances:	
Eagles	\$ (3,704.00)
Manhattan Beach	\$ 260.00
MB Pmt Error	464.00
Total Adv.	\$ (2,980.00)
Checking	\$ 4,905.11
Savings	7.49
Petty Cash	84.00
Stamps	13.20
New Member Deposits	(175.00)
Adj. Totals	\$ 4,834.80

SSBRA
TREASURER REPORT
May 31, 2011

During April final payments for the Manhattan Beach 7v7 Winter 2011 season were made and are summarized below:

Manhattan Beach - Cks Issued 04/18/2011		
Games		8
	\$	Cks
Referee Fees	\$ 232.00	4
Assingor/Coord. Fees	\$ 20.00	1
Treasurer Fees	\$ 9.00	1
Postage	\$ 4.84	n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 265.84	6
Billed to Manhattan Beach	\$ 260.00	
Net SSBRA Surplus	\$ (5.84)	

Manhattan Beach - Winter 2010 Totals		
Games		304
	\$	Cks
Referee Fees	\$ 8,816.00	108
Assingor/Coord. Fees	\$ 760.00	4
Treasurer Fees	\$ 174.00	4
Postage	\$ 48.84	n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 9,798.84	116
Billed to Manhattan Beach	\$ 9,880.00	
Net SSBRA Surplus	\$ 81.16	

Lastly, other significant events for the month of April were as follows:

- \$35.00 was paid to SQL Fusion for SSBRA's domain name renewal.
- \$136.00 was paid to three referees for a CSL GU18 cancellation on April 9th.
- I erroneously duplicated payments to 9 referees for Manhattan Beach 7v7 games, which totaled \$522.00. The impacted referees have been contacted and the overpayments will be offset against future SSBRA payments.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Brandon

Steve Brandon
SSBRA Treasurer

Inc/Exp Comparison by Category - YTD
7/1/2009 through 4/30/2011

5/17/2011

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Category	7/1/2009- 4/30/2010	7/1/2010- 4/30/2011	Amount Difference	% Difference
INCOME				
Int	4.30	0.42	-3.88	-90.23 %
MEMBERS	6,370.00	4,619.00	-1,751.00	-27.49 %
NSFINES	315.00	210.00	-105.00	-33.33 %
TOTAL INCOME	6,689.30	4,829.42	-1,859.88	-27.80 %
EXPENSES				
Uncategorized	0.00	0.00	0.00	INF
BANK	438.97	79.99	358.98	81.78 %
Financial Review	0.00	200.00	-200.00	INF
GAMES - ADULTS	53.00	65.00	-12.00	-22.64 %
7 v 7	15.94	-224.12	240.06	1506.02 %
TOURM	3,436.39	53.36	3,383.03	98.45 %
TOTAL GAMES - ADULTS	3,505.33	-105.76	3,611.09	103.02 %
GAMES - YOUTH	244.00	308.64	-64.64	-26.49 %
TOURK	-2,828.84	485.84	-3,314.68	117.17 %
TOTAL GAMES - YOUTH	-2,584.84	794.48	-3,379.32	130.74 %
INSURANCE	672.00	670.76	1.24	0.18 %
MEET	1,216.87	1,448.80	-231.93	-19.06 %
POSTAGE-PRINTING	179.88	170.92	8.96	4.98 %
REIMBURSE	715.00	253.00	462.00	64.62 %
Supplies	208.06	136.79	71.27	34.25 %
Tax Notices	408.71	382.11	26.60	6.51 %
TEL	360.00	360.00	0.00	0.00 %
Training	744.87	1,229.37	-484.50	-65.04 %
UNIFORMS	0.00	614.13	-614.13	INF
WEBSITE	500.00	1,055.00	-555.00	-111.00 %
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,364.85	7,289.59	-924.74	-14.53 %
OVERALL TOTAL	324.45	-2,460.17	-2,784.62	858.26 %

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 reffing)
Manhattan Village Rules	http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7.html http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7/7on7-Laws-of-the-Game.pdf