



# The Flag and Whistle

Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

September, 2011

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

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

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## ***7V7: A REFRESHER PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS***

### ***GENERAL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 27, 2011***

We had a lot to cover in the September general meeting so we kept the business part of things pretty short. We had one new member introduce himself and then Warren reminded us that he's adding pictures all the time to SSBRA's facebook page. Feel free to send him pictures if you have them and let him know if you'd like to volunteer to take over maintaining the facebook page.

Warren is up to September 2005 with the data purge – its going slowly, but its going. Cal South will be at our October meeting administering the recertification test. This will be offered as a clinic open to all, so show up early as lots of people are bound to show up. Before showing up, go to the Cal South website, print and fill out the registration/re-cert form, and bring a check and your knowledge of the game. Remember to look up the law changes as these are bound to be tested.

The October meeting is also the time to vote on any proposed bylaw changes so Warren asked if anyone had any proposed bylaw changes to submit in writing at this time, to be voted on in October. No proposed

changes were submitted. Per the Bylaws, they must be reviewed this year. A committee will be meeting to do this at the end of October.

Warren then talked about DSL. It's a new league and differs from CSL in some respects – most notably with regard to substitutions: when teams can sub and when players can and cannot reenter. According to the league, however, referees are not responsible for monitoring the reentry of the subs. The coaches and teams must make sure they are following the reentry rules. With DSL, we've got some new and different fields so make sure you're giving yourself more than enough time to get to the field. DSL is also scheduling some single games and is still getting their assigning system underway. So, for now, we're using the SSBRA assigning system until we're told otherwise. Finally, DSL has got us on very tight schedules and has not told us to shorten games (or for that matter to keep them on time), but we should do our best to keep the games on time.

Manny was at the meeting and he had a lot of stuff. He had jerseys for \$20.00, Devastator whistles for \$7, socks at 2 for \$10, and one last referee bag for \$20.00.

Larry then talked about the SSBRA new member clinic. There was a clinic in September and will be one in October. Remember, those who attend the new member clinic will be refunded \$25.00 of their dues. The October clinic is scheduled for October 29, 2011. Larry also reminded us that the high school training sessions will be starting very soon. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bob Foster and/or Dick Haber, who serve as President and Treasurer for the High School Board.

Vince spoke then and reminded us that our match reports must be specific. For example, list the player's name, don't just put down "Red #9" list the player's name.

Ralph then spoke and reminded us that – according to DSL – referees do not need to keep track of the reentry of subs but you do have to know when teams are allowed to sub.

Bill then spoke. DSL is still changing their schedules and had just added 17 more games to the weekend's schedule. DSL was very pleased with our reffing at the DSL showcase the last weekend of September and we'll probably get another showcase. Bill then told us that in just the first three weeks since CSL and DSL kicked off, we've done over 700 games. All but one and a half of these games were with a full crew. He then reminded us to double check and print out our schedules and take them with us to the fields. Also, remember, if you card a player, show them the card. Don't assume they know they're being booked – show the player the card. Finally, don't forget to check and confirm your schedules early because non-confirmed games as of Wednesday evenings at 6 will be offered to the termites.

Larry then took the floor to present us with our first training session of the evening: 7v7. The training started with the board's position of no jewelry at all at SBS. Dennis will back us on this. The only jewelry that is accepted is a medical bracelet (don't ask for players to tape this, this needs to be visible). Larry then gave a pop quiz to see if we remember the different 7v7 rules. Here are the take-away points from the pop quiz:

\*Manhattan Village:

- No penalty kicks. So, if a defendant is called for handling the ball in the goal box, the restart is an IFK.
- Shin guards are not required
- Wednesday night, holding foul, restart is an IFK
- Defenders must be 5 yds from a free kick

\*SBS (Friday nights at Aviation and Sunday at Crossroads):

- Division A and B: Female goals are 2 points each
- Division C: Female goals are 1 point each

\*Aviation

- Saturday morning at Aviation, holding foul, restart is a DFK
- Defenders must be 5 yds from a free kick
- Monday through Friday: Defender enters goal box before ball arrives and plays ball, restart is a PK
- Thursday night, if a player is sent off, his team plays an additional man short for 5 minutes (send off the player being sent off, plus one more player must sit out for 5 minutes – so they play with 5 players for 5 minutes, then can play with 6

\*Crossroads

- Defender enters goal box before ball arrives and plays ball, restart is a PK

\*Beverly Hills

- Can't kick more than ½ way across the field
- If the ball is kicked more than ½ way the restart is an IFK

Following the 7v7 training, Gabriel took over to present the CSL training: Professionalism and Ethics.

Gabriel started by defining “professionalism.” Professionalism is comprised of the “3 C’s:” courtesy, conscientiousness, and competence.

You want to “exhibit conduct that is courteous, conscientious, and generally business like.” For example, greeting the coach and introducing yourself. You want to make sure you “act with assured competence” in the particular field that you are in. Know what you are doing by knowing the laws and keeping up with the changes in the laws. For example, do you know what changes were made to the laws in July 2011?

You need to be conscientious by knowing what is good for the player and coaches. For example, don't let the game go forward – despite protests from the players, coaches, and spectators – if the conditions are unsafe. It helps to know the rules, arrive early, talk to your ref team. You need to do the job as well as you can. It also helps to warm up. Not only is warming up good for you, but it lets the spectators, players, and coaches see that you mean business and that you're committed to doing your best to keep up with play.

Some sources of knowledge are:

- 1) The Laws of the Game and the Annual Memorandum re the Laws of the Game
- 2) The various interpretation and applications of the laws of the game, such as:
  - A) Advice to Referees
  - B) Guide to Procedures
  - C) Week in Review at [www.ussoccer.com](http://www.ussoccer.com)
  - D) As a Referee at [www.ussoccer.com](http://www.ussoccer.com)
- 3) League Rules and Procedures
- 4) USSF Codes of Conduct
  - A) Referee Administration Handbook
  - B) Code of Ethics

You need to be professional at all times – before, during, and after the game. This includes your appearance – for example, shine your shoes. It also helps to introduce yourself to the coaches before the games. You should also strive to be professional everywhere – at the game and away from the game. You should respect players and coaches and have a proper attitude – that you're “proud to serve.” This applies in whatever you do, not just refereeing soccer.

Gabriel then asked for our definitions of “ethics.” Essentially, ethics boils down to doing the right thing. More specifically, “knowing what is good and what is bad morally for our society.” For example, impersonation

of another is unethical. Morality, Gabriel told us, is like the universal rules of professional conduct. With each profession are special rules of conduct that must be followed by those who pursue that profession. For example, doctors and lawyers must follow certain rules of professional conduct.

The most common excuse for unethical conduct is ignorance, the “I didn’t know” excuse.

You should make good choices and decisions based on what is best for the players, coaches, and the game.

In sum, as referees, when we talk about ethics and professionalism, the following are just some things to keep in mind:

- 1) Honoring assignments – if you know you’re not going to make an assignment, let Bill know right away, don’t wait until hours before the game.
- 2) Avoid conflicts of interest – don’t give up games you’ve accepted just because a better assignment comes along.
- 3) Inappropriate conduct – show respect to get respect.
- 4) Unethical or dishonest conduct – i.e. bribery.
- 5) Fitness – don’t accept assignments, or even give your availability, if you’re not physically fit.
- 6) Keep your availability current and if you give availability, make sure you’re available. And, if you’re not available, let Bill know ASAP.
- 7) Don’t do the following:
  - A) Jump Assignments – turn back one assignment for a better game from a different assignor
  - B) Accept too many games on one day
  - C) Turn back assignments at the last minute

## **WHAT THE BOARD’S BEEN UP TO:**

### ***BOARD MEETING: SEPTEMBER 13, 2011***

- New applications reviewed and accepted
- Discussed problem refs and how to address each situation
- Car towed at field in Boyle Heights – SCDSL may pay for it, if not board will try and do something
- North HS – WH contacting them for Saturday clinics and insurance certificate
- Bylaw review update – DSS to contact B.Hildreth and D.Lujan to figure out time to meet and review
- Website updates needed
  - o Right now it says USSF Match Reports should be sent to Bill, but it should say send them to Member at Large
- Data Purge – WH continuing to delete games/history
- Dues – getting money from members, list given to DSS of names to email re Dues are still due
- Review of first week since leagues began
  - o So many leagues – 7 at least
  - o DSL games are going well
    - Substitution procedure in DSL – conflicting reviews for first week
    - Not enough time between games the first week
    - Lots of last-minute changes (53 in week 1)
    - But they’re new, so things should get better
  - o PSL may not start until October because they are confirming fields
  - o JLeague started – going well
  - o Manhattan Village and SBS – year round
- USSF Re-Cert Test will be offered at October gen meeting
- Next Bd meeting – at Steve’s house in October

- Ralph – nothing
- DSS – nothing
- Bill – nothing additional
- Larry
  - o Invoice/bill for Steve re printing 7v7 pop quiz for Sept. 2011 gen meeting
  - o Also wants to get a few soccer balls for the new member clinic – Ralph has some, he'll get them to Larry before the new member clinic
- Steve
  - o Ended August with \$5,868.12
  - o At one point – had approximately \$34,000 in bank account because of all the tournament checks
  - o PSL changed payment system – Bill getting paid right away
  - o Members as of 8/31 → 182 members: 94 paid, 36 youth, 8 honorary, 5 waived dues, 17 NM Waivers, 22 carryovers – still trying to collect some 2011 dues
  - o Steve will be paying D&O insurance this week
  - o Still waiting for Blues Tournament check
- Vince had to leave early so didn't get a chance to say anything

**BOARD MEETING FOLLOWING GENERAL MEETING**

- New apps – all 6 accepted
- Board noted, we're getting lots of applications of people who have no experience. Suggestion was made that it might be time to tell people to get experience in AYSO first. We tabled this and will discuss it at the next board meeting.



*The cards just keep coming. . .*

## *A Boys' U14 game becomes a Euro Champions Final. . .*

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOoTeXTRQJA&feature=youtube\\_gdata\\_player&noredirect=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOoTeXTRQJA&feature=youtube_gdata_player&noredirect=1)

### *The LM's latest adventure . . .*

It was the last day of the club summer pre-season tournaments, and Surendra "Jorge" Menon and his referee friend the Large Member had obtained assignments to games at the Polo fields in Orange County. Looking forward to a fun-filled day, they started the ride down south together, with Surendra telling the L.M. that he had drank an extra large amount of coffee that morning, in order to be properly "wired" for the games. Alas, the coffee had a well-known side effect on him, and he had to pull off the freeway about halfway to the fields in order to, uh, take care of a personal matter. Entering a Starbucks, he found the Men's room occupied, with one gentleman already in line waiting outside the door. Lining up behind him, a conversation took place (I am not making this up):

Guy in line: "Hi, how's it going?"

Jorge: "Fine, how about you?"

Guy: "Hey, are you going to (do number 1 or number 2)?"

Jorge: "Huh?"

Guy: "I don't mean to be personal, but I was wondering if you were (doing #1 or #2)?"

Jorge: "What?"

Guy: "You see, I was thinking of letting you go in ahead of me, but if you were planning on (#2), then I do not want to wait that long."

With his personal alarm bells ringing loudly in his head, at that point Surendra retreated from the Starbucks, used the facilities in the taco joint next door, and continued on to the field with the L.M. Upon arrival, they met-up with the third Member of the team, Steve "Check-Is-In-The-Mail" Brandon, and they also greeted Barry Giberman, who was looking on as an unofficial fourth official. Though the field looked enormous, the L.M. was willing to give the first GU11 match a try as the center referee, and blew his whistle to start the action. Things were going fine till about half-way through the first half, when the L.M. accidentally and unexpectedly got close to play. Sure enough, the player with the ball turned, kicked it as hard as possible to the left in an attempt to switch the field of play, and caught the L.M. square upside the head with the ball. Though staggered, he kept his feet, and play continued, after some hesitation by the players, as he waved his arms. At least that is what the L.M. was told, as he had little memory of the rest of the half after the head-blow.

At half-time the L.M. declared that, despite some brain fog and double vision, he was ready to continue with the second half, which he did. But then, after the game had been going fairly well for awhile, the ball was kicked into a defender's hand (held close to her body and at her side) from about 2 feet away, and a coach started demanding a handball penalty-kick call. The L.M. signaled to keep playing, and explained to the coach in passing that there was no intent, so no call. At this point the coach went ga-ga, screaming that "intent has nothing to do with it - if the hand touches the ball, it is a handball, every time!". Normally in this situation the L.M. would blow the whistle to stop play, pull out his copy of the Laws of the Game, thumb through the pages to the relevant section, and show the coach the applicable Law that governed the case at hand. However, the L.M. had left his copy of the LOTG at home that day, couldn't have easily read anything anyway with his double vision, and besides, really didn't care if a violation had occurred as long as the players kept playing. Waving play on, the L.M. put on a stern and serious expression designed to misled the coaches and players that he was focused on

the action in front of him, and he retreated back into his peaceful internal reverie. The game eventually ended, and the referees returned to the sidelines for the next games.

But these were no normal games. The last two games were GU17 quarter finals, and the Assignor had sent out an Email the day before demanding that the referee team bring it's "A" game to these matches, as the teams were of a high caliber and demanded our best. In no condition to bring his "A" game, or even his "B" game, the L.M. told Surendra and center referee Steve that he would try for a "C" game. At first this worked fine, as Steve had things well under control. But then one of the teams started whining about stuff, and rather than handling it as he normally would, Steve started throwing dissent yellow cards like confetti on New Year's eve. After the match, Surendra and the L.M. asked Steve what had made him so sensitive to complaints. He said that he was not used to being treated like that, as the monthly SSBRA meeting had taken place that week, and at the meeting all of the Members had greeted him with kindness and well-wishes, so after getting used to that reaction to his wonderful self, he could no longer tolerate any kind of ill-will. After looking at each other and knowing that the good wishes were not due to Steve's exceptional charm but to the fact that he was holding \$40,000 in fees waiting to be paid to the Members, the L.M. and Surendra smiled and acknowledged Steve's magnificence while thinking about their own checks.

Surendra then centered the third game of the day, another GU17 quarter final, and, after kicks from the mark to determine a winner after the tied match, the games were finally done for the day. Careful to use the facilities at the venue (where no questions were asked) before leaving, the trip home went quickly in light traffic.



*Enjoying the game!*

## *Speaking of Professionalism and Ethics. . .*



BUCHAREST (Reuters) - The head of the Romanian Referees Commission (CCA) has been arrested on suspicion of taking bribes from a businessman close to a first division soccer club, anti-corruption prosecutors said on Sunday.

Vasile Avram, whose CCA is part of the Romanian Soccer Federation, is accused of receiving 19,000 euros (\$25,685) from businessman Sorin-Ioan Terbea in exchange for appointing referees favourable to soccer team FCM Targu Mures.

He would be held for 29 days, officials said.

"Today, a Bucharest court decided to arrest Vasile Avram for bribe-taking and Sorin-Ioan Terbea for giving bribes for 29 days," Livia Saplacan, spokeswoman for the national anti-corruption prosecuting office (DNA) told Reuters.

The DNA said in a statement that on May 21, when he was acting as a supervisor for a first division match between FCM Targu-Mure and Universitatea Cluj, Avram received the money through two intermediaries to nominate referees for matches in the 2011-12 championship.

Avram's lawyers have appealed against his detention, local media reported.

## **Information about the October Recertification Tests**

From Cal South

The October In-Service clinic will be dedicated to review the 2011-2012 USSF referee tests. A series of questions will be prepared to address the main topics for Grade 8, 7, 6, 5 and emeritus tests. Please pass this information to your members.

The re-certification for Grade 8's and Emeritus referees is also beginning in October; please submit a clinic re-certification request online which will advise us what date your Association plans to take the test. Remember that all re-certification clinics are open to all Cal South referees and make sure that you set a room capacity number to prevent overcrowding.

Grades 7, 6 and 5 must take a fitness test in addition to the written test; the only clinic available at this time is set for November 5, 2011 at Citrus College. Please remind your members that they need to register online for this recertification and upgrade clinic.

It will be very helpful to know which Associations have a Grade Master. These machines are a great help in ensuring that tests scores are available quickly, which allows the instructors to conduct a thorough test review in less time.

Again the recertification clinics must be requested online. Please make sure to indicate your room's capacity. You may conduct the recertification session in your November meeting if this is suitable to your Association.



SSBRA  
TREASURER REPORT  
BOARD MEETING  
September 27, 2011

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

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

<b>SSBRA Cash Balances</b>	
	8/31/2011
Checking	\$ 6,179.79
Savings	7.49
Petty Cash	90.00
Stamps	15.84
New Member Deposits	(425.00)
Totals	\$ 5,868.12
Advances:	
PSL	\$ 130.00
	-
Total Adv.	\$ 130.00
Checking	\$ 6,309.79
Savings	7.49
Petty Cash	90.00
Stamps	15.84
New Member Deposits	(425.00)
Adj. Totals	\$ 5,998.12

SSBRA dues paid thru August 31, 2011 total:

<b>SSBRA 2012 Dues</b>		
	Count	Fees
Regular Dues	94	\$ 5,638.00
Dues Owed	n/a	\$ 2.00
Youth Referees	36	\$ -
Honorary Members	8	\$ -
Waived Dues	5	\$ -
New Member Waivers	17	\$ -
Prior Year Carry Over	22	\$ -
<b>Totals</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>\$ 5,640.00</b>

During August the following payments were made and consist of the following:

<b>Manhattan Beach - Cks Issued 08/04/2011</b>		
	\$	Cks
Games		46
Referee Fees	\$ 3,422.00	45
Assingor/Coord. Fees	\$ 295.00	1
Treasurer Fees	\$ 70.50	1
Postage	\$ 18.04	n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 3,805.54	47
Billed to Manhattan Beach	\$ 3,835.00	
Net SSBRA Surplus	\$ 29.46	

SSBRA  
TREASURER REPORT  
BOARD MEETING  
September 27, 2011

**South Bay Force - Cks Issued 08/22/2011**

	\$	Cks
Referee Fees	\$ 12,857.00	86
Assingor/Coord. Fees	\$ 1,027.00	1
Treasurer Fees	\$ 110.00	1
Postage	\$ 14.52	n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 14,008.52	<u>88</u>
Paid to SSBRA	\$ 13,884.00	
Net SSBRA Expense	\$ (124.52)	

**United Cup - Cks Issued 08/26/2011**

	\$	Cks
Referee Fees	\$ 5,277.00	36
Assingor/Coord. Fees	\$ 450.00	1
Treasurer Fees	\$ 47.50	1
Postage	\$ 12.76	n/a
SSBRA Payment Totals	\$ 5,787.26	<u>38</u>
Paid to SSBRA	\$ 5,727.00	
Net SSBRA Expense	\$ (60.26)	

As always, an Income and Expense Comparison by Category for 2011 vs. 2012 has been attached.

Notably, I will **NOT** be at the membership meeting due to my business travel. Hence, Bill Cook will be reimbursing parking expenses for CSUDH. Please write your name on the parking receipt(s) for SSBRA's records.

Also, due to my business travel schedule the last few weeks, the checks for the Blues tournament will be mailed this coming weekend.

Respectfully submitted,

*Steve Brandon*

Steve Brandon  
SSBRA Treasurer

## Inc/Exp Comparison by Category - YTD

7/1/2010 through 8/31/2011

9/12/2011

Page 1

Category	7/1/2010- 8/31/2010	7/1/2011- 8/31/2011	Amount Difference	% Difference
<b>INCOME</b>				
Int	0.22	0.00	-0.22	0.00 %
MEMBERS	1,378.00	2,526.00	1,148.00	83.31 %
NSFINES	112.00	0.00	-112.00	0.00 %
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,490.22</b>	<b>2,526.00</b>	<b>1,035.78</b>	<b>69.51 %</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Uncategorized	0.00	0.00	0.00	INF
GAMES - ADULTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	INF
7 v 7	-32.80	-140.30	107.50	-327.74 %
<b>TOTAL GAMES - ADULTS</b>	<b>-32.80</b>	<b>-140.30</b>	<b>107.50</b>	<b>-327.74 %</b>
GAMES - YOUTH	160.36	10.00	150.36	93.76 %
TOURK	86.81	340.17	-253.36	-291.86 %
<b>TOTAL GAMES - YOUTH</b>	<b>247.17</b>	<b>350.17</b>	<b>-103.00</b>	<b>-41.67 %</b>
MEET	738.46	444.61	293.85	39.79 %
POSTAGE-PRINTING	2.20	2.20	0.00	0.00 %
REIMBURSE	0.00	4.00	-4.00	INF
Supplies	0.00	75.00	-75.00	INF
TEL	72.00	108.00	-36.00	-50.00 %
Training	125.00	0.00	125.00	0.00 %
WEBSITE	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00 %
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,252.03</b>	<b>943.68</b>	<b>308.35</b>	<b>24.63 %</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>238.19</b>	<b>1,582.32</b>	<b>1,344.13</b>	<b>-564.31 %</b>

# REMINDERS

## **PHONE NUMBER(S) TO KNOW**

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

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

## **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	<a href="http://www.calsouth.com/en/referees/">http://www.calsouth.com/en/referees/</a>
South Bay Sports Rules	<a href="http://www.southbaysports.com/rule.asp">http://www.southbaysports.com/rule.asp</a> (go here to select the rules that apply to the day/league/venue you're refing)
Manhattan Village Rules	<a href="http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7.html">http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7.html</a> <a href="http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7/7on7-Laws-of-the-Game.pdf">http://www.ssbra.com/html/competitions/mb7/7on7-Laws-of-the-Game.pdf</a>

## **UNIFORM REMINDERS**

Referees must carry at least **three different color** jerseys to all games. The board recommends the following:

- Gold
- Blue
- Red

Should you wish to bring more, the board recommends, in order of preference:

- Green
- Black