



# The Flag and Whistle

## Newsletter of the Soccer South Bay Referee Association

January 31, 2013

P.O. Box 10466, Torrance, CA 90505

Editor: Warren Howell

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

President: Warren Howell	Vice President: Ralph Quiroz	Secretary: Chris Nevil	Treasurer: Steve Brandon
Assignor: Bill Cook	Training Director: Larry Stern	At Large: Vince Delmonico	

### CHRIS IS IN SOUTH BAY SPORTS IS OUT THE REVIEW IS IN

The January meeting started out with the announcement that **Chris Nevil** was taking over as Secretary, as **Bruce Anderson** could no longer find the time to carry out those duties, resulting in applause and shouted good wishes to Chris from the crowd. **Warren Howell** then asked for a volunteer to take over the SSBRA Facebook chores, as Bruce had been handling that also (editor's note: no one had stepped up as of press-time, so Warren would go back to handling it for now).

Moving on, Warren asked if anyone had seen a 2013 USSF badge. Seeing no hand raised, he then said to verify that your name was on the Cal South list as registered for 2013 and wear your 2012 or whatever badge till they arrived. He also mentioned that we were near signing a 3 year contract with the City of Lawndale, and that the Beverly Hills 7v7 league was getting ready to start.

Though having some misgivings about letting him take the floor, Warren then asked **Tom Mallen** to stand up (which he allegedly did) and report the results of his latest review of SSBRA finances. He stated that he went over everything, and that all was well (see full text of his report below).

Newcomers to the meeting then introduced themselves to the group, including **Bobby Castillo** and **James Redmond**, both receiving the warm welcome for which SSBRA is justifiably famous.

It was then time, per the bylaws, to ask for proposed amendments to those same bylaws, of which there were none offered. Warren then informed us that there was a lawsuit in the works between a player and the City of Manhattan Beach from an incident from 2 years ago. A discussion of Manhattan Beach soccer then began, with Member-at-Large **Vince Delmonico** reporting that the league is seriously considering issuing ID cards for the players for the first time.

Other items being out of the way, a wide-ranging discussion about the main issue on everyone's mind started, the defection of South Bay Sports. Warren started by saying that:

- The latest SSBRA/SBS contract expired 12/31/2012
- A new contract proposal (generously below market rates) was sent to SBS in mid-December
- **Dennis Fox** got back to us at the end of December, said he had been on vacation and would look the proposal over
- Dennis informed SSBRA on 1/14/2013 that they would not be signing a new agreement but were going with another group
- Though not invited too, SSBRA made a "counter-proposal" anyway, that was rejected
- This all came as a complete surprise to the Board, as no complaints or indications of unhappiness had been received, even though SSBRA was in regular contact with SBS in addition to the weekly contact between them and Assigner **Bill Cook**
- The new group was formed by three current Members of SSBRA and one former Member, who started up the new organization, Pacific Coast Soccer Referees, apparently with the purpose of taking away SBS business from SSBRA

The Members had plenty to say, with **Gabriel Goldsman, Reggie Raleigh, Vince Delmonico, Rudy Chavez, Michael Hinz, Ralph Quiroz, Steve Brandon, Steve McCall**, Chris Nevil, **Mike Van Biezen**, Warren and others openly speaking their minds about the situation. Though SSBRA had a long history with SBS, and losing the league apparently had nothing to do with our performance or fees, all agreed that we should continue our efforts to constantly improve our services, and put the best product out there at as reasonable a price as possible.

Having talked out that subject, the meeting finally went on to other items. Chris Nevil promoted the Soccer Nation event in February. Bill Cook stated that, judging by our growth, customer comments and current reputation, SSBRA is still providing excellent service to the community. He would like to see referees report problems and bad conduct they see on the pitch more often, so that the Board can address any problems before they become issues. He also noted that the J-league and other city leagues will be starting soon.

**Larry Stern**, because of the late hour, then held an abbreviated training discussion, reminding us that to be a good referee, you must read the game: Don't be a rulebook with legs.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, January 15, 2013**

- Approved the application for Membership of **Robert Garcia**.
- Discussed poor showing of a referee at an informal observation
- Two South Bay Force tournaments are coming in July. We want to be able to cover them 100% with SSBRA Members
- Incident from 2 years ago and resulting lawsuit discussed

- SBS termination message discussed
- Financial review meeting was held with Tom Mallen, Steve Brandon and Warren Howell
- We have 2 fields the first week-end at State Cup
- No Cal South speaker in January, Larry will handle
- Training session scheduled for 1/19 was canceled

## **NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013 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 ASSOCIATION BUSINESS, NEWS ABOUT THE STATE AND NATIONAL CUP TOURNAMENTS, TRAINING AND OTHER EXCITING STUFF THAT CAN NOT BE DISCLOSED AT THIS TIME.**

### **Just Say No, and Then Don't Do It (from Referee magazine)**

**Don't fetch the ball.** As an assistant referee, your primary job is paying attention to the players and even a momentary redirection of your focus to a ball off the field — no matter how helpful you are trying to be — takes away from your responsibility to assist the referee (not the players). The referee is counting on you. Also, by retrieving or stopping the ball, you are making a quick restart easier for a team so, if you don't do that every time the ball leaves the field, you could be accused of favoring one team over the other. Save your energy for staying with the second-to-last defender and following the ball to the goal line.

### **SSBRA Financial Review Completed for 2011-2012**

On Jan 12, 2013 we met and discussed the Treasurer's reporting and the review of the financial data presented to the membership.

The discussion included compliance with the Not for Profit annual reporting and the need for any additional compliance that might be required. The annual short form reporting that we comply with is the full extent of the requirements for our organization. The annual 1099 reporting to the IRS is the only other regulated activity and we are also in compliance with this requirement.

Steve provided a flash drive containing the details from Quicken and Banking that has been reviewed independent of this meeting.

Bank reconciliations have been prepared consistently within 2-3 days of the month end statements. Monthly reporting has been distributed to the membership on a current basis.

Transaction detail for Membership, League Billing, Reconciliations and Reports are archived in PDF format and stored externally on a flash drive.

The detailed check register, Deposits and Disbursements (checks) was available in a spreadsheet format (Excel) for the period 7/1/10 through 6/30/12. 1,107 checks were processed for the FY 10-11 and 1,263 checks for FY 11-12.

Disbursement detail was sorted and reviewed for large items and the number of checks issued to individual members. This review verified that large 3<sup>rd</sup> party disbursements were for insurance, systems support and organizational items such as badges and meeting costs. The scheduler payments for tournaments and scheduling for leagues other than CSL are consistent with the disbursements to Members tournament disbursements.

The Treasurer is to be commended for the work that has been performed. Record keeping and reporting is in great shape and clear.

Tom Mallen

### **Fun-loving Spanish Referee Shows How to Have a Good Time (submitted by Lee Jordan)**

#### **A referee in Spain issued 19 red cards after a regional match degenerated into a mass brawl.**

Recreativo Linense were beating Saladillo Algesiras 1-0 in the regional first division of the southern province of Cadiz before referee **Jose Manuel Barro Escandon** stopped the match. Escandon had already issued one red card before a fight broke out between two players which escalated into a brawl involving several players from both teams and spectators who invaded the pitch. The referee stopped the match before fleeing to the safety of the changing rooms.

In his post-match report, he stated that he had sent off 19 players.

Linense coach **Sebastian Naranjo** said the red cards were unjustified: "After the altercation between **Francis and Aguilar**, there were no clashes. The players who intervened, and even the spectators, were just trying to see that things didn't get worse. I don't know what got into the guy [the referee]."

### **Let's Hope They Do Not Apply This Policy to the Large Member**

"The rules of soccer are very simple, basically it is this: if it moves, kick it. If it doesn't move, kick it until it does."  
- **Phil Woosnam**, Welsh football player and manager



Los Angeles Galaxy's **David Beckham** and **Jesse Marschgo** discuss the recent State Cup rain-outs

## **I Wonder if Obama Has Considered Doing the Same Here**

The teeming Honduran city of San Pedro Sula (site of a recent U.S. – Honduras World Cup qualifier) is the most violent in the world, according to the U.S. Department of State. Then there is the crowd at Estadio Olimpico Metropolitano, the country's largest sports venue and one the Honduran government assured would be packed by declaring a national holiday (for the game).

-News item

## **Quote of the Month**

"Life is too short for no Va-Voom!"

-Jan Eliot



No way are you getting this ball!

## **This Explains the Current President's Role at SSBRA Board Meetings**

"The left-brain-dominated people will misunderstand the right-brain-dominated people. You'll be the translator who helps everyone get along."

-recent horoscope

## **Five Reasons to Become a Soccer Referee**

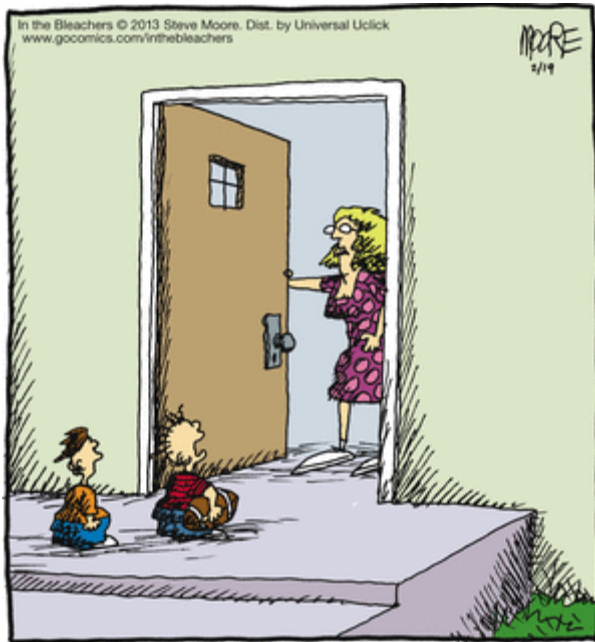
1. You love football, but can't quite understand the rules.
2. You have the strange desire to run aimlessly around in the wind, rain, hail and snow.
3. You love the sound of verbal abuse.
4. You find it hard to make decisions, and whenever you do, you're always wrong.
5. You enjoy changing your clothes in cattle sheds.

## **More Clarification May Be Needed Here**

"We didn't underestimate them. They were a lot better than we thought."

-- **Bobby Robson**

## Meanwhile, Back in the Other Football



"Hi, Mrs. Caves! Can Jeffy come out and get a concussion?"

## I Can Think of Some Coaches That This Could Apply To

"In his case, there seems to be no final answer to the question, 'How stupid can you get?'"  
- President **Dwight Eisenhower** 1954, referring to a Senator of the time