



L.B.S.R.A. Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 02 February 2012

Founded 1979

FROM LBSRA PRESIDENT

Good news for some of us at LBSRA we can take some time off and relax for the month of February. We will be starting up in March again with tournaments and leagues. From March we will be running the rest of the year with little rest in between. CLS spring league and SDCSL will be starting so every one will be busy.

State Cup will be going on until April for some of you. Make sure you are at the games in plenty of time to check in with the coordinators at the site where you will be officiating. Go out on the pitch as a team, work as a team thru out the game and leave the pitch as a team. Always make sure you know the rules and control the game. As we have said in the past talk to the players as a Center Referee or as the AR's. Be in control of your game, don't have a chip or an attitude problem if you do and we here about it you will not be asked to participate in any more State Cup games. Be at you best because you never know who is watching. I may even be there you never know. Please make sure you have all your compliance for this year in order. If you don't we will not be able to assign you games for the rest of the year until you can prove to Roy that you are registered and live scanned over 18 years of age. Read page 3.

If any LBSRA referees has any information they would like to share or if you have any questions please contact any member on the Board of Directors and we will be able to help you out.

To let all of LBSRA referees know LBSRA BOD decided not to bid or renew officiating the OCWSL this year. They have made an agreement with another association in Long Beach.

DON'T MISS THIS MONTHS MEETING WE WILL BE GIVING SOME PRIZES AWAY BUT YOU HAVE TO BE AT THE MEETING TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS. YOU MAY WALK OUT WITH SOME MONEY OR A DIFFERENT PRIZE?

Hint Golden check mark!!!!!!! That's what a _ _ _ _ _ is all about?????

Lbsra is moving forward in developing "mentor referee program" for referee's just joining lbsra of 1 year or less. This time frame is very crucial for referees in general to break into positive Referee culture. Basics needed to be done are: preparing doing assigned games. Reviewing game, league, or Tournament web page. Getting referee gear in place. Getting water, fluids, and snacks in order to keep hydrated and Nourished.

Showing on the field by at least 30 minutes. Meeting your fellow assigned referees for rapport and pre-game reasons. Stretch out, do physical warm-ups if possible, look excited being there, must have a good attitude in front of everyone.

Do not have a chip on your shoulder. Why be there if you are in a bad mood. Apply good gamesmanship with everyone. Work well with your referee partners.

Collect game fees if games pay on the field. Keep good track record what u were assigned for referee payment from lbsra treasurer.

Officiate the game, in good physical control; always call first fouls to avoid player confrontation.

Fill out required paperwork depending on the game or league itself.

lbsra is pleased to announce a.j. Patel , director of mentor referee program his past soccer administration experience and goal to become ussf state referee brings a lot of game field soccer officiating experience to all referees at lbsra.

he will organize a staff of field site mentor leaders to assist the above.

referees in general will have an opportunity to understand what aj's mentoring : room to grow philosophy is all about.

cal south state cup game younger's are going well with fields given to lbsra to assign. performing well for these young talented soccer players is highly appreciated. keep the good work out there for referees being assigned out there.

ardy saeidi and john Bonifacio is preparing list of grade 8 or 7 or 6 to be assigned their required 90 minute games for year 2013. process of getting their field site evaluations and field site assessments starts now, since getting 90 minute games is based on supply and demand.

lbsra hopes to get a lot of 90 minute games from cal south assignor, leo umana during month of April into early may 2012.

prepare for 3/3 and 3/4, youth tournament in city of orange areas.

prepare for 3/10 and 3/11, youth tournament in city of Anaheim areas.

always attend as many soccer cal south monthly meetings in year 2012. each referee is required 5 meetings total . so plan accordingly.

attend cal south soccer nation expo in los angeles : 2/25 and 2/26

soccer meeting is hosted from 8am to 5pm which credit will count towards your 5 meetings.

lots and lots of soccer folks will be there. lbsra new soccer fiscal year begins june-2012 \$85 are the yearly dues to be deducted from doing youth tournaments.

be prepared for 5/19 and 5/20th(Jusa chelsea) and 5/25 to 26th to 27th(massive Cerritos so. calif. infinity) memorial week-end.

regards from larry yee

In our busy days Ahead

As we are moving ahead into the first of the year there are many areas of commitment to make decisions as a referee.

- 1) Have I completed my registration?
- 2) Do I need to be Live Scanned this year (are you turning 18)?
- 3) Have I looked at the calendar for upcoming scheduling (CSL spring, and SCDSL spring leagues) to begin in March?
- 4) Do I know when the next tournaments are in March? (two are on the website www.lbsra.com)
- 5) Am I in good standing with my association?
- 6) Have I changed my address or phone numbers in the last few months and contacted Roy?
- 7) What grade will I be this year and how do I change and make that effort?
- 8) What am I doing to become a better referee? For example, asking questions, learning how to apply the Law's of the game, working well with others.
- 9) How many meetings will I attend and where will I obtain my required hours of instruction this year?
- 10) Can you get others involved with our association? LBSRA

LOYAL BELIEVERS STRONG RELIABLE ACHIEVERS
Long Beach Soccer Referee Association

Here is a date to become a new referee that is listed on the Cal South website. www.Calsouth.com

Grade 8 West Covina March 24 & 25, 2012	Edgewood Middle School, West Covina	Referee Class	3/24/2012 3/25/2012 Cal South Soccer
--	--	----------------------	---

There may be some dates sooner but are not listed as of now.

LBSRA depends on YOU to become the BEST, as we are today.

Your Board of Directors will continue to provide you the best service for you to be the BEST.

Yours to Serve, Roy Schwarzer, Secretary and Director of Recruiting

BOARD OFFICERS

LBSRA Board of Directors will hold office until May of next year 2012.

President /Newsletter
Vice President of Referee Operations/Assignor
Treasurer
Director of Administrative assistant & Human Resources/Referee Recruiting
Director of Instruction
Assessment Program/Assignor
Web Master /Assignor/Assistant Treasurer
Assignor
* Denotes Voting Board Member

Butch Renken *
Larry Yee *
Larry Taylor *
Roy Schwarzer *
Toros Kibritjian *
Ardy Saeidi
Lee Harmon
Mohammed Nikpour

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday AT 7:00PM
February 15, 2012

Grace First Presbyterian Church
3955 Studebaker Road Long Beach, CA 90808 Located at the in-
tersection of Studebaker Road & Los Coyotes, diagonal just
south of Carson Street

NEW CHECKS THIS COMING YEAR

To all Referees of LBSRA, as a board we have approved Lee Harmon as an assistant to help our treasurer Larry Taylor This will give LBSRA the ability to serve you more affectively by paying referees on the field @ tournaments or getting the monies to you sooner. The program will start immediately. Thank you for your patience in the past when things did not go as planned.

All checks after 1-25 will have a voucher, a check and a pay stub that the treasure can keep track of the transactions. You will have an easier way to check your games. All voucher would show games and amount paid for Center or Assistant Referee on the memo lines.

The Assessment corner

As we all know; from last month Larry Yee presentation, the year 2012 for Long Beach Soccer Referee Association will be very busy, therefore after this very good forecast ; been in charge of the Assessment program for the Association along with Ardy and Lee we decides to started early for the next Upgrading season . To do this we need your help, e list of potential candidates ready to be assessed has being send it to Ardy and Lee; in order for them to be ready when the High school it's over to start assigning on the 90 minutes regulation time games , and initiate the process of evaluating and training; so when the State has the Upgrade Clinic you will be ready to take the test.

We strongly suggest to all of you starting from grade 7 to grade 5 to seriously consider an upgrade.

This year, like the past year, the Board of the Association is committed to help out all the officials asking for an upgrade; therefore we are asking all of you let us know as soon as possible your intentions, in order to start giving all of the help available within the Association such as Mentoring and Evaluating.

We have the best mentoring program in the State headed Toros Kibritjan and also the best Crew of evaluators. During this time period before the upgrade clinic The mentoring program will start some weekly classes for all the officials to be upgraded.

By the time you finish these programs we can Assure that you will be ready for your upgrade, Last year we upgraded 26 referees , this year look like we will surpass that number. As I said before the Board of Directors is committed to keep this Association at the top of all the other Associations in Southern California.

Please contact as soon as possible your Assigners and let them know your intentions We are here to Help.

ardy.saeidi@gmail.com

socalreferee@gmail.com

johnbonifacio34@msn.com

Thank you
John Bonifacio
LBSRA Assessment program Coordinator

cal south youth approved youth tournaments for lbsra to service. 2012

Feb - March	State/National Cup Youngers
March	CSL Spring Starts
March	SCDSL Spring Starts
3/3 - 3/4	Orange Soccer Club - Mayors Cup
3/10 - 3/11	ASA/ASC California Spring Cup IX
April - May	State/National Cup Olders
5/19 - 5/20	Chelsea SC Champions Cup
5/26 - 5/28	Cerritos Memorial Challenge Cup
6/9 - 6/10	Copa Laguna
6/9 - 6/10	Saddleback Summer Classic
7/14 - 7/15	Canyon PSA Invitational
7/28 - 7/29	Cerritos Premier Cup
7/28 - 7/29	Pyramid Cup
8/4 - 8/5	Madrid Summer Fest (Wildoomar 2 fields)
8/11 - 8/12	ASA/ASC California Cup 2012
8/11 - 8/12	FC Long Beach Invitational
8/11 - 8/12	JUSA Friendship Tournament
8/18 - 8/19	Orange Classic
September	CSL Starts
September	SCDSL Starts
11/23 - 11/25	Surf Thanksgiving Tournament
11/24 - 11/25	Anaheim Thanksgiving
12/8 - 12/9	Canyon PSA Winter Cup
12/15 - 12/16	OC Tournament of Champions



Being Ready; Both on and Off the Field

Referees, it is now that time again where LBSRA has been graciously asked to cover multiple fields and venues at the Cal south State Cup fields. It is extremely important that we remember key traits that may help us look, feel, and act the part of a qualified referee. First on the list is the importance of staying cool, calm, and collected (the three C's). Balancing the three C's on the pitch helps us, as referees, maintain game control. Players, spectators and coaches look at us the police on the field, they inevitably learn from our behavior therefore an erratic referee can look for a chaotic match as the referee who is relaxed and humble can look forward to a match where players respect the referee and the game of soccer. Secondly, our organization and preparation is the first indicator to our audience how ready we appear to be. It has been brought up by many coordinators and is an issue that LBSRA referees must get rid of. Our bags and belongings must be kept together in an organized fashion, Cal south coordinators stress this the most and messy referees do not make Cal south, the association nor your self look professional. So as an ending note, it is important that we stay cool, calm and collected as well as arrive and leave in an orderly fashion to successfully fulfill the part of not only an USSF referee but an LBSRA referee.

Your Youth Referee Mentor Leader,
David Lyday
ymg@lbsra.com
562-292-8656

LBSRA Mentoring Program for new, and well, not so new officials

Welcome to the Largest Room in the World. The LBSRA mentoring program is here to support members in every facet of being a successful and happy soccer official. The goal of the mentoring program is simple; to build knowledge and foster learning through supportive meaningful expectations and communication. LBSRA believes in happy referees armed with confidence and knowledge to provide world class soccer officiating so that players, coaches and spectators can enjoy the "beautiful game".

You may be wondering what the Largest Room in the World is or how that has anything to do with LBSRA, or soccer or being an official. Well, how about you call me and let me know what you believe is the largest Room in the World? Call or write if you know, have a guess or just plain curious. I can be reached by phone or by email shown below.

See you out on the fields.

A J Patel
(714) 785-9207
chitti@cox.net

Look at the facts. We are an endangered species. More than half million of us worldwide; dying out like dinosaurs of a bygone age. Our demise is largely due to our own folly for we suffer the cruelty of human nature from the very people we help add sunshine into dull lives. We put up with insults, abuse, threats and assaults. We are spat upon, ridiculed, shot at, and sometimes murdered.

Trained experts in our field, we are the targets for the masses who protest, contest, accuse us of corruption, racism, being pawns of the mafia, power crazy despots, and worse.

No, we are not politicians. We are soccer referees.

According to verbal taunts from the touchlines we are the lowest form of human existence, illegitimate offspring of unmarried parents, fair game for insults and humiliation. Surely no intelligent person would want to be so despised by fellow citizens. So, why do we do it? Can we be so dumb? Are we all nuts?

Who are we? Doctors, engineers, teachers, lawyers, scientists, experts in our chosen occupations that demand personal commitment, study, hard work, formal training and responsibility. All require effective management and communication skills. Experience of life, maturity and integrity are other qualities evident whenever referees meet.

These are intelligent and successful people, hardly compatible with the "mental defectives" targeted by moronic verbal missiles launched from touchlines.

At pro-level they are also the most visible officials. The real heroes are the thousands of solitary guardians of discipline at grassroots level who have little chance of reaching the top. Such men and women, who devote a large slice of their lives in a referee's role, contribute an invaluable service to the community. So, why aren't we loved?

New recruits to refereeing soccer games face a steep learning curve. The rule book only scratches the surface of a real game; played at speed with tough physical contact between competing athletes. It delegates responsibilities and supreme powers to the referee. He is a complete judicial system on legs. He detects the crime, makes the arrest, deliberates as the jury, announces the verdict, passes sentence as the judge, and carries out execution - all in a split second - hundreds of times in 90 minutes. Some task!

With this job description a soccer referee needs the ability to think fast on his feet; make quality judgments and correct decisions in emotionally charged situations; plus streetwise wisdom to apply justice with tact and diplomacy. Hard experience of officiating many games at various levels hones the desired qualities for disciplined and fair interpretation of the rules of play on the field.

Reflecting on my own commitment to soccer, the questions flow. Why did I choose to officiate as a referee? Why have I exposed myself for years to the ever present atmosphere of grudging acceptance; to ridicule and humiliation; bearing the incessant verbal, and sometimes physical, abuse of players and fans; enduring the minimum of facilities, washing in buckets of icy water on a bleak winter's day?

Why have I devoted an important part of my life trying for perfection as an arbiter; working hard to achieve a good level of fitness; accepting the inconvenience of time away from home and career? Why? What was the purpose?

Next Page

Why do others indulge in a hobby where we blow whistles and wave tiny colored flags. Are they nuts, too? Is it for the money? How many have made a million as a soccer referee?

Common answers include "I do it for the love of the game." "I want to give something back." "I enjoy being involved."

For me it goes deeper than that. Yes, a major attraction was to be active inside the play, the next best thing to actually kicking the ball. I was part of the theater of sport, playing a role which was positive and satisfying.

But, I realize now that, during 25 years serving as an official on the field, I was hoping for a dream to come true - a dream where every soccer match is played to the highest ideals of fair play: where the players, guided by moral and physical disciplines written into wise rules, combine individual skills in an athletic ballet of spectacular movement and color; where they express emotions of excitement and joy for themselves and for those who watch.

I wanted to relive all of those wonderful moments of elation I felt as a boy with a ball at my feet.

In reality, every cynical foul, every attempt to cheat, every act of disrespect for the game and its disciplines, spoiled that dream; felt like a knife in my flesh, drawing blood and staining my vision of the purity of sport. I know that dream was naïve but, together with fellow referees, I tried to limit the degradation of a healthy sport by thoughtless players and fans who do not share my degree of passion.

Although my dream has rarely been realized I look back on my years as an active referee with satisfaction. I learned much about myself; about latent convictions; accepted responsibilities and developed attributes that served me well through life. In my own country, and many others in the six confederations of FIFA, I learned much about people and feel privileged to have met, and shared my love of a special sport, with a unique brotherhood of honest men and women from all walks of life.

An endangered species we might be but we'll never be extinct. We can never be replaced by robots, which could possibly impose the rules of play by computers. But without human heart judgment and streetwise justice our sport would become an arid emotional desert.

Referees will continue to rock on an emotional see-saw, one day ready to pack it all in, and then feeling an irresistible surge of adrenalin before the next match. It is an obsession which yields more satisfaction than frustration.

After this heart searching and mental agonizing I ask myself the final question, "Would you do it again?" Without hesitation I get the stupid answer "YES, SIR!"

OK, so I'm nuts, too!