

In Touch

South Coast Referee Association - Mission Viejo, California

The Presidents Whistle.....Ken Bruette



Special points of interest:

- Record number of games to SCRA this season
- Role of Assignor is difficult if referees are not timely with availability
- Referees **must** be on time—30 minutes before game start time.
- Youth Referees are doing a great job and taking on a heavy load

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Let me start by thanking all of you in getting the games covered to date! We have received a record number of games this season. We still have a month and a half to go with the heavy game schedule and this will include the League Cup games. Stay healthy and plan ahead so that we can continue to cover games with 3-person Referee teams.

The role of the Assignor is one of the most difficult positions a Referee Association has. The members want games, but the Assignor needs to wait for the availability emails to be received before the process of assignments can be started. This is why it's important for you to provide timely and accurate availability. No one likes to do double work and this is what happens when games are assigned based upon stated availability only to then have the Referee reject the game assignments. The Referee Code of Conduct re-

quires that Referees honor their commitments and this extends to your statement of availability. If you're not sure of your availability, let the Assignor know so you can be placed on the stand-by list.

For the 3rd straight newsletter, I report that we continue to have some Referees showing up "late" to games. On time is 30 minutes before game start time; not 10 minutes, not 15 minutes. Be fair to your colleagues so they are not left wondering whether the 3rd Referee is showing up or not and they need to get on the phone with the Assignor.

While at the field recently, I had a new member introduced to me who explained he's been a member of 3 other Referee Association's previously. SCRA was then complimented as the Association that has the overall friendliest and most supportive group of Referees to work with. This compli-

ment goes out to all of you and is one of the key drivers as to why we exist as an organization that grows stronger each day.

The active Referee headcount of SCRA has surpassed 250 with 100+ of them being Youth Referees. The reports coming back in are the Youth are doing an overall exceptional job! On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Youth Referees receive a sincere thank you for becoming a Referee and doing it well. All adult Referees should be especially alert to protecting our Youth Referees at all times from any sideline banter or player comments. I know of 2 cases where players received Cautions for dissent regarding Youth Assistant Referees.

I also want to welcome the recent AYSO Cross-over Referees. We hope you find the transition to be smooth and the organization supportive of your needs.

Instructor's Corner by Wally Fallman

Is there confusion out there?
Yes. On what you might ask?
Well, my observation is that Law XI continues to be troublesome to a few referees. And why?
What has changed? In a nutshell, NOTHING..... Law XI has the same elements that it has had for as long as I can remember. Now, all together..... They are:

1. Position of offensive player
2. Involvement in play

A player in an offside position (closer to the opponents goal line than the ball or not having 2 opponents closer (even with is OK) to the goal line when receiving a ball from a teammate. So much for position (item #1 above). During the pre-game, referees are to instruct their ARs that their position is even with the next to last defender or the ball, whichever is closer to the goal line. Any questions? Good. Now let's move on to item #2 above.

Involvement in play means:

1. Interfering with play, or

2. Gaining an advantage by being in an offside position, or
3. Interfering with an opponent

Interfering with play means playing or touching the ball passed or touched by a teammate. Gaining an advantage means being in the offside position and playing a ball that rebounds off a goal post, crossbar or an opponent. Interfering with an opponent means preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstruction the opponent's line of vision or movements OR making a gesture or movement which, in the opinion of the referee, deceives or distracts an opponent. These remarks are fairly straightforward. What becomes a little less clear is the FIFA Circular 987 (8/17/05) and the interpretation of some referees. Here's what the Circular says:

"A player in an offside position may be penalized before playing or touching the ball if, in the opinion of the referee, no other

teammate in an onside position has the opportunity to play the ball"

That means we don't let the offensive player, who is in the offside position run for 40 yards before we raise the flag for the offside. We DO, however, make the judgment that no other onside offensive player can get there. There is a lot of common sense in the law..... let's exhibit some with our calls. It is not an element of the law for the offside player to touch the ball played to him. Mere position and involvement IS required. There is a great presentation of the law at

<http://www.fifa.com/en/comp/index/0,2442,107252,00.html?comp=WYC&year=2005&articleid=107252>

For now, remember a few small things..... Offside law has not changed; use common sense; have fun on the pitch.....

SCRA Treasurer's Report by Jerry Zimmerle

Just a reminder, I'll have checks at the October meeting for those of you who did the Blues Cup tournament less fees for the first four weeks of the

CSL season to make it easier for everyone to balance out their dues. If you've already received a check, please deposit/cash it, so I can keep the books

up-to-date.

Blues Cup checks ready at October meeting

*Cash your checks...
.....Please!*

Coast Soccer League by Mike Benjamin, Referee Director

It was a good start to the 2005 Season. A few clarifications would seem to be needed:

1. Administrator and Coach Passes: In CYSA-S, all registered individuals who are not players or Referees are Administrators – this includes coaches. The only difference between a coach and a manager, team mom, etc. is that a coach's Pass will have his/her license level (E, D, C, B or A) near the top. Coach License numbers are not printed on the Pass. And coaches are often filling the position of both coach and manager – they do not need two Passes for this, the one is sufficient for both duties/titles.

2. Match Reports: Some Referees have not been giving copies of the match report back to the team. You MUST give a copy of the match report to each of the teams with at minimum: the score, and any cautions or send offs clearly marked for the proper individuals. The teams need these in order to accurately report their scores to CSL after their game. By not giving a copy to each team, the CSL Staff is caused unnecessary extra effort.

3. Player Pass confiscation: Player Passes must ONLY be confiscated in the case of VIOLENT CONDUCT or

ASSAULT (Referee or non-Referee). DO NOT pull a Player or Administrator Pass for any other reason. If you pull the Pass for either of those reasons, send the Pass along with a USSF Report to CYSA-S. Send the match report to CSL, but not the Pass.

4. USSF Reports: In addition to a Violent Conduct or Assault, you should complete and send in a USSF Report and Supplemental form (but no Member Pass) for Referee Abuse, Touchline Misconduct, or any injury that requires more than first aid. You can download the form to your computer from your CSL page or the US Soccer web site, then e-mail it to refreport@coastsoccer.com. That way both CYSA-S Disciplinary Committee and CSL will have it immediately.

After three weeks, most things are running well. There are a few squeaks that need to be oiled however:

A. Referees, no matter how tired they are or how quick they want to get off the field, under no circumstances may they have the teams sign the match reports prior to the game. The teams MUST NOT sign the report until the end of the game, and the Referee has completed the

report. Referees who are requiring teams to sign the report prior to the game are exceeding their authority, and infringing on the rights of the teams.

B. Only currently registered USSF Licensed Referees may be used on any CSL Match – except as a non-paid Club Linesman. (yes, this did happen over the weekend where a non-USSF Referee working an unaffiliated league game on a nearby field was asked by the two Referees present to "center" their game.)

C. Apparently some of the Referees have forgotten that they can not rescind a send off.

Thank you for what is warming up to be a very good season. Keep up the good work.

Re-Certification for Grade 7 & 8 Referee by Staff

The primary date for this is the October 4th General Meeting that will be held in the Multi-Purpose room.

Please bring your renewal form and a check for \$40. For those of you that can't make this date, a make-up date has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 1st at 7:00 pm at the Murray Center. This is the same night as the General Referee Meeting, but the Re-Certification will be held in

a separate room. Please email Wally Fallman at fallman@cox.net and let him know if you will be coming for the November 1st Make-up session.

Please note that if you are not 2006 USSF registered, you can not be assigned games after 01/01/06 until you are. **Attention all Youth Referees**, you also must re-certify if you have a 2005 badge (trained before 06/30/05). Lastly,

please note the renewal form asks for your game counts both as a Center and an Assistant Referee. We will have statements available at the meeting with your games to date for 2005 so you can count up your games.

The chart on page 4 summarizes the in-grade maintenance requirements and what is necessary to move up in grade level.

Checklist

- Forms completed in pen
- Bring pencil to take examination
- Check payable to SRC/RD for \$40
- Process takes 2 hours
- Will start promptly at 7:00pm

Upgrade and Maintenance Requirements for Referees

Grade	Test	Assessment	Training	Physical	Physical Requirements			
					Age	Distance in 12 minutes, meters	50 m dash, seconds	200 m dash, seconds
Entry Level as Grade 8	Yes - 75% score to pass	No	2-days	No	--	--	--	--
8	Annually - 75% score to pass	No	5-hrs ¹	No	--	--	--	--
8 to 7	Yes - 85% score to pass	Evaluation - U17 or higher full-length game	1-day	Yes	<38 38-45 >45	2200 2000 1800	9 9 9.5	40
7	Annually - 85% score to pass	No	1-day ²	Yes	<38 38-45 >45	2200 2000 1800	9 9 9.5	40
7 to 6	Yes - 75% score on State exam to pass	2 center and 1 AR assessment U17 or higher full-length game	2-days	Yes	<38 38-45 >45	2400 2200 2000	9 9 9	40
6	Annually - 75% score on State exam to pass	1 center assessment - U17 or higher full-length game	1-day ²	Yes	<38 38-45 >45	2400 2200 2000	9 9 9	40
6 to 5	Yes - 85% score on State exam to pass	2 center and 1 AR assessment U19 and amateur Div 1 full-length games	1-day	Yes	<38 38-45 >45	2400 2200 2000	9 9 9	40
5	Annually - 85% score on State exam to pass	1 center assessment - amateur Div 1 full-length game	1-day ²	Yes	<38 38-45 >45	2400 2200 2000	9 9 9	40
Notes								
1 - Attend training sessions at the monthly meetings 5 times a year.								
2 - Attend annual recertification training								

*South Coast Referee Association -
Mission Viejo, California*

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Reminder
General Meeting October 4th
Murray Community Center

September 6th, 2005 General Meeting Minutes *by Glen Powers*

The meeting at Murray Community Center was called to order at about 7:00 pm by President Ken Bruette. Attendance was approximately 40.

Introductions were made around the room.

2005 Coast Soccer League (CSL) books were distributed to all present, including the latest fee schedule.

A recommendation was made that SCRA's 10% commission on our fees be set aside each week and paid to the treasurer before year end. At matches, it is best to assure correct payment when received, and not leave the cash in your bag during the match.

It was noted that our next meeting (October 4) will have as its focus the 2006 referee recertification examination. For those unable to be present, we will have a make-up opportunity at the November meeting. In addition, other associations will be having the test at locations and on dates to be announced on our website. Bring your checkbook

and be ready to start out 2006 with your registration in place!

Wally Fallman provided some instruction, including updates from Mike Benjamin, CSL Referee Director. First, under no circumstances are we to have the teams sign the match report before the match. That is to be done only at the end of the game, after the referee has completed the report. Also, only currently registered, USSF-licensed referees may be used in any CSL match, except as a non-paid club linesman. Lastly, please be reminded that no referee can rescind a send off.

There's been a slight change in offside (effective July 1, 2005). A/Rs are suggested to wait for play on the ball to raise the flag. This doesn't mean the ball must be touched for the player to be violating the offside rule. It does mean that we must assure no other teammate in an onside position can play the ball. (Same as always.)

Mike Willmott (Assignor) extended thanks to all for the games covered

this summer and the first few weeks of the season. Remember, games are assigned on line at www.coastsoccer.com/referees. Call Mike for your USER ID (typically your last name) and PASSWORD (typically your first name) if you are unable to log on. When you do access it, be sure the personal information there is current. Treasurer Jerry Zimmerle distributed checks for work prior to the Blues Cup tournament. Other checks will be available at the October meeting, likely to be held at the Murray Center multipurpose room.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

The next SCRA general meeting is scheduled as usual for the first Tuesday in October (the 4th), 7:00 at the Murray Community Center in Mission Viejo. Members are reminded to bring their 2006 USSF Registration forms and a checkbook.

We're on the Web!

WWW.SCRAREFS.COM
