

Livermore Referee Association

Referee Calendar of Events



April 22nd LRA Meeting
May 4-5 State Cup Finals, Robertson Park Livermore
June 1st LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR 2002!
September 1st Fun Run, Pleasanton Middle School 7 PM
December 8th Fun Run Foothill High School 8AM

Meeting Agenda



April meeting: Livermore's own Doug Fields will be the guest speaker at our April LRA meeting. Doug will be speaking on the "Art of Refereeing". Doug is one of Livermore's most senior and experienced referees. Don't miss this opportunity to plow fields for valuable information that you can reap this fall! Our meetings begin at 7:00 PM at the Livermore Police Department's Community Room at 1110 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA. We especially want to invite our 17 brand new referees. Don't forget, refreshments will be served and door prizes awarded.

Feeling a little less lonely? I know why!

Our Entry-Level USSF Referee Training Clinic held during the last week of March was a great success. Under the excellent leadership of instructors, Michelle Kuiee and Duane Rueppel, LRA's first clinic of the year graduated seventeen new referees. Joining us on the pitch this fall will be: Trink Aines, Scott Boyd, Janaye Brown, Xavier Carbonel, Katie Dashner, Sridhar Duggiralon, Alex Fairclough, Gil Herbeck, Dion and Wesley Hock, Kyrie and Matthew Jessick, Paul Kline, Chloe Pennisi, Roy Shields, Katrina Viano, and Marla Watson. For those of you who track these things, the graduating class consists of 10 youngsters and 7 older with ages ranging from 11 to 42 years. **But don't despair! If you or someone you know missed the first class, we are having another !! Our second clinic will begin on May 3rd.** Ok, get your daytimers out. The clinic will be as follows: Friday, May 3rd from 7-10 PM, May 4th from 9-12 AM and 2-5 PM, May 5th from 2-5 PM, May 10th from 7-10 PM and May 11th from 9-12 AM. As before, the clinic will be held at the First Presbyterian Church (2nd floor above the library) in Livermore. If you know of potential referees, urge them to attend the clinic. Certified USSF Referee Instructors will be conducting the course through Cal. North referee Administration (CNRA), District 3. Anyone interested in signing up (if you have not done so already) or getting more information should contact John Hinton, 925-447-2031.



PROCRASTINATORS, THIS MESSAGE IS FOR YOU!



June 1, that's right - June 1 is the last day to get your registration in for the 2002 season. If you aren't registered by then, you can't do games when the season starts this fall! Last time we checked, fewer than half the refs who did games last year had registered for the upcoming year. I know it's \$25, but if you do five games we will reimburse you for it. NO EXCUSES now, get that registration in. You can even get the form online. Go to http://www.cnra.net/ftp.cnra.net/RegForm/regform_fillin.pdf, fill out the form and send it to the CNRA address on the form. Don't wait, do it tonight, the kids need you out there this fall.

**Thanks for
Saying "I Read It"
- Or Not**

In our last newsletter, I asked folks to send an email saying "I Read It" - just so we could get some sense of how large our readership actually is. I want to thank all 13 of you who responded. Gordon Krauter, a former editor of our newsletter, replied that the only time he heard anything back from the readership was when they were pointing out errors. I guess silence is golden! From this point forward, I'll interpret your silence as a resounding roar of approval for this publication and the efforts of its publisher, Bill Hoppes. (But don't be shy about suggesting what else you'd like to see).

John Hinton

**Hey, a question for
all you clever refs
out there.**



1. True or False:
All free kicks, with the exception of penalty kicks and kick offs, may be taken in any direction?
2. At an indirect free kick to his own team from within his own penalty area, the defender passes the ball back to his goalkeeper who is standing in his goal area so that he then may kick it upfield. Would you allow play to continue?
3. Define: Charging

Answer on page 5



Caution to Referees

Dave Jones, State Referee Administrator, recently passed along a caution from USSF to all Cal North referees about working matches that are unaffiliated - not OK'd by USSF. The ones that should be avoided at all costs are matches involving international teams that have not been approved by USSF. In particular, the Mexican Women's National Team is touring the US without authorization. Any registered referee who works one of these matches is subject to suspension. Several years ago, some District III referees were suspended for 2 years for working unaffiliated matches involving international teams.



April whistle Stop - John Hinton

Fortune Telling



Chuck Dewey led a discussion at our March LRS meeting on “Fortune Telling for Referees.” He suggested a lot of ways that we can better anticipate what might happen in order to avoid unpleasant surprises. A few of my favorites were:

- ☺ Get Information about teams on your upcoming match with referees who did their previous game. Awareness of star players, style of play, attitudes of coaches, sideline behavior, etc. can help you prevent problems from happening.
- ☺ Arrive early enough to observe the players, coaches, and parents during warmup. Look and listen for clues about attitudes, intensity, concentration, teamwork, complaints, etc.
- ☺ During play, look for mismatched opponents: fast vs. slow, big vs. small, brute vs. finesse, etc. these often become trouble spots where fouls arise in order to “even the playing field”.
- ☺ LISTEN TO WHAT IS BEING SAID. You shouldn’t respond to everything you hear, but you should always ask yourself “why is that being said?” comments by players, coaches, and spectators can give you insight into what is happening away from you, and help you locate trouble spots that need your close attention.



Hey Ref! What are you gonna do?

In last month’s column we had a situation where a player, tripping over his own feet, took down a forward on a breakaway towards the goal., The answer given was that in such a case there had been no foul, as the act was simply accidental or inadvertent. Most of the scenarios and answers given in this column come from Jim Allen’s “Ask the Ref” website, mainly because his answers are endorsed by USSF and I wouldn’t want to give you a bum steer. This scenario and response was taken from a question posed to Jim last September. A question posing pretty much the exact same scenario was posed to Jim during March and he answered that the appropriate call was a direct free kick. Your editor emailed Mr. Allen and said that he (the editor) was confused and would he please explain what was different about the September and March scenarios that made one a foul and the other not. Mr. Allen promptly responded, “Nothing at all different, other than that we have changed our minds about the nature of an “accidental” foul. Fair enough, so following is a repeat



of the scenario with the updated answer in its normal spot on page 4. (the editor)

1. Oh man, here we go! It's the 60th minute in this U14B game between the Titans and the Wolverines with the score tied 2-2. Although their boys are playing well, both coaches are a pain in the neck, griping, griping, and griping. You have already had a "quiet word" with the Titans coach. Right now you are trying to crank it up into overdrive because one of the Titans strikers has broken through the defense and is flying off with the ball. Only the Wolverine goalie, some forty yards away, remains between him and pay dirt. Hot on his heels is the Wolverine sweeper, his ears burning from just getting beat by this hotdog. You're right with them as the three of you thunder down the pitch. As you near the top of the PA the Wolverine goalie charges out of the goal to challenge for the ball, Out of the corner of your eye you can see the sideline rising up out of their lawn chairs in anticipation of some dynamite soccer. Then, the Wolverine sweeper stumbles and falls, as he goes down, his arm clips the striker's heel. The Titan striker goes down in a rolling heap, neatly taking out the legs of the Wolverine goalie. The ball, misses the goal and rolls harmlessly over the goal line. You've got three players down in a heap, and you can hear the Titans coach screaming "red card! red card!!". Hmmmm, let's make sure these boys are OK and then we can get on with the
2. It's your first "big game". It's a U12 boys competitive match between the Storm and the Pride and you have been looking forward to it for a couple of weeks. You've been at this awhile and the assignor is finally starting to give you more challenging matches. You really want this one to go right. You've been focusing on your mechanics and positioning and with about six minutes to go all appears to be going well. But the score is 0-0 and both these teams want to win. As play becomes more frantic, you can feel yourself tense. "Oh man, don't let me screw up!" The Pride have a throw-in near their own goal. As he takes the throw, the Pride fullback steps completely onto the field of play as he releases the ball. You spot it, as does your AR who immediately pops her flag. Before you can blow your whistle, a Storm striker darts forward to collect the throw-in, one-touches through the Pride defense and is into the PA cranking up for a shot. You turn and head towards play, extending your arms forward, calling out "Advantage" loudly and clearly. The Storm striker rips off a shot and the Pride goalie has no chance. You look over and can see the assignor and a couple of the more senior referees sitting in the ref tent watching the action. "Well" you think, "I wonder what they thought of that?"



Hey Ref, What are you gonna do?

- c. Direct Free Kick, perhaps a sendoff for denying an OGSO. By itself, the act of falling over something (dirt clod, boot, opponent or whatever) on the field of play is neither an unsafe nor an unfair action by the player who falls and thus trips or pushes an opponent. Unfortunately, under the Law, the referee must punish the result of the player's action -- not his "intention" or total lack thereof. All references to "intent" were removed from the Laws in 1997. In this case, a foul has been committed, whether unwitting or accidental or not, and it must be punished with the award of a direct free kick (*from Jim Allen's Ask the Ref website*).
2. Maybe how they are going to break the bad news to you. Advantage applies only to infringements of Law 12 (fouls and misconduct) and not to infringements of other Laws. For example, there can be no advantage during an offside situation, nor may advantage be applied in the case of an illegal throw-in that goes to an opponent. In this case the proper call should have been a throw-in for Storm (*from Section 5.6 Advantage, USSF advice to referee's 2001*)

Thanks to Jim Allen's "Ask the Ref" website

OK clever refs!! What was your answer?

1. True
2. No, the ball must leave the penalty area directly before it can be played again by a player of either team.
3. Charging: the initiation of contact with an opposing player. Not all charges are illegal.

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