

Livermore Referee Association



Referee Calendar of Events

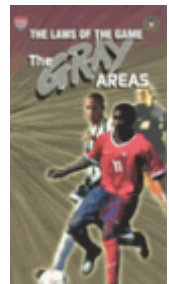


- January 27th Livermore Referee Association Meeting
- February 1-2nd CYSA Annual General Meeting, Sacramento
- February 24th Livermore Referee Association Meeting
- March 1, 2, 12, 19 LYSL Registration

Meeting Agenda

LRA Meeting February 24th

Confused? Don't quite know what to do out on the pitch sometimes? Troubled by some of those refereeing "gray areas". Well, help is here. We will show a new USSF video "The Gray Areas" prepared by the National Program for Referee Development. This video presentation addresses a number of principles and aspects of law and game management that may be vague or misunderstood by referees. The video is divided into four sections: what we need to play, mechanics of play, offside and crime and punishment. We also have some very hot topics to discuss (see John's "Whistle Stop immediately below") so this is a meeting you will not want to miss. As always, our fully catered meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Livermore Police Department's Community Room at 1110 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA.



I'M03RU?

It is not too early to register for the 2003 season. Avoid the last minute rush this summer. If you aren't registered by then, you can't do games when the season starts this fall! Don't forget that New Year's resolution to be more proactive. 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.d3ra.com/resources/how-to-renew.html> fill out the form and send it to the CNRA address on the form. Don't wait, do it tonight. You will sleep better for it!

Questions for the clever Refs!

1. True or false, if a PK must be retaken, the same player must take the kick.
2. Name the 3 criteria that define "dangerous play."
3. True or false, the shoulder is considered part of the hand.



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Whistle Stop - John Hinton

"What's Hot?"



There are a lot of "hot topics" coming up that will affect not only the makeup and conduct of the Livermore Referee Association, but will affect every single referee who officiates youth matches in Livermore. At January's LRA meeting, we will start discussing these, and making decisions that will shape the directions for the LRA in 2003. If you care about refereeing in Livermore, this is one meeting that you don't want to miss. Some of the "Hot Topics" on the agenda this month are:

- c. **LRA Performance:** How many matches do other referees do? How well did we cover the matches last year? Should you change your priorities about refereeing? Do we need to change our priorities in assigning referees? Should the LYSL limit or reduce the number of teams?
- d. **Referee Tree:** They don't grow on trees, do they? Well, sort of, but it's a different kind of tree. Where do referees come from? Come to our January meeting to find out, and discuss whether and how to change our "cultivation" techniques.
- e. **Pay Scale:** The reimbursement schedule for LRA referees has not changed in 5 years. How does ours compare with other D3 referees? Should we change it? To what? Would it be worth refereeing somewhere other than Livermore?
- f. **Age Limits:** The LRA has not previously had a minimum age for referees. We will this year. Why? Who will it affect? What does this mean for recruitment? Is it fair?
- g. **Recreational Referees:** Across District III this year training will be offered for USSF Grade 9 Recreational Referees. Grade 9 referees are eligible to officiate ONLY on younger recreational games. The training consists of a one-day, 8-hr class. Potential impacts for the LRA include dramatic increase in referee population, less well trained referees on younger recreational matches, improved coverage, and unknown effects on the size of our Grade 8 referee pool. What should LRA policies be regarding Grade 9 referees? How should we prepare for the potential impacts? What are other leagues doing?
- h. **Referee Development:** LRA offers a variety of opportunities for referees to improve. However, we continue to fall short of adequately qualified referees to cover our competitive matches, and get bombarded with complaints about the quality of referees on many recreational games. Is there something else we need to be doing to ensure the kids in our community can play under safe, fair, and fun conditions? More/better mentoring? More/better clinics? Different meeting times? More selective about assigning marginally qualified referees? Require D&G to referee higher level matches?
- i. **Assigning:** We've been adjusting our assignment processes gradually over the past few years. Big changes may be on the horizon. What will work for you? What won't?

If you care about any of these "hot topics", then you need to attend our next LRA meeting on Monday, 27 January from 7:00 – 8:30 at the Livermore Police Station Community Room. If you don't, then don't complain about how LRA changes (or doesn't) this year.

HELP!

We need your help! As you can see above, registration for the LYSL starts in March. We need volunteer referees to man the table and help recruit. This is one of the most important ways we get new refs for the upcoming season. If you can help, contact Brian Hufford at brihuff@yahoo.com



Hey Ref! What are you gonna do?

1. You've never worked with Sean before and you have trouble before the match even starts. The Cooperstown Referee Association made it clear at its last meeting that player safety was your paramount concern and that goal posts had to be anchored before a match could begin. Now Sean is the center ref and you are AR on this Saturday morning U14 Boys match between the Comets and the Wolves and on your pre-game inspection of the field you note that goal anchors are missing on both goals. Sean calls the coaches over and you get that same old song; "yeah the tie-downs have been missing all year, no other ref had a problem, we've been playing this way all season, it'll be ok". Sean tells the coach's to throw a couple of gym bags on the back of the nets and heads off to the center circle to call for captains. You run to catch up with him. "Sean" you call out "Those goals are unsafe. These are big kids and the goals are still too easy to tip. I recommend you hold up the game until they can find some real anchors." Sean gives you a pained look. "Come on! Everyone is here and ready to go. The goals will be ok. It's my call and we are going to play." The other AR gives you a shrug and heads off toward the center circle with Sean. You think, "This isn't right, we are asking for trouble." You.....
2. Finally! It's halftime. You just handled a potentially nasty little incident in this U16B match between the Comos and Ajax. You were on the spot when the redheaded Ajax mid-fielder, recklessly tackled the Comos forward. You apparently weren't quick enough as a teammate of the aggrieved forward came over to shove the redhead off. Two cautions, a minute or two of play, and a whistle later, you are sipping your Gatorade getting ready for the second half. "Let's see, we have cautions on #7 for Comos, and #13 for Ajax". Tom, your AR looks up. "What did you caution Brian for, did he give you some grief". You look at Tom, puzzled. "He's the one that pushed the red-head". No he wasn't, that was Bill." "Are you sure it was Bill, Brian didn't complain when I showed him the card." "I'm positive". "Rats! now what?"

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OK what was your answer Clever Refs?

1. False
2. The action must be dangerous to someone, it was committed with an opponent nearby, and the dangerous nature of the action caused this opponent to cease his active play for the ball.
3. True

From "Advice to Referees"



ARTICLE

Referee Recognitions

Many LRA referees contribute a tremendous amount as referees to youth soccer. The efforts of each and every one who steps onto the pitch as an official is greatly appreciated. Each year, we recognize a few that stand out for exceptional accomplishments – both to thank them for their service “above and beyond the call of duty”, and so that they can serve as examples for the rest of us. The referees that received special recognition for 2002 were announced at the December LRA meeting:



Male Youth Referee of the Year – Jim Hufford: Jim’s enthusiasm, technique, and enjoyment of refereeing serve as a great example not only for young referees across Livermore and District III, but for all of us.

Jim Hufford working the State Cup. January 18, 2003

Finalists for Male Youth Referee of the Year – Robert Beams, Bill L. Hoppes, Joe Ortega: The performance, desire, and work ethic of these young referees made the selection of Jim the toughest in memory. Their contributions are not confined to Livermore – each has been asked to referee in post-season tournaments by the District III Referee Committee.



*Bill L. Hoppes, State Cup, January 18, 2003.
U13G DeAnza vs. Mustang. Kellman Park*

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Female Youth Referee of the Year – Samantha Moos: Samantha also edged to the top of a group of extraordinary young ladies with her superb mechanics, air of authority, and calm decision-making in tough challenges.

Finalists for Female Youth Referee of the Year – Marissa Dayton, Katie Gazzuolo, Kristy Lyons: The selection of a single representative for Livermore from among this group was as tough as for the boys. The performance of this entire group of young ladies has been “wowing” top referees, referee administrators, coaches, and teams in post- season competition. They can go as far in refereeing as they desire.

Adult Referee of the Year - Van Henson: Van earned this recognition for his outstanding accomplishments in on-field performance as a referee (earning Grade 7 this 3rd year of his ‘career’), his off-field service to the LRA (stepping up to run the organization during the President’s extended absence), and his drive to excel as a referee (staying focused through serious physical hardships). If you ever need inspiration (or humor), look to Van.

Most Improved Female Youth Referee – Kristy Lyons: During her previous rookie season, Kristy established herself as an enthusiastic referee willing to take on hard challenges during (like stepping into the center with confidence). This year, she coupled that gutsiness with continuous technical improvement to emerge as one of the most promising up-and-coming young lady referees in District I I I .

Most Improved Male Youth Referee – Robert Beams: Robert is quite simply the most enthusiastic and eager-to-learn referee that Livermore has. This year, his hard work paid off with tremendous improvement in the maturity and skill level of his officiating. If he keeps this up, we’ll be watching him referee on TV some day.

Most Improved Adult Referee – David Bunch: David’s enthusiasm and hard work really paid off this year, with continuous and very noticeable improvement throughout the year in his game management skills, field positioning, mechanics, and fitness. And he accomplished it all with an unwavering smile!

Female Rookie Youth Referee of the Year – Kyrie Jessick: Kyrie quietly earned recognition this year as a very solid Assistant Referee on House matches at Christensen and Altamont. By the season’s end, she had improved to the level of earning assignments on highly competitive AC matches. On post-season Association Cup matches, Kyrie received glowing reviews from the most senior referees in District.



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Male Rookie Youth Referee of the Year – Michael Beigarten: Michael edged to the top of a extremely strong group of 1st-year male referees (which included his younger brother, John). Michael distinguished himself as an extraordinary competent AR on not only highly competitive matches, but in matches with players older than him. His performance earned him a coveted assignment on State Cup matches during his rookie year – a rare accomplishment.

Adult Rookie Referee of the Year – Stefan Hallgren: Stefan displayed a surprising level of confidence and maturity as a referee during his inaugural season. He not only performed solidly as AR hi-competition U14-B matches, but also in his center assignments. His performance also earned him rare rookie assignments to State Cup matches.

Most Active Youth Referee – Robert Beams: This kid's an absolute workhorse, taking 81 match assignments in Livermore. He was also a highly valued resource across district, refereeing in tournaments in Pleasanton, Fremont, and San Ramon.

Most Active Adult Referee – Bill G. Hoppes: For the first time in memory, the most active referee in Livermore was an adult, rather than a youth. Bill's youthful enthusiasm and stamina enabled him to accept (and excel at) 100 (yes, one hundred) match assignments in Livermore. And he did all this while still enjoying his 2 sons play on separate teams! LRA owes a huge **THANK YOU** not only to Bill, but also to his wife Tanya for contributing so much of his time to youth soccer in Livermore.



-John Hinton



Hey, Ref! What about the push??



Answers to: *Hey Ref, What are you gonna do?*

1. Run to catch up. From a strictly refereeing point of view, both Law 5 and our own Guide to Procedures place the responsibility for declaring the field/ball/goals/equipment safe or unsafe squarely on the referee. If the AR disagrees, this is no different in any fundamental way from the AR disagreeing with any other decision of the referee. Even if, for example, the AR believes the referee is so incorrectly calling fouls and misconduct that the game is in danger of resulting in “grave disorder”! If an AR believes the referee is making incorrect decisions about anything, decisions which are egregiously contrary to the Law, the AR must do everything possible to ensure that the referee is aware of it. Would we suggest that the AR remove himself from the game and walk off? Certainly not! In this case of an unsafe goal that does not meet the requirements of Law 1, the AR should clearly and explicitly inform the referee that there is a safety issue that must be dealt with. If the referee still refuses to have the situation remedied, the AR should work the game and then write his own report and/or contact the assignor or referee association responsible for the assignment and provide the necessary information — and then decline to accept games with this referee in the future.
2. Play on! Once play had been restarted the caution to Brian may not be revoked, nor may the referee then card Bill. The caution issued to Brian must stand. The referee must include a full report of the situation in his match report.

Thanks to Jim Allen’s “Ask the Ref” website

On the Field

As an occasional feature, we present game situations that call for applying the laws and the “spirit of the game”. These are often some of the toughest calls a referee has to make. We ask a few of our more seasoned referees to evaluate a following situation, tell us how they would handle it and why. *Disclaimer: This exercise is for entertainment purposes only and reflects only the opinions of the referees themselves. It does not, in any way, constitute official guidance from anybody. That only comes from certified USSF instructors.*

What is an aspect of your “referee game” that you want to improve on next season? Why? and how do you plan to go about doing it?



This is what I plan to do!

I know I need to improve my ability to see elbows and other close-in body fouls. I see them better from the sideline than I do on the field. There are a few things I will try to do to improve on this. The first is to pay close attention to my positioning. I will try to avoid being directly to the side of the players involved in the action and attempt to get a better angle. I also feel that while I am on the field I focus too much on the feet near the ball and not enough on the entire player. I will pay more attention to the entire player, and try not to be too close to the action, I find that I see more if I move back a little farther from the action.

-David Bunch (*David is LRA's most improved adult ref for 2002*)

I want to improve my confidence in my center refereeing. As in "selling" calls and being in good position. This will make me a better ref and make me able to center at higher age groups and levels. My plan is to try hard in lower levels and ages to get the hang of it. Then, I want to get more experience in officiating the tougher games.

-Marissa Dayton (*Marissa was one of LRA youth refs at the recent State Cup round*)

Annual CYSA Equipment Show and Annual General Meeting

This always excellent event will be held in Sacramento on Saturday, 1 February. Features of interest include several referee workshops: Advanced Referee Clinic, Refereeing U6-U12 Players, and Youth Referee Forum. Details can be found at http://www.cysanorth.org/AGM/equipment_show_agm.htm. In years past, this has been a fun and informative day trip, and LRA has always been well represented. If enough folks are interested, we can discuss carpooling at the January LRA meeting.



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|----------------|----------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| President | John Hinton | 447-2031 | hintonref@attbi.com |
| Vice-President | Van Henson | 606-7180 | henson5@lra.org |
| Treasurer | Bob Dashner | 294-8623 | webmaster@livermorerefs.org |
| Secretary | William Hoppes | 606-7986 | hoppes1@earthlink.net |
| LYSL Rep. | Brian Hufford | 373-7952 | brihuff@yahoo.com |
| Assignor | John Hinton | 447-2031 | hintonref@attbi.com |
| Webmaster | Bob Dashner | 294-8623 | webmaster@livermorerefs.org |

