

Livermore Referee Association

Referee Calendar of Events



March 28 th	Livermore Referee Association Meeting
April 2-3 rd	State Cup Olders - Livermore
April 9-10 th	State Cup Olders - Livermore
April 11-22 nd	Grade 8 Clinic, Livermore (6-nights)
April 25 th	Livermore Referee Association Meeting

Meeting Agenda

Don't miss the monthly meeting on March 8th. FIFA Referee Kari Seitz to speak at this meeting!

For the second consecutive month, the Livermore Referee Association will have a VERY distinguished speaker for our monthly meeting! I invite you especially to our monthly meeting on March 28. KARI SEITZ will be our featured speaker! Kari, a FIFA referee, has distinguished herself through a very high-profile career that includes top assignments in the 1999 and 2003 Women's World Cup (including centering a 2003 quarterfinal match), the 2004 Olympic Games (centering the Bronze Medal match), as well as many other important international assignments. She has worked in the MLS and WUSA and was named WUSA Referee of the Year in 2003. Having just returned from officiating in the 2005 Algarve Cup in Portugal (where she participated in the first FIFA Women's Referee Seminar), Kari has not yet announced her topic. However, it is certain to be of great interest. As one of the world's top level referees, and surely one of the very best female referees in the world, Kari can readily discuss her experiences, lessons from international

competition, mentoring and developing referees, refereeing the women's game, the experience of a woman refereeing top-level men's games, and countless other topics. Whatever she selects, be sure to bring your questions on any other topic. Kari is a great extemporaneous speaker, too!

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. We especially encourage our new referee's to attend.



Questions for the clever Refs!

1. If a player leaves the field to correct his equipment (with permission), when may he re-enter the field?
2. True or false: except for the dropped ball, once the ball is in play from a restart, the player restarting may not touch the ball a second time until it is touched by another player.
3. True or false: when a ball enters the goal from a throw-in, the throw-in must be retaken.

Answers on page 3



From the Touchline

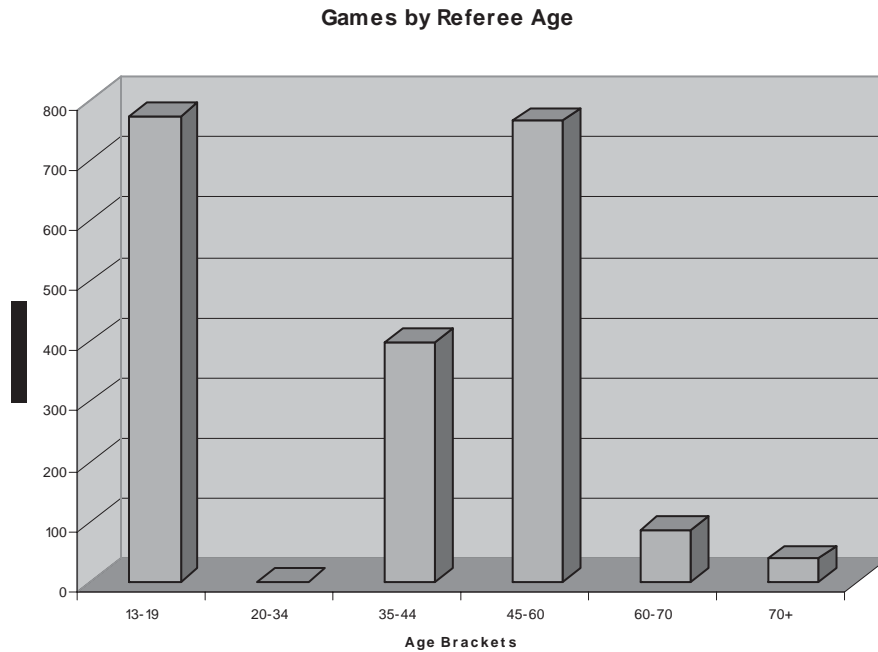


Where will we get the referees?

-Van Emden Henson

Recently, the LRA officers asked the question, "Who is refereeing our games today, and who is going to referee them tomorrow? The answers, it turns out, are rather alarming.

A chart illustrate the problem rather clearly. It shows how many slots were covered by LRA referees last season, and the age of the referees that covered the slots.



What it shows, quite clearly, is that the vast majority of the slots were covered by referees that were either between 13 and 19 years old or were between 45 and 60 years old. What is alarming about this is that, well, neither group has much longevity left- the kids will graduate from high school, go off to college, or simply lose interest. The oldsters, on the other hand, are, well, old. And infirm. (Some are half-blind.) Their age is catching up with them.

The reason for that coverage pattern is that it reflects the distribution of active referees in the LRA. We have 41 referees between 13 and 19, who covered an average of 19 slots each. We have 30 referees between 45 and 60, who covered an average of 25 slots each. 28 slots each were covered by the 14 referees between 35 and 44, and our senior contingent of three referees over 60 (including one over 70) averaged about 40 slots each!



Most telling, of course, is the number of slots covered by referees between 20 and 35 years of age – exactly *zero*! This is because that is the number of active referees we have in that age range- none! With the kids heading off to college and the old fogies getting ever more ancient, this statistic is nothing less than a crisis looming on the horizon.

Taking note of the problem, the LRA and LYSL are hard at work developing a plan to address the crisis by targeting the young adults we so badly need for recruitment. In essence, we're going to go after the U8 parents, and extend that to the U6 parents next year. The idea is that if we start them out as referees doing U6 and U8 games, by the time their kids move up to U10 and U12 we will have a corps of seasoned Grade 9 referees ready to make the transition to Grade 8 and enter the house and high-comp leagues. With several years of experience, they will be less susceptible to burn-out from parental and coach abuse, and they will have some experience at managing sidelines and players.

The details of the program are being hammered out between LYSL and LRA, but the main ingredients include trying to recruit Grade 9 referees from every U8 team, giving them incentives in the form of reimbursing their kids' LYSL registration fees if they work enough games, and a strong mentoring program by LRA senior referees.

Stay tuned for details, and don't be surprised if you get asked to pitch in by mentoring these Grade 9s and by occasionally doing a U8 game so they can see more experienced referees at work.

With luck, we'll get replacements before all the old guys croak!



OK what was your answer,

1. Only at a stoppage in play, after the referee has checked his equipment and given him permission to re-enter (Law 4).
2. True
3. False - A goal cannot be scored from a throw-in. The game is restarted with a goal kick.

From the Ken Aston website and Jim Allen's "Ask the Ref" website



Livermore Referee Association announces first two referee clinics for 2005

LRA has scheduled both a Grade 8 and a Grade 9 clinic. If you know of potential candidates, please pass along this information. The LRA and LYSL both *strongly* recommend the Grade 8 course over the Grade 9 course for anyone who wishes to referee on a regular basis above the U10 house level. Although the Grade 9 badge authorizes house games to U14, it is our belief that the Grade 9 course is too abbreviated to provide a solid grounding for regular work at the U12 & U14 age groups. We feel this is especially true for youth referees!

Here is the detailed information on the upcoming clinics

Grade 8 Referee Clinic – Instructors: Van Emden Henson and William G. Hoppes

Grade 8 Referees are authorized to be Referee or Assistant Referee on either house games or High Comp games at all age levels. The Grade 8 clinic comprises 18 hours of instruction, including 12 hours of classroom instruction, a 3-hour field session, and a 3-hour session of review and the written examination on the rules. There is a \$25 USSF registration fee, which LRA will refund to the graduates of the clinic after they have officiated five games for the league (details below).

Dates & Times:

Monday, April 11, 6-9:30 pm, 3.5 hours, classroom

Tuesday, April 12, 6-9:30 pm, 3.5 hours, classroom

Wednesday, April 13, 6-9:30 pm, 3.5 hours, classroom

Tuesday, April 19, 6-9:30 pm, 3.5 hours, classroom

Wednesday, April 20, 6-9:00 pm, 3.0 hours, field session

Friday, April 22, 6-9:00 pm, 3.0 hours, review and test



The classroom sessions will be held at the TriValley Church of Christ, 4481 East Avenue in Livermore.

The class is limited to no more than 35 students. There is no fee for taking the course. However, USSF requires a \$25 annual registration fee for Grade 8 referees. To register and hold a place in the class, we require a \$25 non-refundable fee, which, upon completion of the course, will be used to pay the USSF referee registration. If the referee goes on to officiate at least 5 matches during the season, LRA will reimburse the referee the \$25 registration fee (LRA continues to reimburse referees their registration fee each year thereafter, although after the first year ten games must be officiated to obtain the reimbursement).



Livermore has a new Referee Instructor

The Livermore Referee Association is proud to announce that William G. Hoppes has joined the ranks of our corps of referee instructors! Bill-the-Dad, as he is known throughout Livermore referee circles (and throughout the Hoppes household, to distinguish him from Bill-the-Kid), is a Grade 7 referee, and has been for several years the annual LRA leader in games refereed, although he relinquished that title this past season.

Bill took the introductory Instructor's course March 18-20, and, according to a report from District III Director of Instruction Michael Lance, really distinguished himself in the presentations that he made as part of the course. Having passed the course, Bill is now a Provisional Associate Referee Instructor, and will begin instructing in April, when he will be one of the instructors assigned to Livermore's Grade 8 course.

Next time you run into Bill, give him a hearty handshake! He's taking on the critical task of ensuring that we have a steady stream of new referees to cover our games. Great job, Bill!

-Van Henson

Hey Ref! What are you gonna do?

1. Can it come down any harder? You are AR1 on the rain-soaked U17B match between the Chivas and the Comets. You've already slipped and fallen once and are gingerly squishing your way down the touchline as the Comets build an attack. There's an attempt at a clear, headed toward the opposite touchline, and a Chivas defender and Comets forward are racing after it. They don't make it in time, but as the ball goes out of touch the Chivas defender slips, falls, and in a water spectacular reminiscent of Cypress Gardens, ends up colliding with a pile of soccer bags and assorted equipment. Eager to take advantage, the Comet forward sends a throw-in back to a teammate who passes the ball back to him. You peer through the mist. Hey, there is no one between him and the goal except the keeper. Well, that's offside, except, hmmm.....the Chivas defender still extricating himself from the equipment pile. He's still behind him, but the defender is way off the field. The attacker is heading goal ward. If you are going to do something, you better do it now.....
2. Can't this coach take a hint? There's a minute to go in this U12G match between the Storm and the Cheetahs. The Storm are up by one and this coach is trying to run out the time by subbing at every chance. But you have a rule, no subbing in the last two minutes except for injury. Here he is, at it again, the player is at the midfield line, calling for a sub and even your AR is signaling. Well at least they've learning to do it right. As patiently as you can you call out "No subbing, there's only one minute left." If this coach keeps this up you may caution him for dissent. You are going to have a talk with this AR too. She should be backing you up, not keep signaling. Right after the game you will.....

Answers on page 8



Annals of a Sloppy Referee

by
Mediocre Dull Fred

Editors note. Nobody really knows who Mediocre D. Fred is. But he keeps sending us tales of his exploits, and we generally find there is something to learn from him, so we just keep on printing them.

Well, I had a pretty good day today. I managed to save one of the referees in town from some *serious* embarrassment, and thats always good, although he didnt really appreciate it. I was AR1 on a U14 match, and early in the second half I found myself down deep in the corner as the ball went over the goal line for a corner kick on the far side of the field. I was watching carefully. The Eagles were taking the kick, and Jimmy, (Eagles number 12) had the ball down in place, ready to take the kick, when Will (Eagles player number 6) shouted out, "Im taking the kick, Jimmy!" At that, Jimmy, looking none too happy to have the kick taken from him, kicked the ball over Will, who was jogging over to the corner to take the kick. Will kicked it back down into the corner, where Jimmy stopped it and left it for the corner kick. Will stood over the ball, looked about, then kicked the ball out of the corner, ran after it, and began to dribble it. I thought, "What a well-executed corner kick! I think they really fooled the other team." But then, "Tweeeeeet!" Edgar, the referee, has stopped the play, calling it a "second touch" on Will, and is indicating that the restart would be an IFK to the Cobras!

I had to get his attention, so I yelled out to him, "Edgar! It was a legal corner-kick! You cant call a second touch! There was nothing wrong with that play!" I really had to shout it out so he could hear me clear across the field, but I got his attention and he must have realized what was going on. All the Eagles players were shouting at him, too, so I was sure he would realize what was going on now. But he didnt seem sure about what to do. I thought he was going to order the corner-kick retaken, so I yelled out to him that the correct restart for an erroneous stoppage by the referee is a dropped ball. And he did restart the game that way.

The rest of the game was ok, except Edgar seemed to struggle all the rest of the way. For some reason, all the boys started arguing with just about every call, which they hadnt done in the first half. Well, who knows what sets boys off?

After the game, though, instead of thanking me for saving him from a pretty embarrassing mistake, Edgar was actually mad at me! He said that he had seen the pass in to Will and back to Jimmy, but had elected to honor the verbal exchange between the two. When Will yelled out that he would take the kick, Edgar decided that the play would not start until Will took the corner kick, and that anything before then was occurring with the ball dead! In fact, he said his other choice would be to caution Will or Jimmy for unsporting behavior for trying to deceive the opponents! But then he changed his mind when everybody started yelling, and he blamed that on me for pointing out his error! Youd think hed be grateful for my catching his mistake! Some people!



This announcement from the San Jose Earthquakes:

The San Jose Earthquakes Referee Package is Back for 2005!

The Earthquakes are pleased to announce the "Referee Package" has returned for the 2005 season. The package includes a ticket to Five (5) selected Quakes matches in which MLS Match officials will provide helpful refereeing hints, an evaluation of their performance and answer questions from referee package holders. The program is endorsed by Cal North Referees Administration and the U.S. Soccer Federation, your participation counts towards in-service hours.

Cost is just \$80. The games are listed below:

Saturday, April 23	KC WIZARDS	7pm
Saturday, May 14	FC DALLAS	7pm
Saturday, June 18	REAL SALT LAKE	7pm
Saturday, July 23	METROSTARS	7pm
Saturday, August 13	COLORADO RAPIDS	7pm



To order contact Nicholas Harmelin at (408) 288-2657 . You may also download the attached order form, fill in your details, and fax (408)288-2660, or mail (100 N. Almaden Ave. San Jose, CA 95110) the flyer back to the Earthquakes Office. Space is limited.

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Quick Soccer Facts

- Originated generally in its present form in Britain.
- Worlds oldest club formed in 1857 is Sheffield FC.
- Called football in practically every country except America, who call 'Grid Iron' football and football soccer
- Famous rivalries include the Old Firm (Scotland), Manchester derby, London derbies, Milan derby, Real vs Barcelona, and many more.
- Some famous players: Pele, Maradonna, Charlton, Eusebio, Cruyff, Dalglish, Ronaldo, Beckham, Mattheus



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

1. Keep the flag down. This quote from the USSF publication "Advice to Referees on the Laws of the Game" (Advice 11.11) should be of help: "A defender who leaves the field during the course of play and does not immediately return must still be considered in determining where the second to last defender is for the purpose of judging which attackers are in an offside position. Such a defender is considered to be on the touchline or goal line closest to his or her off-field position. A defender who leaves the field with the referee's permission (and who thus requires the referee's permission to return) is not included in determining offside position." This defender left the field legally, during the course of play. Unless the referee decides that this defender is seriously injured, in which case play must be stopped for treatment, the defender must be counted as being on the field.
2. Re-read the laws of the game. The referee has no authority to refuse a team the right to substitute players.

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



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