

Livermore Referee Association

Referee Calendar of Events



November 28 th	No Meeting this month
December 3-4 th	District Cup
December 12 th	Annual Pizza Blow out
January 23 rd	Livermore Referee Association Meeting

Meeting Agenda

Get Ready for the Annual Pizza Blowout!



Enjoy your turkey! We are not going to have a regular monthly meeting on Monday November 28th. Instead we will just wrap it all up into our annual Pizza Blowout. The LRA annual pizza blowout is upon us. Our annual meeting will be on December 12th at 6:30 PM at Mountain Mike's at 1301 First St. (at the intersection with Railroad) in Livermore. That's where we had it last year. The pizza and soft drinks are on the Association, so how can you beat a deal like that. This is the meeting where we review the ups and downs of the past season; the thrills of victory and the agonistes of the feet. This is the meeting where we recognize our outstanding and most improved referees, youth and adult, rookie and veteran. We also use this meeting to elect our Association officers for the coming year. We always have a great time, and if you have done 1 game or 100 we want you there.



FairPlay is out

The November edition of FairPlay is out for your reading pleasure. You can access on online version at:
<http://www.d3refs.com/pdf/FairPlayVol15.pdf>





From the Touchline

From the President: movin' on...

by Van Emden Henson

It is with very mixed emotions that I announce that I will not seek, nor will I accept, another term as President of the Livermore Referee Association. I have been President for two years; I served as Vice President for two years before that. During my second year as Vice President John Hinton, the President, was assigned by his employer to a station in Washington DC and I spent most of that year as Acting President. Essentially, then, I've been President for three years. For the past three years I have also been heavily involved in assigning, first three years ago as John Hinton's Deputy Assignor, and the past two years as primary Assignor for the club.

Throughout that time the rest of the LRA leadership has remained constant, and I want to acknowledge the contributions of those team members and thank them all profusely for their help: David Bunch has served capably as Vice President, providing advice, ideas, and standing in for me on occasions. Bill Hoppes has been a terrific Secretary, and has produced, month after month, the exceptionally high-caliber and widely-read LRA Newsletter (a publication that has been copied in form and substance by a number of other associations in the state). Bob Dashner has provided fiscal oversight as Treasurer, developing the annual budget and overseeing our expenditures (i.e., keeping us all out of jail). More familiar (and more important) to most of us, Bob has served as paymaster, and over the past two years revolutionized our payroll system from the chaos he inherited to the accurate, dependable, and timely system we now know. Brian Hufford has served extremely well as our liaison to the LYSL, and has aided greatly in our communication with the league, coaches, and parents. John Hinton, my immediate predecessor, has always been available with sage advice and a willingness to pitch in and help wherever and whenever needed. Duane Rueppel serves the District III referees as representative on the Disciplinary Committee.

The newest (and arguably most important) member of the club leadership is Tanya Hoppes, who stepped in last year as Deputy Assignor. As this year unfolded, Tanya has taken on more and more of the burden, and now I think we all pretty much recognize that Tanya has become, de facto, the primary assignor in Livermore. She insists that she and I are sharing the job pretty equally, but I think her equal half is, well, more *equal*, than my equal half. I do know she has been heaven-sent to the LRA.



Livermore Referee Association





I am exceptionally proud of the record that this leadership team has produced in the past three years in Livermore. Some of the highlights include:

- Our mentoring program is extremely active, both among adults and among youth referees. We were the first club to recognize the Mentor as a slot as important as Referee and AR and to assign and pay Mentors equally with the other slots.
- We have fed a steady stream of highly qualified youth into the District III Youth Referee Development Program; in addition, we have provided a lot of mentoring of youth District-wide as part of the program.
- Jim Hufford was named State Young Referee of the Year in 2004.
- Samantha Moos was named State Young Referee of the Year in 2005.
- We sent 2 referees to the Far West Regionals in 2004.
- We sent 4 referees (three youth!) to the Far West Regionals in 2005 (that is more than any other club in the State).
- Over the past two years, three LRA youth referees (Jim Hufford, Samantha Moos, and Susie Gazzoulo) were selected to center State Cup finals. Sam Hoppes was assigned to a line on a final, and I was assigned as 4th official on two finals.
- In the past two years, four LRA referees upgraded to State Referee (Grade 6): Robert Fairclough, Van Henson, John Hinton, and Peter Kit. (We had no Grade 6 referees three years ago, though we have for some time had Duane Ruepple, a State Referee Emeritus).
- In the past three years, nine referees upgraded to Grade 7: David Bunch, Van Henson, Gil Herbeck, William G. Hoppes, William L. Hoppes, Jim Hufford, Peter Kit, Samantha Moos, and Bill Russett, joining Bob Dashner, Robert Fairclough (now 6), Michelle Kuiee, John Hinton (now 6), and Mike Wallace, our pre-existing active Grade 7 referees.
- In the past three years we had two people become instructors (Van Henson and Bill Hoppes) and both have become very active in teaching classes throughout the District.
- In 2004 we had two people become assessors (Van Henson and Doug Fields), joining Ken Mitchell, Livermore's State Assessor, all are heavily involved in the assessing program in the District.
- We have maintained, or slightly increased, the number of referees in Livermore. This year, for example, we minted 35 new Grade 8 referees, 10 new Grade 9s, and upgraded 4 from 9 to 8. HOWEVER, we still have a *long* way to go toward the goal of having enough referees to cover all high-comp, and house games from U10 and up (U10 was pretty much a disaster this year)
- Livermore Tournaments are recognized as among the most enjoyable, and best officiated, anywhere in Cal North. LRA has teamed with LYSL to make this so: we have always provided a good experience, competitive pay, and a general atmosphere of kinship among the officials. We rely heavily on our home-town referees, but we are notable for having, overall, the best tournament referee coverage in the District, largely because of huge contributions from our neighboring referees and referees coming in with the teams. We are the first (perhaps only) club to routinely assign 4th officials to our Championship and Consolation matches, and our use of the International Walk-on and FIFA Fair Play handshake to start every game of the recent Halloween tournament was met with rave reviews as something that made the tournament very special.



As proud as I am of that record, there is still much to be done, and challenges to be met by my successor and the new leadership team. Our most critical need is to develop and maintain a larger pool of “young-ish” referees who will work games for years to come. We have no referees between the ages of 20 and 39. Many of our dedicated referees, who work game after game on weekends year after year, are ageing noticeably! An unhealthy fraction of our games are being covered by referees over the age of 50. With the players getting stronger and faster, and the leagues becoming steadily more competitive, we will be entirely unable to sustain our past performance without a major infusion of new and dedicated young adult referees. We need adults because they hang around a lot longer than the youth, who have this annoying habit of going off to college!

For myself, I’m not really going anywhere, and I still will be a highly visible and active member of the referee organization. I’ve been appointed by Steve Petrakovitz (District-III Referee Administrator) as his Deputy, and he has tasked me, among other things, with developing a District-wide mentoring program aimed at adult referees. The referee Presidents of the seven cities in the district are coming to realize that every club is facing the same problems (chronic shortages of referees, no young adults, losing referees because of abuse from parents and coaches, etc.). The District committee is starting to seek out more global approaches to addressing these common problems, and I plan to be active in helping to craft those approaches.

Meantime, of course, I’ll still be seen, wearing yellow and patrolling the soccer fields in Livermore.

Finally, I want to extend a heartfelt and personal Thank You to every member of the LRA. Each one of you has pitched in and contributed to the success of the club. Thanks to every one of you!

See you on the pitch.
-Van



Questions for the clever Refs!

1. True or false. The game has been extended to allow for the taking of a penalty kick. The kick, correctly taken, rebounds off the crossbar and deflects off the goalkeeper, who by this time is six yards from the goal line, and into the goal. According to the Laws of the Game, a goal should be awarded.
2. During your pre-game inspection of the field, you pace along the goal-line from the goal-post toward the corner-flag. On a field marked according to Law 1, what distance should you walk before you come to the penalty-area line?
3. Name the five usual responsibilities of the assistant referee.

Answers on page 5



Hey Ref! What are you gonna do?

1. You've always enjoyed it when a kid can do a flip throw. The U14G Storm and the Clash are in the middle of a pretty dull match. Not much scoring or skill on display and way too much kickball. The one entertaining part of the match is the Storm outside mid. She has the flip throw down pat and can fling the ball right into the goal box. This time though it's the wind or sun spots, or that extra Krispy Kreme for breakfast, or an inattentive goalie, but this throw goes right over the goalie's head and into the net. Her teammates are high-fiving, the Clash are giving their goalie what for, you are.....
2. Offside! Good call! You have a fairly new AR with you and she is doing a good job on offside. It's late in the second half of the U14B match between the Ajax and the Rebels. You spot the ball just outside the Rebel's PA and the Ajax quickly set up ten yards off. The Rebel keeper comes out to take the kick. This kick can really kick and his teammates begin their runs as he nears the ball to start their attack. This time though, the goalie takes a divot and the ball rolls just a few yards forward. An Ajax forward spots the miss-kick and takes off for the ball. The goalie sees him and makes a determined run to beat him to the ball. The goalie wins the race by a few strides, and pounds the ball forward out of danger. The ball slams into the onrushing forward and bounds right back and into the goal. WOW! it's time for you to.....

Answers on page 7



The season isn't done yet Keep your availability current

The District Cup, Association Cup, America Cup, State Cup, and Haveanother Cup are all coming. The District Cup is the District 3 invitational tournament for Division 3 teams. The America Cup, Association Cup and State Cup are statewide tournaments for U12-19 boys and girls in Class 4, Class 3 and Class I respectively. Some of these games may be played in Livermore and the Association may be asked to provide referees to games here or at other venues. So don't hit that couch too soon. The Haveanother Cup is what your editor will need if he is going to get this newsletter out on time.



OK what was your answer

1. True
2. 18 yards
3. He must indicate the ball out of play, the side entitled to a corner/goal-kick or throw-in, offside, substitutions, and misconduct outside the view of the Referee.

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



I didn't know that either

- The Munich Ethnological Museum in Germany has a Chinese text from 50 B.C. that mentions games very similar to soccer that were played between teams from China and Japan.
- Native Americans used to play a game called Pasuchuakohowog meaning, "They gather to play ball with the foot." Beaches, a half-mile wide with goals one-mile apart, served as playing fields for as many as 1000 people at a time.
- Little is known of Asqaqtuk, a game played on ice by Eskimos. The game involved booting a heavy ball, stuffed with grass, caribou hair and moss. Legend has it that two villages once played Asqaqtuk with goals 10 miles apart.



Know the Laws! – Penalty Kick- (Reprinted from the USSF website)

By Alfred Kleinaitis, Manager of Referee Development and Education

Referees must read and understand the Laws of the Game to do their job properly. Even at the highest levels of the game, this is sometimes a problem, as seen in the recent World Cup qualifying match in Asia between Uzbekistan and Bahrain on Sept. 3, 2005. In that match, a referee made an extremely critical "technical" error that led to FIFA ordering the game to be replayed in its entirety. The referee's error was a critical one that quite possibly could have cost Uzbekistan a place in the 2006 World Cup. Neither team had ever qualified for the World Cup finals previously and, the winner of this series would play the fourth-place team from CONCACAF (Trinidad & Tobago) for the right to go to Germany for the 2006 FIFA World Cup.

In the game, the referee awarded a penalty kick to Uzbekistan in the 38th minute, with Uzbekistan already leading 1-0. The Uzbek player took the kick and the ball entered the goal. However, the referee decided that one of the Uzbek's teammates had entered the penalty area before the kicker had taken the kick. The referee ruled that the goal would not be scored and ordered an indirect free kick for Bahrain.

What was the referee's error, and what should he have done (see page 8 for the rest of the story)





Before you hit the leftover turkey, before you battle the after Thanksgiving sales, even before you start stringing those Christmas lights, there is something you just must, must do!!!!!!

Your current registration expires on 12/31/05. Get your registration in for the 2006 season. If you aren't registered, you can't do games. If you do ten, that's right only ten games we will reimburse you your \$25 registration fee. So see, there is absolutely no excuse not to get that registration in. We need you and so do the kids. You can even do it online! Just go to http://www.cnra.net/renew/renew_register.htm and follow the simple to use instructions. Don't wait, do it before you eat that last piece of pumpkin pie!



What! You haven't registered yet?



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

1. Since a goal cannot be scored directly from a throwin, we have a ball over the goal line, not a goal, last touched by the attacking team. You are signaling for goal kick.
2. Award the goal. If the goalkeeper kicks the ball a second time, he has committed a "second touch" and the Ajax would normally be awarded an indirect free kick from the place where the keeper kicked the ball. However, in this case, the intelligent referee would invoke the advantage clause and award the goal.

Thanks to Jim Allen's "Ask the Ref" website, and the ATR

The rest of the Story.....

After an Uzbek protest, FIFA ruled that the referee had clearly made a "technical error" in disallowing the Uzbekistan goal and awarding Bahrain an indirect free kick. The correct call in this situation (when a player enters the area illegally before the kick) would have been to have the penalty kick retaken. Because of this misapplication of the laws, FIFA ordered that the game replayed in its entirety. All of this occurred because the referee apparently did not fully understand one of the two simple changes to Law 14 for 2005-2006. Referees must study and know the Laws to call the game correctly to avoid such critical errors!

1. What must the referee do to call Law 14 correctly?
2. The referee must look to see who infringed the Law—whether it was the kicking team or the defending team.
3. The referee must consider what the outcome of the kick was. In other words, whether the ball entered the goal or did not enter the goal.
4. The referee applies the following guide in making the decision:
 - a. If an attacker (including the kicker) infringed the Law and the ball entered the goal, the penalty kick is retaken. If the ball did not enter the goal, the referee awards an indirect free kick (from the place where the infringement occurred). (Please note that this change occurs twice in Law 14, under infringements by the kicker and infringements by a teammate of the kicker.)
 - b. If a defender (including the goalkeeper) infringed the Law and the ball entered the goal, the goal is awarded. If the ball did not enter the goal, the penalty kick is retaken.
 - c. If both an attacker and a defender infringed the Law, the penalty kick is retaken.

And, in case you didn't hear the ultimate outcome of the series between Bahrain and Uzbekistan, the ending was predictable: In the first game, the teams tied in Uzbekistan, 1-1. In the second game, the teams once again tied, 0-0, in Bahrain. By virtue of the goal they scored in the away game, Bahrain advanced to the playoff against Trinidad & Tobago for a spot in the World Cup finals in Germany. If Uzbekistan had converted the retake and won the disputed game 2-0, they would have gone. All because of a major error by a referee!





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