

# Livermore Referee Association

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## ***Referee Calendar of Events***

- 🕒 September 23-24<sup>th</sup> Livermore Fall Classic U12/14 III B/G
- 🕒 September 25<sup>th</sup> Livermore Referee Association Meeting
- 🕒 September 30<sup>th</sup> Fun Run Pleasanton Middle School 7:15 AM
- 🕒 October 15<sup>th</sup> Fun Run TBD (Newark or Fremont) 7:30 AM
- 🕒 October 25<sup>th</sup> Livermore Referee Association Meeting

## ***Meeting Agenda***



**Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**. We've got a two-parter this month. First is an instructional video showing examples of handballs and non-handballs from both youth and pro matches. This is followed by similar examples of fair and foul throw-ins. These always give refs trouble and these video examples should help. Second, remember last month when Steve Petrokovitz showed us all those great video clips of fouls at youth matches? Well he didn't show all of them and we are going to show the rest tonight. These were great examples right out of the kind of games we all do. Should be a great meeting. Hope to see you there. Our meetings take place at the Livermore Public Library right next to the Police Station at 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA. As always our fully catered meetings are held at 7:00 PM. We especially encourage our new referee's to attend.



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## ***A question for all you clever refs out there.***

1. How far is the Penalty Mark from the Goal line?
2. True or false, you can play without one of the players being goalkeeper
3. What equipment does an AR need to bring to a match

***Answers on page 8***





## *From the touchline*

### *Hi, it's me*

By Bill Hoppes

The new season is perking along. You all are getting the hang of self-assigning. I've managed to meet many of you and hope to do games with more of you as the season goes. There are a couple of things I want to bring up. First, there are some of you who went to all the time and effort to pass your referee course, but haven't signed up to do games. The kids really need all of you out there. If you haven't figured out Arbiter or self-assigning and that is the reason we haven't seen you, give Tanya or David or me a call. We will be happy to guide you through the process so that you can get games.

For those of you who are self assigning, I've started to notice a trend. Some of you are "low-balling" yourselves. Only taking games you are comfortable with doing. That's fine and all those games need to be done, but you should always look to take one game that makes you a little "nervous". Any game, any age group can be a tough one, nevertheless if you are only doing games that are comfortable; you aren't really going to grow as a referee. When the assignors did all the assigning, we would often look at a slot that needed filling, and see whose name popped up as available.

"Nancy came up for that match"

"Has she done that level before?"

"No but I heard that she did a good job in the middle last week. I think she's ready"

"That will be a good step up for her"

"Do we have some experienced ARs to put with her?"

And so it would go.

With self-assigning you need to be having that little self-talk with yourself now. If all you have done is U12 house I'm not telling you to sign up for an older class 1 match, but how about that U14 game. Stretch a bit; get out of that comfort zone. It is an important way to improve and grow as a referee.

As the games come and go we are getting the usual reports of players getting bumped and dumped. It is always good to review what the Laws of the Game say about player injuries. Let's go to Law 5 shall we. Among the powers and duties of the referee, we find:

The referee,

- stops the match if, in his opinion, a player is seriously injured and ensures that he is removed from the field of play. An injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted.



- allows play to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is, in his opinion, only slightly injured.
- ensures that any player bleeding from a wound leaves the field of play. The player may only return on receiving a signal from the referee, who must be satisfied that the bleeding has stopped.

With the little ones, you need to err on the side of the first bullet. For me, any tears and I stop play, if they are not up and moving right away, I stop play. If I am close enough, I ask them if they need their coach. They will usually tell you. If they say they do, I stop play. Tough ones are when play has proceeded downfield and the injured player is back upfield. ARs you can help here. Call out to the player, go onto the field if you are close enough and it is reasonable to do so. A big thumbs up or other signal is a great help to your center who is trying to keep an eye on play, an eye on his other AR and an eye on the potentially injured player up field. As the kids get older, I find just asking them how they are doing helps. Usually by U14s or so they have figured out to kick the ball out for an injury. Anyway, always remember, safety first. If there is a serious injury, and I don't just mean that the ambulance was called, but if the parents took the kid to their physician to be checked out, if they weren't able to further participate in the match, or anything out of the ordinary, please include the details on the game card and on your match report on Arbiter as soon as you reasonably can.

See you on the pitch.



**"Jason, I'd like to let you play, but soccer is a girls' game."**

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## ***From the Assignor's Desk***

As you have probably already noticed, we set the dates you could look forward on the games available to 14 days. Fortunately, Arbiter is set to allow you to see 50 games on a page. Unfortunately, if there is more than 50 games over that two week period, Arbiter is not set up to allow you to see the next page or pages. If you find yourself in the position that you cannot self-assign a game that is within the two week block, you can always call David or Tanya and request the game.

When we do not have a full crew on a game and we see you are open, we will call you to see if you are still available and can ref for us. We will never assign you to a game without calling you first, UNLESS,

It is a tournament, when we do the assigning just like in the old days. After the assignments have gone out for a tournament, if you see an open slot on a game you would like to pick up, please call David or Tanya, and we will gladly give you the game.

The first paychecks have gone out. LRA pays for all games except centers for GSSL U-16 through U-19 boys or girls' matches; that is paid through the District. There are a few referees who have not filled out the game reports, please do so. If you picked up a center, just go to your homepage, look at the far left, find "Forms" on the list, and click on it. Find the instructions that are pertinent to you, and fill the form out. Next scenario. You pick up an AR position and didn't leave your name with the center. Just call David or Tanya, and we will help you. Last one. The center didn't record the game and it's been 7 days and you want to get paid. Once again, just go to forms on your homepage, and follow the instructions.

You can always see what games you have reffed. Under "Schedules", Arbiter will bring up the games you have been assigned for that day and the future. Look to the left and you will see a box that says, "Show All." Click on it, and all your games will be brought up.

Thank you for the great job you have done so far. Many of you have gone beyond the call of duty. Last week, we had a youth ref do his first U-14 center, solo. Many of our senior refs picked up a fourth match on Saturday, and then did games Sunday. I had several refs sandwich matches between their children's games and two of our 17 year olds picked up a noon and a 1:45 PM match when they had their own match in Danville at 5:30 PM. We had three referees show up for a game that existed only in Arbiter at 10:30 in the morning, and two of them were able to turn around and do the match at noon. We cannot begin to thank you for all the things you do for us, but please know it is deeply appreciated.



## ***Some Regional Guidance***

Those refs lucky and good enough to get invited to Regionals always receive a lot of good advice. Following is from a handout they were given this year. It has a lot of good review and interpretation. It is many pages long and we will put excerpts from it in the newsletter as the season goes on. Here is part 3.

**2006**

### **Instructions for Referees and Resolutions Affecting Team Coaches and Players Regional and National Cup Competitions and Tournaments**

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**UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.**

The decisions and instructions to referees appointed to Regional and National Cup Competitions and Tournaments contained herein conform to the Laws of the Game, the decisions of the International F.A. Board, and guidance from USSF through its Advice to Referees, Guide to Procedures, and various official memoranda. This document is therefore regarded as authoritative and may be quoted as such. For further details on any of these points, consult the sources listed above. Decisions made during play depend entirely on the opinion of the referee, who makes a decision at the time of the incident. Coaches are requested to inform their players of the points specified below and to ensure that every game is played sportingly.

#### **12. Use of advantage**

If the referee applies the advantage and the advantage which was anticipated does not develop after a short time (2-3 seconds) and the ball remains in play, the referee should immediately stop the game and penalize the original offense.

#### **13. Denying a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity**

(a) If, in the opinion of the referee, a player who is moving towards the opponent's goal, with an obvious opportunity to score a goal, is denied that goal scoring opportunity by an offense punishable by a free kick or penalty kick, the offending player shall be shown the red card and sent off the field of play.

(b) If, in the opinion of the referee, a player, other than the goalkeeper within the goalkeeper's own penalty area, deliberately handles the ball to prevent it from entering the goal and thus denies the opposing side a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity, the player shall be shown the red card and sent off the field of play. There need not be an opponent nearby with an opportunity to play the ball.

#### **14. Penalty kick**

(a) Positioning of ball and players during a penalty kick

During a penalty kick, the goalkeeper shall stand on the goal line. Apart from the goalkeeper and the player taking the kick, all the players shall take up a position on the field of play



behind the penalty mark and outside the penalty area at least 10 yards (9.15 m) from the penalty mark and stay there until the ball is in play (kicked and moved forward).

(b) Penalty kick at the end of a half or at the end of the match

If play is prolonged before half-time or at the end of the match to allow for a penalty kick to be taken or for one to be retaken, a goal shall be allowed if, before going into the goal, the ball touches any combination of the goalposts, crossbar, goalkeeper, or ground (providing no other infringement has been committed).

(c) Unless the ball has entered the goal (in which case the kick is retaken), infringements of Law 14 by the kicking team must be punished with an indirect free kick from the place where the infringement occurred.

### **15. Player in offside position**

(a) It is not an offense in itself to be in an offside position.

(b) A player shall be penalized for being offside if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of that player's teammates, the player is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in the active play by

- Interfering with play or with an opponent, or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position.

(c) A player shall not be penalized for offside by the referee

- merely because the player is in an offside position, or
- if the player receives the ball directly from a goal kick, a corner kick, or a throw-in.

An assistant referee must not signal merely because a player is in an offside position.

Furthermore, if an assistant referee is in any doubt as to whether a player is offside (active position) or not, the referee should decide in favor of the attacker; in other words, refrain from signaling offside.

### **16. Goalkeeper restrictions**

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside the goalkeeper's own penalty area,

- takes more than six seconds from the moment of establishing control with the hands until the ball is released into play
- touches the ball again with the hands after it has been released from the goalkeeper's possession and has not touched any other player outside the penalty area or has touched only a teammate inside the penalty area
- touches the ball with the hands after it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a teammate
- touches the ball with the hands after receiving it directly from a throw-in taken by a teammate

### **17. Persistent infringements**

Any player who repeatedly infringes the Laws of the Game by committing multiple fouls or by participating in a pattern of fouls directed at an opponent shall be cautioned and shown the yellow card.



## **18. Substitution**

When a substitution is to take place, the substitute shall report to the fourth official (or assistant referee) and surrender the substitution card (if applicable), properly completed, at the halfway line. A player who is going to be replaced may not leave the field of play without the referee's permission and then only when the ball is out of play. The substitute may then enter the field at the halfway line after receiving a signal to do so from the referee.

The substitute must be fully ready to play before reporting to the appropriate official.

Referees should not delay the timely restart of play to allow substitutes to correct their equipment or uniforms before entering the field nor shall the referee prevent a team from restarting play if the substitute has not reported to the appropriate official prior to play being stopped. There is no requirement that the player leaving the field must do so at the halfway line.

## **19. Injury of a player**

If a player is bleeding, that player must leave the field immediately to have the bleeding stopped and the skin and uniform cleaned as thoroughly as possible. When the player is ready to return to the game, the player's injuries and the uniform must be inspected by an official. This can be the referee or, if delegated by the referee in the pregame conference, the fourth official or, if there is no fourth official, an assistant referee. Only then will the referee give permission for the player to re-enter the game; the game need not be stopped in this situation.

Only the referee may permit the return to the field of play of a player who was instructed to leave the field for treatment of an injury. This is not a substitution. The player who left the field for treatment of an injury may return during play with the permission of the referee, but only from the touch line. If the ball is out of play, the player may return with the permission of the referee across any boundary line.

Up to two team officials are permitted to enter the field of play with the referee's permission solely for the purpose of assessing an injury—not to treat it—and to arrange for the player's removal.

The referee must exercise care before allowing removal of a seriously injured player from the field.

In all cases where an injury was the sole reason for the stoppage of play, the injured player is required to leave the field and cannot be permitted to return until the referee gives permission after play has restarted



## ***What's with the game cards?***

Can you remember what to do with the game cards, I can't always so, thanks to Corey Nelson, and here is a brief write up on where they are supposed to go.

### **LYSL House = U9-U14 Division 4**

Games cards go to the **winning coach** who turns them into the League (Corey). If you end up with the card, please give it to Corey directly or a member of the ref steering committee particularly if you have filled out any comments.

### **Traveling House = U16-U19 Division 4**

Games cards go to the **winning coach** to mail in. If you end up with the card, please mail in so scores can be verified and Yellow/Red cards are tracked.

Game Cards go to:

Corey Nelson  
1403 Aspen Court  
Livermore, CA 94551  
[coreynelsonagc@aol.com](mailto:coreynelsonagc@aol.com), 925-455-1214

### **AL CAFFODIO (AC)**

Games cards go to the **referee** to mail in. The coach should give it to you stamped and addressed.

Game Cards go to:

Chip Cox (Boys Match Sec)  
2479 Talvera Drive  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
[cox.chip@comcast.net](mailto:cox.chip@comcast.net), 925-830-0524

Leslie Tregear (Girls Match Sec)

5346 Starflower Way  
Livermore, CA 94550  
[kkldt1@yahoo.com](mailto:kkldt1@yahoo.com), 925-606-8335

### **GSSL**

The GSSL game report forms go to more different people than I wish to list here. Just make sure the coach gives you an addressed, stamped envelope.

.....  
***OK what was your answer,***



1. Twelve yards
2. False, he doesn't have to stay in the PA, but you gotta have one.
3. The same as the referee

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



***Come on Come On. Get that registration in!  
It isn't that hard!***



Your 2005 registration expired on 12/31/05. Come on, come on, Get your registration in for the 2006 season. Please get it done this month. Early season tournaments will be here before you know it. If you have already sent your registration in but don't have your 2006 badge yet. Thanks for registering and please be patient. Those hard-working gnomes all the way back in Chicago are wading through oceans of registrations, some 11,000 or so just from Cal North. As long as they had deposited your registration check you show up on our secret list and we consider you registered. But, if you haven't registered, you can't do games. And we will need all the refs we can get this season. 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 the LRA website or to [http://www.cnra.net/renew/renew\\_register.htm](http://www.cnra.net/renew/renew_register.htm) and follow the simple to use instructions. Don't wait, do it before you take out the trash tonight

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### ***Hey Ref! What are you gonna do?***

1. What's this now? It's the U12 Boys semifinal of the Black Rock City Bash, the end of season tournament for the Black Rock City Recreational Soccer League. The Crushers are tied with the Smoke and you have just awarded a PK to the Smoke. Everyone was all set up, and then the little redheaded forward for the Crushers started it. He was on the bench but he started hollering at the top of his lungs, then the rest of his bench joined in, and then all the Crushers field players. What a racket! The Smoke midfielder, about to take the kick is looking at you; his coach is yelling at you, you can't hear what. The Crushers Coach has a big grin on his face. He is a lot of help. What a racket! You.....



2. I've got to get out of here. You've just finished with the Crushers and the Smoke and you are headed back to the ref tent for a bit of peach and quiet you hope. Wrong! Ernie and Ted are there. There isn't a thing about refereeing that they can't manage to argue about: stripes vs. logos, Fox40 vs. Acme Thunderer, studs vs. turf, and don't get them started on the arcania of the laws of the game. Today it's when to start your clock. Ernie fumes "you start your clock and then blow your whistle, that way you can keep you eye on the field". "You're nuts" Ted fumes, "if you do that your time is off, blow you whistle, start your watch and off you go. That way you are on time". "All right smart guy." Ernie shoots back, " I'll write that Ask the Ref guy and see what he says". Next month Ernie is surfing the web, and calls out, "Hey, there's my question!" He starts reading.....

*Answers on page 11*



*I was Reading the paper the other day and.....*

Over breakfast one morning, a little boy kept staring intently at his grandfather. 'Is anything the matter, son?' the old man asked.

'No Gramps. I was just wondering what position you play on the soccer team.'

'What are you talking about?' laughed Gramps. 'I'm far too old to play soccer.'

'Oh,' said the little boy. 'It's just that Dad said that when you kicked off, we could afford to buy a new car.'

There was a goalkeeper named Walter  
Who played on the island of Malta.  
But his kicks were so long  
And the wind was so strong,  
That the ball ended up in Gibraltar.

Some flies were playing soccer in a saucer, using a sugar lump as a ball. One of them said, "We'll have to do better than this, lads. We're playing in the cup tomorrow."



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

1. Get to work. While opposing players are allowed to jump up and down at the taking of a free kick, and a penalty kick would be included within this concept, they are traditionally not allowed to exhibit unsporting behavior. Shouting at an opponent is unsporting behavior. Before having the kick retaken, the referee should notify the captain that if this shouting and screaming is repeated at the retake, all players and substitutes will be cautioned and shown the yellow card and at least one of the coaches will be expelled for failing to behave responsibly--and the kick will be retaken once again. Then, if the shouting and screaming is repeated, the referee must follow through. If the unsporting behavior is repeated yet again, the referee will declare the match abandoned and submit a full report to the competition authority.
2. Ernie is one up. He smiles as he reads, "When working USSF games, start your watch before kick-off--and remember to add a few seconds in addition to everything else. The referee needs to remember that the modern competitive game is very fast, right from the very start. There are often many things going on at once. Because a goal can be scored directly from a kick-off, it is vital that the referee be able to observe everything that is happening from the moment of the kick. There simply is no leeway in a high-level game for the referee to be looking down at his watch, possibly fumbling with its controls, while the players are playing! For those reasons, it is better in competitive games to start the watch before the kick-off than to have the kick-off

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



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## **Soccer**



The Greatest Game On Earth

