

Special Interest Articles

US Soccer Employs Full Time Referees

New Referee section

Bob Evans Activity

Father of the Laws



Next LRA Meeting – Mar 26

Ok you've patiently waited for it. Each year it is voted the favorite monthly meeting. So at long last here it is again! Duane Rueppel with the "Send-off Clinic"! Unfortunately, doing sendoff reports is something that any of us who do games will face. Many referees do a pretty lousy job of writing send off reports and this makes the work of the disciplinary committees harder and more likely that miscreants will not get the punishment they have worked so hard to earn. Duane will take of through some examples of send off reports that show you how to do it right and others that, well; could have used some help. This meeting is always fun and we learn a lot. So don't miss this one!

Next LRA Meeting
March 26, 2007, 7:00 pm
Livermore Public Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue
Open to the public.

The Players Need You! Yes, You!

Feeling cooped up in the office cubical, classroom, or commute car? Need to get out into the fresh air? Adults referee age 20-35 years of age are vital for the association. Referees in this age group tend to have the speed, agility, and a potential for long-term contribution that we need.

Ladies! 46% of players in the USA are female. Females make up a mere 4.2% of the referee population. Be a role model for the players, ladies. Sign up to referee.

March 27 Grade 9 Bride to Grade 8 Course now open for enrollment! Three evenings and you are done. Contact Bill Hoppes at president@lysl.org.

WANTED --- REFEREES



Referees come in all shapes and sizes, from all walks of life. There is a place for everyone. Find out more.

SIGN UP FOR TRAINING NOW!

Inside This Issue

From the Touchline	2
Calendar	3
In the News	3
Interview	4
What Do You Do?	6
Last Meeting Recap	6
For New Referees	7
WWYD Answers	8
Father of the Laws	8
Links and Contacts	9



"It was 90 minutes of hard-charging, up and down the field, soccer."



From the Touchline

by Bill Hoppes,
president@livermorerefs.org

"It's just Rec!" I cringe whenever I hear someone say that.

I hear it from league officials, from parents, from coaches and yes, from referees. It infers that we just don't have to take the games quite as seriously, or work quite so hard when it is just a rec match.

A couple of weeks ago I ran a line at a U19 G Class IV (yes that's rec) quarterfinals match. One team, I'll call them White, had just 11 players, the second team, I'll call them Red, only had a couple of subs themselves. It was 90 minutes of hard-charging, up and down the field, soccer. Those girls gave that game everything they had. Yes I've seen much more skilled players, but none who better used what skills they had, or gave greater effort. And what a thrilling match! Great shots, great saves, and a few cards. White scored the tying goal in the 89th minute. Then it was two 15 minute overtime periods. There was no letup, and lots of great, fun, intense soccer. Finally to decide the match we had to go to KFTPM. White, playing 120 minutes of iron man soccer won on kicks 5-4.

All those players, on both teams left it all on the field, and best of all, I had a blast. I was proud to be on the same field with them.

It's never "just rec" it's players doing the best they can with the skills they have. Whether it's some U12 player trying to put three touches in a row together, or four U16 boys all arms, legs and angles trying to go up to head a cross, they are working hard and giving it their all. Make sure you do the same for them.

Do not forget to sign up for the Bridging course for Grade 9 referees to become a Grade 8. It runs on March 27, April 3, and April 3. Three evenings, pass the test, and you are now a grade 8. Contact me at president@livermorerefs.org for information.

See you on the pitch!

Visit www.livermorerefs.org for the online version of this newsletter.
 Previous issues are also available.

Classic Photo



June Cup 2005 Scholarship winners were Jimmy Hufford and Samatha Moos. These LRA referees were also District III Refs of the Year in 2005. Jimmy was honored as male Referee of the year for California-North. Sam attends Sacramento State and still referees and plays. Jimmy attends local college and still referees for Livermore.

Calendar

There are a number of events coming up soon. Mark your calendar now. Always web site for updates.

- Mar 24 CYSA Association Cup U16-U19 Semi-finals
- Mar 24-25 CYSA State Cup U14-U15 Girls and U16-U18 Boys Prelims
- Mar 25 CYSA Association Cup U16-U19 Finals
- Mar 26 7pm LRA Meeting (Livermore. Library)**
- Mar 27 Grade 9 Bridge to Grade 8 course (Tri-Valley Church)**
- Mar 31-Apr 1 CYSA State Cup U14-U15 Boys and U16-U18 Girls Prelims
- Apr 14-15 CYSA State Cup U114-U18 B/G Round of 16
- Apr 21 CYSA State Cup U114-U18 B/G Semi-finals
- Apr 22 CYSA State Cup U114-U18 B/G Finals
- Apr 23 7pm LRA Meeting (Livermore. Library)**

03/25/07, 9:15 AM ET	U.S. Under-17 Men vs. El Salvador
03/25/07, 12:00 PM ET	U.S. Men vs. Ecuador
03/28/07, 8:00 PM CT	U.S. Men vs. Guatemala
04/14/07, 5:00 PM ET	U.S. Women vs. Mexico

In the News

OSI Renews Contract as Exclusive Supplier of U.S. Soccer Referee Uniform, Apparel and Accessories

CHICAGO (February 28, 2007) – Continuing in a role they have served since 1998, Official Sports International has re-signed with U.S. Soccer as the exclusive supplier of USSF Referee apparel and accessories through the end of 2010.

With the deal, OSI will continue providing every piece of gear and equipment associated with refereeing a game, including shirts, shorts, socks and other accessories, like whistles, cards and flags.

As part of the new four-year agreement, OSI will provide apparel for U.S. Soccer's new program employing four full-time referees. OSI will serve as an "Official Sponsor" of the new ground-breaking program recently announced by U.S. Soccer (See below for more on this program).

The U.S. Soccer Federation's Referee Membership has grown tremendously

over the years and at the end of 2006 totaled more than 140,000 officials. U.S. Soccer's referee organization is one of the largest among the 207 nations belonging to FIFA, with officials calling games at every level of the sport, including youth, amateur and professional games, as well as sanctioned international competitions.



U.S. Soccer Introduces Program to Employ Full-Time Referees

CHICAGO (February 21, 2007) – In a move designed to continue the growth and progress of soccer officiating in the United States, U.S. Soccer has established a program to employ full-time referees for the first time in the organization's 95-year history. Jair Marrufo, Ricardo Salazar, Baldomero Toledo and Terry Vaughn will become full-time

referees, enabling them to focus all of their professional abilities on practical on-field applications, as well as on off-the-field training.

"This new program will give our best referees the opportunity to focus all of their energies on enhancing the performance of our elite officials on the field," said U.S. Soccer President Sunil Gulati. "The size and quality of U.S. Soccer's referee program has garnered worldwide respect from the international soccer community over the years. With an increasing number of MLS and international matches being staged in the United States, there is no doubt that the opportunity to referee on a full-time basis will continue to advance our growth as a soccer nation."



Interview With...THE CLARK FAMILY

Meet the Clark family. They are three active Livermore referees and the focus of this month's interview.

Cheryl hails from Illinois. She and her husband came to California fifteen years ago. Since then, Garrett and Jessica were born (in Modesto and Pleasanton, respectively). Lucky for us, they are actively refereeing for Livermore.



Livermore Referee Association (LRA): Since your family is a natural crew of three, how often do you referee together?

Garrett: Only a few times actually. Mom and Jessica focus on the house games as Jessica is learning. They also have more time during the weekdays. I have more homework as a junior in high school. Having more experience, I tend to do more high comp and older games.

LRA: Why did each of you get into refereeing?

Cheryl: I originally took the course to learn the Laws of The Game. Since I was not planning to referee at the time, I did not take the test. When Garrett took the course and got his badge, so did I. When Jessica took her course last year, I attended a third time.

Garrett: I took the course about four years ago. I started for the money originally...a little adult pressure was also applied, I have to admit.

Cheryl: It is called bonding, Garrett.

LRA: What are some referee goals you have?

Garrett: Getting my Grade 7 in the next year. Refereeing at regionals, the ability to higher level games is important to me.

Cheryl: My goal is to referee until my knees give out. I like the exercise and the community service to the players. Even after my kids have moved on, I will continue to referee.

LRA: Has being a referee impacted your life in other ways?

Jessica: I get recognized at school as a referee sometimes.

Cheryl: The players remember me both as a referee of their games and a worker at their school. They are always positive. I have noticed that I am sometimes treated differently on and off the field by adults. There is often less respect when I am officiating a game then when they need something at school.

Garrett: My leadership skills have improved in general.

LRA: Do you get a different perspective of the game as a referee versus as a player?

Garrett: The player has one perspective of the game; the referee has another. Refereeing gives me a better appreciation for the game from wider vantage point. It has changed how I position myself as a goalkeeper on occasion.

LRA: We are heavily recruiting people to referee at this time of year. Any advice or encouragement you can offer?

Cheryl: Take the plunge. It looks easy from the sideline, but it does take learning and practice. Adults say they do not have time, but we make our own schedule. The kids make you laugh.

Garrett: Refereeing is like learning to drive a car. You can read the book. You can take the instruction course. But the real learning is when you get in the car and drive (or take the field and referee).

Jessica: Give it a shot. You will like the money and the leadership experience.



Jessica, Garrett, Cheryl Clark

March 2007

"My goal is to referee until my knees give out."

"Helping the kids let's them pursue their dreams."

cont...THE CLARKS

LRA: Any reminders for the rest of us that have already started to referee?

Garrett: Re-read the procedures and the Laws regularly. Know them before you are required to perform them on the field.

Jessica: I was nervous at first, even though I had mom and Garrett ahead of me. The 2nd game was nice. Helping the kids let's them pursue their dreams. Take advantage of the many mentors available. There are there to help, not tear you down.

LRA: When you are not performing your referee functions, what keeps you busy?

Cheryl: PTA, Secretary of the Band Boosters, wife and mother.

Jessica: Playing soccer since U5. I am 4th chair trumpet in my school.

Garrett: Lead trumpet in Jazz band, 1st chair in band, even traveling with a group to play in New Year City at Carnegie Hall. Soccer player since U7, playing for LYSL and my high school.

LRA: What is it like being a woman referee?

Cheryl: The challenge was having kids that I have to watch all day. When they got older and could take more care of themselves (and stay put during a game), I was able to referee more. While I am on the field, I get to avoid housework. Unfortunately, it is still there when I get home.

LRA: What about when the referee has her parent "hat" on?

Cheryl: As a parent on the sideline, I give the referee the benefit of the doubt. It is hard to be the referee. I understand all the different perspectives there are.

LRA: How are the coaches during games?

Jessica: High Comp coaches are the loudest and more negative about referee calls. The House coaches tend to accept the calls and focus more on the players.

Garrett: Coaches are getting better, probably due to the pressure of being told what is expected of them. The referees influence the situation also. Stay professional. Come on the field together, be in uniform.

LRA: What do you appreciate as a referee?

Garrett: A sincere handshake from the players and coaches that honestly says thank you.

Jessica: Other referees at tournament are helpful.

Cheryl: A simple thank you.

Thank you to the Clarks for their time for this interview, but more importantly for all the time they spend on the fields for the kids of our league.



Cheryl Clark



Garrett Clark



Jessica Clark



Bob Evans is a soccer referee guru. A writer, an instructor, and a top producer of referee instruction material, he has contributed to the development of a vast number of referees.

Bob has a blog at :

www.fortheintegrityofsoccer.blogs.com/artandscienceofrefereeing/.

He also writes for a local paper. His columns are available on at <http://www.ibabuzz.com/soccer/>.

What Would You Do?

Situation A: Artificial Aids

What do you think about sticky stuff on the goalkeeper's gloves? I believe it is covered on throw in and the players using the ribbed gloves, but I have not had anything come up on goalkeepers. My gut-feel is that it is unsporting behavior.

Source: Ask a Referee

Jim Allen, National Instructor/Assessor
www.drix.net/jim/

Situation B: Free Kick from the Ground

A5 is fouled just outside the team B penalty area. While lying on the ground, A5 sees an opportunity to take a quick free

kick. He plays the ball to A7 to shoot and scores. Is that allowed?

Source:
Referee Magazine, October 2004

Situation C: Goalkeeper Dribble

Goalkeeper B1 received the ball with his feet outside of the penalty area, last touched by an opponent, then dribbles into the penalty area and then handles the ball. What is the restart?

- a) Penalty kick
- b) Indirect free kick
- c) Drop ball
- d) Play should not be stopped.

Source:

Referee Magazine, December 2004

Situation D: Whistle Blowing Fan

A fan in the stands blows a whistle and a defender inside his own penalty area picks up the ball with his hands assuming that play has been stopped. What action should be taken? What is the restart?

Source:
Referee Magazine, October 2005

"A soccer referee puts in between five to seven miles per game."

Last Meeting Recap

Did you miss the meeting in February? No doubt it was due to the rain or working late. Here are a few things that were covered...

As usually, the meeting ran about an hour and a half and had goodies to much on. Information included a recap of some recent referee activity in state cup play, a humorous video 'a la Monty Python' of Greek versus Roman philosophers' soccer match, and a few more serious videos to critique. Information was

given out on upcoming tournaments.

The presentation on elbowing was pre-empted when the material was not returned to our presenter, **Van Henson**. Instead, we had a rousing quiz round involving 24 video clips.

The assignors are currently resting up before the next season activity. The June Cup (adult tournament) will be the next scheduling they do.

Hope we see you in March!



Photos from the February LRA meeting. (2/26/07)

For New Referees

The referee community is comprised of individuals with a wide range of skill levels and experience. For that reason, we are starting a special area of the newsletter. Each month we will provide some information on topics for new (or soon to be) referees.

This month, our focus is on referee recruitment. The best way to start is to explain the process of becoming and growing as a referee. Presented here is a basic overview. We will go into more detail over the months. Contact us directly with any questions.



Explanation of Grades

The grade of a referee indicates the level of skill the individual has achieved and implies what level of game they are assignable to.

GRADE 9: A recreational referee that is assignable to U14 and below recreational games.

GRADE 8-7: Assignable to referee recreation and high competition games, depending on the skill level at the time.

GRADE 5-6 and above: State level referees are assignable to most matches, even through adult games.

Get the Training

Clinics for training and a badge are given by the local and surrounding referee associations. These are usually given in the late spring and summer in preparation for the busy fall season.

There are a number of written resources available as well. The "Laws of the Game" and "Advice to Referees on the Laws of the Game" are key to officiating. They are available online and through the courses. ussoccer.com/referees/refdev/faq.jsp.html offers a lot of guidance also.

Upcoming clinics in Livermore are on our site (www.livermorerefs.org). Full list is on the CNRA site. www.cnra.net/instruct/instruct_clinics.htm

The Gear

The basic needs of a referee are simple. Shirt, shorts, socks, and shoes, as well as a whistle, game book with yellow and red cards. The first jersey should be a short sleeve yellow. Later other colors (red, black, and blue) before long sleeves

should be purchased.

Any manufacturer of referee uniforms is fine. As a culture, LRA referees tend to use Official Sports (OSI). www.officialsports.com

Game Assignments

Each association has an assignor that assigns games to the available referees. Referees are matched to games suitable to their current abilities. In Livermore, there are two assignors that assign the high comp and older recreational games. U9-U14 recreational games are self-assignable through "the arbiter" tool. All LRA referees use www.thearbiter.net.

Refereeing Games

Game time is referee practice time. We learn by doing. U9-U10 recreational games have a solo center. U11 and above have a full crew of three.

Learning from Experience and Mentors

Remember that individuals vary in their skill and speed of development. The local referee association works very closely with each referee to help mentor and give feedback. Our goal is to help everyone reach their potential.

Benefits of becoming a referee include:

Fulfillment

- ✓ A rewarding service for the kids and community
- ✓ Help keep the game safe, fun and fair
- ✓ Become a better coach, player and spectator
- ✓ Personal accomplishment (great reference for college, scholarship or job)

Fitness

- ✓ Helps you get and stay fit
- ✓ Improve decision-making and self-control
- ✓ Ref matches appropriate for your fitness level

Fun

- ✓ Better appreciation of the world's game
- ✓ Experience the game from the best seat in the house
- ✓ Enjoy support and teamwork with fellow referees

Flexibility

- ✓ Work at a pace and level that is comfortable for you
- ✓ Schedule matches to fit your schedules
- ✓ Earn extra fun money
- ✓ Great part-time job for teens

"What Would You Do?" Answers



Situation A: Artificial Aids

The goalkeeper is allowed certain exceptions in the equipment he or she is permitted to wear. These exceptions for the goalkeeper are designed strictly for protection of the goalkeeper, who is often expected to dive quickly to the ground. Law 4 is meant to ensure player safety, not player superiority through artificial means. There is no provision for the goalkeeper or any other player to wear artificial aids to enhance their ability to play. Therefore tacky substances on the hands or "sticky" gloves are illegal equipment and, if used, constitute unsporting behavior for which a caution should be given. The offending substance must be removed and offending gloves may be replaced by others that are not "doctored."

Situation B: Free Kick from the Ground

The requirements for the taking of a free kick do not

specify that a player must be on his feet. Traditionally, that is done, but provided that A5's actions were not dangerous to himself or another player, no infraction has taken place. The referee may allow a quick free kick to be taken when the team that has been fouled would benefit from it. And in that situation, the goal should be awarded to team A.

Situation C: Goalkeeper Dribble

d. Play does not stop.

Situation D: Whistle Blowing Fan

If the referee considers the whistle to be outside interference, he should stop the match and restart with a drop ball.

Father of the Laws

William Pickford helped shape the game which is now so popular around the world. His historic switch of allegiance came in 1878 when he watched a game of football - Bolton playing Blackburn and District. William Pickford went on to draft and popularize the rules of the game. His book, *How to Referee* draws on his deep knowledge of this new game. The original cover price was one Shilling. The advice, written with detailed care and affection, is priceless.

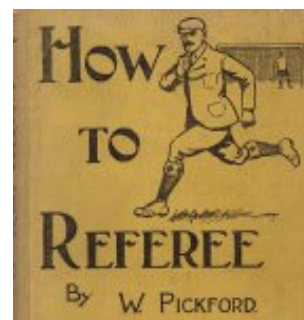
Pickford describes the aim of the book to help referees, linesmen... "and it is hoped to instill a better grasp of essential points in the minds of a class singularly ill-informed upon them - the players." Chapters in the book deal with rules, free kicks, unsafe boots. There's a whole chapter devoted to the offside rule.

Examples of Pickford's guidance:

- *Don't forget that players are not machines, but are human, and possess a keen sense of injustice.*
- Don't let criticism hurt you; some people rejoice to see a referee writhe under it. It tickles them, and really if you are a good referee it cannot harm you.

William Pickford's unique contribution to our national game was marked in 1996 when Hampshire FA named its new headquarters after him.

[source: http://www.bbc.co.uk/southampton/footballfirst/scrapbook/william_pickford.shtml]



Rules of the Game

William Pickford went on to become a member of the FA's Rules Committee in England for more than 40 years.

What's Your Story?

Everyone has a story they tell often to other referees. That one odd situation where previous instruction did not exactly cover in class. The time something obscure or completely

unexpected happened.

Share that story with the rest of the group. Let others consider how they might have handled the situation.

So, what is your story? Send in your tale (removing real names) to coreynelsonagc@aol.com for an upcoming issue. Anonymous entries are accepted.

What stories to you have to share?

What do you need to know?

What can we help you with?

How can you help?

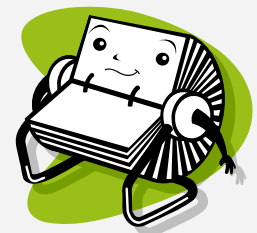
Links to More Information

Livermore Referee Association www.livermorerefs.org/
 CNRA – District III www.d3refs.com/
 Cal-North Referee Administration www.cnra.net/
 United States Soccer Federation www.ussoccer.com/referees/index.jsp.html
 FIFA www.fifa.com/en/index.html
 Livermore Youth Soccer League www.lysl.org/

LRA Steering Committee and Contacts

The Steering Committee is comprised of elected officers and appointed coordinators. There are each deeply involved with the association and are committed to helping support local soccer officiating needs. Let us know how we can be a service to you.

President	Bill G. Hoppes	president@livermorerefs.org	925-606-7986
Vice President	Bill Russett	Vicepresident1@livermorerefs.org	925-455-0156
Treasurer / Web site	Bob Dashner	treasurer@livermorerefs.org	925-294-8623
Secretary	David Bunch	secretary@livermorerefs.org	925-455-1214
LYSL/LRA Liaison	Brian Hufford	refereeofficer@livermorerefs.org	925-373-7952
Instruction Coordinator	OPEN		
Mentor Coordinator	OPEN		
Assignors	Tanya Hoppes David Bunch	assignor@livermorerefs.org	925-606-7986
Newsletter Coordinator	Corey Nelson	coreynelsonagc@aol.com	925-455-1214



Livermore Referee Association
PO Box 54
Livermore, CA 94551-0054

Phone
(925) 606-7986

E-mail
president@livermorerefs.org

All rights reserved.
Copyright 2007

Write It Right

Each meeting is focused to bring a variety of news and current information to the attendees.

This month's review of past send off reports is our most popular meeting each year. In the unfortunate event of

a send off, it is vital to do an effective report that is factual and clear. Join us to review some excellent examples and a few that could have used some help.

Meetings are held at the

Livermore Public Library main branch (next to the Police Station) at 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA. These catered meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the fourth Monday of every month. The public is

About Our Organization

The Livermore Referee Association is comprised of trained and registered referees that provide officiating services for the local youth soccer association.

Membership in the Livermore Referee Association is open to all persons in the community who have successfully completed an entry level soccer referee clinic, which requires attending the

required training sessions given by certified USSF instructors, having successfully passed the qualifying USSF examination *and* maintaining their status as a USSF-registered referee.

LIVERMORE REFEREE ASSOCIATION
IN ASSOCIATION WITH LYSL
PO BOX 54
LIVERMORE, CA 94551-0054

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LIVERMORE, CA 94551
PERMIT NO. 215



We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.livermorerefs.org