

MINUTES OF CASRA MEETING – June 2, 2008 - UIL Building, Austin, Texas

1. Meeting called to order by President Dave Robertson at 6:33 pm.
2. Introduction of Guests: One referee newly arrived by way of Tennessee, Walter Obando.

3. Reports

- (a) May 2008 minutes were approved.
- (b) Treasurer: (Noel Gonsalvez) We have a balance of \$3200.00.
- (c) Secretary: (Marcello Rodriguez) No report.

(d) CASRA Vice President (John Smith): Still has a few *Advice to Referees on the Laws of the Game* for \$9.00 for sale and you can also download them from the US Soccer website for free.

(e) Webmaster: (Dave Robertson for Mike Day) Mike Day is in South Texas attending the wedding of his son. We don't have any information about the District Instruction. The Website still doesn't work. There will be Instructor Training at the end of June and the other clinics will begin in July. And they will be online. For those CASRA members that take their training here, Michael will set up a special clinic and that's where you will register online. And after you take the exam and he will put that score in and forward them. The exam will be done around October. No meeting in July. In August we'll have all the law changes and that class will be pretty much mandatory if you want to know what the new law changes are. We will have testing in September and October. In November and December we will get into High School stuff.

(f) District Three Representative (Paul Stanberry): Will give a talk soon on the structure and function of the State Referee Committee. He now pretty acquainted with the overall organization. Also mentioned that there are states requesting the background checks on all the referees in the interest of protecting youth referees that we might come into contact with during their grade progression. He will bring us more information on this issue. A discussion ensued on this subject. Paul requests feedback to him with our comments.

*Added by Paul in July: **Notes of State Referee Committee Meeting July 2008**

This meeting was the second consecutive teleconference this year of the South Texas Soccer Referees (STSR) State Referee Committee (SRC). Next meeting in October will be in San Antonio. Meeting chaired by Steve Eells, State Referee Administrator (SRA).

Bad News – Good News Report:

USSF has raised referee registration fees effective immediately (see below). STSR will continue to add \$10 to these fees. Of note, USSF rescinded the published assignor increase, perhaps to relieve assignor shortages. Half of the fee increase will stay in South Texas for STSR to be used in referee development and services.

Referee, Instructor, Assessor and Assignor Fees Effective 06/16/08

Category/Type	Fee
Referee	

Grade 1	\$100
Grade 2	\$100
Grade 3	\$100
Grade 4	\$100
Grade 5	\$75
Grade 6	\$75
Grade 7	\$45
Grade 8	\$40
Grade 9	\$40
Grade 12	\$40
Grade 13	\$75
Grade 15	\$75
Grade 16	\$75
Indoor/Futsal - Grade 8	\$45
Beach Soccer - Grade 8	\$45
Instructor	
Grade 3	\$100
Grade 4	\$100
Grade 5	\$75
Grade 7	\$45
Grade 9	\$40
Grade 11	\$40
Assessor	
Grade 3	\$100
Grade 5	\$75
Grade 6	\$75
Grade 7	\$45
Grade 9	\$40
Assignor	
Grade 8	\$10

Hal Mechler, new STSR Treasurer, has developed professional conflicts with this volunteer task, and will be only able to assist on a technical basis. Operations manager (Ops Mgr), Michael Day will perform the brunt of financial work, with SRC oversight by members Palomera, Jorn, and Mechler .

A cache of checks from referees for payments earlier this year for a variety of services (class fees, registrations, assessments, etc) has been found in the transition documents from the past to present treasurer. Referees with checks outstanding may finally find them now processed. Should the bank refuse to honor these checks due to the time elapsed, expect a note from STSR requesting a new payment check. SRC apologizes for the inconvenience.

Financial report reveals balanced receipts and expenses for STSR with residual deficit in the reserve fund of one-half its intended amount. A portion of the fee increase may replenish this

fund. Decision on this allocation is pending end of year referee instruction and development costs.

Further Notes of Interest:

Jair Maruffo, FIFA referee from El Paso has been selected to officiate the 2008 Olympics.

A grade 07 upgrade is planned for the Austin-San Antonio area. Level 08 referees interested in the challenge of higher level certification with its privileges are encouraged to monitor the STSR web site and apply. Higher intensity game assignment and bonus reimbursement frequently follow the successful referee in this endeavor.

Management of liability risk has been an SRC topic of discussion for the last year. This volunteer group has vulnerability in its supervision of STSR. Areas of concern include sexual misconduct by adults with juveniles. Despite USSF requirements to admit to misconduct with each recertification, further legal advice seems needed by the SRC regarding due diligence in this area. A risk management ad hoc committee will be established to study options and make recommendation to the SRC. In the meantime, SRC endorses continued South Texas Youth Soccer Assn (STYSA) KidSafe programs.

STYSA compliments STSR for excellent referee support of its programs and tournaments. It also relates increased interest in leagues and assignors to deny referees without current certification assignment to youth matches. Despite this positive feedback, the United States Youth Soccer Assn (USYSA) proposes a separate referee certification program from that of USSF. SRC suggests USYSA reconsider this division of the referee community.

STSR invites nominations from assignors and referees interested in higher level training in an STSR Academy program. Please forward names of interested individuals to district representatives or SRA.

Items of interest for the next SRC meeting or questions about information above are welcome for my attention at jdlpks1@msn.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stansberry
STSR District 3 Representative

- (g) CASRA Director of Instruction: (Michelle Maloney) Absent.
- (h) Director of Assessments: (Saki Papadopoulos) Not present.

(i) Area assignors: Jeannie McDaniel announced openings for the Women's Tournament June 14-15.

4, Old Business: None

5. New Business: Mark Land announced that OSI is ready to accept our order for uniforms. Probably get at least a 20% discount. He will stick around to take orders after the meeting. He has a list of those that have requested uniforms on a spreadsheet.

President Dave Robertson: Discussed the acquisition of a CASRA flipping coin. CASRA does have a logo which was put on shirts. His thoughts are to use the CASRA logo in black on one side and use the South Texas logo in white on the other side. He has a preliminary bid for a thousand for about \$1.50 each and for 2500 it was about \$1.25. The one from South Texas, the black and white ones, they bought 8000 and paid \$5000. for them and comes to \$1.60. If we ordered 1000 for about 60 members and we gave every member 5 or 6 and keep the rest for tournaments and provide them to referees going to regionals and such, and sell them 6 for \$10.00. We should move on this to get them ready for the September meeting. According to the Treasurer we have \$3200.00 and \$1100 committed to the rest of the budget for the rest of the year, so we have about \$2000 in the treasury. After discussion there was a motion to approve the addition cost for artwork and the total expenditure of approximately \$1500 if the proof looks good to buy 1000 coins. Motion passed with little discussion. This will be **old business** for the next meeting on August 4th.

6. The meeting closed at 7:15 pm for training: "Striking offenses" – by Michelle Maloney.

Respectfully submitted, Marcello Rodriguez

Mrodriguez615@msn.com