

**Preliminaries**

The meeting was held at the Marigold Indian Restaurant in Sunnyvale. Before the meeting was officially opened, Peter Fletcher showed a YouTube video about problems faced with referee retention in the English Football Association - [Why are there So Few Football Referees in the UK?](#). A major focus of our organization is to deal with the kinds of issues that were shown in that video, to encourage and develop new referees, and to reduce the kinds of problems that referees face on the field.

**Opening**

The meeting was called to order at 7:24 pm by Peter Fletcher. There were 41 members present at the start of the meeting. Peter thanked the organizations who have graciously sponsored this AGM dinner meeting:

- Almaden FC
- ARC (Athletic Referee Community)
- DeAnza Force DYSL
- Los Gatos United
- RedStar Academy
- Santa Clara YSL
- Sunnyvale Alliance
- West Valley YSL

**Agenda**

- Introduction of Board Members
- 2019 Club Membership
- Review of 2019 Club Activities
  - ELC Program (ending in 2019)
  - Referee of the Year Awards
  - SJSRA Instructor Pool (new)
- Financials for 2019
- Budget for 2020
- Election of Officers

**Introduction of Current Board Members**

Peter Fletcher gave a quick review of board positions, those positions open for election this evening, and introduced the current board members.

**Break for dinner at 7:33 pm****2019 Club Membership**

Beau and Erik presented the Membership Report. The 2019 total of 424 was grouped into three categories:

- Paid members - 105
- ELC members - 240
- Complementary members (mostly Referee of the Year award winners) – 79

This is the last year that there will be an ELC membership category (see below).

Entry Level Class Program (ELC): 2016-2019

At 7:52 pm Filippo reviewed the history of the ELC Program. The NorCal League has been the official sponsor (to CNRA) for the classes. The instruction was done by club members who were licensed by USSF and assigned by CNRA. The Club charged a class fee to the students. Major expenses were for facility rental and IFAB rule books for the students. The ELC program brought in on the order of \$13,000 in net revenue during those four years.

2019 was the last year for the club's ELC program. As of October 2019, all USSF registration and training has migrated to on-line classes.

Referee of the Year award program

At 8:00 pm Bruce Craig provided an update on the plans and preparation for the Award Night being held this year on December 12<sup>th</sup> at the Quinlan Center. There are 65 award winners this year from 16 Leagues in the area. Joe Dickerson is the planned speaker. All Club members are invited to attend.

Instructor Pool

At 8:06 Peter described the concept of an instructor pool. Although we do have two clinicians, Peter does live in Monterrey and Joe will continue to have conflicts with his professional refereeing assignments. The idea is that the Club's licensed instructors would prepare half-hour class presentations on various topics and be available to present at a meeting at which Peter and Joe would be absent.

2019 Financials and Budget

At 8:12 pm George presented the 2019 financial summary and proposed budget. The numbers represented only January through the end of November (see Fiscal Year below). Two activities involve the bulk of the budget: the ELC and Referee of the Year programs. The ELC program had income of \$7000 and expenses of \$2120 for a net of \$4880. The Referee of the Year program generally breaks even. Our net cash balance as of November 30, 2019 was \$12,532.

There were two major topics of discussion regarding the financial report and budget: our fiscal year and the 2019 budgeted loss.

Fiscal Year

The Club's fiscal year has always been aligned with the calendar year: Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. During that time the AGM was held in January which gave sufficient time for the books to be closed. The Treasurer's Report could reflect the total activities of the prior year and provide a realistic budget. However, several years ago the AGM was moved to December for a number of reasons (January meeting needed for training; December non-member attendance was low; AGM was better suited to an early December meeting). However, this meant that the financials were not complete, particularly since the activities involving the largest expenditures (AGM and Referee of the Year Awards) were both in December. Therefore, George was proposing a change of our fiscal year to be Dec 1<sup>st</sup> to Nov 30. A motion to that effect was made by Kayvon and seconded by Saba. It passed unanimously.

### 2020 Budget Numbers

Discussion continued about the proposed 2020 budget numbers which projected a slightly more than \$2000 loss. Providing Law Books comprises a large part of the deficit, so much time was spent discussing the pros, cons, and logistics of providing books. At the end of the discussion Tibor moved and Dana seconded that we approve the budget numbers as presented. It passed with one dissenting vote. (Note – updated budget numbers as of 12/10/19 show a projected Net Income of \$495.)

### Election of Officers

At 8:57 Peter proceeded to the election of officers. Four positions were open for election: President, Adult Referee Coordinator, Webmaster, Membership Coordinator. The Board proposed Tibor Polgar for President. There were no nominations from the floor. Dana moved and George seconded that Tibor be elected by acclamation. It passed unanimously. Lee Berg indicated his willingness to continue as Adult Referee Coordinator. There were no nominations from the floor. Carl moved and Dana seconded that Lee be elected by acclamation. It passed unanimously. Kurt Swanson was nominated for webmaster by Peter and seconded by Kayvon; he was approved unanimously. Erik Levine indicated his willingness to continue as Membership Coordinator. Moved by Carl and seconded by Mike that nominations be closed. Erik was elected unanimously.

### **New Business**

At 9:04 Tibor as new president-elect made a presentation about the referee pool from which SASC draws. About 200 of 1100 referees each year do not renew. About 25% of new referees do 3 or fewer games before they quit. Youth referees do fill about 50% of total referee team slots during a year, but only about 55% of the youth referees actually do games. Referees with 8 or more years of experience are almost all uniformly active (do games on a regular basis). Referees with only 0, 1, or 2 years of experience are only about 50% active. The belief is that most are just very busy with other teen activities. We need more adults who can act as mentors, specifically to that latter group of referees.

Carl relayed the passing of Charles “Bill” Wallau of Menlo Park. Bill was an active referee well into his 80’s and did his last game when he was 90. He was USSF’s oldest active registered referee. He passed away in mid-November just shy of his 92nd birthday.

### **Closing**

At 9:25 pm, there being no new business, George made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dana. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted

*Carl Jones*