



# Rhode Island State Referee Committee, Inc.

SOCCER RHODE ISLAND, INC.  
RHODE ISLAND SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC.

*Member of US Soccer and FIFA*



## Minutes for the November 10, 2011 meeting of the State Referee Committee

*Held at the Holiday Inn Express, 901 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, Rhode Island*

### Members Present:

Steven Mauricio, SRA  
Adel Cabral, SYRA  
Al Ricci, SDI (acting)  
Jack Breetveld, SAC  
Brian Sperlongano, Secretary  
Joe Giblin, Treasurer  
Kathy Souza, Member at Large  
Joelle Sylvia, Representative of RISA  
Steve Votolato, President of Soccer RI

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 PM.

### 1. President of Soccer RI Comments

- a. Reports were received regarding two separate fall Super Liga match incidents involving the same referee in which serious player misconduct occurred resulting in the match being terminated. The reports were received well after the matches in question occurred. Additionally, the reports suggested that the situation may have warranted additional referee instruction. The issue was referred to the SYRA who will discuss with the Super Liga ways to improve communication so that incidents that may result in referee remediation are brought to the attention of the SRC, as well as incidents in which red cards are issued or matches are abandoned.
- b. Soccer RI fees for assignors and referees have not been changed in 3-4 years. A new recommendation for 2012 is needed.

### 2. SAC's Report

- a. The SAC investigated the possible case of referee assault noted in (1)d of last month's minutes. The SAC spoke with the referee in question and provided additional instruction in how the particular game situation could be handled better in the future.

### 3. SRA's Report

- a. A referee was assaulted at a recent RISL match. As a result of the incident, one player was suspended for one year, and a second player was suspended for six games by the league. The incident was not initially reported to RISA and was referred for additional follow-up.
- b. RISA and Soccer RI have appointed Joe Giblin to the position of Treasurer.

4. Treasurer's Report

- a. A conference call was held with the providers of GameOfficials. GameOfficials will now have the ability to automatically transfer funds to the SRC's bank account. A \$6K receipt is expected in the next few days.

*Note: this report was given by Al Ricci.*

5. SDI's Report

- a. The annual upgrade clinic will be held in March at the Soccer RI Expo.
- b. A new assignor clinic is being planned for February.
- c. Grade 8/9 new referee clinics are scheduled in January.
- d. Two recertification clinics have been scheduled in January at CCRI in Lincoln and Warwick.
- e. By unanimous consent, grade 8 and 9 referees will be permitted to recertify at new referee clinics.
- f. This month's advanced seminar topic will be "Running an Effective One-Man System".

6. SYRA's Report

- a. As a result of mentoring and observation at the Kohl's Cup on Nov 5-6, several areas of referee improvement were noted, and will be distributed to the referee community via email and on the web site.
- b. Grade 9 to Grade 8 bridge classes are being planned for 2012.
- c. Due to mentoring and observation efforts, 35 young referees have been identified as candidates for future instruction and advancement. A January meeting is being planned in order to organize this effort.
- d. The number of required referees for Presidents Cup (7), ODP (6), and Regionals (7) has been announced by Region 1.

7. Secretary's Report

- a. A monthly email will be sent announcing various topics.

8. Old Business

- a. Soccer RI reported that no response has been received from the Seaside Classic organizers regarding irregularities at this year's tournament.
- b. CLCF has not yet paid overdue referee fees from the Soccer RI U8/U10 festival.

9. New Business

- a. A current grade 7 referee is seeking recertification, however, the referee has not yet completed several requirements for recertification. The referee will be recertified in grade once all requirements have been met.
- b. A current grade 7 referee is seeking recertification, however, the referee did not meet the requirements of section 5.2 of the RI referee handbook with respect to annual game counts. The referee has officiated a number of games in Massachusetts in 2011. By unanimous consent, the committee voted to offer the referee the option between a transfer to Massachusetts at grade 7 or a downgrade to grade 8 in Rhode Island.

10. SRA's Closing Remarks

- a. The State Referee Committee congratulates Joao "John" Ferreira, a grade 5 referee and RISL president, who was recently inducted into the New England Soccer Hall of Fame.
- b. The recent fitness test was a success. 24 referees passed the fitness test.

11. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.
- b. A holiday gathering will be held in lieu of the December meeting of the State Referee Committee. Regular meetings will resume on January 12, 2012.