



# Central Oregon Soccer Officials Association Newsletter

November 23, 2017

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

Hi Everybody! Happy Thanksgiving to the entire Soccer Referee Community & Family!

I just had a few things to wrap up our High School Soccer Season.

- **THANK YOU** to all of you for helping cover all the games this past High School Soccer Season! Unbelievable! Incredible! Crazy! We had so many games and so few Referees ... but collectively, we somehow made sacrifices and covered all the games. I personally didn't think we would make it through that season, but you guys made it work! THANK YOU for all your dedication and support of High School Soccer!
- In case you hadn't heard or seen it in the Newspaper ... the winner of our Gregory Scott River Sportsmanship Award (as selected by everybody at our last meeting of the year) was **Rylee Weber from Sisters High School**. Thank you to Steve Kurzer & CJ Johnson for representing COSOA and going to the Sisters High School Soccer Team Banquet to present Rylee with the Scholarship and recognizing her in front of her teammates, coaches and parents. As always, the presentation of this award is uplifting and amazing not just for the recipient of the award, but also the entire team, the coaches, parents and soccer community. It's a feature in the caps of each one of the Referees for contributing to the award and our Association.



Rylee has led by example all year long and was a leader on the Sisters Girls Soccer Team. She was positive and supportive of her teammates and coaches and respectful of her opponents and contest officials. She was the first person there to pick up whoever had been knocked to the ground!

She is involved in Student Government, volunteered for the Family Access Network. She teaches pre-school at Church once a month and is on track to graduate with a 3.8 GPA. We had two other outstanding nominees in Sierra Cassaro (Ridgeview HS) and Kylee Roath (Bend HS). All three nominees were outstanding student athletes and the epitome of good sportsmanship and leadership this past season.

You all deserve a hand for donating a portion your game fees to help fund and support this scholarship.

- I think we all need to send **Nathaniel Collins** an email or text and thank him for all his hard work assigning and covering all the High School (and Youth) games this past season. He put in a ton of hours filling in last minutes cancellations and last minute additions to the schedule! He made sure all the games were covered and did his best to keep everybody happy (which is an impossible task). Aside from all the time and effort that Nathaniel put into the Assigning this past year, he also made sure each and every one of us was paid for our work throughout the season and in a timely manner!

- I all also need to thank **Steve Kurzer & Pat Evoy** for all their work and preparation at each one of our General Meetings. We had wonderful training sessions throughout the season because of their hard work and dedication. **Steve** has been an incredible COSOA President for

the last 6 or 7 years and has brought class, integrity, eloquence, consistency and excellence to the position and our Association. **Pat** was also incredible in helping both Nathaniel and me in our first year as Assignor and Commissioner, as well as serving as Mentor and Instructor for each and every one of us.

- Another tireless servant of our Association who deserves recognition and applause is **Keith Erickson**. Keith limped into the season after a rough summer of Doctor appointments and surgeries; but he still clocked in for work and mentored and tried to help as many of our younger and newer officials as he could. We would stink as an Association, if we didn't have our Mentors (Keith & Pat) and Keith is the elder statesman and longest serving Association member.

- Thank you to all of the folks who stepped up to serve as our Association Officers for next year:

- Mike Armstrong (President) – who is unfortunately moving to Hong Kong in a few months because of a new job and had to resign from his newly elected position. He will be missed and hard to replace!
- Marko Alexander (Vice President) – 2<sup>nd</sup> longest serving COSOA member!
- Mike Prochaska (Secretary) – thank you for all the wonderful Meeting Minutes and keeping our website updated.
- Nathaniel Collins (Treasurer) – already mentioned what a work-horse and stud he is!

- Uniforms or Referee Jerseys ... remember that by 2018 ... we sort of want to start our transition to the new jerseys. You might hint to your spouses, family members or friends who might be thinking of you over the Holidays about the new Referee Jerseys. Make sure you are ***not buying the Old Style Jerseys anymore*** ... even though they are going for dirt cheap on the internet and that you are ordering the New Jerseys if you are buying new gear for next year. Whether you buy the Short or Long Sleeve is up to you, but the recommended jerseys for our Association are the Yellow, Green & Red. You can buy as many different colors as you want, but those three should cover you for all the Central Oregon Games that we would be working. As far as the warm-up jacket and pants, the majority of our Referees seem to have the Black Warm-Ups, and we have basically designated the predominately black warm-up jacket and pants as our association warm-up over the years.

	New Jersey for 2018	If you buy a set of warm-ups	Old Jersey <b>(Don't buy these)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Choice		  	 <p>Don't buy this style</p>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice			 <p>Don't buy this style</p>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice			 <p>Don't buy this style</p>

- If you are interested in sitting on, contributing and becoming more involved with the COSOA Executive Board, please get in touch with me. We are always looking for new folks, new ideas and more diversity in our Executive Board and welcome members who wish to have a say in the direction of the organization.
- Be on the lookout and continue to recruit new Referees for next year! Because of the recent reclassification, we are going to have more soccer games to cover next year than this year. We currently have the majority of our varsity matches scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but again because of the new reclassification, there is talk of possibly playing the 6A varsity matches on Mondays and Wednesdays and the 5A/4A and other matches on Tuesdays and Thursdays. What that means is that we would have 4 'heavy' days per week, instead of just 2 and it will also be hard to stack the games, since we are going to be hosting more out of town teams. Realistically, we are going to need 10-15 more Referees than we had this year!
- We will continue to work this winter on our Referee Feedback Form and try and continue to improve our Association and help upgrade ourselves from within.
- We may have a new client for COSOA soon. Bend Metro Park & Rec. is currently talking with COSOA about assigning Referees for their adult Recreational games coming up in the Spring and Summer. You'll hear more about this from Nathaniel, if it ends up being something we are able to staff and assign.

I think that's it! I hope everybody has a great Holiday Season and I look forward to seeing everybody again in the Spring and Fall.

Mehdi  
High School Soccer Commissioner, COSOA

## **--- UPCOMING EVENTS ---**

Please stick these dates and times on your calendar.

Nothing planned at this time ... but we'll probably have a Grade 8 USSF Training Course sometime in late March or early April.

We may also try and add a General Training Meeting or two for our Youth and Spring Referees in April.

**COSOA EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
**CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>HOME PHONE</b>	<b>CELL PHONE</b>
Currently Open	COSOA President		
Marko Alexander	COSOA V.P.		541-480-2317
Mike Prochaska	COSOA Sec. & Website Admin.		206-856-6529
Nathaniel Collins	COSOA Assignor & Treasurer	541-548-8743	541-604-1513
Pat Evoy	USSF Instructor, Assessor & Mentor		541-480-4917
Keith Erickson	Mentor & Assessor		541-390-5190
Mardy Madison	COSOA Regional Rep. (Bend)		541-410-2171
Del Abbott	COSOA Regional Rep. (Outside Bend)		541-420-3166
Currently Open	COSOA Youth Liaison		
Mehdi Salari	COSOA High School Commissioner		541-350-1083

***If you no longer wish to receive emails from the Central Oregon Soccer Officials Association, please reply back and put 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.***