CASRA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – 15 April 2026

TIME:1845HRS – 1955HRS

LOCATION: 5012 BALLANTINE DRIVE, NORTH CHARLESTON SC

MEETING LEADER; JOHN KENNEY (President)

Secretary: Andre Woolcock

Attendees: John Kenney/ James Klien / Kathrynn Perry / Tim Yonce / Raymond Newman / Andre Woolcock

Purpose of Meeting: Mentorship, Mentor App demo, and provide updates of old business

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Summary of CASRA meeting recap:

Overview

- Licensing & staffing: purchased more Arbiter licenses, now 350 seats; staffing gap remains for some mentors/referees, and several new referees have not activated accounts. Arbiter licenses increased to 350 to cover more referees and mentors; some new referees (including apprentices) have not accepted group invites or set themselves up, leading to unused license seats. - Current active referees in system discussed is roughly 300–341 range (estimates spoken), with 34 reps marked "As Not Ready". - Summer attrition is expected (college, vacations); assignments and mentor slots were posted to cover games through playoffs and remaining season dates.

Action Items:

- Kathryn - Contact mentor/Robin- Speak with the named contact to confirm mentor availability and which assignment slots they can cover; report which games/slots to plug into Arbiter. - Speaker B - Make parent/guardian field required Test and, if feasible, update the CASRA membership form to make parent/guardian emergency contact fields required for youth registrations and confirm behavior for optional vs required flows.

-Raymond - Website hosting costs under review; the board is cautious about recurring platform fees. Plan to migrate GoDaddy site to a cheaper host next year to reduce recurring fees. Solution: Migrate website hosting and execute migration plan to the current GoDaddy site to a lower-cost host next year; run parallel setup in advance and coordinate transfer of DNS and certificates at year-end.

- Red Card Report - A form for submitting red and yellow card reports is now available on the CASRA website. Located top right with a red & yellow image. This feeds a database that the ARA/mentors review and forward to relevant leagues; board to encourage usage for consistent records and feedback.

- CASRA membership form updated; parent/guardian contact fields appear for youth entries — board requested making emergency contact/guardian fields required to avoid losing crucial information.

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Kathryn - Mentoring app is in pilot, captures match events and fouls metadata. Demonstrated key features: event clock, tappable field map, dropdown event types (foul, offside, goal, cautions), voice-to-text notes and assignment tagging for officials.
- App captures metadata and produces ordered match notes and summary metrics (foul counts, cards, goals); still somewhat buggy but promising for mentor adoption. Board agreed to pilot the app with mentors and referee coaches; possibility to provide free access to mentors and coaches as testers and to present aggregated data to states/USSF if scaled.

Referee training & mentoring - Mentoring sessions suggested at tournaments and general membership meetings rather than separate clinics; plan to run short on-field sessions and mid-event pre-meetings at tournaments where feasible.

- Whistle clinics and on-field training received mixed attendance; idea to run short 30–90-minute practical sessions tied to event schedules (for example, Friday pre-meet at tournaments when referees converge at hotels).

Approaches:

- Mentors recommended focusing on man-management and calm, clear messaging to defuse coach interactions rather than immediately escalating to sanctions

Tim - Events & scheduling: state cups and playoffs running now (finals early May); end-of-season / membership meeting planning targeted for late June / July 1; tournaments used as mentoring/training opportunities.

- T-shirt / merch plan: discuss purchasing bulk shirts (starter kit idea) for distribution to new referees and at watch points; estimated sample pricing $15 per basic shirt, discussion around ordering 100 units to lower unit cost.

Events & Scheduling - State cups and league playoffs are active now; many playoff matches concentrated over two weekends in May.

- End-of-season / membership meeting: target July 1 (Wednesday) to gather mentors before summer departures and to deliver education, recognition and short training (whistle demo, coach-communication guidance).

- Consider using local futsal/soccer facilities (with TVs / meeting space) or nearby bars/restaurants (age-friendly venues) for combined social and education events.

Recognition & morale

- Discussed honoring long-serving contributors with non-fiscal recognition: public acknowledgement at membership meeting, a modest gift certificate or dinner voucher, and possible small commemorative items. - End-of-season ideas: social gathering with food truck, raffle giveaways, halftime education reels, and branded T-shirts to increase visibility and reward volunteers.

Recruitment & retention

- Recruiting at tournaments is difficult because attendees are busy; better success when reaching out to local rec teams and younger referees (peer referrals encouraged). - Focus suggested on converting interested rec parents/players by explaining certification requirements and starter-kit costs, and by offering mentorship slots and on-field experience.

Next Outlook

- Pilot the mentoring app with mentors and link it to Arbiter mentor slots; encourage mentors to use the red-card jot form on the CASRA site.

- Plan a general membership meeting around late June / July 1 to combine recognition, short training (whistle demo, coach communication), and social elements.

- Continue web migration planning to reduce hosting fees and finalize T-shirt order quantities for onboarding/new-referee distribution.

- New guidance reiterated: coaches should not approach referees at halftime; only captains may approach between intervals; referees must direct coaches to send a captain if necessary. Several incidents reviewed where coaches were "chirping" from the sidelines or approaching referees; board emphasized consistent, respectful enforcement and use of the red-card jot form when appropriate.