

Cal South appoints Juan Guzman, Jr. as its new State Referee Administrator



FULLERTON, Calif. (Thursday, December 26, 2019) – Cal South announced today that it has appointed Juan Guzman, Jr. as its new State Referee Administrator. Guzman will assume his duties as of Monday, January 6, 2020.

“We are excited to see Juan return to his home State Association and assume the leadership role for our Referee Program”, stated Cal South President Cindy Quan. “Watching Juan’s development and ascension to the professional and international game from his early days in Cal South is something we’re very proud of and we’re honored to have Juan on-board as he leads our Referee Program into the years ahead.”

Guzman joins Cal South with vast experience in the world of referees. Among his most notable experience, Guzman served as a Referee for the Professional Referee Organization (PRO), officiating in Major League Soccer and the United Soccer League (USL) as Referee or Fourth Official for eight years and over 150 games in stadiums throughout the country and Canada. Guzman, a native of La Puente, Calif., has also traveled to Central America and parts of North America to serve as a FIFA Referee. Most recently, he served as Nevada Youth Soccer Association’s Referee Administrator.

Guzman’s referee career began in Cal South as an 11-year-old. At the time, his father, also a referee, was missing his assistant

referee in a Men's adult amateur league final, and the younger Guzman became the only option for the game to go on. Guzman continued to develop as a referee and was later identified and invited to the Cal South Referee Mentor Program Camp by Cal South Hall of Famer Heros Baghoumian, who was the State Youth Referee Administrator at the time. Through the lessons, skills and values learned in the camp, Guzman earned the opportunity to officiate in three US Youth Soccer Far West Regional Championships, two National Championship Series Finals, Olympic Development Program National Championships, and Adult Regional and National Championships.

"I want to thank the Cal South Board of Directors and its Chief Executive Officer Johnnie Garza for selecting me as Cal South State Referee Administrator," Guzman said. "I am truly humbled and grateful for this opportunity. My mission is to inject motivation, core values, clear structure, modern thinking and professionalism to propel us toward the future and solidify our reign as the top referee program in the country."

"The Cal South structured referee program and mentorship allowed me to develop and compete at the highest stages," Guzman said. "I am proud of our program and forever will be an advocate for Cal South."

The Cal South SRA serves in the primary leadership role as it relates to all Cal South Referee Programs and administration in addition to administering the U.S. Soccer Federation National Program for Referee Development for all affiliated soccer within Cal South.

Juan and his wife Marbella have three children, two sons, Axel Xavi and Liam Xanti, 7 years old and 2 years old , and a six-month old daughter, Xyli Belle.

