



**New South Wales Rugby League
Referees' Association Inc.**

**90TH
ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1997**

**President
I. McCall**

**Secretary
L. Matthews**

**Treasurer
P. Filmer**



ANSETT AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

Patron:	.....
President:	.....
Secretary:	.....
Treasurer:	.....
Deputy Chairman:	.....
Assistant Secretary:	.....
Delegate to N.S.W.R.L. Ltd.:	.....
Deputy Delegate to N.S.W.R.L. Ltd.:	.....
Social Secretary:	.....
Sponsorship Co-ordinator:	.....
Committee:	.....
Sponsorship Committee:	.....
Social Committee:	.....
George & Amy Hansen Memorial Trophy Committee:	.....
Seminar Committee:	.....
Fees Committee:
Auditors:

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

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REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1997

OPTUS CUP GRAND FINALS

1st Grade

NEWCASTLE V MANLY-WARRINGAH

Referee	Touch Judges
D. Manson	P. Cooley C.White
	In-Goal Judges
	P. Macinante T. Peet

Reserve Grade (Presidents Cup)

PARRAMATTA V BALMAIN

Referee	Touch Judge
K.Jeffes	L. Edney S.Betts
	In-Goal Judges
	B. Mathews M. Ryan

Under 20s (J. Flegg Cup)

SYDNEY CITY V BALMAIN

Referee	Touch Judge
P. McBlane	B. Gilchrist J. McCormack
	In-Goal Judges
	G. Henderson D. Turvey

Standby - 1st Grade

Referee	Touch Judge
M. Hewitt	P. Field

Standby - Reserve Grade & Under 20s

Referee	Touch Judge
S. Hampstead	T. Danks

1997 OPTUS CUP 1ST GRADE REFEREES

S. Hampstead	M. Hewitt	M. Jadwat	K.Jeffes	P. McBlane
T. Maksoud	D. Manson	M. Oaten	P. Simpkins	E. Ward

REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1997

N.S.W COMBINED HIGH SCHOOLS FINALS

UNIVERSITY SHIELD

TOORMINA HIGH V CAMDEN HIGH

Referee

T. Archer

Touch Judges

B. Ruttle

A. Farlow

BUCKLEY SHIELD

WESTFIELDS SPORTS HIGH V SCONE HIGH

Referee

S. Lyons

Touch Judges

M. Cafarelli

P. Hewitt

INTER-DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE FINALS

S.G. BALL

Referee

J. Weinstein

Touch Judges

P. Reynolds

L. Bugden

HAROLD MATTHEWS CUP

Referee

S. Boag

Touch Judges

B. Levy

R. Turner

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS 1997

Australia v The Rest of the World

Referee

D. Manson

Touch Judges

L. Edney

J. McCormack

In-Goal Judges

D. Turvey

P. Murray

Australian School Boys V B.A.R.L.A.

Referee

P. Simpkins

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 90th Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the Gazebo Hotel, 350 Church Street, Parramatta on *SAT*, 29th November 1997, commencing at 11.00am.

You are cordially invited to attend.

The Order of Business will be:-

1. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
2. Correspondence
3. Secretary's Report
4. Financial Statement and Auditor's Report
5. Election of Office Bearers
6. Other Elections
7. Notice of Motion
8. Committee Recommendations
9. Life Membership Recommendations
10. General Business

Les Matthews
Hon. Secretary
8 Harrison Street
ASHCROFT 2168
Ph: (H) (02) 9826 0971
(F) (02) 9607 2199

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

OFFICE BEARERS – SEASON 1997

Patron: Mr. K. Jeffes

President: Mr. I. McCall

Secretary: Mr. L. Matthews

Treasurer: Mr. P. Filmer

Deputy Chairman: Mr. D. Spagarino

Assistant Secretary: Mr. M. Ryan

Delegate to N.S.W.R.L.: Mr. D. Wintin

Deputy Delegate to N.S.W.R.L.: Mr. M. Ryan

Social Secretary: Mr. B. Ruttle

Sponsorship Co-ordinator: Mr. R. Styles

Committee of Management:

Messrs. I. McCall, L. Matthews, P. Filmer, D. Spagarino, D. Wintin, B. Ruttle,
R. Styles, P. Cooley and K. Roberts

Sponsorship Committee:

Messrs. I. McCall, L. Matthews, P. Filmer, R. Styles, P. Cooley and B. Gilchrist

Social Committee:

Messrs. S. Betts and P. Kelly

Hansen Memorial Trophy Committee:

Messrs I. McCall, L. Matthews, P. Filmer, M. Ryan, B. Ruttle, P. Cooley,
D. Spagarino, P. Ryan and D. Wintin

Seminar Committee:

Messrs I. McCall, L. Matthews, P. Filmer, B. Styles,
B. Gilchrist and G. West

Fees Committee:

Messrs I. McCall, L. Matthews, P. Filmer,
M. Howell and G. West

Auditors: Messrs M. Dunn and P. Longhurst

Sponsorship Liaison Officer: Mr. L. Plowes

REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1997

STATE OF ORIGIN N.S.W V QUEENSLAND

1st BRISBANE

Referee
K. Jeffes

Touch Judges
P. Cooley C. White
In-Goal Judges
P. Kalina B. Mathews

2nd MELBOURNE

Referee
D. Manson

Touch Judges
S. Betts L. Edney
In-Goal Judges
S. Villa M. Ryan

3rd SYDNEY

Referee
E. Ward

Touch Judges
B. Gilchrist J. McCormack
In-Goal Judges
T. Peet P. Macinante

TASMANIAN RUGBY LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

HOBART TIGERS V AMC LAUNCESTON CLIPPERS

Referee
R. Lawrence

METROPOLITAN CUP GRAND FINALS

NEWTOWN V GUILDFORD - 1ST GRADE

Referee
N. Almond

Touch Judges
B. Bonnie K. Russell

WENTWORTHVILLE V KELLYVILLE - RESERVE GRADE

Referee
M. Lewis

Touch Judges
P. Digby M. Cafarelli

AUSSIE HOME LOANS CUP FINAL

PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL V ERINDALE COLLEGE

Referee
S. Hampstead

Touch Judges
J. Belgre R. Brown

REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1997

METROPOLITAN CUP - CHALLENGE SHIELD FINAL

ST MARYS V MOOREBANK

Referee

S. Clapson

Touch Judges

P. Digby

O. Smith

SYDNEY METROS V BRISBANE CAPITALS

Referee

M. Lewis

Touch Judges

P. Macinante

B. Mathews

SYDNEY ORIGIN V COUNTRY ORIGIN

Referee

D. Manson

Touch Judges

B. Gilchrist

B. Foran (Group 7)

In-Goal Judges

S. Villa

R. Williams (Newcastle)

SYDNEY METROPOLITAN CUP V N.S.W. COUNTRY FIRSTS

Referee

R. Inskip (Group 16)

Touch Judges

C. Jones

J. Cullen (Group 2)

CITY U/18 V COUNTRY U/18

Referee

A. Riolo (Illawarra)

Touch Judges

T. Peet

T. Hardy (Newcastle)

CITY U/17 V COUNTRY U/17

Referee

M. Jadwat

Touch Judges

P. Duncan

P. Digby

N.S.W. RESIDENTS V QUEENSLAND RESIDENTS

Referee

R. Lawrence

Touch Judges

J. Belgre

A. Farlow

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

PATRON'S REPORT

With the closing of the 97 season the final stages have witnessed much success for Rugby League as we know it, both on and off the field, especially with the final series fixtures producing football of a very high and entertaining standard.

During the season our referees have acquitted themselves well, with many of our ex-junior representative members making their presence felt in the graded ranks with appointments to higher grades as Centre men or Touch Judges. Congratulations to all our active members for your high standard of performances throughout the year.

To the Executive and your Committees, you are to be commended on your efforts and guidance in making 1997 a happy and successful season.

What 1998 has in store for us is in obedience at this time, but I am sure the right decisions will be made to keep Rugby League as the game we know and love.

It has been my honour and privilege to serve as your Patron, and I take this opportunity to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a successful 1998.

KEVIN JEFFES
Patron

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

The 1997 season, like its predecessor was conducted in an environment surrounded by uncertainty and speculation about the future of Rugby League in our country. In spite of this, we were witness to numerous magnificent games of Rugby League in the Optus Cup competition, culminating in an exciting Final Series that had no equal. The professional performances of our centre referees, touch judges and in-goal judges contributed greatly to a most successful competition.

During the year the Association embarked on a program aimed at developing and strengthening the bond of friendship existing between us and our major sponsor FAI, our associate sponsor Ansett Australia and our shoe sponsor Saucony. To this end, representatives of the three companies were entertained at each of the State of Origin fixtures, the final series and several other social functions. The support and enthusiasm displayed by the sponsors left little doubt that the concept was well received and that is a foundation upon which a long term partnership can be built. On behalf of all members of the Association I extend our gratitude to Lindsay Plowes, Bob Styles and Brian Gilchrist for their contribution to the success of this venture.

The Australian and New South Wales Rugby League underwent several administrative changes. John McDonald (ARL President), Warren Lockwood (NSWRL President) and Neil Whittaker (ARL and NSWRL CEO) replaced Ken Arthurson and John Quayle. Whilst we congratulate the new incumbents and thank them for their support during the season, we also extend our sincere gratitude to Ken Arthurson and John Quayle for their contribution to the

welfare of the Association over many years. Furthermore the Association is grateful for the continued support given by Geoff Carr, Brad Levy, Michael Stone and other members of the league staff.

Congratulations are extended to those members who were honoured during the year for deeds on and off the Rugby League playing field. In particular, to David Manson, Kelvin Jeffs and Eddie Ward (State of Origin Referees), David Manson (Optus Cup Grand Final referee), Les Matthews (Life Membership of the NSWRL) and Martin Weekes and Denis Spagarino (Life Membership of NSWRL Referees' Association). Whilst their achievements brought immense credit upon themselves they also brought great credit upon the Association.

Our social events were well conducted and well patronised. Increases in attendance at each function was a feature. Barry Ruttle and his Social Committee members Steve Betts and Peter Kelly are to be congratulated on their endeavours as their efforts contributed greatly to the high morale existing between members of the Association.

In conclusion, I wish to personally thank my fellow Executive Committee members and other Office Bearers of the Association for the cooperation and support given throughout the season. To each and every member I extend my gratitude for granting me the honour and opportunity to serve as your President.

IAN MCCALL
Chairman

POSITIONS HELD BY MEMBERS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN R.L. LTD & N.S.W. RUGBY LEAGUE LTD.

A.R.L. BOARD & N.S.W.R.L. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. T. Bellew O.A.M.

VICE PRESIDENTS

Messrs E. Cox and R. O'Donnell

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Messrs L. Matthews and D. Wintin

OPTUS CUP REFEREES COACHING CO-ORDINATOR

Mr M. Stone

REFEREES ADVISORY BOARD

Messrs B. Bolton, J. Connor, M. Dunn, M. Edwards, P. Eliss, P. Filmer, J. Griffiths, K. Jeffes, I. McCall, R. Pearce, K. Roberts, M. Ryan, P. Ryan, D. Spagarino, M. Tomsett, D. Wintin, J. Yard

EXAMINATION BOARD

Mr. J. Harris

CHAIRMAN INTER-DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT BOARD

Mr L. Matthews

NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN (REFEREEING) COMMITTEE

Messrs I. McCall and L. Matthews

NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN (REFEREEING) REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS

Messrs. J. Harris, B. Ruttle and P. Stuart

COACHING COUNCIL

Mr K. Holman O.B.E.

METROPOLITAN CUP COMMITTEE

Mr T. Bellew O.A.M, I. McCall and L. Matthews

DIRECTOR OF THE N.S.W. LEAGUES CLUB

Mr E. Cox

LIAISON OPERATIONS OFFICER

Mr E. Cox

INTER-DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE REFEREES SQUAD 1997

Andrews	Dennis.....	Newcastle
Badger	Gavin.....	South Sydney
Bailey	Gerard.....	North Sydney
Bettiol	Chris.....	Canterbury-Bankstown
Boag	Sean.....	St George
Bugden	Luke.....	Balmain
Butler	John.....	South Sydney
Capararo	Jason.....	Newcastle
Capon	Michael.....	South Sydney
Dorahy	Phillip.....	Parramatta
Edwards	Skye.....	North Sydney
Fisher	Des.....	Parramatta
Haynes	Michael.....	North Sydney
Holland	Paul.....	Parramatta
Hope	Paul.....	Parramatta
Jankowski	George.....	Penrith
Jones	Aaron.....	Penrith
Kearny	Michael.....	Western Suburbs
Levy	Brad.....	Parramatta
Lombardo	David.....	North Sydney
Marr	Michael.....	Manly-Warringah
Murphy	Scott.....	Illawarra
Paolini	Joe.....	Parramatta
Penfold	Luke (Graded 14/4/97).....	Cronulla
Potter	Luke.....	Illawarra
Reynolds	Pat.....	Parramatta
Robb	David.....	Cronulla-Sutherland
Robinson	Jason.....	Penrith
Rye	Brad.....	Western Suburbs
Shears	Wayne.....	Western Suburbs
Shortall	Alan.....	Parramatta
Tamine	John.....	Canterbury-Bankstown
Todd	Scott (Graded 14/4/97).....	Balmain
Turner	Russell.....	Penrith
Walsh	Jason.....	Manly-Warringah
Ward	Mark.....	Western Suburbs
Watson	Stan.....	North Sydney
Weinstien	Jason.....	Western Suburbs
Williams	Ryan.....	South Sydney
Wyld	Scott.....	Newcastle
Yates	Jenny.....	Penrith
Younis	Jeffrey.....	Balmain

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr Chairman and Members,
It is with pleasure that I submit for your perusal and subsequent adoption, the 90th Annual Report and Financial statement for season 1997.

The Executive and Members are very grateful of the support given to the Association by the Australian Rugby League, major sponsor FAI, sleeve sponsor Ansett and footwear sponsor Saucony, we look forward to a long and continuing association.

To FAI welcome, the first year of a three year sponsorship has been completed and although for the first time there were two competitions played, the Australian Rugby League more than held its own against the other competition to maintain its ranking as the major Rugby League competition. All members hope it is a long and rewarding sponsorship to both parties.

Prior to the commencement of the 1997 season we saw the retirement from the grade ranks of Tony Butler, Allan Caddy, Wayne Close, Rod Fielding, Phil Houston, Kevin Mahon, Ian Mackintosh, Keith Neale, Ian Parnaby, Bruce Stone, Peter Watkins and Wayne Wool. We wish them well and thank them for their assistance to the Association.

Trevor Davies once again was appointed Fitness Co-ordinator for the Optus Cup, Metropolitan Cup and Inter-District Junior Representative squad members. Tony Maksoud (Brisbane) and Scott Urquhart (Newcastle) who were appointed to assist Trevor to look after the fitness of the outside Sydney Graded and Junior Representative Cup referees in their areas.

Denis Spagarino and Kevin Roberts (Referees' coaches), Ian McCall and Max Tomsett (Touch Judge coaches) where

appointed at the start of the season for a two year period to assist Michael Stone with the skills coaching and appointments of the Optus Cup Referees.

Michael Ryan, Peter Filmer and Kevin Jeffes were appointed at the start of the season for a two year period to coach and develop Inter-District Junior Representative Referees. Before the start of the competition Kevin Jeffes announced he was stepping down as a coach of the squad, Max Dunn was appointed to replace Kevin. To Kevin thank you for your help and guidance with the squad over the years.

The Executive and members visited many affiliated, Inter-state & Country Associations during the season and as always were well received.

SOCIAL

The social start to the 1997 season was the pre-season B.B.Q at Barry Ruttle's home, a smaller than expected crowd enjoyed the evening.

A very enjoyable evening was had by all that attended the night at the Koas Comedy Theatre.

The All schools Carnival was held in the South Sydney district this year. Our Social Secretary Barry Ruttle arranged dinner and drinks for the country referees on the Monday evening at South Sydney Juniors Leagues Club, an enjoyable evening was had by all who attended.

The Executive entertained fifty two senior Members of the Association and sponsors representatives at the Appreciation Dinner held at the Sydney Football Stadium. A special thanks to David Manson, Phil Cooley and Col White for attending to meet and talk to our guests. To the

SECRETARY'S REPORT

N.S.W. Rugby League thank you for supplying complimentary tickets for the day.

The Life Members Reunion Dinner was an outstanding success. To all members, delegates and guests that attended, thank you for your participation in making it such an enjoyable evening. Once again Doug Wintin presented his special awards for the year and there certainly was some red faces amongst the recipients, well done Doug. Special thanks to Paul Yu and his staff for the catering at this function.

The Association is trying a new concept this year by holding the Annual Presentation Dinner later in the year at the Gazebo Hotel Parramatta, on Saturday night following the annual training run. The Association is hopeful this will enable all members and their partners to attend the function.

To Barry Ruttle (Social Secretary), Peter Kelly and Steve Betts thank you for your efforts with social functions during the year.

SPONSORSHIP

To Lois Burns Advertising Manager with FAI, thank you for your involvement with social functions during the year and we look forward to your continued support.

To Ansett Australia as Sleeve Sponsor for 1997 thank you for your support.

Congratulations to Phil Cooley on securing Saucony as a Footwear Sponsor for the 1997 season.

To Lindsay Plowes thank you for your assistance and support as Sponsorship Liaison Officer a job well done.

To Bob Styles (Sponsorship Co-ordinator) and his committee, Phil Cooley and Bryan Gilchrist, thank you for your efforts throughout the year.

CONGRATULATIONS

To David Manson on being appointed to his second successive 1st Grade Optus Cup Grand Final. The Prime Minister Mr John Howard presented David, after the game with the N.S.W. Rugby League Referees Association Commemorative Trophy.

To the Australian Rugby League on an outstanding year and a great Finals Series to finish on a good note.

To David Manson on his appointment to the Australia v The Rest of The World appointment.

To Kelvin Jeffes, David Manson and Eddie Ward on their appointments to the three (3) State of Origin Fixtures.

To Moghseen Jadwat on his initial Optus Cup 1st Grade appointments.

To Phil Cooley, Col White (Touch Judges), Paul Macinante and Tom Peet (In-Goal Judges) on their appointment to the Optus Cup 1st Grade Grand Final.

To North Sydney Referees' Association on their 75th Anniversary.

Congratulations also to all members appointed to Representative Fixtures during the season, also to those taking part in the Optus Cup Finals Series and Metropolitan Cup Finals series in 1997, you carried out your appointments with great credit to the Australian & N.S.W. Rugby League and your Association.

REFEREES' ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED WITH N.S.W.R.L. REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC. DELEGATES ATTENDANCES 1997 6 Meetings Held

BALMAIN	L. Bugden	4	S. Todd	3
CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN	S. Issa	3		
CRONULLA-SUTHERLAND	G. Jackson	4	L. Penfold	1
GOLD COAST (GROUP 18)	M. Ryan	6		
ILLAWARRA	B. Bonnie	6		
MANLY-WARRINGAH	J. Walsh	4		
NEWCASTLE	P. Digby	6		
N.S.W. COUNTRY	K. Riolo	1	N. Best	1
NORTH SYDNEY	S. Watson	5		
PARRAMATTA	A. Essey	4	P. Dorahy	1
PENRITH	G. Jankowski	5	J. Skinner	3
PUBLIC SERVICE	D. Jay	1		
QUEENSLAND	B. Logan	1		
ST GEORGE	S. Boag	2		
SOUTH SYDNEY	J. Butler	2		
UNIVERSITY CUP	P. Deprez	1		
VICTORIA	S. Todd	3		
WESTERN SUBURBS	M. Kearney	4	M. Ward	3
VISITORS	V. Pitt	5		
	D. Cuthbertson	1		

HONORARY MEMBERS 1997 AND ATTENDANCE 6 Meetings Held

A. Aggett	-	P. Fitton	1	D. McLean	5
K. Allard	-	P. Freeman	-	P. McMahon	-
B. Apps	-	R. Freeman	-	P. Moon	-
B. Barnes	-	B. Goldsworthy	1	R. Morris	-
M. Beacroft	-	K. Gray	-	K. Neale	-
M. Bilton	-	B. Grech	-	G. O'Donnell	-
N. Bissett	3	J. Griffith	5	M. O'Neill	-
J. Blomfield	-	G. Haines	-	R. Pearce	4
P. Bowen	1	L. Harrigan	-	B. Pearson	-
R. Bowman	-	C. Haynes	-	A. Perry	1
D. Bowron	-	G. Heaton	-	R. Picard	-
G. Boyd	-	G. Hedger	-	M. Presland	-
A. Butler	-	R. Hensley	-	L. Randle	-
R. Carey	-	G. Herd	-	B. Reedy	-
S. Carrall	1	K. Holman, M.B.E	-	A. See	-
M. Cassidy	-	K. Holwell	-	A. Sercombe	-
N. Cislowski	-	R. Humphreys	-	R. Sinclair	-
S. Clark	-	B. Hunt	-	I. Smith	-
W. Close	-	B. Keenahan	-	P. Stuart	1
A. Cole	-	G. Kellahan	1	M. Taylor	-
G. Cook	-	B. Kendall	-	J. Turner	-
B. Cripps	-	R. Kiddle	-	L. Turner	1
B. Cross	-	S. Laws	-	B. Wales	-
K. Davis	-	G. Lee	-	R. Warner	1
T. Delauney	-	T. Mander	-	P. Watkins	1
C. Dimon	-	K. Manton	-	J. Whybrow	-
M. Dunn	4	G. McGilvray	-	R. Williams	-
M. Edwards	2	V. McGuinness	-	S. Williams	-
G. Elias	-	B. McIntosh	-	A. Willis	-
R. Fielding	-	R. McLannett	-	J. Yard	-

HONORARY ASSOCIATE MEMBERS FOR LIFE 6 Meetings Held

J. R. Drewes	D	H. Gillard	D	L. Plowes	4
W. Fallowfield O.B.E	D	P. Goener	-		
K. Gardner	D	W. Petley D.F.C.C.deG	D		

SECRETARY'S REPORT

To John Coates, Tom Bellew and the clubs involved with the successful running of the Metropolitan Cup Competition.

To the Newcastle Club on winning their initial 1st Grade Optus Cup Grand Final, also to the Parramatta Club on winning the 2nd Grade Optus Cup Grand Final and to Balmain on winning the Jersey Flegg Competition.

To the Newtown club on winning the 1st Grade Metropolitan Cup Grand Final and to the Wentworthville club on winning the 2nd Grade Grand Final.

Life Membership honours are to be bestowed on Dennis Spagarino and Martin Weekes for their services to the Association at the Annual Presentation Dinner.

The George and Amy Hansen Memorial Trophy will be awarded at the Annual Presentation Dinner.

The recipient of the Frank Walsh Memorial Trophy this year was Jason Weinstein from the Western Suburbs Referees Association. This trophy is awarded annually to the referee who is appointed to the highest Inter District Cup Final.

THANKS

To Neil Whittaker, Warren Lockwood, Geoff Carr, Gwen Ford, Chris Turner, John Coates, Joanne Farr, Brad Levy and Martin Meredith, thank you for your support and assistance throughout the year.

Nick Euclid (Queensland), Nick Best and Kevin Riolo (Country Referees Associations) thank you for your support throughout the year to this Association.

To Michael Stone, Referees' Coaching Co-ordinator, a job very well done in a difficult year with constant pressures.

To Trevor Davies our Fitness Trainer and his staff thank you for your support and enthusiasm during a long season, all members would like to thank you on a job well done.

The staff of the N.S.W. Rugby League Ltd thank you for your assistance and courtesies extended to the Association during the year.

To Chris Bowden and the Board of Directors of the N.S.W. Leagues Club, Paul Yu and his staff thank you for your assistance throughout 1997.

To all District Associations and Inter-State Referees' Associations who entertained our representatives during the year.

To the Executive officers of affiliated Referees' Associations, thank you for your support throughout the year.

To all Regional Co-ordinators, District Association coaches and examiners thank you for the time and effort put in by you in the recruitment of future referees.

To the Masseurs, Larry Etccl, John Griffith, Bruce Hardy, Sam Morgan (Qld.), Dennis Regan, Graham Richards, Keith Rogers, Corey Ruttle, Michael Seery, Michael Smith, Don Stuart, Ian Todd, Scott Urquhart, Peter Van Dijk and Len White thank you for your efforts throughout the year.

VALE

Season 1997 saw the passing of one Life Member:-
Albert Holt Passed away on the 3/7/97
Life Member 1966

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Harry Pierce Passed away on the 3/11/97
Life Member 1963

To members who suffered bereavement during the year in their families, the Committee on behalf of all members offers sincere condolences.

On behalf of all members and personally, I thank Ian McCall and Peter Filmer for their support in 1997. To all Committee members thank you for your valuable assistance during the year.

Finally a special thanks to Michael Ryan the assistant secretary, for his assistance during the year, I really appreciated your efforts. Once again I must thank my wife Beverly, along with Madeleine McCall and Julie Ryan for their support throughout the year.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all members for their support during the season and it has been a pleasure once again to serve you as secretary.

LES MATTHEWS
Hon Secretary

NSWRL DELEGATE'S REPORT

The Australian and NSW Rugby League started the 1997 season "well behind the eight ball". By 5.00 pm on Grand Final Day they had reached a stage where they held the upper hand. Although not in receipt of any sword of surrender they were in a sufficiently strong position to be able to dictate their own terms in any likely peace agreement. Perseverance and perhaps the luck of a strong and popular final series result versus over confidence, a drawn out one sided international series and predictable finals fixtures swung the pendulum of popularity.

As one newspaper columnist wrote this week "we look back on the most disgraceful, damaging, grasping period any sport has experienced in Australia". A situation I have always felt could so easily been avoided. If only the millions it has cost the game were to have been directed into junior development what a wonderful position we would be in today rather than facing major financial difficulties and the rear guard action required to pull back on the other sporting codes.

Towards the end of the season with the negotiating process being undertaken and the associated constitutional complications a remarkable renewed interest occurred in the NSWRL General Committee. A number of meetings were convened with the latest prior to writing this report granting the Leagues negotiating committee approval to proceed with the Board's recommendations. It was felt that we should take the initiative, the game clearly needing one competition under a suggested National Rugby League Championship Company. While concessions would be made the League has no intentions of relinquishing control of the game nor accepting any current debt being carried by Super League. The ball remains firmly in their court. Final acceptance would require General Committee approval.

Once again the active members deserve our thanks for the professionalism and dedication shown in the fulfilment of appointments to all fixtures throughout the season. A controversial free semi final and final series with all referees

GRADED REFEREES 1997 AND ATTENDANCE

6 Meetings Held

D. Abood	6	S. Hampstead	6	P. McBlane	5
D. Alchin *	3	T. Healy	5	J. McCormack	4
R. Alexander —	1	G. Henderson	2	C. McPherson —	1
N. Almond	1	M. Hewitt	3	J. Melville —	2
A. Archer	5	P. Hewitt —	3	P. Murray —	1
P. Battin	3	M. Hoffmann	6	M. Oaten	1
J. Belgre	4	M. Howell	4	J. O'Brien *	2
S. Betts	4	R. Irwin *	—	D. O'Keefe	4
B. Bonnie	6	M. Jadwat	6	M. O'Malley	4
D. Brooks —	1	D. Jay —	2	T. Peet	5
R. Brown	5	K. Jeffes	6	L. Penfold	3**
P. Bungate —	2	C. Jones	5	S. Portsmouth	5
M. Cafarelli *	3	P. Kalina	5	K. Russell	4
M. Cecchin	5	A. Kelly —	2	B. Ruttle	6
S. Clapson	4	P. Kelly	4	M. Ryan	5
P. Cooley	6	R. Lawrence	4	P. Simpkins	4
R. Cranston *	1	F. Leonard	4	O. Smith	2
A. Danks	6	M. Lewis	5	D. Sproule —	4
P. Digby	6	R. Lewis	5	S. Todd	3**
P. Duncan	4	W. Logan —	1	D. Turvey	4
L. Edney	6	W. Loveday	5	S. Villa	3
A. Fallah *	3	B. Lynch	5	E. Ward	1
A. Farlow	6	S. Lyons	2	M. Weekes	1
P. Field	5	P. Macinante	5	G. West —	4
S. Fielder	5	A. Maksoud —	1	C. White	5
R. Flint	5	D. Manson —	2		
B. Gilchrist	6	B. Mathews	5		

**Graded 14/4/97

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ROLL 1997 AND ATTENDANCE

6 Meetings Held

K. Arnold	-	J. Farrelly	D	J. O'Brien	D
L. Baggott	D	A. Farrow	D	R. O'Donnell	1
A. Bailerum	D	A. Fifield	D	J. O'Sullivan	6
B. Barry	-	P. Filmer	5	A. Oxford	-
J. Bates	D	E. Fletcher	D	K. Page	D
T. Bellew O.A.M	-	W. Fry	D	E. Paine	D
G. Benson	-	B. Garwood	3	I. Parnaby	2
G. Bishop	D	B. Gately	5	C. Pearce	-
J. Black	D	C. Gilchrist	D	G. Pearce	D
B. Bolton	2	J. Gocher	4	H. Pierce	D**
G. Boyd	D	M. Godfrey	-	H. Poulton	D
D. Bratton	D	T. Grew	D	K. Roberts	5
D. Braybrook	D	G. Griffin	D	L. Rosen	D
T. Brennan	D	J. Griffin	D	H. Rowlands	D
R. Brock	D	B. Hall	D	M. Ryan	6
C. Brown	-	J. Hansen	D	P. Ryan	6
L. Bruyeres	1	J. Harris O.A.M	2	L. Samuelson	-
J. Buchanan	D	A. Holt	D**	C. Schomberg	-
E. Buckley	D	C. Hudson	2	D. Schutema	D
S. Carey	D	K. Jeffes	6	A. Shiner O.A.M	D
J. Clarke	D	J. Jewell	D	A. Shipway	D
N. Clement	-	J. Kelly	D	R. Smyth	-
O. Cohen	D	J. Kelly	1	A. Soane	D
J. Colenso	D	B. Kelly	D	D. Spagarino	5
A. Collins	D	K. Keough	D	A. Spankie	D
J. Connor	1	E. Kerr	D	M. Stone	5
P. Cooley	6	A. Konnecke	-	B. Styles	5
T. Costello	D	D. Lawler	-	B. Tinsely	-
B. Cowley	D	P. Lee	D	M. Tomsett	6
E. Cox	1	T. Leffler	-	C. Turnell	1
B. Cuke	-	P. Longhurst	2	J. Turner	D
R. Cummins	-	D. Macdonald	D	B. Wales Snr	D
J. Davies	D	M. Maloney	D	F. Walsh	D
A. Davis	D	J. Martin	D	C. Ward	-
L. Deane	D	L. Matthews	6	R. Ward	D
F. Delaney	D	I. McCall	5	M. Weekes	-
A. Dennis	D	J. McGauley	D	A. Welsh	D
W. Devine Snr	D	T. McMahon	D	C. Wigzell B.E.M	D
R. Dick	D	H. Millington	D	L. Williams	1
T. Dickenson	D	J. Montgomery	-	D. Wintin	6
R. Drake	D	J. Moses B.E.M.	D	G. Wirth	D
H. Elliott	D	T. Murphy	-	B. Wiseman	-
P. Elliss	2	J. Murray	D	C. Yorke	D
F. Erickson	1	W. Neill	D		
J. Farquhar	D	A. Neville	1		

**Passed away since AGM December 1996

NSWRL DELEGATE'S REPORT

contributing to the high standards of football presented, is to your great credit.

Season '98 promises to be interesting to say the least. From an Association view point, should sanity prevail and reunification occur, the initial competition rounds with the "us versus them" games some likely refereed by members from the competing factions of last year will require great control and self control. Considerable changes will be necessary, affected in the main by the elimination of one lower grade competition.

As referees our commitment has always been and must remain being to the game. The ideals of the Association are critical in any rebuilding process. I wish you all every success for the approaching season and thank you for the honour of representing the Association at the NSWRL General Committee level.

DOUG WINTIN

OPTUS CUP REFEREES' COACHING CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Season 1997 brought with it a multitude of new challenges for refereeing, from the implementation of a number of new rules to inevitable comparisons with referees in other codes/competitions.

For the first time in the history of Rugby League in this country, parallel competitions existed. While this situation was far from ideal, it allowed the competitive nature of our officials to flourish. It also allowed for the emergence, through the Association's development programme, of a number of very good prospects in the refereeing ranks. This, together with the unavailability of a couple of experienced campaigners due to long term injuries, allowed several young men to take full advantage of the opportunity which they were given.

The reduction in the number of teams in the Optus Cup meant that competition for places was extremely intense. There was certainly no room for complacency in the ranks as evidenced by a couple of the changes which we made during the year.

Strange things happen when changes are made. No one likes the experienced referee because at one time or another he has made a decision(s) which hasn't been popular or perhaps his manner may be abrasive. However, as I found when Moghseen Jadwat was given an opportunity in First Grade, many wanted to hysterically criticise (a) my decision to appoint him; and (b) Moghseen himself. Thankfully, mature heads in the National Premiership Council understood that, like players, referees need to be given an opportunity. There is simply a culture within the game that denies any patience with referees. Everyone is entitled to a mistake - except a Rugby League referee.

While Moghseen was the only First Grade debutant this year, several other referees made steady progress through the lower grades. Referees enter grade as mature individuals these days thanks to the input of the Association coaches. Michael Ryan, together with Peter Filmer and Max Dunn toiled tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that these young men were ready when the time came. The progress made

OPTUS CUP REFEREES' COACHING CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

by tyros such as Rod Lawrence, Tony Archer and Steve Lyons attest to that fact.

During the course of the season, a Forum on Presentation of the Game and Referees was conducted, attended by stakeholders from the playing, coaching, administration and refereeing ranks. The positive aspect to arise from the meetings chaired by Board member Mr Ray Beattie, was the support for referees per se and the understanding of problems associated with the coaching and development of on field staff.

Optus Cup referees continued to be available for coaching when required. During the pre-season Country Carnival, our members (and Association coaches) were available if required to assist in the development of referees in areas visited by Optus Cup clubs. I was personally delighted to be asked to deliver the key note address for the Country Referees' camp at Wollongong in February this year. Toward the end of the year, Brett Lynch was seconded to coach in Fiji and Tonga. The reports were most favourable except the T-shirt with the bad language.

Association coaches Dennis Spagarino, Kevin Roberts, Ian McCall and Max Tomsett contributed many hours and valuable expertise to the goal of the perfect referee and the perfect game. We weren't successful as, being humans, we make mistakes. However, the level of accuracy of decisions made throughout the season in a game played by humans and refereed by humans was exceptionally high. Talk of video referees abounded, but in most instances, would not have been of assistance in any event. Trials held in the off season, and financial and other considerations, will obviously play a big role in whether that technology will be used in season 1998. Notwithstanding all of this, the in goal

position, pioneered by Denis Braybrook in 1991, had a dramatic effect on the way that matches were controlled.

Other part time staff included Trevor Davies, the well loved fitness co-ordinator, dietician Sarah Dacres-Mannings and Paul Smith, a new addition this year. Paul is well known in the sports psychology area having worked with the NSW Sheffield Shield squad and various Optus Cup clubs. His input in group sessions was of great value as I'm sure were the individual sessions.

Ray O'Donnell, Arthur Neville and Joe Griffiths are regulars in this report. That is because they are regular and dedicated Rugby League people whose loyal and honest support over the years probably has been taken for granted. Not by me. Without these type of people, my job, and indeed Rugby League itself, would be found wanting.

The same could be said for Ron Massey. Although not strictly refereeing personnel, Ron has never been backward in coming forward on any issue that you care to name. His support for the game is undeniable; his respect from major identities obvious; his sense of humour irreverent. It has been my privilege to work with Ron (and Ray) on the Video Review Committee. Their honesty and integrity, and the ability to make the tough decision notwithstanding the inevitable flack, was the hallmark of their achievements.

The Association executive, headed by Ian McCall and Les Matthews have been a pillar of strength to the League. Geoff Can and the Chief Executive of the ARL, Neil Whittaker, addressed the active referees on a number of occasions to ensure that they were kept abreast of developments. Their actions were greatly

TRAINING REPORT FROM BRISBANE

The 1997 Rugby League season was always going to be a challenging one for me - juggling my own training with that of my colleagues.

The main aim of training this year was to ensure our referees and touch judges reached a level of fitness and skill that met the rigorous demands of officiating in one of the toughest rugby league competitions in the world. The job was made relatively easy as I was fortunate enough to have a bunch of guys who were intrinsically motivated. They all put in the hard yards when they needed to, and it certainly was very satisfying to see them push each other beyond their limits.

Eddie Ward, David Manson, Peter Murray and Robert Irwin continually embraced

the challenge and I am sure gained plenty of credibility from their coaches and their Sydney counterparts.

Training identified a number of successes and future challenges, and has provided a benchmark to further develop our efforts to ensure that we continue to move forward Remember: "THE SPIRIT TO WIN AND THE WILL TO EXCEL IS ALWAYS MEASURED ONE STROKE AT A TIME".

Congratulations to everyone for a great season and I wish my successor all the success and enjoyment that have been mine for the past year.

TONY MAKSOUD

TRAINING REPORT

from the year's training is an active one, this will prevent a drastic decrease in Physical Performance capabilities. Also this training phase will enable you to maintain an appropriate body weight as well as controlled fitness levels.

I would like to give a special thanks of appreciation to Scott the Newcastle Trainer and Tony the Queensland Trainer for their much appreciated hospitality whilst visiting their regions.

I would also like to give a special thanks to the Sponsorship Committee in

arranging trainers attire. Also the trainers and I would like to give our appreciation to the Social Committee for allowing us to be part of the Referees Association social gatherings.

We would finally like to thank all active members of the Referees Association for there support this season. Merry Christmas and good luck for the 1998 season.

TREVOR DAVIES
Fitness co-ordinator

TRAINING REPORT FROM NEWCASTLE

This being my first year with the NSW Referees Association after one season with the Newcastle Knights and two seasons with the Hunter Academy of Sport as trainer and conditioner of which I am still involved with. I have enjoyed the year and the challenge with the graded referees of whom I have found to be a good and dedicated group of people.

After an unsettled start to the 1997 season the year was a great success due to the commitment and enthusiasm of the Newcastle boys.

We started training in February with a varied and new training schedule consisting of hill and sand running, swimming and step work around the King Edward Park and Bar Beach areas, this coupled with the added attraction of this time of year which proved to be very motivational.

As we moved into the season with organised training sessions I'm pleased to

say the varied fitness, speed and agility sessions brought out a bigger commitment and more competitive spirit among the boys (well done). This topped with a marked improvement in fitness level which showed in their performances in all fitness testing sessions.

I would like to congratulate Neil, Owen, Don, Peter, Denis and Jason on a very productive and positive season with a good attendance record. Now lets think about improving our individual goals over the off season to give ourselves the motivation for a big 1998 season.

Now that the better side has won the 1997 premiership I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy festive season for the coming year.

A special thank you to Les Matthews for his help and support during the year.

SCOTT URQUHART
Fitness Conditioner Newcastle

OPTUS CUP REFEREES' COACHING CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

appreciated and it served to instill confidence that we were heading in the right direction.

Sponsorship is always important to any organisation. So it is with refereeing. Major sponsor FAI is to be congratulated for its support of the game, as, of course, sleeve sponsor Ansett. Their staunch support has been appreciated and means that we can continue to develop refereeing talent from the grass roots areas. It is one thing to recognise talent once it wears a green blazer; quite another to back someone's ability at the lower levels. Good on you FAI and Ansett for your show of guts.

As always, the performance of Appointments Boards are dependent upon accurate information in. The members of the Referees' Advisory Board, as always, performed admirably and selflessly. Thank you to those gentlemen.

Of the referees themselves, Kelvin Jeffes is to be congratulated for his appointments to City-Country; Eddie Ward and Kelvin to State of Origin; and David Manson for his appointments to State of Origin (a new record), the Test between Australia and The Rest Of The World, and most importantly, his second Optus Cup Grand Final. Well done.

I'm sure that 1998 brings with it a whole new raft of challenges. Heaven knows what they are. The only thing that I know for sure; referees will be needed, and they will be criticised.

Some things never change.

MICHAEL STONE
Referees' Coaching Co-ordinator

SPONSOR'S REPORT - 1997

Fellow Members,
We provide this report for your consideration and will endeavour to provide some insight into the benefits we all have gained from the current sponsorship arrangements with our valuable sponsors.

After the turmoil and financially unstable environment of the previous couple of seasons it has been pleasing to be able to operate in a manner where we have the confidence to plan for the future. This confidence is underpinned by the total support for our operations provided by our major sponsor FAI, our sleeve sponsor Ansett and footwear sponsor Saucony. In line with the current expectations of companies who enter into sponsorship agreements or more appropriately

"partnerships" with sporting bodies, our Association this year made a conscious decision to endeavour to play a higher profile with our sponsors and involve them more in our operations.

The first move in this direction saw the committee appoint Lindsay Plowes as Sponsor Liaison Officer. This appointment proved to be most successful with Lindsay fulfilling the much needed role of providing a personal contact with key personnel within our sponsors companies.

Subsequently the Association was pleased to be able to entertain high profile representatives from these companies at many important functions and events including the three State of Origin games,

SPONSOR'S REPORT - 1997

the Test in Brisbane, the Optus Cup Finals series, the Grand Final Breakfast and several other important functions. It has been most pleasing for Lindsay and myself to be able to provide this important link between pure business and enjoyment for these much valued people.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who assisted us in entertaining our guests throughout the year, particularly the refereeing "teams" at many of the important fixtures who never hesitated to make their valuable pre-match time available to introduce themselves and chat to our visitors.

Total Expenditure from sponsorship funds for the season amounted to \$296,561. At time of writing outstanding accounts to an estimated value of \$5,900 remain to be paid. With these paid final expenditure for the season will be in the vicinity of \$302,460 against an annual budget of \$323,000.

The major areas expenditure were:-

- The provision of referees uniforms and gear, both on and off the Field \$98,298
- Training & Coaching costs for Optus Cup Referees including training venues, trainers fees, Nutrition program, Psychological Testing, and the provision of coaches for Optus Cup Referees \$52,273
- Provision of Masseurs (Rubbers) for all matches \$25,562
- Assistance to Affiliated District Associations, Interstate Associations and CRL Referees Assn including Administration Grants, Coaching and Development Schemes, provision of coaches to the District Rep. Squad and funding for the annual Inter District Seminar \$61,586
- Association Travel Visits by executive

officers, referees coaches, leading active referees to country, interstate and overseas for purposes of coaching and administration. \$3,371

- Administration Grant to N.S.W. Referees Assn \$40,000
- Sponsorship Management & Admin. Includes sponsorship communications, public relation, entertainment of sponsors etc., \$15,471

Total Expenditure \$296,561

I am sure members will agree that the future of this Association lies in the continued development and provision of top class referees for the major Rugby League competition and assistance with the welfare of our members. This involves continued assistance to the "grass roots" areas of the various District Associations and the ability be in a position to provide first class coaching, training and equipment to our members to ensure they are able to perform to the best of their ability. It is only with the availability of funds of this magnitude that we can confidently look to this future.

Finally we would like to thank all members of the Sponsorship Committee for their efforts, in particularly to Phil Cooley for his continued first class effort in the area of providing gear for our members and to Bryan Gilchrist who has worked extremely hard in his delegated role of administering the flight arrangements liaison in relation to our Ansett sponsorship. It has been a pleasure to work with these gentlemen.

Wishing all members a happy Christmas and off-season and we look forward to renewing our acquaintance in 1998.

BOB STYLES
Sponsorship Co-ordinator

LINDSAY PLOWES
Sponsors Liaison Office

TRAINING REPORT

On behalf of all Sydney based training staff, I would like to thank every referee who participated in our Wednesday night training sessions. It was pleasing to see that most people pushed themselves through some pretty gruelling conditioning sessions with no post recorded injuries. The fitness assessments were very encouraging with the following averages being recorded:

Sydney Based: (65 referees tested)

Averages:	February Weight	80.23kg.	
	May Weight	80.98kg.	Increase weight 0.75kg
	February Body Comp-	60.22mm.	
	May Body Comp-	56.47mm.	Decrease B/C 3.75mm
	February 12 min run	2.678km.	
	May 12 min run	2.765km.	Increase distance .087km
	February anaerobic	1.43 min to complete.	
	May anaerobic	1.40 min to complete.	Decrease time .03sec

Therefore while there is an increase in body weight there is also a decrease in body fat, this being indicative of increased muscle mass. We are able to see more distance being covered in the 12 minute run. i.e. improvements in the cardiorespiratory system. Also there is a decrease in the time taken to complete the 'AD Anaerobic fitness test' which is also good news.

Newcastle Based: (5 referees tested)

Averages:	Weight	82.09kg.
	Body Comp-	64. 80mm.
	12 min run	2.096km.
	AD Anaerobic	1.53 min.

Queensland Based: (7 referees tested)

Averages:	Weight	77.32kg.
	Body Comp-	52.20mm.
	12 min run	2.55km.
	AD Anaerobic	1.41 min.

The above results are indications of good training practices and though there is room for improvement these averages are a pleasing reminder of what direction our training goals are headed. Well done.

NB: All referees who participated in the above fitness assessments will soon receive their individual results.

All referees are reminded that during this time of the year (i.e. Transitional Period (Off season)) there is an importance of training in order to maintain fitness levels. The aim of this training phase is to allow a physiological and psychological recovery from the years training regime. The main points to remember with the Transition Phase is that recovery

LIFE MEMBER FOR 1997 RECORD OF SERVICE

DENIS SPAGARINO
Graded 1979 to 1988
Honorary Member 1989 to 1996
Total Membership 18 years

1979	10 (17)	1985	8 (8)	1991	4 (8)
1980	12 (15)	1986	7 (9)	1992	4 (8)
1981	13 (15)	1987	7 (8)	1993	8 (8)
1982	14 (16)	1988	7 (7)	1994	3 (4)
1983	16 (17)	1989	3 (7)	1995	2 (4)
1984	7 (10)	1990	5 (7)	1996	6 (6)

Hansen Memorial Trophy Committee Member 1988 to 1993, 1996

Advisory Board Member 1991 to 1996

Winfield Cup Referees Coach 1993 to 1995

Optus Cup Referees Coach 1996

LIFE MEMBER FOR 1997 RECORD OF SERVICE

MARTIN WEEKES
Graded 1979 to 1996
Total Membership 18 years

1979	14 (17)	1985	6 (8)	1991	6 (8)
1980	14 (15)	1986	7 (9)	1992	4 (8)
1981	12 (15)	1987	7 (8)	1993	4 (8)
1982	13 (16)	1988	7 (7)	1994	3 (4)
1983	9 (17)	1989	6 (7)	1995	0 (4)
1984	2 (10)	1990	6 (7)	1996	1 (6)

Seminar Committee Member 1988-89, 1993, 1994 (resigned 5/4/94)

Hansen Memorial Trophy Committee Member 1990 to 1994 (resigned 5/4/94)

Sponsorship Committee Member 1992-93-94 (resigned 5/4/94)

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

1997 has seen a greater number of members and guests attending functions. This has been very pleasing for the social committee and we thank you for your participation, it makes our job easier and more worthwhile.

This year we have in conjunction with the executive, moved the Association's main function of the year from August to late November. This should make more members, in particular the active members better available to attend because there will be no games on and it corresponds with the Christmas training assessment in which the interstate referees also attend.

Highlights of the year have been the night at the Kaos Comedy Theatre, late BBQ'S after training and the now "official" end of season social event, the trip to Brooklyn pub. Not quite as many in attendance as on the first trip in 1990 but close. We will better it next year.

Thanks to my co-workers Steve Betts and Peter Kelly for their assistance through out the year and on their behalf we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy 1998.

BARRY RUTTLE
Social Secretary

GEORGE & AMY HANSEN MEMORIAL TROPHY RECIPIENTS

1975	F. O. Cohen	1983	C. Gilchrist	1991	P. Cooley
1976	C. E. Wigzell	1984	P. Longhurst	1992	R. Styles
1977	F. W. Walsh	1985	B. Wiseman	1993	K. Jeffes Snr
1978	A. Shiner	1986	L. Matthews	1994	T. Danks
1979	D. Wintin	1987	L. Williams	1995	B. Gilchrist
1980	J. Gocher	1988	M. Ryan	1996	J. Griffiths
1981	D. Braybrook	1989	M. Stone	1997	-
1982	I. McCall	1990	I. Parnaby		

FRANK WALSH MEMORIAL TROPHY

Year	Recipient	District Association
1990	Michael Lewis	Parramatta
1991	Sean Fielder	South Sydney
1992	Craig Tracey	Eastern Suburbs
1993	Darren Gocher	Cronulla-Sutherland
1994	Brett Lynch	Penrith
1995	Rod Lawrence	South Sydney
1996	Jason O'Brien	South Sydney
1997	Jason Weinstien	Western Suburbs

INTER DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE SQUAD REPORT

The junior representative competition operated under a different format in 1997 whereby only two grades were catered for, namely the S G Ball (under 18) and Harold Matthews (under 16) grades. Each grade consisted of twelve teams which played over a period of eleven rounds.

The reduced number of games available made it extremely competitive for members of the panel. Due to the reduced number of matches it was not possible for all members of the squad to be appointed as centre referees however members who were not appointed maintained their enthusiasm and keenness. It is hoped there will be an expanded competition in 1998 to give all members an opportunity to display their refereeing talents. At the time of writing there has not been a firm decision made regarding the structure of the competition next year.

At the conclusion of the representative season two members of the squad were selected to represent the squad at national schoolboy's carnivals. Paul Hope travelled to Parkes and the unlucky Jason Weinstein had to make the arduous trip to Cairns. It is very pleasing to report both referees were appointed to the grand finals of the competitions.

During the year Jeffrey Younis and Jason Weinstein were asked to officiate in games of the Aussie Home Loans competition. Representatives of the NSW Rugby League and the respective Junior Leagues spoke in high praise of each referee's performance.

Congratulations to all members of the squad on their performances during the year particularly to the following members who officiated in the grand finals :-

Harold Matthews

Sean Boag	Brad Levy
	Russell Turner

SGBall

Jason Weinstein	Luke Bugden
	Pat Reynolds

Following his appointment to the S G Ball grand final Jason was presented with the Frank Walsh Memorial Trophy at the Life Member's Reunion Dinner.

Congratulations to Parramatta for their win in the Harold Matthews Cup and to Sydney City for their win in the S G Ball Cup. Congratulations to Parramatta for winning the Junior Club Championship.

The coaching staff would like to thank all referees who made themselves available, often at very short notice, to referee development squad games. It is anticipated these games will be conducted next year and all members of the squad will be expected to make themselves available for appointment.

This year a new innovation was introduced where referees who were not members of the squad were nominated by their Associations to attend skills and fitness training at Lidcombe Oval. The purpose of this was to make District referees aware of what to expect if they happen to eventually be selected in the squad. It was also hoped that by attending skills training it would improve their refereeing in the District ranks. This scheme was generally well accepted by District Associations and was well patronised by those nominated to attend.

The coaching panel would like to thank all members of the squad for the co-operation and courtesy extended to us and we look forward to working with you next year. We would also like to congratulate Les Matthews on the way he

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee of the Association makes the following recommendations for 1998, to be considered at the Annual General Meeting.

1. That Honorary members shall pay a Membership Subscription of five dollars (\$5.00) or one dollars (\$1.00) for a Pensioner.
2. That Affiliated Associations shall pay an Affiliation Subscription of ten dollars (\$10.00).
3. That in 1998 the Association will hold five (5) General Meetings commencing at 7.45pm to be held at the N.S.W. Leagues Club on the following dates:
11th February
1st April
20th May
8th July
26th August

LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS FOR 1998

The following members were nominated for Life Membership of the Association and the Committee's recommendation will be announced at the Annual General Meeting, where a copy of successful nominees records will be distributed.

Messrs Steve Betts, Noel Bissett, Max Dunn, Leon Edney, Bryan Gilchrist, Michael Howell, Ron Pearce, Barry Ruttle and Graeme West.

Mr Kevin Roberts was nominated for Life Membership of the NSW Rugby League Ltd.

BALANCE SHEET

as at 30th September, 1997

Current Account as at 1/10/96	76,765.63
Add Operating Surplus 1/10/96 - 30/9/97	142,700.64
Balance 30th September, 1997	219,466.27
Represented by:	
Current Account 30th September, 1997	17,781.86
Investment Account 30th September, 1997	201,684.41
Balance of all available funds 30th September, 1997	219,466.27

INVESTMENT SUMMARY

Opening Balance 1st October, 1996	977.07
Add: Invested Monies from General Fund	300,000.00
Accrued Interest	7,951.60
Deduct: Invested Funds recalled to General Fund	100,000.00
Interest Accrual transfer to General Fund	7,000.00
Charges	244.26
BALANCE as at 30th September, 1997	201,684.41

AUDITOR'S REPORT

This is to certify that we have examined the books of account and Sponsorship records of the N.S.W. Rugby League Referees' Association Inc. and in our opinion, they disclose the true and fair view of the state of the Association.

Signed: P. J. LONGHURST
Auditor

Signed: M. W. DUNN
Auditor

INTER DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE SQUAD REPORT

conducted Appointment Board meetings during the season.

Our thanks and appreciation go to the NSW Referees' Association for its support and financial assistance and the provision of gear to members of the squad.

After many years association with the Junior Representative Panel Kevin Jeffes announced he was retiring as a coach of the squad. The coaching panel and members of the squad would like to thank Kevin for his dedicated service to coaching district referees. There are many referees who were coached by Kevin at some time during their career.

Nobody at this stage can confidently predict what is in store for Rugby League next season but it is hoped that whatever the outcome there will be an opportunity for District referees to referee in a competition similar to that which was in operation this year.

MAX DUNN
MICHAEL RYAN
PETER FILMER
Coaching Panel

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is my pleasure to provide the Treasurer's Report for season 1997.

I'm sure that in other parts of this report people will focus on the uncertainty and relative sadness of our segregated game. Therefore, I will not dwell on it too much other than to say that the viability of our Association is still particularly strong from a fiscal standpoint.

1997 witnessed some fundamental changes to the way in which our accounts are constructed. The Sponsorship Account was aggregated with the General Fund thus providing tighter controls in relation to the disbursement of monies. I must compliment Bob Styles for the efficient manner in which he maintains control over the Sponsorship Funds.

The financial position of the Association is very strong. This strength is derived from prudent fiscal control and the unselfish support of our major sponsors, FAI

Insurance and sleeve sponsor Ansett. At a time when the game is in turmoil it is a brave venture to provide sponsorship. Of course, it could be argued that there is no safer business decision than to sponsor our Association where the benefits are numerous, the risk minimal.

In closing there are many people I wish to thank, so numerous in fact that I will simply provide a collective "thanks" to all that have assisted me in making my task that much easier. Let's hope that we have a united game in 1998 for the good of the game, and remember that we are all little parts of a very big machine, if a part breaks, another part will be found and the machine will continue to function. This is of course unless the machine suffers a seizure when the last drop of oil is squeezed out and then the parts, however capable, are rendered redundant.

PETER FILMER
Treasurer

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS STATEMENT

1st October 1996 - 30th September 1997

BALANCE FORWARD 1st October, 1996 **Current Account** \$25,546.56
Sponsorship A/c \$50,000.00

ADD RECEIPTS

Sponsorship Grant to Gen. Fund	40,000.00	
Active Referee Expenses	35,090.96	
Levy	19,000.00	
Tickets	7,050.00	
Non Active Membership	431.00	
Affiliations	130.00	
Social	40.00	
Bank Interest - General Fund	427.75	
- Accrued from Invested Funds	7,000.00	
Fees	940.00	
Investment Recall	100,000.00	
Sponsorship Bank A/c Closure	58,079.83	
Sponsorship FAI	300,000.00	
Sponsorship Ansett	70,000.00	
AGM Grant - NSWRL	1,520.00	
Sub Total		\$715,256.10

DEDUCT PAYMENTS

Social	17,377.85	
Postage	974.55	
Telephone	5,481.54	
Administration Expenses	9,112.55	
Stationery	135.30	
Printing	5,158.00	
Floral	560.00	
Active Referee Expenses Refunded	37,400.96	
Courier	211.00	
Tickets	15,600.00	
Insurance	6,810.68	
Fees	940.00	
Investment Funds Placed	300,000.00	
Equipment Repairs	1,698.00	
Payments from Sponsorship	287,166.73	
Bank Charges	842.08	
Audit	1,850.00	
Honorarium	6,005.00	
Bank Adjustment	150.00	
Sub Total		\$697,474.24

Balance as at 30th September, 1997 **\$17,781.86**

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

INCOME

Spon Grant transfer to G/Fund	40,000.00
Levy	19,000.00
Non Active	431.00
Affiliation	130.00
Bank Int. G/Fund A/c	427.75
Bank Int. from Investment	7,000.00
Bank Int. Invested Funds	951.60
Sponsorship A/c Closure	58,079.83
Sponsorship FAI	300,000.00
Sponsorship Ansett	70,000.00
AGM Grant - NSWRL	1,520.00

Total 497,540.18

EXPENDITURE

Active Ref Expenses	2,310.00
Tickets	8,550.00
Social	17,337.85
Telephone	5,481.54
Postage	974.55
Administration Exp	9,112.55
Stationery	135.30
Printing	5,158.00
Floral	560.00
Courier	211.00
Insurance	6,810.68
Equipment Repair	1,698.00
Sponsorship Payment	287,166.73
Bank Charges	842.08
Bank Charges Inv. A/c	244.26
Audit	1,850.00
Honorarium	6,005.00
Bank Adjustment	150.00
Depreciation	242.00
Excess Income/Expenditure	142,700.64

Total 497,540.18