



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

**91ST
ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1998**

**President
I. McCall**

**Secretary
L. Matthews**

**Treasurer
P. Filmer**



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

VICE PRESIDENTS: Messrs E. Cox and R. O'Donnell

GENERAL COMMITTEE: Messrs L. Matthews and D. Wintin

NSWRL REFEREES COACHING CO-ORDINATOR: Mr D. Spagarino

CHAIRMAN METROPOLITAN CUP POLICY COMMITTEE: Mr E. Cox

METROPOLITAN CUP POLICY COMMITTEE:

Messrs I. McCall, R. McIntosh and L. Matthews

REFEREES ADVISORY BOARD: Messrs P. Bungate, B. Chapman, J. Connor, M. Dunn, M. Edwards, P. Eliss, B. Goldsworthy, J. Griffiths, K. Jeffes, L. Matthews, I. McCall, J. Melville, R. Pearce, K. Roberts, M. Ryan, D. Spagarino, M. Tomsett.

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

CHAIRMAN INTER-DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REFEREES

APPOINTMENT BOARD: Mr L. Matthews

COACHING COUNCIL: Mr K. Holman M.B.E.

DIRECTOR OF THE N.S.W. LEAGUES CLUB: Mr E. Cox

LIAISON OPERATIONS OFFICER: Mr E. Cox

POSITIONS HELD BY MEMBERS WITH THE NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE LTD.

NRL REFEREES COACHING CO-ORDINATOR: Mr M. Stone

SELECTORS (Referees & Touch Judges): Messrs K. Roberts and I. Smith

TOUCH JUDGE CONSULTANT: Mr M. Tomsett

REFEREES COACH & VIDEO REFEREES: Messrs B. Barnes, N. Bissett, P. Filmer, J. Gocher, I. Parnaby, D. Spagarino, C. Ward, G. West, D. Wintin and J. Yard

GROUND MANAGER: Mr E. Cox

REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1998

INTER-DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE FINALS

JERSEY FLEGG CUP

NORTH SYDNEY V PARRAMATTA

Referee

J. Younis
(Balmain)

Stand-by Referee

J. Robinson
(Penrith)

Touch Judges

S. Watson
(North Sydney)

L. Bugden
(Balmain)

Stand-by Touch Judges

P. Holland
(Parramatta)

S.G. BALL CUP

MANLY WARRINGAH V SOUTH SYDNEY

Referee

J. Robinson
(Penrith)

Stand-by Referee

J. Younis
(Balmain)

Touch Judges

G. Jankowski
(Penrith)

P. Holland
(Parramatta)

HAROLD MATTHEWS CUP

PARRAMATTA V ILLAWARRA

Referee

P. Dorahy
(Parramatta)

Stand-by Referee

J. Robinson
(Penrith)

Touch Judges

R. Turner
(Penrith)

P. Holland
(Parramatta)

1998 N.R.L. 1ST GRADE REFEREES

S. Chiddy
S. Clark
B. Grant
S. Hamstead
W. Harrigan

M. Hewitt
M. Jadwat
K. Jeffes
R. Lawrence
T. Mander

P. McBlane
M. Oaten
P. Simpkins
E. Ward

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Parramatta Leagues Club, 15 O'Connell Street, Parramatta on Saturday, 21st November 1998, 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
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(M) 0412 260 971

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

OFFICE BEARERS – SEASON 1998

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. I. McCall, L. Matthews, P. Filmer, B. Ruttle, S. Betts and T. Healy

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, T. Danks and G. West

Auditors:

Messrs. M. Dunn and P. Longhurst

Sponsorship Liaison Officer:

Mr. L. Plowes

REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1998

AUSSIE HOME LOANS CUP FINAL

PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL V ERINDALE COLLEGE

Referee

T. Archer

Touch Judges

D. Turvey

M. O'Malley

In-Goal Judges

S. Todd

S. Villa

Stand-by Referee

S. Carrall

N.S.W. COMBINED HIGH SCHOOLS FINALS

UNIVERSITY SHIELD

WESTFIELDS SPORTS HIGH V FARRER AGRICULTURAL HIGH

Referee

M. Lewis

Touch Judges

D. Turvey

M. O'Malley

BUCKLEY SHIELD

WESTFIELDS SPORTS HIGH V MELVILLE HIGH

Referee

S. Lyons

Touch Judges

S. Todd

S. Villa

U/12 INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS COLLEGE FINAL

ST. AUGUSTINES, BROOKVALE V ST. CATHERINE'S, TAREE

Referee

M. Lewis

Touch Judges

B. Ruttle

T. Healy

REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1998

INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

AUSTRALIA V NEW ZEALAND

	Referee	Touch Judges	
1st TEST	R. Smith (Great Britain)	A. Caddy	I. Mackintosh
2nd TEST	R. Smith (Great Britain)	S. Nash	D. Goener
3rd TEST	R. Smith (Great Britain)	A. Caddy	I. Mackintosh

FINAL SERIES APPOINTMENTS

1ST GRADE NRL GRAND FINAL

CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN V BRISBANE BRONCOS

Referee	Touch Judges	
W. Harrigan	S. Betts	J. McCormack
Stand-by Referee	Stand-by Touch Judge	
S. Clark	S. Nash	
Interchange		
	C. White	L. Edney

PRESIDENTS CUP GRAND FINAL

CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN V PARRAMATTA

Referee	Touch Judge	
M. Oaten	B. Bonnie	K. Russell
In-Goal Judges		
	R. Lewis	F. Leonard
Stand-by Referee	Stand-by Touch Judge	
R. Lawrence	L. Penfold	

METROPOLITAN CUP GRAND FINALS

WENTWORTHVILLE V KELLYVILLE - 1ST GRADE

Referee	Touch Judges	
M. Oaten	B. Bonnie	K. Russell
In-Goal Judges		
	R. Lewis	F. Leonard
Stand-by Referee	Stand-by Touch Judge	
W. Loveday	R. Brown	

ST. MARYS V GUILDFORD - 2ND GRADE

Referee	Touch Judges	
R. Lawrence	P. Battin	L. Penfold
In-Goal Judges		
	S. Todd	M. Cafarelli
Stand-by Referee	Stand-by Touch Judge	
W. Loveday	R. Brown	

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

PATRON'S REPORT

1998 the year of compromise with A.R.L. and Super League joining forces to form the new National Rugby League Competition. Like all new Alliances it experienced its highs and lows, and only time will decide its success and the future of Rugby League.

On the Refereeing front the A.R.L. Referees were to suffer a culture shock, with Video Referees Coaches, Tuesday night Video Coaching sessions, and a different physical training format. The remainder of the Graded Referees who were not in the upper echelon officiated in the N.S.W.R.L. President's Cup and Metropolitan Cup Competitions. To all Referees you are to be congratulated on your performances throughout the season.

1998 will witness more changes with clubs amalgamating in the N.R.L. competition, also a preview of the N.S.W.R.L. State Cup Format, so again Referees of all ranks can prepare themselves for a rollercoaster ride but I am sure you all have the stability and dedication to handle such changes

To the Executives and your Committees you are to be congratulated on your efforts to guide the Association through the many changes that are occurring. I am proud to have the honour of serving as your patron, and I take the opportunity to convey Seasons Greetings to all members and their families, and wish all a successful 1999.

KEVIN JEFFES
Patron

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

In December 1997 this Association, a foundation member of the League, along with most of the Clubs, supported the formation of a National Rugby League (NRL) to conduct the National Premiership Competition. The fact that we were the only Rugby League Referees Association invited to participate in this decision is of great significance. Such action early recognised our Association as the pre-eminent Refereeing organisation in Australia.

Several subsequent NRL policy decisions, involving refereeing, have disturbing long term consequences for our Association. The loss of control over sponsorships (major, sleeve and gear), exclusion from the decision making process, the division of active members into two distinct groups with separate training systems, different uniforms, failure to fully implement the negotiated mobility policy, the elimination of skills training and a gradual reduction in the number of Queensland based Referees and Touch Judges, are just a few examples of policies, that if left unchecked, will inevitably undermine the fabric of our Association but diminishing its influence and cause disunity amongst its members. We must be of one mind in ensuring that this does not happen.

The on field performances of Referees and Touch Judges was of high standard throughout the year. Congratulations are extended to those members who were in the NRL squad as well as those who received Representative, State of Origin, International and Final Series appointments. I commend those members who did not make the NRL squad, for their dedicated and professional approach to appointments throughout the season.

Congratulations to those members who were honoured during the year for deeds that extend beyond the Rugby League playing field. In particular, to Max Dunn and Bryan Gilchrist on their elevation to Life Membership of the Association, to Denis Spagarino on being awarded the Hanson Memorial Achievement Trophy and to Eric Cox on being appointed Chairman of the Metropolitan Cup Policy Committee.

The Association is most appreciative of the assistance provided by personnel from the Australian, National and New South Wales Rugby Leagues. On behalf of all members I would like to particularly thank John McDonald and David Barnhill (ARL), Neil Whittaker, Brad Levy and Graham Annesley (NRL) and Warren Lockwood, Chris Turner and John Coates (NSWRL). A special thank you to Denis Spagarino in his role as the part-time NSWRL Referees Coaching Coordinator.

Our social events, as usual, were well conducted and supported. Barry Ruttle and his Committee, consisting of Steve Betts and Tom Healy, are to be congratulated on their endeavours which have made a significant contribution to enhancing harmony between our members and friends.

To my fellow Committee members and the Office Bearers of the Association I extend my personal thanks for the cooperation and support throughout the year, I would like to thank Les Matthews, Peter Filmer and Bob Styles for their tireless work on your behalf throughout the year.

IAN MCCALL
Chairman

REFEREE & TOUCH JUDGE APPOINTMENTS 1998

STATE OF ORIGIN

N.S.W V QUEENSLAND 1st SYDNEY

Referee	Touch Judges
W. Harrigan	C. White D. Goener

2nd BRISBANE

Referee	Touch Judges
W. Harrigan	S. Betts L. Edney

3rd SYDNEY

Referee	Touch Judges
W. Harrigan	S. Nash C. Jones

COMBINED PRESIDENTS CUP V N.S.W. COUNTRY 1ST

Referee	Touch Judges
R. Lawrence	K. Russell S. Brown (Illawarra)

SYDNEY METROPOLITAN CUP V N.S.W. COUNTRY 2ND

Referee	Touch Judges
A. Foster (Group 6)	B. Bonnie B. Foran (Group 7)

U/18 (N.S.W.) CITY V COUNTRY

Referee	Touch Judges
S. Carrall	J. Belgre B. Ruttle

N.S.W. RESIDENTS V QUEENSLAND RESIDENTS

Referee	Touch Judges
R. Lawrence	M. Howell R. Brown

U/19 N.S.W. V QUEENSLAND

Referee	Touch Judges
T. Archer	M. Cafarelli T. Healy

N.S.W. COMBINED HIGH SCHOOLS V QUEENSLAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Referee	Touch Judges
M. Lewis	B. Bonnie L. Penfold

HUNTER DISTRICT ABORIGINES V BARLA (GREAT BRITAIN)

Referee	Touch Judges
J. Weinstein	B. Bonnie L. Penfold

ABORIGINES V BARLA (GREAT BRITAIN)

Referee	Touch Judges
W. Loveday	A. Farlow R. Flint

INTER-DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE REFEREES SQUAD 1998

Badger	Gavin	South Sydney
Bailey	Gerard	North Sydney
Brown	Darrin	Cronulla-Sutherland
Brown	Malcolm	Penrith
Bugden	Luke	Balmain
Butler	John	South Sydney
Capararo	Jason	Newcastle
Castle	Peter	Canberra
Cobb	Brian	Canberra
Cummins	Ben	Canberra
De Las Heras	Tony	Illawarra
Devich	Adam	North Sydney
Dorahy	Phillip (Graded 15/6/98)	Parramatta
Elliott	Jason (Retired 24/4/98)	Canberra
Harrodine	Michael	Canberra
Holland	Paul	Parramatta
Hope	Paul	Parramatta
Jackson	Glenn	Cronulla-Sutherland
Jankowski	George	Penrith
Jones	Aaron	Penrith
Kearney	Michael	Western Suburbs
Lang	Darryn	Canterbury-Bankstown
Makdessi	Joe	Canterbury-Bankstown
Maxwell	Jared	Cronulla-Sutherland
McCloskey	Josh	Western Suburbs
McFarlane	Ricky	Penrith
McIntosh	Craig	South Sydney
Mitchell	Brad	Cronulla-Sutherland
Murphy	Kris	St George
Murphy	Scott	Illawarra
Newson	Brad	Canterbury-Bankstown
Paolini	Joe	Parramatta
Potter	Luke	Illawarra
Rabbitt	Brendan	South Sydney
Reynolds	Pat (Graded 15/6/98)	Parramatta
Rickersey	Darren	Parramatta
Robinson	Jason	Penrith
Robinson (Yates)	Jenny	Penrith
Rye	Brad	Western Suburbs
Shortall	Alan	Parramatta
Tamine	John	Canterbury-Bankstown
Turner	Russell (Graded 15/6/98)	Penrith
Tzamouranis	Peter	Canterbury-Bankstown
Walsh	Jason	Manly-Warringah
Ward	Mark	Western Suburbs
Watson	Stan	North Sydney
Weinstien	Jason (Graded 27/4/98)	Western Suburbs
Yates	Greg	Penrith
Younis	Jeff	Balmain

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr Chairman and Members,
It is with pleasure that I submit for your perusal and subsequent adoption, the 91st Annual Report and Financial Statement for the season 1998.

The 1998 season will be remembered by all members as the year the ARL and Super League reunited and formed the National Rugby League (NRL) to control and manage the 1st Grade Competition only and the ARL to control all other Rugby League in Australia.

To our Major sponsor, FAI thank you for your support in 1998 and I along with all members hope it is a rewarding sponsorship to both parties.

Prior to the commencement of the 1998 season we saw the retirement from the grade ranks of R Alexander, D. Brooks, P. Bungate, P. Duncan, P. Hewitt, R. Irwin, D. Jay, A. Kelly, W. Logan, A. Maksoud, D. Manson, C. McPherson, J. Melville, P. Murray, D. Sproule and G. West. Also during the year we saw the retirement of J. Belgre, S. Fielder, P. Kelly, D. O'Keefe and E. Ward we wish them well and thank them for their efforts on behalf of the Association.

With the reunification of the competitions the following members rejoined the Association as active members, A. Caddy, S. Carrall, S. Chiddy, S. Clark, D. Gocher, D. Goener, B. Grant, B. Harrigan, R. Kiddle, I. Mackintosh, S. Nash, S. Richards, M. Thompson and C. Turnell.

Trevor Davies looked after the fitness of the Sydney based graded (NSW competition) referees and the Inter-District Representative Squad of referees whilst Peter Murray and John Coleman took control of the fitness of the NRL squad.

Members of your Executive and members of the Association visited many affiliated Associations, Inter-State & Country Associations during the season and as always were well received, naturally this is building up good relations within the Refereeing ranks.

The Association nominated Kevin Jeffes and Barry Goldsworthy as Referees' coaches with Joe Griffiths and Ian McCall as Touch Judge coaches to assist Dennis Spagarino with the skills coaching and appointments of the NSW Referees.

Michael Ryan, Max Dunn and Les Matthews looked after the development, coaching and appointments of the Inter-District Representative Squad.

The All Schools Carnival was held in the Penrith district this year. Barry Ruttle on behalf of the Association arranged dinner and drinks for the country referees on the Monday evening.

The Executive entertained Fifty Eight senior members and Sponsors at the Appreciation Dinner held at the Sydney Football Stadium and an enjoyable afternoon was had by all. Our thanks to Barry Ruttle for organising the day and the N.S.W. Rugby League for supplying complimentary tickets for the members to attend the Quarter Final fixtures played on the day.

The Life Members Reunion Dinner was an outstanding success. My thanks to Nick Moraitis for accepting the invitation to join his fellow referees and friends, I am sure all present on the evening would like to thank you for bringing along the Melbourne and Caulfield Cups. To all members, delegates and guests that attended, thank you for participation in making it such an enjoyable evening for the Life Members and invited guests.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Special thanks to Paul Yu and his staff for the catering at this function.

SPONSORSHIP

The Association thanks FAI for their support through a difficult year, 1998 was the second year of our present three year agreement To Lois Burns Advertising Manager with FAI, thank you for your involvement.

The Association thanks all our sponsors for their support in 1998 and look forward to your continued involvement with the Association in 1999 and beyond.

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

CONGRATULATIONS

To Bill Harrigan on being appointed to the First Grand Final of the NRL Competition Bill was presented with the N.S.W. Rugby League Referees Association Commemorative Trophy by the Prime Minister Mr John Howard.

To Steve Betts, John McCormack (Touch Judges), Steve Clark and Steve Nash (Stand-By) on their appointment to the NRL 1st Grade Grand Final.

To Bill Harrigan on his appointment to the three (3) State of Origin Fixtures.

To Mark Oaten on his appointment to the Presidents Cup Grand Final

To Brian Bonnie, Kevin Russell (Touch Judges) Rick Lewis, Frank Leonard (In-Goal Judges) Rod Lawrence and Luke Penfold (Stand-By) on their appointment to the Presidents Cup Grand Final.

To all members appointed to Representative Fixtures during the season, also to those taking part in the NRL, Presidents Cup Final Series and Metropolitan Cup Finals series in 1998, you carried out your appointments with great credit to your Association.

To Eric Cox, John Coates and the clubs involved with the successful running of the Metropolitan Cup Competition, congratulations on the exceptionally high standard of Rugby League played.

To the Brisbane Bronco's Club for winning the 1st Grade NRL Grand Final, also to the Canterbury-Bankstown Club on their win in the Presidents Cup Grand Final.

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

HONOURS

Life Membership honours were bestowed on Max Dunn and Bryan Gilchrist for their outstanding service to the Association. Their Life Membership blazers will be presented to them at the Presentation Dinner (21st November 1998).

The George and Amy Hansen Memorial Trophy was awarded to a very surprised Dennis Spagarino for his efforts on behalf of the Association over the past twelve months.

The Frank Walsh Memorial Trophy recipient this year was Jeffrey Younis. This trophy is awarded annually to the referee who is appointed to the highest Inter District Cup Final. Jeff came into the squad from the Balmain District Referee Association.

REFEREES' ASSOCIATIONS AFFILIATED WITH N.S.W.R.L. REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC. DELEGATES ATTENDANCES 1998 6 Meetings Held

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

HONORARY MEMBERS 1998 AND ATTENDANCE

6 Meetings Held

A. Aggett	0	B. Goldsworthy	2	J. Melville	2
R. Alexander	1	W. Grech	0	P. Moon	0
K. Allard	0	J. Griffith	6	R. Morris	0
B. Apps	0	G. Haines	0	P. Murray	1
B. Barnes	1	L. Harrigan	0	K. Neale	0
M. Beacroft	0	C. Haynes	0	G. O'Donnell	0
J. Belgre	1	G. Heaton	0	D. O'Keefe	2
N. Bissett	5	G. Hedger	0	M. O'Neill	0
J. Blomfield	0	R. Hensley	0	R. Pearce	6
P. Bowen	1	P. Hewitt	1	W. Pearson	0
R. Bowman	0	K. Holman.M.B.E	0	A. Perry	0
D. Bowron	0	K. Holwell	0	R. Picard	1
G. Boyd	0	R. Humphreys	0	M. Presland	0
P. Bungate	3	B. Hunt	0	L. Randle	0
A. Butler	1	R. Irwin	1	H. Reedy	0
R. Carey	0	B. Keenahan	0	A. See	0
M. Cassidy	0	G. Kellahan	0	A. Sercombe	0
N. Cislowski	0	A. Kelly	1	R. Sinclair	0
W. Close	0	P. Kelly	2	I. Smith	1
A. Cole	0	B. Kendall	0	D. Sproule	1
G. Cook	0	S. Laws	0	P. Stuart	1
B. Cripps	0	G. Lee	0	M. Taylor	0
B. Cross	0	R. Logan	1	J. Turner	0
K. Davis	0	A. Maksoud	1	L. Turner	1
T. Delauney	0	D. Manson	1	B. Wales	0
P. Duncan	1	K. Manton	0	E. Ward	2
M. Edwards	2	G. McCallum	0	R. Warner	0
G. Elias	0	A. McGilvray	0	P. Watkins	0
S. Fielder	1	V. McGuinness	0	G. West	2
R. Fielding	0	B. McIntosh	0	J. Whybrow	0
P. Fitton	1	R. McLannett	1	R. Williams	0
P. Freeman	0	D. McLean	6	S. Williams	0
P. Freeman	0	P. McMahon	0	J. Yard	2

HONORARY ASSOCIATE MEMBERS FOR LIFE

6 Meetings Held

J. R. Drewes	D	H. Gillard	D	L. Plowes	5
W. Fallowfield O.B.E	D	P. Goener	0		
K. Gardner	D	W. Petley D.F.C.C.deG	D		

SECRETARY'S REPORT

THANKS

To Neil Whittaker, Chris Turner, Michael Stone, Graeme Annesley, Eric Cox, John Coates, Brad Levy and Martin Meredith, thank you for your support and assistance throughout the year.

To Peter Corcoran on his achievements with the National Strategic Plan for Referees, also to Nick Euclid, Nick Best, Ian McCall, Richard Johnson, Kevin Riolo, thank you for your input into this project.

To Dennis Spagarino, a job very well done under constant pressure, on a part time basis, thank you for your support during the year.

To Michael Stone thank you for your support during the year, a job well done as the NRL Referees' Coach.

To our Fitness Trainer, Trevor Davies 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.

To Joanne Farr and 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 and catering for our meetings and functions throughout 1998.

To all District Associations, Country Referees 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 the Masseurs, Andrew Alchin, Bob Chilvers, Grant Clark (N.Z.), John Dawson (Melbourne), Larry Etzell, Frank Fletcher, Anna Giles, Ross Kidson, Sam Morgan (Qld.), Greg O'Keefe, Tony O'Malley, Jeff Palmer (Adelaide), Dennis Regan, Keith Rogers, Corey Ruttle, Michael Seerey, Micheal Smith, Don Stuart, Ian Todd, Peter Van Dijk, Keith Wakeley (Townsville), Rick Walton, Len White and Les Williamson (A.C.T) thank you all for your efforts throughout the year.

VALE

1997-98 saw the passing of three Life Members:

Harry Pierce
Graded 1948 to 1952
Retired from Grade, end of season 1952
Vice President 1954 to 1961
Finance Committee 1962
Deputy Chairman 1962, 1963, 1965, 1966, 1967
Honourary Member 1953 to 1962
Elected Life Member NSW R L R
Association 1963
Delegate 2nd Division 1964
Appointment Board 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1970
Advisory Board 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981
Passed away on the 3-11-97

George Benson
Graded 1962 to 1983
Retired end of 1983 season
Pre-Season Competition Final Touch Judge 1967
NSW V QLD Touch Judge 1967, 1968, 1979, 1982, 1983
3rd Grade Grand Final Touch Judge 1968, 1971, 1979
World Cup Touch Judge New Zealand v Great Britain 1968
Social Committee Member 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1974

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Committee Member 1971 to 1978

Elected Life Member NSW R L R

Association 1977

Hansen Memorial Trophy Committee 1977

Amco Shield Final Touch Judge 1979

City 2nd v Country 2nd Touch Judge 1980, 1981

2nd Grade Grand Final Touch Judge 1980

1st Grade Grand Final Touch Judge 1982, 1983

Passed away 17-11-97

Col Schomberg

Grade 1955 to 1968

Retired end of 1968 season

Honourary Member 1969 to 1971

3rd Test Australia v New Zealand Touch Judge 1963

NSW V QLD Touch Judge 1963

NSW V France Touch Judge 1964

Committee Member 1964

1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971

Vice President 1965 and 1966

Coaching Classes for Referees 1966 to 1971

Elected Life Member 1972

Senior Vice President 1972

Examination Board 1966 to 1976 and 1983 to 1987

Referees Advisory Board 1980

Passed away on the 20-7-98

To members who suffered sad losses during the year, we once again offer our deepest sympathy and sincere condolences.

On behalf of all members and personally, I thank Ian McCall for the hours spent negotiating financial and other matters with the NRL and the NSW Rugby League

To all Committee members thank you for your valuable assistance during the year.

Finally, I special thanks to Michael Ryan (Assistant Secretary) for his support and dedication. To Bev Matthews, Madeleine McCall and Julie Ryan a special thanks for your support to your husbands 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

December 1997 saw the decision made by the NSWRL to reunite the competition. Not an easy decision but faced with a choice as it was put "do we want a sport that is strongly competitive or simply continue to battle to be the best of two Rugby League factions"?, believed to be a course for eventual extinction, the answer appeared simple. More a choice of being a competitive business or returning the game to the level of amateur sport.

The short term ramifications were in some cases rewarding but in many others

undoubtedly very hard to swallow. They will continue to be very hard to swallow. The decision without a doubt in my mind was right but having taken the high ground when the truth of the decision dawned we got down to ideals versus self interest, tradition versus progress. Ben Chifley is attributed to the remark "In the race of life always bet on self interest, since you can be certain its trying". Disappointingly but not unexpectedly self interest has emerged as a big ticket item at all levels in the game. Inevitable club mergers appear likely to be based on

GRADED REFEREES 1998 AND ATTENDANCE

6 Meetings Held

D. Abood	5	D. Gocher RE *	5	J. McCormack	6
D. Alchin	6	D. Goener RE *	1	S. Nash RE *	3
N. Almond	0	B. Grant RE *	1	M. Oaten	3
A. Archer	5	S. Hampstead	6	J. O'Brien	4
P. Battin	4	W. Harrigan RE *	4	D. O'Keefe	2*
J. Belgre	1*	T. Healy	6	M. O'Malley	6
S. Betts	5	G. Henderson	2	T. Peet	4
B. Bonnie	3	M. Hewitt	3	L. Penfold	6
R. Brown	4	M. Hoffmann	6	S. Portsmouth	4
A. Caddy RE *	0	M. Howell	3	P. Reynolds	2**
M. Cafarelli	6	M. Jadwat	5	S. Richards RE *	3
S. Carrall RE *	4	K. Jeffes	6	K. Russell	3
M. Cecchin	3	C. Jones	6	B. Ruttle	6
S. Chiddy RE *	4	P. Kalina	6	M. Ryan	4
S. Clapson	4	P. Kelly	2**	P. Simpkins	6
S. Clark RE *	2	R. Kiddle RE *	0	O. Smith	2
P. Cooley	5	R. Lawrence	4	M. Thompson RE *	1
R. Cranston	1	F. Leonard	5	S. Todd	5
A. Danks	6	M. Lewis	3	C. Turnell RE *	1
P. Digby	4	R. Lewis	4	R. Turner	2**
P. Dorahy	2**	W. Loveday	6	D. Turvey	5
L. Edney	4	B. Lynch	5	S. Villa	0
A. Fallah	3	S. Lyons	4	E. Ward	2**
A. Farlow	5	P. Macinante	4	M. Weekes	1
P. Field	6	I. Mackintosh RE *	0	J. Weinstein	3*
S. Fielder	1**	T. Mander	2	C. White	4
R. Flint	5	B. Mathews	4		
B. Gilchrist	6	P. McBlane	6		

* Retired 22/6/98

** Retired 5/4/98

* Retired 12/4/98

** Retired 22/6/98

* Graded 27/4/98

** Graded 15/6/98

RE * REGRADED

LIFE MEMBERSHIP HONOUR ROLL AND ATTENDANCE

6 Meetings Held in 1998

K. Arnold	1971	0	J. Farrelly	1977	D	J. O'Brien	1952	D
L. Baggott	1945	D	A. Farrow	1922	D	R. O'Donnell	1965	0
A. Ballerum	1917	D	A. Fifield	1947	D	J. O'Sullivan	1974	6
B. Barry	1974	0	P. Filmer	1995	4	A. Oxford	1952	0
J. Bates	1946	D	E. Fletcher	1941	D	K. Page	1978	D
T. Beilew O.A.M.	1961	0	W. Fry	1936	D	E. Paine	1948	D
G. Benson	1977	D*	B. Garwood	1988	1	I. Parnaby	1996	2
G. Bishop	1950	D	B. Gately	1992	4	C. Pearce	1960	0
J. Black	1928	D	B. Gilchrist	1998	6	G. Pearce	1953	D
B. Bolton	1993	0	C. Gilchrist	1983	D	H. Pierce	1963	D*
G. Boyd	1918	D	J. Gocher	1983	6	H. Poulton	1925	D
D. Bratton	1953	D	M. Godfrey	1979	0	K. Roberts	1992	6
D. Braybrook	1982	D	T. Grew	1958	D	L. Rosen	1955	D
T. Brennan	1940	D	G. Griffin	1951	D	H. Rowlands	1928	D
R. Brock	1967	D	J. Griffin	1939	D	M. Ryan	1991	6
C. Brown	1963	0	R. Hall	1980	D	P. Ryan	1991	6
L. Bruyeres	1972	0	J. Hansen	1925	D	L. Samuelson	1973	0
J. Buchanan	1924	D	J. Harris O.A.M.	1980	0	C. Schomberg	1972	D*
E. Buckley	1937	D	A. Holt	1966	D	D. Schutema	1940	D
S. Carey	1958	D	C. Hudson	1975	1	A. Shiner O.A.M.	1955	D
J. Clarke	1943	D	K. Jeffes snr	1995	6	A. Shipway	1959	D
N. Clement	1981	0	J. Jewell	1988	D	R. Smyth	1951	0
O. Cohen	1948	D	J. Kelly	1954	D	A. Soane	1971	D
J. Colenso	1989	D	J. Kelly	1982	0	D. Spagarino	1997	6
A. Collins	1947	D	W. Kelly	1969	D	A. Spankie	1945	D
J. Connor	1985	1	W. Keough	1970	D	M. Stone	1989	5
P. Cooley	1994	5	E. Kerr	1938	D	R. Styles	1994	5
T. Costello	1936	D	A. Konnecke	1968	0	E. Tinsely	1967	0
B. Cowley	1969	D	D. Lawler	1957	D	M. Tomsett	1979	5
E. Cox	1970	0	P. Lee	1942	D	C. Turnell	1984	1
B. Cuke	1956	0	T. Leffler	1956	0	J. Turner	1942	D
R. Cummins	1966	0	P. Longhurst	1986	4	B. Wales Snr	1935	D
J. Davies	1954	D	D. Macdonald	1976	D	F. Walsh	1965	D
A. Davis	1950	D	M. Maloney	1941	D	C. Ward	1949	D
L. Deane	1935	D	J. Martin	1968	D	R. Ward	1949	D
F. Delaney	1932	D	L. Matthews	1986	6	M. Weekes	1997	1
A. Dennis	1936	D	I. McCall	1984	6	A. Welsh	1921	D
W. Devine Snr	1949	D	J. McGauley	1944	D	C. Wigzell B.E.M.	1938	D
R. Dick	1976	D	T. McMahon	1915	D	L. Williams	1957	0
T. Dickenson	1921	D	H. Millington	1934	D	D. Wintin	1981	6
R. Drake	1937	D	J. Montgomery	1973	0	G. Wirth	1939	D
M. Dunn	1998	4	J. Moses B.E.M.	1944	D	B. Wiseman	1987	0
H. Elliott	1929	D	T. Murphy	1985	0	C. Yorke	1943	D
P. Elliss	1978	0	J. Murray	1934	D			
F. Erickson	1964	0	W. Neill	1946	D			
J. Farquhar	1929	D	A. Neville	1987	1			

*Passed away since November 1997

NSWRL DELEGATE'S REPORT

personalities, who likes who rather than the logic of strategic bordering locations.

Game structure faces heavy review in the coming months and as an Association we will be affected by such decisions. Reports have been prepared focusing on organisation and structure reviewing the impact on the League due to the formation of the National Rugby League. The many unanswered questions and constitutional complications need resolution before the commencement of next season.

The impact of a national competition must be addressed by our Association. It should not be assumed that the NSW Referees Association will automatically be the producers of the NRL referee or refereeing related officials. The VFL having broadened its structure nationally to the AFL sadly has seen the emergence of an elite umpiring squad which in the main has clearly separated itself from the grass roots levels and the benefits of association neglected. It would be very

disappointing to see our referees go down this path.

Season 1998 was long and arduous but by no means disastrous. The highs of State of Origin and a number of semi final fixtures outweighed the lows of some overall mediocre club performances and lack of on-field discipline. We face a coming season already with changes, one less NRL fixture, possibly more, the new first division premiership likely including teams from country NSW, a State Cup Knockout competition. There will be greater competition, the inevitable disappointments and frustrations.

The strength of our Association will be critical in facing these future developments.

I thank you for the privilege of representing you at the NSWRL and look forward to a strong member commitment in the Association in the coming months.

DOUG WINTIN

NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' COACH REPORT

At the conclusion of a report which I wrote last year as Optus Cup Referees' Coaching Co-ordinator, I said that 1998 would bring with it a whole new raft of challenges. I may not be Nostradamus; however, a truer word has never been uttered.

It is history now that a resolution to the war which racked our game was found at Christmas time last year. It meant that a great deal of work was required prior to the start of the competition. As far as clubs were concerned, little changed internally. All that happened was that they would play against some different teams in a competition controlled by different bodies.

Refereeing (and the NRL itself was different. We had to put together, quickly, two sides of a previously bitter conflict and have them working in perfect harmony for the start of the competition. Not an easy task.

On January 12, 1998, the Joint ARL/Super League sub-committee on referees met at Phillip Street. The Association was represented at that meeting by the President, Ian McCall. The sub-committee dealt with issues involving structure, appointments, coaching methodology, accreditation, payments, uniforms and the Referees' Association.

NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' COACH REPORT

The sub-committee, in the spirit of co-operation and conciliation, required one meeting only to determine all issues and draft resolutions to the new Boards. As far as the Association was concerned, the most critical issue was that any member of the NRL squad MUST be a member of the Association, thus retaining the Association's position as the supplier of referees to the major competition.

In a major organisation change, the previous co-ordinator's job was split between a specialist coach and a referees manager who had responsibility for all administration tasks in relation to refereeing, including liaison with the Association. Eventually, Graham Annesley undertook that role and, no doubt, there were a number of fruitful discussions between the Association and himself.

The major structural change to refereeing was simply that there was now an NRL squad of referees. Of course, there always has been a squad of first grade referees as opposed to reserve grade referees but this was formalised this year to come under the control of the NRL. It raised a number of (sometimes) serious logistical problems which needed urgent attention. However, constant liaison with the NSW Rugby League through Dennis Spagarino, resolved most problems and I am grateful to him for his assistance in this area.

The NRL squad operates in a slightly different manner to the NSW squad in that its physical training requirements are based on attendance at small group sessions throughout Australia and New Zealand. At six weekly intervals, the group undergoes testing by well loved trainers, Peter Murray and John Coleman, who prepare a detailed report on the results. Over the period of a year or so, interesting comparisons are possible both between referees and also

highlighting an individual's performance. I think that the added information and competition ensures that referees are becoming far fitter than they have ever been.

Match day emphasis moved from reporting to coaching assistance and support. Terrific for referees no doubt but the information required to support the appointment process is clearly a problem. Following a recent forum of stakeholders in the NRL refereeing fraternity, a review of procedures will be undertaken. None of this is critical of the efforts of Ian Smith and Kevin Roberts whose support as selectors I appreciate.

Touch judging is an area where I need help I certainly do not apologise for recruiting Max Tomsett who, I believe, has a better insight into touch judging than anyone else past or present. If they look like fighting words, you had better believe it. Max is a fine man whose sole motivation is to better the game. Others might take note.

Now! Full time referees. I believe that being a full time referee can be a massive advantage to the individual and the organisation. The full time squad undertook an ambitious project which involved ongoing development activities in New South Wales and Queensland country areas. Based on video tape presentation and on field physical training, the feedback from participants has been overwhelming. The project is certain to be expanded and modified for the needs of individual areas next year. That is not to say that part-time refereeing is not possible in the future or that they will be overlooked in the selection process. My sole commitment in appointing referees is to put the best people in the jobs. Full stop. Performance on the field is the major criteria. Speaking

NSWRL REFEREES' CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

coaching structure to the benefit of each referee/touch judge.

Here I must pay tribute and thank for their invaluable time and expertise, Mr Kevin Jeffs who had the responsibility of assisting me with the Presidents Cup central referees, Mr Barry Goldsworthy who had the responsibility of assisting me with the Metropolitan Cup central referees, Mr Ian McCall and Mr Joe Griffith who had the responsibility of the Presidents Cup and Metropolitan Cup Touch Judges and Ingoal Judges respectively.

Onfield referees' skills training was continued and enhanced in 1998 because I felt that to be a very important facet in the development of up and coming young referees. This development brought success by the inclusion of Messrs Rod Lawrence and Tony Archer to the NRL squad of referees. Here I must thank Messrs Kevin Roberts and Max Tomsett for their generous time and assistance given on skills nights.

Of particular success this year was the performance of referees at the Junior Representative Level. Of major influence was the tireless work put in by the NSWRLR Association coaches Mr Mick Ryan, Max Dunn and Les Matthews. I would like to be put on the record my special thanks to these gentlemen for their unselfish work.

A new initiative at Junior Representative Level, which was a great success and assisted the referees' enormously, was the adoption of the communication equipment between Touch Judges and referees in all games. Also referees in the Junior Representative squad participated in a number of video review sessions held during the season, this allowed them to participate and become familiar with what is required with graded referees in the control of games.

Appointing referees always requires accurate information of each referees performance from his previous game. In this aspect we were very fortunate in having an Advisory Board which performed admirably. What made the Advisory Board special this year was the inclusion of a number of new members that instilled new blood and purpose.

The Metropolitan Cup competition this year has been very competitive and successful in both grades. It continued to show progress, which is very pleasing. It is also a very good competition for referees to show their wares.

Congratulations to Messrs Mark Oaten, Brian Bonnie, Kevin Russell, Rick Lewis and Frank Leonard who controlled the First Grade Grand Final and to Messrs Rod Lawrence, Phill Battin, Luke Penfold, Scott Todd and Mario Cafarelli who controlled the reserve grade Grand Final.

It has been a very difficult but rewarding season for me personally. To be asked to do the referees co-ordinator's job initially for 3 to 4 weeks part time was difficult but then having done a whole season was particularly difficult.

I could not have carried this through without the help, patience and support of my wife Karen and daughters Deborah and Joanne. To the Referees Association a wholehearted thank you from myself personally, from the NSWRL and from every active referee. To Michael Stone, special thanks for your guidance and support through these difficult times. To the coaches and advisory board members a special thank you for your support, loyalty, assistance and patience, you have been a tower of strength.

DENNIS SPAGARINO
Referees Co-ordinator

NSWRL REFEREES' CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

Season 1997 was a very difficult and challenging season for the NSWRL because of the split competition between ARL and Super League. It brought particular challenges to the refereeing ranks.

With the unification of the two competitions one would think that season 1998 would have been particularly difficult for referees, both on the field and off the field. That proved absolutely correct.

A committee to review refereeing issues was set up by the ARL/Super League partnership board at the start of season 1998. The committee, formed by representatives of the NSWRL, Super League, club coaches from both 1997 league competitions and the NSWRLR Association, made a number of recommendations for approval by the partnership board.

Amongst the recommendations there was the predominant one which put forward that the new National Rugby League games should be controlled/officiated by a squad of referees as a separate identity to other referees that control lower grade competitions such as Presidents Cup, Metropolitan Cup and Junior Representative games. This caused the creation of the NRL squad of referees and the NSWRL squad of referees. Over season 1998 this created a number of problems and opportunities. The major problems were:

1. The insufficient movement of referees between the two squads which did lead to a morale problem.
2. The lack of interchange of ideas/communication that always existed when all referees trained and socialised together. Two squads adopting different methods of training and in different locations caused this to occur.
3. The integration back together of Super

League and ARL referees. A harmonious integration I thought would be difficult to achieve at the start of season 1998, however, I feel this issue is behind us now and I must congratulate every referee for being so professional.

The creation of the NRL and NSWRL squad did allow the NSWRL squad members to gain the opportunity of controlling the Presidents Cup (No.2 game) on Grand Final day. This was not previously possible because First Grade members did eventually control all semi-finals and grand finals.

This created a very positive and competitive atmosphere between our squad members counteracting the drawbacks of the two separate squads. It gave the opportunity to our best performed referee Mr Mark Oaten, Touch Judges Mr Brian Bonnie and Mr Kevin Russell, In goal Judges Mr Frank Leonard and Mr Rick Lewis to control the number two game on Grand Final day. All officials performed particularly well in what I think was the best and most competitive game on the day.

I must wholeheartedly thank the NSWRLRA, its President Mr Ian McCall and Executive for the help given to me in trying to, and I think succeeding in creating a positive atmosphere amongst our active referees that lead to very good on field performances all season.

A number of new initiatives were undertaken in season 1998 to help improve the performance of each individual referee.

One of the new initiatives this season was to appoint an Association referee/touch judge coach to concentrate his coaching efforts on one particular grade. This allowed a much more personalised

NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' COACH REPORT

of which, Bill Harrigan deserves plaudits for his season which included three State of Origin matches, the inaugural NRL Grand Final and test appointments in Great Britain. A fine achievement.

Making their first grade debuts this season were Steve Chiddy and Rod Lawrence. At the other end of the experience scale, David Manson missed the season through injury but is determined to fight back while Eddie Ward stepped down mid year due to illness. Their experience (both Test, State of Origin and Grand Final referees) was missed during the season. Also, without fanfare, Graham Annesley retired to take up an administrative role with the NRL. Graded in 1977 at the age of 10, he has been one of Leagues great survivors.

Like any other club, referees require financial support and, therefore, the assistance which FAI, Ansett, FILA and

Classic Sportswear provide is essential in the promotion of our area of Rugby League. Thanks to all our valued sponsors.

I regard the last twelve months as being the hardest in the twenty one seasons since I was graded in 1978, I have attempted to support the Association and its members at every opportunity. My role is very different to that which I left at the NSW Rugby League and, I suspect, that the Association's role has also changed significantly. I need to address my role and redefine it with the benefit of hindsight, correcting the mistakes of 1998. I know with the strength of leadership, the Association will obviously do the same.

I wish all members good luck for season 1999 and beyond.

MICHAEL STONE
Referees Coach

SPONSORSHIP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT - 1998

Fellow Members,
As the season has now drawn to a close we can reflect on what has been a mixed bag in the areas of sponsorship administration.

We have worked very hard to ensure that our active members received the now expected, high level of quality in the areas of coaching, training and equipment, so that their ability to continue to perform at the ever expected high standard is made easier for them.

We continued to provide our affiliated District Associations with the level of support necessary to help them function in an environment where financial and professional assistance is provided. Assistance in this area was increased this

year with the implementation of a Coaching and Development Scheme. Under this scheme District Associations were invited to apply, outlining full details of their proposed plans, coaching appointments, training details, recruitment programmes etc. These proposals were then assessed in conjunction with previously outlined criteria and grants to a maximum of \$1,000 per Association were dispersed, with the more active or progressive Associations rewarded accordingly.

This year the Association worked in close liaison with the Country Rugby League Referees Association to formulate a plan to provide them with a vastly increased level of assistance in areas where it was jointly agreed that maximum benefits to

SPONSORSHIP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT - 1998

country referees would be obtained. With the assistance of sponsorship, the N.S.W.R.L. Referees Association will now provide an agreed level of funding for:

- (a) Two Development Officers appointed by CRL Referees Association,
- (b) Reimbursement of travel expenses incurred by CRLRA executive officers in carrying out their duties,
- (c) Annual Seminar held at Wollongong.
- (d) Accommodation costs for nominated groups of country referees to attend and take part in N.S.W.R.L. Referees Assn training/coaching sessions in Sydney.

Hopefully these programmes will be beneficial to the many country Group Associations and help to overcome some of the many disadvantages they meet due to the geographics of the many areas.

Our efforts in all these areas of support are beginning to be frustratingly hamstrung by the uncertainty of the level of future funding and the level of control that we will hold over these funds. It is to be hoped that these matters can be addressed and the necessary agreements made, to enable us to return to some period of stability so that positive future planning is possible.

Our Sponsorship Liaison Officer, Lindsay Plowes, continued his effective work in the areas of personal invitations to our sponsors personnel for the various important football matches and social functions held throughout the year. I once again would like to thank our many members who made their time available to assist with the entertainment of these very important guests.

Total expenditure from sponsorship funds for the season amounted to \$321,663 against an annual approved budget of \$342,440.

The major areas of expenditure were:

- The provision of referees uniforms and gear, both on and off the field - \$60,529
 - Training & Coaching costs for N.S.W.R.L. Referees including training venues, trainer's fees, Nutrition program, Psychological testing, and the provision of coaches for referees - \$59,855
 - Provision of Masseurs (Rubbers) for all matches (includes \$5,215 accrued from 1997 season) - \$66,161.
 - 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 - \$69,640
 - Association Travel visits by executive officers, referees coaches, leading active referees to country, interstate and overseas for purposes of coaching and administration - \$8,022
 - Administration Grant to N.S.W. Referees Assn - \$40,000
 - Computer Upgrades, repairs etc. - \$3,050
 - Sponsorship Management & Administration.
Includes sponsorship communications, public relation, entertainment of sponsors etc. - \$14,406
- Total Expenditure - \$321,663

Finally I would like to thank Phil Cooley and Bryan Gilchrist for their continued first class effort in the area of providing backup for me and the required gear for our members.

Wishing all members a happy Christmas and off-season and we look forward to renewing our acquaintance in 1999.

BOB STYLES
Sponsorship Co-ordinator

TRAINING REPORT

The training staff would like to thank all Referees, Touch Judges, Junior Referees and Touch Judges for their efforts in Wednesday nights conditioning sessions and the intermittent fitness evaluations. We would also like to thank those referees and touch judges from the National Rugby League and the Country Referees who put in the effort during our Wednesday night training sessions. I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of Donna and Ron in thanking the New South Wales Rugby League Referees' Association for their support throughout the year and the Social Committee for involving us in your formal and not so formal functions.

It was pleasing to note that despite the ups and downs during the year, many of you focused on the task at hand and what better evidence to support these efforts than by evaluating the overall yearly fitness profiles. It was extremely pleasing to note that overall fitness levels have increased. Not only has there been an increase from the beginning of this year, but your overall fitness levels have improved to those recorded in 1997. "Congratulations, a very pleasing effort."

The average yearly results were as follows:

1998			
Weight	Body-Comp	12min Run	A.D.Test
80kg	54.72mm	2.77km	1.18min
1997			
Weight	Body-Comp	12min Run	A.D.Test
80.98kg	56.47mm	2.76km	1.40min

The results speak for themselves, there has been a decrease in weight and body fat. Also the distance covered in the 12 minute run has increased and the time taken to run the A.D anaerobic test is much faster to that of last year, once again congratulations.

Although there were times during the colder wetter months of training when some of you may have thought - "what the heck," most of you nugged it through and improved on your previous fitness levels. It can therefore be concluded that the overall physiological fitness components needed by referees during competition games has improved, which is indicative to the prescribed conditioning sessions designed and implemented over the 1998 season.

A reminder, that while it is the season to be jolly, don't forget to balance it with a few jolly training sessions. Try not to loose too much of what you have done so hard to gain. A few kilometres a week with a buddy, or by yourself coupled with another exercise will keep you on track for next year. If you would like any assistance regarding your current fitness don't hesitate to contact me at any time.

Thank you for your efforts.

TREVOR DAVIES
Fitness co-ordinator

LIFE MEMBERS FOR 1998

MAX DUNN & BRYAN GILCHRIST

RECORD OF SERVICE

MAX DUNN

Graded 1976 to 1992

Honorary Member 1993 to 1997

Total Membership 22 years

1976	12 (16)	1984	8 (10)	1992	7 (8)
1977	13 (16)	1985	6 (8)	1993	5 (8)
1978	6 (14)	1986	8 (9)	1994	4 (4)
1979	7 (17)	1987	8 (8)	1995	4 (4)
1980	3 (15)	1988	7 (7)	1996	6 (6)
1981	5 (15)	1989	7 (7)	1997	4 (6)
1982	4 (16)	1990	6 (7)		
1983	12 (17)	1991	8 (8)		

Seminar Committee Member 1990

Referees Examination Board Member 1993 to 1995

Referees Advisory Board Member 1994 to 1997

Inter-District Junior Representative Coach 1997

Association Auditor 1997

RECORD OF SERVICE

BRYAN GILCHRIST

Graded 1985 to 1997

Total Membership 13 years

1985	7 (8)	1990	7 (7)	1995	4 (4)
1986	8 (9)	1991	8 (8)	1996	6 (6)
1987	6 (8)	1992	8 (8)	1997	6 (6)
1988	6 (7)	1993	7 (8)		
1989	7 (7)	1994	3 (4)		

Sponsorship Committee Member (elected 1-6-94 replaced M Weekes) 1995 to 1997

Seminar Committee Member 1996 to 1997

LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS FOR 1999

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

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

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Unfortunately this year we did not start the social events with the usual pre-season get-together, due to the late planning of the seminar.

However we decided that we would have more BBQs after training as a morale booster. We hoped it would lead to a getting together of the NRL referees and the NSW referees but this was not as successful as we had hoped. Thanks to the NRL guys who did attend. The fact that just about every time a BBQ was organised it rained, did not help matters. We did manage against all odds, to only have to cancel one and yes ladies we did get home rather late on a couple of occasions.

This year's mid-season function did not get up and running, due to a lack of interest and other factors beyond our control, i.e. delegates not taking messages back to associations, and the number of games now played of a saturday night.

On a high note, the appreciation dinner, the life members night and the dinner at the Little Snail, after the Grand Final were very well attended.

Indications are that, the end of season trip to Brooklin will break the record of attendees.

This year's presentation night to be held at Darling Harbour, I hope, will surpass last year's excellent night, held at the Gazebo. Already we have over 30 rooms booked, for those who wish to stay overnight at the Park Royal, Darling Harbour.

Thanks to Steve Betts and Tommy Healy for their efforts and support throughout the year especially the long and wet hours for our BBQs.

I guess as with most things it is time to move on. I don't believe a social secretary should stay in that position too long, so I have decided not to stand for the position this year (time for new blood and new ideas).

I would like to also thank all those who have supported the social functions over the last few years I have been social secretary. I have enjoyed serving you and hope to do so in some other position should the members wish.

BARRY RUTTLE
Social Secretary

INTER DISTRICT JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE SQUAD REPORT

This year the Junior Representative competition was back to three grades. The Jersey Flegg (under 19) ran for 19 weeks, the SG Ball (under 17) ran for 13 weeks and the Harold Matthews (under 16) ran for 6 weeks.

More games gave more referees the opportunity to show their ability, and the same structure will be in place next year.

Congratulations to Jason Weinstein, Phil Dorahy, Pat Reynolds and Russell Turner on being elevated to the graded ranks.

At the conclusion of the Representative season three members of the squad were selected to represent at the National Schoolboy carnivals. Jeff Younis and Jason Robinson travelled to Melbourne and Luke Potter travelled to Canberra.

Congratulations to all members of the squad on their performances during the season particularly to the following members who officiated Grand Finals.

Harold Matthews

Phil Dorahy Paul Holland
 Russell Turner

SG Ball

Jason Robinson Paul Holland
 George Jankowski

Jersey Flegg

Jeff Younis Luke Bugden
 Stan Watson

Following his appointment to the Jersey Flegg Grand Final Jeff Younis was presented the Frank Walsh Memorial Trophy at the Life Members Reunion Dinner.

Congratulations to Parramatta for their win in the Harold Matthews, to South Sydney for their win in the SG Ball and to North Sydney for their win in the Jersey Flegg.

The coaching panel would like to thank all members of the squad for their co-operation and courtesy extended to us and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Our thanks and appreciation go to the NSW Referees' Association for its support and financial assistance throughout the year.

LES MATTHEWS, MICHAEL RYAN &
MAX DUNN
Coaching Panel

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee of the Association makes the following recommendations for 1999, to be considered at the Annual General Meeting.

1. That Honourary members Subscription shall be five dollars (\$5.00) or one dollar (\$1.00) for a pensioner.
2. That Affiliated Associations shall pay an Affiliation Subscription of ten dollars (\$10.00).
3. That in 1999 the Association will hold five (5) General Meetings commencing at 7.45 pm, to be held at the N.S.W. Leagues Club on the following dates:
10th February
31st March
19th May
7th July
25th August

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	D. Spagarino
1982	I. McCall	1990	I. Parnaby	1998	—

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 Weinstein	Western Suburbs
1998	Jeffrey Younis	Balmain

BALANCE SHEET

as at 30th September, 1998

Current Account as at 1st October, 1997	17,781.86
Investment Account as at 1st October, 1997	201,684.41
Deduct Operating Deficit for the period 1/10/97- 30/9/98	34,113.02
Represented by:	
Current Account as at 30th September, 1998	26,835.75
Investment Account as at 30th September, 1998	158,517.50
Total Funds Available	185,353.25

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

Signed: P. KALINA
Acting Auditor

TREASURER'S REPORT

Members, it is my pleasure to submit my Treasurer's Report for season 1998. This season witnessed the reformation of our game however, in the short term, the welding process had little if any affect on the fiscal operations of our Association. An examination of the financial statements that accompany this report again reflect a busy season and yet another strong financial base. A turnover of \$700,000.00 is no small operation and the Association is well equipped, at least financially, to enter the seasons ahead.

So, what of the future? It is strongly rumoured that all sponsorships relative to refereeing will be administered by the National Rugby League. I would suggest that members monitor this very closely and ensure that when negotiations take place the Association enter into a "long term" Deed of Agreement or some form of contract that ensures a constant stream of income that is sufficient to enable the long term viability of the Association and allows the Association to administer those components of refereeing development under it's portfolio. The second measure that needs to be undertaken is the full computerisation of the Accounts to enable more efficient processing of work and better scope for reporting.

It is with a little sadness and might I say some relief that I advise members that I will not be seeking a nomination for the Treasurer's position for 1999. I have given 9 years service to the position which, at times has been very taxing but for the most part most enjoyable and enlightening. I wish to state that my decision has nothing whatsoever to do

with the "politics" that have surrounded us for the last 3 years and the level of acrimony that is still present. I simply cannot dedicate the hours that are necessary to complete the clerical component of the position, this, in the main, due to work commitments.

The active membership, in particular, deserve better than I have been able to provide this season. I hope that my contribution will be remembered for the structure I have put in place to ensure that the Association has never been under financial threat and that I served the members to the very best of my ability. Having said all of this I am still keen to serve in some administrative capacity and hope to stand for other positions on the committee.

In closing this report there are numerous people to thank but I will single out just 4 being my wife Debbie and my kids Brad, Katie and Scott. They have had to put up with a lot through some pretty traumatic times yet, they have always been supportive. It simply would not be possible to serve on the Executive without that level of support, family strength and unity however strained it may be at times.

To all of the members I thank you for your support and look forward to always remaining a Life member of a wonderful and vital Association which has proved its value and necessity to the game at all levels and I am sure will continue to do so.

PETER FILMER
Treasurer

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS STATEMENT

1st October, 1997 - 30th September, 1998

BALANCE FORWARD 30th September, 1997 \$17,781.86

ADD RECEIPTS

Sponsorship Grant to General Fund	40,000.00	
Active Referee Expenses Reimbursed	12,142.10	
Levy	2,400.00	
Tickets	6,150.00	
Non Active	341.00	
Affiliation	150.00	
Social	480.00	
Interest- General Fund	495.07	
Fees	10,775.00	
Investment Recall	50,000.00	
Sponsorship	300,000.00	
Sponsorship Reimbursement- Seminar	9,426.03	
Stale Cheques Written Back	475.00	
Other	81.37	
Total Receipts	432,915.57	
		\$450,697.43

DEDUCT PAYMENTS

Social	42,754.07	
Phone	5,560.65	
Postage	1,421.20	
Administration Expenses	10,251.31	
Stationery	2,508.93	
Printing	6,320.30	
Floral	350.00	
Active Referee Expenses	17,795.45	
Courier	223.60	
Tickets	9,750.00	
Insurances	6,317.34	
Fees	6,317.34	
Equipment Repairs	2,572.34	
Sponsorship Payments	297,335.31	
Bank Charges	686.18	
Audit/ Legal	3,210.00	
Honorarium	6,005.00	
Bank Adjustment	275.00	
Total Expenses		\$423,861.68

Balance as at 30th September, 1998 \$26,385.75

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

1st October, 1997 - 30th September, 1998

INCOME

Sponsorship	40,000.00
Levy	2,400.00
Non Active	341.00
Affiliation	150.00
Interest Gen. Fund	495.07
Interest Inv. Acc.	6,867.75
Fees	250.00
Sponsorship	300,000.00
Other	81.37
Bank Adjustment	475.00

Operating Deficit
for the period

34,113.02

385,173.21

EXPENDITURE

Active Ref Expenses	5,633.35
Tickets	3,600.00
Social	42,274.07
Sponsorship	287,909.28
Telephone	5,560.65
Postage	1,421.20
Admin. Expenses	10,251.31
Stationery	2,508.93
Printing	6,320.30
Floral	350.00
Courier	223.60
Insurances	6,317.34
Equipment/ Repairs	2,572.34
Bank Charges Gen.	686.18
Bank Charges Inv.	34.66
Audit/ Legal	3,210.00
Honorarium	6,005.00
Bank Adjustment	275.00

385,173.21