





WELCOME

Welcome to the 2014, 11th annual awarding of refereeing's most prestigious prize, the Col Pearce Medal, which occurs at the culmination of the closest NRL season in history. As we are all aware, the closer any competition is, the greater the level of scrutiny on match officials and their performances. This season has been no different.

The start of the season witnessed a new manager of the squad with Daniel Anderson moving to take up an opportunity as the General Manager of Football at Parramatta. As with any change of leadership this brings some level of apprehension and concern.

All officials should be very proud of their efforts, dedication and commitment to the season. At the season launch early this year, I spoke about these qualities and I am confident to say that those in the squad delivered on them. For that I thank you.

No official is successful without the wonderful support of their family and close friends. I thank all the partners for the support in the endless hours that the referees were away from home. Additionally, for those times when they were at home but distracted by the demands of officiating at the elite level.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff for their unbelievable support and hard work throughout the season. Your contribution to the success of the squad this year is immeasurable.

As in any season, individuals and the group have had highs and lows but one of the most significant improvements was the level of support that the NRL Referee squad received from the NRL hierarchy including Nathan McGuirk, Todd Greenberg and Dave Smith as well as the NRL Commission. It was refreshing to see members of the NRL Commission in dressing rooms after matches, as well as members of the NRL Executive team.

Every season witnesses those at the start of their pursuit of officiating at the highest level and those who are putting closure on wonderful careers. For those who will not be with us on field next season, I thank you for your contribution.

The Col Pearce medal was first instituted by Robert Finch after he identified that there was little history, recognition or reward for the best referee in the NRL in any given season. To fully comprehend the significance of this medal, you need to look no further than the name of it.

Col Pearce's on field record speaks for itself, included 343 First grade games, Six Grand Finals, Nine Test Matches and Three World Cup matches. But most importantly, he spent countless years coaching, mentoring and developing referees so that they could all achieve the same wonderful experiences that he did through refereeing rugby league. He is the Doyen of Referees.

We are all thankful to have the presence of Col's wife, May and her family and friends. We also welcome Brian Barry as a special guest, a grand final touch judge who officiated on-field with Col.

Please enjoy the event and on behalf of the management of the NRL Referees Squad, I congratulate the NYC Referee of the year, the Clubman of the Year, The Touch Judge of the Year and Col Pearce Medal Winner.

Enjoy the day and see you in season 2015.

Tony Archer



2014 NRL SQUAD

Management, coaching and support staff:

Elite Performance Manager Tony Archer

Assistant Coach
Russell Smith

National Youth Competition Coach
Bernard Sutton

Touch Judge Coach
Steve Chiddy

Rugby League Consultant Andrew Dunemann Referees Operations Manager Don Stuart

Physiotherapist Michelle Minichiello Strength & Conditioning Manager
Cameron Black

PhD student Matt Jeffries

On-field members:

Number	Name	
52	Matt Cecchin	
55	Shayne Hayne	
58	Steve Carrall	
64	Russell Turner	
69	Paul Holland	
70	Gerard Sutton	
71	Gavin Badger	
72	Jeff Younis	
79	Ben Cummins	
85	Jason Walsh	
87	Alan Shortall	
89	Jared Maxwell	
92	Chris James	

Number	Name	
93	Adam Devcich	
95	Brett Suttor	
96	Phil Haines	
97	Daniel Eastwood	
98	Gavin Reynolds	
99	Luke Potter	
100	Rickey McFarlane	
101	Ashley Klein	
102	Adam Reid	
103	Grant Atkins	
104	Gavin Morris	
105	Luke Phillips	
106	Henry Perenara	
107	David Munro	

Number	Name	
108	Adam Gee	
109	Michael Wise	
110	Clayton Sharpe	
112	Chris Butler	
116	Peter Gough	
117	Nick Beashel	
118	David Ryan	
124	Matt Noyen	
127	Chris Sutton	
131	Jon Stone	
132	Anthony Eliott	
133	Phil Henderson	
134	Belinda Sleeman	
	•	

Video Referees:

Number	Name	
4	Steve Clark	
5	Steve Chiddy	
34	Chris Ward	
94	Bernard Sutton	
113	Paul Mellor	

Number	Name	
123	Matthew Rodwell	
126	Reece Williams	
128	Steve Folkes	
129	Andrew Dunemann	
130	Ben Galea	



2014 DEBUTS

Referees:



Chris Butler 233rd First Grade Referee Round 19 Storm vs Raiders Chris Sutton
234th First Grade Referee
Round 24 Warriors vs Roosters

Touch Judges:



Jon Stone 338th First Grade Touch Judge Round 4 Titans vs Cowboys

Phil Henderson 340th First Grade Touch Judge Round 20 Panthers v Sharks Anthony Eliott 339th First Grade Touch Judge Round 13 Knights vs Tigers

Belinda Sleeman 341st First Grade Touch Judge Round 26 Tigers vs Sharks

Video Referees:



Steve Folkes 51st Video Referee Rd 1 Panthers vs Knights Andrew Dunemann 52nd Video Referee Rd 1 Eels vs Warriors Ben Galea 53rd Video Referee Rd 1 Sharks vs Titans

From the history books

Page Twelve THE RUGBY LEAGUE NEWS FIRST GRADE: — PARRAMATTA OVAL — August 9, 1947 — 3.15 p.m. PARRAMATTA (Blue and Gold) -C. SCHOMBERG Three-quarters: -K. GERSBACH 3—R. ANDREWS (Capt.)
Five-eighth:
32—B. TRUDGETT E. HEARN-9 W. WOODWARD-A. SLATTERY 43—M. WILSON 13—F. McKEAN N. BRENNAN 12-G. COOK D. SPURWAY-Touch Judges, D. Gold and W. Devine Referee: C. F. PEARCE 46-A. DAWES H. GREW-11 M. WHITEHEAD D. MATHESON-19 9-K. KIRKWOOD 20-C. ROBINSON Five-eighth: 15—C. McMAHON R. SMITH-21 Three-quarters:

—M. CAMPBELL 59—R. JONES 2—G. WILLOUGHBY E. BATHGATE—28 J. BLISS—5 One to be omitted Full-back: 29-R. BEAUMONT

(Maroon with White V)

MANLY-WARRINGAH -

"The Rugby League News"
Parramatta vs Manly-Warringah
August 9, 1947.
Referee Col Pearce makes his first grade debut



RETIREMENTS

2014 retirements

#105 Luke Phillips

2009 debut as a Touch Judge, 2010 as a Referee, 2013 as a Video Referee 5 years on-field service to NRL

125 NRL appointments: 27 Referee, 21 Touch Judge, 77 Video Referee (including 2014 Grand Final Video Referee)



#69 Paul Holland
2001 NRL debut as a Touch Judge
14 years on-field service to NRL
323 NRL appointments
(includes 4 consecutive Grand Finals 2009 – 2012)
300 Club member 2014
Touch Judge of the year award 2010

City vs Country TJ 2007, State of Origin TJ 8 times 2008 – 2012, 16 Test match TJ appointments:

Centenary of Rugby League World Cup 2008

Four Nations tournaments 2010 (Australia) & 2011 (UK) including 2010 final

Australia vs New Zealand 2009, 2010 & 2011, Pacific Test 2013



Paul Holland with the team from his last game. It was also the NRL debut game for the other Touch Judge Belinda Sleeman.

2013 retirements

#73 Jason Robinson

2002 NRL debut as Touch Judge, 2003 debut as a Referee

12 years on-field service to NRL

242 NRL appointments: 210 Referee, 12 Touch Judge & 20 Video Referee 2005 Tri-Nations tournament Touch Judge



120 Neil Wharton 2013 NRL debut as a Video Referee 16 NRL appointments

#122 Justin Morgan 2013 NRL debut as a Video Referee 50 NRL appointments

From the history books

February 20, 21, 22, 23, 1969

RUGBY LEAGUE NEWS

Five

Referees Bow Out

earce, Bradlev

Shock announcement this week was from Referee Col Pearce, notifying his retirement from the field.

This came only a few days after another senior referee, Jack Bradley, had informed officials that he had decided to step down.

The double retirement is serious to the N.S.W. Rugby League, as Messrs. Pearce and Bradley were the two most experienced referees still operating.

Col Pearce has private and business reasons for taking his step.



COL PEARCE

He said the question of physical fitness did not come into it.

Col has been a graded referee for 23 years. In all, he had the whistle in 513 matches.

He was immensely proud of his appointment to share with Referee John Percival, of Auckland, the World Championship fixtures last

He seemed to reach the pinnacle of his career on a wild, wet Sunday in Auckland, when, on a field in shocking condition, he controlled the torrid Great Britain v France game - and was warmly praised by both teams.

Col's gentlemanly manner on and off the field won him respect. As a referee he was unobtrusive, but firm.

He was warmly praised by League authorities.

N.S.W. Rugby League president, Mr. W. G. Buckley, said:

"Col Pearce has been a very fine referee, ranking with our greatest of all time.

"What's more, he was one of the finest characters the game has had."

Col was chairman of the Referees' Examination Board last year; he is a member of the League's Coaching Panel. His services have been in demand as a lecturer on the rules of the game.

Jack Bradley, a former first grade five-eighth with Canterbury-Bankstown, also had a notable career.

He had the first grade grand final in 1962. He refereed all three Tests against New Zealand in 1963 and the first against Great Britain in 1966.

Mr. Buckley said at Monday night's meeting that Jack Bradley's retirement meant a distinct loss to

the game.
"He was a strong character and a very fine referee, he said.



2014 MILESTONES

350 games

Steve Carrall
Touch Judge
Round 22 - Sydney Cricket Ground
South Sydney Rabbitohs vs Manly
Sea-Eagles

Russell Turner
Touch Judge
Finals Week 1 - Sydney Football Stadium
Manly Sea-Eagles vs South Sydney
Rabbitohs

300 games

Paul Holland Touch Judge Round 2 - AAMI Park, Melbourne Melbourne Storm vs Penrith Panthers



250 games

Steve Clark
Video Referee
Round 21 - Sydney Football Stadium
Sydney Roosters vs St GeorgeIllawarra Dragons

Jeff Younis
Touch Judge
Round 22 - Parramatta Stadium
Parramatta Eels vs Canberra Raiders

200 games Jared Maxwell Referee Round 9 - Hunter Stadium, Newcastle Newcastle Knights vs Penrith Panthers



Gavin Badger Referee Round 9 - Stadium Australia, Homebush St George-Illawarra Dragons vs Canterbury Bulldogs



150 games

Daniel Eastwood Touch Judge Round 2 – Auckland New Zealand Warriors vs St George-Illawarra Jason Walsh Touch Judge Round 9 – Townsville North Qld Cowboys vs Brisbane Broncos Ashley Klein Referee Round 21 - Cronulla Cronulla Sharks vs Parramatta Eels

100 games

Luke Potter
Touch Judge
Round 2 - Sydney Football Stadium
Sydney Roosters vs Parramatta Eels



Chris James
Referee
Round 5 - Penrith Stadium
Penrith Panthers vs Canberra Raiders



Bernard Sutton
Video Referee
Round 18 - Robina Stadium, Gold Coast
Gold Coast Titans vs Canberra Raiders

50 games Gavin Morris Referee Round 6 – Melbourne Melbourne Storm vs St George-Illawarra Paul Mellor Video Referee Round 6 – Robina Gold Coast Titans vs Brisbane Broncos Gavin Reynolds Referee Round 21 – Canberra Canberra Raiders vs New Zealand Warriors

Special achievement

Ashley Klein: 300 top grade matches:



150 English Super League 2003 – 2009



150 NRL appointments 2009 – 2014



REPRESENTATIVE GAMES

NRL AUCKLAND NINES	Auckland 9's competition Grand Final North Queensland Cowboys vs Brisbane Broncos Eden Park, Auckland	Referee: Ben Cummins Touch Judges: Brett Suttor & Gavin Reynolds In-goal: Gavin Morris & Luke Phillips
RUGBY LEAGUE WORLD CLUB CHALLENGE	World Club Challenge Sydney Roosters vs Wigan Warriors Sydney Football Stadium	Referees: Ben Cummins & Gerard Sutton Touch Judges: Steve Carrall & Russell Turner Video Referees: Bernard Sutton & Luke Patten
INDIGENOUS ALL STARS	Indigenous women vs NRL All-star women Sydney Football Stadium	Referee: Kasey Badger Touch Judges: Belinda Sleeman & Faye Breslin
RUGBY LEAGUE TEST	Trans-Tasman Test Match Australia vs New Zealand Sydney Football Stadium	Referee: Shayne Hayne Touch Judges: Russell Turner & Anthony Eliott Video Referees: Steve Clark & Henry Perenara
HOLDEN STATE OF ORIGIN	New South Wales vs Queensland Under-20's Penrith Stadium	Referee: Chris Sutton Touch Judges: Phil Henderson & Nick Morel
	Four-Nations Qualifying Final	Referee: Ashlev Klein



Four-Nations Qualifying Final
Test Match
Samoa vs Fiji
Penrith Stadium

Ashley Klein
Touch Judges:
Nick Beashel & Shane Rehm
Video Referees:
Bernard Sutton & Luke Patten



REPRESENTATIVE GAMES



City vs Country Apex Oval, Dubbo Referees:

Gerard Sutton & Gavin Badger
Touch Judges:
Jason Walsh & Michael Wise
Video Referees:
Steve Chiddy & Luke Phillips



State of Origin I New South Wales vs Queensland Stadium Australia, Homebush Bay Referees:

Shayne Hayne & Ben Cummins
Touch Judges:
Russell Turner & Nick Beashel
Video Referees:
Steve Clark & Luke Patten

State of Origin II

Queensland vs New South

Wales

Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane

Referees:

Shayne Hayne & Ben Cummins
Touch Judges:
Russell Turner & Nick Beashel
Video Referees:
Steve Clark & Luke Patten

State of Origin III New South Wales vs Queensland Stadium Australia, Homebush Bay Referees:

Ben Cummins & Gerard Sutton
Touch Judges:
Steve Carrall & Jason Walsh
Video Referees:
Bernard Sutton & Luke Patten



Australia Prime Ministers XIII vs Papua New Guinea Kumuls Kokopo, Papua New Guinea

Referee: Grant Atkins



GRAND FINALS



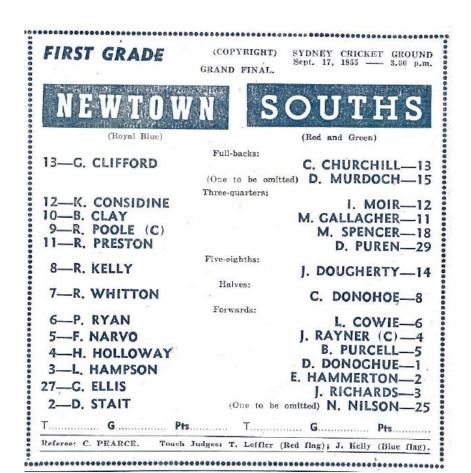
National Rugby League Telstra Premiership South Sydney Rabbitohs vs Canterbury Bulldogs Stadium Australia, Homebush Bay Referees: Shayne Hayne & Gerard Sutton Touch Judges: Steve Carrall & Jason Walsh Video Referees: Bernard Sutton & Luke Phillips Standby: Ben Cummins & Brett Suttor





National Rugby League Under 20's Competition Brisbane Broncos vs New Zealand Warriors Stadium Australia, Homebush Bay Referees: Chris Butler & Chris Sutton
Touch Judges: Phil Henderson &
Lawrence McDonnell
Video Referees: Ashley Klein & Luke Patten
Standby: Matt Noyen & Kasey Badger





Program from the 1955 Grand Final, the first of six controlled by Col Pearce

	All-time Grand Final Refe
10	Bill Harrigan
8	Darcy Lawler
7	Jack O'Brien
6	Tony Archer, Col Pearce & Lal Deane
5	Greg Hartley, George Bishop & Tom McMahon Jnr
4	Shayne Hayne

ree appointments					
		Current squad members:			
2 Ben Cummins					
		1	Gerard Sutton & Matt Cecchin		

	All-time Grand Final Touch	Ju	dge	appointments	
9	John Martin	hn Martin		Current squad members	
8	Max Tomsett		3	Russell Turner & Steve (
6	George Taylor		2	Jeff Younis, Matt Cecch	
5	Steve Carrall & Brian Barry			Shayne Hayne	
4	Paul Holland, Col White, Martin Weekes,		1	Jason Walsh & Daniel Ea	
	Mick Ryan, J Kelly & Robert Brock				

Current squad members:		
3	Russell Turner & Steve Chiddy	
2	Jeff Younis, Matt Cecchin &	
	Shayne Hayne	
1	Jason Walsh & Daniel Eastwood	

All-time Grand Final Video Referee appointments			
5	Chris Ward & Bill Harrigan		
3	Mick Stone & Ian Parnaby		
2	Steve Clark, Phil Cooley, Graeme West & John Gocher		
1	Bernard Sutton, Luke Phillips, Luke Patten, Ashley Klein,		
	Shayne Hayne, Russell Smith & Sean Hampstead		



PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS

Col Pearce Medal			
2004	Tim Mander		
2005	Paul Simpkins		
2006	Steve Clark		
2007	Tony Archer		
2008	Tony Archer		
2009	Shayne Hayne		
2010	Tony Archer		
2011	Shayne Hayne		
2012	Ben Cummins		
2013	Shayne Hayne		
2014	Gerard Sutton		



2013 winner Shayne Hayne with Todd Greenburg, May Pearce and Col Pearce's family members

Touch Judge of the year		
2010	Paul Holland	
2011	Daniel Eastwood	
2012	Russell Turner	
2013	Russell Turner	
2014	Jason Walsh	



PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS

Rookie of the year			
2006	Ben Cummins		
2008	Alan Shortall		
2009	Brett Suttor		
2010	Ricky McFarlane		
2011	Adam Devcich		
2012	Gavin Morris		
NYC Referee of the year			
2013 Chris Butler			
2014 Chris Sutton			

Referees Referee		
2008	Jason Robinson	
2009	Bernard Sutton	
2010	Gerard Sutton	
2011	Ben Cummins	
2012	Ben Cummins	
2013	Shayne Hayne	
2014	Gerard Sutton	

Clubman of the year			
2003	Tony Archer		
2004	Jason Robinson		
2005	Paul Kalina		
2006	Steve Nash		
2007	Mick Stone		
2008	Klinton Hoare		
2009	Ben Cummins		
2010	Russell Smith		
2011	Gavin Badger		
2012	Alan Shortall		
2013	Reece Williams		
2014	Chris Butler		



NRL 100 CLUB & 200 CLUB

100 Club	200 Club	
Steve Lyons 2010 Ben Cummins 2010 Matt Cecchin 2011 Tony DeLas Heras 2012 Ashley Klein 2012 Alan Shortall 2013 Gerard Sutton 2013 Brett Suttor 2013 Chris James 2014	Referee	Tony Archer 2009 Jason Robinson 2013 Jared Maxwell 2014 Gavin Badger 2014
Phil Cooley 2001 Steve Nash 2001 Paul Kalina 2003 Darren Gocher 2004 Allen Foster 2004 Pat Reynolds 2004 Matt Cecchin 2006 Rod Lawrence 2007 Michael Jones 2008 Daniel Eastwood 2011 Jason Walsh 2012 Rickey McFarlane 2013 Adam Reid 2013	Touch Judge	David Abood 2009 Jeff Younis 2012
Ian Parnaby 2001 John Gocher 2001 Eddie Ward 2003 Mick Stone 2004 Bill Harrigan 2009 Paul Simpkins 2010 Sean Hampstead 2011 Russell Smith 2011	Video Referee	Phil Cooley 2009 Tim Mander 2011 Steve Clark 2013



300 CLUB & 400 CLUB

300 Club		400 Club
Bill Harrigan * Col Pearce * Steve Clark * Shayne Hayne 2013	Referee	
Max Tomsett * Steve Chiddy 2010 Steve Carrall 2012 Russell Turner 2013 Paul Holland 2014	Touch Judge	Men of League: "Caring for the rugby league community" www.menofleague.com
Graeme West 2008	Video Referee	Chris Ward

These figures include milestones that are passed in single disciplines.

They include records for all first grade games

(NSWRL, ARL, SL and NRL)

since 1908.

^{*} indicates that pre-NRL fixtures are included in the calculations.



REFEREES ALL-TIME

Rank	Name	Games
1	Bill Harrigan	393
2	Col Pearce	343
3	Shayne Hayne	328
4	Steve Clark	314
5	Tony Archer	295
6	Tim Mander	292
7	Sean Hampstead	290
8	Paul Simpkins	284
9	Kevin Roberts	273
10	Darcy Lawler	272
11	Jack O'Brien	262
12	Tom McMahon Jr	246

Rank	Name	Games
13	Graham Annesley	244
14	Greg McCallum	241
15	Laurie Bruyeres	239
16	Ben Cummins	225
17	Gavin Badger	219
18	Jared Maxwell	218
19	Eddie Ward	217
20	Tom McMahon Sr	211
21	Jason Robinson	210
22	George Bishop	208
23	Keith Page	206
24	Matt Cecchin & Mick Stone	193

Rank	Name	Games
36	Ashley Klein	153
38	Gerard Sutton	143
42	Alan Shortall	135
46	Chris James	115
50	Brett Suttor	109
55	Adam Devcich	95
58	Phil Haines	78
64	Gavin Morris	70
66	Henry Perenara	64
68	Gavin Reynolds	55
83	Russell Smith	39
87	Bernard Sutton	37
90	Adam Gee	34
97	Dave Munro & Grant Atkins	30
111	Luke Phillips	27
135	Steve Chiddy	12
154	Chris Butler	5
186	Chris Sutton & Steve Carrall	2
205	Michael Wise	1



TOUCH JUDGES ALL-TIME

Name	Games
Steve Carrall	358
Russell Turner	350
Steve Chiddy & Steve Betts	325
Paul Holland	323
Max Tomsett	308
George Benson	294
David Abood	279
Colin Jones & Gordon Hedger	274
Brian Gately	266
Brian Wiseman	265
Colin White	264
	Steve Carrall Russell Turner Steve Chiddy & Steve Betts Paul Holland Max Tomsett George Benson David Abood Colin Jones & Gordon Hedger Brian Gately Brian Wiseman

Rank	Name	Games
14	lan McCall	259
15	Frank Walsh	257
16	Jeff Younis	254
17	Michael Howell	242
18	John Martin	230
19	Martin Weekes	218
20	John Kelly & Ross Picard	213
22	Ernest Tinsley	206
23	Steve Nash	205
24	Brian Barry	200

Rank	Name	Games
32	Daniel Eastwood	171
34	Jason Walsh	170
37	Matt Cecchin	166
42	Adam Reid	144
43	Rickey McFarlane	143
60	Luke Potter	113
71	Grant Atkins	97
89	Nick Beashel	85
93	Michael Wise	78
105	Shayne Hayne	69
119	Gavin Reynolds	59
122	David Munro	56
124	Gerard Sutton	54
133	Adam Devcich	49
136	David Ryan & Brett Suttor	48
144	Chris James	45
149	Gavin Morris	44
150	Alan Shortall	43
156	Chris Butler	41

Rank	Name	Games
161	Adam Gee	40
163	Gavin Badger	37
171	Clayton Sharpe	32
174	Henry Perenara	30
184	Ben Cummins	26
189	Phil Haines	25
197	Peter Gough	22
200	Luke Phillips	21
216	Bernard Sutton	17
218	Tony Archer	16
220	Chris Sutton	15
223	Jared Maxwell	14
244	Anthony Eliott	9
252	Matt Noyen	8
274	Jon Stone	5
292	Phil Henderson	3
319	Belinda Sleeman	1
	& Reece Williams	



VIDEO REFEREES ALL-TIME

Rank	Name	Games
1	Chris Ward	442
2	Graeme West	302
3	Phil Cooley	279
4	Steve Clark	261
5	Tim Mander	187
6	Paul Simpkins	163
7	Bill Harrigan	146
8	Ian Parnaby	141
9	Mick Stone	139
10	John Gocher	132
11	Sean Hampstead	127
12	Russell Smith	123
13	Bernard Sutton	120
14	Eddie Ward	107

Rank	Name	Games
15	Luke Patten	97
17	Luke Phillips	77
18	Steve Chiddy	66
20	Paul Mellor	54
27	Ben Galea	31
28	Steve Folkes	29
29	Henry Perenara	26
33	Jared Maxwell	21
37	Andrew Dunemann	15
38	Shayne Hayne	12
39	Matt Cecchin & Gavin Badger	9
42	Alan Shortall	4
43	Chris James, Adam Gee & Tony Archer	1