



**NEW SOUTH WALES
RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION INC.**

2022

**115TH ANNUAL REPORT &
FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

CONTENTS

5	Notice to all Members
6	Patron's Report
7	Chair's Report
8	Chief Executive Officer NSWRL Report
9	Director Communications, Marketing & Social Report
10	Executive Officer's Report
12	2022 Social Activities
14	Vale
19	Director of Finance & Governance Report
20	Director of Welfare & Liaison Report
21	Director of Coaching & Development Report
22	NRL Head of Football Elite Competitions Report
23	NSWRL High Performance Manager's Report
25	NRL Elite Refereeing Squad Report
28	NSWRL Development Squad Coach's Report
29	NSWRL Regional Referees Development Squad Report
30	NSWRL Referees Development Squads 2022
31	NSWRL Development Squad Presentation Night
32	Community Official of the Year - The Dennis Braybrook Award
33	Metropolitan & Regional Association Reports
56	NSWRLRA Life Members Reunion & Presentation Lunch
58	Association Milestones 2022
59	Awards Honour Roll
64	Life Membership Honour Roll
65	Life Members in Memoriam
66	Non-Active Members
67	NSW Based Graded Referees (NSWRL & NRL Squads)
68	2022 NRL Match Officials Game Counts - NSWRLRA Members
69	NSWRLRA Graded Squad
70	Grade Referee Retirement
71	CRLRA Board of Directors Honour Roll 1939-2022
72	Board of Directors Honour Roll 1908-2002
73	Board of Directors Honour Roll 2003-2015, 2016-2021, 2022
74	Major Appointments 2022
76	Representative Appointments 2022
80	Minutes of the 114th AGM
82	Membership Record 1908-2022
84	Our Members Out & About
85	World Cup England 2021
82	Looking Back



SPECIAL THANKS TO:

PHOTOGRAPHS

Rigby Creative Sports Images
(Greg Rigby)
Steve Montgomery -
ourfootyteam.com
Gregg Porteous Photography
Chris Bettiol
Greg McCallum
George Jankowski
Doug Keen
Daniel Luttringer
Bryson Sharp Photography,
Gavin Reynolds NRL Operations

ART DIRECTION

Able Art & Print

VALE DENNIS SPAGARINO

ARTWORK

Louise Woodward-Styles (UK)

ALSO TO:

Gary Lee
Kevin Riolo
Tony Kelly
Bill Foran
for sharing their refereeing
career stories in 'Looking Back'



**‘As you drink
from the well
take time to remember
those members
who dug it.’**

**THE NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES ASSOCIATION
AMALGAMATED
WITH
THE COUNTRY REFEREES ASSOCIATION
IN FEBRUARY
2022**

NEW SOUTH WALES RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES' ASSOCIATION BACKGROUND

The NSWRL REFEREES' ASSOCIATION was founded along with the first foundation Rugby League clubs in 1908.

A proud association with a fine heritage and a rich, deep history. For over 115 years we have developed, coached, supported and mentored aspiring referees from our districts through to 1st Grade NRL & NSWRL and into International matches around the world.

From the first Association President elected at the inaugural meeting in 1908, Mr J Hoyle #18 and the first appointed Association Secretary, Mr A Welch #39 the NSWRLRA has been at the forefront of the game - a much admired member of the NSWRL.

February 2022 witnessed the 'initial meeting' of an amalgamation of the NSWRLRA and the Country Rugby League Referees Association (CRLRA) at the NSWRL Centre of Excellence, Sydney Olympic Park. At that historic meeting, the first Board of the amalgamated body was confirmed by the election of metropolitan (3) and regional (3) Directors, with the first Chairman, Kevin Greene, an independent appointment, in the chair.

1032 referees have been elevated to grade during the 115 years forming the individual membership as Life Members, active graded members and non-active graded members. Twenty-nine (29) associations across the length and breadth of NSW form a membership base which now represents over 5000 referees. A true peak body.

The NSWRLRA structure now mirrors the changes that the NSWRL and CRL made in recent years. The NSWRLRA is an ever-present member of the NSWRL - formed in the same year as the famous foundation clubs.

The future of the NSWRLRA is what we make it. We all need to take the time to appreciate and respect what each member - individual or association has done in the past and the role they undertake now.

There has never been a more important time for referees and officials of all levels to work together to ensure our members can participate to the best of their ability in a safe and nurturing environment.

THE CLASS OF 1909

1909 Referees Squad



*EDWARD JAMES HOOPER
The first President 1908 - 1912*

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Notice is hereby given that the 115th Annual General Meeting of the New South Wales Rugby League Referees' Association (NSWRLRA) will be held as follows:

Wednesday 8 March 2023

Brad Fittler Lounge

NSWRL Centre of Excellence, 12 Dawn Fraser Ave

Sydney Olympic Park, NSW

Commencing at 8pm

You are cordially invited to attend in person or via Zoom technology.

Please note:

The Board of Directors have agreed to members / nominated delegates participating via Zoom technology. Delegates (1) must be nominated by their Association and registered 24 hours prior to the meeting with the Executive Officer. Only members and nominated delegates can vote.

The Order of Business will be:

1. Welcome by the Chairman Kevin Greene
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of attendance and delegate registration

4. Motion of Condolence
5. Confirmation and acceptance of the Minutes of the 114th Annual General Meeting as issued.
6. Correspondence (related to the AGM)
7. Chairman's Address
8. Executive Officer's Report
9. Presentation & Adoption of the 115th Annual Report of the NSWRLRA
10. Presentation & Adoption of the Financial Statement and Accounts of the NSWRLRA
11. Notices of Motion
12. Life Member Nomination - Bill Harrigan
13. Honorariums
14. Announcements

Members are invited to join the Board and guests for refreshments at the conclusion of the meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Greg McCallum JP

Executive officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022



1. KEVIN GREENE 2. STEVE CLAPSON 3. WILLIAM DRURY
4. PETER FILMER 5. MATTHEW HEWITT
6. KEVIN FORDE 7. GEOFF WHIDDON

GREG MCCALLUM
(Executive Officer)

PATRON'S REPORT

Ian McCall & Doug Winton OAM



This year saw the historic change, amalgamation of the NSWRL Referees with the CRL Referees Associations. A number of difficult and frustrating issues had to be overcome but thanks to the efforts of the Board members of both previous bodies an agreement was finally reached. Particular thanks to Matt Hewitt for his driving force which resulted in what has become an amicable result. Proof of this was demonstrated at the recent Life Members Function at the SCG with across the board representation at what was a wonderful event.

Many congratulations to the award winners at the luncheon. It was great to see recipients from the spectrum ranging from country youth in Stuart Halsey 16 from Group 10 to our nonagenarian Brian Barry who very deservedly received the Eric Cox Medal. The high attendance covered many decades of service and a camaraderie never to be extinguished.

As we know, oil and water don't mix, a bit like the Bunker and the obstruction rule decisions. Similarly those of us that are partly computer illiterate have a problem with Association "on line" meetings. Although we appreciate the necessity, due to the now state wide spread of membership, could we ask the Board to consider providing us with minutes of the meetings and Board decisions allowing us to keep in some contact.

Congratulations to those fortunate enough to receive semi, final and Grand Final appointments, however we thank all referees and in particular the NSW squad for their outstanding commitment to see that, in spite of the Covid

situation, competitions were conducted pretty much to normal.

Our ongoing thanks to the Board for their efforts in the 2022 Season. Regardless of the concerns expressed by both associations, the amalgamation was surprisingly uneventful and despite the scepticism of some, the decision to appoint an independent Chairman was a very sensible move. We thank Kevin Greene for his commitment, understanding and professionalism in taking on the role.

Lets hope that 2023 returns us to some normality and your ongoing efforts are justly rewarded.



Doug Winton



2022 Winner Brian Barry with past winners

CHAIR'S REPORT

Kevin Greene



As has been noted many times throughout this season and in this Annual Report, 2022 was the beginning of a new era for refereeing in this State. The process of merging the two head bodies in fact started well before 2022 with numerous meetings and negotiations between delegations, ultimately leading to the drafting of a new constitution and its acceptance by all members.

To ensure a true merger it was agreed that each of the former bodies would have three representatives on the new Board, selected from Regional and Metropolitan with an Independent Chair who could not be a member of either body. When approached I was honoured to take on this distinguished position.

Undoubtedly the decision to appoint an independent was to alleviate concerns of potential bias in the Board's decision-making process. I'm pleased to say that every decision taken by the Board during the season was unanimous. It was an absolute pleasure to work with six Directors who brought extensive experience from across the State. They were all willing to express their opinion, making decisions that were considered and in the best interests of the membership.

The Directors each took on a specific area of responsibility and you'll see these in their attached reports. Because the organisation is obviously still evolving these roles are developing and they will play an important part in the implementation of our Strategic Plan.

While the Annual Meeting was held in person, with a virtual attendance option provided, our General Meetings were held virtually, allowing all members and delegates the opportunity to attend. I sincerely thank all those who did so as this allowed information to be conveyed and most importantly provided the Board with feedback on issues relevant to members. A number of these issues were then raised with NSWRL and the NRL. This is a significant part of our role.

With regard to the NSWRL and NRL I would like to record our sincere thanks to David Trodden and the NSWRL for the support provided to our Association and our members. In this regard particular thanks to Stuart Raper, Paul Kalina and their team. Refereeing can be a tough and sometimes lonely experience and the guidance and mentorship provided by the coaches is appreciated. Also to Tony Archer and the NRL development team and their focus on retention and recruitment.

During the year I had the pleasure of attending a number of award presentations and social functions. The camaraderie on display at these functions, by both current and retired referees, speaks to the strength of our Association. I congratulate all Award winners whose names are recorded throughout the report and recognise the time and commitment required to achieve their success.

Finally, I'd like to congratulate our Executive Officer, Greg McCallum, on the professional and dedicated manner in which he has undertaken all tasks given to him this year. Indeed, much of his work has been initiated by himself as he's ensured all administrative tasks have been completed efficiently and successfully.

I'm sure we all look forward to building on our efforts in 2023.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NSWRL REPORT

David Trodden



It is my great privilege to be able to contribute to what is a historic publication, being the first Annual Report following on from the merger between the existing NSWRLRA and the CRLRA. The merger was at the same time, an historic and also a progressive moment in the history of rugby league in our state, acknowledging the wonderful histories which have been inherited from two organisations, but also keenly anticipating the new history which will be created in the coming years.

After the last few years of Covid interruptions, it was very pleasing to be able to complete the year and I thank all of the referees across the state for the contribution which they made in getting our game to that point. In particular, I congratulate the members of the graded squad who, in my assessment, were required to make personal sacrifices as significant as anyone in the game in order to get us safely to the end of the season. Those referees submitted themselves to rapid antigen tests every time they attended training and every time they participated in the game and their discipline and dedication in doing so is not lost on any of us.

The year was also significant with the appointment of NSWRLRA Chairman Kevin Greene to the board of the NSW Rugby League, providing referees with a voice in the highest decision-making form of the game. Kevin has been a wonderful addition to the board and is making a significant contribution to rugby league in our state.

Congratulations to the significant number of referees who have achieved personal milestones including elevation to the NRL squad and appointment to our key matches across the state.

My personal thanks to the senior executives of the NSWRLRA, in particular Matt Hewitt and Greg McCallum, for the work that they do for the benefit of rugby league in our state. Additionally, Stuart Raper, Paul Kalina and Gavin Badger have done a wonderful job with our high-performance referees and each of them are people who I am proud to work with.

To everybody in the association, thank you for what you do for our game. I look forward to a successful 2023 season.



DIRECTOR COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING & SOCIAL REPORT

Peter Filmer



It is my pleasure to provide this report for season 2022 as the board member responsible for communications, marketing and social activity for our Association.

Season 2022, as we all know, was the first year of the Association which embraced the coming together of the NSWRLRA and the CRLRA. The season was, in the scope of this directorate, very much a case of seeking the best way for this position to evolve.

It is at this point I must acknowledge and thank Greg McCallum, our Executive Officer, for the pivotal work that he has done to make many things possible and assist in the evolution of our Association through communications. Greg' work in this space has been integral within this portfolio. While we are trying now to find our identity Greg has utilised all forms of newer technology to keep members informed regarding the things happening in our Association.

It is true to say that the Marketing element of this portfolio is very much a work in progress. I believe that we need to develop a basic marketing plan and the best way forward may well be to form a small working group to undertake this task. This will be an assignment for season 2023.

The third tier of this directorship is social and to that end we achieved plenty in 2022. A number of our events were

forcibly cancelled over the last couple of seasons due, in the main, to Covid. This season saw us return to events that have been time honoured in our Association. The highlight was no doubt our Life Members reunion lunch at the greatest ground in the world, the Sydney Cricket Ground. What a great day! The stories get better each year and never get old. The comradery on show clearly demonstrated that our history of and respect for our Association will never diminish. It was hoped that we could bring together all of the presentations this season to include the NRL Referee's Col Pearce medal. Regrettably many squad members had World Cup commitments which made this impossible for 2022 but hopefully we can bring his together in 2023. Our annual bowls and golf days were held in Newcastle and Bowral respectively and let's not forget the annual Brooklyn Bash, which again was a terrific day. We must now rebuild all these events as the social interaction of our members is so important.

In closing I wish to thank the membership for your support in trying to deliver the elements of this portfolio. I also thank the members of the Board for their support and assistance as we continue to forge the way forward.



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Greg McCallum JP

Season 2022 was a very historic one for the NSWRLRA. The amalgamation of the Association with the Country Rugby League Referees Association (CRLRA) eventuated after a considerable period of negotiation.

At the 'initial meeting' held prior to the 114th AGM of the NSWRLRA on February 16th 2022, the Metropolitan 'college' elected Peter Filmer, Matthew Hewitt and Steve Clapson as Directors and William Drury, Geoff Whiddon and Kevin Forde were nominated by the Regional 'college'. An independent nominee Kevin Greene assumed the role of Chairman of the amalgamated NSWRLRA.

The new Constitution was now in operation.

VALES

To all members who lost loved ones during 2022 the NSWRLRA offers our deepest sympathies. In our Vale Section we pay a small tribute to members and those close to our Association within the Rugby League family. William (Bill) Pearson #621, Nick Moraitis #406 and Don Lancashire #499. We also acknowledge the passing of Matthew Spohr Newcastle Coalfields Referees along with Bev Matthews wife of our former long serving secretary Les, John Raper MBE and in recent times Terry Quinn former CEO of the CRL, Mitzy Young widow of Life Member Tony Young and long serving NSWRL OFFICIAL Paul 'coach' Broughton.

Just prior to the completion of this Annual Report we were rocked by the passing of Life Member and former Chairman, Dennis Spagarino #689. A huge turn-out of members from all over Australia attended his funeral along with family members from Italy.

BOARD MEETINGS / GENERAL MEETINGS

The newly amalgamated Board met via zoom on six occasions and are building a solid partnership as we move forward. Important meetings with a number of games stakeholders took place as well. These meetings with the NRL AND NSWRL key refereeing staff raised many topics that were discussed in depth and those discussions will assist in developing strategies in the years ahead for the benefit of our members. Another meeting was with the Professional Rugby League Referees Organisation - a body that works with the NRL Referees in the area of contracts, conditions of employment and HR issues. We will continue to be available to engage with the game's stakeholders at all levels.

Two general meetings were held during the season along with a special meeting with Association Chairs and Presidents. Zoom technology was the way these meetings were conducted but it is the intention of the Board to seek to conduct meetings face to face, where possible, into the future.

THE 2022 SEASON

The NSWRLRA now is truly the peak body for referees at all levels across the state. There are now more than 5000

referees under the banner and with strength in numbers comes strength across the game. The first couple of years will undoubtedly be tentative but as communication, interaction, respect, socialising and trust grows the future will be strong. Referees based anywhere in the state now have a supportive pathway to travel to reach their aspirations.

The season was again disrupted by Covid-19 and record rainfall across much of the state. Being able to train and referee games on a consistent basis was a major challenge. It is pleasing to report that most areas were able to see the season out with Final's series - giving much needed 'big game' experience to many referees.

THE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

The season commenced early again for the Development Squads. Both the Regional and Metropolitan Squads began training well before Christmas and under the guidance of Gavin Badger and his team again performed admirably with many referees from across the state having opportunities to referee at the first representative level. From the group four referees were graded into the High-Performance group and therefore into the NSWRLRA. They were:

- Ethan Klein (Parramatta) #1029
- Ben Seppala (Penrith) #1030
- Adam Sirianni (Balmain) #1031
- Blake Williams (Western Suburbs) #1032

We look forward to following their careers as they move through the ranks.

The achievements of the Development Squad were recognised in a presentation evening at Canterbury Leagues on 20 May. Again, I would on behalf of our Board thank Leagues' Club Chairman Peter Winchester, John Khoury and the rest of the Board for their wonderful support of the NSWRLRA by waiving room hire fees for the event.

Over 80 referees from the two squads were in attendance. A number of significant awards were handed out - a full coverage of the event is captured elsewhere in this report. Congratulations to all of the young men and women who committed so strongly to their preparation and performance in these competitions.

THE HIGH PERFORMANCE SQUAD

Under the direction of Stuart Raper in his role of High-Performance Head Coach and Operations Manager Paul Kalina this group once again excelled in their efforts in the major NSWRL competitions. The HP Squad or as they are often referred to as the 'Grade Squad' are an extremely important group within the NSWRLRA. Balancing work and family commitments with the demands of training, game evaluation and of course the on-field performance is not an



easy one. It takes great dedication, commitment, passion and sacrifice. The group demonstrates week in and week out that they have all of those aspects in spades. Congratulations to the Squad for their immense contribution to a wonderful season, especially coming out of two disrupted seasons due to Covid-19.

NRL ELITE PERFORMANCE

What a season! As I write this report seven of our members are in England for the World Cup which had been postponed from 2021 due again to the pandemic. A feature on the World Cup recognising those members who were selected to attend follows in this report.

The close working relationship with NRL Referees Elite Performance Manager Jared Maxwell is one that is greatly appreciated by this Association and its members. Jared understands and respects the role the NSWRLRA and the Associations play in the early - mid development of referees.

I would like to thank NRL Operations Manager Gavin Reynolds - himself a member of this Association - for his great co-operation throughout the season.

To Ashley Klein and Kasey Badger congratulations on your appointments to the NRL Men's and Women's Grand Finals in 2022. The competition amongst referees is fierce - so to gain those appointments is a great achievement.

For the Klein household it has been a huge 2022 with Ethan Klein being appointed to the time honoured and prestigious SG Ball Cup Grand Final and being graded.

To the Australian Rugby League Commission Chair Peter V'Landys, CEO Andrew Abdo and staff thank you your efforts in supporting our members who are part of the fulltime and part-time Squads. I thank also NRL Head of Football Graham Annesley for his report and support of referees in which is a most challenging role.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Our social activities are an important part of the NSWRLRA where younger referees get the chance to mix with our older members - something that again the Covid Pandemic wreaked havoc with over the past 2 years.

One event that side stepped the lock downs - purely by timing - was the NSWRLRA Bowls Day held at Leichhardt in May, organised by our ageless Ambassador and Life Member Brian Barry. A great turnout and as always good refreshments after. Thanks also to Brian Gately for his on-going support of our social days.

A second Bowls Day held in November saw a group of members travel by coach to Mayfield West. Led by the Ambassador Brian Barry, the visiting NSWRLRA team scored an exciting victory to claim the prize for the first time

in 5 seasons. Thanks to Newcastle member Peter Digby for his organisation as well.

Our two major awards events - The Development Squad presentation night mentioned earlier in my report and the Life Members Reunion and Presentation Lunch were great successes. For the first time members from both the Metropolitan and Regional Colleges mixing under the one banner. It is hoped that more participation will occur as time goes on.

The time-honoured Brooklyn Bash again took place - for the 33rd time in October. A very entertaining time - great company, great food and the odd refreshment was the order of the day. Member Neil Almond won the NSWRLRA Brooklyn Bash Indoor Golf Championship by a toss of the coin from Dennis Spagarino and Barry Ruttle after the tie breaker shots failed to find a winner in the Final - controversial but we are all referees !!!!!!!

The Les Matthews Memorial Golf Day at the 'Royal' Bowral course capped off the social program for 2022. Forty golfers from regional and metropolitan associations joined our regular graded members in very windy but dry conditions. The team of Michael Stone, Nathan Loveday, Dennis Spagarino and Steve Clapson took out the trophy just ahead of the teams from Illawarra. Our Director of Golf, Steve Clapson started the day off with a par 4 Hole in One.

Three of our Associations celebrated milestone events during 2022. North Sydney Referees Association celebrated their Centenary, Manly Warringah Referees 90th anniversary and Parramatta Referees 75 years. It was great to see members and guests both young and older and in between celebrate what the members who had 'walked' and 'run' before them had achieved and recognise their legacy. Congratulations to those who served on the organising committees of each as those celebrations take some organising.

As Executive Officer I would like to thank Chairperson Kevin Green and the Board of Directors Peter Filmer, Matthew Hewitt and Steve Clapson (Metropolitan) and William Drury, Geoff Whiddon and Kevin Forde (Regional) for their support and contribution to our historic first season under the one NSWRLRA banner.

Thanks also to NSWRL Board, CEO David Trodden and staff for their financial and operational support in recognising the important work that the NSWRLRA does across the state in the propagation of referees. To our twenty-nine Associations a big thank you for what you do for metropolitan and regional based referees from grassroots through to the elite.

2022 SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

LAWN BOWLS DAY 1

The early season NSWRLRA Lawn Bowls Day, was held at Leichhardt Bowling Club in May. Over 30 members had a great day and enjoyed both the bowls and a good meal at

the Club. Our Ambassador Brian Barry again organised a top day and one that our members enjoy participating in every year.



LAWN BOWLS DAY 2

Member Peter Digby's Report on NSWRLRA V NEWCASTLE Lawn Bowls Day 2022.

On Sunday 6 November 44 bowlers took part in the 40something edition of the **Cliff Brown/Jerry Lane NSWRLRA V Newcastle Referees Bowls Day**. Newcastle put on the best weather with plenty of sunshine.

It was the 1st time Mayfield West had hosted the day and we were all made very welcome.

There was heaps of fun and frivolity and maybe a few lies told. The winner of the day for the 1st time in 5 attempts were the visitors from Sydney.

Ambassador Brian Barry was quite happy to take the shield home.



THE BROOKLYN BASH

The 33rd edition of this time-honoured event took place again at the Angler's Rest Hotel in Brooklyn.

A great day of camaraderie, punting, the Brooklyn Masters Indoor Golf Championship with its controversial coin toss to decide the winner, good food and the odd beverage.

A big thanks to Life Member Brian Gately who was one of the originals 33 years ago for his continued passion and to those members who regularly attend and support a great day.



THE NSWRLRA LES MATTHEWS MEMORIAL GOLF DAY

Held again at 'Royal' Bowral Golf Club, a good turnout from both metropolitan and regional associations faced difficult conditions with strong (if not gale force) westerly wind.

Director Peter Filmer organised the Bowral - Mittagong Rotary Club to have a cooked breakfast ready for the troops and the excellent bacon and egg roll did the trick for our Director of Golf Steve Clapson got play off to a great start with a hole in one on his teams first hole. In fact, the team was never headed and took out the winner's prize. The winning team comprised of Dennis Spagarino, Michael Stone, Nathan Loveday and captained by Steve Clapson.

Illawarra Referees Association fielded two teams who filled the minor placings. Great to see member Jared Maxwell (NRL) and Life Member Paul Kalina (NSWRL) with members on the course and at lunch.

After the lunch and presentations, a raffle was conducted and raised funds for Motor Neurone Disease.

Special thanks to our Board Directors Steve Clapson and Peter Filmer for their organisation of this important event in honour of one of great Life Members Les Matthews.



VALE

To all member's families that have suffered bereavements this year the Board of the NSWRLRA pass on their deepest sympathies.



WILLIAM (BILL) PEARSON #621

Bill Pearson a highly respected member and continued his interest in refereeing long after his active retirement in the mid-seventies.

'Pearso' as he was affectionately known as by his colleagues was graded from Western Suburbs in 1970 and refereed in grade until 1977.

He refereed many games in grade - in particular, the NSWRL Second Division Competitions where he was highly thought of by the clubs who enjoyed his 'no nonsense' style of officiating.

Bill remained a great contributor to the NSWRLRA in the decades after his active retirement attending our Lawn Bowls events and always the Life Members Reunion and Presentation Luncheons.

A large number of NSWRLRA Life Members attended Bill's funeral - testament to his popularity both on and off the field.

MATTHEW SPOHR (1975-2022)

Matthew has been known in the football community for many years: from sitting on the sideline watching his grandfather referee, being inspired by his father's playing career and joining the Shortland junior team as a boy.

Matthew gave countless hours which turned into years of love for the game, playing for Waratah and his proudest achievement of becoming a referee. Not only was Matt a Referee and a Life Member, he also held the position of CEO, Director of Referees, Director of Member Services, Assistant Treasurer, CMO, & various other volunteer positions including assisting at judiciary.

Always motivated by what he could give back to the sport he loved, Matthew hoped to inspire and encourage the next generation of players and referees.

Matthew is NCRLRA Life Member #146.



GARY LEE #563

Gary Lee joined the Parramatta Referees' Association in 1959. He ran around in the Parramatta District with the likes of Jack Harris, Kevin Jeffes, William Jones and John Connor.

He was graded to the NSW ranks in 1963. Gary is recognised as graded member #563.

He spent two seasons in grade. During 1963 and 1964 and was a Touch Judge in the third grade competition.

He was also appointed on numerous occasions as a touch judge in the Second Division competition.

Even in his older years, living in the Southern Highlands, Gary kept an eye on refereeing from a distance and enjoyed reading about the progress of his fellow referees. Gary passed away at age 87 in September this year.

NICK MORAITIS OAM #406

Nick Moraitis was a member of Eastern Suburbs Referees' Association and was graded in 1968 and refereed 3rd Grade before retiring soon after to concentrate on building his fruit business and becoming involved in his other passion - racehorses.

Nick was a larger-than-life figure in all that he turned his hand to. A no-nonsense referee whom the players enjoyed being refereed by.

Nick owned the champion stayer Might and Power who won Australia's major Group 1 races - The Melbourne Cup and Caulfield Cups (1997), the W S Cox Plate (1998) and was named Australian Horse of the Year in 1998 and 1999.

A highlight for the Association was when Nick attended a Life Members Dinner bringing along the 1997 Melbourne Cup.

Nick was a quiet, reserved man who was extremely generous supporting many charities. He followed the game and in particular referees very closely.



TERRY QUINN



A half-century dedicated to a sport and a game he loved sums up former NSW Country Rugby League (CRL) CEO and Australian Rugby League director, Terry Quinn.

Terry's distinguished administrative career also included being Chief Executive of the West Australian Rugby League (WARL), head of the Newcastle Rugby League and serving on the board of the NSWRL.

NSWRL Head of Football Robert Lowrie said on a personal level Quinn was a man who cared about those around him, particularly his staff.

"He was an outgoing and confident administrator who loved doing a job well. And he encouraged others to do the same," Lowrie said.

Terry was always interested in the development of referees and stood strongly for the best opportunities for the CRL.

DON LANCASHIRE #499

Don Lancashire was one of Australia's finest rugby league referees, controlling Test matches, interstate clashes, and Brisbane and Sydney grand finals.

Lancashire also had the honour of standing as an umpire in first-class cricket matches at the Gabba.

The former Queensland Director of Referees died on June 25, aged 89, having spent his final years at Mt Warren Park, in the city of Logan, with his wife, Carol.

Lancashire was born at Brighton-Le-Sands in Sydney, in the heart of St George Dragons' territory, and played rugby union for the local side, before taking up the whistle as a rugby league referee.

He controlled his first 1st grade match in 1959 - a St George v Souths clash at the Sydney Cricket Ground, with Test referee, Darcy Lawler ruled out at the last minute, after he rolled his ankle.

Lancashire moved to Queensland in 1960, and controlled Brisbane grand finals in 1963, '64, '67 and '69, before returning to Sydney in 1970, from where he was appointed to control the Australia v Great Britain Test series.

A private, but highly respected referee and colleague.





JOHN RAPER MBE

Rugby League Immortal John Raper MBE passed away early in 2022 after a long battle with illness.

The Members of the NSWRLRA offered their deepest sympathies to his wonderful wife Caryl and sons Stuart, Aaron and Kurt and their families along with his brothers and their families. Many of our members over the years officiated in John's games at club, state and internationally.



An immortal not just on the field, John was more than just a great player. He was a real ambassador and character of the game and always respectful of the role of the referee.

To Stuart, who is the NSWRL High Performance Referees Coach, we know this has been a difficult loss.

BEV MATTHEWS

Early in 2022 we learnt of the passing of Bev Matthews, much loved wife of our former Life Member and long serving Association Secretary Les Matthews.

Bev was a tower of strength and great supporter of the NSWRLRA particularly in the many good social events over the years.

They say, 'that behind every man is a great woman' - well in the case of Les and Bev it is 'that behind every great man was a great woman'.

A large number of members attended the celebration of Bev's life.

Our deepest condolences to Craig Matthews and Alison and their families.

With Les now.



MITZY YOUNG



Mitzy Young, the wife of the late Tony Young (CRLRA Life Member #6) passed away in late 2022.

Mitzy continued to support the referee's association after Tony's passing and attended our Annual General Meeting weekends as part of our network.

She also, on occasion, presented the Tony Young Memorial Shield when this award was presented to the Association who scored the top marks on the Laws Quiz at the CRLRA seminar weekend.

The Tony Young Memorial Trophy has since been re-assigned to the best Referee in the Laurie Daley Cup.

The NSWRLRA passes on our deepest sympathies to Mitzy's family and friends.



PAUL BROUGHTON OAM

The NSWRL lost one of its longest serving and respected officials in Paul Broughton OAM late in 2022.

Paul was a graded player with St George and coached the club in the lower grades before being appointed Head Coach at Balmain and Newtown.

Paul's greatest impact was as the driver of coaching and development within the game.

He was a visionary and many of his projects including Indigenous programs, women participation, disability rugby league and safe play were hallmarks of Paul's passion and vision.

Paul served as a club CEO and was the architect of the creation of the Titans NRL team where he was still Chairman upon his passing.

A great Rugby League man who took great interest in referees at all levels of the game.



VALE

DENNIS SPAGARINO #689

Graded #689 from Western Suburbs, Dennis rose quickly through the ranks being graded in 1978. He became a highly successful first grade referee before retiring and taking on the role of Referees Coach with the NSWRL where his advanced management and communication skills assisted so many of today's current referees in their development.

Dennis was also awarded Life Membership of the NSWRL ARLRA and Western Suburbs Referees Association. He was a highly respected and long serving Chairman of the NSWRLRA and the Australian Rugby RA.

His many close friends and colleagues will miss his giant presence, humour, advice and genuine care of others.

REST WELL DENNIS



REFEREE - COACH - CHAIRMAN - LIFE MEMBER

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & GOVERNANCE REPORT

Matthew Hewitt



Members, I have pleasure in presenting the annual report and financial position of the Association. In our first year as a merged association, I am pleased to advise that we received \$112,349.29 from the CRLRA. These funds were transferred following the winding up of the CRLRA. This amount was made up of \$ 34,649.29 in excess funds and \$77,700.00 of undistributed grants from 2021 provided to the CRLRA from the NSWRL. Our cash position at the end of October was \$342,573.40.

The budget we submitted to the NSWRL was accepted without any amendment (\$ 276,500.00). On behalf of the NSWRLRA, I want to express my gratitude to the board of the NSWRL and Chief Executive David Trodden for their support of our budget. The NSWRL grant has allowed the NSWRLRA to continue to support our district association members, resume our various coaching and development programmes and allow for our presentation function to be held again.

Whilst our cash position is strong, we still have several budgeted expenses to pay. We have jointly funded with the NSWRL a junior representative coaching clinic in Canberra. This will bring together members of the metropolitan and regional squads. Despite the challenges of the past 2 years, we have been able return to our core role in the game. This has given me a great deal of satisfaction.

I want to thank all my fellow directors for the support I have received to fulfil my responsibilities as finance director. In that vein I would like to thank Greg McCallum for his great work as our Executive Officer. To Kevin Greene thank you for the support you have given to me as finance director and the steady hand you displayed as our chairman.

I wish to advise that I will not be seeking re-election to the Board for season 2023. My business commitments have increased and as a result I have not always been able to perform my duties to the level that I expect of myself this season. I have served on the board for 8 years and I think it is time for a new director with fresh ideas. I have enjoyed my role as a director. I am grateful that back in 1983 I was invited to join this great association. It has added so much to my life away from Rugby League. I want to thank all those directors that I worked with over the past 8 years.

The NSWRLRA is in a good position to continue to service rugby league. We have identified our place in the game and we represent strong value for money. I will continue to support the association where I can. I look forward to continuing the many friendships I have made as result of being a member of this great organisation.

The fully audited financial accounts of the NSWRLRA are an appendix to this Annual Report.



DIRECTOR OF WELFARE & LIAISON REPORT

Kevin Forde & Geoff Whiddon



Well, the first season of an amalgamated Association, that reaches right across the state, has come to a close. For both of us (Geoff and Kevin) this has been a steep learning curve, and a time to try and understand the challenges that are faced by both our individual members and Association members.

From an Association level, both of us have been busy trying to get around to as many associations as we can. Kevin has attended the Group 9 Grand Final and the two-day event in Young for the NRL Masters. He was also able to attend the Woodbridge Cup RA Annual General Meeting in September. Kevin was also able to attend both the Group 20 RA and Group 9 RA AGM's, along with Woodbridge Cup RA's Presentation night.

Geoff has also been able to attend a North Sydney general meeting, as well as Presentation evenings for Parramatta RA (their 75th) and Newcastle Coalfields RA (well...he is a member). Geoff was unable to attend many of the season ending grand finals due to still being active in his association and running right up till the last game. He has also recently been involved with helping some of our Regional Associations with governance and constitution assistance.

Our hope is that next year we will be able to form a Welfare and Liaison committee, which will allow the NSWRLRA to get out to more associations and help both our individual members and association members with issues that are affecting them. Ideally, we would like a member of the HPU on the committee that can assist with helping our graded members there, along with some Regional association members (or preferably ex-Graded members if you're out there) that could attend meetings and functions in the areas that are well away from the Sydney Basin. This role would also allow for our individual members, and members of our Associations, to serve the NSWRLRA in a capacity that may count towards an eventual Life Membership nomination. We know that with the new board structure the availability of board positions is more limited, and the



ability to serve the NSWRLRA in some capacity requires more potential opportunities.

For those members who have suffered loss this year we pass on our condolences and hope that your fellow referees can be some source of comfort to you. For members who are finding life tougher than usual, we ask that you reach out - to your friends and colleagues at NSWRLRA or through your coaches and NSWRL staff. The NRL has programs in place that can assist, and we should seek to take advantage of these when they are needed.

To all referees and match official coaches across the state we wish the best for the upcoming league season and hope that we can catch up with you as the season progresses.



DIRECTOR OF COACHING & DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Steve Clapson & William Drury



2022 was a mixed year. It was good to get a complete schedule of football without any interruptions from Covid. In saying that we did have several issues from the rain and many weeks were cancelled due to the constant rain that we had in NSW. I would like to thank all associations for their patience in dealing with changes of grounds, cancelling games, moving games to other days of the week and all of this was done with little complaints.

With the expansion of the NSWRL into the country areas this gave us the opportunity to film referees in areas that we had not gone previously. I must say that in every area that we went we were made very welcome and the associations could not do enough for us. On a personal point it was difficult to get used to how cold that it does get in some of these areas.

With the help of our two camera men we were able to see 54 referees for the year and taking into consideration that

we lost a number of weeks due to the weather I feel this was a great achievement. We covered from Newcastle in the north to Canberra in the south, Bathurst and the metro area. The use of development tools such as Hudl was invaluable in the development of referees and I would like to thank the NSWRL for their continued support with this platform.

I take this opportunity to thank the board for their continued support of the development of referees as well as all associations where I am always welcome and do feel like a member of their association. To the NSWRL I thank Gavin Badger for the close working relationship we have ongoing, Paul Kalina and Stuart Raper for their assistance through 2022.

I trust 2023 will be bigger and better than 2022 with the main goal is to continue the development of all referees no matter where they are from and to hopefully get a full year of football.



Steve Clapson and Matt Hewitt

NRL HEAD OF FOOTBALL ELITE COMPETITIONS REPORT

Graham Annesley



Another season over and a new one about to begin. Thankfully and hopefully, 2023 will see us emerge from the most difficult period in most of our lives, and commence the first real season of the post-Covid era. Based on what we currently know the new season should be free of testing, mandatory isolation, or any of the other restrictions imposed over recent years.

Despite the challenges the world has faced since 2020, it is remarkable we have been able to largely continue providing communities all around the country with the engagement, enjoyment and distraction that sport provides, whether it be at the community or professional level. In our world of Rugby League, none of this would have been possible without the dedication and commitment of our players and match officials who have all adopted a 'whatever it takes' attitude to ensure our great game has emerged relatively unscathed. Every member of the Association should feel a great sense of personal pride in the role you have played in ensuring the future of our game.

At the NRL level 2022 was another very successful season. All of our key indicators are heading in the right direction and 2023 is shaping up as our biggest season ever. With the addition of the Dolphins in the Telstra Premiership, the expansion of the NRLW to include 10 teams, and a season schedule jam-packed with major events, theme rounds, local derbies, Origin and traditional rivalries, combined with all the usual controversy, drama, thrills and disappointments, it promises to be a season for the ages. I wish all members every success both on and off the field.

In closing I would like to also thank the Association for its continued support through the important role it plays in fostering and nurturing current and future match officials who are such a critical component of the games' on-going success.



NSWRL HIGH PERFORMANCE MANAGER'S REPORT



Stuart Raper

For the 1st time in 3 years, we successfully completed a full season of games culminating in an exciting day of Grand Finals on the 25th of September.

As a High-Performance Unit, myself and my staff now oversee several competitions inclusive of the Junior Representative season in Metro and Regional areas, Harvey Norman Women's and Tarsha Gale competitions, representative football, all Major competitions and the Presidents cup competitions in the regional areas. We also contributed several officials for the NRLW and the NRL competitions.

Paul Kalina and Gavin Badger have been instrumental in facilitating the Developments squads for our junior representative competitions and the coaching and education given to the squad is of the highest standards, whether face to face or done remotely. This, and the relationship we continue to build with community officials and delegates, is what's needed to assist our officials go to the next level and ensures a good pathway. PK and Badge go above and beyond what is required in their roles to achieve this, and I know they will continue to work together in having the best set up to produce officials for the future. In December we have a development training camp in Canberra that will only improve and assist this.

Thanks go to all the coaching staff for the Metro and Regional squads as well as the coaches for the HP squad, Russell Turner and Paul Holland, for the great work they do both at training and as a mentor/coach for all our officials.

To keep all our squads physically prepared to do their job professional and efficient, there are minimum standards that need to be adhered too. This is both in fitness levels and any injury prevention and strength work. Mick Stierli does a wonderful job making sure that our training is of the highest standards and this is done here at the COE or remotely throughout programs designed for each individual. Dan Olford has done a similar job for the Metro Development squad as well introducing programs and fitness levels required to get to the next level. With Daisy our physio leaving us for a job in the UK we had Josh Zoppo, who had just completed the season with the Development squad, step up and maintain that all our officials are injury free for their weekly appointments and do the injury prevention work.

In our regional areas the RDO's and PGC's are to be thanked for their efforts for their coaching and reviews they do for the regional squad. The same must be said for the Metro PGC's that do a similar throughout all our Junior representative Games as well as the Major competitions.

NSW HP GRADED OFFICIALS



#1029 Ethan Klein



#1030 Ben Seppala



#1031 Adam Sirianni



#1032 Blake Williams

NSWRL HIGH PERFORMANCE MANAGER'S REPORT

continued

The season of 2022 had the officials from the HP squad officiate over 510 Major competitions games. We also had several of our officials in the HP squad appointed to NRL games, NRLW games, Rep Round, Semi Final's and Grand final appointments in all our senior competitions. Special mention and congratulations go to Cameron Paddy and Ben Teague who made their debut on the line in NRL this year and Kieron Irons and Nick Beashall who were called up to the NRL as well.

The above figures give an indication of the workload of what's required of our officials and this only happens with the dedication and hard work from them, evaluators, coaches and S & C staff. I am very lucky to be able to oversee a 2nd tier/part time set up that I would compare to anywhere in the World. The facilities here at the COE, the experience of coaches and evaluators and the dedication of all our officials is something to be proud of.

This year was punctuated by many stoppages and changes through torrential rain throughout the state. It became a difficult task in shifting and changing appointments late in the week but every time we contacted an official regarding a change, there were no complaints. For me, it shows the culture that has been developed here and I'm sure we can continually improve this next year.

To have Kevin Greene be elected as Chairman of the NSWRLRA and now a board member of the NSWRL, has only strengthened the ties between these organisations. Thanks

to Matt Hewitt, Pete Filmer and Greg McCallum for working with us navigate through many aspects, particularly over the last few years of uncertainty in our game due to Covid.

I would like to thank all our departments here at The NSWRL who support and assist us throughout the year. We now have our own page on the NSWRL website which Zoe is always asking for content to help us promote and document what we do here. Bert, Yvette, Brent and all the Football department work with us in such a professional manner considering the weekly hurdles we come up against and I thank everyone for this.

Our CEO Dave Trodden's support and help us throughout this tough year has been very appreciated considering his role and the work he does for the NSWRL.

We are not the most resourced department in the NSWRL and considering what we do is testament to firstly Gavin Badger who with his experience and knowledge in officiating can only strengthen our development of officials and PK who without him, Badge and I could not do our jobs properly. PK's work in both the operations of our set up, the coaching assistance he gives and the work he does with the regional squads is 2nd to none. My thanks and appreciation go out to both knowing I could not do this role without their support.

As we head into 2023 there are a few unknowns regarding competitions structure etc, but I do know that we will have all our officials prepared and ready for any challenge thrown at them.



NSWRLRA Graded Squad 2022

NRL ELITE REFEREEING SQUAD REPORT



Jared Maxwell

We head into a off season that hopefully has seen the end of the global pandemic that has challenged every sport worldwide. Season 2022 had some form of 'normality' to it, from crowds and home and away games at NRL Level, to a full season for the first time in three years at State Level. Our sport, as many have, has survived, and thrived through this period.

Entertaining, controversial and no doubt conversational were the hall marks of what was a long and successful season from an Officiating perspective. Success stories and disappointments are always at the forefront of Elite Sport. Season 2022 is not different.

For many of the NRL squad, this season is a 12-month exercise, culminating in 9 officials travelling to the UK to take part in the Rugby League World Cup. I was lucky enough to witness the professional approach from these officials on the World Stage. I congratulate you all on this selection and I was very proud to witness what you each had to offer in an environment that was unique.

On the domestic front, what a season. In a game that is often so subjective, my view is that season 2022 will go down as one of the best for the department, and one that can be clearly built on to move up another level. The Telstra Premiership created so much competition. The development of several officials placed enormous pressure on officials every week to perform to the level of consistency that is required. Fitting all squad members into 8 spots is clearly impossible, however it is a great headache to have knowing that we have many of this group capable to perform. Competition brings out the best, and sometimes the worst, in people. My view is that the character of the person to fight hard for a spot will no doubt be the successful official. We move into another season where this competition for positions will again be at the mercy of the individuals. You can't gain a Grand Final appointment in January; however, you can lose one quickly if the learnings from the previous season are not built on. I look forward to witnessing how this competition will evolve for everyone.



NRL ELITE REFEREEING SQUAD REPORT continued

On the field, what a season. We had several debutants throughout the year which is testament to the processes and development strategies that are undertaken at both NSWRL and QRL level. NRL Transition coaching, in conjunction with State coaching, is critical that we maintain the consistent messaging for officials at lower tiers to strive in the NRL Premiership, and the NRLW Premiership. Whilst we will build on this programme moving forward, the result in the number of debutants through season 2022 is a strong base for this to occur.

It would be remiss of me to not thank the Manager's of the State Officiating Squads, being Stuart Raper and Clayton Sharpe and their respective staff. I appreciate the honest and robust conversations that take place in relation to development and performance throughout the season. Without this level of trust and honesty, the future officials of our game are at risk of being either not being identified, or simply let through the net. Our game can not afford to miss or lose officials at this level, and I appreciate the work of our States to ensure that the future is always looking bright for officiating.

State of Origin appointments bought the best out of the leading officials to represent the department in what many would consider the best that Rugby League has to offer. The 2022 series was simply some of the highest quality Rugby League seen for some time. Ashley Klein pipped two or three other capable candidates to be appointed to State of Origin Game 1, and ultimately, refereed the entire series. David Munro, Drew Oultram and Phil Henderson, along with Grant Atkins and Ben Galea in the Bunker, supported Ashley to create an environment for the players to determine the series. It was a wonderful series for the Department, and everyone involved, that I hope will remain etched in your memory bank for years to come.

Through this State of Origin Series, it is important to me that the Elite Officials can recognise and respect the history of our game and the people who were there before us. State of Origin Game 1 was one of those moments, that on a personal level, I felt very proud to be part of. We had Dennis Spagarino and Steve Betts attend and present the jerseys to the on-field officials prior to the game. To hear both, speak, and the level of emotion that was shown, proves that we need to continue to acknowledge people of our past. Eddie Ward was in attendance for Game 3 to undertake the same approach, and whilst Eddie is always short of a word, it was as emotional and clearly you could see how important this presentation was to him. I really appreciate you all attending and presenting these jerseys. The officials were humbled to receive the jerseys from people who have impacted their career or have benefited our game at this level. Thank you and we will look to build on this tradition moving forward.

AMPOL State of Origin Series Match Officials

Referee: Ashley Klein

Touch Judges: David Munro, Drew Oultram, Phil Henderson

Bunker Video Referees: Grant Atkins and Ben Galea

AMPOL Women's State of Origin Match Officials

Referee: Belinda Sharpe

Touch Judges: Kailey Beattie & Tori Wilkie

Bunker Video Referee: Chris Butler

AMPOL Under 19s State of Origin Match Officials

Referee: Wyatt Raymond

Touch Judges: Cameron Paddy & Nick Pelgrave

Bunker Video Referees: Kasey Badger & Chris Butler

AMPOL Under 19's Women's State of Origin Match Officials

Referee: Kara Lee-Nolan

Touch Judges: Mitch Currie & Tori Wilkie

Bunker Video Referees: Kasey Badger and Chris Butler

NRL All Stars Māori Men's vs Indigenous Men's Match Officials

Referee: Adam Gee

Touch Judges: Wyatt Raymond & Liam Kennedy

Bunker Video Referees: Ashley Klein & Alan Shortall

NRL All Star's Māori Women's vs Indigenous Women's Match Officials

Referee: Kasey Badger

Touch Judges: Belinda Sharpe & Kara Lee Nolan

Bunker Video Referees: Alan Shortall & Ashley Klein

Season 2022 also witnessed the return of International Rugby league, which the department had the privilege to officiate. I would also like to congratulate the following people on these appointments:

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE TEST MATCH OFFICIALS:

Pacific Test Samoa vs Cook Islands

Referee: Peter Gough

Touch Judges: Darian Furner & Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski

Bunker Video Referees: Chris Butler & Alan Shortall

Pacific Test Papua New Guinea vs Fiji

Referee: Todd Smith

Touch Judges: Nick Beashel & Chris Sutton

Bunker Video Referees: Matt Noyen & Ben Galea

International Test Match New Zealand vs Tonga

Referee: Grant Atkins

Touch Judges: Liam Kennedy & Paki Pakinson

Bunker Video Referees: Chris Butler & Steve Chiddy

International Women's Test Match New Zealand vs Tonga

Referee: Kasey Badger

Touch Judges: Rochelle Tamarua & Joseph Green

Bunker Video Referees: Steve Chiddy & Alan Shortall

The NRL Premiership Finals Series was as good as many can remember. To all officials, no matter the role that was undertaken, your performances were simply brilliant. These finals series places pressure on everyone, yet your composure and professionalism, supported your performances. As was the case throughout the season, disappointment at this time of the year will always be there, however you can be assured, that your individual performance makes the performance of the squad stronger. We can never underestimate the importance of this competition between officials.

The NRLW again a success and will be an expanded competition moving into season 2023. This is an important tool for development and supporting an Elite competition, each of you are to be congratulated on your consistency throughout this competition. It is critical that you apply the points out of this competition into your individual performance development, to ensure that the next opportunity is taken.

NRL Telstra Premiership Grand Final Match Officials

Referee: Ashley Klein

Touch Judges: Drew Oultram & Phil Henderson

Bunker Video Referees: Grant Atkins & Ben Galea

NRLW Telstra Premiership Grand Final Match Officials

Referee: Kasey Badger

Touch Judges: Jordan Morel & Tori Wilkie

Bunker Video Referees: Adam Gee & Matt Noyen

NRL State Championship Grand Final Match Officials

Referee: Darian Furner

Touch Judges: Cameron Paddy & Dan Monroe

Bunker Video Referees: Chris Butler & Steve Chiddy

On a personal front, I would like to thank the entire NRL Elite Football department for your support throughout what was a very long year. To Graham Annesley and Andrew Abdo, for your continued dialogue and level of support that is required to make this game as good as it can be, will never be underestimated. I look forward to 'doing it all again' as we embark on what will no doubt be another successful NRL 2023 season.

To all our Community Match Officials and volunteers throughout the country, our game is lost without your level of sacrifice. We all are indebted to you and appreciate your efforts.

If there is anything at all, that the NRL Match Officials can do to have you all, remain part of our game, please do not hesitate to reach out to your state to get into contact with us. We are all one body at the end of the day. The game needs you.

Finally, to all my staff, from the Coaching group of Shayne Hayne, David Fairleigh, Steve Chiddy, Russell Smith, Jason Robinson, and Alan Shortall. The S & C group of David Boyle, Dan Vukovic, Reece Williams and Lachie Dodd, I thank you all for your level of input into this season. They say in sport that successful teams don't succeed without a good front office, Gavin Reynolds is the glue to this Department. The number of hours many would consider unreasonable that Gavin puts into his role can never be measured. Our success is due to the operation of the department. Thank you doesn't seem to cover it for Funky, but I guess it's an appropriate start. Thanks to you all.

May I wish everyone involved at all levels of Officiating, a safe 'off season', a wonderful Christmas, and I look forward to being part of this incredible 'ride' come season 2023.



Kasey Badger and Ashley Klein Grand Final 2022

NSWRL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD COACH'S REPORT

Gavin Badger



The 2022 season was one that was run with some normality as opposed to the last couple of years.

There were still hurdles due to Covid that needed to be overcome and I want to thank the entire squad for the way in which these hurdles were handled.

I want to start with some thanks.

Thanks to the NSWRL for providing our referees with not only the pathway, but also the standard of competitions that our referees get to officiate. These competitions are the best in the world and are a proven breeding ground for officials to reach higher levels.

Thanks to the NSWRLRA for continued support and in particular Steve Clapson and Matt Hewitt for your assistance in putting together the end of season awards night on top of many other areas throughout the year.

Thanks also need to go out to the coaching staff of Ken McNaught, Adam Reid, Sean Villa, Dan Olford, Michael Lewis, and Kasey Badger. Having mentors and coaches of this calibre not only improves the quality of officiating on the field it also creates better humans off it.

Lastly, I want to thank the talented, committed, and hard-working members of the squad. The way you all apply and carry yourself makes me proud to be your coach.

We set high expectations in everything we do, and the group is committed to reach them at every possible opportunity.

As with any competition the pinnacle for match officials is to be there on grand final day, this year was no different and I would like to congratulate all those that were appointed to grand finals.

Tarsha Gale Cup

Referee: Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)

Touch Judges: Todd Pieters (Parramatta) Zac Fares (Parramatta)

In Goal Judges: Lukas Durrant (Parramatta) Dylan Guptil (North Sydney)

Stand By: Gage Miles (Canberra)

Coach: Adam Reid (Western Suburbs)

Harold Matthews Cup

Referee: Ben Seppala (Canberra/Penrith)

Touch Judges: Corey Fisher (Parramatta) Matthew Gomes (Canterbury)

In Goal Judges: Liam Richardson (Canberra) Kieren Casey (South Sydney)

Stand By: Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)

Coach: Ken McNaught (Parramatta)

SG Ball Cup

Referee: Ethan Klein (Parramatta)

Touch Judges: Jake Walsh (Manly) Harrison Bayssari (Parramatta)

In Goal Judges: Jabril Daizli (Canterbury) Aiden Richardson (Canberra)

Stand By: Ben Seppala (Canberra)

Coach: Sean Villa (Illawarra)

Once again congratulations to all appointed.

Congratulations are also passed on to those that received awards at the presentation night

- Frank Leonard Trophy: Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)
- Dennis Spagarino Trophy: Ben Seppala Canberra/Penrith
- Frank Walsh Memorial Trophy: Ethan Klein (Parramatta)
- Les Matthews Award: Kieren Casey (South Sydney)
- Kevin Jeffes Award: Harrison Bayssari (Parramatta)
- Michael Ryan Medal: Ethan Klein (Parramatta) & Ben Seppala (Canberra/Penrith)

At the end of the 2022 season, we also saw several members of our squad graded into the NSWRL high performance squad.

Congratulations to:

- Ethan Klein (Parramatta)
- Ben Seppala (Canberra/Penrith)
- Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)
- Adam Sirianni (Balmain)

This is just the beginning of hopefully a long a rewarding career.

There were many competitions and carnivals that several members of our squad were selected to officiate in, congratulations to all that were appointed.

I am really looking forward to what the 2023 season may bring.

The NSWRL and the NSWRLRA are looking at running some exciting programs in officiating, particularly in the female and Indigenous space which are two areas of which I am deeply passionate about.

Hopefully our competitions are not affected as they have been over the past couple of seasons due to the pandemic and extreme weather and we can all get back to some normality.

All the best for the rest of the year and see you all around the grounds in 2023.

NSWRL REGIONAL REFEREES DEVELOPMENT SQUAD REPORT

Paul Kalina



Season 2022 was once again a successful campaign for the NSWRL Referees Regional Development Squad that officiated across the state as part of the NSWRL Regional Junior Representative competitions.

In January a squad of 42 regional referees was picked to control Andrew Johns Cup, Laurie Daley Cup, Women's & Men's Country Championships as well as Country v City representative games. Squad members were selected after consultation with Regional Referees Development Officers across the state. These competitions provided opportunities for regional referees to officiate along similar lines to those that control Metro Development Competitions.

Rd 1 kicked off on 5 February with the Grand Final being played at St Marys Leagues Stadium on 3 April. Wet weather played havoc throughout the season with scheduling due to floods throughout Regional NSW. Thankfully all games were able to be played but the heavy conditions made it extremely difficult under foot at times for players and match officials alike.

The 2022 Grand Final & Representative Appointments were as follows:

Andrew Johns Cup

Referee: Ryan Micallef

Touch Judges: Tom Lidbury - Deacon Cameron

In-Goal Judges: Callum Richardson - Jack Fisher

Laurie Daley Cup

Referee: Braiden McIntosh

Touch Judges: Siobhan Wilson - Nathan Hillier

In Goal Judges: Anthony Pond - Brody Barrie

Men's Country Championships

Referee: Cody Simmons

Touch Judges: Tate Hoobin - Bryce Hotham

In Goal Judges: Anthony Pond - Jack Fisher

Women's Country Championships

Referee: Bailey Warren

Touch Judges: Shanika Harpur - Balunn Simon

In Goal Judges: Ruby Keen - Brody Barrie

U/16s Country v City

Referee: Cody Simmons

Touch Judge: Bryce Hotham - Ryan Micallef

The most pleasing part of the season was seeing the development and skill level of all match officials improve

via the post game coaching everyone received from experienced regional referees' coaches across the state as well as members of the NSWRL Referees HP Squad. The use of Hudl allowed all match officials to be viewed and coached remotely on a weekly basis.

There are a number of people that assisted me throughout the year in particular my appointments group Tony Hardy, Tim Bailey & Robbie Bowen. I'd like to thank them for all their work and support they provided me throughout the season as there were some difficult decisions to be made each week when finalising appointments.

I was also greatly supported by Willy Barnes, Ray Dwyer, Scot Muir who assisted me with talent identification of regional referees to be admitted into the Regional Development Program. To them I say a big thank you!

I would also like to thank each and every member of the Regional Development Squad for their dedication and on field performances in 2022. You not only did yourself proud but also each of the country groups you represented and for that you should be proud. Also special thanks to my Regional Post Game Coaches who travelled many kilometres to watch our squad each weekend. Without you my job would be 1000 times harder.

Special thanks must also go Gavin Badger (Metropolitan Development Squad Head Coach) for all his assistance especially in the cross over of match officials between both metro and regional competitions. We have both adopted the policy of "it doesn't matter where you live, we will endeavour to provide match officials with the opportunity to develop" and many match officials got to experience games in both competitions.

We are currently preparing for season 2023 with all Development Squad Match Officials across the state coming together for a pre-season camp in December 2022, which is a great opportunity to develop and coach match officials across both squads. This is being supported by Matt Hewitt and the NSWRLRA Board which is greatly appreciated.

In closing, I'd like to thank Stu Raper (Referees High Performance Manager), Bert Lowrie (Head of Football), Yvette Downey (Competitions Manager) and all NSWRL support staff for all their assistance in supporting the squad throughout season 2022 especially considering the issues we encountered with floods across regional NSW. Your support certainly made my job as Head Coach a lot easier to manage under trying times.

Looking forward to season 2023.

NSWRL REFEREES DEVELOPMENT SQUADS 2022

Metropolitan Referees Development Squad

Rami Abu-Mansour (Canterbury), Colton Anderson-Seaton (Canterbury), Harrison Bayssari (Parramatta), Kieran Casey (South Sydney), Jabril Daizli (Canterbury), Ramzi Daizli (Canterbury), William D'Amato (Illawarra), Lukas Durant (Parramatta), Isaac El-Hassan (Parramatta), Brett Eyb (Newcastle), Zac Fares (Parramatta), Corey Fisher (Parramatta), William Flint (Penrith), Jack Gerrie (Balmain), Matthew Gomes (Canterbury), Lachlan Greenfield (Illawarra), Dylan Guptill (North Sydney), Nathan Guptill (North Sydney), Tobi Holder (Central Coast), Joshua Hughes (St George), Brayden Hunt (Newcastle), Jayden Kastelan (Penrith), Ethan Klein (Parramatta), Alex Le-Geyt (Manly), Nathan Lorenti (Balmain), Mitchell Lothian (Penrith), Salvatore Marigliano (Cronulla), Gage Miles (Canberra) Luke Mulligan (Penrith) Logan Nielson (Western Suburbs), Todd Pieters (Parramatta), Joel Pitscheider (South Sydney) Mitchell Pitscheider (South Sydney), Aidan Richardson (Canberra), Liam Richardson (Canberra), Curtis Robinson (Penrith), Mitchell Robinson (Penrith), Brodie Rushby (Penrith), Reece Sammut (Penrith), Benjamin Seppala (Penrith), Adam Sirianni (Balmain), Kye Stoneham (St George), Jake Walsh (Manly), Blake Williams (Western Suburbs), Thomas Williamson (Penrith).



Blake Williams



Harrison Baysari

Regional Referee Development Squad 2022

Jason Bain (Group 11), Brody Barrie (Newcastle), Will Batchelor (Northern Rivers), Michael Booth (Group 7), Sean Byatt (Group 9), Deacon Cameron (Central Coast), Shannon Castle (Group 16), Isaac Cornell (Group 9), Corey Cox (Northern Rivers), Samuel Daley (Newcastle), Oscar Day (Northern Rivers), Juliana Donaldson (Canberra), Nathan Eveleig (Newcastle), Jack Fisher (Newcastle), Matthew Galvin (Group 6), Mitch Graham (Group 3), Heather Hall (Canberra), Shanika Harpur (Group 11), Aden Hayward (Group 11), Nathan Hillier (Newcastle), Jye Honeysett (Illawarra), Tate Hoobin (Newcastle), Bryce Hotham (Group 10), Ruby Keen (Illawarra), Tom Lidbury (Newcastle), Braiden McIntosh (Canberra), Jack Mckay (Group 6), Ryan Micallef (Group 7), Jacob Nelson (Group 2), Brandan Neville (Group 10), Anthony Pond (Group 10), Matt Reeves (Illawarra), Callum Richardson (Central Coast), Jackson Rye (Group 6), Jesse Sahyoun (Group 10), Ryan Schmiedel (Group 4), Cody Simmons (Central Coast), Balunn Simon (Group 7), Bailey Warren (Group 7), Tim Whawell (Group 6), Nicholas Willer (Group 7), Siobhan Wilson (Group 3).



Ryan Micallef



Cody Simmons

NSWRL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD PRESENTATION NIGHT

Held at Canterbury Leagues Club



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

1. Kevin Jeffes Trophy winner Harrison Baysarri with Sean Villa and Jared Maxwell
2. Frank Walsh Trophy recipient Ethan Klein with Executive Officer Greg Mccallum
3. Dennis Spagarino Trophy recipient with Director Steve Clapson And Ken Mcnaught

4. Frank Leonard Trophy recipient Blake Williams with Adam Reid And Frank Leonard
5. John Meehan Trophy recipient Braiden Mcintosh with Director William Drury and Tony Hardy
6. Pat Walsh Trophy recipient Ryan Micallef with Pat Walsh

7. Les Mathews Award recipient Kieran Casey with Craig Matthews
8. Tony Young Memorial Trophy recipient Braiden Mcintosh with Director William Drury and Tony Hardy
9. Michael Ryan Medal Winners Ethan Klein and Ben Seppala with NSWRL Ceo David Trodden and NSWRLRA Kevin Greene

COMMUNITY OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR – THE DENNIS BRAYBROOK AWARD



Kim Archer - Canterbury-Bankstown RLRA

Kim Archer has taken out the Dennis Braybrook Referees Association award for 2022 following a 30-year contribution to the game that nearly didn't happen.

Archer recalled a conversation from her past that prevented her from being a football club member but prompted her to look at other areas to become involved in the game.

"I'd always been interested in Rugby League my greatest love, but I wanted to become a member of the Canterbury-Bankstown football club and at that stage, it was only for men," she said.

"I was told they wouldn't let women join until they could run onto Belmore Sports Ground - that was the attitude back then, so I thought, 'Well, what am I going to do?'

"Well, if I became a referee then I'd be able to get onto Belmore Sports Ground and they couldn't deny me because that is what they told me.

"And just as I got my Referee certificate, they allowed women to join the club. That is how it started."

An active member of the Canterbury-Bankstown Referees Association since 1992, Archer continues to contribute to the game, regularly attending grounds within the district to coach and develop junior referees.

Kim has spent her time over the past 28 seasons on the Appointments and Advisory Board and has held other positions on the committee including social secretary. In 2005 she became a life member of the Canterbury-Bankstown Referees Association.

"You can be involved in other ways; it is just not participating on or off the field but other areas of the club that helps others out as well," Archer said

"A lot has changed. All the pathways that are now available for women and if they don't want to continue playing then they can become referees.

"I think now they acknowledge that women can do it. It was just so male-orientated back then and to see their attitudes changing now is amazing."



METROPOLITAN & REGIONAL ASSOCIATION REPORTS

BALMAIN REFEREES



In what was a rain disrupted season 2022, the Blue-Ribbon Association certainly was busy.

On any given weekend, Balmain members were spread across 10 or more grounds the Balmain District and the Eastern Suburbs of Sydney carrying a heavy load of appointments for a proportionally smaller Association. But our members did what they always do which is give their best represent the Association with pride.

The Association has a mix of experience on the field each weekend, from teenagers just starting their refereeing journey, former grade squad members and all the way up to the great Sean Hampstead still showing up week after week to give back to our game. We also got a little creative by running some meetings and training sessions over Zoom to ensure COVID safety and maximum participation of our members.

While the season was full of highlights, it was not all good news. Unfortunately, our members experienced a higher proportion of unsavoury incidents this year, with some of our members threatened with violence after the game, followed to their car, and in one horrible case, a referee being deliberately shoulder charged by a player. Obviously, these incidents are unacceptable and shows that more work still needs to be done in our game in education players, officials and parents in respecting match officials.

However, these incidents did not dampen our spirits and this showed on our first in-person presentation night since the COVID-19 pandemic. We were of course thrilled to all be able to come back together again after a trying couple of years where there was too much time spent at home and not enough on the field.

The Association proudly saw a very talented referee, and Balmain Referees Association Life Member, Adam Sirianni welcomed into the NSWRL High Performance Referees Squad as member #1031 after an outstanding season in junior reps that saw Adam appointed as a centre referee in SG Ball for the entire regular season. No one has worked harder than Adam, both on field and in the gym, over the last few years on improving his refereeing and touch judging. His grading is more than well-deserved and we are confident there are bigger and better thing to come. He has made the Association proud and will continue to do so.

The Association's highest honour of was awarded to only one member this year with Jack Gerrie receiving Life Membership after ten years of loyal service, both on and off-field, to the Association. Given Jack's outstanding contribution to the Association over the years organising events, mentoring young referees and setting standard on the field, both in Balmain and in Junior Reps, shows this accolade is more than well deserved. He also capped off an amazing year by winning the Austin Shiner Award for the Number 1 Referee for Season 2022 and the Matt Cecchin Medal for Best Referee Performance in a Grand Final (which he shared with young up and coming referee Elio Forte).

We're feeling good about 2023 and looking forward to it already!

CANBERRA REFEREES ASSOCIATION



Office Bearers 2022

Chairman - Matthew Hall
Executive Officer - CRRL Board Member - Chris Nightingale
Director Finance - Katherine Nightingale
Operations Manager - Mark Ryan

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

Director Coaching and Development (Director Referees) - James Gould

Director Members Services - Jason Severs

Director Recruitment & Retention - David Charman

2022 - Our first full season since 2019 and fortunately not too badly affected by the weather and COVID-19 restrictions.

We commenced the year with an increase in registered players in the local competitions which translated to an increase to 151 games each weekend. Despite a couple of "wet" weekends, in 2022 we finished a full year, with a very good Finals series. It was a challenging year to appoint match officials to all games and a big thankyou to all our members who rose to the occasion, filling in with short notice and officiating in multiple games over three days each weekend. This presented an opportunity for a number of members to progress to officiating at higher levels, which I am happy to say our members took with open hands and performed above expectations.

We continued to recruit well for the Referees Foundation One courses with fifteen candidates undertaking the course. This was down on previous years and new strategies are being discussed with the local league for 2023.

Training was very well attended during the year, although the weather was not always kind towards us and the ability to use the AV room at the NSWRL Canberra facility allowed us to conduct video sessions. Thank you to the NSWRL for allowing our Association to utilize their facilities at Bruce.

We have been extremely lucky to have organisations such as the Canberra Raiders and Canberra Region Rugby League actively assist in recruitment and development of referees. The support from the CRRL staff, especially General Manager Mark VERGANO and Chairman Gary GREEN cannot be under-estimated. In fact, Gary GREEN pulled on the boots to referee U7-U9 games to get a feel for what our recruits were experiencing. All incidents involving unsavoury conduct by players, officials or spectators was swiftly dealt with by the League, with a 5-year bans being handed out to a number of spectators, sending a strong message that poor behaviour is not acceptable. The working relationship between our Association and the League continues to be strong.

Achievements

- Braiden Mcintosh - Referee NSWRL Laurie Daley Cup Grand Final
- Jack Shephard, Billy Perrott and Atticus Batten - State PSSA U11 & U12 Carnivals. Billy PERROTT Referee Under 11's PSSA Final.
- Heather Hall and Katherine Nightingale attended the NSWRL Katrina Fanning State Cup and both were awarded spots in the finals.
- Braiden Mcintosh, Heather Hall and Billy Perrott all attended

National Carnivals with all receiving a finals appointment.

The Annual Awards Dinner and Life Member Presentation Night was well attended with the following awards presented.

- "Neville Norris" Shield - Rookie of the Year - Jorja CHARMAN
- "Bruce Chapman" Shield - Most Improved Junior - Jack SHEPHERD
- "Neville 'Chief' Harradine" Shield - Junior Encouragement - Ryan BLAND and Sophie RYNEHART
- "Jack McKie OAM" Trophy - Most Improved Senior - Michael BAYLEY
- "Alan Hodge" Shield - Senior Encouragement - Jack BLACK
- "Jim Mahoney" Shield - Outstanding Service to the Association - Katherine NIGHTINGALE
- "Keith Gegg" Shield - First Grade Touch Judge Shield - Luke BARROW & James CHARMAN
- "Noel Bissett OAM" Shield - First Grade Referee Shield - Andrew NIGHTINGALE
- Associate Life Membership - Ben CUMMINS
- Life Membership - James GOULD

The Association continues with a strong sponsorship agreement with Mayner & Cochrane, Appliance Repair Specialist to the Canberra Region, combined with sponsorship from the Canberra Raiders (Gungahlin Raiders Club) and grants from NSWRL Referees Assn this has left our Association in a very stable financial position. We look forward to continuing these relationships in 2023.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President - Paul Archer
Hon. Secretary - Daniel Gardner
Hon Treasurer - Gavin Beecroft

Season 2022 was well anticipated due to the dreaded COVID-19 seemingly in the 'rear-view mirror' and it was pleasing to get through a full season – albeit at times a very wet one (we can't have everything!)

Canterbury enjoyed a successful season both on and off the field. We had 18 new members join this season which was the highest in many years – the challenge now is to keep as many as we can. We enjoyed many social events throughout the year, including our Annual Blue & White Cabaret which saw long serving member Barry Ruttle re-presented with Life Membership. A wonderful honour to a member who has given great service to both our Association and NSWRLRA for many years.

This season also saw us have 5 members in the NSWRLRA Metro Development Squad which was a great achievement and reward for our focus on development. Those members being Ramzi Daizli, Jabril Daizli, Matthew Gomes, Rami Abu-Mansour & Colton Anderson-Seaton. We look forward to this number hopefully growing in the years to come.

All 5 of those members had strong seasons in our district, with Jabril Daizli finishing the season as our #1 district referee and therefore receiving the Clubb-Johnson Trophy. This created history, with his father, Richard Daizli, winning the Clubb-Johnson Trophy in 2000 – the first father-son to achieve this feat in Canterbury!

We continue to be represented in the Graded and NRL Ranks as well with Nathan Loveday, Jack Bird and Adam Gee flying the CBRA flag.

Special thanks to the entire Board of NSWRLRA, in particular Matt Hewitt, Greg McCallum, and Steve Clapson for all the assistance we have received this year. Our Association is truly grateful of the unwavering support we continue to receive from NSWRLRA.

Thanks also to Gavin Badger at NSWRL for all his assistance running courses and ensuring all referees are ready to hit the field at the completion of the course.

It is exciting times for not only the NSWRLRA but for all District Associations and we must continue to support one another and build into the future.

Special mention to Nathan Loveday and Kim Archer from CBRA who received the 'Mick Stone Medal' and the 'Dennis Braybrook Award' respectively at the recent NSWRLRA Presentation Day. Our Association is very proud of both members who continue to give back to their local Association as much as they can.

Thank you to our Association sponsors who continue to be amazing supporters of our Association

- Canterbury League Club
- Bankstown RSL
- Soneta Plumbing

- First National Daystar Real Estate
- Brickwood Homes
- Club Menangle

CASTLEREAGH REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President - Matt Wesley
Secretary - Joe Ramage
Treasurer - Wayne Burgess

Our association enjoyed a successful year. We had over 45 registered referees most of whom officiate in Junior League only. The most pleasing aspect of our season was the increase in members who were prepared to officiate in Senior League. This meant we went from having to "double up" on frequent occasions to actually having weekends off.

The tyranny of distance is a reality in our competition however all members are prepared to take their turn for the longer trips in particular Cobar which for some of our referees is over an 800km round trip. We appreciate the Cobar club affording us overnight accommodation.

Particular congratulations go to Tim McDougal (reserve grade), Ben Trudgett (league tag) and Daniel Thornton (first grade) for being appointed to their respective grand finals and doing a fantastic job. Daniel also refereed the Barwon Darling Grand Final a few weeks earlier as did Regan Evans in the lower grades.

Our treasurer Wayne (Birdie) Burgess was made a life member of Castlereagh League which is a tremendous honour. Wayne was the instigator of the Castlereagh competition and was the secretary for three years. He then took on refereeing when numbers were very short and has officiated in several grand finals over the years. He has continued in the role of treasurer of the referee's association

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

for many years and at 65 years young he thinks he might run around next season. Birdie's first refereeing was in junior league in 1981, so his longevity is to be admired.

We hope that our numbers in senior league continue to be strong next season. A positive is that we have a number of younger referees who should be around for years to come.

In finishing our association would like to thank Willy Barnes for his ongoing guidance and support.

CENTRAL COAST REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

Patron: Bill Curnoe
President: Jack Greentree
Secretary: Patrick Webb
Treasurer: Ben Thompson
Senior V.P: Shaun Greentree
Junior V.P: Breanna Davies
Assistant Secretary: Flynn Cernoy
Committee: Deacon Cameron, Callum Richardson, Nicky Barton

How good was it to get a full season of footy on the coast!

Season 2022 was a successful one for the CCRLRA. We have continued to grow our membership base, seen an increase in the professionalism and work ethic of our referees, put in place protocols to ensure a smoother running Association, and continued to work and develop relationships that will hopefully lead to sponsorships and community participation in the years ahead.

The key to this success is the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of everyone at the CCRLRA; from those at the Executive level to the referees and mentors, to the life members who can only get to a few games to say hello. We thank each and every one of you for your efforts this year.

Memberships numbers for Season 2022 was similar to the

previous season, which is a great result again. In previous years to 2021 we had the number of referees decreasing. We did have a number of experienced referees join our association this season and we had 15 new referees join us and they all did very well, with a number of them been rewarded with a grand final centre after putting in a great effort this season.

There were some fantastic on field achievements for our association, with so many junior members showing tremendous promise, making great strides towards their goals. We also had a number of members make their senior debuts, either on the line or in the middle. This is extremely exciting to have so many young members in this position, with the hope they continue to develop and grow, and give the CCRLRA a strong senior referee group for future seasons.

We received plenty of positive feedback from the local clubs both junior and senior about the high level of officiating that we were putting out on the field every week. We don't get a lot of praise as referees so to get the positive feedback is a big pat on the back to all of us involved in the CCRLRA. From the referees, to the game day mentors and coaches and this also includes the mum's and dad's, husbands and wife's that are a big part of our on field performances. Well done everyone.

We had three members represent us at the Junior Representative level, with Deacon Cameron (Regional), Tobi Holder (Metro) and Callum Richardson (Regional) all running lines and centres in their respective competitions. Congratulations to you all on your seasons, keep working hard and striving to your goals.

This season seen Jeff Hardup decided to hang up his whistle after a great career. Jeff stepped away at the top of the mountain on the central coast having the centre for the 1st grade grand final, which was an iconic game as it was local club Toukley Hawks first grand final appearance and their first time holding the premiership trophy. Jeff has a great representative career having reffed some very high level rugby league over the years. Well done Jeff, enjoy those weekends off!

Training is a big part of on field success, so it was no coincidence that the fantastic on field performances coincided with another season of great numbers of members turning up for training.

A big thankyou to all our sponsors this season. Diggers @ the Entrance as our main jersey sponsor. Your continual support of us is greatly appreciated. We were also lucky enough to pick up a number of new sponsors with Lakes Podiatry joining us as a jersey sponsor and local icon in sports massage on the coast Rubs No Tugs as our flag sponsor. We also had Floor Focus jump onboard and be our Senior Grand final match day sponsor.

CRONULLA – SUTHERLAND REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

Matthew Mclean – Chairman
Drew Blackman – Executive Officer
John Sweeting – Director Finance
Andrew Gilchrist – Director Member Services
Cameron Paddy – Director Referee Development
Jim Harding – Referees Operations Coordinator

Finally, it was great to have a season without interruptions. 2022 Season saw Cronulla Referees Junior numbers continue to grow and it is most pleasing that we have had an influx in female referees with now 20 on board. This is a great achievement and is an indication of increased female participation across all sports and the status that the WNRL and League Tag. This has born a new role in our association with Former NSWRL Referee Faye Lehane returning to be a Female Mentor. As Faye has said in the past when she started, she was one of 2 female referees, now to have 20 is fantastic. With the influx of our female referees, we were lucky enough to be able to host a training session on Pointsbet Stadium for our ladies which was run by Kasey ad Gavin Badger. This gave the girls a great opportunity to learn and ask questions of Kasey.

Congratulations to our members Cameron Paddy and Mitch Currie who continued strong performances when the opportunity arose in the grade ranks. Cameron making his NRL Debut as a touch Judge and being awarded NSWRL Graded Referee of the year. Mitch also made his NSW Cup Debut in the centre and several NRLW Touch Lines. Both Cameron and Mitch also take the time to put back into the association to assist our local referees. Along with this Salvatore Marigliano was also in the NSW Metro Squad for the first time in 2022. We were also able to be represented at a junior level with Jaylen Chasle and Joshua Blackman being selected to officiate the NSW Under 12 PSSA Championships in Kiama, and Josh going on to officiate the National Under 12 PSSA Championships in Wollongong. This was a huge experience for both boys, which included coaching and the

opportunity to mix with other young referees from the state.

Locally our competition continues to grow with the need to appoint to 174 games each weekend. This has seen the introduction of our own part time role of Referees Operations Coordinator which oversees the day to day running of the Association. Working closely with Cronulla Junior League, Jim Harding took on this role, and managed the appointments and the fun stuff that comes with that and managed to keep all his hair...

We would like to recognise our Sponsors and thank them for their ongoing support, Tradie, Aramex, Zed n Zed Jewellers, KRGS Doors & our Charity Partner Gotcha4Life. This year we were lucky enough to be able to officiate the Mates4Mental Health Cup which saw us wear the commemorative Gotcha4Life Jersey and present one to Gus Worland.

For the first time in our 59-year history we inducted 3 new Life Members at once with Cameron Paddy, Mitchell Currie and Andrew Gilchrist all being honoured with Life Membership to the Cronulla Referees Association. It is a special milestone for Andrew who becomes a 3rd Generation Life Member joining Grandfather Carl and Father Bryan. With a non-affected year, we were also able to recognise our Life Member recipients from the past two years as well, With George Cheoff from 2020 and Peter Khoury from 2021.

Finally, we would like to thank Cronulla Junior League, NSWRLRA, all other Associations that have supported us through out the year, and to our members we thank you for continuing to do what you do.

GROUP 2 REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President - Nathan Grace,

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

Secretary - Des Fisher
Treasurer - Blake Smoothy
Senior Vice President - Ken Hoad
Junior Vice President - Jacob Nelson

We welcomed 30 new referees to the association with most of them officiating Junior League.

Congratulations to all match officials throughout the Final series.

Senior League Grand Final appointments- Nic Willer Ladies League tag, Jacob Nelson under 18s, Nathan Grace Reserve Grade, Special congratulations to Blake Smoothy for being appointed to his First 1st Grade Grand Final.

Junior League Grand Final Referees Carter Deveson (10s), Malcolm Keating (11s), Cody Bland (12s), Nic Willer (13s), Ken Hoad (14s), Linda Scott (16s LLT), Jacob Nelson (16s).

Award winners for 2022:

- Most Improved Touch Judge Carter Deveson,
- Most Improved Referee Linda Scott,
- Referee of the year Blake Smoothy,
- Association Member of the year: Blake Smoothy, Presidents Award Noah Cadman

GROUP 3 REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President: Phillip Rainger
Secretary: Bev Adams
Treasurer: Tim Gumbleton
Vice President: Bradley Roche

This year we ran 3 community courses with a total of 33 new recruits, 27 males and 6 females.

These complemented the 88 officials that returned bringing our total to 121 officials for the 2022 season. 14% of our officials are female.

Of our 121 officials, 3 were non active, 14 officiated senior games only, 77 officiated junior games only and 24 did both.

The association services 3 different leagues, Group 3 Senior League, Hastings League, and Group 3 Junior League. Even with the amazing number of officials and opportunities available, we still struggle to fill games.

Our Junior League used 44 officials over the 4-week final series and covered 96 games. This was an amazing effort.

Our Senior League used 18 officials over the 4-week final series.

Hasting League utilised 9 officials for their final series.

Grand Final Referees

First Grade	Bayley Dimarco
Reserve Grade	Wayne Hughes
Under 18's	Matt Kniepp
League Tag	David Balaam
Hastings League	Rod Copp
Hastings Ladies	Corey Richardson
16 yrs Male	Landon Blissett
16yrs Female Tackle	Danny Marchment
15 yrs Male	David Balaam
14yrs Male	Aiden Lewis
13yrs Male	Braydon Worth

Major Achievements for 2022

Siobhan Wilson

- NRL Womens Championship referee
- NSW Junior Representative Referee
- Touch Judge - Laurie Daley Grand Final

Bev Adams

- Womens CMO

2023 will see a return of the referee academy to assist with the development of officials for our international fixtures and hopefully increase the number of representative officials from Group 3.

GROUP 4 REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President: Luke Sheather

Vice Presidents: S. Pleffer, M. Lace

Secretary: James Brown

Treasurer: Vacant

Group 4 Referees Association provides referees to Group 4 Rugby League from Under 7's right up to First Grade. We have 42 financial members registered and appointed on a weekly basis.

The Association has a long and proud working relationship with our Group, which is second to none. This arrangement has been to the betterment of a rugby league partnership which has gone from strength to strength.

This season has seen many changes introduced to our Association. Now being under the banner of NSWRL, we have had to familiarise ourselves with new operating systems. Those being, Online Reporting for Dismissal Reports, Judiciary Procedures.

Travel is becoming a concern within our group. With 3 hours travel each way from Tamworth to Moree (our extremities), it poses a possible safety concern. Also, the increasing cost of fuel is something that will adversely affect our members in the short to medium time frame.

Recruitment is always an area that we can definitely improve upon. Some recommendations that I'll be putting forward are the opportunity to run courses irrespective of how many are enrolled. I understand that this may prove cumbersome, however, if we don't start putting new referees through the system, while waiting for the optimum number of candidates, we are only deterring people from entering the ranks of refereeing.

Group 4 has always had a proud history of recruitment; however, we need to keep pace with other codes. I believe that, with consultation with the NRL DO, this can happen.

Achievements for 2022

2022 saw a great deal of achievements from our members. Lachie Gillies was selected to referee the U12's PSSA Championships in Kiama.

Also, Brayden Silvester & Oscar Perkins for their selection in the Greater Northern Cluster.

Damian Allen and Scott Schwarz received first grade debuts.

Congratulations to all members appointed to the Grand Finals.

Grand Final appointments were as follows:

- First Grade: L. Sheather, M. Lace, R. Schmiedel
- Reserve Grade: S. Pleffer, D. Blinman, J. Brown
- Under 18's: C. Dixon, L. Brown, B. Silvester

- League Tag: T. Allan, B. Silvester, O. Perkins

S. Pleffer, C. Dixon and T. Allan were appointed to their first senior grand final. Congratulations is extended to them.

Our Past Treasurer, Damian Blinman announced his retirement this year. Damian was a valued member who worked his way up to referee first grade. We thank Damian for his service and wish him well in his retirement.

As always, we are extremely grateful to our sponsors for their invaluable financial support. A huge appreciation is extended to our sponsors, Winanga-li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre and Wests Leagues Club Tamworth

GROUP 6 REFEREES



The 2022 season got off to a great start with the resumption of the competition on the back of two disrupted years due to Covid-19, although

the joy was short lived as the competition became a stop/start affair due to inclement weather and ground closures. 2022 was the inaugural

season of the new combined Macarthur competition which although there were some challenges was overall a success. We wish to thank

all involved for the assistance in this new transition for Group 6 Referees. We look forward to officiating again in this competition in 2023.

Recruitment proved a difficult task in 2022 on the back of two Covid-19 affected seasons. We were able to only recruit nine new members - well down on our usual recruitment numbers. Retention also proved to be a difficult task as over the previous 2 seasons people got to experience football free weekends.

We also launched our well and truly overdue presence on social media in 2022, the interactions have been quite successful.

A new payroll system was launched moving away from the

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

outdated cash payment from the canteen after refereeing a game. This was an enormous task to not only set the foundations but also executing this on a fortnightly basis.

We wish to thank our sponsors for their support in 2022.

- Wests Group Macarthur
- JND Projects
- Family Tax practice

2023 brings on our 75th anniversary, which we are all very excited to celebrate!

GROUP 7 REFEREES



With the 2021 rugby league season being cut short, it was important that 2022 brought some positive to everyone involved in our great game.

I would like to start by thanking Ashton Sims & the Group 7 Rugby League Board for putting on a great competition in 2022. Another year with some massive challenges, this time it wasn't so much Covid, but now the weather wasn't on our side. NSW had been hit with the most rain on record and Ashton along with his team were able to work hard behind the scenes to keep games from being called off to a minimal as possible.

This allowed us all to be part of and witness some games like never before where all involved were covered in mud to a point that referees wouldn't even be able to identify players jersey numbers.

Whilst this brings a complete different style of football and officiating, it also provides us with games that we remember forever.

Thank you to our sponsors Cleary Bros (CB), H.Parsons Funeral Directors, Kiama Leagues Club, Ray White Shellharbour City, Titan Concreting, Borgz Teamwear & JT Online.

The Group 7 Referees Association are proud of its members efforts put into each and every weekend, with constant venue & time changes, mid-week catch up games & some rough conditions to spend upwards of 6+ hours per day in.

The Association wishes to acknowledge all its members who participated in Finals and Grand Finals for 2022. These officials worked hard all year to get a spot in the finals & what an amazing Finals + Grand Final it was, with minimal controversy coming out of the 4 weeks of football.

The Group 7 Referees Association are proud of its members who represented our Association when officiating in representative football, those members include Ryan Micallef, Bailey Warren, Balunn Simon, Michael Booth, Rhianna Boag, Taleasha Heitel-Freeman & Jorja Wettengel.

Our Association was able to contribute to several awareness & charity rounds in 2022 which included ANZAC round, Indigenous round, Beyond Blue, WIL Breast Cancer Awareness & BFFE.

I would like to thank all the clubs for their hard work and efforts in 2022. The Referees Association & members noticed a big difference this season with less abuse on the field and around the ground.

Thank you for another memorable year of Rugby League & we look forward to working closely with you all in 2023 to make it an even bigger and better competition again!

GROUP 9 REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President – Bernie NIX.

Secretary – Tony FLETCHER. (Also, Registrar and Public Officer).

Treasurer – Brian WALKER.

Vice Presidents – Kale Popple and David Cullum.

Executive Ordinary Members – Toby Popple/Scott Muir and Mick Kirkman.

Group 9 RA has many and varied social events during any season, and Season 2022 was no exception, with Scott Muir and Mick Kirkman organising all social events and functions, and the Annual Presentation Night.

The Group 9 Referees Association Inc. (Group 9 RA) provides referees and touch judges for the Group 9 Rugby League and Group 9 Junior Rugby League; and is based in the Riverina Region of NSW; and includes the cities of Wagga Wagga and Albury and Wodonga; and the towns of Adelong, Batlow, Boorowa, Cootamundra, Gundagai, Harden- Murrumburrah, Junee, Temora, Tumut, Tumbarumba and Young.

Since the Group 9 RA was established in 1927; there have been 18 instances of Life Membership being awarded to the following persons for their outstanding service; commitment and dedication to the Group 9 Referees Association Inc.

LIFE MEMBERS:

- 1959 Ray Ward
- 1964 Frank Devlin
- 1969 Tony Young
- 1969 Mick Jones
- 1971 Mal Brentnall
- 1971 Ellis Skelton
- 1977 Terry Hilton
- 1978 Jim Gunn
- 1987 Tony Briggs
- 1992 Tony Fletcher
- 1992 Bill Levy
- 1994 Mick Rudd
- 1997 Brian Walker
- 2001 Dave McCann
- 2006 Pat Walsh ***
- 2010 Alan Jacobson
- 2012 Bernie Nix
- 2018 Scott Muir

During 2022, Group 9 RA referees and touch judges officiated in a number of pre-season trial games and the Tumut 9's RL games; the normal Group 9 RL competition and Final Series games; the normal competition games and Final Series games of the Group 9 Junior RL games at the various game venues; where necessary at Schoolboys RL and Leaguetag games including the annual hardy Shield RL competition involving teams from the numerous Secondary High Schools across Wagga Wagga ; and the Trent Barrett Shield Gala days and the Mortimer Shield RL and Leaguetag competition days for the numerous Primary schools in the Riverina Region.

The long-standing Annual Riverina Schoolboys Football Carnival was finally held at Junee on the first Saturday in August 2022 following a break of several seasons due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Carnival featured a significant number of Group 9 RA referees in control of the numerous games played on the day. During 2022, Group 9 RA referees officiated at an increasing number of Womens Tackle/9's and Leaguetag carnivals held at Wagga Wagga/Albury and Temora. Group 9 RA Referees officiated in a number representative RL and Leaguetag and Womens Tackle

games during 2022. Congratulations to the Group 9 RA referees and touch judges who were appointed to and officiated in the numerous Grand Final games across Group 9 RL and JRL in 2022.

Pre-season fitness training and then the weekly fitness training sessions on a Wednesday night in Wagga Wagga involving senior and junior referees were a feature of season 2022; coupled with a significant effort in the coaching and development of all Group 9 RA referees and coaching match officials; including the new referee recruits; with increased work to promote and implement the knowledge of the Laws of the Game to emphasise safety and good conduct within the game of Rugby League. In addition, to increase the knowledge of the NRL Code of Conduct, with some simple rules that assist in delivering a safe and positive environment to everyone involved in the game; coupled with an increased awareness to have a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and violence.

For Season 2022, there was a significant increase in the recruitment and retention of available referees across Group 9 RA to cater for the increasing number of games now being played – Rugby League and Ladies/Girls Leaguetag; coupled with Ladies Tackle. During 2022, there were 258 Group 9 RA referees registered on the NRL MySideline National Referee Database; with a large increase in the number of female match officials; officiating in games; making up approximately 34% of the total registrations. In 2022, there was an increased number of Foundation 1 Referee courses held at various locations across the Group 9 RL and JRL area and at various dates during the season. In addition, the NRL RISE program produced a number of new Group 9 RA referees due to the direction taken that all RISE program participants must undertake and complete a Foundation 1 Referee course. In 2022, there was again a concentrated effort to involve some of the junior league referees in undertaking touch judge and referee Leaguetag duties in senior Group 9 RL games at the venue in their home towns, such as Albury, Gundagai, Junee, Temora, Tumut, Wagga Wagga and Young; with outstanding results and now a number of these junior referees have become established touch judges for appointment to Group 9 RL senior games; particularly in the lower grade and Leaguetag games.

During season 2022, there were several achievements by Group 9 RA members as follows: -

- Well known Group 9 RA referee – Mick Kirkman was awarded Life Membership of the Group 9 Junior Rugby League for his long standing and outstanding service as an Executive Member (Secretary); Referee and Coaching Match Official and his actions in the recruitment of new junior referees and junior rugby league players – both male and female.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

- Confirmation from the NSWRLRA that as part of the 2022 Development Squad Referee Awards: -

1. The Andrew Johns Cup Grand Final Referee would be awarded the Pat Walsh Trophy. Pat Walsh being a Group 9 RA Life Member and well known former long-standing Group 9 RA referee and Coaching Match Official; and still contributes service to the Group 9 RA in season 2022.

2. The Laurie Daley Cup Grand Final Referee would be awarded the Tony Young Memorial Trophy. Tony Young was a Group 9 RA Life Member and a well-known and very long-standing member, referee, coaching match official and even up to his death several years ago was still active in the recruitment/retention/ coaching and development of all referees, especially the new and the younger referees.

- Group 9 RA member – Scott Muir selected and officiated as a Referee Coach at the ASSRL national Schoolboys RL championships at Redcliffe in Queensland in May, 2022. A great experience and the knowledge gained was used to further educate all Group 9 RA referees.
- Group 9 RA member – Toby Popple selected in and playing for the NSW Country and then the NSW State Wheelchair RL teams for 2022.
- Group 9 RA referees were prominent in the various Round Recognition programs such as Women in League; Anzac Day remembrance; NAIDOC Week and Honour and Respect recognition; and with the annual “RED DAY” Mental Health/Heart Research promotion day event at Temora with a substantial donation of \$500.00. Group 9 RA over the years that this event has been held at Nixon Park, Temora, has contributed over \$5,000.00 to assist the subject fund-raising efforts.
- Group 9 RA member – Isaac Cornell made his Group 9 RL 1st Grade Referee debut on Saturday, 16/07/2022 in the game between Young v Wagga Brothers. A very promising young referee and it be interesting to watch his progress in season 2023.
- Group 9 RA female referees – Sarah Jane Muir and Amalee Muir officiating at the Katrina Fanning Cup games in September 2022.
- Several Group 9 RA members were involved with the games of the Representative RL Kelly Cup games between Group 20 RL and Group 9 at Griffith in September 2022 – Match Day Coach – Tony Fletcher and Referees – Scott Muir/Dwayne Ryan/Mick Kirkman and Darren McKenzie.
- For 2022, Tony FLETCHER, was again appointed to the position of the Group 9 RL Director of Referees; and his input, commitment, enthusiasm, knowledgeable advice

and assistance when provided to the appointed Group 9 RA referees and touch judges at the game venues and weekly fitness training sessions on a weekly basis was well received. The appointed Group 9 RL CMOs in season 2022 were Pat Walsh and David Cullum; coupled with valuable input from Kevin Forde – NSWRL Director and Mick Kirkman.

- Group 9 RA sponsors for season 2022 were as follows: -
- HUME Bank – Albury and Wagga Wagga.
- STEEL SUPPLIES – Wagga Wagga.
- McDONALDS – restaurants at Wagga Wagga, Temora and Leeton.
- JOSS Group – a major Construction and Facility Maintenance Company - Albury and Wagga Wagga and across the Riverina region and Northeast Victoria.
- Group 9 RA is appreciative of the support and financial contribution from these long standing and valuable sponsors; most have committed to long term sponsorship agreements. Their sponsor logos feature on the jerseys and shorts worn by the Group 9 RA referees.
- Group 9 RA members who were NSWRL Regional referee representatives for 2022 were – Sean Byatt and Isaac Cornell – Referees. Scott Muir – MDC/PGC. In addition, Group 9 RA referee Sean Byatt officiated at the CCC and CHS State RL selection trial games.
- At the Group 9 RA Annual Presentation Function held in September 2022 at the Wagga RSL Club, involving the Wagga JRL Referees and the Group 9 RA senior referees, the following awards were presented: -

Wagga JRL Referees: -

- Most Consistent Mini Referee – Lachlan WALSH.
- Most Consistent Mod Referee – Dannen WAUGH-SMITH.
- Dedication Award – Alicia HAISELL.
- Most Improved Referee – Sean BREMER.
- Most Consistent Leaguetag Referee – Amalee MUIR.
- Most Consistent International Referee – Heath ELLIOTT and Rory MIDDLETON.

Group 9 RA Referees: -

- Referee of the YEAR – Dwayne RYAN.
- Most Improved Referee – Darren MCKENZIE.
- Tony Young Memorial Encouragement Award – Anthony HOOPER.
- President’s Award – David CULLUM.

- Senior Referee Encouragement Award – Jamie BENSON.
- Leo McCarthy Leaguetag Referee of the Year – Mick KIRKMAN.
- Kathryn Young Ladies Referee of the Year – Sarah Jane MUIR.
- Touch Judge Team of the Year – Brad BAKER and Darren MCKENZIE.
- The Warren “Pewter Mug “Barclay Award – Georgia NEWBERRY.
- Special Achievement Award – 100 group 9 RL Leaguetag games – Matthew SHANNON.
- Group 9 RL Referee of the Year – Scott MUIR.
- Group 9 RL Emerging Referee – Darren MCKENZIE.

CONGRATULATIONS to all award winners for season 2022.

The success of the 2022 season can be contributed to the continued hard work of the Group 9 RA referees and members across the numerous locations of Group 9 RL and JRL. We look forward to building on the success of this season and aim to continue fulfilling a leading role with refereeing duties in Group 9 RL in the Greatest Game of All; and to ensure that the Group 9 RA continues to grow in all aspects on and off the field.

We wish you all good fortune, success and the best for Season 2023.

GROUP 10 REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President - Bryce Hotham
Vic President - Lance Kelly

Secretary - Nick Lander
Asst Secretary - Anthony Pond
Treasurer - Meg Fardell

Our Season started with approx. 35 members across both senior and juniors, myself and help from Willy Barnes RDO in our area put on 6 foundation 1 courses attracting 70 new members across the group10 area ending with a total of 125members for the season. (courses 21hrs travel approx.

1200kms this doesn't take into account lost work hours to get to course and travel hours)

We run several zoom sessions early in the season to up skill and law quizzes to sharpen their response time in making decisions under pressure.

Achievements

We had several junior referees picked to represent our association throughout the season starting with the U11 PSSA at Parkes with Jonathan Nicholls, Riley Muldoon and Kaiden Cole all performed extremely well.

We Had Stuart Halsey Selected to attend the PSSA U12 at Kiama and Stuart got the Final they're with some very strong performances.

Both Stuart Halsey and Kaiden Cole were selected to attend the PSSA National U12 Championships held at Wollongong and Stuart Halsey was awarded the final with his performances throughout the championships.

We Had Cathryn Brown and Ali Gavin attend the Willop Camp held in Canberra this was a great experience for both girls gaining lots of confidences and knowledge from the camp.

Group achievements we had Anthony Pond do the inaugural Tom Nelson 18s Gf between Group 10 and Group 11 combined competitions.

Billy Greatbatch got the Inaugural Peter McDonald Premiership 1st grade GF between Group 10 and Group 11 combined competitions.

Antho Pond did the Waratahs Indigenous Knockout Final in Dubbo.

Billy Greatbatch attended the Annual Koori Knockout in Nowra and was awarded the final over the long weekend with his performances.

We used our youngest team of referees throughout our junior semi /final's series, and all performed extremely well.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

GROUP XI REFEREES ASSOCIATION



Office Bearers 2022

President – Stuart Duff

Vice President – Damien Kennedy

Secretary – Justin Walker

Assistant Secretary – Shanika Harpur

The 2022 season was a challenging one with the introduction of the Peter McDonald Premiership (PMP) which combined Group X1 & Group 10 in 1st Grade and under 18's. The implementation had its challenges but was over all a successful year with all our members looking forward to the seasons to come with this new format.

The PMP gave our members the opportunity to be able referee in a different region with was thoroughly enjoyed by all being able to referee in different locations.

As always with the Group X1 referees association covering such a large area it is always difficult to implement strategies to assist in the recruitment of new members. Both our junior leagues (Lachlan District JRL & Dubbo and District Junior Rugby League) did a fantastic job bringing on a lot of new junior members which holds our association in good stead for years to come. We had a few members transfer in and out of the associations which is consistent with prior years.

The executive have had meetings with NSW to discuss ways of developing new talent and retention of existing members Shanika Harpur represented the association in the junior representative program

Willy Barnes was acknowledged for his efforts over many years with becoming a life member of the Group X1 referees' association.

Troy Warner who has had involvement with the Group X1 referees association for many years in every capacity from refereeing, a member of the executive, a main stay on the appointments board retired from all active involvement at the end of the 2022 season to concentrate on family and travelling. His contribution was immeasurable and his retirement will be felt for many years to come.

GROUP 16 REFEREES



Our association had a very good year, the rapport with the Senior and Minor leagues is at a very good stage, where communication is frequent and respectful.

As far as on field status, we had no serious dramas with all competitions progressing through to Grand Finals this year. The first time since our 2019 Grand Final.

We used our Junior referees to control the Minor league final series and they all did an excellent job with no complaint or dramas.

In the Senior league the average age was 28 years. This was in fact caused by the 1st grade referee who is 52 if not for him our average age would have in been 22 years.

We have had two more referees included in the development squad for next season, Zac Considine and Rory McAlpin. Zac controlled our under 18 Grand Final.

We currently have 101 affiliated referees; however we only have 14 that participate at Senior level.

This is an area that we need to improve on.

We have 4 CMO's who attend both minor and Senior league games and they actively encourage the referees.

GROUP 19 REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President – Jay Humphreys
Secretary – Scott Schwarze
Treasurer – Dean Carson
Vice President – Craig Beard
Vice President – Ben Lewis

Season 2022 had its ups and downs, sometimes feeling more down than up! We had our fair share of code of conducts from abuse to threats and just frivolous complaining. To the extreme credit of many of our referees they overcame these situations and continued to referee week in week out.

Our finals series was great with mostly all ups and each round of finals a great success.

We saw a new partnership created between Group 4 RA and ourselves, which saw some of our referees provided the opportunity to officiate in Group 4 Competition to gain extra development experience.

Recruitment

Whilst we recruited many new young referees into our ranks, recruitment at an older age to feed into our senior ranks and games continues to be a struggle. Our new members all appeared to have a great and enjoyable season. All in all, a very successful membership drive was achieved in 2022 with 70 registered referee members vs 56 registered members in the 2021 season.

Achievements of any Members

- Cody Simmons – 2022 ‘Riolo / Kitcher’ award NSWRLRA
- Scott Schwarze – 1st Grade Debut Group 4 Competition

- 2022 Group 19 Club voted Referee of the Year – Craig Beard
- 2022 Group 19 Club voted Developing Referee of the Year – Anarla Moran

Retirement

Craig Smith – 15 years of refereeing and many as an executive. Craig also received Life Membership in 2019.

GROUP 20 REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President: Mr William DE VALENTIN (Life member, 15yr Merit pin, 25yr Merit pin)
Senior Vice President: Mr Levi HUGHES
Junior Vice President: Mr Connor LYNCH
Secretary: Mr Raymond STEPHENS (15yr Merit pin)
Treasurer: Mr Neville HALL
Director of Referees’: Mr Raymond STEPHENS

Group 20 registered 89 Referees into the 2022 Group 20 Senior / Junior Rugby League season.

45 Senior Referees in 2022, of those 29 Referees were registered in 2021 season, with 16 new Referees in 2022.

44 Junior Referees in 2022, of those 14 Referees were registered in 2021 season, with 40 new Referees in 2022.

Recruitment, thanks to Mr Tim Bailey, NRL Development Officer for his recruitment drive in the 2022 season. Griffith, 13 attended and all joined. Hay, 7 attended and all joined. Darlington Point, 8 attended and 5 joined. Leeton, 9 attended and 6 joined. Griffith (Rise Program), 3 attended but there were no recruitments.

In terms of member achievements, outside of what members achieved within Group 20 Rugby League. Tiarra Hardwick & Sophia Kelsey were appointed Semi Final Referees for the under 14s Katrina Fanning State Women’s Finals.

Sophia Kelsey was appointed the under 15s Female Grand Final Referee at the Koori Knock out in Bomaderry. Congratulations to these Junior Referees for their officiating

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

appointments in 2022. Group 20 Referees' Grand Final Appointments - Congratulations to those Referees with their first Senior Grand Final Centre Appointments,

Mr J. Stevens, Mr L. Hughes, Mr M. Gatt, and Mr S. Browne.

Retirements in 2022

We don't really have Referees who retire, they simply don't come back.

The g2ORA Secretary Mr Raymond Stephens did his last senior game back in 2015, and retired due a knee injury, but continues to work with the g2ORA as its secretary.

GROUP 21 REFEREES



Group 21 Rugby League Referees Association completed a successful 2022 season. We welcomed 7 new members to the Association whilst retaining the vast majority of our members from 2021. Thank you to each of our new members for your contributions and commitment to refereeing. Each of our new referees have demonstrated a willingness to learn and have shown competence during their initial games.

As with previous years our numbers are marginally lower across junior and seniors than what we would like. This has resulted in some of our junior referees being appointed to higher division earlier than originally planned. To date each of the junior referees have handled their games they've been appointed to which is most pleasing. Our senior referee numbers have reduced due to unavailability with study and work commitments. The remaining referees have made an exceptional effort to officiate the games across multiple days each week. Thank you to each of our members for your contribution on and off the field in 2022. Your commitment to officiating was most appreciated and each of you laid a strong foundation that can be built on throughout 2023.

In 2022 we re-commenced training sessions with our

referees. Pre-season fitness and in-season skill sessions were conducted. In addition, we were able to perform additional coaching and mentoring of referees in 2022. The benefits of coaching was evident with improved on-field performance and we plan to further develop this in 2023.

We continued to obtain support from our sponsors. This was particularly pleasing considering the impacts to each of our sponsors while COVID controls were in place. Our valued sponsors are:

- Muswellbrook RSL Club.
- Persas.
- TJM Cleaning.

We thank each of our sponsors for your wonderful support to our Association. This support enabled us to provide discounted training opportunities and subsidised social events for our members. The sponsorship from our three sponsors is extremely valuable to the Association and we thank the management of the Muswellbrook RSL Club, Persas and TJM Cleaning for generous support.

We provided all match officials to the senior final series. We congratulate each of our members on their finals appointments and especially those appointed to Grand Finals. Each of the Grand Finals was officiated exceptionally well with all the talk post games on the teams, not on decisions made by the officials. We received many compliments on Grand Final day which is what we always strive to achieve. The Group 21 junior rugby league aligned with Newcastle Junior Rugby League in 2022. The final series and Grand Finals were played in and around Newcastle with Newcastle Rugby League appointing Newcastle match officials to those games.

At our AGM we inducted Matthew Edwards as a Group 21 Rugby League Referee Association Life Member. Matt was presented with his Life Member blazer which was a fitting accolade for all that Matt has achieved with and for the Association. Congratulations Matt.

Finally, we thank all of the Group 21 clubs, including their junior and senior teams along with their coaches, managers, administrators, ground managers, support staff and other volunteers that help deliver the game. We will continue to build on the successes of 2022 and further enhance the wonderful relationship with the Rugby League community in Group 21.

ILLAWARRA REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President: Andrew Riolo
Secretary: Amie Chin
Treasurer: Michael Chin

When we finally thought we couldn't get a worse season than the last two, the rain came. It was

disappointing to see another short season for players and referees alike, however, we are grateful to have been able to get some football in this year. The flexibility of all stakeholders was great to see, with many last-minute changes proving difficult throughout the season - but somehow we pulled it off.

While we did not boast the best year in terms of recruitment, it did allow us to use our resources to provide continued coaching to our members, which showed in great growth and success on the field. Hopefully with a better start to the season next year in regards to the weather, our recruitment numbers can return to normal.

We would like to congratulate the following members on their achievements at a local level this season: Ryan Jackson (Pres Cup GF Referee), Isaac Warburton (16-1 GF Referee) and Thomas Inness (12-1 GF Referee). We would also like to acknowledge the continued success of our referees Liam Nicholls, Kara-Lee Nolan and Micheal Ford in the Graded Squad. As well as William Damato, Lachlan Greenfield and Ruby Keen in the NSW Rep Squad.

After many years as our Senior Referee Coordinator, Tony De Las Heras took a step back this year. We thank Tony for his time in this role, passing on valuable experience and knowledge to our senior referees. We welcome Mick Dupille on as our new Senior Referee Coordinator.

MANLY-WARRINGAH REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

Chair: Keith Povah
Deputy Chair: Addie Flippence
Executive Officer: Laurie Lawira
Finance Director: Jake Walsh
Referees Director: Todd Smith

The COVID-19 pandemic may have caused great uncertainty to loom over the 2020 and 2021 rugby league seasons, but in 2022 there was a nice reminder of a great constant on Sydney's Northern Beaches - the presence of a strong Rugby League Referees Association.

In June, past and present members along with our friends from across the rugby league family gathered to celebrate our 90th year as an Association. It was a chance to not only come together face-to-face, which has been sorely missed in recent times, but a night of catch-ups and nostalgia.

Leading the storytelling were Life Members, Phillip Brown and Shane Charman, who told stories of their experiences progressing through the ranks. Former NRL Referee Steve Lyons shared his memorable moments of his extensive career, and NSWRL Junior Development Squad referee, Jake Walsh spoke of how special it has been to referee alongside and be coached by his father, Jason. Former Sea Eagles captain, Geoff Toovey and premiership-winning forward, Mark Carroll also chipped in with stories of their encounters (and run-ins) with Manly-Warringah Referees.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

The evening was also an opportunity to induct our latest Life Member, Todd Smith. Todd has again worked tirelessly this year as the Referees Director and led the Association's coaching and development program. This is on top of another outstanding year in the NRL, and at the time of writing, he is part of the Rugby League World Cup officiating squad in England.

Joining Todd overseas is our Chairman Keith Povah, who is part of the Physical Disability Rugby League World Cup officiating squad. Keith has been a long-time volunteer for the PDRL as they continue to grow their metropolitan competition and spread the game worldwide. This is on top of his leadership of the Association.

Also, among the on field achievements this year, Alex Le Geyt was selected in the NSWRL Junior Development Squad, Luke Saldern was appointed as a touch judge in the Harvey Norman Women's Premiership Grand Final, and Jake Walsh as touch judge in the SG Ball grand final and then the U18 City-Country fixture. Jake's appointments were achieved after overcoming an injury early in the Junior Rep season. He also finished the Junior League season with the A-Grade grand final and has written himself into the records as the inaugural winner of the renamed Barry Cripps Medal for Best Referee.

The Association embarked on renaming the accolade this year, in what was a tough discerning process. By all accounts Mr Cripps was a much-loved member of the Association and a successful referee. The records say he started his career at Manly before being graded in the 1960s. After his time ended in the NSWRL Grade squad, he returned to district, going on to referee multiple grand finals in the early 1970s. He accepted nomination for Life Membership in 1979 and remained actively involved into the mid-1990s.

Mr Cripps' contribution over several decades is yet another example of how dedicated volunteers have tirelessly contributed to making rugby league the 'Greatest Game of All'. This year's celebrations have been a great opportunity to showcase and immerse our members in the rich history and depth of the Association, one that continues as we emerge on the other side of a "once in a generation" pandemic.

NEWCASTLE-COALFIELDS REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

Chairman - Brendan Callander
C.E.O - Brandon Vidler
Director of Finance - Tom Aylett
Director of Coaching & Development - John Taylor
Director of Member Services - Nathan Hillier
Director of Affiliated Bodies - Tom Lidbury
Executive Assistant: Kurt Grogan
Director of Support & Welfare - Daniel Ebert

Whilst season 2021 did not finish how most people expected with another season being impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, season 2022 saw the NCRLRA and rugby league in the Hunter return to its normal operations. It seems that rugby league in the region is continuing to grow with additional clubs, teams and grades being added every year. With this growth, the pressure on our members to continue to service these games is only increasing. With this in mind the Board of Management continued the early season push for new members with a number of new initiatives including partnering with the Newcastle Knights home games in an effort to attract new referees. Continuing to have new members joining our Association each year is vital for the continued success of our Association.

With the COVID-19 having impacted the last 2 seasons, the 2022 season was definitely the year of La Nina. The start of the season saw games regularly being cancelled due to wet weather or games being conducted in less than favourable conditions. The flexibility shown by our members in the last few years was definitely on show again with the number of late cancellations or ground changes hitting never before seen levels.

Although the best part of the 2022 season was definitely the return of finals in all of our competitions. This is a time of year that is always eagerly anticipated by the members

of our Association as a time to put your best performances out on the field. The 2022 season also saw the 10th year of the NCRLRA wearing the pink jersey that everyone is used to and the 2022 Grand Finals in the senior competitions saw the launch of the NCRLRA's new yellow jersey which will be now used going forward. The number of compliments that were received regarding the new jerseys shows that the membership was right in their choice of the new colours for the Association.

Our Representative Officials this year were:

NSWRL Regional Development Squad members

Brodie Barry, Sam Daley, Nathan Eveleigh, Jack Fisher, Nathan Hillier, Tate Hoobin, Tom Lidbury

NSWRL Metropolitan Development Squad members

Brett Eyb, Brayden Hunt

Member Achievements include:

- Congratulations to Kurt Grogan, Brayden Hunt and Tate Hoobin who all made their debut as Referee in the Denton Cup Real NRL 1st grade.
 - Combined High Schools and Combined Catholic Colleges State Championships.
- Members appointed, CCC Jack Fisher. Nathan Hillier, CHS Brody Barrie.
- Congratulations to Nathan Eveleigh and Nathan Hillier on appointment to Police Origin series.
 - Life Member Drew Oultram appointed as Touch Judge in SOO2 in Perth, SOO3 in Brisbane and the NRL Grand Final.
 - Life Member Nick Beashel for appointed as Touch Judge in Fiji v Papua New Guinea Test match in Campbelltown, the NSW Cup Grand Final and the National Championship Grand Final.
 - Congratulations to Life Member Frank Kitcher on being bestowed the honour of an Order of Australia Medal.
 - Aaron Fisher selected to officiate at the Under 12 National Championships.
 - NCRLRA members Jack Fisher. Sam Daley. Nathan Hillier. Brody Barrie. Tom Lidbury officiating in Sydney Leichhardt Oval for Schoolboy Cup Grand Finals.

We would like to acknowledge our main sponsors, The Good Guys, Bentleys Tax, Wallsend Diggers and Surge Graphic Design. Without their generous support our Association would not be in the position we are today and we look forward to their continued support.

We hope everyone has an enjoyable Christmas, New Year and off season and look forward to another successful year for the NCRLRA in 2023.

NORTH SYDNEY REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

Chairman: Michael Qualey.

Executive Officer: Michael Dumas.

Director of Finance: James Leane.

Director of Referees Development: Steve Tulinsky.

Director of Member Services: Ilana Crawford.

Happy birthday to us! Officially this season marked 100 years of the North Sydney Referees Association and an excellent season it has been as well. Many new members joined North Sydney this year and our ranks were bolstered by the continuing efforts of our more experienced referees. Particularly important given that, once again, the North Sydney district saw growth in playing numbers, especially the increasing number of young ladies playing league tag! Hopefully this shall translate into more female referees joining our ranks in the next few seasons! Retention rates were again reasonably high, although we did lose a few to employment related commitments.

Naturally all of our members are most excited about the 100th anniversary, with our dinner coming up on the 21 October. It was great to see plenty of members past and present and to celebrate this remarkable milestone with our friends, families and guests.

Newsworthy items from this season included the following:

1. Brian Barry once again astounded all and sundry with his most excellent display of kicking off skills at North Sydney Oval in the final round of the NSW Cup. North Sydney had wished to honour a long-standing member of the junior league with the ceremonial kick off and there could be no more appropriate, upstanding or deserving member than

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

Brian. Unconfirmed reports Brian penalised Mounties for being in front of him at the ceremonial kick off, but I can confirm that the ball went the required 10m!

2. Our most esteemed patron Mrs Elizabeth Quailey was recognised by the Men of League Foundation as the club volunteer of the season for her outstanding efforts and support of the North Sydney District Rugby League Referees Association juniors. Well done Mrs Q!
3. The 100th season launch back in April at Magpies Waitara was a rousing success, with all in attendance stating that they enjoyed the evening immensely.
4. Our Association archivists were busy for the 100th season, compiling the history of the Association into a short book in time for the 100th anniversary celebratory dinner. Well done Wayne and Quails on compiling the member lists and apologies to anyone I've stitched up with an embarrassing photo!
5. On the field, our two resident junior representative squad members (Dylan and Nathan Guptill) once again represented Norths Referees and from all reports did a wonderful job on their appointments. Hopefully we shall see them progress further next season and possibly be joined by other North Sydney members. With several of our junior members making significant strides in development of their skills, I am confident that it won't be too long before several other members are pushing to join Dylan and Nathan in the squad.
6. Our NRL representative Jon Stone again outdid himself both on and off the field, with not only putting together a strong season but also taking the time to come and help out with the coaching and development of juniors during the year. Thank you, Jon!
7. Awards-wise, Nick Hartgrove was a most worthy recipient of the Vince Smith Junior Encouragement Award for season 2022. Two new additional junior awards were added this season. The Michael Quailey Trophy, for the most outstanding contribution by a junior referee for this season, was awarded to Tyler Armstrong whose efforts and enthusiasm made him a most worthy winner. Additionally, the as-yet unnamed most improved junior referee award, was won by Sam Jones, who showed marked improvement in his on-field performances over 2022.

Once again to all our referees, coaches, members, wives / husbands, family and supporters I say a big thank you for your time and support over the season. We could not be the referees that we are without you standing with us!

Wishing everyone an excellent off season, a Merry Christmas and Happy 2023!

NORTHERN RIVERS REGIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE REFEREES ASSOCIATION



Office Bearers 2022

President – Paul Latta
Secretary – Josh Gollan
Treasurer – Greg Graham
Senior VP – Clive Tressider
Junior VP – Corey Cox

The 2022 season started with some hurdles similar to the previous 2 years with the flooding and weather events that impacted our region and a number of our members who were heavily impacted. This impacted our ability to host F1 referee courses, training sessions and representative duties.

The 2022 NSWRL Regional Junior Representative Referees Squad started training in November 2021 with three members being selected apart of the on-field squad: Will Batchelor, Oscar Day and myself. Congratulations must go to Executive Members Josh Gollan and Paul Latta who were selected in the squad for off-field duties including Match Day Coach and Post-Game Assessors. Due to the flooding, games were delayed with the representative season not ending until the end of March.

A new Training & Development Framework was introduced this year to collaborate training efforts in all three competitions that the Association covers. Due to the wet weather and limited numbers, training was difficult in some instances. We were able to have Tony Hardy attend a whole Association skills session at Ballina where we had 12 attendees. We also held three Zoom methodology and video sessions. Moving into 2023, we will look at all avenues to boost our training and development methods and attendance.

We ran several F1 courses throughout the year with the Association gaining several new F1 referees. We also ran an F1 course apart of the RISE program in Group where we had over 10 attendees at the August course. Hopefully,

some of these participants can transfer into members of our Association in the next year or two.

As a whole, the Association covered approximately 1500 games of rugby league within the Northern Rivers. Each week, we have on average 41 games in Group 1 JRL, 59 games in Group 18 JRL and 18 games in the NRRRL with a total of 118 games on average per week. This year, the Association had 61 members who ran across the three competitions which included 22 members who officiated in the NRRRL senior competition.

Special mention must go to the following three members who had the most appointments across all three competitions: Ian Bennett, Lincoln Close and Lachlan Butler.

Thank you to our Junior Co-Ordinators - Jermaine Bradshaw and Ian Bennett - who have successfully run our junior referees in each respective junior competition. Both Co-Ordinators have assisted the Executive in implementing an overall payment scheme that is the same across both junior competitions.

OUTBACK REFEREES

Unfortunately, the ORL 2022 season has been practically non-existent out here with only two teams registering, Wilcannia and Broken Hill. Michael Karem NSWRL Outback Development Officer, together with Murdi Paaki Rugby League Sporting Council aka Brighter Futures facilitated a number of one-off games between the two local teams and a team from Ivanhoe. Members have not really had the opportunity to referee consistently.

Current Referees: Tom Aylett, Kylie Aylett, Des Rumble, Peter Macbeth, Matthew Macbeth, Lyndon Pace, Andrew Sloan, Malcolm Clark.

PARRAMATTA REFEREES



After two years of disruptions due to COVID-19, we were finally able to get through a complete season of rugby league. The Association was in a well-placed position off the

field which allowed us to focus on delivering a more positive experience for our active members on the field.

We started the year well with a strong retention rate from the previous season, solid attendance numbers at training and a great turnout for the annual pre-season seminar. Whilst we did experience some issues with our training venue at the start of the year, we continued to grow our attendance numbers at training each week - with an average of 37 members attending weekly. This was largely due to the initiatives implemented by our Director of Officiating, Ethan Murray, which included inviting NRL guests to our sessions, holding a weekly video component for higher order skill coaching and more regular catering post-training so that our members could develop the relationships between each other. Thank you to our NRL guests Dave Munro, Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski, Ash Klein, Kasey Badger and Belinda Sharpe for giving up their time for the benefit of our members.

In a historical move for the Association, we held our first ever general meeting in an online capacity in March and continued this for all subsequent meetings throughout the year. The purchase of a 360-degree camera was invaluable in allowing these meetings to run smoothly.

This year we recruited 14 new members and had one of the best retention rates we have seen in years, despite last year being cut short due to COVID-19. We also continued to engage with our Life Members through an inaugural bowls day held in March which saw over 50 attendees at the event. The Association's past and present will be celebrated at our Gala Evening in October, whereby the Association will commemorate its 75th year history as well as acknowledging the efforts of our active members this season.

The Association continued to focus on building its brand and improving its social media presence. The work done on this front allowed us to improve our engagement across our social media platforms and provided us with an opportunity to highlight the achievements of our members on a more regular basis, as well as showcasing our members out and about at various grounds and at training.

The Association continued its great success on the field with 7 of our members partaking in the NSW Metro Development Squad, 7 members in the NSW High Performance Squad and 4 in the NRL Squad - with various other members partaking in these squads in other capacities, such as coaching. Whilst there were many achievements on the field this year, some of the most notable ones included:

- Ashley Klein - NRL Grand Final & State of Origin Series Referee
- Kasey Badger - NRLW Grand Final Referee
- Daniel Luttringer - Sydney Shield Grand Final Referee
- Tom Cambourn - Sydney Shield Grand Final Touch Judge,

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

NSW Cup Grand Final In-Goal Judge

- Patrick Mackey - Jersey Flegg Grand Final Touch Judge
- Ethan Klein - SG Ball Grand Final Referee, NSWRL Junior Representative Referee of the Year, Michael Ryan Medal Recipient (Referees Referee from the Junior Representative Squad), Harvey Norman Woman's Premiership Grand Final In-Goal Judge
- Harrison Bayssari - SG Ball Grand Final Touch Judge, NSWRLRA Kevin Jeffes Award (Most Improved from the Junior Representative Squad)
- Corey Fisher - Harold Matthews Grand Final Touch Judge
- Todd Pieters & Zac Fares - Tarsha Gale Grand Final Touch Judge
- Lukas Durrant - Tarsha Gale Grand Final In-Goal Judge

Significantly, off the back of a successful season in the Junior Representative Squad, Ethan Klein became NSWRLRA graded member #1029 after his elevation to the High-Performance Squad. Parramatta is extremely proud of Ethan's achievements and looks forward to seeing him continue his success well into the future.

The Association is in one of the strongest positions it has been in over the last number of years, both on and off the field. We look forward to continuing to build upon the successes of this season in 2023.

PENRITH REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

Chairman - Gary Haines
Deputy Chairman - James Davidson
Executive Officer - Eliescha Louwrens
Director of Finance - Ben Robinson
Director of Referee Development - Cam Turner

Director of Media & communications - Curtis Robinson
Director of Member Services - Mitchell Robinson
Independent Board Advisor - Ian Robinson

After a three-year hiatus due to the impact of COVID-19, normal duties were resumed with a full season of rugby league despite the best efforts of the weather with four rounds washed out. The 2022 season started with our annual season launch with members issued with their new gear and a presentation by Cam Turner, Director of Referee Development on our aims for 2022. We also had a presentation on mental health as the next step by our Welfare Team in reaching out to our members – RUOK?

On the field, there were many highlights including the emergence of some “young guns”, exciting football and fine achievements by our members. Unfortunately, the hard work we do can be overshadowed by the appalling actions of players and coaches that are unacceptable, but we will continue to explore all options to eliminate this element from our great game.

Congratulations to Curtis Robinson on his appointment to the Open Men's Division 1 grand final, whilst big brother Mitchell was awarded the prestigious Bob Kandelas Referees Referee Award.

Recruitment

Always a key issue for every Association, Penrith is no different to our colleagues. We were able to recruit 25 new referees and some already established a strong foothold with their performances in 2022. We are planning a higher level of recruitment in 2023.

Achievements

Many of our members set a very high standard in 2022 and were rewarded for their efforts.

- Ben Seppala officiated the Harold Matthews grand final and was later added to the NSWRL High Performance squad
- Curtis Robinson was selected in the NSWRL Accelerated Learning Group
- Cam Turner debuted in NSW Cup and appointed to Sydney Shield grand final as a touch judge
- Tom Stindl debuted in NSW Cup as a touch judge and Ron Massey Cup as a referee
- John Woods celebrated game 400
- Cam Turner, Tom Stindl and Dillan Wells reached game 100

It would be remiss not to mention the achievements of the Penrith Panthers in 2022. The Panthers reached new heights winning the S G Ball, Jersey Flegg, NSW Cup and NRL grand finals, a feat never achieved previously. We are all very proud of our team and privileged to be part of the Panthers family.

SOUTH SYDNEY REFEREES



After 2 years of COVID-19, it was nice to finally get some form of normality back into our competition. Even with the weather dramatically effecting the competition, with a month of football lost, we still had a very successful year overall.

The Souths Referees representation in the NSWRLRA Junior Representative Squad was as strong as ever in 2022, with Mitchell Pitscheider, Joel Pitscheider and Kieran Casey all representing us. We are very proud that Kieran Casey was awarded the Les Mathews Award for Rookie of the Year and are excited to see his progress.

Our A Grade Competition in South Sydney was also extremely competitive. A huge congratulations to Joel Pitscheider, who was appointed to referee the A Grade Grand Final.

In the higher grades, Souths Referees continued to represent strongly. Our President, Kieren Irons, appeared in multiple NRL games on the touchline, as well as being appointed as the referee for the Jersey Flegg Grand Final.

We would like to thank the NSWRLRA for their ongoing support. In particular, we want to thank Steve Clapson, who once again had absolutely no issues in dropping everything when we needed his help and was very proactive in coming to help the future talent of our Association. We look forward to an even stronger 2023.

ST GEORGE REFEREES



Season 2022 turned out to be a fantastic one, and apart from a few washouts, we got in a full year of footy for the first time in far too long. Our numbers were significantly lower than previous years, losing quite a few referees due to the covid seasons and only recruiting 3 new officials. We struggled with our workload and had to rely often on our great relationships with Cronulla and Canterbury Referees to help us out in which we are so grateful for the assistance throughout the season.

We are very proud of our representative officials this year and have been well represented by their achievements throughout the season. We have three members (Joshua Hughes, Alexander Pruscino and Adam Burrridge) who have been accepted to trial as part of the Metro Development Squad in 2023, we are very impressed with the dedication they showed to earn this opportunity. Kye Stoneham flew the solo flag in the Metro Development Squad for us this year. Kye showed great progression throughout the season, and we hope he will be joined by more St George Officials in 2023. In the NSW High Performance Squad, we had Brendan Mani representing us as an active official, Brendan had a fantastic first season in the squad, and is still currently running in the finals, we are incredibly proud to see his hard work paying off. Joel Mani represented us as a post-game coach in the High-Performance Squad, and excelled throughout the season, finishing his year in the NSW Cup Semi Finals and being offered the opportunities by the NRL to Match Day Coach the NRLW competition and Post Game Coach the U19s Women's State of Origin.

Our local officials had many great opportunities throughout the season to showcase their abilities and represent St George Referees. Ryley Veigel and Cooper Selwood were chosen to be a part of the PSSA Championships, both conducted themselves very professionally and got a lot from the experience. Toni Hughes represented us at the WILOP camp in Canberra and brought back some great insights that she shared with our Association. We had many officials

ASSOCIATION REPORTS continued

who were part of the Lebanon vs Malta world cup trials, and then the Lebanon vs Samoa trials, which provided some fantastic development opportunities as well as allowing our officials to be a part of the incredible atmosphere.

St George Junior League Grand Final Day was held at Netstrata Jubilee Oval this year and it was fantastic to see it back to normal after so long. We had 8 Grand Finals throughout the day from U9's-U18's. All our officials conducted themselves in an incredibly professional manner and refereed well throughout the day. It was great to see everyone hanging back after their games to support their fellow referees, even hanging out to run water and offer words of encouragement before and after the games.

Lastly small associations like ours can't exist without the support of sponsors and we are incredibly lucky and thankful to have our 5 wonderful sponsors back on board for season 2022. Our Major sponsors Club Rivers and SSI Security and Investigations, sleeve sponsors Quality Air Equipment (QAE) and Zed n Zed Jewellers, and our gear sponsor Nathan Loveday from Jets Teamwear.

St George Referees are looking forward to another great year of football in 2023 with perhaps a bit less rain. We would like to thank the NSWRL, NSWRLRA, our Sponsors and the St George Junior League, for all their support throughout the season and are looking forward to working with you all again next year.

WESTERN SUBURBS



This year saw our Referees officiate in the Wests Tigers JRL & the Macarthur Conference Competition (13 & above) in concert between Wests & Group 6 Clubs.

The Macarthur Conference Competition was involving Western Suburbs Referees and Group 6 Referees. However, our Members accepted the challenges they were confronted with, which resulted in them performing above expectations

and therefore being elevated to higher grades. Our Referees who officiated as First Grade Referees in this Conference Competition were Matt Middleton, Wayne Beh, Hayden Hooker, Blake Williams & Logan Neilsen.

One of our experienced Referees, Blake Williams was graded with NSWRLRA during the year, which reduced our availability numbers of senior referees, but those remaining handled the workload well.

The Season was again interrupted with wet weather, ground closures and COVID 19 issues.

Our Referees participated in the U6-U8's Gala Day, dressing up as superhero characters and adding some fun to the day for the young players.

The Grand Finals for 9-U12 was conducted and officiated solely by Western Suburbs Referees, however the U13-Seniors Grand Finals saw a mixture Western Suburbs Referees & Group 6 Referees. This resulted in a disappointing end to the Season, particular in the Senior Grades (U18-First Grade). In my opinion, many of the Western Suburbs Referees deserved higher grade Grand Final games, but unfortunately it was not to be.

We look forward to the 2023 Season in the hope that a system is in place that rewards performance and applied to all those Referees in the Macarthur Conference Competition.

WOODBIDGE CUP REFEREES



Office Bearers 2022

President: Troy Newham.
Vice President: Dave Foster.
Secretary: Clem Read.
Treasurer: Christine Newham

We would like to thank the NSWRLRA for inviting the Woodbridge Cup Referees Association (WCRA) to contribute to the annual report.

The Woodbridge Cup competition saw the introduction of three new clubs, Oberon Tigers, Orange Warriors & Bathurst CSU all entering teams of open's women's league tag and men's tackle teams for this season. The introduction of these clubs saw a considerable challenge in terms of Match officials being able to facilitate these games.

However, from an Association perspective these meant additional games per weekend and new venues to cover, some at a considerable distance from the existing base of where Referees within our association reside. However our members embraced the challenge and enjoyed the experience of integrating new teams into the Woodbridge Cup Competition.

The additional games mentioned above provided increased opportunities for our existing and younger members to gain valuable experience. We would like to highlight the following people who made senior officiating debuts in the middle this season. Brock Sing, Corey Lucas & Sonny Eastwood all made their 1st grade debuts this season. Emily Lamb, William Lamb, Caitlin Dixon & Adam Simpson also made debuts in the centre of the League Tag competition. We also had a large number of younger match officials make debuts on the touch Line. These are too numerous to mention however, this is an opportunity to thank Young & Cowra Junior Rugby Leagues for their cooperation with Woodbridge Cup Referees Association, in allowing/sharing these younger match officials to help out on Saturdays.

As with most leagues & associations, the match scheduling of senior rugby league games on the same day as junior rugby league games reduces the ability of our association to provide match officials including Referee coaches to the various venues. The collaborative approach from Young & Cowra junior leagues are crucial to the ability to provide match officials to senior & junior leagues alike.

Weekly referee training sessions in Young were well attended by junior match officials, average attendances of 16 throughout the season was very pleasing. The benefits of these officials attending the sessions were evident throughout the season, further building & strengthening the credibility of our association with the league, and before mentioned junior league clubs.

Recruitment and participation into Woodbridge Cup RA are strong out of Young & Cowra Junior Rugby Leagues. We also welcomed new members from Orange to help facilitate the eastern area of the competition. The addition of former Group 10 & 11 Referees Jason Whitney & Dale Harding brought a great wealth of experience and capability to the WCRA.

The following Referees received awards for their efforts in for the 2022 season.

- Mick Madgwick Woodbridge Cup Rugby League Referee of the Year award.

- Jason Whitney Woodbridge Cup Referees Association award.
- Brock Sing Woodbridge Cup Referees Association junior award.
- Will Purdie awarded with Life Membership.
- Tim Bailey awarded with Life Membership.

In closing we would like to acknowledge our WCRA members for their efforts in making themselves available for Saturday's & Sundays throughout the season. We would also like to thank our numerous sponsors and the Woodbridge Cup Rugby League Executive for their support. Also, a shout out to the members of Group 10 Referees Association, some of which made themselves available to officiate matches when our resources were stretched beyond its limits. Without everyone's contribution & dedication, Rugby League in small regional communities could not happen.



Junior Representative Referee of the Year Ethan Klein - Parramatta

NSWRLRA LIFE MEMBERS REUNION & PRESENTATION LUNCH

After a break from holding this prestigious event due to Covid-19 a large turn out of members and guests were entertained by the NSWRLRA in the Steve Waugh Room at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Over 100 Life Members and guests were in attendance and were welcomed by the Chairperson of the NSWRLRA Kevin Greene. It was the first major function of the amalgamated body.

Entertainment was provided by comedian Kenny Graham.

A highlight of the event was the awarding of the Jack O'Sullivan Award to 16 year old Stuart Halsey from Group 10 and the Eric Cox Medal to 98 year old Life Member Brian Barry. The awards demonstrated the width and depth of the NSWRLRA now the peak refereeing body for all referees across NSW.



Michael Stone Award - Nathan Loveday with Michael Stone



Jack O'Sullivan Award - Stuart Halsey with Judy Newland



Jersey Flegg Final Referee Keiren Irons with Steve Betts



The Best / Riolo / Kitcher Award Winner Cody Simmons



Damian Brady - Ron Massey Cup Final Referee with Frank Leonard



Doug Wintin Award Daniel Luttringer with Doug Wintin Oam



Eric Cox Medal - Brian Barry with Kevin Greene



Cameron Paddy - Presidents Cup Final Referee with Steve Brown

ASSOCIATION MILESTONES 2022

Congratulations to those Associations that celebrated milestone events during 2022.

To those members who 'dug the well' and provided a long-lasting legacy we acknowledge you and to those who have picked up and continued to take it forward we offer continued thanks.

NORTH SYDNEY REFEREES ASSOCIATION - 100 YEARS



MANLY WARRINGAH REFEREES ASSOCIATION - 90 YEARS



PARRAMATTA REFEREES ASSOCIATION - 75 YEARS



Organisations such as these - originate, grow, develop and survive due to the combined efforts of its members. The young men and women who are out on the field, the experienced members who guide, mentor and coach and those who provide the sound administration off the field, serve the game of Rugby League as much as any club or organization. We salute you on these outstanding milestones in 2022 and will continue to provide support and assistance into the future

AWARDS HONOUR ROLL

THE DOUG WINTIN OAM AWARD - FORMERLY THE GEORGE & AMY HANSEN AWARD

Doug Wintin OAM is a highly respected Life Member and current Patron of the NSWRLRA. This Award reflects the values Doug holds of integrity, commitment, adherence to protocol and striving for improvement to be your best.

Presented to a Graded member who has made an outstanding contribution to the Association over a period of time, but especially during 2022, has attended General Meetings where appropriate, whose personal demeanour is beyond reproach and has performed special acts for the benefit of the NSWRLRA.

1975	F.O. Cohen	1991	P. Cooley	2007	L. Bugden
1976	C.E. Wigzell	1992	R. Styles	2008	F. Leonard
1977	F.W. Walsh	1993	Kevin Jeffes	2009	G. McCallum
1978	A. Shiner	1994	T. Danks	2010	G. Jankowski
1979	D. Wintin	1995	B. Gilchrist	2011	S. Clapson
1980	J. Gocher	1996	J. Griffiths	2012	R. Culkin
1981	D. Braybrook	1997	D. Spagarino	2013	B. Barry
1982	I. McCall	1998	B. Ruttle	2014	P. Filmer O.A.M.
1983	C. Gilchrist	1999	T. Healy	2015	M. Lewis
1984	P. Longhurst	2000	K. Roberts	2016	B. Gately
1985	B. Wiseman	2001	Martin Ryan	2017	A. Zapantis
1986	L. Matthews	2002	A. Farlow	2018	P. Simpkins
1987	L. Williams	2003	D. Alchin	2019	N. Loveday
1988	Michael Ryan	2004	P. Kalina	2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
1989	M. Stone	2005	J. O'Sullivan	2021	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
1990	I. Parnaby	2006	D. Keen	2022	D. Luttringer

FRANK WALSH MEMORIAL TROPHY

SG Ball Grand Final Referee.

Frank Walsh was a long serving graded official before holding the position of Secretary of the NSWRLRA for 15 years. A Life member of the NSWRLRA and the Manly Warringah RLRA.

1990	Michael Lewis (Parramatta)	2007	Michael Laverty (Canberra)
1991	Sean Fielder (South Sydney)	2008	Shane Charman (Manly)
1992	Craig Tracey (Eastern Suburbs)	2009	Daniel Olford (Penrith)
1993	Darren Gocher (Cronulla-Sutherland)	2010	Lawrence McDonell (Penrith)
1994	Brett Lynch (Penrith)	2011	Kasey Badger (Parramatta)
1995	Rod Lawrence (South Sydney)	2012	Warwick Bowden (Parramatta)
1996	Jason O'Brien (South Sydney)	2013	Joshua McGowan (Central Coast)
1997	Jason Weinstien (Western Suburbs)	2014	Kieren Irons (South Sydney)
1998	Jeffery Younis (Balmain)	2015	Martin Jones (Canberra)
1999	Jason Robinson (Penrith)	2016	Jake Sutherland (Central Coast)
2000	Jennifer Robinson (Penrith)	2017	Clayton Wills (Central Coast)
2001	Brad Rye (Western Suburbs)	2018	Cameron Turner (Penrith)
2002	Ben Cummins (Canberra)	2019	Luke Saldern (Manly)
2003	Alan Shortall (Parramatta)	2020	Ben Seppala (Canberra) (on Merit)
2004	Chris James (Western Suburbs)	2021	Brendan Mani (St George)
2005	Gavin Reynolds (Parramatta)	2022	Ethan Klein (Parramatta)
2006	David Munro (South Sydney)		

AWARDS HONOUR ROLL continued

DENNIS BRAYBROOK MEMORIAL TROPHY

Dennis Braybrook was a respected first grade referee who upon retirement was appointed as the NSWRL'S first full-time Referee's Co-ordinator a role. He was responsible for many new initiatives that changed the way referees trained and prepared for games. He was a Life Member of the NSWRLRA.

Presented to a District Official that has been involved in the administration of an affiliated District Association over a period of time, has promoted that District and improved refereeing in the district by being involved in coaching and mentoring of referees.

1994	Phil Ellis	2005	Bob Garwood	2014	Michael Qualiey and Gerry Hinds
1995	Kevin Jeffes	2006	Dave Pickering	2015	Paul Tape
1996	Jack O'Sullivan	2007	Noel Bissett	2016	Matthew Hall
1997	Doug Wintin	2008	Barry Beveridge	2017	Ken McNaught
1998	Bruce Chapman	2009	Geoff Whiddon	2018	Gary Haines
1999	Les Matthews	2010	David Field	2019	Col White
2000	No Recipient	2011	Ken McNaught and Gerry Hinds	2020	Chris Nightingale
2001	Reg Austin	2012	Lionel Brown	2021	John Taylor
2002	Pat Walsh	2013	Jim Hawker	2022	Kim Archer
2003	Max Mannix				
2004	Col White				

BILL HARRIGAN TROPHY

Bill was a highly successful Grand Final, International and State of Origin referee and later, went on to be appointed as Coach of the NRL Referees.

The Bill Harrigan Trophy is presented to the referee of the senior competition of the NSWRL. This year - 'The Knock-On Effect Cup'.

2004	Gavin Badger
2005	Ben Cummins
2006	Steve Lyons
2007	Gerard Sutton
2008	Gerard Sutton
2009	Adam Gee
2010	David Munro
2011	Jon Stone
2012	Matt Noyen
2013	Zbigniew Przeklasa-Adamski
2014	Liam Nicholls
2015	Liam Nicholls
2016	Jon Stone
2017	Chris Treneman
2018	Adam Cassidy
2019	Todd Smith
2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2021	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2022	Darian Furner

ERIC COX MEDAL

Eric Cox OAM was a Life Member of both the NSWRLRA and the NSWRL. Eric held the role of NSWRLRA Secretary for many years as well as being the NSWRLRA delegate on the then powerful NSWRL General Committee. Eric's services to the NSWRLRA continued for many decades after receiving his Life Membership of the NSWRLRA.

Presented to a Member of the NSWRLRA, who has received Life Membership and has made a very significant contribution to the NSWRLRA for at least ten years after receiving Life Membership.

2008	Jack O'Sullivan
2009	Dennis Spagarino
2010	Max Dunn
2011	Ian McCall
2012	Kevin Roberts
2013	Phil Cooley
2014	Frank Leonard
2015	Doug Wintin
2016	Peter Filmer
2017	Tony Danks
2018	Bryan Gilchrist
2019	Steve Clapson
2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2021	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2022	Brian Barry

MICHAEL RYAN MEDAL

Referees' Referee Award - voted by members of the Development Squad.

Michael Ryan was an elite Touch Judge reaching the very top of his craft. He matched that high achievement by his passion for the development of district referees into quality graded officials. A Life Member of the NSWRLRA and also worked within the NSWRL assisting the Referees Coaching program.

2008	Mitchell Stone (Parramatta)
2009	Lawrence McDonnell (Penrith)
2010	Zbigniew Przeklasa-Adamski (Parramatta)
2011	Liam Nicholls (Illawarra)
2012	Drew Oultram (Newcastle Coalfields)
2013	James Vella (South Sydney)
2014	Kieren Irons (South Sydney)
2015	Daniel Luttringer (Parramatta)
2016	Pat Mackey (Parramatta)
2017	Tom Cambourn (Parramatta)
2018	Mitchell Currie (Cronulla) & Ben McMurray (Parramatta)
2019	Luke Saldern (Manly)
2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2021	Brendan Mani (St George)
2022	Ethan Klein (Parramatta) & Ben Seppala (Penrith)

KEVIN JEFFES TROPHY

Awarded to the most improved referee in the Development Squad.

Kevin Jeffes was a strong contributor to the training and coaching of up-and-coming referees at this level. Kevin was a Life Member of the NSWRLRA.

2012	Joshua McGowan (Central Coast)
2013	Damien Simes (St George)
2014	Martin Jones (Canberra)
2015	Jo West (Canberra)
2016	Cameron Paddy (Cronulla)
2017	Ben McMurray (Parramatta)
2018	Paul Eden (Western Suburbs)
2019	Ben Seppala & Jack Bird (Canberra & Illawarra)
2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2021	Adam Sirianni (Balmain)
2022	Harrison Baysarri (Parramatta)

LES MATTHEWS AWARD

Rookie Referee (best performed official in their first year in the Development Squad).

Les Matthews was a passionate supporter of junior rugby League. A Life Member of the NSWRL and the NSWRLRA Les was Secretary / EO of the NSWRLRA for 18 years.

2009	Laurie Lawira (Manly-Warringah)
2010	Anthony Grady (Illawarra)
2011	Peter Crombie-Brown (University Cup)
2012	Martin Jones (Canberra)
2013	Nathan Loveday (Canterbury-Bankstown)
2014	David Gorman (Group 6)
2015	Jake Edwards (Central Coast) Mike Smail (University Cup)
2016	Robert Morey (Parramatta)
2017	Paul Eden (Western Suburbs)
2018	Brendan Mani (St George)
2019	Joshua Bradstock (Cronulla)
2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2021	Hayden Hooker (Western suburbs)
2022	Kieran Casey (South Sydney)

JACK O'SULLIVAN TROPHY

Jack O'Sullivan was a great supporter of Junior referees and a willing and dedicated member of the Referee Recruitment and Coordination team over many All-Schools' Carnivals.

The Jack O'Sullivan Trophy is awarded to a referee officiating in the Primary age carnivals who demonstrates significant potential as a referee.

2014	Oscar Murphy (Manly)
2015	Elysia Higgins (Balmain)
2016	Ben Thompson (Central Coast)
2017	Josh Hughes (St George)
2018	Nathan McGarry
2019	Todd Pieters (Parramatta)
2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2021	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2022	Stuart Halsey (Group 10)

AWARDS HONOUR ROLL continued

COL PEARCE MEDAL

The medal is judged by the Coaching Staff of the NRL Squad and awarded to the most consistent and best referee throughout the full twenty six rounds of the NRL Telstra Premiership.

2004	Tim Mander	2014	Gerard Sutton
2005	Paul Simpkins	2015	Gerard Sutton
2006	Steve Clark	2016	Ben Cummins
2007	Tony Archer	2017	Matt Cecchin
2008	Tony Archer	2018	Gerard Sutton
2009	Shayne Hayne	2019	Gerard Sutton
2010	Tony Archer	2020	Gerard Sutton
2011	Shayne Hayne	2021	Gerard Sutton
2012	Ben Cummins	2022	Ashley Klein
2013	Shayne Hayne		

MICHAEL STONE MEDAL

A Life Member of the NSWRLRA and NSWRL, Michael Stone was a Grand Final, State of Origin and International Referee whose off-field career was as successful. A NSWRL / ARL Referees Co-ordinator for many years, Michael has had a significant impact on many careers. A former Chairman and Treasurer of the NSWRLRA.

This medal is awarded to a referee considered to be a referees' referee. The award is determined through a voting system in which the only participants are the members of the Graded Squad. A secret ballot, on a 3, 2, 1 basis is conducted at the end of the season.

2006	Chris James	2015	Liam Nicholls
2007	Gerard Sutton	2016	Ryan Jackson
2008	Adam Reid	2017	Darian Furner
2009	Peter Sciberras	2018	Liam Nichols
2010	Jon Stone	2019	Kieren Irons
2011	Jon Stone	2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2012	Matt Noyen	2021	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2013	Zbigniew Przeklasa-Adamski	2022	Nathan Loveday
2014	Adam Cassidy & Liam Nicholls		

FRANK LEONARD TROPHY

Tarsha Gale Grand Final Referee.

This trophy is named in honour of former top line Touch Judge Frank Leonard who was also a long serving Executive Officer of the NSWRLRA.

2017	Dillan Wells (Penrith)	2020	<i>Not awarded due to COVID-19</i>
2018	Noah Simpkins (South Sydney)	2021	Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)
2019	Joshua Bradstock (Cronulla)	2022	Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)

JOHN MEEHAN TROPHY

Women's Country Championship Grand Final Referee.
John has extensive experience in conducting and chairing judiciary proceedings for sporting bodies, including the educating of judiciary panels in judiciary hearings. John has been the honorary solicitor for the NSW Country Rugby League Referees Association (CRLRA) since 1997 and in that role have developed an expertise in drafting constitutions for sporting associations. In recognition of his service, the CRLRA awarded John life membership.

2022 Bailey Warren

DENNIS SPAGARINO TROPHY

Harold Matthews Cup Grand Final Referee.
This trophy has been named to recognise the wonderful on-going contribution to the NSWRLRA and Rugby League by Dennis Spagarino former 1st grade referee, NSWRL Grade Coach. Life Member of the NSWRL and NSWRLRA.

2022 Ben Seppala (Penrith)

PAT WALSH TROPHY

Andrew Johns Cup Grand Final Referee.
Pat commenced his refereeing involvement when he achieved his ticket in 1982. He has dedicated much of his life since then in officiating and developing referees. Pat is a Life Member of various Leagues and Associations in southern NSW including Group 9 and Group 16 Referees, and was also a Life Member of CRLRA and, of course, now of NSWRLRA.

2022 Ryan Micallef

TONY YOUNG MEMORIAL TROPHY

Laurie Daley Cup Grand Final Referee
Tony Young was a Patron of the CRLRA and an invaluable mentor to the young match officials who came under his tutelage. A Life Member of the CRLRA and many Rugby League Associations.

2022 Braiden McIntosh

THE BEST / RIOLO / KITCHER AWARD

All Life Members of the former CRLRA / NSWRLRA Nick Best OAM, Kevin Riolo OAM and Frank Kitcher OAM who gave and in the case of Kevin and Frank continue to give great support and service to the game. Nick was a former long-term President and Kevin and Frank long term Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Over 100 years of combined executive service to the CRLRA. Kevin is a Life Member of the NSWRL.

Awarded to the most outstanding Referee in Regional Representative Rugby League

2022 Cody Simmons (Group 19)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS FOR LIFE

G.Carr

D. Nissen

C.Turner

HONORARY MEMBERS

Duffy, Graham

Watson, Stan

Bettiol, Chris



David Nissen

LIFE MEMBERSHIP HONOUR ROLL

B.Adams	2021*	K. Forde	2016*	J. McCormack	2008
D. Alchin	2009	R. Garwood	1988	J. Meehan	2012*
B. Barry	1974	B. Gately	1992	N. Norris	2011*
S. Betts	2000	B. Gilchrist	1998	I. Parnaby	1996
B. Bolton	1993	J. Gocher	1983	R. Pearce	2001
B. Bonnie	2007	B. Goldsworthy	2002	K. Rayment	2017*
S. Brown	2019*	J. Griffiths O.A.M	2003	K. Riolo OAM	1982*
L. Bugden	2013	M. Gruber	1994*	B. Ruttle	1999
P. Bungate	2009	S. Hampstead	2018	P. Ryan	1991
A. Byrnes OAM	1972*	T. Healy	2004	P. Simpkins	2019
B. Chapman	1973*	M. Hewitt	2019	D. Spagarino	1997
S. Clapson	2010	G. Jankowski	2012	M. Stone	1989
S. Clark	2014	T. Gustard	1981*	S. Toms	2004*
J. Connor	1985	R. Inskip	2014*	G. Turnbull	2006*
P. Cooley	1994	B. Johnson	1975*	C. Turnell	1984
T. Danks	2001	P. Kalina	2004	P. Walsh	2007*
M. Dunn	1998	D. Keen	2011	C. Ward	1990
W. Drury	2018*	F. Kitcher OAM	1986*	M. Weekes	1997
M. Edwards	2019*	A. Last	2008*	G. West	1999
P. Ellis	1978	F. Leonard	2006	R. Wiegold	1990*
A. Farlow	2005	M. Lewis	2013	W. Wilson	2016*
P. Filmer O.A.M	1995	P. Longhurst	1986	D. Wintin O.A.M	1981
T. Fletcher	2009*	B. Lynch	2014	B. Wiseman	1987
		I. McCall	1984		
		G. McCallum	2011		

* Former CRLRA Life Member



Life Members Luncheon Group

LIFE MEMBERS IN MEMORIAM

K. Arnold	1971	A. Fifield	1947	K. Page	1978
L. Baggott	1945	E. Fletcher	1941	E. Paine	1948
A. Ballerum	1917	W. Fry	1936	C. Pearce	1960
J. Bates	1946	M. Godfrey	1979	G. Pearce	1953
T. Bellew O.A.M	1961	C. Gilchrist	1983	H. Pierce	1963
G. Benson	1977	H. Gillard	1975*	H. Poulton	1925
N. Best OAM	1984*	T. Grew	1958	K. Roberts	1992
G. Bishop	1950	G. Griffin	1951	L. Rosen	1955
N. Bissett O.A.M	2000	J. Griffin	1939	H. Rowlands	1928
J. Black	1928	R. Hall	1939	C. Russell snr	1974*
G. Boyd	1918	J. Hansen	1925	M. Ryan	1991
D. Bratton	1953	J. Harris OAM	1980	L. Samuelson	1973
D. Braybrook	1982	G. Hattley	1976*	C. Shomberg	1972
T. Brennan	1940	A. Holt	1966	H. Schutema	1940
R. Brock	1967	C. Hudson	1975	J. Sheehan	1956*
H. Brown	1956*	K. Jeffes	1995	A. Shiner O.A.M	1955
L. Bruyeres	1972	J. Jewell	1988	A. Shipway	1959
C. Brown	1963	J. Kelly	1954	K. Smith	1998*
J. Buchanon	1924	J. Kelly	1982	R. Smyth	1951
E. Buckley	1937	W. Kelly	1969	A. Soane	1971
S. Carey	1956	K. Keough	1970	A. Spankie	1945
J. Clarke	1943	E. Kerr	1938	N. Spohr	1971*
N. Clement	1981	L. Koch	1988*	R. Styles	1994
O. Cohen	1948	A. Konnecke	1968	J. Turner	1942
J. Colenso	1989	D. Lawler	1957	M. Tomsett	1979
A. Collins	1947	P. Lee	1942	E. Tinsley	1967
T. Costello	1936	T. Leffler	1956	B. Wales Snr	1935
B. Cowley	1969	D. Macdonald	1976	F. Walsh	1965
E. Cox O.A.M	1970	M. Maloney	1941	R. Ward (Ray)	1961*
W. Cuke	1956	J. Martin	1968	R. Ward	1949
R. Cummins	1966	L. Matthews	1986	A. Welsh	1921
J. Davies	1954	J. McGauley	1944	C. Wigzell B.E.M	1938
A. Davis	1950	C. McLetchie	1972*	L. Williams	1957
L. Deane	1935	T. McMahon	1915	G. Wirth	1939
F. Delaney	1932	J. Mewburn	1999*	T. Young	1971*
A. Dennis	1936	H. Millington	1934	C. Yorke	1943
W. Devine Snr	1949	J. Moses B.E.M	1944		
R. Dick	1976	J. Montgomery OAM	1973		
T. Dickenson	1921	T. Murphy	1985		
R. Drake	1937	J. Murray	1934		
R. Edwards	1975*	W. Neil	1946		
H. Elliot	1929	A. Neville	1987		
F. Erickson	1964	J. O'Brien	1952		
J. Farquhar	1929	R. O'Donnell	1965		
J. Farrelly	1977	J. O'Sullivan	1974		
A. Farrow	1922	A. Oxford	1952		

* Former CRLRA Life Member

NON-ACTIVE MEMBERS

Abood, David	Heaton, Grant	Perenara, Henry
Allard, Kevin	Hensley, Ross	Picard, Ross
Almond, Neil	Hewitt, Peter	Portsmouth, Scott
Archer, Tony	Higgins, Jason	Povah, Keith
Bailey, Gerard	Hinton, Mark	Reynolds, Gavin
Battin, Phil	Holland, Paul	Reynolds, Pat
Beacroft, Michael	Hoffman, Mitchell	Robertson, Graham
Belgre, John	Holton, Mark	Robinson, Tim
Best, Rohan	Howell, Mick	Ryan, David
Blomfield, John	Humphreys, Richie	Ryan, Martin
Bohan, Mark	Jackson, Glenn	Scriberras, Peter
Bowen, Pat	Jackson, Ryan	Shepherd, Scott
Bowron, David	Jadwat, Moghseen	Shortall, Alan
Brown, Riley	James, Chris	Simes, Damien
Burtenshaw, Darren	Jay, David	Sung, Philip
Carrall, Steve	Jones, Col	Stuart, Phil
Castle, Peter	Jones, Michael	Sutton, Bernard
Cecchin, Matthew	Kelly, Greg	Suttor, Brett
Constantine, Danny	Kelly, Peter	Taylor, Michael
Cranston, Rod	Kelly, Tony	Treneman, Chris
Cini, Trent	Keram, Feras	Treneman Mathew
Cox, Jim	Kiddle, Robert	Todd, Scott
Daizli, Richard	Lee, Gary	Turner, Russell
Damaso, Mat	Lehane, Faye	Turvey, David
Deland-Cleveland, Taylor	Loveday, Wayne	Van de Moosdyk, Darren
De Las Heras, Tony	Macinante, Paul	Villa, Sean
Del Vecchio, Silvio	Maksoud, Tony	Walters, Ryan
Devcich, Adam	Mander, Tim	Webber, Brian
Digby, Peter	Manton Ken	Wheeler, Andrew
Dorahy, Phil	Maxwell, Jared	Wood, Brenden
Duncan, Paul	McDonnell, Lawrence	White, Colin
Edney, Leon	McGowan, Joshua	Yates, Greg
Elias, George	McMurray, Ben	Zapantis, Andrew
Farlow, Jay	McRae, Andrew	
Field, Paul	Moon, Peter	
Fielder, Sean	Murphy, Scott	
Gary, Haines	Murray, Scot	
Gilchrist, Andrew	Murray, Peter	
Gocher, Darren	Neal, Jim	
Gray, Kerry	Oaten, Mark	
Hannon, Tim	O'Brien, Jason	
Harrigan, Bill	O'Malley, Michael*	
Hartley, Greg	Olford, Daniel	
Hartup, Jeff	Oliveira, Jim	
Hayne, Shayne	Pearson, Bill	
Haynes, Cliff	Penfold, Luke	

*Deceased

NSW BASED GRADED REFEREES (NSWRL & NRL SQUADS)

Atkins, Grant*	Loveday, Nathan	Saldern, Luke
Badger, Kasey*	Luttringer, Daniel	Seppala Ben
Beashel, Nicholas	Mackey, Patrick	Sirianni Adam
Bird, Jack	Mani, Brendan	Smith, Todd*
Cambourn, Tom	Mani, Joel	Stindl, Tom
Cummins, Ben*	Matheson, Louis	Stone, Jonathan*
Currie, Mitchell	McFarlane, Ricky	Stone, Mitchell
Eden, Paul	Mitchell, Cameron	Suters, Charlie
Furner, Darian*	Morey, Robert	Sutherland, Jake
Gee, Adam*	Munro, David	Sutton, Chris*
Ford, Micheal	Murray, Ethan	Sutton, Gerard*
Heckendorf, Luke	Nicholls, Liam	Teague, Benjamin*
Henderson, Phil*	Nolan, Karra-Lee	Turner, Cameron
Irons, Kieren*	Noyen, Matt*	Wells, Dillan
Jones, Martin	Oultram, Drew*	Williams Blake
Kiehne, Brad	Paddy, Cameron	Wills, Clayton
Klein, Ashley*	Przeklasa-Adamski, Zbigniew*	Woods, John
Klein Ethan	Reid, Adam	

*NRL Full/Part time



Grade Referees at NSWRLRA Life Members Lunch

2022 NRL MATCH OFFICIALS GAME COUNTS - NSWRLRA MEMBERS

NAME	REFEREE	TOUCH JUDGE	VIDEO REFEREE
Adam Gee	209	43	29
Ashley Klein	353	0	263
Ben Cummins	427	26	15
Chris Sutton	175	89	0
Darian Furner	0	48	0
David Munro	118	185	0
Drew Oultram	0	94	0
Gerard Sutton	342	54	32
Grant Atkins	232	102	51
Jon Stone	68	106	0
Kasey Badger	0	139	18
Liam Kennedy	18	85	2
Kieren Irons	0	10	0
Matt Noyen	70	58	41
Nick Beashel	0	270	0
Phil Henderson	40	141	0
Todd Smith	20	96	3
Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski	58	118	0
Cameron Paddy	0	11	0
Ben Teague	0	2	0



David Munro



Adam Gee

NSWRLRA GRADED SQUAD

NAME	NSW CUP		PRESIDENT'S CUP		RON MASSEY CUP		SYDNEY SHIELD		JERSEY FLEGG	
	REF	TJ	REF	TJ	REF	TJ	REF	TJ	REF	TJ
#899 - Rickey McFarlane	29	45	0	2	20	26	0	2	0	16
#917 - Adam Reid	0	113	0	5	0	47	0	20	0	10
#936 - Nic Beashel	0	69	0	0	0	35	0	5	0	5
#942 - John Woods	0	261	0	12	0	91	0	47	0	18
#957 - Liam Nicholls	75	81	0	0	21	26	7	10	0	19
#960 - Mitchell Stone	0	140	0	6	1	143	0	83	0	20
#975 - Kieren Irons	75	32	8	2	38	19	33	10	3	1
#976 - Ben Teague	0	143	0	10	0	48	0	30	0	24
#987 - Martin Jones	36	24	4	2	37	4	33	3	5	5
#991 - Cameron Mitchell	0	82	0	5	0	52	1	39	0	26
#994 - Patrick Mackey	0	38	0	1	0	72	2	76	0	21
#995 - Cameron Paddy	44	44	9	3	32	11	21	7	2	1
#996 - Jake Sutherland	24	43	4	4	47	8	25	6	0	6
#1001 - Clayton Wills	4	18	3	0	35	18	24	15	13	3
#1002 - Thomas Cambourn	1	26	0	2	20	16	27	24	14	18
#1004 - Nathan Loveday	7	17	2	4	32	22	35	37	15	10
#1005 - Brad Kiehne	0	3	0	1	0	23	45	49	33	22
#1007 - Daniel Luttringer	20	17	1	0	37	18	33	30	11	8
#1009 - Damian Brady	35	25	3	3	47	10	5	7	1	2
#1010 - Luke Heckendorf	0	8	0	2	0	30	0	60	0	38
#1013 - Mitchell Currie	1	11	0	0	16	12	31	20	11	22
#1014 - Paul Eden	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	23	26	25
#1016 - Louis Matheson	0	3	0	0	3	13	17	6	15	10
#1018 - Karra-Lee Nolan	1	6	0	1	9	15	20	16	11	11
#1019 - Tom Stindl	0	8	0	0	1	17	38	17	18	17
#1020 - Charlie Suters	0	0	0	0	0	11	11	21	31	32
#1021 - Cameron Turner	1	13	0	1	11	16	28	28	17	11
#1022 - Dillan Wells	0	0	0	0	0	9	15	27	29	24
#1023 - Luke Saldern	0	2	0	0	0	7	5	11	25	6
#1024 - Jack Bird	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	7	12	15
#1025 - Robert Morey	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	10	15
#1026 - Micheal Ford	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	4	11	11
#1027 - Brendan Mani	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	10	10
#1028 - Ethan Murray	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	12	0	16
#1029 - Ethan Klein	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	1	6
#1030 - Ben Seppala	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	4	8
#1031 - Adam Sirianni	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	10
#1032 - Blake Williams	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	10

GRADE REFEREE RETIREMENT – RICKEY MCFARLANE

Highly respected member Rickey McFarlane #899 has announced his retirement from active refereeing after a long and successful career.

Rickey commenced refereeing in 1994 and was graded with the NSWRLRA from the Penrith Association in 2003

Rickey officiated in 427 fixtures in both the NRL (where he was NRL #100 graded in the Centenary year of 2008) and the NSWRL.

During his active career he was heavily involved with the Penrith Referees Association. He was Coaching coordinator, social secretary, social committee member, life membership committee member and association trainer as well as development squad trainer/coordinator.

His long active career in both the NSWRLRA & NRL was highlighted by 74 appointments in the NSW Cup (including 29 in the centre) along with 46 appointments (20 centres) in the Ron Massey Cup. Four straight NSW Cup appointments (2003 - 2006) was a standout.

Rickey's NRL Career which commenced in Round 26, 2009 was highlighted by the Rookie of the Year award in 2011 and included Grand Final appointments as well as City v Country, State of Origin and two test matches – a total of 287 matches.

We congratulate Rickey on a fine career in both the NRL and NSWRL and wish him every success in his future endeavours.

A popular and highly respected member.



CRLRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HONOUR ROLL 1939-2021

Year	President	Deputy President / Executive Member	Vice President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
1939	J Mitten	-	G Tisdale	J Hartcher	W Guion	J Coltman
1950	H Gillard	-	H Brown	G Alyward	A Harrod	A Harrod
1951	H Gillard	-	H Brown	G Alyward	A Harrod	A Harrod
1952	H Brown	-	A Bransgrove	M Ibbotson	H Gillard	H Gillard
1953	H Brown	-	J Sharpe	K Milling	H Gillard	H Gillard
1954	H Brown	J Sharpe	K Milling	P Kelly	H Gillard	H Gillard
1955	H Brown	P Kelly	K Milling	R Ward	H Gillard	H Gillard
1956	R Ward	P Kelly	E McIlhatton	K Milling	H Gillard	H Gillard
1957	R Ward	R Baker	E McIlhatton	P Kelly	H Gillard	H Gillard
1958	R Ward	P Kelly	E McIlhatton	N Creighton	H Gillard	H Gillard
1959	R Ward	M Leary	E McIlhatton	N Spohr	H Gillard	H Gillard
1960	R Ward	J Jewell	M Leary	N Spohr	H Gillard	H Gillard
1961	R Ward	K Lyons	M Leary	J Jewell	H Gillard	H Gillard
1962	R Ward	K Lyons	J Jewell	N Spohr	H Gillard	H Gillard
1963-64	R Ward	W O'Neill	J Jewell	K Lyons	H Gillard	H Gillard
1965	R Ward	A Byrnes	J Jewell	K Lyons	H Gillard	H Gillard
1966	R Ward	N Spohr	J Jewell	K Wyer	H Gillard	H Gillard
1967	N Spohr	K Myer	B Chapman	A Byrnes	H Gillard	H Gillard
1968	N Spohr	R Edwards	B Chapman	A Byrnes	H Gillard	H Gillard
1969	N Spohr	B Chapman	R Edwards	N McAlister	H Gillard	H Gillard
1970	N Spohr	R Edwards	R Johnson	B Chapman	H Gillard	H Gillard
1971-72	N Spohr	R Edwards	A Byrnes	R Johnson	H Gillard	H Gillard
1973	N Spohr	R Edwards	A Byrnes	A Young	H Gillard	H Gillard
1974-76	N Spohr	R Edwards	A Byrnes	R Johnson	H Gillard	H Gillard
1977	N Spohr	R Edwards	A Byrnes	R Johnson	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1978	N Spohr	R Johnson	A Byrnes	T Gustard	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1979-80	N Spohr	N Best	A Byrnes	T Gustard	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1981	N Best	R Johnson	T Gustard	B Hails	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1982-83	N Best	T Gustard	R Johnson	B Hails	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1984-87	N Best	T Gustard	B Hails	L Koch	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1988 -1989	N Best	T Gustard	L Koch	G Brown	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1990 - 1992	N Best	T Gustard	L Koch	R Wiegold	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1993	N Best	T Gustard	L Koch	J Mewburn	K Riolo	F Kitcher
1994 - 2002	N Best	B Chapman	L Koch	J Mewburn	K Riolo	F Kitcher
2003 - 2009	N Best	G Turnbull	J Mewburn	A Last	K Riolo	F Kitcher
2010	N Best	G Turnbull	A Last	W Drury	K Riolo	F Kitcher
2011	N Best	G Turnbull	W Drury	K Forde	K Riolo	F Kitcher
2012	G Turnbull	W Drury	K Rayment	K Forde	K Riolo	F Kitcher
2013	W Drury	G Turnbull	S Brown	K Forde	K Rayment	F Kitcher
2014 - 2017	W Drury	K Forde	S Brown	M Edwards	K Rayment	F Kitcher
2018-2020	W Drury	K Forde	S Brown	M Edwards	G Whiddon	K Rayment
2021	W Drury	K Forde	C Smith	M Edwards	G Whiddon	K Rayment

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HONOUR ROLL 1908-2002

Association Presidents

J. HOYLE & E. HOOPER	1908
E. HOOPER	1909 - 1912
T. McMAHON	1915 - 1915
A. BALLERUM	1916 - 1920
J. FARQUHAR	1921 - 1924
H. ROWLANDS	1925 - 1929
B. WALES	1930 - 1931
H. ROWLANDS	1932 - 1933
B. WALES	1934
A. DENNIS	1935 - 1942
J. GRIFFEN	1943 - 1951
C. WIGZELL	1952 - 1958
A. DAVIS	1959 - 1967
A. SHINER	1968 - 1977
L. BRUYERES	1978 - 1979
D. McDONALD	1980 - 1984
I. McCALL	1985 - 2000
T. DANKS	2001 - 2002*

*Continued as Chairman in new board structure from 2003

Association Secretaries

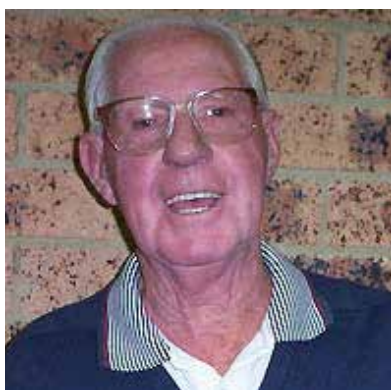
A. WELSH	1908
W. FINNEGAN	1909 - 1912
H. ALCORN	1913 - 1914
A. FARROW	1915
A. THORNTON	1916 - 1922
F. DELANEY	1923 - 1937
T. BRENNAN	1938 - 1962
E. COX	1963 - 1977
F. WALSH	1978 - 1983
C. TURNELL	1984 - 1985
F. WALSH	1986 - 1989
L. MATTHEWS	1990 - 2002*

*Continued as Executive Officer in new board structure from 2003

Association Treasurers

G. BOSS	1908
A. WELSH	1909
A. BALLERUM	1910 - 1912
A. FARROW	1913 - 1914
C. YARD	1915
B. YARD	1916
V. DICKINSON	1917 - 1922
H. MILLINGTON	1923 - 1941
H. MILLINGTON & C. WARD	1942
H. MILLINGTON	1943 - 1966
O. COHEN	1957 - 1978
J. GOCHER	1979 - 1983
P. LONGHURST	1984 - 1985
M. STONE	1986
G. LEE	1987 - 1989
P. FILMER	1990 - 1998
P. KALINA	1999 - 2002*

*Continued as Director of Finance in new board structure from 2003



Laurie Bruyeres



Frank Leonard and John Gocher



Michael Stone



Nick Best



Colin Turnell and Peter Longhurst



Peter Filmer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HONOUR ROLL 2003-2015

YEAR	CHAIRMAN	EXECUTIVE OFFICER	DIRECTOR OF FINANCE	DIRECTOR OF REFEREE DEVELOPMENT	DIRECTOR OF AFFILIATE LIAISON	DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES	DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATION
2003	T Danks	L Matthews	P Kalina	D Spagarino	B Gilchrist	T Healy	J Robinson
2004	T Danks	L Matthews	P Kalina	D Spagarino	B Gilchrist	A Farlow	J Robinson
2005	T Danks	L Matthews	P Kalina	D Spagarino	D Keen	A Farlow	J Robinson
2006	T Danks	L Matthews	P Kalina	P Filmer	D Keen	A Farlow	S Clark
2007	D Spagarino	L Matthews	D Alchin	P Filmer	G Jackson	L Bugden	T Healy
2008	D Spagarino	L Matthews	D Alchin	G McCallum	G Jackson	L Bugden	G Jankowski
2009	D Spagarino	F Leonard	D Alchin	G McCallum	G Jackson	L Bugden	G Jankowski
2010	D Spagarino	F Leonard	D Alchin	G McCallum	D Keen	L Bugden	G Jankowski
2011	D Spagarino	F Leonard	J Oliveira	G McCallum	D Keen	L Bugden	G Jankowski
2012	C Ward	F Leonard	J Oliveira	G McCallum/ S Hayne/G Badger	D Keen	J Stone	G Jankowski
2013	M Stone	F Leonard	J Oliveira	T De Las Heras	D Keen	L Bugden	G Jankowsk
2014	P Simpkins	F Leonard	J Oliveira	G McCallum	D Keen	L Bugden	G Jankowski
2015	P Simpkins	F Leonard	J Oliveira	M Hewitt	D Keen	L Bugden	G Jankowski

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HONOUR ROLL 2016-2021

The Board structure changed in 2016 with a reduction in members with changes to Director roles

YEAR	CHAIRMAN	EXECUTIVE OFFICER	DIRECTOR OF FINANCE	DIRECTOR OF REFEREE DEVELOPMENT & AFFILIATE LIAISON	DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES, MARKETING & COMMUNICATION
2016	P Simpkins	F Leonard	D Gocher	M Hewitt	B Wood/T Robinson
2017	P Simpkins	F Leonard	D Gocher	M Hewitt	T Robinson (resigned in May) M Jones (appointed in August)
2018	P Simpkins	M Jones (Resigned in February) P Filmer (Appointed in March)	M Hewitt	S Clapson	F Lehane
2019	P Filmer	F Lehane	M Hewitt	S Clapson	G Jankowski
2020	P Filmer	F Lehane (Resigned in February) G McCallum (Appointed in February)	M Hewitt	S Clapson	D Briscoe
2021	P Filmer	G. McCallum	M Hewitt	S Clapson	N/A

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HONOUR ROLL 2022

YEAR	INDEPENDENT CHAIRPERSON	DIRECTOR FINANCE & GOVERNANCE	DIRECTOR COMMUNICATION, MARKETING & SOCIAL	DIRECTOR(S) COACHING & DEVELOPMENT	DIRECTOR(S) AFFILIATE LIAISON & WELFARE	EXECUTIVE OFFICER
2022	Kevin Greene	Matthew Hewitt	Peter Filmer	Steve Clapson & William Drury	Geoff Whiddon & Kevin Forde	Greg McCallum

MAJOR APPOINTMENTS 2022



NRL TELSTRA GRAND FINAL **Accor Stadium Sydney** **Penrith Panthers v Parramatta Eels**

Referee: Ashley Klein
Touch Judges: Phil Henderson, Drew Oultram
Bunker Review Official: Grant Atkins
Stand by Referee: Gerard Sutton
Stand by Touch Judge: David Munro



TARSHA GALE CUP **CommBank Stadium** **Sydney Roosters v Newcastle Knights**

Referee: Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)
Touch Judges: Todd Pieters (Parramatta)
Zac Fares (Parramatta)
In Goal Judges: Lukas Durrant (Parramatta)
Dylan Guptil (North Sydney)
Stand by Referee: Gage Miles (Canberra)



NRL TELSTRA WOMEN'S GRAND FINAL **Accor Stadium** **Newcastle Knights v Parramatta Eels**

Referee: Kasey Badger
Touch Judges: Jordan Morel, Tori Wilkie
In-goal Judges: Adam Gee
Stand by Referee: Belinda Sharpe



HAROLD MATTHEWS CUP **CommBank Stadium** **Western Suburbs Magpies v Cronulla Sutherland Sharks**

Referee: Ben Seppala (Penrith)
Touch Judges: Corey Fisher (Parramatta)
Matthew Gomes (Canterbury)
In Goal Judges: Liam Richardson (Canberra)
Kieren Casey (South Sydney)
Stand by Referee: Blake Williams (Western Suburbs)



NRL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP **Accor Stadium Sydney** **Penrith Panthers (NSW) v Norths Devils (Queensland)**

Referee: Darian Furner
Touch Judges: Cameron Paddy, Dan Munroe
Bunker Review Official: Chris Butler
Stand by Referee: Wyatt Raymond



SG BALL CUP **CommBank Stadium** **Sydney Roosters v Penrith Panthers**

Referee: Ethan Klein (Parramatta)
Touch Judges: Jake Walsh (Manly)
Harrison Bayssari (Parramatta)
In Goal Judges: Jabril Daizli (Canterbury)
Aiden Richardson (Canberra)
Stand by Referee: Ben Seppala (Canberra)



HARVEY NORMAN WOMEN'S PREMIERSHIP GRAND FINAL **Cronulla Sharks v Wests Tigers**

Referee: Dillan Wells
Touch Judges: Luke Saldern and Ben Seppala
In Goal Judges: Ethan Klein and Adam Sirianni

MAJOR APPOINTMENTS 2022



NRL Men's Grand Final Referees



Harold Matthews Grand Final Referees



NRL Women's Grand Final Referees



SG Ball Cup Referees



NRL State Championship Referees



Harvey Norman Women's Grand Final Referees

REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS 2022



STATE OF ORIGIN 1 Accor Stadium Sydney New South Wales v Queensland

Referee: Ashley Klein
Touch Judges: Phil Henderson, David Munro
Bunker Review Official: Grant Atkins
Stand by Referee: Gerard Sutton
Stand by Touch Judge: Drew Oultram



STATE OF ORIGIN 2 Optus Stadium Perth New South Wales v Queensland

Referee: Ashley Klein
Touch Judges: Phil Henderson, David Munro
Bunker Review Official: Grant Atkins
Stand by Referee: Gerard Sutton
Stand by Touch Judge: Drew Oultram



STATE OF ORIGIN 3 Suncorp Stadium Brisbane Queensland v New South Wales

Referee: Ashley Klein
Touch Judges: Drew Oultram, Phil Henderson
Bunker Review Official: Grant Atkins
Stand by Referee: Adam Gee
Stand by Touch Judge: Michael Wise



WOMEN'S STATE OF ORIGIN GIO Stadium Queensland Queensland v New South Wales

Referee: Belinda Sharpe
Touch Judges: Kailey Beattie, Torie Wilkie
Bunker Review Official: Adam Gee
Stand by Referee: Karra-Lee Nolan



WOMEN'S UNDER 19'S STATE OF ORIGIN Leichhardt Oval Sydney New South Wales v Queensland

Referee: Karra-Lee Nolan
Touch Judges: Mitch Currie, Torie Wilkie
Bunker Review Official: Kasey Badger
Stand by Touch Judge: Cameron Turner



MEN'S UNDER 19'S STATE OF ORIGIN Leichhardt Oval Sydney New South Wales v Queensland

Referee: Wyatt Raymond
Touch Judges: Cameron Paddy, Nick Pelgrave
Bunker Review Official: Kasey Badger
Stand by Touch Judge: Mitch Currie



Under 19 Women's Origin Referees



Origin 3 Referees

REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS 2022



CITY V COUNTRY U16'S

Referee: Cody Simmons
Touch Judges: Bryce Hotham, Ryan Micallef

CITY V COUNTRY U18'S

Referee: Ethan Klein
Touch Judges: Jake Walsh, Harrison Baysarri

CITY V COUNTRY MEN'S

Referee: Damian Brady
Touch Judges: Cameron Turner, Mitchell Stone

CITY V COUNTRY WOMEN'S

Referee: Jake Sutherland
Touch Judges: Luke Saldern, Pat Mackey

CITY V COUNTRY MEN'S POLICE

Referee: Tom Stindl
Touch Judges: Robert Morey, Brendan Mani

CITY V COUNTRY WOMEN'S POLICE

Referee: Paul Eden
Touch Judges: Robert Morey, Brendan Mani



City v Country U18's



City v Country Men's



City v Country Women's

REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS 2022

MEN'S U20

Newcastle v Canberra

Referee: Dillan Wells
Touch Judges: John Woods, Gage Miles

KNOCK ON EFFECT NSW CUP

CommBank Stadium

Penrith Panthers v Canterbury Bulldogs

Referee: Darian Furner
Touch Judges: Liam Nicholls, Nicholas Beashel
In -Goal Assistants: Paul Eden, Tom Cambourn

MEN'S

Newcastle v Canberra

Referee: Mitchell Currie
Touch Judges: John Woods, Dillan Wells

JERSEY FLEGG CUP GRAND FINAL

CommBank Stadium

Newcastle Knights v Penrith Panthers

Referee: Kieren Irons
Touch Judges: Patrick Mackey, Cameron Mitchell
In -Goal Assistants: Micheal Ford, Louis Matheson

NSWRL RON MASSEY CUP GRAND FINAL

Netstrata Stadium Kogarah

Glebe v Hills Bulls

Referee: Damien Brady
Touch Judges: Clayton Wills, Ben Teague
In -Goal Assistants: Dillan Wells, Luke Saldern
Stand by Referee: Jack Bird

PRESIDENTS CUP GRAND FINAL

CommBank Stadium

Hills Bulls v Maitland Pickers

Referee: Cameron Paddy
Touch Judges: John Woods, Rickey McFarland
In -Goal Assistants: Adam Reid, Tom Stindl



NSWRL Ron Massey Cup Grand Final Referees

NSWRL SYDNEY SHIELD GRAND FINAL

Netstrata Stadium Kogarah

St Mary's v Penrith Brothers

Referee: Daniel Luttringer
Touch Judges: Tom Cambourn, Cameron Turner
In -Goal Assistants: Bradley Kiehne, Charlie Suters
Stand by Referee: Robert Morey

REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS 2022



PACIFIC TEST

Campbelltown Sports Stadium

Samoa v Cook Islands

Referee: Peter Gough
Touch Judges: Darian Furner, Ziggy Przeklasa-Adamski
Bunker Review Official: Chris Butler

PACIFIC TEST

Campbelltown Sports Stadium

Papua New Guinea v Fiji

Referee: Todd Smith
Touch Judges: Michael Wise, Chris Sutton
Bunker Review Official: Matt Noyen
Stand by Referee: Peter Gough

WOMEN'S TEST

Mt Smart Stadium (NZ)

New Zealand v Tonga

Referee: Kasey Badger
Touch Judges: Joseph Green, Rochelle Tamaurua
Bunker Review Official: Steve Chiddy

MEN'S TEST

Mt Smart Stadium (NZ)

New Zealand v Tonga

Referee: Grant Atkins
Touch Judges: Liam Kennedy, Paki Parkinson
Bunker Review Official: Chris Butler
Stand by Referee: Kasey Badger



Jersey Flegg Grand Final Referees



Knock On Effect NSW Cup Grand Final Referees



NSWRL Sydney Shield Grand Final Referees

MINUTES OF THE 114TH AGM

INITIAL MEETING NSWRLRA

NSWRL Centre of Excellence Sydney Olympic Park NSW

16th February 2022

The Initial Meeting was conducted to constitutionally allow the amalgamation of the NSWRLRA and the CRLRA by the Election of Directors from both the Metropolitan and Regional bodies.

The Independently appointed Chairperson Kevin Greene chaired the meeting.

Attendance was in person and via zoom technology

Meeting Opened – 7.55pm

- Peter Filmer started the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country
- NSWRL CEO David Trodden was welcomed
- The new independent chairman of the NSWRLRA Kevin Greene was introduced as Peter handed over the meeting. Kevin said there would be no holding up the meeting's order of business and got right down to the major item - the election of Directors.
- Greg McCallum gave a run-down of the voting process, ranking candidates 1-5
- Doug Wintin and Dennis Spagarino were appointed returning officers with Daniel Luttringer operating zoom online voting
- Candidates in alphabetical order were Steve Clapson, Peter Filmer, Matt Hewitt, Anthony Kelly & Greg Kelly
- At the conclusion of voting, Kevin Greene announced Steve Clapson, Matt Hewitt and Peter Filmer as the successful candidates (metropolitan). They will join Kevin Forde, Will Drury and Geoff Whiddon (regional) as Directors for 2022 - 2024 as per the new Constitution.
- Motion for the ballot papers to be destroyed. M – Max Dunn
S – Doug Wintin CARRIED
- Initial Meeting concluded at 8.16pm. Kevin Greene handed the reins back over to Peter Filmer to chair the 114th Annual General Meeting of the NSWRLRA.

Meeting Closed – 8.16pm

114TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NSWRLRA

Meeting Opened – 8.17pm

Motion of Condolence

- A minute's silence for the passing of the following members and referees: Ernie Cook, Peter Fitton, Allen Foster, Michael O'Malley, Rick Sinclair, Dave Barsley and Bruce Buckingham,
- Bev Matthews (husband of Les) and John Raper (father of Stuart Raper) were both acknowledged as having recently passed

Confirmation of AGM Minutes

- Confirmation of minutes from the 114th AGM

Moved – Kevin Allard

Seconded- Peter Longhurst CARRIED

Correspondence

- No correspondence pertaining to this meeting

Adoption of the 114th Annual Report of the NSWRLRA

- Chairman Peter Filmer said that there was not much more to add to his report in the publication. A big congratulations to Greg McCallum & Daniel Luttringer for the hardwork that they had put into compiling the report
- Dennis Spagarino was invited to move the adoption of the annual report. He remarked of the importance as this being the last before the merger. Dennis commended the reports of the executive. He said it was very heartening to see the District reports. Well done to Greg on the report
- Greg talked about the importance of tonight's meeting and the coming together of the two bodies. Greg commended Daniel Luttringer for his help and Melinda from Ableart & Print for the outstanding design and print of the Annual Report.
- Luke Bugden seconded the adoption of the report
CARRIED

Adoption of the Financial Statements

- Matt Hewitt said he was looking forward to returning to some kind of normality in terms of funding for 2022. This year we kept things pretty tight
- Peter Longhurst moved the Financials. He congratulated Peter for everything he has done this year
- This was seconded by Paul Simpkins who commended Matt on keeping us in a good position

CARRIED

Notices of Motion

- No notices of motion

Honoraria

- The last two seasons the executive have declined an honoraria. They will be paid this year, largely to cover costs incurred as part of serving in these roles. Peter Filmer once again declined his honoraria and that it would be paid to a charity.
- Doug Wintin suggested that the figures remain the same as previous. Honoraria for Chairman, Executive Officer & Director of Finance will be \$4085, \$3700, \$3000 & \$2200 for the other directors

CARRIED

Address from NSWRL CEO

- Dave Trodden addressed the meeting. It said that tonight's meeting marked the beginning of an exciting new road. He acknowledged Peter Filmer for his work as Chairman as well as Matt Hewitt and Greg McCallum in their respective roles. He congratulated Kevin Greene for taking on the role of independent chairman

Motion for David Nissen Honorary Membership for Life

- Motion put forward for David Nissen to become an Honorary Member for Life. Greg McCallum and Dennis Spagarino spoke of the great relationship David has had with this Association and the contribution he had made. The motion was CARRIED
- David spoke of how humbled and honoured he was to receive this accolade. He thanked the Association for thinking of him and elevating him to this position.

General Business

- No general business

Meeting Closed – 9.10pm



MEMBERSHIP RECORD 1908-2022

1	BALLERUM ARTHUR	83	BLACK JOE	165	EMMETT G	247	CHRISTIE A	329	RIGHETTI L	411	MCGUINNESS VINCE
2	BOSS GEORGE	84	BOLTON	166	SEAGE C	248	CLAMBACK GEORGE	330	RUSSELL L	412	ODONNELL RAY
3	BRODIE T	85	BURROWS	167	THOMPSON J	249	LATTA ALF	331	WARD C	413	POWELL LES
4	BROWN A H	86	CAMPBELL	168	TOBY V	250	LATTA J	332	SMYTHE RAY	414	SHIPWAY A
5	BUCHANAN J	87	CLARENCE	169	BOSSI SYDNEY	251	MCGRATH CHRIS	333	ARMSTRONG B	415	TARRANT M
6	BURDEN	88	COHEN	170	BRANNIGHAN MICK	252	MOSES LOU	334	ARNOLD K	416	WEBSTER J
7	COSTELLO TOM	89	DAVIS	171	COHEN S	253	ORGAN G	335	COHEN M	417	WUNCH G
8	CULLAN	90	DICKINSON V	172	COX P	254	OXFORD R	336	COOPER W	418	BLOOMFIELD T
9	DUFFIN R	91	DOYLE I	173	CRANTITCH C	255	POTTER W	337	GOSS EDDIE	419	DAVIS C
10	FARROW ARTHUR	92	FAYE SPEL	174	FREEMAN G	256	TIERNAN R	338	HARRISON V	420	DOWLING T
11	FINIGAN WILLIAM	93	FISCHER	175	GLAZEBROOK T	257	YORKE CHARLES	339	LYNCH J	421	GRAHAM W
12	FROST VINCE	94	FORD	176	JACKSON S	258	ELDERS F	340	MUSGRAVE R	422	GRIFFIN HENRY
13	GILTINAN	95	GARRETT	177	JOLLY S	259	HAYCOX SAM	341	NEARY A	423	HOLT ALBY
14	HANDEN L	96	GILMORE G	178	KENNY G	260	MACQUARIE H	342	PERRY M	424	LOWE J
15	HAY G	97	HILL	179	LEA V	261	MALONEY B	343	OBRIEN JACK	425	MARONEY J
16	HENLEN FRED	98	HOOD	180	MASON	262	MALONEY M	344	SOUTHCOMBE H	426	MORONEY JACK
17	HOOPER EDWARD	99	HOWELL	181	MILLER JOE	263	MORRIS S	345	SHINER AUSTIN	427	PIERCE HARRY
18	HOYLE	100	JARVIS	182	MURRAY JOHN	264	OGILVEY J	346	WATSON A	428	SCULLY E
19	HUTCHINSON CHARLIE	101	KENDALL	183	SULLIVAN C	265	TURNER J	347	CHARLTON F	429	SHEPHERD ROBERT
20	KNOX	102	KENNEDY	184	TOST V	266	LUPTON A	348	CARRICK HARRY	430	TAAFFE E
21	LARKIN TED	103	KING	185	AGNEW	267	BARNES F	349	HALL ALBERT	431	TAYLOR G
22	MCCABE T	104	MCDONALD J	186	BROGAN S	268	KELL K	350	HALL R M	432	CARTER MAX
23	MCDERMONT	105	MCGRAW JOSEPH	187	BROWN O	269	BATES J	351	MCMILLAN A	433	MILLS JIM
24	MESSINGER DALLY	106	MCINTOSH T	188	BUCKLEY ERIC	270	PAINE R	352	OGDEN FRANK	434	RANDLE LEO
25	MOORE H	107	MIDDLETON	189	COHEN J	271	MCGAULEY JOE	353	QUINLIVAN C	435	SHORTALL J
26	MUNN WILLIAM F	108	MILLS	190	EDENBOROUGH H	272	BOWAN D	354	SINCLAIR N	436	SPENCER WILLIAM
27	OBORG	109	NORTON	191	GRIFFEN J	273	SPANCKIE ALEX	355	SKINNER T	437	WILDE L
28	ODBERT H	110	NUTT	192	KERR EDDIE	274	WARD R J	356	WELLS M	438	WALES BADEN JNR
29	OFARRELL	111	OBRIEN	193	PHELAN T	275	BOWEN W	357	ALBERT T	439	WALSH FRANK
30	PHELAN	112	POWDITCH	194	PURVIS C	276	COHEN OS	358	ALLEN L	440	WINCHESTER JACK
31	PLUMB A	113	REES	195	SHEEHY T	277	COLLINS ARTHUR	359	DONOVON A	441	BOWEN JACK
32	POULTON M	114	ROGERS C	196	SHIRLEY H	279	DAVIS A	360	GOLDSMITH P	442	DOUGLAS E
33	ROHAN P	115	SWEENEY	197	SMALL C	280	DAVIS ARTHUR	361	HARRISON E	443	EDMONDS W
34	SEABROOK GEORGE	116	VICKERY W	198	EDWARDS A	281	DENNIS A	362	HODGE A	444	GRIFFITHS PADDY
35	STANTON P A	117	WATTERS	199	FRY WILLIAM	281	ERWIN R	363	IVERS J	445	KENT A
36	TREAMEN J	118	WOODLEY	200	GROVES W	282	HEYDON V	364	KIRBY J	446	LINDSAY ERIC
37	TREANOR J	119	YARD	201	MAHER W	283	HIBBARD RON	365	KELLY JACK	447	LOW A
38	TRUMPER VICTOR	120	FRANKS	202	MCGRAVE B	284	HORAN R	366	ROONEY R	448	NICHOLSON E J
39	WELCH AUB C	121	KEMP SPELL	203	O'HALLARAN G	285	MATTHEWS F	367	OXFORD AUB	449	ROACH J
40	WILLIAMSON	122	BARKER	204	QUINLAN J	286	PAINE E	368	WRIGHT C	450	TINSLEY ERNIE
41	WOODHILL H	123	BROSON	205	RYAN V	287	PONCHARD D	369	DAVIES J	451	TURBRIDY J
42	BRYCE	124	DICKENSON VIC	206	WIRTH G	288	WALSH H	370	GALBRAIGHT A	452	TYE E
43	HENNESSEY A	125	DUNLOP	207	ALLAN A	289	WOODS A	371	KNIGHT A	453	COWLEY BERT
44	JORGE	126	FRANKLIN A	208	DOLAN A	290	CHIPPENDALE T	372	MASON JACK	454	CUMMINS ROB
45	MARTIN	127	HANSEN L	209	KELLY J	291	CLICKSON T	373	LAWLER DARCY	455	EDMONDS C
46	MURRAY	128	IREDALE W	210	LONG W	292	FIFIELD A BERT	374	LEFFLER TERRY	456	HAYES C
47	POWELL	129	KEARNEY LAURIE	211	GREEN E	293	GRIFFIN JIM	375	PATTERSON J	457	MOSES CYRIL
48	WHITBREAD T	130	MCNAMEE R	212	GREEN W	294	MCLEOD A	376	WARD W	458	REES W
49	ADAMS	131	MILLINGTON HORRIE	213	LAWLER MATT	295	MURRAY V	377	PEARCE GEORGE	459	ROSEWELL N
50	ASHER	132	NEGUS C	214	WIGZELL CYRIL	296	ROSEN L	378	DECARLE L	460	VALLER BOB
51	BOYD GEORGE	133	RINUSCHNIDER	215	BUTLER T	297	STEWART D	379	HALL F	461	WHITE W
52	CALLUM	134	DAVIDSON A	216	ROBB F	298	SUMMERHAYES ERNIE	380	PULBROOK WILLIAM	462	BRICE J
53	CARROLL	135	FITZPATRICK B	217	SCHUTEMA H	299	WALKER C	381	WILLIAMS LES	463	BUTCHER R
54	CLIFFORD	136	HARRISON	218	SPRING F	300	BECK L	382	CULKIN ROBERT	464	CONNELL T
55	COOPER	137	HEFFERNAN C	219	THOMPSON R	301	CAVES H	383	GREW TOM	465	CRAWFORD TOMAS
56	EDWARDS R	138	KEARNEY L	220	WALES	302	COSTELLO	384	HALLWOOD G	466	CZISZ FRED
57	ELLIOTT HERB	139	PIPER S	221	BROWN J	303	MANSFIELD J	385	BROWN M J	467	DEVINE WILLIAM JNR
58	GOUNDRIE	140	SHEEN L	222	CASEY H	304	PHEGHAN ALBERT	386	COHEN WILLIAM	468	ERICKSON FRED
59	HARDING O	141	THORNTON ARTHUR	223	FLETCHER TED	305	TENNANT A	387	COLLINS D	469	JACKMAN BRUCE
60	HARDWRIGHT	142	DALTON S	224	GRAY BERT	306	ADAMS J	388	CUBIS C	470	MATTEWS C
61	HEDLEY CHARLIE	143	GOULDING V	225	LEONARD R	307	BEAMAN G	389	FITTER S	471	STOKES J
62	HERMAN	144	MCGREGOR	226	VAUGHAN S	308	EMERY A	390	FREWRELL C	472	CAMPBELL K
63	HOUGHTON	145	MULLINS	227	BRENNAN TOM	309	BISHOP GEORGE	391	MASON L	473	CAREY R
64	JOHNSON	146	ROWLANDS H	228	CLARKE J	310	GOLD D	392	MORGAN H	474	EZART TOM
65	KNOWLES	147	SINCLAIR E	229	ERWIN J	311	HOGAN M	393	PARSONS J	475	FISHER R
66	LEES	148	NEILL WILLIAM	230	HEWARTH W	312	MEGSON J	394	WALSH E	476	KONNECKE ARTHUR
67	LINDSAY	149	RUSSELL CHARLES	231	HILLIER J	313	MOFFITT J	395	BROWN CLIFF	477	MARTIN JOHN
68	MACKENZIE	150	CODY R	232	IRVINE H	314	MOSES JOE BEM	396	CAREY STEVE	478	PARKINSON KEITH
69	MCBURNIE	151	DALANEY FRANK	233	LEE PH	315	STORRIER E	397	CHAMBERS A J	479	BANKS N
70	MCCULLUM	152	FARQUHAR J	234	MASTERS L	316	CAMERON W	398	COLLYER ALBERT	480	DENGATE ALEX
71	MELVILLE	153	O'MALLEY LARRY	235	MCFARLANE W	317	CAVEIK H	399	FEWTRIE C	481	JEWELL JACK
72	NORMAN F	154	SHIRLEY C	236	MCLEAN G	318	FITZPATRICK G	400	HYDE FRANK	482	NEVILLE ARTHUR
73	OSHEA	155	TERRY	237	MEINRATH VIC	319	COLE W	401	NICHOLSON DUDLEY	483	ORME JOHN
74	PETHERBRIDGE	156	FINNEGAN L	238	MURPHY JOE	320	GRIFFIN GEORGE	402	PEARCE COL	484	ADAM F
75	RILEY	157	FINNEGAN W	239	ROBINSON GEORGE	321	HAINES W	403	STEWART W	485	BROCK ROBERT
76	ROBERTSON	158	MORGAN W	240	SAMPSON N	322	HARDY N	404	BELLEV TOM JOE	486	CLUBB KEITH
77	ROSWELL	159	SHOEBRIDGE C	241	SEYMOUR W	323	HAWSON V	405	CLUNE B	487	COFFEY JOE
78	SCHOFIELDS M	160	UNWIN T	242	TAIT R	324	MAY G	406	COUCH K	488	FRANCIS J
79	SCOTT	161	BLACKER J	243	TIERNAN L	325	MCMAHON TOM JNR	407	CUMMINGS DICK	489	O'CONNOR JAMES
80	SHAW EDDIE	162	BYRNES J	244	BAGGETT LEO	326	BRATTON DON	408	DENGATE ALEX	490	SAMUELSON LES
81	TANNER W	163	DEANE LAL	245	BARRETT C	327	CUKE WILLIAM	409	DOWN R	491	SCHOMBERG COLIN
82	ALCORN H	164	DRAKE R H MB	246	BENNETTS J	328	DEVINE BILL	410	EEDY JACK	492	BRADY N

493	BUCKINGHAM BRUCE	585	CLEMENT D JAMES	676	CONNOLLEY RAY	768	LEWIS RICK	860	WEINSTEIN JASON	950	MELLOR PAUL
494	COOK TED	586	CRAWFORD WILLIAM	677	HUNT BOB	769	MATTHEWS BRETT	861	HOLLAND PAUL	951	PHILLIPS LUKE
495	DAVIS T	587	DARMODY ROBERT	678	MURRAY RON	770	MUIR IAN	862	JANKOWSKI GEORGE	952	MORRIS GAVIN
496	HEDGER GORDON	588	KELLY JOHN	679	PEARCE RON	771	NEAL JIM	863	ROBINSON JASON	953	SHEPHERD SCOTT
497	KELLY WILLIAM	589	LANGTON CARL	680	SHIPTON BRUCE	772	RUTTLE BARRY	864	BADGER GAVIN	954	BADGER KASEY
498	KEOUGH KEVIN	590	MENSER RAY	681	STONE MICHAEL	773	SMITH OWEN	865	DE LAS HERAS TONY	955	JACKSON RYAN
499	LANCASHIRE DON	591	BOWEN PAT	682	RUDY H	774	WARD EDDIE	866	HARRADINE MICHAEL	956	MURRAY SCOT
500	McMILLAN R	592	BUCKLEY LYLE	683	YARD JOHN	775	WILLIAMS ROSS	867	HAYNE SHAYNE	957	NICHOLLS LIAM
501	NEILL B	593	EDWARDS MERV	684	HEYLBUT WILLIAM	776	CLARK STEVE	868	SPROULE DON	958	CROMBIE-BROWN PETER
502	PARKINSON JE	594	GILCHRIST CARL	685	BLOMFIELD JOHN	777	HAMPSTEAD SEAN	869	YOUNIS JEFF	959	KING GAVIN
503	TIBBLES F	595	GRONO BILL	686	HAYMER DAVE	778	JAY DAVID	870	ADAMS DAVID	960	STONE MITCHELL
504	TIPPER P	596	HUMPHRIES RICHARD	687	GRADY MICHAEL	779	JEFFES KELVIN	871	ASTILL DAVID	961	LUCAS BRENDAN
505	WHYBROW JOHN	597	MAHER GARY	688	HOLWELL KIM	780	KELLY PETER	872	JACKSON GLENN	962	BRISCOE-HOUGH DAMIAN
506	GREW J	598	McCOLL JACK	689	SPAGARINO DENNIS	781	MANDER TIM	873	ROBINSON JENNIFER	963	HARTUP JEFF
507	SOANE A	599	MCJANNETT RON	690	KELLY GREG	782	MCCORMACK JOHN	874	SCIBERRAS PETER	964	OULTRAM DREW
508	BARRY BRIAN	600	EDWARDS CLIVE	691	THOMPSON MICHAEL	783	MELVILLE JOHN	875	WALSH JASON	965	SUNG PHILIP
509	BRUYERES LAURIE	601	MCCALL IAN	692	WEEKES MARTIN	784	OATEN MARK	876	CASTLE PETER	966	TRENEMAN CHRIS
510	COX ERIC	602	MCCARROLL PHIL	693	ALLARD KEVIN	785	TURVEY DAVID	877	JONES MICHAEL	967	BRESLIN FAYE
511	SAUNDERS E	603	MCLEAN DES	694	BETTS STEVE	786	DANKS TONY	878	KEEN DOUG	968	MCGOWAN JOSH
512	DENNY J	604	MORIATAS NICK	695	DAVIS KEN	787	LAWS STEVE	879	MILDWATER KEN	969	SMITH TODD
513	HINCHCLIFFE C	605	WISEMAN BRIAN	696	HEATON GRANT	788	LEONARD FRANK	880	RYE BRAD	970	WILLIAMS REECE
514	HIRD A	606	BENNETT GARY	697	SMITH IAN WILLIAM	789	PORTSMOUTH SCOTT	881	SUTTON GERARD	971	BEST ROHAN
515	NELSON PAT	607	COOK GARY	698	PICARD ROSS	790	PEET TOM	882	BAILEY GERARD	972	CINI TRENT
516	PERRY ALBERT	608	CRIPPS BARRY	699	COLWELL JOHN	791	LEWIS MICK	883	BUGDEN LUKE	973	VELLA JAMES
517	RILEY M	609	HENSELY ROSS	700	JONES COLIN	792	SULTANA RAY	884	CUMMINS BEN	974	FURNER DARIAN
518	HIRD N	610	KEOGH W	701	MCAHON PHILLIP	793	BELGRE JOHN	885	LANG DARRYN	975	IRONS KEIREN
519	HUDSON COL	611	PARDEY DOUG	702	HOWELL MICHAEL	794	BROWN RILEY	886	MEREDITH BRETT	976	TEAGUE BEN
520	JENNISON K	612	TIECEHURST JOE	703	MOON PETER	795	CHIDDY STEVE	887	BETTS PETER	977	BOHAN MARK
521	JOHNSON BERNIE	613	WARNER RAY	704	ROBERTSON GRAHAM	796	DOUGLAS CRAIG	888	EASTWOOD DAN	978	CLEVELAND-DELAND TAYLOR
522	LAWLESS RAY	614	BARNES BARRY	705	RYAN MICHAEL	797	FARLOW ALAN	889	FAJAJO MOHAMED	979	SIMES DAMIEN
523	MCREYNOLDS LES	615	BRAYBROOK DENNIS	706	RYAN PETER	798	HENDERSON GLYN	890	HAINES PHIL	980	TRENEMAN MATTHEW
524	MONGOMERY JOHN	616	COLLINS ASHLEY	707	SMITH VINCE	799	GRECH BILL	891	MAXWELL JARED	981	HINTON MARK
525	TAYLOR RALPH	617	GOCHER JOHN	708	BISSETT NOEL	800	HOFFMAN MITCHELL	892	SHORTALL ALAN	982	KARAM FERAS
526	TERRY J	618	GOLDSWORTHY BARRY	709	COOLEY PHIL	801	MAHER NEIL	893	SMITH DARREN	983	MCHATTON SHAUN
527	WINTER BARRY	619	GRAY KEN	710	ELIAS GEORGE	802	MAKSOD ANTHONY	894	SUTTON BERNARD	984	PACKER LYNDASAY
528	BOWMAN RUSSEL	620	OKEEFE JOHN	711	HERD GRAEME	803	MURRAY PETER	895	TOLAND GLENN	985	ROBINSON TIM
529	DIMON CYRIL	621	PEARSON WILLIAM	712	HIGSON COL	804	OMALLEY MICHAEL	896	YATES GREG	986	VAN DE MOOSDYK DARREN
530	HANSEN J	622	WINTIN DOUG	713	BARLEY DAVID	805	WOODWARD SHANE	897	DAIZLI RICHARD	987	JONES MARTIN
531	WILLIAMS STAN	623	BEACROFT MICHAEL	714	HOLTON MARK	806	DUNCAN PAUL	898	DEVICICH ADAM	988	HANNON TIM
532	BOLT A	624	BISSETT JOHN	715	KEENAHAN BARRY	807	FIELD PAUL	899	MCFARLANE RICKY	989	BURTENSHAW DARREN
533	BROOKS L	625	BRAIN GEORGE	716	LAW COL	808	FELDER SEAN	900	JAMES CHRIS	990	WHEELER ANDREW
534	GODFREY MAX	626	DELAUNY TOM	717	MCCALLUM GREG	809	HEALY TOM	901	MURPHY SCOTT	991	MITCHELL CAMERON
535	JEFFES KEVIN	627	HARTLEY GREG	718	MARTIN STEPHEN	810	LOUDEN CHRIS	902	NEALE ADAM	992	CONSTANTINE DANNY
536	MARTIN B	628	GUNNEE GEORGE	719	ODONNELL GILES	811	MCBLANE PAUL	903	POTTER LUKE	993	POVAH KEITH
537	MARTIN C	629	KANDELLAS BOB	720	O'KEEFE DAVE	812	MANSON DAVID	904	DELVECCHIO SILVIO	994	MACKAY PATRICK
538	MCINTOSH ROBERT	630	PIERSE PETER	721	PICKARD KEITH	813	RYAN MARTIN	905	EVANS SHAUN	995	PADDY CAMERON
539	MORRIS ROWLEY	631	ROBERTS KEVIN	722	SKEED ANTHONY	814	TRACY CRAIG	906	HENRY ANGUS	996	SUTHERLAND JAKE
540	OSULLIVAN JACK	632	PIERSE RITCHIE S	723	TYRELL STEVE	815	BROOKS DEAN	907	KIRBY PETER	997	WALTERS RYAN
541	PEPPER TED	633	SEE ALAN	724	WEST GRAEME	816	CLOSE WAYNE	908	MCHATTON BRENTON	998	WEST JOSIAH
542	STEWART J	634	DANZEY JACK	725	WHITE COLIN	817	DIGBY PETER	909	ZAPANTIS ANDREW	999	EID JOSEPH
543	WALLER KEVIN	635	KENDALL BARRY	726	BLACK ANDREW	818	LEE GARY	910	REYNOLDS GAVIN	1000	GILCHRIST ANDREW
544	WILLIS ALAN	636	McALISTER NOEL	727	HARRIGAN WILLIAM J	819	MACINANTE PAUL	911	SMITH RUSSELL	1001	WILLS CLAYTON
545	BENSON GEORGE	637	GUNNELL ROB	728	HEWITT MATT	820	LEIS RUSSEL	912	BOWEN ROBERT	1002	CAMBOURN THOMAS
546	BRADLEY JACK	638	MITCHELL J	729	EVANS KEN	821	CARRALL STEVE	913	WEST GAVIN	1003	MCRAE ANDREW
547	CHAPMAN D	639	WEBBER BRIAN	730	LUCAS PETER	822	CLAPSON STEVE	914	YATES MELISSA	1004	LOVEDAY NATHAN
548	COLE ARTHUR	640	NORBERRY GEOFF	731	MCKEAN ALLAN	823	GOCHER DARREN	915	DAMASO MAT	1005	KIEHNE BRAD
549	FISHER FRANK	641	REYNOLDS JOHN	732	MILLER PAUL	824	SIMPKINS PAUL	916	MUNRO DAVID	1006	BOURKE STEPHEN
550	DICK REG	642	TURNELL COL	733	O'NEILL MICHAEL	825	KALINA PAUL	917	REID ADAM	1007	LUTTRINGER DANIEL
551	HARRIS JACK	643	APPS BRUCE	734	SNARE JEFF	826	VILLA SEAN	918	OLIVEIRA JIMMY	1008	MANI JOEL
552	JONES WILLIAM	644	BRADSTOCK BARRY	735	BOYD GREG	827	ABOOD DAVID	919	ATKINS GRANT	1009	BRADY DAMIEN
553	KELLAHAN G	645	GARWOOD ROBERT	736	BUNGATE PETER	828	ALEXANDER ROBERT	920	GEE ADAM	1010	HECKENDORF LUKE
554	WESTON A	646	GOBITS ROBERT	737	CASSIDY MICHAEL	829	ARCHER TONY	921	BERRY DANIELLE	1011	TYLER DEAN
555	WESTON WILLIAM	647	PATTEN NOEL	738	HAINES GARY	830	CADDY ALAN	922	HIGGINS JASON	1012	BUTLER JOEY
556	AGGETT ALAN	648	SEMMINS ROBERT	739	HARRADINE PAUL	831	CECCHIN MATT	923	ELKINS JASON	1013	CURRIE MITCHELL
557	ALEXANDER JOHN	649	GREEN LIONEL	740	BILTON MICHAEL	832	FIELDING ROD	924	HILL NATHAN	1014	EDEN PAUL
558	CONOR J	650	CISLOWSKI NOEL	741	KIDDLE ROBERT	833	HOUSTEN PHIL	925	SUTTON CHRIS	1015	GREATBATCH BILLY
559	FARRELLY JOHN	651	GOLD PETER	742	PARNABY IAN	834	JADWAT MOGSHEEN	926	KIDD GREG	1016	MATHESON LOUIS
560	FITTON PETER	652	BOWRON DAVID	743	RUSSELL KEVIN	835	LYNCH BRETT	927	WOOD BRENDEN	1017	MCMURRAY BEN
561	JACOBSON JACK	653	COLENZO JOHN	744	FILMER PETER	836	LOGAN BILL	928	SHARPE DAVID	1018	NOLAN KARRA-LEE
562	LANE GEORGE	654	LONGHURST PETER	745	STYLES ROBERT	837	LOVEDAY WAYNE	929	SUTTOR BRETT	1019	STINDL TOM
563	LEE GARY	655	MATTHEWS LES	746	TAYLOR MICHAEL	838	STONE BRUCE	930	HAWKINS MATTHEW	1020	SUTERS CHARLIE
564	McDONALD DON	656	KEEBLE MICHAEL	747	GEGG KEITH	839	LYONS STEVE	931	HENDERSON PHIL	1021	TURNER CAMERON
565	MANTON KEN	657	MURPHY TERRY	748	GILCHRIST BRYAN	840	MACKINTOSH IAN	932	LAVERTY MICHAEL	1022	WELLS DILLAN
566	McGILVRAY ANGUS	658	REEDY BERT	749	HARRIGAN LANCE	841	MAHON KEVIN	933	RYAN DAVID	1023	SALDERN LUKE
567	SAVAGE N	659	SAINSBURY LES	750	PRESLAND MERV	842	MCPHERSON COLIN	934	STONE JONATHAN	1024	BIRD JACK
568	COOK ERNEST	660	SINCLAIR WARRICK	751	BATTIN PHIL	843	NEALE KEITH	935	FARLOW JAY	1025	MOREY ROBERT
569	TURNER LIN	661	BOLTON BARRY	752	KELLY ANTHONY	844	LAWRENCE ROD	936	BEASHEL NICK	1026	FORD MICHAEL
570	CONNOR JOHN	662	COFFEY ROBERT	753	SERCOMBE ALAN	845	WATKINS PETER	937	CHARMAN SHANE	1027	MANI BRENDANI
571	HENNESSY CLAUDE	663	DREWES JACK	754	STUART PHIL	846	WOOL WAYNE	938	ELLISON STEVE	1028	MURRAY ETHAN
572	DONOVAN K	664	FREEMAN PAUL	755	WEEKS GEOFF	847	HEWITT PAUL	939	KLEIN ASHLEY	1029	ETHAN KLEIN
573	FREEMAN RON	665	GRIFFITH H	756	ALMOND NEIL	848	ALCHIN DARREN	940	MOORE ROBERT	1030	BEN SEPPALA
574	HOLMAN KIETH MBE	666	DUNN MAX	757	BONNIE BRIAN	849	CAFFERELLI MARIO	941	PERENARA HENRY	1031	ADAM SIRIANNI
575	KIRK WALLY	667	GATELY BRIEN	758	BUNNAGE MICHAEL	850	CRANSTON ROD	942	WOODS JOHN	1032	BLAKE WILLIAMS
576	MCCAFFREY DENNY	668	ATKINSON ROB	759	BUTLER TONY	851	FALLAH ALAN	943	CASSIDY ADAM		
577	SMITH RON	669	HAYNES CLIFF	760	COX JIM	852	IRWIN ROBERT	944	NOYAN MATT		
578	TURNER JACK	670	MURPHY T	761	EDNEY LEON	853	OBRIEN JASON	945	OLDFORD DANIEL		
579	CROSS BARRY	671	ANNESLEY GRAHAM	762	FLINT ROBERT	854	PENFOLD LUKE	946	SMITH SHANE		
580	ELLISS PHIL	672	NASH STEVE	763	GLYNN BILL	855	TODD SCOTT	947	MCDONNELL LAWRENCE		
581	GRIFFITHS JOE	673	WARD CHRIS	764	GOENER DAVID	856	DORAHY PHIL	948	PRZEKLASA-ADAMSKI ZBIGNIEW		
582	PAGE KIETH	674	TULLOCH WILLIAM	765	HEWITT PETER	857	REYNOLDS PAT	949	SMITH NATHAN		
583	PATTERSON REG	675	ATKINS PETER	766	LATHAM MICHAEL	858	RICHARDS STEVE				
584	TOMSETT MAX			767	GRANT BRIAN	859	TURNER RUSSELL				

OUR MEMBERS OUT & ABOUT



LUKE BUGDEN

Life Member Luke Bugden retires from the NSW Police Force after over 37 years. Your refereeing colleagues at NSWRLRA congratulate you on a fine career serving the communities and people of NSW.



PETER FILMER OAM

Life Member Peter Filmer OAM recently retired after over 40 years of service at Blacktown City Council receiving the 'Keys to the City' from Mayor Tony Bleasdale OAM.



GRAEME WEST & KIEREN IRONS

Life Member Graeme West presenting a match jersey to Kieren Irons.



PAT REYNOLDS & CAMERON PADDY

Highly respected member Pat Reynolds presented a match jersey to Cameron Paddy.



STEVE BROWN, DOUG KEEN AND LUKE BUGDEN

Three Life Members Steve Brown, Doug Keen and Luke Bugden 'on duty' at the opening of the new Allianz Stadium



KEITH POVAH & TODD SMITH

Keith Povah (Chairman Manly Warringah RLRA) & member Todd Smith at the Rugby League Cup in Warrington, England. Keith was Referee for the PDRL World Cup Final & Todd Referee for Samoa v France at the same venue.

WORLD CUP ENGLAND 2021***



The Rugby League World Cup was contested across the following competitions:

- MENS
- WOMENS
- WHEELCHAIR
- PHYSICAL DISABILITY

REFEREES NSWRLRA

- Grant Atkins
- Darian Furner
- Ashley Klein
- Gerard Sutton
- Kasey Badger
- Adam Gee
- Todd Smith

Congratulations also to:

- Wyatt Raymond (Q)
- Belinda Sharpe (Q)
- James Vella (*Member NSWRLRA – representing England*)

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP FINAL

Australia v New Zealand

- Referee:** Belinda Sharpe
- Touch Judges:** Wyatt Raymond, Darian Furner
- Reserve referee:** Kasey Badger
- Video referee:** Adam Gee
- Captain's challenge:** Liam Moore

MEN'S WORLD CUP FINAL

Australia v Samoa

- Referee:** Ashley Klein
- Touch Judges:** Jack Smith, Warren Turley
- Reserve referee:** Gerard Sutton
- Video referee:** Chris Kendall
- Captain's challenge:** Grant Atkins



Kasey Badger, Adam Gee & James Vella



Kasey Badger



World Cup Squad 2022

*** The Rugby League World Cup was scheduled to be played in 2021. It was postponed due to Covid-19. The branding remained as 2021.

LOOKING BACK

4 members tell their story

KEVIN RIOLO



The story of the formation of the CRLRA begins in November, 1938 when several country Associations were concerned over the payment of referees' fees to Sydney referees officiating at country locations, particularly the Maher Cup. A meeting was called for November, 1938 and an Executive Committee was elected at a well-attended meeting. However, World War 2 began, and nothing was done until Harold Gillard reformed it in 1950. Harold was elected President, but after 12 months, he believed it would be better if he became Secretary/Treasurer, a position he held until he retired in 1976.

I became Illawarra R.L. Referees' delegate to the Country Rugby League Referees' Association in 1971 and I was elected Secretary in 1976. Frank Kitcher was elected Treasurer at the same time and Nick Best elected President in 1978 and remained President until 2010. In total we held the combined Executive positions for 108 years, and later we were awarded OAM's. We had a great relationship with the NSWRLRA Executive, particularly Ian McCall and Les Matthews.

After retiring from playing in 1964, I joined the Illawarra RLRA in 1965, as I had gained my ticket in Sydney in 1960 at a Rugby League Coaching Course held at Narrabeen by the late, great Dave Brown. I was fortunate to spend 10 years refereeing 1st Grade in the Illawarra Division from 1971 to 1980 until a leg injury forced retirement. The Illawarra Rugby league was very strong in the 70's and most Clubs had ex-Sydney 1st graders as Captain/ Coaches. I refereed five 1st Grade grand Finals, the last four in a row. Representative

appointments included Touch Judge - City1 V Country Firsts at the SCG with Keith Holman the referee. I refereed City 2 V Country 2 at the SCG in 1978: five International matches - Southern Division V England in 1975, Group 6 v France in 1975, Southern Division V Great Britain in 1977, Riverina V New Zealand in 1978 and Southern Division v Great Britain in 1979, plus six Country Championship Divisional matches between 1973 and 1980.

My administrative positions were - 10 years Hon. Secretary Illawarra R.L.R.A.; 36 years Hon. Secretary CRLRA; Member - National Refereeing Accreditation Committee for 19 years; Illawarra Rugby League Board of Management for 14 years; Australian Development Council for 8 years; Board member Australian R.L. Referees' Association; CRLRA delegate to CRL General Committee 1977 -2018. Life Member Illawarra R.L.R.A., Illawarra Rugby League, Country Rugby League R.A., NSW Country League, Australian Rugby League R.A., NSWRL., NSWRL. Referees' Association.

OAM awarded for service to Refereeing and Rugby league.





TONY KELLY



I was born in Cootamundra and started my refereeing in Group 9 in 1977 after suffering an injury playing football until early 1980. I enjoyed refereeing that much that I never played another game

I was very lucky in my early days to have some outstanding mentors in Tom Spain and Tony Young who guided and influenced my refereeing in the early days. I have no doubt if it was not for the fellow Senior referee's guidance would have enjoyed the successes I received later in my career. Still to this day one I contribute Tom Spain as one of my biggest influences to refereeing at the top level.

I then moved to Sydney and commenced refereeing in the South Sydney district. A very tough learning curve for a boy from the bush. Lucky enough that Darcy Lawler took an interest in my refereeing and his contribution to my career can never be underplayed. Lucky enough to referee a SC Ball final then following year a Jersey Flegg final.

Lucky to have been chosen in 1986 to referee the state cup U19 final between Penrith and Western division at the SCG as a curtain raiser to Test match on the day. There is no experience running your first game on the cricket ground. The combination of the history of the ground and excitement of being there cannot ever be underplayed.

I was then graded under Denis Braybrook in 1987.

Under Denis it brought significant changes with leading referees Kevin Roberts and John Gocher careers coming to an end. Mick Stone was the leading referee with Bill Harrigan and Greg McCallum the main competitors. This is when fitness became the model for the game and official training was increase to 2 days a week.

I was lucky enough to referee my first ever First grade in 1988 and in only my second year in grade and at the age of 25. At that time, I was advised I was the second youngest referee to do First grade.

The match was North Sydney v Western Suburbs at North Sydney Oval with a crowd of 4251. 15 v 16 on the ladder. Last v second last but it was still first grade

Lucky enough to have referred the first game under lights at Kogarah and Endeavour plus one of the first referees to have

trials communication system in a first-grade game. In those days the system was about the size of a house brick and was strapped across your back. The communication was only one way with the Touch judge pressing a button on his flag to allow him to speak to the referee. The referee had no way of replying. The highlight was having Peter Bungate singing me the Australia national anthem prior to a match at the SFS. Peter had lots of talents, but signing was not one of them.

Referring went through some massive changes whilst I was in grade. Fitness became paramount. Scrums became a more staged event with them being slowly managed to ensure a straightforward result contest. The game was moving to a more professional operation with training nights increasing and responsibilities and expectations being increased.

Was there during the formulation of Super League and watched the upheaval of the game. Remember sitting in the grandstand at Lidcombe Oval as the ARL solicitors handed out contracts for us to sign so that we would sign with Super League (a contract I still have today). It was a bizarre night with very few signing. Then meeting at a service station on the way home with a group of other referees to discuss our options. Whether you agreed or disagreed with Super League it did certainly change the way rugby league moved forward from that date. The one winner was definitely referees remuneration which was dramatically increased from previous levels and showed that the referees hard work and dedication was being rewarded.

Referred in the NSWRL / ARL from 1987 till 1996 and did 67 First grades and many more reserve grades. Retired from active refereeing in 1996 when I tore with Achilles tendon after the Penrith v Canterbury match, and it never recovered to allow me to return so I retired at the end of 1996.

Following my active days, I spent a numerous years on the NSWRL advisory board assessing helping and educating young referees in their development through the Junior reps and with NSW grade refereeing up to NRL appointments. Also did a 2-year appointment under Robert Finch as a Business development officer looking at emerging talent that could be potential for NRL progression.

Now days I still run my Mortgage broking business with my son and am heading shortly to the day I can retire and spend more time with the family including the 10 grandchildren

These days I have virtually no involvement with active referees - in fact I struggle at times to even watch matches. I am extremely proud of my time in rugby league and whilst the body starts to wither the memories and friends made whilst refereeing will hopefully endure forever.

It was nice to take a trip down memory road and looking forward to catching up and having a beer or two with as many formers referees as I can in the years to come.

BILL FORAN



Bill gained his senior referee's ticket in February 1972 at the age of 18, after spending two years as a junior referee. He joined the former Group 8/19 Referees Association which now forms part of the Canberra and District Referees Association.

Bill quickly gained First Grade status and in 1974 controlled his first First Grade Grand Final in Group 19. He continued to referee in that association until the end of the 1977 season.

In 1977, Bill relocated to Orange with his employment in the NSW Public Service. He became a member of the Group 10 Referees Association and during the period 1978 - 1996 held a number of executive positions within that association.

On the field, Bill continued to referee in the First Grade competition and in 1981 was appointed to his first major representative fixture within the NSW Country Divisional Championships.

Regular representative honours in First Grade and Country Age Championships continued Bill's way, culminating in three international fixture appointments, endorsed by the Australian Rugby League.

1984 - Riverina Division vs Great Britain

1986 - Newcastle vs New Zealand

1988 - NSW Country vs Papua New Guinea

Bill was also recognised for his Touch Judge skills and was appointed to several annual City vs Country fixtures between 1984 and 1997 as well as Challenge Cup matches that were played in major country centres.

In 1997, Bill was transferred to the NSW South Coast with his employment and joined the Group 7 Referees Association. He refereed the First Grade Grand Final of 1998.

Bill resumed his employment in Orange in 1999 and re-joined the Group 10 Referees. At the end of the season, he was appointed to the First Grade Grand Final. But sadly, his wife, who had been ill for a number of years, suddenly passed away. Bill did not take up the appointment and never refereed First Grade again. He did participate in junior league fixtures



and Under 18 matches for the next few years, but at the end of 2001, he put his Acme Thunderer away.

Bill's contribution to rugby league and a refereeing career that exceeded over 300 First Grade games, as well as coaching and development, was recognised by his appointment to Life Membership of the Group 10 Referees Association, Group Ten Rugby League and the awarding of the 25 years' service award from the NSW Country Rugby League Referees Association.

Bill has now retired from work, remarried and recently moved back to Yass, the town of his youth and where it all began.

GARY LEE



Born in Dubbo NSW and moved to Sydney when I was very young.

My parents were ardent South Sydney supporters, and I would often attend South's home games at Redfern Oval and heckle referees, not knowing that in years to come I would be refereeing there or at the SCG.

I began my journey in refereeing by learning the rules and laws of the game at Col Pearce's home in Marrickville during my lunch breaks at work. I was employed with the NAB at Marrickville, Col Pearce was a wonderful man and was very giving of his time.

Col Pearce would later come to Henson Park on Wednesdays to watch me referee NSW Police games.

Col Pearce recommended I call the Secretary of Canterbury Referees Association (Reg Dick) and my career in refereeing commenced. Reg Dick was a great man, who was a leading first grade touch judge in his day and a very good secretary of the CBRLRA.

I was encouraged by John O'Sullivan to attend the training sessions for the Junior rep squads and was able to referee at SG Ball, Jersey Flegg and Presidents Cup level. In my very first representative game (SG Ball), the referee for the Presidents Cup game that day was Greg McCullum. Greg

went to grade that year after the finals, I went to Grade the following year.

Canterbury Referees Association had a good representation in the graded ranks during the 80's and 90's and it was great to have fellow association members to catch up with on game day. Canterbury is a great association, and they continue to provide many good referees to "grade" or better known these days as the NRL.

I refereed in Under 23's and Reserve grade. Denis Braybrook (Referees Co-ordinator) rang me at work one day and said, "How would like to be in First Grade?" Wow!! I thought.... he then said, "as a touch judge"! My thoughts were, if you are ever going to be in First Grade, this is it!!

I was most fortunate to be a touch judge in First Grade (best seat in the house) and saw it as a privilege rather than an appointment. To be in First Grade with referees that were outstanding in their own way, knowing they had your support from the touch lines. Referees such as Greg McCallum, Kevin Roberts, Michael Stone, Eddy Ward, Bill Harrigan and Barry Barnes to name but a few.

During the 80' and 90' we lived in an era where nicknames abounded. Everyone had a handle, mine was BING and I am still addressed with it, which I don't mind one bit!!

I was "paired" with Lance Harrigan as TJ's, one our most memorable games was at Brookvale, with Eddie Ward sending Steve (Blocker) Roach off and getting a "tap" on the head on his departure from the field. Blocker gave Lance a gob full on his exit from the field.

I was on the Executive of the NSWRLRA for two years as treasurer and the various committees associated with executive. President was Ian McCall, Secretary was Frank Walsh, then Les Matthews (Also from Canterbury)

I was appointed to a few representative games over my time in grade, the highlight being the representative game as a Touch Judge for the game Great Britain v Newcastle in Newcastle 1992.

In 1989, my employer (NAB) appointed me to the role as a Regional Business Executive, based in Dubbo NSW, my place of birth. I continued to referee in the (NSWRL)Winfield Cup by either flying to Sydney and Brisbane and occasionally driving to say Penrith, it easier to drive to Penrith than flying, time wise. I even managed to get a sponsorship with Hazelton Airlines while in Dubbo to offset the cost of flying.

Whilst in Dubbo, I hosted a radio sports programme (2DU) every Friday night. It was a "top rating " programme, mainly as it was the only sports show on radio. Rugby League use to take up a few segments, along with my other passions for sport like horse racing. I was introduced to racing ownership while in Dubbo, my very first horse won its first race as a two-year-old, didn't win another race after that!

LOOKING BACK continued

I would on a few occasions assist with refereeing junior games in Dubbo on a Saturday morning when I had a Sunday game in Sydney. A lot of fun and enjoyed my time in Dubbo (5 years).

I was appointed to Grand Finals as a touch judge, 1990 Presidents Cup and 1991 Reserve Grade.

I went on to completed over 1501st grade matches as a Touch judge in an active career that lasted until 1993.

I retired as a referee in 1993, due mainly to work and family commitments, I was transferred to Maitland in 1995 as the Regional Business Manager and 'won' a redundancy in 2003. I then established my Mortgage Broking business which is still operating today in Maitland.

I rarely go to games these days, just not the same game in today's world with a lot of "outside noise" interfering with the actual game itself, one could describe it as "Robotic"!

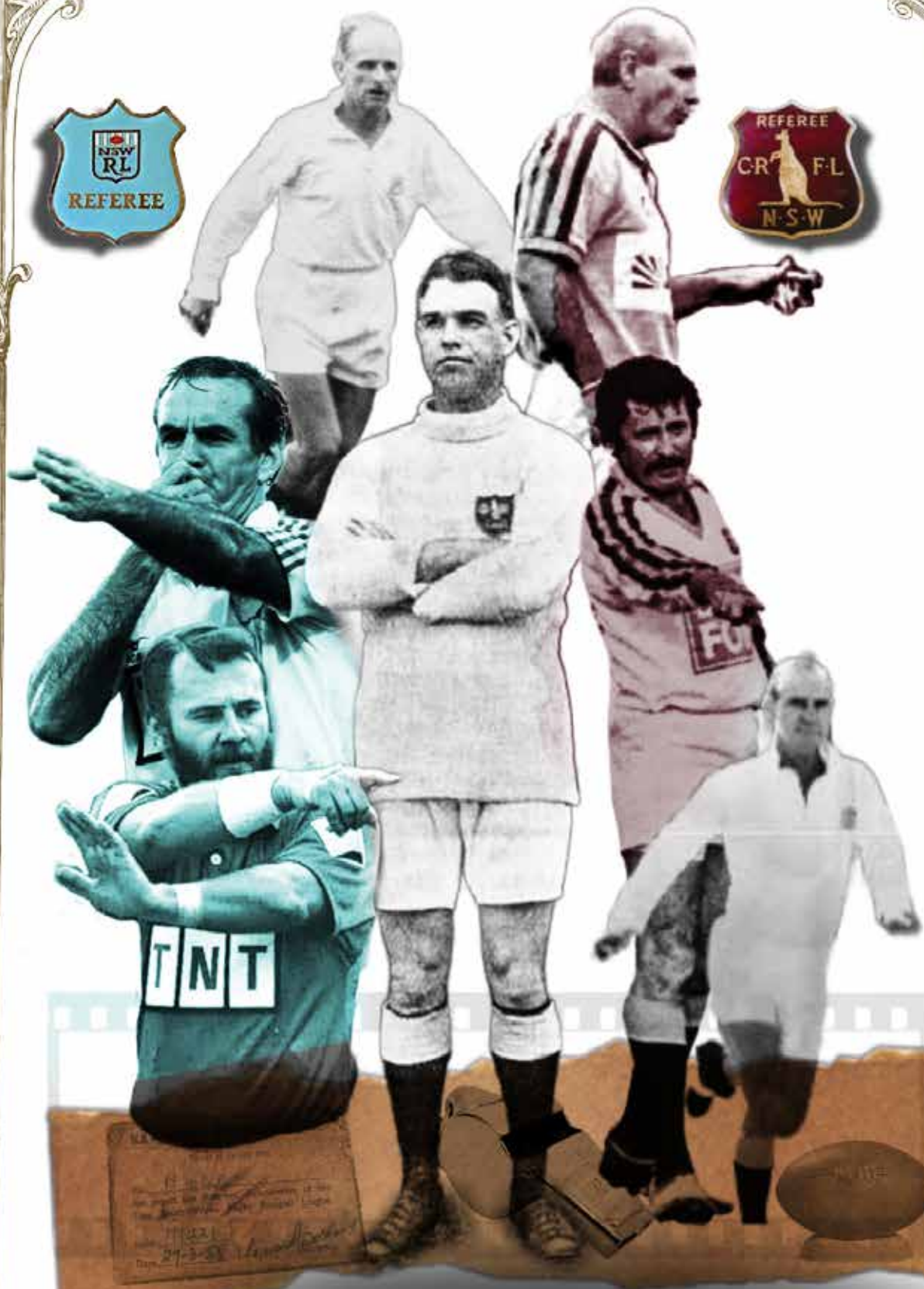
I keep in contact with my Referee mates, with the Life Members Lunch and with phone calls and social media, Neil Almond lives around the corner, have the odd chat and a beer and I meet up with Mick Stone when on the road doing business development in Forster.

There is one thing that never ceases to amaze me with friends in Refereeing. You may never see them for a long time, but the moment you contact them, it only seems like yesterday that you last spoke to them.

Referees are a resilient group and friendships last forever.



*Established
1908*



Handwritten text on a piece of paper, possibly a match report or official document, with a signature and date.





WWW.NSWRLRA.COM