



NEW REFEREES BOOST OUR RANKS

2008 has been a successful year on the recruitment front, attracting 10 beginning referees to join the Association. While this represents an increase on our average of five, more significant is that seven of the 10 are adults choosing to take up refereeing. Previously, adults represented no more than 20% of beginning referees joining us.

Souths Referees now boasts 55 active referees officiating in the Junior League competition. The addition of the 10 new referees has slightly relieved some of the resource pressures the Association has felt in previous years, however taking into account the number of referees who chose to become inactive this year and the number returning, we only had a net gain of five referees.

Many people have contributed over the year to the efforts to attract new members. David Field, our Recruitment and Retention Officer, spearheaded our campaign by actively recruiting members and running our courses. This year, the Association conducted two Level 1 courses (March and June) and David assisted the NSWRL in running courses at Matraville Sports High School and the NSWRL Academy at Narrabeen. Assisting him in running our courses this year were Reg Austin, Brett Davies, Scott Hoskin, Jason O'Brien and Andrew Wheeler. In addition to them, Scott Dalby, Taylor Deland-Cleveland, Kieren Irons, Josh Milston, Kevin Rafferty and Matt Rossleigh assisted with the 'practical refereeing' module and by acting as mentors to the new referees.

David and Kevin have also been working with the Eastern Suburbs and South Sydney Australian Rugby League Development (ARLD) conducting on-field assessments of students from Matraville Sports High School and the Roosters Under 20's squad who are working towards their School Referee ticket. It is hoped that through doing this, we may attract some of the Matraville students to join us in coming years.

So a belated welcome to our 2008 Rookie Referees, Richard Arthur, Sachindra (Sachin) Byanjankar, George Cazilieris, David Collins, Grant Cowan, Chris Locke, Anthony Mclver, Scott Parlett, Mitch Robbins and Darren Svansfeld. We hope that you enjoy many years refereeing.

Inside this edition

New referees boost our ranks	1
Bowdo wins Gold for Australia	2
NRL Referee for a day	2
Special offer for referees	3
	3
Another upgrade in the pipeline	3
Body Science advertisement	4
Centenary of Rugby League Profile –	
Allen Windross ..	5
Social Committee Report	6
Go Kart Challenge	
Ten Pin Bowling	
Mini/Mod Appointments Dinner	
International Appointments Dinner	
Annual Presentation Night	



Two of our new Referees Mitch Robbins (L) and Anthony Mclver (R) on their first day at Mascot Oval. Mitch and Anthony were sponsored by their old club, the Coogee Dolphins to take up refereeing.



Bowdo wins Gold for Australia

As many of you would know, Association member and former secretary Andrew Bowden hung up his whistle last month to compete in the World Lifesaving Championships in Germany.

Andrew was part of the four person team who won Australia's first gold medal of the Championships, by coming first in the Simulated Emergency Response Competition. This event, in which teams are presented with an unknown emergency response scenario, is considered among the most difficult of the competitions.

Andrew also competed in the finals of the Men's Line Throw, Manikin Carry, Manikin Relay, Rescue Medley, Obstacle Relay, Beach Relay and Rescue Tube Rescue. Andrew is no stranger to the rescue tube, having been awarded the SLSA Meritorious Award (Bronze) last year for a rescue he performed at Bronte Beach in which he saved an English tourist. With the beach closed due to unfavourable conditions, Bowdo was forced to scale a four to five metre cliff face and dive into the surf with only flippers and a rescue tube, successfully reaching an exhausted patient and navigating them both to safety.

Congratulations to Andrew on his achievements in Germany.



NRL Referee for a day

Junior referee, Anthony McIver won the opportunity at our last meeting to spend the day with the NRL Referee's Squad. Here is his account of the day.

Recently I won an opportunity to attend the "NRL Referee for a Day" program.

The day was full of highlights and a chance to meet some of the great names of the NRL. Retired referee Steven Clark welcomed me at ANZ Stadium and introduced me to the fellow officials. As we all know, Rugby League can sometimes be a very intense battle for the referee to keep up with play. Therefore we jumped straight into a morning session of training, involving shuttle runs, stamina and endurance building exercises. From there they began a light boxing workout, where I was fortunately paired up with Sean Hampstead. Apparently there are quite a few people who'd love to box with him!



Andrew in Germany last month for Rescue 2008

Following the exercises, I was welcomed into the briefing room with Gavin Badger and Bill Harrigan. They went through mistakes Gavin had made at his previous match and looked at areas that he could improve on. Harrigan also gave me a few points on field positioning and taught me how my language and actions towards on-field players can easily prevent swearing and fights towards each other and officials.

With training and briefings completed, the referees finished the afternoon with a light run in the local park at Homebush. I took this time to thank the officials for making me feel very welcome on the day. This rare opportunity has given me many good memories and is surely something to remember and look back on in the future.

I urge other referees in our association to take up opportunities such as this, to further their skills in officiating and to see what happens behind the scenes of the NRL.



SPECIAL OFFER FOR REFEREES

Doug Keen from the NSWRL has arranged a special offer for referees who purchase BSc products online.

BSc are offering referees and their families and friends a saving of 42 ½ % when they make a purchase at their online store, of their version of skins, nutrients and dietary supplements.

Details about how to order and obtain the discount can be found in the advertisement over the page.



REFEREES GOLF DAY Friday 17th October 2008. Marrickville Golf Course

The Centenary Referees Golf Day will be held at Marrickville Golf Course on Friday 17 October 2008.

Organisers promise a fun filled day, with plenty of entertainment and prizes for all. Four ball ambrose with plenty of novelty holes and entertainment.

If any members, active or inactive wish to team up to represent Souths Referees at this day, nominations should be sent to the Secretary at andrewjwheeler@yahoo.com.au

He will advise the details closer to the event.

Another upgrade in the pipeline

Over the past year, we have devoted space in each edition of the Pea Shooter to update members on the progress of the Redfern Oval redevelopment. There's not much to say other than work is nearing completion and the redeveloped oval is expected to open on September 1.

However, we can report on developments with Waverley Oval. As those who have refereed there this year will know, the Grandstand which includes the change rooms and canteen was closed to all users at the end of 2007, after Council received advice that it was structurally unsafe and posed a significant safety risk.

Waverley Council's Investment Strategy identified as a priority, the rebuilding of the Waverley Pavilion. The Council says, "Waverley Pavilion is a significant community asset with a long history of proud sporting achievements." "Architects for the project are about to be appointed and consultation with Park and Pavilion users has commenced. The initial architects' brief for the Pavilion calls for a building that sits lightly in the Waverley Park landscape, incorporates ecologically sustainable design measures and expresses a strong connection to the heritage of the area." Construction is due to commence in 2009.

In the meantime, it's business as usual for rugby league at Waverley Oval. Demountable change rooms have been installed to replace those within the condemned building and spectators can enjoy the view from the hill.



Right: Waverley Pavilion as it is today. The very large referees change room can be seen to the right of the grand stand.



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Centenary of Rugby League Profile

– Allen ‘the Penguin’ Windross.

Allen Windross might not be a name familiar to many of our younger members, but he is certainly someone who has left his mark on our Association and the sporting landscape in general. Allen was President of Souths Referees in 1973 and 1974 and was later awarded Life Membership. He earned the nickname ‘the Penguin’ from the La Perouse players because of his stature and waddle, the result of a school day football injury, which left one leg slightly shorter than the other.



Left to right: Bill Fisher (Touch Judge), Allen Windross (Referee) and a very young Joe Griffiths (Touch Judge) line up for the 1962 ‘D’ Grade Grand Final.

Allen refereed the 1967 A Grade Grand Final and was an A Grade Grand Final Touch Judge in 1966 and again in 1975. Allen made it as high as the fringes of the graded ranks but his work commitments forced him to shelve any ambitions he may have had.

In 1965 Allen began working for the TAB in Maroubra Junction and made a career for himself there. He progressed all the way to become its General Manager, a job he held for 12 years. Allen played an instrumental role in the development of what was to become an important innovation for the TAB, FootyTAB. It will perhaps be in this arena, that Allen will best be remembered.

Highlighting the importance of referees regularly reading the laws of the game, Allen recounts an incident in May 1960, an A Grade match at Waverley Oval. *“The centre man was Les Brennan. I had been rereading my rulebook during the week and had become interested in the ‘take a mark’ rule that then still existed. I asked Les a few questions as we got into our gear for the game. He responded by telling me to stop thinking of obscure rules because in all his playing days and as a referee he had never seen a mark taken.*

Allen recalls that the game was between the South Sydney Monarchs and the Waterloo Waratahs. *“About midway through the second half, the Monarchs fullback took a kick on the full just inside his own half. He slammed his heel into the ground and called ‘mark’. Les Brennan turned to me and burst out laughing as the Waterloo forwards belted the Monarchs fullback to the ground, causing him to lose the ball. Les decided that a scrum should follow but he gave the feed to the Monarchs.*

Allen still resides in the area and works for himself as a consultant. After 34 years with the TAB, he retired in 1999 and went to University where he completed a Master of Arts degree with Honors.

Allen has become a prolific writer on all manner of subjects but most notably on gambling systems. With his vast experience in that industry, he also consults to problem gambling counselling services, to aid their understanding of the subject.

Allen hopes that the Association will one day research its history and publish it, so that its many stories can be told and retold for the next generation of referees.



Above: Allen Windross sets a scrum in a President’s Cup match between St George and Canterbury at Pratten Park, 23 May 1964.

Social Committee Report



Go Kart Challenge - 9th June

We didn't have much luck this year as far as the weather was concerned. The track was dry for our first two heats but then we got the chance to race in the wet, which is always an experience.

Thanks to the 16 members who attended the day. I'm sure they had a great time. Of course, the Social Coordinator was the winner of the final race, with John Restuccia coming in second and Alex Cavanaugh coming third.

Ten Pin Bowling - 17th July

16 people (not the same 16 who attended the Go Karting) attended our Ten Pin Bowling Night at the Manhattan Super Bowl at Mascot. Many of those who attended were prepared to take on David and Harry Collins but none measured up. Most of us though, didn't take things too seriously, out to just have some fun and eat hot dogs and chips. And for those who were after more fun than the bowling provided, they got to go searching for Daniel Makk's shoes which went walkabout.



Ken Buckland won our tournament, with David and Harry ineligible to win.

Mini/Mod Appointments Dinner - 12th August

We are expecting 70 members and guests at our annual Mini/Mod Appointments Dinner at No Names at the Maroubra Junction Hotel. We will acknowledge those referees who were appointed to the Mini League Grand Finals and announce the Mod League Grand Final referees for this coming weekend.

International Appointments Dinner - 9th September

Our International Appointments Dinner will be held at Renato's Italian Restaurant, 237 Coogee Bay Rd, Coogee. More details will be made available shortly.

Annual Presentation Night - 26th October

This will be held in the Wintle Room (Auditorium) at Souths Juniors. Invitations will be sent to members in September.

The **PEA SHOOTER** will be published every month during the League Season to keep members informed about important matters. We would welcome contributions from members such as web links, reviews etc. Please send all contributions to David Field at footyfieldrl@hotmail.com by the end of each month.

The **PEA SHOOTER** will be published the week prior to each general meeting and emailed to all on the email list and for those who don't have internet access a hardcopy will be available at each general meeting.

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