

THE PEA SHOOTER

The Newsletter of the South Sydney District Rugby League Referees Association



Volume 2 Issue 1

May 2007

2007 Association Officer Bearers

Congratulations to the following Office Bearers who were elected at the Associations AGM in March.

Patron:	Reg Austin	Deputy Delegate to NSWRLRA:	Andrew Wheeler
President:	Jason O'Brien	Deputy Delegate to SSDJRFL:	John Restuccia
Hon. Secretary:	Chris Anson		
Snr Vice President:	Andrew Bowden		
Vice Presidents:	Kevin Rafferty & John Purcell		
Hon. Ass Secretary:	Andrew Wheeler		
Hon. Treasurer:	Scott Guthrie		
Hon. Ass Treasurer:	David Sharpe		
Hon. Social Secretary:	David Field		
Delegate to NSWRLRA:	Andrew Bowden		
Delegate to SSDJRFL:	Reg Austin		
Hon. Auditors:	Peter Baz & Josh Milston		
Coaches:	Andrew Bowden & Warren Farrell		
Social Committee:	Andrew Bowden, Ken Buckland, Grant Bulmer, Taylor Deland-Cleveland, Scott Dalby, Alex Portnoy, Alice Purcell and Dale Weekes		
Ted Pepper/Bob Brock Memorial Trophy Panel:	Chris Anson, Shane Douglas, Joe Griffiths, John Restuccia, and Andrew Wheeler		

Inside this edition

2007 Office Bearers	1
Sports Rage Awareness Campaign	1
Key Dates for 2007	2
Glen Alpine becomes flag sponsors	2
2007 Season Launch	2
Self test: Which official are you?	3
Tuesday Night Training	3
Welcome to our new Referees	3
Social Calendar	4



Sports Rage Awareness Campaign

The New South Wales Department of Sport and Recreation has developed resources for all sporting clubs around the State in an effort to stamp out Sports Rage. These resources which include, print material and ground announcements are part of an initiative that also includes the 'Dummy spits are for babies' TV commercial. Kits have been developed for players, coaches and officials in all sports and encourages everyone involved in sport, to reflect on their own motives and what they can do to address Sports Rage.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics released data in January 2002 indicating that there had been a 26% decline in the number of officials participating in sport between 1997 and 2001.

In addition, national research conducted by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) in March 2002 indicated that lack of respect for, and abuse of officials, significantly contributed to the decline.

The research shows the most common reasons for an official quitting are the high level of abuse they receive and the lack of respect for their role in sport. As a result, the industry faces a major challenge in the recruitment and retention of officials.

South Sydney Junior League is totally committed to the eradication of Sports Rage from our competition.

Check out page 3 to see what type of official you are.



Key Dates for 2007

13-15 April	Official Trials
20-22 April	Round 1 of Competition
1 May	General Meeting – Maroubra SLSC
1 - 3 June	Round 7 of Competition
5 June	General Meeting – Souths Juniors
8 -10 June	No competition – Go Karting
3 July	General Meeting – Souths Juniors
13-15 July	Last round of Mini League
20-22 July	Last round of Mod League + Mini League Gala Series
27-29 July	Mod League Semi Finals + Mini League Gala Final
3 - 5 August	Mod League Final
7 August	Mini/Mod Appointment Dinner
10-12 August	Last round of International Rules + Mod League Grand Final
17-19 August	International Rules Minor Semi's
24-26 August	International Rules Major Semi's
31- 2 September	International Rules Final's
4 September	International Appointment Dinner
7 - 9 September	International Rules Grand Finals
TBA October	Annual Presentation Night

Glen Alpine becomes flag sponsor

Our major sponsor, the South Sydney Rabbitohs are enjoying unprecedented support in 2007, on and off the field. One of their senior corporate sponsors, Glen Alpine Properties will this year become our flag sponsor, ensuring that all referees now have their own flags.

Business Development and Marketing Manager for Souths, Chris Keeble attended our Season Launch at Maroubra Surf Club to officially hand over the new flags. Those who were not in attendance on the night can collect their flags from Reg Austin.

We welcome Glen Alpine aboard!



2007 Season Launch

A well attended Season Launch was held on Tuesday 4th April at the Maroubra SLSC. The launch was the initiative of our new President, Jason O'Brien and will hopefully become a regular part of our season, such was the good feedback received.

The night started with a training session on Maroubra Beach which was followed by the formal part of the night. 2006 NRL Grand Final Referee, Paul Simpkins spoke of his personal experiences and challenges on the road to NRL success. He identified what he does to prepare for a match and reflected on his frame of mind when confronted with heated moments, using segments of his State of Origin matches to highlight this. Paul plans to attend a Tuesday training session in the near future, which the Secretary will advise members of.

Another guest on the night was Chris Keeble from our major sponsor, the South Sydney Rabbitohs who came along to update members on the progress being made to restructure the club both on and



*Above right:
Association member and NRL Referee Paul Simpkins gives a presentation to members about his refereeing journey and overcoming challenges.*

Right: South Sydney Rabbitohs Business Development and Marketing Manager, Chris Keeble presents the Association with its new flags.



off the field. Chris also present the Association with it's new flags, courtesy of their Senior Corporate Sponsor, Glen Alpine Properties (see the story above).

Finally, the night concluded with a BBQ prepared by the Social Committee which gave members the opportunity to catch up with one another and socialise in an informal setting.

Our General Meetings format will be different to the past few years, as they will focus more on improving referees skills, so please make the effort to attend.



Self test: Which official are you?

The majority of officials do a great job of creating a safe and enjoyable sporting environment for everyone. But others could be creating tension which contributes to sport rage. Which official are you?

<p>The Party Pooper ruins the fun for all the players. They pick up all the mistakes in a negative way, making players feel they can't get anything right. The Party Pooper needs to keep some fun in the game.</p>	<p>The Weekend Warrior takes the power of the whistle to the extreme. They demand respect from the players without showing any respect. The Weekend Warrior needs to understand players want to have fun too and the game is not about them.</p>	<p>The Grudge does not officiate fairly, showing bias to one team or player. The Grudge should understand players, coaches and spectators will respect an official who upholds the rules without favouritism.</p>	<p>The Out of Date has not stayed up to date with the rules. They confuse players, the spectators and themselves. The Out of Date needs to keep up to date.</p>	<p>The Blind Eye pretends not to see unfair play on the field. They allow sledging and verbal abuse as part of the game. The Blind Eye needs to learn how to prevent and deal with harassment and discrimination in sport.</p>	<p>The Five Star Official (you?) officiates the match to the skill level of the players. They are consistent and emphasise the spirit of the game, not the errors. The Five Star Official is courteous and encourages all players.</p>
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Tuesday Night Training

A reminder to members that our Association training session is on every Tuesday night (except meeting nights) from 6.15pm – 7.30pm at Snape Oval, Snape Street, Kingsford.

Andrew Bowden with the assistance of David Shape and Scott Guthrie will be putting together a varied program of drills that are suited to all members regardless of age or skill level.

The training also does a great job of building camaraderie among members and usually finishes with a game of touch football in which John Restuccia demonstrates his unusual interpretations of the laws of the game. Come along and give it a go.

Welcome to our new Referees

A new year brings with it a new bunch of Referees and 2007 is no exception. The President and Executive wish to welcome our new Referees, Jack Ayoub, Mitch Burnie, Seanie Kelly, Joel Pitscheider and Marlon Skinner. We hope that you enjoy your refereeing experience and that you stay with us for many years. Thanks again to Reg and Warren for their efforts in preparing our referees.

Social Calendar

The Social Committee met on the 15th April to discuss the Social Calendar for the year. They agreed to put forward the following recommendations to members.

RECOMMENDATION 1

That the 2007 Social Calendar include the following events:

1. Go Karting on 10 June 2007;
2. Mini & Mod League Appointment Dinner on 7 August 2007;
3. International Rules Appointment Dinner on 4 September 2007; and
4. Annual Presentation Night – Date and Venue TBA

The Appointment Dinners and Presentation Night would be free to members and their guests, while Go Karting would be partly subsidised by the Social Levy.

RECOMMENDATION 2

That the Social Committee cease conducting the Meat Tray raffles held at the conclusion of the General Meetings. It was felt that this raffle did not raise sufficient funds to warrant continuing with it.

Go Karting Challenge – Sunday 10th June

Enjoy our one weekend free from Football by attending our Go Kart Challenge. Places are limited to first 20 Juniors and first 20 Senior Referees who return their forms. The cost will be \$40.00 which includes your racing, licence & pizza lunch. By completing the attendance form, members may defer payment to be deducted from their end of season match payments.

We will meet at Souths Juniors on the Sunday morning at 8.30am for the bus trip to Minto where the outdoor Karting track is located. The bus should return by 2.30pm. It promises to be a great day. Juniors are required to have their parents complete the indemnity and licence application form, so be sure to obtain one from David Field if you have not already done so. It is important that you notify David either by phone on 0411 612 536 or email at footyfieldrl@hotmail.com.



Scenes from last years Go Kart Challenge

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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