

**North Sydney
District Rugby
League
Referees' Association
Inc.**

Annual Report

Season 2003

www.northsydneyrefs.com.au

Notice of Annual General Meeting

For the Presentation of the

Annual Report and Balance Sheet for
2003 Season

To be held at

North Sydney Leagues Club Limited

12 Abbott Street,
Cammeray

Kamaraigal Room

On

Thursday, December 11th, 2003

AT 7.30pm

AGENDA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. A MINUTES SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR FELLOW REFEREES
2. VISITORS
3. APOLOGIES
4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
5. CORRESPONDENCE
6. PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET
7. NOTICE OF MOTION
8. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:
 - ❖ PATRON
 - ❖ PRESIDENT
 - ❖ HONORARY SECRETARY
 - ❖ HONORARY TREASURER
 - ❖ MINUTE SECRETARY
 - ❖ SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
 - ❖ INTERMEDIATE VICE PRESIDENT
 - ❖ JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT
 - ❖ SOCIAL SECRETARY
 - ❖ DELEGATES TO NSW REFEREES ASSOCIATION
 - ❖ DELEGATES TO NORTH SYDNEY JUNIOR LEAGUE
 - ❖ HONORARY AUDITORS (2)
9. LIFE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT **STAN WATSON** BE PLACED BEFORE THE MEMBERS FOR CONSIDERATION OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2003.
10. GENERAL BUSINESS

MICHAEL QUAILEY
PRESIDENT

ADAM DEVCICH
SECRETARY

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2003

PATRON

Mr Bill Lalor

PRESIDENT

Mr Michael Quailey

HONORARY SECRETARY

Mr Adam Devcich

HONORARY TREASURER

Mr Michael Haynes

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Mr Martin Ryan

INTERMEDIATE VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr Stan Watson

JUNIOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr Nathan Smith

MINUTES SECRETARY

Mr John Stone

SOCIAL SECRETARY

Mr Scot Murray

DELEGATE TO NSW REFEREES

Mr Stan Watson

DELEGATE TO JUNIOR LEAGUE

Mr Stuart Kidd

HONORARY AUDITORS

Mr Martin Ryan & Mr Geoff McManus

CONTROLLER OF PAYMENTS & PUBLIC OFFICER

Mr Michael Quailey

COACHING OFFICIALS

Mr Brian Minnett - Accreditation

Mr Stan Watson - Skills

Miss Kate Watson - Physical

GEAR STEWARD

Mr Scot Murray

DELEGATE FROM JUNIOR LEAGUE

Mr John Quinn

LEVEL 2 COACHES

Mr Michael Quailey

Mr Stan Watson

Mr Jon Stone

LEVEL 1 COACHES

Mr Cameron O'Riordan

Mr Curtis Dowel

COMMITTEES

LIFE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Messrs: Bill Lalor, Colin Jones and Martin Ryan

BOB PURCELL TROPHY COMMITTEE

Messrs: Michael Quailey (Chairman), Bill Lalor, John Quinn, Jim Brannigan,
Gerard Bailey, Colin Jones, Geoff McManus

SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr Nathan Smith (Chairman)

Mr John Stone

Mr Curtis Dowel

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Mr Scot Murray (Chairman)

Mr Anthony Smith

Mr Gerard Bailey

Mr Nathan Smith

Mr Anthony Osborn

GOLF CAPTAIN

Mr Gerard Bailey

APPOINTMENTS BOARD

Messrs: John Quinn (Chairman), Michael Quailey

ADVISORY BOARD

Messrs: Adam Devcich, Brian Minnett, Martin Ryan, Nathan Smith,
Colin Jones, Stan Watson, John Stone, Curtis Dowel, Cameron O'Riordan

REPRESENTATIVES ON JUDICIARY

Messrs: Brian Barry, Bill Lalor and John Quinn

PATRON'S REPORT

It is once again my pleasure to congratulate the Association and its Executive Officers on the completion of yet another successful season, as discussed in this Annual report.

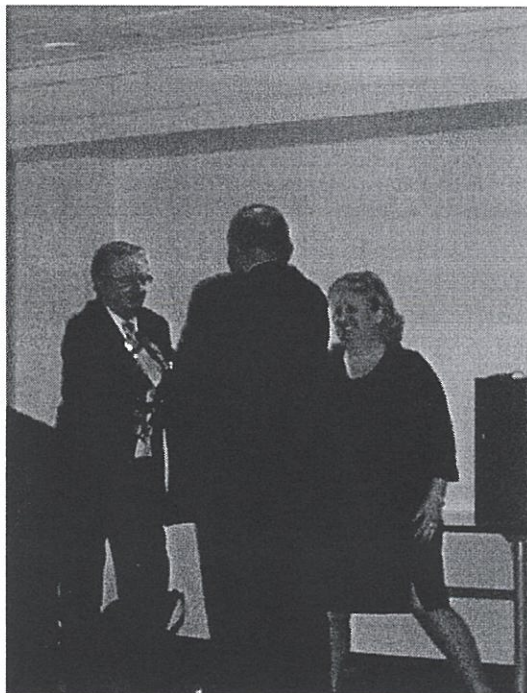
Perhaps the most pleasing feature was the fact that despite the continuing decline in the number of referees, the Association was able to meet its commitments for provision of officials for Junior League fixtures. There was no small achievement and many members exceeded appointments at levels not normally expected of them, thus showing a degree of maturity which augurs well their future progression.

Special congratulations must go to Daniel Ruhan on winning the Vince Smith Junior Encouragement award and Stan Watson whose efforts in gaining the Association a sponsorship together with his work as a referees coach, amongst other things, won him the coveted Bob Purcell trophy. Well done Daniel and Stan.

I wish the Association, its Executive Officers and members a successful season in 2004.

Yours in sport

William Lalor
Patron



Stan Watson receives his second Bob Purcell trophy for meritorious achievement. Stan last received the award in 1994.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fellow Members,

It gives me great pleasure to write these few words for our 2003 Annual Report.

All members are to be congratulated for their efforts throughout the season. It was, on reflection, a difficult season for all of us.

Before the season commenced, we lost a number of active members through study, work and family commitments. Then as the season progressed, we lost a few more through illness and work commitments. This placed a great strain on the resources of our Association and our ability to meet our obligations to the Junior League.

Fortunately, our friends at Manly were able to assist us with the matches played in the Manly area. To Dave Jay, President Rob Peard and the members at Manly who were appointed, thank you for your efforts.

Special mention must be made of four of our members, who, without their efforts and commitment, we could not have made it through to the end of the season.

Firstly, thank you to Col Jones and Martin Ryan. Both Col and Martin retired from their distinguished Grade careers at the start of the season. They probably did not envisage playing the role they did throughout 2003 but without them, we would have really struggled. Col became reacquainted with the cricket pitch at Willoughby Park and realised it was still as hard as ever.

Now to Stuart Kidd and Curtis Dowel. These gentlemen are, for the moment, the backbone of our Association. Their commitment to refereeing and their willingness to do whatever is asked of them, without complaint, is an example to all of us. In 2003 there were 1,280 appointments. Stuart and Curtis accounted for 215 of those appointments between them. This is just a little over 16 percent; a phenomenal effort when you consider it is double the average (which is 4 percent per Active Member). In a nutshell, they have each done the work of two people. Thank you Stuart and Curtis for your tireless efforts.

As mentioned in previous years, coaching is the backbone of any Association. We were able to add to our coaching ranks this year when Curtis Dowel and Cameron O'Riordan successfully gained their Level 1 accreditation. We now have five accredited coaches, which equates to approximately one coach for every five active members, an excellent ratio which should only improve our on field performances.

Through the efforts of our Accreditation Provider Brian Minnett, two new members joined us this year. Welcome to Dom Paton and Steve Schulz. Dom in particular showed great enthusiasm for his new role, even turning up for two of our seminars. Both have a bright future ahead of them.

2003 saw us commence a relationship with Group 10 Referees. Centred around the Bathurst area but extending to Orange, Lithgow, Mudgee, Oberon, Cowra and Blaney, a wide area is covered. Given the distances these referees travel to fixtures, no more complaints about travelling to Hitchcock and Lake Parks' will be entertained.

Through the efforts of their Secretary Peter Clifford an exchange program was implemented in the lower grades. In June Wayne Edwards, Curtis Dowel and myself made the trip up to a rather chilly Bathurst where Wayne and Curtis ran fixtures while I watched one of their Reserve Grade referees. The hospitality was first class and we met local refereeing identities such as "Porn Star" and "Killer".

The reciprocal visit took place in early August when Peter and President Ian brought down Glen Stapleton and Jeremy Toole. They were appointed to fixtures at Greenway Park where they were under the eye of our own Stan Watson. That evening, through the generosity of NSW Referees, we went to the Parramatta V Wests Tigers match at Parramatta Stadium where the boys were shown the ins and outs of the Video Referee room, thanks to Graeme West.

Next year, we hope to expand these visits.

It would be remiss of me not to thank the NSW Rugby League Referees Association's continued support in providing grants, which greatly assist in easing the financial burden of running our Association. Through a restructure, Head Body now have in place the Affiliate Liaison Committee, which encompasses our Association. Thanks to Brian Gilchrist and his Committee for their work in 2003 and for making the visit by our Group 10 friends a memorable experience for them.

Also, many thanks to Junior League Administrator Kevin Nicholls, President Gordon Thurgood and the Board of the Junior League and North Sydney Leagues Club for your continued support. We may not always see eye to eye but our common goal is to continue to ensure that the game of Rugby League is always played in North Sydney.

Now to our Committee Members:

- Patron Bill Lalor: a great stalwart and supporter of all our members.
- Secretary Adam Devcich: continued on well with in his third year as Secretary, did a commendable job while maintaining a high standard on

the field. Hopefully, next year will see him achieve his goal of being called into Grade (not that we want to get rid of him).

- Treasurer Michael Haynes: stepped in when asked and did a great job while still balancing work and Uni commitments. Helped us out on the field as well when he could. Many thanks for your efforts.
- Senior Vice President Martin Ryan: following on from his Grade retirement his deep commitment to our Association was even more evident despite his family obligations.
- Intermediate Vice President Stan Watson: Stan plays a vital role in the Association through his efforts as a coach and advisor while holding a position on the NSWRL Advisory Board. Stan had an outstanding 2003 and was a very worthy recipient of the Bob Purcell Trophy. Not many people would realise the hours Stan spends reviewing the videotapes of the games he tapes or the hours on the phone with me discussing the day's performances. Also, Stan acquired our sponsorship from Frozen Concepts. Thanks Stan for all your efforts.
- Junior Vice President Nathan Smith: Due to work, business and uni, we did not see as much of Nathan as we would have liked but he helped us when he could and that was very much appreciated.
- Minute Secretary Jon Stone: who said a Police Officer's job was easy? Jon put a lot of effort into the Association right throughout the year. It was a shame he missed the last three weeks of the season due to work commitments. Caught the travel bug and at the time of writing, is enjoying himself in Europe.
- Social Secretary Scot Murray: another of our Law Enforcement Brigade and first year in the job. Did a good job organising his first Presentation Dinner and his first overseas trip. There is no truth to the rumour that he was deported back to Australia.

To John Quinn, thank you for all your assistance. Your support for our Association and tireless efforts for the Junior League and the District Club is greatly appreciated.

Finally, to my wife Di goes the biggest thank you of all. Your help and support keep me going.

Enjoy your summer. 2004 will be upon us before we know it.

Michael Quailey
President

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dear Members,

The temperatures have started to rise and Daylight savings is upon us – which again means the footy season has come to an end.

At the beginning of 2003 the Association was without a sponsor. However, early in the season through Stan Watson, Frozen Concepts, agreed to sponsor the Association for the year, with a view to extending that sponsorship into 2004. However, at this point we do not have the logo for Frozen Concepts. Once this has been received (and the Sponsorship is continued) it will appear on our on-field gear in 2004. A big thank you to Stan for organising the sponsor!!!

Without a current NRL team, these years between losing the Bears from the NRL and their hopeful resurrection are extremely important to keep Rugby League prospering in the area. It is therefore essential to have a hardworking and visible Management to help achieve this. With Greg Florimo and Gary Larson joining the District club and the end of last year, we have two guys that are committed to rugby league in the area. Gary and Greg were involved not only in the District club, but also made appearances at Junior League grounds throughout the year.

Along with Gary and Greg, Rugby League is managed in North Sydney by our Junior League Administrator, Kevin Nicholls and Junior League President, Gordon Thurgood, who do a terrific job in co-ordinating our own Junior League competitions and the cross boundary competitions with Manly (with some teams from South Sydney involved this year as well) with the co-operation of Manly Junior League President, Col Burdon and his board. Thank you to all of these guys, as without your efforts in keeping the Junior League alive, our Association would have no games to referee!!

With these cross boundary competitions with Manly, we obviously need a close working relationship with the Manly Referees' Association. This has developed greatly over the past few years and our sincere thanks goes to Manly Referees' President, Rob Peard and their Director of Referees', David Jay for their co-operation throughout the year. As a tribute to how our Associations' relationship has developed, now it is not unusual to see referees' from both North Sydney and Manly officiating together on the same ground and sometimes on the same games.

The junior and senior Grand Final days were held back to back over one weekend in August this year, with ten Grand Finals held in total, from under 9 to 16 and then A2 and A1. These are the most Grand Finals held in North Sydney for a number of years. Congratulations to the Belrose team for winning the A1 competition in their first year in the North Sydney competition. This was the third successive year the North Sydney A1 competition has been won by a team from outside the District. This year also saw the junior winners of the North Sydney Grand Finals play the winner of their counterparts in the Manly competition, under the banner of the Ken Irvine Shield. This was another great initiative by both Junior Leagues' and will hopefully continue in the years to come.

Our physical trainer again this year was Kate Watson. Once again she did a great job and we thank her for the effort she puts into, not only turning up each week given her busy schedule but the organisation she puts into preparing the sessions. Kate also took on the role of Primary Schools Development Officer with North Sydney this year and works tirelessly to promote rugby League in the District.

Attendances at training dwindled somewhat this year, partly due to a loss of a number of active members. However, the encouraging sign is that most of our junior members had a terrific record at training this year. Given our small numbers of active referees', the attendances at meetings was quite good, so thank you to all those members that take the time to keep attending them.

Socially this year was quite poor – again. Again there were some activities organised that had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. The one function that was held was the Annual Presentation night, which was well attended by the members. Thanks to Scot Murray for his organisation of the night.

Stephen Clark once again headed our representation in the NRL in 2003. With Bill Harrigan now retired, the door is now wide open for State of Origin and other representative appointments and Stephen definitely be one fighting it out for the top spot. Good luck Stephen!!! Tony Archer spent some time in the NRL this year both in the centre and as a touch judge and would be hoping for more time up there in 2004.

Gerard Bailey started the year in fine style, by spending 6 weeks on the sideline after tearing tendons in his ankle. After his recovery, he spent his first full year in the NSW graded ranks touch judging both Jim Beam Cup and Premier League. He to will be looking for the higher grades in 2004. Stan Watson was again on the NSWRLRA advisory board and also gained his level two referees' coaching badge (along with Michael Quailey and Jon Stone, while Cameron O'Riordan and Curtis Dowel received their level one referees; coaching badge).

The Association would like to thank Tony Danks, Les Mathews and the Board of Management of the NSWRLRA for their financial assistance throughout the year. We would also like to thank Bryan Gilchrist and the inaugural affiliate liaison committee for their support and advice throughout the year, in helping the District Associations' communicate and share ideas with one another. This committee (including our own Colin Jones) has been a tremendous addition to the NSWRLRA structure.

To our advisors again we say thanks you for your tireless efforts. Thank you for liking what you do enough, to continue to do it year after year, both as advisors and in most cases as holders of positions on committees etc. These include, John Quinn, Brian Minnett, Michael Qualey, Stan Watson and a younger brigade in Jon Stone, Cameron O'Riordan and Curtis Dowel.

I must give a special mention to our President Michael Qualey, who also sends out our appointments and along with John Quinn, is our primary liaison with the Junior League. Michael is currently the glue that holds the Association together.

Thank you also to our active members, whose commitment to turning up each week (especially with the shortage of numbers we have) is essential to the health of Rugby league in the District. Your consistent dedication to refereeing is very much appreciated.

Finally, we cannot say goodbye to 2003 without mentioning two North Sydney members that ended two very distinguished careers in the NSWRLRA graded ranks.

Colin Jones has been one of the most successful touch judges in recent history, including appointments to both State of Origin matches and a Test Match. He also spent a number of years as a first grade touch judge and officiated in Premier League Grand Finals, the last being in 2001, to name a few of his achievements. He is a life member of this Association and is still involved at NSWRLRA level as a member of the affiliate liaison committee. This year he returned to the centre at district level and was appointed to the 'A1' grand final touch line.

Martin Ryan has also scaled the heights in the NSW grade ranks as a touch judge. Amongst his achievements are a number of first grade touchlines, a State of Origin in-goal appointment and Premier League Grand Finals. Martin was also one of the driving forces behind the changing of the NSWRLRA Constitution in 2002 and received the coveted Hanson Award, as outstanding NSWRLRA Association member in 2001. Martin is also a life member of this Association and also returned to district football in 2003.

On behalf of this Association, I would like to congratulate both Colin and Martin on their distinguished careers in refereeing. Their retirement from grade means does mean a degree of change in lifestyle and we wish them good luck and happiness for their future endeavours both on and off the football field.

With that, let me say enjoy the summer have a terrific and safe festive season and see you again in season 2004.

Adam Devcich
Honorary Secretary



Some of the younger brigade attacking Wayne at the Presentation evening

DISTRICT CLUB REPORT

While the District club was again without an NRL team in 2003, a change in personnel has breathed new life into the Bears. Towards the end of 2002 Greg Florimo was appointed CEO of the football club and with him came Gary Larson and North's' Football manager and Premier League coach.

However the Bears were a little late in running the trials for the 2003 season and as a result struggled to string together a number of wins and finished out of the finals in all grades.

However, hope is on the horizon!! The Bears have had their trials this year and are confident of a better showing in 2004.

Finally, Congratulations also to the following teams for their wins in their respective competitions:

- NRL Penrith Panthers
- Premier League Canberra Raiders
- Jim Beam Cup The Entrance Tigers
- Flegg Cup Bulldogs
- SG Ball Cup Canberra Raiders
- Harold Mathews Parramatta

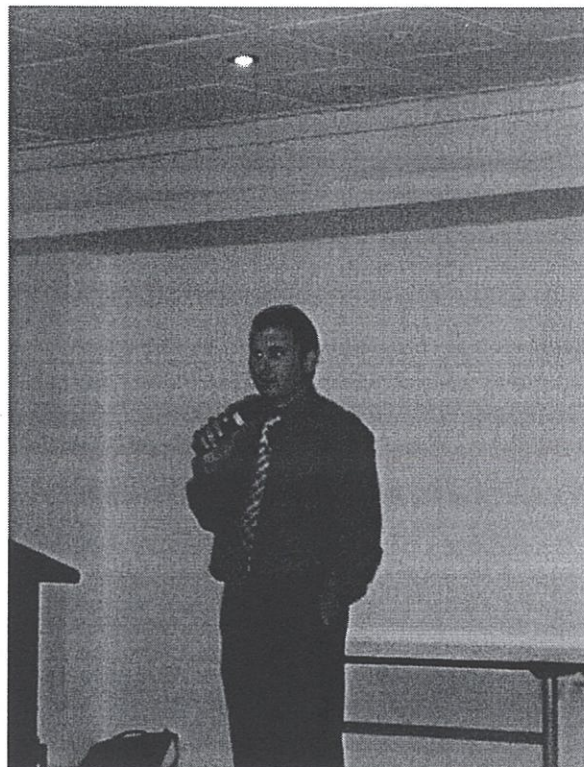
VALE

Unfortunately, 2003 did not pass without our families and friends losing loved ones. Our deepest sympathies are extended to all that have suffered bereavement during the last year.

LEAGUES CLUB REPORT

Our thanks to the Catering and Function staff of the North Sydney Leagues Club for their help and support throughout the year. They once again provided facilities to hold our general meetings throughout the year

Thank to Jim Henry and the Board of the Leagues Club for their assistance with the 2003 season. Thank you must also go to the Board of the Asquith Leagues Club for their support and assistance throughout the season including the use of their facilities for our coaching programs.



Adam Devcich after receiving the Erle Carroll trophy for refereeing the A grade Grand final

Meeting Dates 2004

Would all members take note and mark them in your diaries NOW!! All meetings will be held in the Kameraigal or Harry McKinnon room at North Sydney Leagues Club.

February 19th

March 18th

April 22nd

May 20th

June 17th

July 22nd

August 19th

December 9th AGM 2004



Daniel Ruhan, with Gerard Bailey and Colleen Smith after receiving the Vince Smith Junior Encouragement award

GRADE & JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

North Sydney Referees Association Inc is proud of the fact that a number of members are either graded or in the Development Squad. The break down and qualifications of those members and where they finished season 2003 is as follows. First the graded members.

Steven Clark: Refereed in the NRL. Steven had an injury free season, refereeing in the NRL. Apart from refereeing, Steven also performed the role of Video Referee at NRL fixtures on the same weekend. Steven maintained his level of fitness and this was evident, as Steven did not miss one NRL fixture. Steven finished the season controlling an NRL Quarter Final and being appointed Video Referee to the NRL Grand Final.

Tony Archer: Anthony refereed mostly in the NSWRL competition, refereeing the Premier League. Anthony was appointed as Touch Judge the NRL Competition and also as a referee in an NRL fixture where he trailed the two referees per game concept. This year Anthony again refereed the Premier League Grand Final.

Gerard Bailey: Gerard had a good season, officiating all weekend for most weekends. Gerard suffered a foot injury which slowed him up for a while but bounced back to finish the season on high note for his first full season in grade. Gerard performed as touch judge in both Jim Beam Cup and Premier League competitions. Gerard was appointed as Touch Judge to the Jim Beam Cup –v- the Emerging States representative fixture that was played prior to the Australia –v- New Zealand Test. Gerard was also appointed as an In Goal Judge in the Premier League Quarter Final.

Well done to all of our graded members. Now for the Junior Development Squad.

The Jersey Flegg and S.G. Ball competitions were short seasons running for only 9 weeks with 4 weeks of finals. The Harold Matthews competition was held over one weekend in mid September in the Illawarra District with twenty teams competing. This competition was a knock out style of competition.

The following members were in the Development Squad and finished the season as follows:

Adam Devcich: Adam was appointed mainly as a referee in the Jersey Flegg competition although unfortunately for Adam he was appointed to the S.G. Ball competition for the latter part of the season. Adam was also appointed as Touch Judge to a Jim Beam Cup fixture. Adam finished the season refereeing an S.G. Ball Quarter Final and refereeing the Grand Final of the Harold Matthews competition.

Nathan Smith: Nathan began and ended the season as a touch judge in the Jersey Flegg and S.G. Ball competitions.
Touch Judge in the U/13's Coca-Cola Cup Final.

Jon Stone: Jon started the season being appointed to touch judge the Jersey Flegg competition. Jon was also appointed as a Touch Judge in the Jim Beam Cup competition.

Cameron O'Riordan: Cameron finished the year being appointed as a Touch Judge in the Jersey Flegg competition and also in the Jim Beam Cup competition.

Apart from their routine appointments, the Development Squad members occasionally had to officiate in the Jim Beam Cup and carry out interchange duties. The graded members officiated in the Premier League and Jim Beam Cup competitions also had to perform as interchange officials.

Although I did not visit any Associations during the year, I did attend the Harold Matthews Cup knock out carnival in the Illawarra District adjudicating on prospective referees for the Development Squad. The Development Squad coaches who visited kindred associations selected these referees and I can honestly say there was some talent on display, although North Sydney has a good stable of young guns that show a lot of potential.

Two of North Sydney's members, Curtis Dowel and Scot Murray were invited to attend training sessions with the Development Squad and graded members. Curtis was also invited to officiate at the Harold Matthews Cup carnival in September.

Only season 2004 will reveal how strong the depths of referees are in this Association.

Stan Watson.
Delegate NSWRLRA Inc.
NSWRLRA Advisory Board

COACHING REPORT

Accreditation Report

Its that time of year again when you report on the years work. This year has been the leanest of all that I can remember. We started by putting the Preliminary Referees through to Level One. At this stage we held off putting the Level One Referees through to Level Two because of potential changes to the Accreditation system, which will now be introduced next year. This was sorted out at an Accreditation Meeting held at the home of Barry Ruttle (one of the coordinators of the scheme), where we were told that some Associations were not adhering to the guidelines. We were told that the associations would be policed better to see that we were doing the right thing. If you think this paragraph above seems a little confusing can you imagine what the year has been like.

Two new candidates did get through - Steve Schulz a young 16 year old who was quite enthusiastic and if looked after could develop into a good referee. Then there was Jody Rae (a former player from Warners Bay near Newcastle) who showed a lot of character in deciding to travel down here to learn and start his Refereeing career. He had great ambition to go to the top, but he decided after getting his preliminary ticket to return to Newcastle. There is Dominic Paton, a young fellow who is going to develop into a good referee.

We have two candidates waiting in the wings to start next season namely Al Rudd and Nick Monte, both of whom will be kept up to date with information on the course. Our present Level one Members - Curtis Dowel, Steve Dayeian, Andrew Whiddon and Stuart Kidd will have to wait till early next year to officially gain their Level Two ticket when they attend a special weekend for Level two Referees.

To our coaching staff Stan Watson, Gerard Bailey, Nathan Smith and help from Colin Jones and Martin Ryan and finally to our trainer/conditioner Kate Watson – thank you for all the time you gave to help our referees.

Finally may I say thank you, for all the support, friendship and help I have received from you over the many years that I have been around. I have decided to retire, I believe the game today is a young persons domain for teaching and coaching and the Association needs new and enthusiastic workers to take it forward and our association has these people.

All the very best for the coming season and keep up the good work you all have put in.

Brian Minnett
Accreditation Officer

Skills Training

Season 2003 saw North Sydney Referees Association implement new training strategies. Firstly I must thank Kate Watson for her efforts during the season. Without Kate our referees would have suffered and would not have benefited from her training. Kate had a different training program every session.

During the season Kate put the referees, both senior and junior through their paces and I saw a vast improvement in the fitness of the referees.

In March this year Kate and I travelled to Weekender Stadium at St Marys where the NSWRLRA Inc referees and touch judge coaches set up a skills training display. The evening was very informative and as a result of this evening, Kate incorporated the skills into the physical training program.

After each training session a quick rulings session and general discussion was held in the change rooms, which again proved very informative to both junior and senior referees.

This year saw our three Level 2 Referees Coaches, Stan Watson, Michael Quailey and Jon Stone implement new strategies also, in particular the video taping of referees. Referees who had their game video taped received a tape of their game, which they had to view and then complete a self-assessment form, which was then reviewed, by the coaches.

Although the Association does not possess a video camera, two of the Level 2 Referees Coaches utilised their own cameras to videotape a total of 13 referees this season compared to a total of 6 in season 2002. I can honestly say that the referees who were video taped benefited from the tapes. Not all referees were video taped and I do apologise as duties with NSWRLRA Inc Advisory Board also took up some time.

This year also saw two of our members, Curtis Dowel and Cameron O'Riordan attend the Academy of Sport and undergo the Level 1 Referees Coaches Course. With a total of five Referees Coaches and very experienced members, all grounds had an adviser in attendance.

With Kate's training and improvement in fitness, along with the video taping of referees and Michael Quailey conducting a training seminar, there was a vast improvement in referees and touch judges performances, especially from our junior members who did not feel intimidated by coaches, managers, trainers or spectators.

It was evident this year with semi final and grand final appointments on how our members performed during the season. Semi finals and grand finals are not just

given out and any referee appointed, all referees, touch judges and in-goal judges earned their respective appointments.

I must thank Michael Quailey for conducting the training seminars at his house. This year also saw North Sydney Referees Association conduct an exchange program with the group 10 Bathurst Referees Association. Michael, Wayne Edwards and Curtis Dowel travelled to Bathurst where they officiated in the Saturday competition.

In July two junior referees from Group 10 along with their coach and Secretary attended North Sydney Association and officiated at Greenway Park, being assessed by myself. I must add that the two junior referees showed promise. Later that evening the Group 10 referees were hosted to an NRL fixture at Parramatta Stadium where they were introduced to Mr Graeme West the Video Referee appointed to that fixture.

I will finish off by saying to the active members, do not slacken off now that the season has finished. Keep your physical training up and keep reading the rule books.

Finally I would like to thank all the members that attended the training sessions, whether it was physical, video and theory and the seminars as this showed that you were all keen to improve your capabilities.

The new season is just around the corner, so just like the boy scouts, be prepared.

Stan Watson.
Level 2 Referees Coach.
Skills Co Coordinator.



Life Member John Quinn with two of our upcoming referees Daniel Ruhan and John Kay

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

STAN WATSON

This year, for the first time in five years the Life Membership Committee has voted that a member be put forward to his fellow members for them to vote on their ascendancy to Life Membership. Therefore, please find below the achievements of **STAN WATSON** as a member of the North Sydney Rugby League Referees' Association.

Joined Association: 1991
Active Member: 1991 – 2003

POSITIONS HELD

Intermediate Vice President: 2002 – 2003
Minute Secretary: 1998 – 2000
Delegate to NSW Referees': 1993 – 2003

COMMITTEES

Bob Purcell Trophy Committee: 1995

COACHING

Skills Coach: 2000 – 2003
Level 1 NSW Referees' Coach: 2001
Level 2 NSW Referees' Coach: 2002 – 2003

ADVISORY BOARD

North Sydney Referees': 1998 – 2003
NSWLRL Referees': 2000 – 2003

REFEREEING ACHIEVEMENTS

Bob Purcell Trophy Winner 1994 & 2003
NSW Junior Representative Squad 1995 – 1999
Jersey Flegg Grand Final TJ 1999
'A' Grade Grand Final TJ 1992 & 1994
U15 Grand Final TJ 1991
U19 Grand Final TJ 1993

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Stan has a 100% meeting attendance record (including apologies) over the past 10 years.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Chairman & members,

Once again it gives me great pleasure to serve as your Honorary Treasurer for the 2003 season. I am pleased to report to you that financially this season was more successful than first anticipated.

It looked as though that again the Association would be without a sponsor for the season. However thanks to Stan Watson's efforts we were able to obtain Frozen Concepts for two seasons for a total of \$10,000. We received the first cheque in May to kick off the season with some cash in the bank. Unfortunately, our sponsor did not forward the log of his business for our members to wear on their uniforms each weekend. Hopefully this does not jeopardise the additional funds we are due to receive for the 2004 season.

As you can see by the income and expenditure statement for the 2003 season the Association made a Surplus of \$3,502.07. I believe this is a fantastic result for the year given the fact that our membership fees were down during the year due to the fall in the number of fixtures and two weekends washed out. However without the sponsorship funds the Association would have "been in the red" approximately \$1,500 and \$3,500 shorter in the bank account.

I urge all members to please read the notes to this year's financial accounts. I have added some additional information regarding the expenditure and the funds received against that expenditure. I feel it is important for members to gain an understanding of how the Association spends its member's money. These notes were prepared to offer more transparency into the finances of the Association. It also tries to achieve more prudent financial awareness and improved corporate governance. Please be aware that these notes do not reconcile to the bottom line of surplus.

Although, the surplus was a great result for the Association this year I do wish to bring up an important issue that affected the financial performance. You will notice the write off of approximately \$1,300.00 worth of Association uniforms. To me this is highly unacceptable. This property of the members has reduced the net worth of the Association substantially, especially for a small one like ours. This is not a fault of Scot Murray's, I believe it is through poor control and management of the gear over a number of years. This is an 8% decrease in the net worth of the Association. This would be an unacceptable risk if the Association were a public or large private company. In the coming seasons, it is up to the committee to find a solution to this recurring problem. The total write off of gear that is

obsolete was \$595.20, consisting of the old uniform. The rest has obviously been unaccounted for somewhere along the lines.

The Association's net worth has increased by approximately \$3,500.00 dollars. This increase is up from \$12,697.59 to \$16,199.66. This figure is mainly represented by what we have in the bank account. The Association is still bearing the loss on social events, and we only had two this year, the Grand Final dinner at Martin and Mary Ryan's residence and the annual presentation night. Please be aware that without a substantial bank account the Association would be "scraping the bottom of the barrel" to subsidise these events.

The most unfortunate issue that seems to be facing the Association and most of the rugby league community is the continual slide in the number of games and players each year. This seems to be an issue between 15 and 19 year age groups. This provides less revenue for the Association and also fewer games for our referees to gain valuable experience. It also reduces the income of our junior members who rely on these games for additional pocket money. Hopefully the rugby league foundation can do its best to increase the participation rates amongst these age groups.

I would like to thank the outgoing committee members for their assistance and friendship throughout the 2003 season. I would also like to thank members once again for allowing me to serve as your Honorary Treasurer. Finally thank you to my girlfriend Christie for her patience and understanding throughout the year.

To all members and your families, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous 2004

Michael Haynes

Honorary Treasurer.

North Sydney Rugby League Referees' Association Inc.
Statement of Financial Position as at 31 October 2003

	Notes	2003	2002
Current Assets			
Cash at bank		16,065.31	12,925.26
Deposits		55.00	55.00
Inventory		2,148.00	3,011.18
Accounts Receivables		150.00	165.00
Other debtors	1		393.57
Prepayments			
Total Assets		18,418.31	16,550.01
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable		456.18	3,852.42
Accrued expenses		250.00	
Tax Payable	1	1,512.47	
Total Current Liabilities		2,218.65	3,852.42
Net Assets		16,199.66	12,697.59
Members funds		16,199.66	12,157.90
 Note 1			
		2003	2002
GST Paid		917.25	847.83
GST Collected		-2429.72	-454.26
Tax payable		-1512.47	393.57

Income and Expenditure Statement
for the period ended 01/11/2002 to 31/10/2003

Income Categories	2003	2002	
Donations Received	\$302.96	\$981.44	
Fines	\$64.00	\$612.00	
Function Income	\$2,390.00	\$6,121.58	
Gear Sales	\$370.00	\$915.00	
Grants	\$3,600.45	\$5,260.64	
Interest	\$36.78	\$25.74	
Match Payments Received	\$27,481.00	\$31,406.00	
Membership Fees	\$2,808.10	\$3,265.60	
Other Income	\$0.00	\$302.56	
Sponsorship	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	
Training Bond (Net)	\$783.45	\$755.43	
	-----	-----	
Total Income	\$42,836.74	\$49,645.99	
Expense Categories			
Administration Expenses	\$730.74	\$298.41	
Affiliation Fee NSWRLRA Inc	\$10.00	\$10.00	
Bank Charges	\$123.32	\$126.72	
Coaching & Training Expenses	\$2,487.41	\$1,614.07	
Cost Of Gear Sold	\$2,431.36	\$1,030.00	
Function Expense	\$4,758.72	\$13,497.11	
Insurance Premiums	\$932.12	\$556.88	
Match Payments Paid	\$27,481.00	\$31,406.00	
Internet costs	\$100.00	\$305.36	
Presentations/Gifts	\$120.00	\$394.14	
Equipment repairs	\$160.00		
	-----	-----	
Total Expense Categories	\$39,334.67	\$49,238.69	
Net Profit/(Loss) For Year	\$3,502.07	\$407.30	
Member's Funds At 1 November	\$12,697.59	\$12,157.90	
2001 Bank reconciliation adjustment		\$132.39	
	-----	-----	
Member's Funds At 31 October	\$16,199.66	\$12,565.20	
Note 2: Functions	Income	Expense	Net
Annual Dinner	\$2,390.00	\$4,639.02	(\$2,249.02)
BBQs & Convivial		\$119.70	(\$119.70)
	-----	-----	-----
Total Function Income	\$2,390.00	\$4,758.72	(\$2,368.72)

Note 3: Administration Expenses

Grant Received	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Filing Fee		\$39.00	(\$39.00)
Postage		\$98.45	(\$98.45)
Printing		\$675.20	(\$675.20)
Accounting software		\$227.23	(\$227.23)
Telephone		\$9.04	(\$9.04)
	-----	-----	-----
Total Administration Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$1,048.92	\$451.08

Note 4: Match Payments

Net Payments To Members	\$21,146.28
Affiliation Fees	\$2,748.10
Gear Sales	\$370.00
Fines	\$64.00
Social	\$1,790.00
GST	\$579.17
Training Bond	\$783.45

	\$27,481.00

Note 5: Sponsorship

Balance Carried Forward	(\$1,574.45)
Received	\$5,000.00

	\$3,425.55

Less:

Association Caps	\$750.00
Comms gear backpacks	\$818.00
TV and Video equipment	\$445.18
Training equipment	\$36.18
Referees' exchange weekend	\$481.82
Equipment repairs	\$160.00

Sub Total \$2,691.18

Net Balance \$734.37

Note 6: Coaching and training

Grants received	\$2,100.45		\$2,100.45
Training expenses		\$1,005.45	(\$1,005.45)
Seminar expenses		\$200.60	(\$200.60)
	-----	-----	-----
Total Coaching & training	\$2,100.45	\$1,206.05	\$894.40

Note 7: Grants

Administration Grant	\$1,500.00 (NSWRL Referees' Assoc)
Coaching Grant	\$1,500.00 (NSWRL Referees' Assoc)
NSDJRL Grant	\$600.45 (Communications gear & ground hire)

Total	\$3,600.45

Note 8: Cost of gear sold

Opening Balance of inventory 1/11/02	\$3,011.18
Less: Sales to members	(\$370.00)
Gear give to members	<u>(\$750.00)</u>
	\$1,891.18
Add: purchases	
- Association caps	\$750.00
- Communications gear backpacks	<u>\$818.00</u>
	\$3,459.18
Association gear as per stock take	\$2,148.00
Less the write off of obsolete gear & gear unaccounted for:	\$1,311.18
Inventory as per Statement of Financial Position	<u><u>\$2,148.00</u></u>

***NB: The Association purchased caps during the year
These caps were given to active members free of charge
to comply with OH&S legislation and to fulfil the Associations
duty of care in protecting our members from the sun.***

**** For accounting purposes this entry is not disclosed in the account "Gear sales"
as there is no corresponding Debit entry that would satisfy correct accounting
Standards.***

AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO: MEMBERS OF THE NORTH SYDNEY DISTRICT RUGBY
LEAGUE REFEREES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

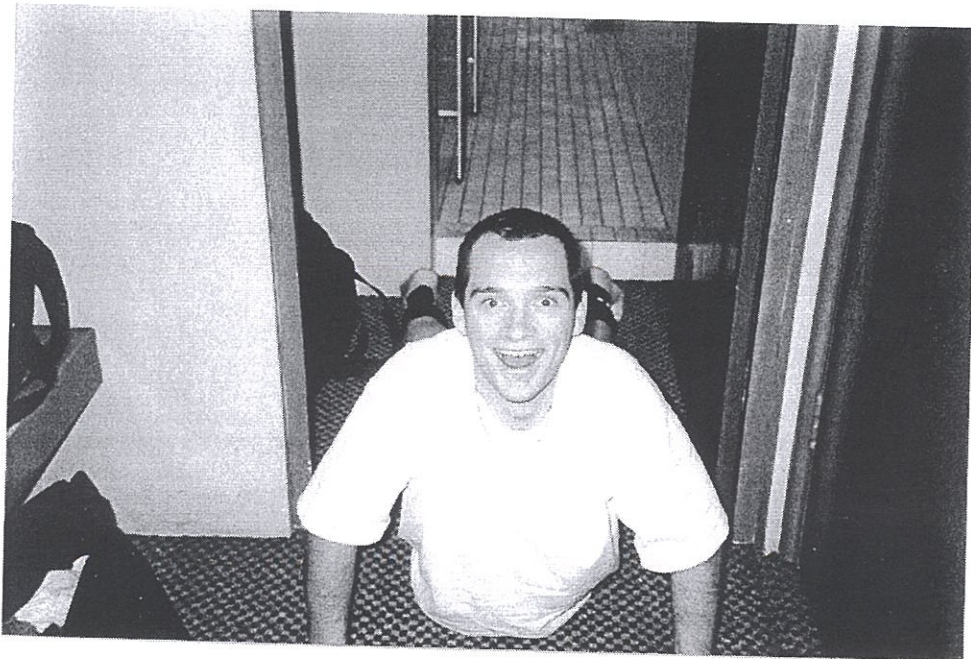
We report that we have examined the books, records and vouchers of the Association for the year ended 31 October 2003.

In our opinion:

- (a) the accompanying Statement of Income and Expenditure represents a true and fair view of the operation of the Association for the year ended 31 October 2003.
- (b) The accompanying Balance Sheet represents a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31 October 2003.

Geoff McManus
Hon. Auditor

Martin Ryan
Hon. Auditor



A slightly unorthodox warm-up ???

HONOUR ROLL

Life Membership

1935	S. Morris (senior)*	1969	J. Quinn
1939	M. Hogan	1975	G. McManus
	J. Turner	1977	J. Porteous*
1942	J. Burden*	1978	B. Minnett
1945	R. Smyth*	1980	E. Carroll*
1950	A. Galbraith*	1981	R. Hammond
	A. Leane*	1983	B. Davoren
1951	D. Haldeman	1985	S. Betts
1953	H. Carrick	1986	A.E Brown
1955	T. Bellew OAM*	1989	C. Jones
1956	A. Jones*	1990	J. Byrne
1959	B. Cowley*	1991	B. Lalor
	S. Morris (junior)	1992	J. Boyle
1960	E. Tinsley	1993	M. Quailey
1963	R. Carey*	1994	R. Kiddle
1966	J. Montgomery	1997	M. Ryan
1967	B. Barry		

* Denotes Member is deceased

Bob Purcell Trophy

1962	B. Burke	1983	J. Boyle
1963	J. Montgomery	1984	E. Carroll
1964	K. Hubbuck	1985	M. Quailey
1965	G. McManus	1986	J. Boyle
1966	B. Barry	1987	M. Quailey
1967	J. Quinn	1988	J. Melville
1968	B. Daveron	1989	S. Clark
1969	B. Minnett	1990	M. Ryan
1970	J. Porteous	1991	Not Presented
1971	E. Carroll	1992	J. Neal
1972	J. Quinn	1993	R. Kiddle
1973	R. Atkinson	1994	S. Watson
1974	E. Carroll	1995	J. Boyle
1975	F. Payne	1996	S. Edwards
1976	A.E. Brown	1997	M. Ryan
1977	D. Haberman	1998	M. Quailey
1978	R. Hammond	1999	M/ Haynes
1979	S. Betts	2000	N. Smith
1980	E. Carroll	2001	A. Devcich
1981	D. Haberman	2002	G. Bailey
1982	C. Jones	2003	S. Watson

Erle Carroll Memorial Medal

1985	J. Neal	1995	D. Lombardo
1986	J. Neal	1996	D. Lombardo
1987	S. Clarke	1997	D. Lombardo
1988	S. Clarke	1998	D. Lombardo
1989	J. Boyle	1999	A. Lewis
1990	P. Guilbert	2000	A. Devcich
1991	P. Guilbert	2001	A Brownlow
1992	P. Guilbert	2002	A. Devcich
1993	M. Guilbert	2003	A. Devcich
1994	J. Boyle		

Vince Smith Junior Encouragement Award

1990	D. Lombardo	1997	J. Stone
1991	S. Edwards	1998	S. Murray
1992	M. Haynes & S. Mamari	1999	M. Clay & A. Osborn
1993	N. Thurgood	2000	C. Dowel
1994	A. Brownlow	2001	N. Halliday
1995	I. Budai	2002	J. Kay
1996	N. Smith	2003	D. Ruhan

Congratulations To

- ✓ Tony Archer, Steve Clark and Gerard Bailey on being regraded.
- ✓ All grade members on their respective appointments.
- ✓ Adam Devcich on refereeing the A grade Grand Final.
- ✓ Stan Watson on winning the Bob Purcell Trophy.
- ✓ Daniel Ruhan on receiving the Junior Encouragement Award.

Appreciation To

- ✓ All our Junior Members for the hard work that they have done.
- ✓ Our wives, girlfriends, mothers and fathers for your help and support during the year.
- ✓ The Junior Leagues Clubs who have looked after our members at various grounds throughout the year. Thank you for your generosity.
- ✓ All kindred Associations for their kind invitations to attend various functions.
- ✓ The Executive of the NSW Referees Association for their help and support throughout the year. Including the increase of the Coaching and Administration grants
- ✓ All of the advisory board members for spending their weekends developing our active referees
- ✓ All active referees for their time and contributions to the North Sydney and Manly Junior leagues
- ✓ Asquith & North Sydney Leagues Club for providing us with their facilities, which enable us to undertake our meetings and seminars



The President - showing he is still in peak physical condition

MEMBERSHIP & MEETINGS ATTENDED – 2003

MEETINGS HELD:	AGM	1
	GENERAL	7
	TOTAL	8

LIFE MEMBER

SENIOR ACTIVE

B. BARRY	-	1A	L. AYRES	-	
S. BETTS	-		R. BALZER	-	1A
J. BOYLE	-	1A	I. BUDAI	2	1A
A.E BROWN	-		M. CLAY	-	1A
J. BYRNE	-		S. DAYEIAN	1	1A
H. CARRICK	-		A. DEVCICH	8	
B. DAVERON	-		C. DOWEL	7	1A
R. HAMMOND	-		W. EDWARDS	2	
R. KIDDLE	-		G. FIELD	-	2A
C. JONES	8		M. HAYNES	8	
W. LALOR	5	2A	M. IRWIN*	1	
G. MCMANUS	-		S.KIDD	8	
B. MINNETT	2	2A	B.J McKIBBINS	-	
J. MONTGOMERY	-		S. MURRAY	5	1A
M. QUAILEY	8		C. O'RIORDAN	3	3A
J. QUINN	5	1A	A. OSBORN	7	2A
M. RYAN	5	3A	V. RULEWSKI	7	
E. TINSLEY	-		A. SMITH	3	4A

HONORARY MEMBERS

L. AYRES	-		S. WATSON	8	
R. BALZER	-		A. WHIDDON	5	1A
FR. T BELL	-				
J. BRANNIGAN	7	1A			
H. LAU	-				
M. MURRAY	-				
R. TALBOT	-				

GRADE MEMBERS

T.ARCHER	-				
G. BAILEY	5	2A			
S.CLARK	-				

JUNIOR MEMBERS

M. CLARIDGE	-				
N. HALLIDAY	1				5A
J. KAY	-				
D. PATON	4				
D. RUHAN	-				

A=APOLOGY

L/A=LEAVE OF ABSENCE

*=BECAME A SENIOR MEMBER DURING

THE SEASON

JUNIOR LEAGUE REPORT

Dear Members,

Undoubtedly, the 2003 North Sydney rugby league season was the most enjoyable of the 8 seasons of my rugby league refereeing career. It was an undeniable privilege to represent the North Sydney Referees Association as delegate to the North Sydney Junior League, and feel part of a hard working, close knit and friendly rugby league community.

In recent times, the junior league has placed an emphasis on maximising participation and incentives for the teams participating in the North Sydney competition. The two division format used successfully in the 2002 A Grade competition was again used in 2003, again ensuring competitive matches and maximum interest from all parties right up to the conclusion of the season.

The inaugural Ken Irvine Shield, held at North Sydney Oval this September, extended this admirable concept down to the junior and schoolboy competitions. This competition pitted the winners of the Manly competitions in each age group against their North Sydney counterparts. This gave some teams an opportunity to play opponents they may not otherwise meet. As all participants could better gauge their relative strengths and weaknesses, this competition will help to improve the overall skill level of players across the Northern area of Sydney.

Additionally, the junior league, with the co-operation of clubs from North Sydney and Manly, organised a number of very successful Under 6 gala days, which were enjoyed immensely by all.

These innovations are possible because all of the administrative bodies concerned, from the junior league to our referees association and the clubs of the North Sydney competition, are well run, and able to strike a sensible balance between their own interests and those of the game of rugby league as a whole in North Sydney. It is fantastic to be part of this spirit and have confidence that we are all working towards common goals, and having an enjoyable time in the process.

Kate Watson and the Australian Rugby League foundation augmented this work by providing numerous midweek and holiday skill sessions and gala days to encourage more young people on the North Shore to play rugby league. With some heartening responses in areas such as West Pymble and Lindfield, which do not currently have teams in our competition, more and more youth are getting first hand experience of what an enjoyable game rugby league is. All of this work can only help boost player numbers in the future.

I would like to thank all of the teams that participated in the 2003 A Grade competition, and particularly Avalon, Belrose, Christian Brothers and Narrabeen for choosing to join us. Every effort was always made to make our officials feel welcome at their grounds, and it was always a pleasure to travel out of the district to officiate at your fixtures.

Congratulations to the Avalon team for winning the Division 2 A Grade Grand Final, and also to the Belrose team for becoming North Sydney A Grade champions for 2003. The A Grade Grand Final in particular was an extremely entertaining match, despite the extremely windy conditions on the day. The young Belrose side built a small lead through the simple, mistake free, well disciplined approach they had employed all year, then their more experienced Narrabeen opponents attacked it right up to the final whistle. The defence from both sides was exceptional.

I cannot wait for the beginning of season 2004, and extend my best wishes to the Junior League and all the clubs. This is a marvellous group to be part of.

Yours faithfully,

Stuart Kidd
Junior League Delegate

2003 GRAND FINAL APPOINTMENTS

A1 GRADE: NARRABEEN V BELROSE



REFEREE:

ADAM DEVCICH

TOUCH JUDGES:

CURTIS DOWEL & COLIN JONES

IN-GOAL JUDGES:

DANIEL RUHAN & STUART KIDD

A2 GRADE: AVALON V WILLOUGHBY



REFEREE:

VIC RULEWSKI

TOUCH JUDGES:

NATHAN SMITH & MICHAEL QAILEY

IN-GOAL JUDGES:

NATHAN HALLIDAY & JOHN KAY

UNDER 16: ASQUITH V BEROWRA



REFEREE:

CURTIS DOWEL

TOUCH JUDGES:

DANIEL RUHAN & STUART KIDD

IN-GOAL JUDGES:

NATHAN HALLIDAY & JOHN KAY

UNDER 15: BROTHERS V ASQUITH



REFEREE:

MARTIN RYAN

TOUCH JUDGES:

NATHAN HALLIDAY & JOHN KAY

IN-GOAL JUDGES:

DANIEL RUHAN & STUART KIDD

UNDER 14: HILLS HAWKS V ASQUITH



REFEREE:

CURTIS DOWEL

TOUCH JUDGES:

DANIEL RUHAN & CAMERON MCKAY

UNDER 13: HILLS HAWKS V ASQUITH



REFEREE:

WAYNE EDWARDS

TOUCH JUDGES:

NATHAN SMITH & ADAM DEVCICH

UNDER 12: HILL HAWKS V PENNANT HILLS



REFEREE:

BRENDON (BJ) MCKIBBINS

TOUCH JUDGES:

DANIEL RUHAN & STEPHEN DAYEIAN

UNDER 11: HILLS HAWKS V ASQUITH



REFEREE:

STUART KIDD

TOUCH JUDGES:

CAMERON MCKAY & JOHN KAY

UNDER 10: BEROWRA V ASQUITH



REFEREE: MICHAEL QUAILEY
TOUCH JUDGES: MARK IRWIN & STEPHEN DAYEIAN

UNDER 9: BEROWRA V HILLS HAWKS

REFEREE: NATHAN HALLIDAY
TOUCH JUDGES: JOHN KAY & DOM PATON

Social Report

Unfortunately 2003 was not a very successful year for social events.

As I have been tied up with work and other commitments made it difficult for me to organise social gatherings. After the cost and extravagance on the 80th Anniversary last year, this year we took a more economical approach to the Ladies night. This year it was held at the Hornsby RSL and once again was a success. Compared to last year numbers were down due to illnesses, the rival code of 'rah rah' playing some little tournament in Sydney and other members travelling the globe. Thankyou to Nathan Smith for his MC duties on the night and congratulations to Daniel Ruhan (Vince Smith Junior Encouragement Award), Adam Devcich (Erle Carroll Award) and Stan Watson (Bob Purcell Trophy) for having their efforts throughout the year rewarded.

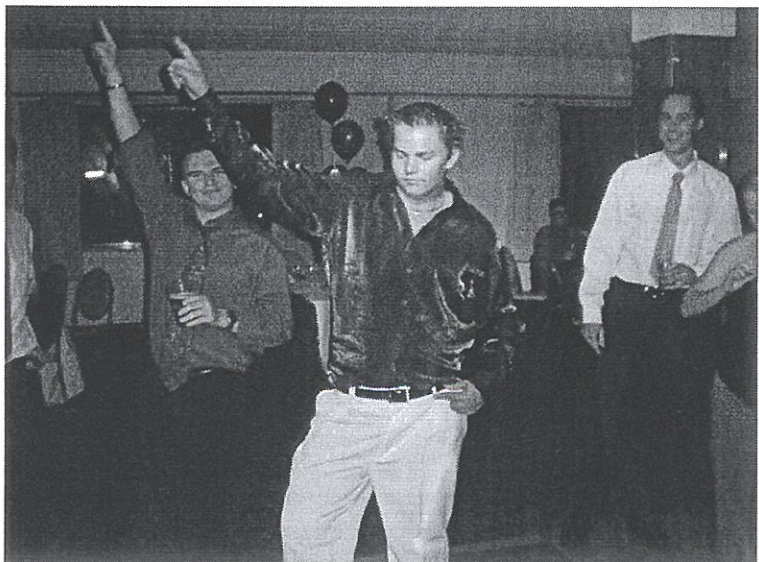
I look forward to a bigger and better year in 2004.

I wish a safe and happy Merry Christmas and New Year to all members and their families.

Scot Murray
Social Secretary

PRESENTATION NIGHT PHOTOS





ELECTION OF 2004 OFFICE BEARERS

PATRON _____

PRESIDENT _____

HON. SECRETARY _____

HON TRESURER _____

MINUTE SECRETARY _____

VICE PRESIDENTS

SENIOR _____

INTERMEDIATE _____

JUNIOR _____

SOCIAL SECRETARY _____

DELEGATES

NSW RLRA _____

NSDJ RUGBY LEAGUE _____

HONORARY AUDITORS _____

