



## **NSDRLRA**

### **Life Member Profile**

**Martin Ryan**

**Life Member 33: 1997**

Membership: since 1979



#### **Honours**

Life Membership: 1997

Graded Referee: 1997 - 2002

John Quinn Trophy: 1990 & 1997

Refereeing Accreditation: level 5 - Referee

#### **Executive Positions Held**

Vice President, Treasurer and Social Secretary

#### **Association Positions Held**

Delegate to NSWRL Referees, Incident Review Committee, Honorary Auditor, Gear Steward, Coaching Panel, Appointments Board, Advisory Board, Life Membership Committee, Sponsorship Committee, Standing Orders Review Committee, Constitution Review Committee, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, Past & Present Committee and Social Committee and the John Quinn (Bob Purcell) Trophy Committee

#### **Comments**

All I ever wanted to do with my life in sport was to referee Rugby League. I decided this at the age of 5. I was refereeing in the playground at age 9 and in school competitions at age 11. I quit playing, got my ticket and started my career at age 15. I refereed U19 at age 16, Junior Reps at age 19 and SG Ball centres at age 20. The rate of my progress slowed from there! I persisted in Junior Reps for nearly 9 years before being graded as a Touch Judge, after 3 consecutive appointments to the top Junior Rep Grand Final. My career as a Touch Judge in Grade was similar, taking 7 years to reach NRL. Towards the end of my Graded career I sought to leave a legacy for future graded referees by pursuing a more professional governance of the NSW Referees Association and the NRL performance appraisal system. I would like to think I made a small but enduring difference.

These days, I love to visit local grounds and watch younger referees, when my family commitments allow. I also represent the Association in development and maintenance of the Junior League Code of Conduct.