



## **NSDRLRA**

### **Life Member Profile**

**Stan Watson**

**Life Member 34: 2003**

Membership: since 1991



#### **Honours**

Life Membership: 2003

John Quinn Trophy: 1994, 2003 & 2007

Smyth Montgomery medal: 2018

Refereeing Accreditation: level 3 - Referee and level 3 - Referee coach

#### **Executive Positions Held**

Assistant Secretary, Vice President and Director of Coaching and Development

#### **Association Positions Held**

Delegate to the NSWRL Referees, Delegate to the North Sydney Junior League, Coaching staff, Appointments Board, Advisory Board, Accreditation Officer, Life Membership Committee, Sponsorship Committee and the John Quinn (Bob Purcell) Trophy Committee

#### **Comments**

I retired from playing rugby league with the Campbelltown Warriors due to injuries that took too long to heal. In the early 1980s I also played in the NSW Police Rugby League Competition with the Liverpool Bulls.

At the end of the 1986 season I saw a referee that had controlled many of the games that I had participated in and enquired about starting refereeing. This referee that controlled some of the Police competition matches was also a member of the Western Suburbs Referees Association.

I first obtained my referees ticket at the end of the 1987 season and began my refereeing career with the Western Suburbs Referees Association in 1988. During my short career with Wests, I was influenced by a couple of high profile first grade members in Michael Stone and Col White. In my third season I was rewarded with an U/16 grand final as referee.

In 1991 I joined the North Sydney Referees Association. In the Association I met a few graded members to name a few, Steven Clark, Robert Kiddle, Steve Betts, Col Jones and Jimmy Neal. All these referees helped me along throughout my career, not to mention a former graded member and Life Member of both NSWRLRA and North Sydney, Brian Barry and Life Member William Lalor. One other person that was also a guiding light in the Association was John Quinn. John Quinn knew that I was a police officer and never called me by my name, he always called me the Sergeant or Sarge.

At the end of the 1991 season, I was appointed as Touch Judge to the U/16 grand final with Steve (Fingers) Greig (he was also a police officer who shot two of his fingers off whilst trying to stop a German Shepherd dog from mauling him) as referee. Steve could only send a player to the Sin Bin for 8 minutes only. The other touch judge was young Anthony Filbrook. It was suggested by another referee that was also a larrikin that at the first kick at goal, that Anthony and I raise our flags slowly (Queensland style touch judges) if the kick was successful.

Well it wasn't long and a try was scored under the goal posts. Anthony and I then agreed to raise our flags slowly at this conversion if successful. The kicker took the kick 10 metres out in front. The ball sailed through the uprights. Anthony and I raised our flags, with our arms going to the side slowly and then into an upright position. The referee Steve Greig began to put his whistle in his mouth but could not blow the whistle as we had not raised our flags completely.

At half time Steve said that he almost choked waiting for us to raise our flags. At full time, Steven Clark approached us and said, "Unofficially, it looked good. Officially you pair are dickheads." At the time, Michael Quailey was Secretary and also came down to the sheds and said "You pair have been fined." Needless to say we did get fined for our larrikinism.

During my active career with this Association, I was invited to the Junior Development Squad as a touch judge. I was appointed as Touch Judge to the 1998 Jersey Flegg grand final between Parramatta and North Sydney.