

Bro John Vance
Rosalie Marist Bro



Ken Cowley
\$63856

OFFICERS - 1971

Registrar
John Mehan

PRESIDENT

J.R.S. Forbes

Burnett

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Forbes
H.G. Clark (Immed. Past President)

Finlay
D.L. Duffell, K.J. Crowe.

Crowe
New Member & Lectures
Exc & Lect

HON. SECRETARY

B.R. Short

Bro John Vance

HON. TREASURER

D.W. Jowett

MANAGING COMMITTEE

J.R.S. Forbes (Chairman) K.J. Crowe, I. Gilmore, D.W. Jowett,
B.R. Short

ASSISTANT SECRETARY/TREASURER

J.M. O'Connor

APPOINTMENTS BOARD

D.L. Duffell (Chairman), F.D.O. Fielding, P. McManus

Gibson *Decker* *Cowley*

EXAMINATIONS BOARD

I.V. Olsson (Chairman), J. Buckley, K.J. Crowe, J.R. Forbes,
B. O'Connor

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

R.R. Douglas (Chairman), K. Cowley, C. Waldron

LECTURES COMMITTEE

M. Clark, I. Gilmore, P. Spranklin

DELEGATES TO Q.R.U. COUNCIL

D.L. Duffell, J.R. Forbes (ex officio)

Crowe *O'Connor*

DELEGATE TO A.S.R.R.

K.J. Crowe

MEMBER, Q.R.U. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

I. Beames

DOUGLAS

DELEGATES TO SUB-DISTRICT UNION

R. Douglas, C. Menzies.

Waldron
Douglas = Special Committee

Jowett = raising finance

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Rugby has traditionally been a fully amateur sport. This Association means to retain that character. Amateur officers can give just so much of their time and energy to their positions. In 1971, far too much of your officers' time had to be spent in protecting the Association from persistent and unwarranted interference. I regret that this may cost us some of our best and most independent members.

First to matters pleasant. As expected, the award of the Minter Trophy to Cec Menzies was very well received. Cec began his career with us relatively late. He has certainly made up for lost time. Last year's winner, Jin Buckley (Toowoomba) deservedly received a State appointment, to the City-Country match at Rockhampton. His Downs colleague, Marcus McManus, gained city first-grade status. It is hard to believe that Marcus still has only a few seasons' experience behind him. It was good to see Chris. Oxenford, that tireless pilgrim from Southport, also gain promotion.

Financially we have done well. We should be able to subsidise "foreign" experience for some promising member/s this year. Great credit is due to the Activities Committee, and to Colin Waldron, for fund-raising efforts. The traditional Union subsidy has ceased. The Union is seeking to levy a \$50 affiliation fee upon the Association. This is unprecedented. We thank Don Jowett for another year's good service in the Treasury. I thank, too, my colleagues on the Managing Committee.

The Activities (Young Members') Committee is now two years old. It has established itself as the reasoning voice of the 'young' or 'average' member, as we hoped it would. Its report does it credit. Naturally and properly, it puts as strongly as possible every average member's wish to be an above-average member (in appointments). That is understandable, but it is not real. With all due respect, the Committee's case on 'grading' would under local conditions lead readily, if not inevitably, to most inadequate recognition of differing abilities. We are not a country or 'small-State' Association. We still have proportionally more first-grade referees than Sydney, the other Australian Association with our kind of responsibility. No Association can produce more than a fairly small number of 'top' men at any one time. These have to be kept in form with games up to their ability. Otherwise they fall below their best, and the game suffers. Now, despite much ballyhoo, we still have a scarce supply of fair-to-good local games. There is simply not the room to use G.P.S. Firsts matches as douceurs for less senior referees, to say nothing of justice to the schools.

Of course 'bleeding' should and must occur. But very carefully in our circumstances. With a scarce supply of better games

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and only 40 or so fully active members, the 'middle' can so very easily swallow the 'top'. In a bigger Union, there is much greater scope for experimenting without destroying grading. Even if we made 30% or more of our members occasional first-graders, we do not have the games to keep them to that standard. We may be asked:- "What if all the top men retired at once?" The short answer is that it is possible, but not at all probable. We can only run our affairs according to the probable. Whatever may now happen to "rep." appointments, (see later) we should keep a firm grading policy, or we will not need an Association at all, save for purely social purposes. If we shorten the already short distance from bottom to top in our small Association, we will again have the worst of both worlds:- (i) irresistible pressures against any reasonable grading and (ii) a growing pool of premature, temporary "promotions", with nowhere left to 'go' and disgruntled at 'going down' again. Now higher gradings mean something, precisely because they're more selective. When everyone is somebody, then no one's anybody. On reflection, I'm sure, no one really wants appointments based on mutual back-scratching again. Promotion is quicker here than in most major Associations anyway.

The Examinations' Board report suggests that our new rule (one year's probation on Associate badge) has eliminated people taking our Senior badge while 'just passing through'. For years, this had done the badge harm.

It is good to see Country notes in this Report.

Members appointed to the South Africa matches coped well with the special problems of that tour. Let us not forget the touch judges, and 'acting ball-boys', who were even closer to the firing line.

Such excitements pass. Our prime difficulties are undue pressure from central controllers, and the deterioration of player-discipline. Most Unions have anti-referee instincts, and itches to influence appointments. Mature Unions relegate the former to the fringes, and refuse to institutionalise the latter. The northern Union has long had a flavour of its own. Yet in 1963, it commendably wrote referees' independence into its Constitution. The publicity bandwagon had just begun to roll. It was trumpeted at the time as a great advance. Now (November 1971) the position is reversed. The Union is becoming intensely centralised. The paper independence of the Association was actually being achieved in fact. So by the barest vote of a Council much reduced in real power, that independence was removed. For all but club and school matches, the Appointments Board is now a minority on a "representative Board". The capacity of this people's court to cut across our considered standards and gradings is sweeping. In local publicity, all sorts of games are called "representative", which most Unions would treat as social. Our difficulty will be to retain good calibre members on an Appointments Board so reduced in authority. Only the

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future will reveal how "rep" games will now be allotted, and how many adult referees will have time or stomach for the requisite campaigning.

Now a necessary word about foul play. Our concern here is for the majority of players. Increasingly we hear that we must "sell" the game. Well, where there's a sale, there's usually a commission for someone. There's no popularity percentage in dealing with foul play, but the job badly needs doing. All who have eyes to see know that among a minority, foul play is increasing. Referees report or dismiss offenders. Some of the offences are serious in more than a sporting sense. Reports are clear and specific. Not a few of them are from very experienced referees, temperate in their use of the misconduct rules. No doubt there is good faith all round, but almost nothing happens. Enquiries show that penalties for foul play here are lighter than in any interstate or country Union. Certainly they are much lighter than in the Sydney Union, which we so jealously emulate in most other things. With this problem, on top of the appointments problem, the position of independent referees is becoming untenable.

Early last season, we were invited to much-publicised meetings on foul play. It was freely conceded that a serious and growing problem existed. These meetings were largely a waste of valuable time. All that is really needed is to translate general pieties into action when the crunch of the actual case comes. There is a lot of sentimental nonsense about suspensions -- as if they were incarcerations, or heavy fines, instead of a rule precluding a reckless or dangerous person from a few sessions of a mere game. That is very little for what may elsewhere be punishable as aggravated assault. No one seems to think that we live in the least violence-prone society of all time. It's not disloyal to this 'body contact' game to recognise that it provides some fine chances for reckless aggressors, and for a few who are rather worse. Token suspensions just increase the danger. It may be politics, but it is not logic, to focus the blame on referees. The discipline position being what it is, referees are already under an unfair burden. They have taken action, and it has stopped there. When it ceases to stop there, referees may reasonably be expected to do more. If the situation does not rapidly improve in practice, those of us with children almost ready for the firing-line may well look elsewhere for their recreation. It would be tragic if an inferiority complex towards professional codes should bring us the worst in them, without much of the best.

1971 will be a testing year. We have to do a difficult job under unnecessary difficulties. We have to remain independent and amateur. There are several ways of ceasing to be amateur. Some are: 'touting' for advancement in refereeing; using Rugby situations for petty business self-promotion; even using the game as a substitute for a main purpose in life. The year 1972 may show whether an independent Association is still viable here. On the surface, no doubt, a non-independent one could get along swimmingly.

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On your behalf, I thank all our members for loyal service in 1971. I thank, too all the individual players and administrators who have helped to keep some substantial pleasure in Rugby and refereeing. Especially do I thank for their work and integrity one of our best Appointments Boards ever. I hope we do not lose them. For my own part, I thank you for the honour of the Presidency. I suspect that "the chair" has in the past been softer to occupy.

J.R.F.

APPOINTMENTS BOARD

Members of the Board had a busy and exacting season, having to appoint officially to 804 matches whilst subject to persistent harassment by the management committee of the Q.R.U. The situation came to a climax in September when the Q.R.U. council carried a motion re major appointments which could only be regarded by the Board as a motion of no confidence in its judgement. Here then are the representative appointments which had such significance for the members of Council:

- R. Burnett - Qld. & Victoria
Qld. & N.S.W. (Sydney) Junior Wallabies v South Africa
- J. Buckley - Brisbane v Qld. Country (Rockhampton)
- K. Crowe - Qld. v Lions, Qld. v South Africa, Grand Final
A.R.U. appointment - Sydney v South Africa
- J. Forbes - Qld. v Sydney, Aust. Universities v Aust. Services,
Qld. Country v South Africa.
- I. Gilmore - Brisbane v Country, Univ. of Qld. v Univ. of California.
- D. Jowett - Qld. v Univ. of California, Qld. v South Australia,
Qld. v Aust Services.

First grade appointments remained selective and the Board congratulates Marcus McManus and Chris Oxenford, who, with visiting referee Bert Vest (A.C.T.), were the only new faces seen in the senior grade in 1971.

Some difficulty was experienced in finalising appointments for certain matches at Redcliffe, Ipswich, Gatton and Southport. However, the occasional emergency at both Ipswich and Southport unearthed local referees with undoubted skill and competence. A plague of forfeits without notice caused annoyance to the Board and of course to the active members. One of these lapses involved a member in a round trip of 100 miles.

When the bulk of the membership was available for appointment high standards were evident in all grades throughout the season. There are enough referees in the Association with the ability to maintain this high standard, but there are not yet quite enough to cover all the Association's commitments, particularly in mid-season.

Nevertheless seventy referees, including visitors from A.C.T., Victoria, N.S.W., N.Z., Sth. Australia and Papua, participated in the season's activities. Following is a list of those appointed officially to five or more matches. The list excludes trial matches, knockouts and Seven a Side games.

J. Forbes 35, R. Burnett 30, K. Crowe 30, C. Waldron 29, G. Sheehan 28, D. Jowett 27, J. O'Connor 24, J. Meehan 22, J. Broughton 22, Bro. Donatus 21, D. Finlay 21, A. Broad 20, R. Douglas 20, I. Olsson 20, I. Gilmore 20, C. May 20, B. Short 19, K. Cowley 19, M. Lyons 19, C. Menzies 19, C. Oxenford 18, P. Spronklin 18, M. Clark 17, F. Brown 17, P. Honan 17, J. Quinn 16, M. McGovern 16, B. O'Connor 14, Bro. Vance 14, J. Jell 13, G. Brittenden 13, K. Larkin 12, G. Doyle 12, P. Will 10, M. McManus 10, J. McCarthy 9, J. Beames 9, T. Henry 9, P. Bechtel 8, M. Lalor 8, E. Chitani 7, J. Nolan 7, K. Biggs 7, T. Weber 6, M. May 3.

EXAMINATIONS BOARD

1971 saw the introduction of fixed examination times for Associate Examinations. These were held at 7 p.m. on our usual meeting nights (when candidates were available). The written test was continued and proved most suitable. We did though combine this with a field test where the answers indicated a theoretical rather than a practical knowledge on the part of a candidate for "active" membership.

Also, where a candidate had had several years experience on refereeing a field test was substituted for the written test when circumstances made this more practical. A pass mark of 60% was set and as the questions asked required specific answers the dangers inherent in "marking" papers were removed.

Junior Badge candidates were required to provide their own supervisor (usually a school master) and papers were distributed to the selected person. It was made a fixed rule that no paper was marked until the question paper was returned and complete cooperation was received. This enabled us to keep strict control over our examinations and where a school had further candidates, an altered question paper was used. This is not to indicate a lack of trust in anybody but rather seems the most realistic control that can be maintained.

The following persons passed exams in 1971:

ASSOCIATE

<u>'Active'</u>	P. Bechtel, G. Doyle, T. Henry, J. Nolan, A. Pearce
<u>C.E.G.S.</u>	J.P. Barrett
<u>I.G.S.</u>	K. Biggs

Marist Brothers
St. Laurences
St. Pauls

Bros. R. Holmes, R. Penny
Bros. P. Moss, P. O'Brien, T. Sullivan
J. Moffat

JUNIOR

<u>B.S.H.S.</u>	J. Waterhouse
<u>I.G.S.</u>	M. Smith
<u>Hudgee</u>	G. Benfield, P. Faust, R. Giarola

Perhaps the greatest need in 1972 is for the preparation of a more formal test for Senior Membership. It is suggested that this include both written and field test, allied with an oral test when necessary. Such a basis would give real meaning to senior membership as well as enabling problems to be isolated and overcome early in a members career.

Above all it is essential that the cooperation which existed between the Examination Board and the Appointments Board be maintained. In this way the Examiners know the requirements of the latter and the Appointments Board the qualifications of the new members - both of which go towards better referees and thus better Rugby.

Ian V. Olsson
Chairman

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The Activities Committee throughout this season was constituted by Col Waldron, Ken Cowley and myself. Unlike previous years, the Committee this year was given a much heavier work load and, I would hope that the members of the association consider that it was carried out successfully.

In particular the Committee organised the annual Wylie Memorial Function which was held at the Murrayfield Room at Ballymore. The Committee would like to thank Jules Gueraussinoff for a very entertaining and informative speech. The second major job given to the Activities Committee was that of organising the doubles for sale at the major games held throughout the season. Particular thanks in this regard must go to Col Waldron who took upon himself the complete organisation and despatch of the doubles. If any member has yet not forwarded his payment for the doubles sent to him it would be appreciated if he would do so as soon as possible. However notwithstanding that the doubles were a great success and added to the coffers of the Association to a large degree, it is the recommendation of this Committee that one or two persons be appointed during 1972 and in subsequent years with the sole responsibility of organising doubles for the major games during the season. If this were done, we consider doubles could then be organised for the major games which are held early in the season notably the match between New South Wales and Queensland which is generally held in May. As you will know, last season doubles were not organised until the arrival of the Springboks.

This Committee would also like to draw attention to the appointment of referees to senior grade matches. We have no intention in doing this of criticising or casting aspersions on any of the senior referees who are appointed to these games. However the Committee feels that there are at the present time so few referees who have A grade experience or experience in the major GPS, TAS and minor representative games. This Committee has noted that in the past it is a common experience that one of our current senior referees is appointed to an A grade QUR fixture on one day of the weekend and to a major GPS or TAS game on the other day. It is the opinion of this Committee that if the appointments board wishes to blood younger referees for major games then it should adopt the policy of appointing senior referees to only one so called "A" grade game on the one weekend. I refer in this regard to the category "A" games in the grading scheme introduced in 1970. We do not consider it necessary that the senior referees should as a rule be appointed to the normal GPS or TAS games. However we do realise that in some of these games the winning or losing of a premiership may depend on the standard of refereeing and in those cases we concede that a senior referee should and probably would be appointed.

What has been said above is designed to point out to the incoming appointments board that referees are not like old soldiers and at some stage they must retire. If the appointments board were to consider its position should only two or three of the present senior referees retire or be transferred then it might wonder who would have sufficient blooding in major games to be appointed to those games that the senior referees are now doing. This Committee considers that far too many of the games

which could easily be used for the bleeding of prominent middle and junior referees which are at the present time being controlled by those members of the association who fall into the category of senior referees as I have described above.

Perhaps what is contained in this report constitutes a ground for a revision of the general grading scheme which was introduced at the beginning of the 1970 season. The sword is perhaps double edged insofar as a change in the present system must, in our opinion, produce a better standard of referee and further give the appointments board a chance of gauging a referee's ability before thrusting him into the "bigtime" because of what at the present time appears to be an unforeseen circumstance.

R. R. Douglas,
Chairman

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY

The 1972 Annual Meeting was held at the Kattabul Naval Depot, Sydney, on 13th February. The Sydney Referees Association is dissatisfied with the working of the Australian Appointments Board, and suggest that a delegate of the Society should join this Board.

The Q.R.R.A. is negotiating with the Society to hold its 1973 Biennial Seminar in Brisbane for the first time.

The Society advises that the 1972 edition of the Laws will probably not appear until March or April. In the meantime, the following Society circular of changes from the 1971 text is worth reproducing here: --

ADVANTAGE

a) The advantage law is now applicable at the kick-off, except when it is taken at the wrong place or with the incorrect type of kick. This means that advantage must be played when:

1. Attacking player(s) are in front of the ball when it is kicked.
2. The ball travels less than 10 yds. and is first played by a member of the kicking-off side.
3. Opposing player(s) are within 10 yds. before the ball is kicked.

(Law 8 (2))

b) Advantage can now be played when the ball is thrown in from the wrong place. (Law 9 (2)) & instruction on Law 23).

NOTE that in both cases the conditions of Law 8 (1) must apply.

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TRY SCORING VALUE (LAW 11)

There will be four points awarded for a Try. This is experimental for 1972 only. The International Rugby Football Board will consider its effect at their meeting in 1973.

KNOCK-ON

On Law 17 (2) & (3) a further attempt has been made to define a knock-on (other than receiving direct from a kick). The sections of Law are now divided into 2 circumstances:

1. Receiving a pass or attempting to catch a bouncing ball. Previously, mention was made of "a movement within the player's grasp, without loss of control". The Law now simply states that it is not a knock-on if the player takes the ball without making a second catch.
2. Picking up the ball - It is now stated that it is always an infringement of a player attempts to pick up the ball and it goes forward whatever the distance.

NOTE

in neither case is the circumstance of the one handed fumbled catch mentioned - so by inference a one handed adjustment is now allowed.

MAUL

The 1971-72 amendment clarifies the definition of being "a member of a maul", no longer does he have to be "joined" but "caught in or bound to the maul" and not merely alongside it. (Law 22 (2)) - the essence of binding (Law 20 (6) (d)) and Law 21 (1)) is that it must be with at least one arm around the body of another player of the same team.

There are also minor amendments concerning scrumage (instructions on Law 20 Note (4) and Penalty Kick (instructions on Law 27 Note (8)) which explain themselves.

COUNTRY ASSOCIATIONS

North Queensland

At the Annual Meeting of our Association held in February 1971, Ron Barnes was re-elected to the position of President while Peter Lowth was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Our numbers at the commencement of the 1971 season were 12. This was very pleasing with 6 new faces added to our 1970 strength. However as has happened in other years our numbers decreased due to transfers and army postings and at the end of the 1971 season our numbers had dwindled to 7.

The new members worked hard and after many weeks Gary Jensen, Tom Hunter and Len Curtis were successful in passing their examination and also their field tests.

As the 1972 season approaches all members from 1971 have indicated their intention of refereeing. However with the growth of the game in Townsville it is imperative that we at least double our numbers to meet our commitments to the T.D.R.U.

Finally our best wishes for 1972 to our fellow "whistle blowers" in Queensland.

R. Barnes

Rockhampton

The following report is sent in by Terry Moore.

The President for 1971 was Greg Beeston, a former Brisbane member. The Secretary was John White and the Appointments Board, Greg Beeston and Terry Moore. Paul Braddy also continues as a Senior member.

At the recent Rockhampton Union Council Meeting, Terry Moore was re-elected Secretary of the Union.

The Association was assisted with Juniors during the year by Kev Barry, formerly of Toowoomba and the Associate Member of the Q.R.R.A.

The Rockhampton Union is extended to a Reserve Grade this year. An active recruiting campaign will be necessary. One gain this year is Dr. Kerry Larkin.

We were happy to entertain Ron Barnes from Townsville and Marcus McManus during the Country Carnival here.

Major appointments during the year in Rockhampton were:

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Rockhampton report (contd.)

Brisbane v Queensland Country - J. Buckley (Toowoomba)

Rockhampton v Ipswich - R. Barnes, (Townsville)

Rockhampton v University of California - Greg. Beeston

Grand Final -- Paul Braddy.

Other members involved in administration of the Union are
John White (Treasurer) and Paul Braddy (Executive Chairman).

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

The attached statements show a surplus for the year of \$34.00.

Receipts are up for the year by \$147.00 due to increased annual subscriptions and sale of doubles. No donations were received from Queensland Rugby Union, The Associated Schools or Downlands College for the period under review.

Expenses are \$158.00 higher for the year. The cost of the Annual Dinner was in excess of previous years and the purchase of new badges accounted for the major part of the increase.

A disputed account from the Queensland Rugby Union for \$50.00 remains unpaid as at 31 December, 1971.

The audited accounts are as follows.

D.W. Jowett
Hon. Treasurer

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1971

<u>1970</u>		<u>1971</u>
\$733	Receipts (Schedule 1)	\$880
<u>688</u>	Payments (Schedule 2)	<u>846</u>
\$ 45	Surplus for year	\$ 34
	Add: cash at bank at beginning of year	
14	- General fund	\$113
200	- Term deposit	200
<u>54</u>	- Travel fund	<u>---</u>
\$313	Cash at bank at end of year	<u>\$347</u>
<u>=====</u>		<u>=====</u>
	Comprising:	
\$113	General fund	\$147
<u>200</u>	Term deposit	<u>200</u>
<u>\$313</u>		<u>\$347</u>

NOTE: In addition to the cash at bank and on deposit a number of ties are held for sale.

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SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS (CONTD.)

Auditors' report to the members

We have examined the summary of receipts and payments of the Queensland Rugby Union Referees Association and the supporting lists of receipts and of payments for the year ended 31st December 1971. Our examination included such tests of the accounting records and other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion the accompanying statements give a true and fair view of the cash transactions of the Association for the year ended 31st December 1971.

Arthur Andersen & Co.
Chartered Accountants

Brisbane,
9th February, 1972.

SCHEDULE 1

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1971

1970		1971
\$ 5	Affiliation fees - North Queensland R.R.A.	\$ -
5	- Downs R.R.A.	-
168	Annual subscriptions	218
23	Donations - Queensland G.P.S. Assn.	25
-	- Arthur Andersen & Co.	10
-	- Australian Society of Referees (travel fund)	60
100	- Queensland Rugby Union	-
25	- Queensland Associated Schools	-
30	- Downlands College	-
13	Interest	15
63	Sales - Badges and rule books	110
18	- Ties	27
25	Sale of Doubles	160
5	Sale of refrigerator	-
92	Receipts from - Members Dinner	90
116	- Wyllie Memorial Dinner	131
35	- Christmas function	20
-	- Annual Meeting	14
10	- Cricket match	-
<u>\$733</u>	<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>\$880</u>