

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION
REFEREES' ASSOCIATION



1974
ANNUAL REPORT
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

TO BE PRESENTED AT
Q.R.U. BALLYMORE
13th NOVEMBER

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION

REFEREES' ASSOCIATION

Principal Office-bearers for 1974

President	K.J. Crowe
Vice President	R.T. Burnett (I.P.P.)
	G. Sheehan
Hon. Secretary	N. Clark
Hon. Treasurer	C. Waldron
Managing Committee	K. Crowe, N. Clark
	D. Jowett, C. Waldron
Asst. Sec./Treas.	I. Scotney
Examination Board	B. O'Connor
Appointment Board	R. Tebay, J. Forbes
	D. Jowett
Lectures Board	B. O'Connor, G. Hogan
Finance Committee	C. Waldron, D. Jowett
	C. Stubbings
Delegates Q.R.U.	K. Crowe, J. O'Connor
Delegate Q.J.R.U.	C. Menzies
Delegates Sub Districts	R.T. Burnett
Delegate to Judicial	P. Gair
Committee	
Delegate to A.S.S.R.	K. Crowe
Registrar	I. Scotney

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1974

The 1974 season was one of mixed success. The committee objectively went into this season to act as a sounding board to try and overcome the rumblings within and without. We attempted this in two ways.

Firstly we tried to strengthen our Association by a concentrated recruiting campaign early in the season. We achieved this in the three months allocated and you did see new faces among us this year. We reactivated this campaign on a mild note towards the end of the season and you will see some experienced players becoming active referees next year.

Secondly, we introduced a measure of stability into the Association with the introduction of the grading system, a highly efficient and most active Appointment Board, and a competitiveness which brought the best that was to offer from all active members. One major contribution which blossomed out of this system was that every referee now knows his position in the Association. This could only be achieved by the tireless work of the Appointment Board where their activities took them to country areas and many long week-ends on appointments and grading, to these gentlemen we are sincerely grateful for their time and effort.

The financial position of your Association is sound as you can see by the Treasurer's report. This could only be achieved by a terrific effort by the social and financial committee and the members who assisted them throughout the season selling doubles etc. To all these members we owe our gratitude.

The interchanges continued this year and we were visited by Owen Irwin from Hamilton N.Z. while Col Waldron visited Hamilton in late August. John O'Connor and Col Stubbings participated in the Sydney Interchange. Our congratulations go to these referees whom we know will show the benefit of the experience gained in future years.

To the members who progressed through the grading and we did see fresh faces in the top grades this year — we congratulate you and recommend you keep up the effort next season. To the members who won representative honours, and they are listed in the Appointment Board reports, we sincerely congratulate you for keeping our Association high on the national scene.

To one member in particular who has done a tremendous amount of work for this Association and has given a lot of time to Rugby, we must personally thank our Minter Award winner, Don Jowett. Thanks Don and best of luck in your new position on the Q.R.U.

To all you members who attended the meetings regularly and contributed so much to make them interesting and beneficial, we thank you. To the outgoing committee who, after early set-backs with transfers, assisted me so loyally and conscientiously, I sincerely thank you.

To the incoming committee we extend our fullest support and hope you continue to work towards the second stage of our proposed three year plan.

K. Crowe
President

A.S.S.R.

There were no "major" conventions held this year, the intermediate meeting was held in Sydney by the S.R.R.A. A more detailed report on this meeting will be circulated at the A.G.M. Activities of the meeting were probably overshadowed by the congress of the Asian & Pacific Rugby countries held during the N.S.W. Rugby Centenary celebrations — a more detailed report on this is forthcoming.

K. Crowe

LAWS COMMITTEE

The Laws Committee had a meeting late last year to review the introduction of the new Lineout Laws and their application during the English season. Most reports indicate the lineout law worked well with the English referees being severe on gap and encroachment penalties.

Discussions on the maul ruck laws were highlighted following complaints by Wallaby management and players, that binding and blocking infringements were prevalent throughout the tour.

Brief discussions were held late in the season to review law remits and changes are to go to the I.R.B. meeting early next season — more on this will be reported early next year.

K. Crowe

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION JUNIOR REFEREE'S ASSOCIATION

Gentlemen,

The 1974 Season was one of consolidation for this Association.

Whilst our intake of new members was not as large as in 1973, we did have an adequate enrolment, that off-set the losses that we have come to expect. The most pleasing aspect of our recruitment was that most of our new members were around 17 years of age. These members are the "life-blood" and future of the Association and their active participation is most pleasing.

We continued the programme of appointments that we began last year, and, although we had a few difficulties, such as forfeits and changes of venue of which we were not advised, we had a very successful season. Those members who made themselves available for appointment are to be congratulated on their dedication and co-operation.

We again had an exchange of Referees with Eastwood and Northern Suburbs Associations in Sydney. The keen competition for selection, both here and in Sydney, is evidence of the enthusiasm of members of all Associations that the exchanges continue.

This year we were fortunate to have Bob Burnett, Kev Crowe, John Forbes, Gary Hogan and Barry O'Connor lecture to our members. Our Sydney counterparts have verified how lucky we are that members of our parent Association take an active interest in our affairs. I sincerely thank the gentlemen that I have mentioned for their assistance.

The provisions of our Constitution prevent me from standing for President for the 1975 Season. I wish I could express how much pleasure and satisfaction I have had over the last three years. I am honoured to have been the foundation President of the Association. I am heavily indebted to Paul Gair and John Barber, who have been Secretary and Treasurer from the beginning, and I express to them my deepest thanks for all their help. May I also say how extremely grateful I am to all the other people who have been instrumental in getting the Association onto such a firm footing.

I am sure that the 1975 Season will see us forging ahead with greater success, and will be a most satisfying one for us all.

JOHN MEEHAN
PRESIDENT

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial statement for twelve months ended 30th September 1974 shows a surplus for the year of \$135. Cash at the bank now shows at \$729.

We commenced this Rugby season knowing that we had to meet the following expenditures:

1. The Established Exchanges.
2. The Referees Ties
3. The Annual Dinner

We had a healthy bank balance, however it was thought that it would be beneficial if we could raise the funds necessary during this year and therefore maintain this balance.

We managed to meet the above objective and I would like to thank my committee members, Don Jowett, Col Stubbings, and Gary Hogan for their efforts. I would also like to acknowledge the assistance given me by Ces Menzies and John Nolan in particular, and by all the members who helped sell doubles.

As you can see our commitments are increasing each year and it will be necessary to continue fund raising in a similar manner during the coming season.

It should be noted that we have a stock of ties and badges with a sale value in excess of \$400.00.

C.A. Waldron
Treasurer

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION
SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1974

<u>1973</u>		<u>1974</u>
\$1456	Receipts (Schedule 1)	\$1922
<u>1421</u>	Payments (Schedule 2)	<u>1787</u>
\$ 35	Surplus for year	\$ 135

Add: Cash at Bank at beginning of
year —

<u>\$ 558</u>	General Fund	\$593	<u>\$ 593</u>
<u>\$ 593</u>	Cash at bank at end of year		<u>\$ 728</u>

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

SCHEDULE 1

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS

FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1974

<u>1973</u>		<u>1974</u>
\$ 5	Affiliation Fees — D.D.R.U.R.A.	\$ 5
5	— North Qld. R.U.R.A.	5
5	— Mt. Isa R.U.R.A.	—
5	— Qld. Junior R.U.R.A.	—
271	Annual Subscriptions	344
10	Donations — Arthur Anderson & Co.	10
25	— Qld. Association Schools	25
60	— Aust. Society of Referees (travel fund)	—
50	— G.P.S. Assn.	—
41	Interest	12
81	Sales — Badges	108
6	— Ties	222
400	Sale of Doubles	622
493	Sundry Subscriptions	500
4	Receipts from — Mixed Function	—
—	— Cricket Match	52
—	— Coachs' Function	17
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\$1456	Total Receipts	\$1922
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SCHEDULE 2

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1974

<u>1973</u>		<u>1974</u>
\$ 10	Audit Fees	\$ 10
25	Affiliation — Q.R.U.	50
21	— Aust. Society of Referees	25
36	Best and Fairest	—
40	Blackboard	—
—	Flood Levy	25
—	Floral Tribute	8
337	Functions — Annual Dinner 1973	168
—	— Annual Dinner 1974	293
—	— Cricket Match	53
8	— Coachs' Evening	19
—	— Wallaby Evening	33
44	— Visiting Referees	68
—	Honour Board	42
134	Postage, printing and stationery, telephone calls and sundries	175
—	Presentation — R. Hilder and J. Vance	10
162	Purchases — Badges	—
—	— Ties	458
—	— Photograph	12
131	Showers	—
286	Travelling Expenses	338
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\$1421	Total Payments	\$1787
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APPOINTMENTS BOARD REPORT

For some years the Association has had the practical choice between selecting the Appointments Board from a limited number of non-active members or, alternatively, treating its most senior active members as eligible for the Board. In 1974, the Management Committee firmly opted for the latter choice. We trust that its confidence has been amply rewarded, even in the short space of one season.

For the first time a properly organised grading system was initiated and used. It is felt that this is a service to the members rather than an imposition. It required the Board to make sound and well reasoned value-judgements based on a continuous process of watching the members in action. The results of the sightings were formulated into written reports which were passed on to the members. By mid-season all active members had received notification of their grading. Seventy such reports had been issued by the end of the season.

Statistics

To a large extent, the statistics appended to this report indicate the Boards policies, and the progress of members. Of course, illness, unavailability and the demands of other games did not always allow the Board to make its ideal choice. These statistics have been greatly expanded this season. It is felt that members will wish to receive a more comprehensive study than has been heretofore published. Touch judge appointments have been included in the grand totals for the first time, so that the efforts of the less highly graded members who have given yeoman service may be properly appreciated. Doug Finlay is to be congratulated on taking 40 appointments in his first season back from the country. Doubtless Graham Sheehan's total would have been much larger, had he not unluckily broken his ankle in mid-season.

No one who studies the statistic and then reflects upon the season just past need ever doubt that an efficient grading system does stabilise the appointments and give due regard to those ready for advancement.

Policy for the appointment to Final Matches

Considering the size of our membership, appointments to the semi-final and final stages of the season show a reasonable spread of honours. The Board stand firm on its policy of selective approach to appointments in the final stages of the first division competition. It is considered only fair to the players, the supporters and to the referees that we appoint members of proven average ability to control these games. It will be policy of the Board to continue to appoint to the Finals and Grand Finals strictly on quality of performance pertaining at the time,

and abandon the idea that these matches should be apportioned between members. Kevin Crowe is probably, the first member to take the semi-final, final and grand final in First Grade. Bob Burnett and Doug Finlay by virtue of outstanding displays were appointed to successive finals in reserve and third grade.

Major Appointments and Promotions

The Board sincerely congratulates Bob Burnett, Kevin Crowe and Marcus McManus upon their several appointments to major representative matches. To Colin Waldron on his confirmed promotion to first grade and to Colin Stubbings and Douglas Finlay, who fully justified the Boards confidence in introducing them to first grade fixtures. All members promoted were counselled by the Board as they progressed and a proper interest shown in their performance and ability.

Country Referees

Bearing in mind the Board's duty to our Country members, every effort was made to appoint these members to appropriate games in the City.

The appointments were made on the same basis as those of any other member of the Association. The Board appreciates the generous reception given to country members by those in the city. The outcome was a resounding success and resulted in Marcus McManus and Jim Buckley officiating at a number of First grade matches. Marcus is also the first country member to be appointed to two major representative matches by the State Appointments Board who are choosing from all Queensland referees. So long as the Association remains responsible for country referees it will be their policy to continue to encourage and appoint to city matches all country members according to their merit.

This Board, if given the opportunity, is willing to continue the work begun in 1974. It considers that a Board of three bona fide working members is ideal for harmonious and efficient appointing in this Association at the present time.

Finally, the keen interest, generous support and willing co-operation of all the members has been of considerable help to the Board throughout the season. In particular the willingness of all members to accept last minute adjustments, additions and cancellations was much appreciated. It is to be hoped that such emergency measures will be at a minimum next season.

R. Tebay
J.R. Forbes
D. Jowett

First Class and Other Major Appointments

Australia v New Zealand	R. Burnett
Queensland v New Zealand	K.J. Crowe
Australia v England (Schoolboys)	R. Burnett
Queensland v England (Schoolboys)	K.J. Crowe
Queensland v N.S.W. (Brisbane)	R. Byres (N.S.W.)
Queensland v N.S.W. Country	R. Burnett
Queensland v N.S.W. (Sydney)	R. Burnett
Q'land Country v New Zealand	M.S. McManus (T'wba)
Queensland v Aust. Services	M.S. McManus (T'wba)
Queensland v N.S.W. (Under 19)	1. B. O'Connor 2. C. Waldron
Brothers v Randwick	K.J. Crowe
Brisbane v Country (R'hampton)	R. Burnett
Rockhampton v England (Schoolboys)	C. Waldron*

* Match cancelled because of transport strike.

First Grade "Matches of the Weekend" 'Including Finals)

R. Burnett — 7	J. Buckley (T'wba) — 1
K.J. Crowe — 7	M.S. McManus (T'wba) — 1
J.R. Forbes — 5	B. O'Connor — 1
	C. Waldron — 1

Club Competition Semi-Finals, Finals, Grand Finals

First Grade:

Grand Final (Brothers v G.P.S.)	K. Crowe
Final (G.P.S. v Teachers)	K. Crowe
Semi Finals (Brothers v G.P.S.)	J.R. Forbes
(West v Teachers)	K. Crowe
(Teachers v G.P.S.)	R. Burnett
(West v Souths)	C. Waldron
Darling Downs (Semi Final and Grand Final)	J.R. Forbes

Reserve Grade:

Grand Final (Brothers v G.P.S.)	R. Burnett
Final (University v G.P.S.)	R. Burnett
Semi Finals (Brothers v G.P.S.)	D.W. Jowett
(West v University)	G. Hogan
(G.P.S. v Wests)	C. Stubbings
(University v Easts)	C. Oxenford

Third Grade:

Grand Final (University v G.P.S.)	C. Waldron
Final (University v Brothers)	D. Finlay
Semi Finals (University v G.P.S.)	D. Finlay
(Brothers v Teachers)	G. Brittenden
(University v Brothers)	M. Turrell
(Teachers v Souths)	G. Hogan

Fourth Grade:

Grand Final (Brothers v G.P.S.)	C. Stubbings
Final (University v G.P.S.)	C. Oxenford
Semi Finals (Brothers v G.P.S.)	B. Walden
(University v Teachers)	I. Scotney
(University v G.P.S.)	J. McCarthy
(Teachers v Souths)	R. Boyle

Second Division:

Grand Finals: (A) D. Jowett (B) G. Hogan.

Finals (A) C. Waldron (B) B. Walden.

Sub District:

Grand Finals: (A) K. Crowe (B) D. Finlay.

Finals: (A) K. Crowe (B) G. Brittenden.

Under 19:

Grand Finals: (A) R. Burnett (B) C. Stubbings Finals: (A) K. Crowe (B) M. Turrell.

Semi Finals: (A) B. O'Connor, C. Stubbings
(B) J. Broughton, J. Nolan.

Under 18:

Grand Final: C. Oxenford Final: J. Broughton.

Semi Finals: J. Leon, S. Skala.

First Grade Competition

R. Burnett — 15
K. J. Crowe — 15
J. R. Forbes — 14
B. O'Connor — 11
C. Waldron — 8
D. Jowett — 6
G. Hogan — 6
D. Finlay — 3
C. Stubbings — 3
M. S. McManus (T'wba) — 2
J. Buckley (T'wba) — 2
R. Fordham — 1
O. Irvine (N.Z.) — 1
R. Meagher (N.S.W.) — 1
C. Oxenford — 1
L. Quinlivan — 1

Reserve Grade Totals

C. Oxenford — 14
G. Hogan — 9
D. Finlay — 8
C. Stubbings — 8
L. Quinlivan — 7
G. Sheehan — 7
G. Brittenden — 5
M. Turrell — 5
D. Jowett — 4
J. McCarthy — 4
C. Waldron — 4
R. Burnett — 3
J. O'Connor — 3
B. Walden — 3
J. Broughton — 1
J. Buckley (T'wba) — 1
R. Carroll — 1
N. Clark — 1
J. R. Forbes — 1
J. Leon — 1
R. McKernon — 1
B. Short — 1
J. Vance (N.S.W.) — 1
A. Wiber — 1

Third Grade Totals (From 30.3.74)

I. Scotney — 11
B. Walden — 9
J. Broughton — 7
N. Clark — 7
M. Turrell — 7
R. McKernon — 6
P. Agapou — 5
J. McCarthy — 5
D. Finlay — 4
F. Vincent — 4
R. Carroll — 3
J. Nolan — 3
G. Brittenden — 2
G. Hogan — 2
C. Stubbings — 2
C. Waldron — 2
A. Wiber — 2
D. Budd (N.S.W.) — 1
R. Douglas — 1
J. Forbes — 1
J. Leon — 1
J. McClure (T'wba) — 1
J. O'Connor — 1
D. Pattie — 1
G. Sheehan — 1
P. Spranklin — 1

School First Fifteens**G.P.S. Competition and G.P.S.**

J. R. Forbes — 8
C. Waldron — 6
K. J. Crowe — 5
D. Jowett — 5
R. Burnett — 4
B. O'Connor — 4
D. Finlay — 2
J. Buckley (T'wba) — 1
G. Hogan — 1
O. Irvine (N.Z.) — 1
M. S. McManus (T'wba) — 1
F. McMullen (N.Z.) — 1
C. Stubbings — 1

-Downlands

T.A.S. Competition Matches

J. McCarthy — 5
B. Walden — 5
C. Oxenford — 4
J. Broughton — 3
M. Turrell — 3
D. Finlay — 2
I. Scotney — 2
C. Stubbings — 2
G. Brittenden — 1
K. Crowe — 1
G. Hogan — 1
J. Leon — 1
B. O'Connor — 1
J. O'Connor — 1
G. Sheehan — 1

GRAND TOTALS (including Touch Judge Appointments) (From 30.3.74)

30 or More:

D. Finlay (40), J. R. Forbes (36), M. Turrell (35), J. Nolan, C. Oxenford, B. Walden and C. Waldron (all 34), R. Burnett and K. J. Crowe (each 33), G. Hogan, J. McCarthy (each 32), C. Menzies and I. Scotney (each 31), C. Stubbings (30).

20 or More:

B. O'Connor (26), N. Clark (25), J. Broughton, D. Jowett, J. Leon, A. Wiber (all 24), L. Quinlivan (22), S. Skala (21), P. Agapow, R. Carroll, R. McKernon (all 20).

10 or More:

R. Boyle and G. Sheehan (each 19), J. Barber and G. Colditz (each 18), G. Brittenden (16), M. Lalor and D. Procopis (each 15), W. Joukhadar (14), N. Daykin, P. Gair and M. Smith (each 13), J. Meehan (12), M. S. McManus (Toowoomba), J. O'Connor and D. Richards (all 11), R. Douglas (10).

3 or More:

A. Heine and F. Vincent (each 9), J. Buckley (Toowoomba) and P. Spranklin (each 6), I. Beames, J. McClure (Toowoomba), B. Maughan, D. Pattie and B. Short (all 4), M. Grant-Taylor, W. Smith and J. Vance (N.S.W.) (all 3).

"Exchange" Referees

C. Waldron (to Hamilton N.Z.)
J. O'Connor & C. Stubbings (to Sydney)

Visiting Referees:

P. Braddy (Rockhampton), J. Buckley (Toowoomba), R. Byres (N.S.W.), R. Fordham (N.S.W.), J. Gilbert (Victoria), P. Green (N.S.W.), O. Irvine (N.Z.), S. Jackson (Warwick), J. McClure (Toowoomba), M. S. McManus (Toowoomba), F. McMullen (N.Z.), R. Meagher (N.S.W.), J. Moffatt (Mt. Isa), J. O'Shea (Mt. Isa), N. Tasker (N.S.W.), G. Timmins (N.S.W.), J. Vance (N.S.W., formerly Qld.).

Note: While a high degree of reliability is claimed for these statistics, it is possible that minor discrepancies may arise from such factors as late cancellations and late replacements.

EXAMINATIONS BOARD REPORT for the 1973-74 EXECUTIVE YEAR

A total of six (6) new members were examined, field-tested by the Appointments Board and subsequently admitted to full membership this year. They are Messrs. N. Daykin, S. Skala, D. Richards, D. Procopis, P. Doilibi and W. Smith, all of whom attained a high standard in their examinations.

Potential new members who have contacted the Association but have not yet undertaken an examination are Messrs. J. Lucy, P. Tully, W. Green and M. Grant-Taylor. They are urged to do so before the 1975 season commences.

The number of new and potential members is most encouraging and will greatly assist the Association in meeting its commitments in the 1975 and subsequent seasons.

Transfers from other associations this year were Dr. Bill Pattie (Sydney), A. Hein (New Guinea), D. Simpkins (Adelaide), and M. De Silva (Ceylon). These members are most welcome to our Association.

The benefits of the Junior Referees Association established three years ago, were realized this year, when the Management Committee decided that Junior members could transfer automatically to the Senior Association provided they passed a field test. John Barber was the first such member to avail himself of this decision. The age limit for such transfers will be at the discretion of the Management Committee and each case will be considered on its merits.

As in previous years, a team of experienced referees made themselves available to lecture at schools and prepare candidates for examination for associate membership. The Board wishes to thank all the members concerned.

In an effort to formalize Associate membership, with a view to improving the refereeing standard in schools and country areas, the Board submitted a detailed proposal to the Management Committee in July this year. Highlights of the proposal were that examination for Associate membership be conducted by the Q.R.R.A. Examination Board; that Associate members be registered with the Association and be required to pay a fee thereto each year; and that an Associate membership register be made available to School Sports Masters to assist with refereeing appointments on their "at home" match days. In return for registration, the interests of Associate members would be looked after by a sub-committee of the Q.R.R.A. which would feed back information on law changes and arrange lectures and films.

To date there has been no response from the T.A.S. Sports Association nor the G.P.S. Sports Association but it is understood that our proposal is being considered and replies should be forthcoming early next year.

In conclusion, it is the Board's hope that members will continue to do their best to recruit new members for the 1975 season and thus ensure the continuance of the Association.

My sincerest thanks to my fellow Board members and Appointments Board members for their co-operation and hard work during the year.

G. P. Hogan for B. A. O'Connor
Chairman

QUEENSLAND RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE REPORT for the 1973/74 EXECUTIVE YEAR

The Annual Cricket Match between the Association and the Q.R.U. Eleven kicked off the social calendar in mid November, 1973. New President and Cricket captain, Kev Crowe won the toss and sent the Q.R.U. in to bat on a well-grassed wicket. His tight field placing produced quick results with Dick Marks being caught at point off the third ball of the match. The result of the match was a photo finish with the Q.R.U. winning by two wickets. All who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves and our thanks go to the Rosalie Marist Brothers for the use of their grounds. Venue and date for this year's match will be announced shortly. Please give this your support.

The "Meet the Wallabies" night held in conjunction with the General Meeting on 13.3.74 was a great success. A panel consisting of Wallabies David L'Estrange, Mick Freney, Dick Cocks (deputising for Jeff MacLean) and coach Bob Templeton with Chairman Kev Crowe were asked questions by the Association members. The theme of the discussion dealt with impressions gained during the recent Wallaby tour of the U.K., France and Italy in relation to application of the new laws by overseas players and also referees' interpretations thereof. The standard of refereeing generally and variations in interpretation by overseas referees were also discussed. Tony Shaw missed the formal discussion but contributed greatly to the informal discussion period held later. A good night was had by all who attended.

The annual Coaches' Evening was held on 27.3.74. Attendance by only two First Grade coaches — Dick Roberts of G.P.S. and Ivor Thomas of Souths — and four other lower grade coaches was disappointing. Discussion was however very spirited with members and coaches gaining much from exchanges of idea on law application and interpretation. Your Committee feels that similar meetings in future should be held later in the season after both players and referees have settled in. Greater publicity will also be given in future in an effort to attract more coaches to what is surely an evening of mutual benefit.

Several guest lecturers spoke at meetings throughout the year. These included Tony Steel, coach of West's club; Dick Beyers, Sydney Referee for the Queensland v New South Wales game; and Rev. Brother Gerald Burns who was the manager of the highly successful Australian schoolboys touring side to the U.K. in late 1973, early 1974. Brother Gerald spoke of the development of the Australian Schoolboys Rugby Union and interesting aspects of the tour. The Committee wishes to thank Bob Burnett for arranging the guest lecturers.

This year's annual mixed function was held at the Living Room Theatre Restaurant. Unfortunately numbers were depleted by the severe flu epidemic but all who attended including our guest referee from Hamilton, New Zealand, Owen Irwin, were treated to a highly amusing performance of the provocative "Kiss My Shillelagh" by the Theatre Players. Our thanks go to Rick Carroll who survived the flu long enough to boost the numbers attending with some business associates from Sydney.

A very successful season was capped off with the annual Wyllie Memorial Dinner held in the Murrayfield Room at Ballymore on Tuesday, 23rd September. Sixty members and guests from the Darling Downs Referees' Association, Q.R.U., clubs and other codes attended and enjoyed an excellent dinner. The J. D. Minter Award was presented to Don Jowett. Our congratulations to Don for his well-earned award. The announcement of the four Grand Final appointments and the supporting Touch Judges was a fitting finale to a highly successful evening.

Finally I would like to thank members for their support this year and urge continued interest in social activities next year. In particular, I would like to express my appreciation to Col Waldron who assumed my role during my sickness in June and following my temporary transfer to the country in August.

Garry P. Hogan

