



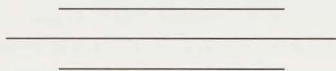
**QUEENSLAND  
RUGBY  
REFEREES  
ASSOCIATION  
INC.**

***Annual Report***  
*November 1992*

*QUEENSLAND RUGBY REFEREES ASSOCIATION INC.*

***Annual Report  
1992***

*Presented at Ballymore  
25 November, 1992*



**OFFICE BEARERS - 1992**

President:	JOE CARTER
Vice President:	TONY MELLICK
Secretary:	TIM HARLAND
Treasurer:	MICHAEL CARMODY
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer	GEOFF GARDINER
Committee:	SCOTT YOUNG KERRY FITZGERALD/IAN ROBERTSON BARRY LEASK

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The death of Kerry Fitzgerald on 18 December 1991 caused the Association great heartache and grief as we all came to grips as to why our highest achieving referee who had just returned from the World Cup where he received the acclaim of all the critics should be taken away from us in such a sudden and unexpected manner. Kerry enjoyed the respect of all the rugby community throughout the world and his achievements as a referee are an inspiration to everyone.

Whilst his achievements as a referee reflects on the skill of the individual it was his dedication to the Association where he held the positions of Secretary, Committeeman and ASRR delegate that will endear him to our memories. He was the confidant to many and gave wise counsel as to their refereeing performance and ambitions. Kerry was especially interested in helping new members to learn the necessary skills and confidence to enhance their performance. He was always willing to visit schools to encourage boys to take up the whistle or to officiate himself at a game that was only important to the participants.

Kerry will be dearly missed and to dedicate his memory we have instituted a memorial fund that friends and members may donate to. The fund will be used to encourage and develop promising referees and full details will be made available shortly.

Phil Jones was awarded Life Member at our AGM. This was in recognition of his services to our Association over many years especially as a classifier, selector and hard working committeeman.

With Australia's success at the World Cup, rugby currently enjoys a very high profile. As a result of this increased profile the sub districts increased their team numbers by 25% and combined with the concentration of games being played on Saturday placed enormous pressure on referee numbers. It was not unusual to appoint to 90 games a weekend from a pool of only 60 referees. This was made even more difficult with last minute unavailabilities and change of games. It is anticipated the number of games we appoint to will increase for the 1993 season and whilst the concentration of games may ease, the need to increase our active referees is paramount.

To achieve this goal the graded clubs will provide us with 2 referees each and the QRU will assist us with ongoing resources to promote, recruit and retain referees. Full details of their commitment will be known in the New Year.

Existing members are encouraged to introduce friends, relatives, neighbours etc who are interested in becoming referees to assist in our recruitment program.

The success of the season was the Wednesday night training held under the watchful eye of Tony Ganter and his trusty stop watch. Those who participated in his programs benefited enormously and his services will be on hand for the 1993 season.

The appointment of Russell Trotter as National Referees development officer will enhance our ability to recruit and retain referees however to rely on him to do all the hard work is not desirable as he is based in Sydney and will visit Queensland spasmodically due to funding restrictions. His main benefit will be in referee development and his program will be released at the beginning of the 1993 season.

This year our referees interchanged with Sydney, A.C.T., North Harbour (NZ), Hamilton (NZ), Christchurch (NZ), and Transvall (South Africa) and from all reports accredited themselves well. Those who visited us were hosted by our members and were given games at all levels. Ian Anderson from South Africa interchanged with us and Barry Leask spent 3 weeks over there. This interchange was sponsored by the QRU and their assistance is much appreciated. We expect the exchange to be an ongoing event.

To our sponsors, Ansett Air Freight, we thank you for your support and we look forward to working with you next year. Their contribution is greatly appreciated as it allows us the opportunity to provide tangible incentives for referees and assists in developing their skills.

The committee this year adopted a philosophy of "fiscal rationalisation" in an endeavour to return the association to profitability. This was achieved by increased sponsorship and a reduction in operational expenses and we are now in a position to look at increasing our development program. Of course, this will be dependent upon revenue levels being maintained. The success of our Golf Day is critical to our finances and I encourage all members to support this most enjoyable day. At a time when rugby clubs are having financial difficulties it is important we remain profitable as their ability to support us is doubtful.

The ASRR held their convention at Salamander Bay in February and all those who attended enjoyed themselves. The role of the ASRR has been in question throughout the season and hopefully it will change its focus to the real issues of referees and become more relevant to the graded referee.

Our representative referees accredited themselves well with Barry Leask, Andrew Cole, Bernie Fienberg and Scott Young, all receiving national appointments.

Special thanks must go to year committee of Tony Mellick, Michael Carmody, Barry Leask, Scott Young, Tim Harland, Geoff Gardiner and Ian Robertson. Whilst we did not always agree on issues we were able to have constructive discussions which resulted in a decision that had the Associations best interest in mind. Their input in ensuring the Association ran smoothly is very much appreciated.

It is always the people behind the scenes that really make the Association function and congratulations on a job well done must go to Ian Scotney (appointments and classification), Justin Dwyer (appointments), Jack Ezzy (classifications), Col Waldron (classifications), Paul Dempsey (appointments), Jeff Lawrence (club rooms), Richard Bendeich (functions) and Col Barrett (merchandise).

To their support teams, thank you, as all help is gratefully received.

Finally to those who referee, whether you are a seasoned campaigner or in your first year, you are the one who the association wants to encourage and develop. You are the dedicated referee who turns up hail, rain or shine, and performs your duty without complaint all because you enjoy the game of rugby and want to contribute to the enjoyment of others. I know the rugby fraternity appreciate the efforts of referees, its just some of them have difficulty showing it.

Wherever your ambitions lead you, enjoy your refereeing and enjoy the 1993 season.

Joe Carter  
PRESIDENT

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Financially, 1992 has been a very sound year. The highlights included the continued generous sponsorship of Ansett Air Freight and the success of the Annual Golf Day. These events contributed \$5,000 and \$6,442.10 respectively to the Association. The Room's Committee also donated \$556.33 to the Association. It is most important that these sources of income continue in the future if the Association is to maintain financial independence.

Subscription fees were increased in 1992 in order to defer the loss incurred during the 1991 season and to cover the costs of Income Protection Insurance. The Income for 1992 amounted to \$6,662.36 and, at the conclusion of the 1992 season, the Association had cash assets equal to \$14,630.27.

To maintain our current financial position, given that expenses remain relatively stable for the next year, an income of approximately \$30,000.00 is required annually.

Members are invited to seek clarification regarding any aspect of the Association's financial position.

Michael Carmody

QUEENSLAND RUGBY REFEREE'S ASSOCIATION INC.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1992

RECEIPTS	1991	1992
Sponsorship - Ansett	5,000.00	5,000.00
Subscription	1,780.00	4,192.00
Donations	0.00	2,150.00
Crosby Cup	693.25	480.00
Interest		
Macquarie Bank	862.37	440.00
Commonwealth Bank	0.00	62.90
Functions		
Golf Day	9,530.00	15,980.00
Other	2,168.00	465.00
Referee's Courses	0.00	255.00
Other	0.00	225.00
Room's Committee Donation	0.00	556.33
Merchandise	0.00	1,196.00
Insurance	0.00	217.00
Program Sales	1,000.00	0.00
	\$21,033.62	\$31,219.94

PAYMENTS

Affiliation Fees	100.00	100.00
Incorporation Fees	110.00	110.00
Advertising	0.00	204.00
Secretarial Expenses	160.00	373.88
Bank Charges	46.65	115.23
Printing and Stationery	1,825.00	825.00
Referee's Courses	0.00	70.00
Training Expenses	500.00	1,290.00
Fitness Assessment Expenses	0.00	910.00
Computer Software	0.00	800.00
Postage Expenses	155.31	131.50
Telephone Expenses	727.00	269.49
Rothmans Coaching Clinic	0.00	160.00
Entertainment Expenses	0.00	1,235.80
Visiting Referees	564.80	794.75
Travelling Expenses	0.00	198.54
Interchange & Development Expenses	4,246.90	1,954.00
Insurance	1,770.76	2,118.00
Badges	600.00	480.00
Jumpers	0.00	1,200.00
Honour Board	148.00	90.00
Floral Tributes	150.64	161.56
Ansett Air Freight - Match Tickets	0.00	964.00
Golf Day Expenses	5,282.83	9,336.40
Function Expenses	3,070.37	535.16
President's Drinks	0.00	64.00
Clothing	611.00	0.00

Ties	726.00	0.00
Annual Return	18.00	0.00
Pre Season Camp	1,431.25	0.00
Committee Expenses	357.65	0.00
Law Books	245.00	0.00
Touch Judge Flags	400.00	0.00
Entertainment - Sponsors	88.80	0.00
Refund Golf Day	45.00	0.00

	\$23,380.96	\$24,492.31
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Excess Income over Expenses	\$-2,347.34	\$6,727.63
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# SUMMARY OR RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

	1991	1992
Receipts	21,033.62	31,154.67
Payments	23,380.96	24,492.31
Surplus	-2,347.34	6,727.63
Cash at Bank (31.10.91)	10,562.95	7,967.92
Adjusting entry for 1991 (\$247.70)	-247.70	
	\$7,967.91	\$14,695.54

## Represented by:

Cash at Westpac	178.15	145.30
Cash at Macquarie Fixed Deposit	10,444.86	4,885.57
Cash at C.S.B.	2,467.77	9,652.67

Add outstanding deposits	160.00	
Less unrepresented cheques	148.00	
	-5,122.87	12.00
	\$7,967.91	\$14,695.54

## APPOINTMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

Each year sees further challenges to appointments of referees.

This year Saturday football was sent to try us and whilst there was no school football to referee we could cope. Unfortunately during the school season we were short and whilst we endeavoured to cover all games, this became an impossibility as

- . fixtures were changed at late notice
- . Pullouts at late notice for a variety of reasons
- . the wide range of grounds to be covered.

As a group we did our best and many thanks are due to all who co-operated wherever possible to meet commitments.

Appointments were undertaken this year by computer on the basis of

- . gradings
- . proximity to grounds
- . availability.

The system started promisingly, however when you have 96 games, 48 referees, late pullouts, no system will work.

Computerisation has benefits and will work providing

- . we have more referees than games
- . all unavailabilities are notified
- . information is kept up to date.

Justin Dwyer undertook the thankless task of administering appointments this year. He and his good wife Jackie have now moved to Sydney and we owe them many thanks for a difficult job. Justin is extremely enthusiastic and has many innovative ideas.

We have lost a very promising administrator, but we wish him best of luck in Sydney and one day hope to see him return to Brisbane.

I know he would like to thank all of you who assisted him at short notice.

The Executive of the Association will no doubt be looking at a heavy recruiting program in the off season to alleviate the pressure you have all felt this year.

Ian Scotney (for Justin Dwyer)  
APPOINTMENTS OFFICER

# STATISTICS

NAME	SEASON COMM.	BEFORE 1992	GAMES TOTAL	REP	SCH	GRADE 1 2 3 4 5 U21						COLTS 1 2 3			SUB DIST A R B C				OTHER
M. ABELL	1979	232	23		4		2	2	1	2		4			3	1	3		1
M. BACKSTROM	1990	29	11		4			4	1			1					1		
COLE BARRETT	1986	106	25		5		4	5		2		1	1		3				4
CLAY BARRETT	1991	7	NIL																
R. BENDEICH	1976	340	21		7	1	4			2		5			2				
M. BLACK	1990	50	20		3			9		3		3			2		1		8
P. BECHTEL	1976	328	20		6	3	2			3		5			1				
R. BROCKETT	1988	106	16		4		3	1		1	1	2			3	1			
K. BUCHANAN	1984	52	7		4				1								2		
M. CARMODY	1986	192	17		5	1	4					5			1	1			
T. CICHERO	1990	31	16		10				2	1	1		1				1		
B. CHRISTIANSEN	1991	20	7		5					1							1		
R. COLLINS	1990	34	13		2			2	2	1	3		1				2		
A. COLE	1984	201	22		4	13						3			1				1

NAME	SEASON COMM.	BEFORE 1992	GAMES TOTAL	REP	SCH	GRADE						COLTS			SUB DIST				OTHER
						1	2	3	4	5	U21	1	2	3	A	A1	B	C	
A. CONNOR	1989	93	3			3													
P. CREEVY	1988	140	28		4	7	1	1	1	1		3	1		2				7
R. DAVIES	1984	177	17		3	5	2			2		3			2				
P. DEMPSEY	1986	114	2		2														
J. DEE	1985	180	21		4	2	10			1	1	1			2				
A. DUNNE	1986	163	22	1	5	3				2		3			3				
J. DWYER	1990	50	40		7	3	6	1			3	4		1	2	3	1		9
M. EASTWOOD	1986	146	17		4	8					1	2			2				
D. EDWARDS	1986	114	15		9			1	1		1	1					2		
C. ELLIOT	1990	60	35		6			2	5	3					1	2	2	2	12
J. EZZY	1981	255	18		7	3						6			2				
B. FIENBERG	1975	351	14		1	8						3			2				
M. GAHAN	1983	220	18		4	6				1		2			4	1			
G. GARDINER	1985	138	10		5	1									2 1 1				
P. GALLOWAY	1978	200	NIL																
T. HARLAND	1981	198	10		9														1

NAME	SEASON COMM.	BEFORE 1991	GAMES TOTAL	REP	SCH	GRADE							COLTS			SUB DIST				OTHER
						1	2	3	4	5	U21		1	2	3	A	A1	B	C	
P. HARDING	1991	20	38		6				3		1				2			6	5	
G. HINTON	1989	61	23		2		1	11	1		3		1			4				
K. JENNINGS	1988	90	21		5			1	3	1	2		6	1		1		2		
M. JENNINGS	1991	16	21		6					3	1				2		3	2	4	
G. JOHNSTONE	1990	52	10		2		1	1	1		3		1			1				
T. HUNT	1989	20	23		4			1	4		3		4	1		4		1	1	
B. LAUDER	1990	23	17						8	1	2				1		2	1	2	
B. LEASK	1977	362	19	2	3	11							4			1				
S. LEWIS	1990	43	19		3				2		2		4			1		1		
J. LAURENCE	1990	28	22		5				3	1	2		1	2		5		1	2	
E. MARCONI	1989	71	21		5		2	7			2		2			2	1			
M. MEAD	1991	25	16		3				5	1	2				3			1	1	
D. MELICAN	1991	9	18		4				1	3							2	3	5	
A. MELLICK	1986	176	10				7				1		2							
M. MELLICK	1990	94	21		5		1	6			3		3			1	1	1		
D. MARTYN	1992		16		6					2					1	1	1	4	1	
R. MASTERS	1992		18		7				1	1			2	2		1		2	2	

NAME	SEASON COMM.	BEFORE 1991	GAMES TOTAL	REP	SCH	GRADE 1 2 3 4 5 U21	COLTS 1 2 3	SUB DIST A A1 B C	OTHER
R. MILNE	1989	18	20		5	4 2 4	1	2 1 1	
J. MOWETT	1991	4	12		7	2		1 2	
J. MURDOCH	1990	60	22		3	2 2 1 5	2	5 2 1 2	
K. MURPHY	1991	7	16		3		1 4	2 3 3	
B. O'CONNELL	1989	14	10		8	1		1	
T. O'CONNOR	1989	99	17		3	9 1	2	2 1	
G. PEGG	1987	132	22		5	8 1	4 1 1	2	
J. RAUKETTE	1987	96	29		6	1 3 1 4	3 1	6 2 2	
R. REID	1989	40	21		4	2 4 2		1 3 3 2	
I. ROBERTSON	1989	2	19		5	5 1	5	3	
D. SANDERS	1989	67	21		5	2 1 3		1 3 4 2	
B. MUTTON	1992		8		3	1	1	1 1 1	
P. QUINN	1992		23		9	5	2	2 3	

NAME	SEASON COMM.	BEFORE 1991	GAMES TOTAL	REP	SCH	GRADE 1 2 3 4 5 U21	COLTS 1 2 3	SUB DIST A A1 B C	OTHER
I. SCOTNEY	1972	298	8		6	2		2	
A. SMITH	1989	58	23		5	5 1 3	4	2 2 1	
P. SMITH	1988	93	24		5	4 1 4	5 1	4	
D. TRUE	1988	206	32	3	4	12 2	2	1	8
C. WALDRON	1968	609	16		7	2	5	2	
R. WARD	1991	19	21		5	4	1 2	4 1 4	
M. WARREN	1990	39	18		3	1 4	2	3 4 1	
D. WILLIAMS	1988	78	16		12		1 1	2	
M. YEATES	1986	112	21		7	5 1	1	1 4 2	
S. YOUNG	1986	192	17	4	3	10 1	3		
T. BARKER	1992		8		3		2	1 2	
S. CUFFE	1991	?	19		3	1 4 2 3		2 2	2
E. GRANT	1992		18		3	3	1	6 4 1	
C. LAMONT	?		11		3	3	1	4	
M. SAYERS	1992		10		5	2		3	
T. TAITO	1992		25		10	1	3	1 4 6	

## MILESTONES 1992

350 GAMES	-	R. BENDEICH
300 GAMES	-	I. SCOTNEY
250 GAMES	-	M. ABELL
200 GAMES	-	M. CARMODY
200 GAMES	-	J. DEE
200 GAMES	-	T. HARLAND
200 GAMES	-	S. YOUNG
150 GAMES	-	P. CREEVEY
150 GAMES	-	M. EASTWOOD
150 GAMES	-	G. PEGG
100 GAMES	-	K. JENNINGS
100 GAMES	-	M. MELLICK
100 GAMES	-	T. O'CONNOR
100 GAMES	-	J. RAUKETTE
100 GAMES	-	P. SMITH

## GRAND FINALS APPOINTMENTS

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

1ST GRADE	-	B. LEASK
2ND GRADE	-	D. TRUE
3RD GRADE	-	C. BARRETT
4TH GRADE	-	E. MARCONI
COLTS 1	-	S. YOUNG
COLTS 2	-	J. DWYER
COLTS 3	-	M. BLACK
SUB DIST A	-	P. CREEVEY
SUB DIST A1	-	R. MILNE
SUB DIST B	-	C. ELLIOTT
SUB DIST C	-	P. HARDING
U21	-	R. BENDEICH
STH	-	M. WARREN

## CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members: I. Scotney (Chairman), J. Ezzy, C. Waldron, C. Oxenford.

Written Reports Received: 94.

Classifications – General: The new gradings list follows this report.

Whilst meetings of the Committee were held regularly during the season it was decided not to do a full regrading until Season's end.

Number of reports received this year were not as many as in the previous year due to

- . only 4 on the committee (previous year 6)
- . three of the committee spent a fair part of the season refereeing.

Feedback was received from other sources, e.g. Club Presidents, Coaches, Senior Referees, but we have not yet the manpower to do the job as effectively as we would like.

Suggestions have been made to consider for next year:

- . The use of club spotters
- . Mentor system
- . Use non referring people
- . Place referees in groups and concentrate on group by group.

We know members want to be seen more and some haven't been seen enough. If we are to grow, it has to be fixed.

1st Grade: Richard Bendeich and Michael Carmody were both elevated to the panel making a total of 9. Congratulations to them both.

Gradings – General: From the gradings list we have only 65 referees and the priority must be to build that up to in excess of 100.

In the top 4 grades (to 4ths Senior) changes were made to 40% of the positions, i.e. promotions.

We have already lost a few of our stalwarts for next year (Creevey, Dwyer).

Interchanges: A full interchange program was undertaken and congratulations go to those who were selected.

Grand Final Appointments: Once again these appointments were made by the Group and for the first time we placed referees in pools of 3 and gave them equal opportunity as far as we could to gain the Grand Final appointments.

We believe the system worked well and we received many favourable comments from the Rugby fraternity on the concept.

Well done to the final appointees.

New Referees: Simply there were not enough of them.

Phil Jones/Don Duffell: A special thanks to both of them for giving up their time to watch and help so many referees. We can't do without both of them.

Performance Standards: Each year, something new is sent to test us. This year, we had major law changes in the middle of the season. From observation clubs, coaches and players seem to be moderating their attitude towards referees but there were still numerous "incidents". Of some concern were the 2 cases where referees were manhandled. I wish the Rugby Union would take a more positive, public stance.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Classification Committee for their assistance. Thanks to all the members for their efforts in raising their standards by participating in the fitness programs, attending meetings and officiating at as many games as possible.

We have enjoyed watching your games and speaking to you and wish you all the best for the coming season.

Ian Scotney  
CHAIRMAN  
QRRR CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

## GRADINGS

### 1st

R. Bendeich  
M. Carmody  
A. Cole  
A. Dunne  
M. Eastwood  
B. Fienberg  
B. Leask  
D. True  
S. Young  
G. Pegg  
I. Robertson  
P. Smith

### 2nd

C. Barrett  
R. Brockett  
R. Davies  
J. Dee  
M. Gahan  
G. Hinton  
E. Marconi  
M. Mellick  
T. O'Connor

### 3rd

M. Black  
R. Collins  
C. Elliott  
G. Gardiner  
K. Jennings  
S. Lewis  
R. Milne  
J. Murdoch  
J. Raukette  
M. Yeates

### 4th

M. Abell  
S. Cuffe  
P. Harding  
T. Hunt  
M. Jennings  
D. Martin  
D. Sanders  
A. Smith  
D. Williams

### 4ths

M. Backstrom  
T. Barker  
Clay Barrett  
B. Christiansen  
T. Cichero  
E. Grant  
D. Grogan  
B. Lauder  
J. Lawrence  
R. Masters  
M. Mead  
D. Mellican  
J. Mowat  
K. Murphy  
B. Mutton  
P. Quinn  
R. Reid  
T. Taito  
R. Ward  
M. Warren

### 1st Year

M. Talbot

### Presidents

P. Bechtel  
J. Ezzy  
T. Harland  
I. Scotney  
C. Waldron

### Inactive

A. Connor  
T. Mellick

## APPOINTMENTS BOARD

The Board for 1992 consisted of N. Byrne (Chairman), N. Green, D. Duffell, G. Core, C. Waldron, J. Ezzy, I. Scotney.

Prior to the season commencing the following referees were nominated for the Australian Panel for 1992.

- . B. Fienberg;
- . B. Leask;
- . A. Cole;
- . S. Young.

All received appointments.

The Board met on three occasions and made 31 appointments. On the recommendation of the Board, Barry Leask undertook an interchange with South Africa's Ian Anderson. This was the forerunner hopefully of annual exchange and was a very successful exercise.

Major appointments were:

.	Queensland	vs	Canterbury	B. Fienberg
.	Queensland	vs	Wellington	A. Cole
.	Queensland	vs	Auckland	B. Leask
.	Queensland	vs	Waikato	B. Fienberg
.	Queensland B	vs	New South Wales B	S. Young
.	Queensland	vs	New South Wales	I. Anderson
.	Winfield State		Challenge Final	K. O'Halloran

Ian Scotney

HON. BOARD SECRETARY

## JUDICIARY REPORT

The Judiciary this year consisted of Harold Shand (Q.R.U. Appointment and Chairman), Tim Harland (Q.R.R.A. Appointment) and Barry Kelly (Clubs Appointment). We had an exceptionally busy year sitting on hearings every Monday night of the season up until the Grand Final. My records indicate I heard 65 matters and I was absent for 2 nights sittings during the season so that the total number of send-offs was in the range of 70.

I believe that the judiciary dealt more severely than in previous years with almost all players who appeared before us. One player was suspended for 12 months.

However the Chairman and I are still not satisfied with the level of penalties nor the regular bad behaviour from certain areas of the competition. Nor are we satisfied with the present undefined judiciary system which has never been formalised in Queensland (or New South Wales for that matter). As a result I have written to and received replies from the English, Welsh, Scottish, Irish, South African and New Zealand Unions and the Chairman and I now intend to draft a permanent judiciary code which hopefully will be given the Q.R.U.'s blessing.

Tim Harland

## ROOMS COMMITTEE REPORT

Geoff Gardiner from the Executive co-ordinated this committee. Jeff Lawrence headed up a team of hard workers this year with able assistance from John Raukette and Cole Barrett. A report was not received from the Committee prior to printing deadline.

## A.S.R.R. REPORT

This year Queensland was represented on the executive by Barry Leask (Committee Member) and Colin Waldron (Vice President).

The conference held in Salamander Bay was a great success and we had a large contingent present who had a great time - may have learnt something about refereeing as well. Our thanks go to the NSW referees for their great organisational efforts.

The main subject at most of our meetings this year was the relevance of the ASRR to refereeing. With the removal of our representation on the Australian Selection Panel, the Association does little that could not be handled by State Associations in conjunction with the ARU.

The major breakthrough for Australian refereeing was the appointment of the National Referee Development Officer, Russell Trotter. Russell will be responsible for the organisation of the coaching and development of refereeing in Australia in conjunction with the local referee bodies. There will obviously be teething problems initially, however, the appointment will enable us to lift standards of Australian refereeing to its rightful place.

As a social organisation we had a busy time entertaining our usual visitors from overseas.

Maybe it is time for the members to decide if the ASRR is a relevant body. I feel it is a suitable body to negotiate and deal with the ARU on behalf of all Australian referees, however, the ARU doesn't seem to see it this way. There certainly needs to be some mutual trust and understanding developed between the two bodies.

Colin Waldron

## EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Another busy year for the Examinations Committee. Twelve people passed theory examinations of which nine passed the necessary field tests to obtain the Q.R.R.A. badge.

Congratulations and welcome to Tim Barker, David Grogan, Neil Johnson, Stuart McCallum, Roger Masters, Tony Taito, Michael Talbot, Phil Quinn and Fr. Mark Sayers. All the best in your refereeing careers. Many thanks to Ian Scotney, Justin Dwyer and Paul Dempsey, who with their already heavy workload managed to co-ordinate field tests for these new referees.

Q.R.R.A. school badges, which were introduced last year, were awarded to some 105 teachers and students at courses held at Nudgee, St Laurences and Marist Brothers College, Ashgrove. It is hoped that these potential association referees can be fully utilised. I am very grateful for the support of our members who gave up their time to help me conduct these courses. These included Barry Leask, Bernie Fienberg, Scott Young, Mike Carmody, David True, Ian Scotney, Tony Mellick, David Williams, Peter Bechtel, Geoff Pegg, Rod Brockett, Barry O'Connell and Ian Robertson. The course participants certainly appreciated the attention of our senior and high profile members. Also special thanks must go to Barry Honan (Nudgee) whose initiative and planning played a large part in getting these courses off the ground. Thank you also to David Robertson (Ashgrove) and Gordon Balharry (S.L.C.) for providing such excellent facilities to run these courses.

The only downside to these courses was the limited response received from some schools. Nudgee (Junior and Senior), Ashgrove, St Patrick's, T.S.S., Iona, A.C.G.S., B.B.C, G.T. and St Columban's sent participants but this is hardly sufficient considering the broad base of rugby schools in Brisbane.

The introduction of new laws caused some confusion and delays in examining new members. A new exam has been written by Rod Brockett. Rod has at several times during the year taken on extra responsibility with ease and is testimony to the saying "If you want something done, ask a busy person".

Requests for feedback have currently been sent out to our new members and those who did not complete the refereeing course to establish some guidelines for retention of new references.

Andrew Cole

## KERRY FITZGERALD MEMORIAL GOLF DAY

The Annual Golf Day was indeed an important occasion this year. Following the sudden and tragic passing of Kerry Fitzgerald, it was unanimously agreed that the day would be named in honour of Kerry. To fully recognise his contribution to Rugby, a Testimonial Dinner was held in the evening replacing the normal Cocktail Party.

With a record number of attendees (120 golfers and 150 dinner guests) the day was an outstanding success. We were fortunate to have Gordon Bray as guest speaker and Chris Handy as M.C. Gordon paid tribute to Kerry in a moving but entertaining manner. He had also put together a video package showing highlights of Kerry's refereeing at the 1991 World Cup which added to the occasion. Chris Handy kept the audience on their toes with the funny side of the 91 World Cup. Other guests at the Testimonial Dinner included the President and Management of the Scottish Rugby Union, and our own President, Mr Joe French.

Ansett Air Freight donated The Kerry Fitzgerald Memorial Shield, which was ironically won by a close friend of Kerry's, Scott McClintock. Several companies backed up again this year for sponsorship; including National Mutual, Richard Ellis and Ausdoc. Travelworld were a major sponsor for the first time and they teamed up with Minet Insurance to provide \$10,000 worth of travel to the winner of the 16th hole in one. Regrettably no-one was able to take the prize but a number of golfers went close. Financially the day wasn't as successful as past years but given the current economic climate, the final figure of \$7,000 was more than satisfactory. Our thanks must go to all sponsors be they product or cash sponsors. Again the T.A.S. and G.P.S. schools donated considerable funds and their continued support is most appreciated.

Finally, the day would not have been possible without the efforts of the Golf Day Committee. Thanks to Peter Bechtel and Tony Mellick and to Richard Bendeich and Geoff Pegg who co-ordinated the printing of programs and the registering of players on the day.

S. Young

## FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Three very successful functions were organised by the Committee this year. These were a dinner party, games evening and the Annual Dinner.

The dinner party was held at the home of Elizabeth and Tony Mellick and coincided with a visit of our Sydney exchange referees, Craig Pudig and Russell Butler. Approximately 30 people attended and enjoyed an evening of fine food and rugby comraderie.

Richard Bendeich and Sean Cuffe organised a barbecue in August at our Ballymore club rooms, with the highlight being several exciting mud crab races. The auction of the participants following the races was almost as keenly contested as the races themselves. The evening was voted a great success by the many families that took advantage of this opportunity to meet in a cordial and social atmosphere.

Our final gathering for the year was the Association's Annual Dinner which was held at the Queensland Rugby Union Club. This was our most successful annual dinner for many years, with 102 people enjoying a night of great food and fine wine. Our guest speaker, Peter FitzSimmons, and master of ceremonies, Mark Oberhardt, entertained those present with their rugby anecdotes.

Trophies were presented on the evening to:

Colin Waldron  
John Raukette  
Peter Smith.

I'd like to thank all those people who made this year's social functions such a great success. In particular, the Committee members -> Anne-Marie Cole, John Raukette, Richard Bendeich and Mike Gahan.

B.J. Leask  
CO-ORDINATOR

## REPORT ON LEVEL 2 COACHING CAMP - FEBRUARY 1992

Prior to the start of the 1992 season I attended a four day course held at Alexandra Headlands for coaches to gain Level 2 Certification under the National Rugby Union Coaching Plan. It was run by the Queensland Coaching Director Terry Burkett and his coaching staff.

Unsure of what to expect from the course, nor how I would be received as the only referee among the 100 or so coaches. I rolled up on the first day with the surfboard, expecting to drink lots of beer. The four days turned out to be an intensive study of rugby, in which we ate, breathed and lived the game, starting at 6.30 a.m. to 11 p.m. This culminated in a 2 hour exam and a practical coaching test and assessment. My surfboard didn't get wet till I hosed the dust off it when I got back home.

The benefit of the course for me as a referee, is that I now have a better understanding of how rugby should be played, and how coaches and players try to achieve better rugby. It was also an excellent opportunity for me to meet and get to know most of the coaches of Brisbane and develop a rapport with them. I was also pleased to survive a session on scrummaging with Chris Carberry without litigation afterwards.

My thanks to the Executive Committee for sending me on the course, and I feel it would benefit other referees to attend future Level 2 Coaching Camps.

## REPORT ON CANBERRA INTERCHANGE - MAY 1992

As I boarded my 7 a.m. flight to Canberra that crisp Saturday morning I couldn't help but wonder if one jumper (my only one), a light jacket (again one of), a couple of cotton undershirts (bought the day before) and my summer weight cotton shirts were enough to ward off the icy Antarctic weather that John Dee had warned me about.

I also wondered what sort of games I would be refereeing in Canberra, and what standard the rugby would be. As it turned out, it was a weekend of mixed fortune.

I was met at Canberra airport by my host for the weekend, Kim Lees, rated No. 3 in Canberra. He greeted me with good and bad news. I was only appointed one game, 2nd grade between Daramalan and Tuggeranong, but the weather was fine and warm. I could have left my jumper at home.

The game turned out to be a scrappy one sided affair, (about the standard of a sub-district B grade) played on a dust bowl called Rugby Park. The coaches of both sides spoke to me over a beer after the game and seemed happy with my game, even though I sent one player (the ACT under 21 prop) off for trampling. He was supposed to play against Qld Under 21 the following Wednesday.

That night the ACT referees had a night out at a local Italian restaurant where I met the other referees on interchange. Lots of pasta and red wine made for a good night out.

Next day, a visit to Parliament House, a barbie on the banks of the Lake, then the flight home. A good weekend away, but a shame about the rugby, but it was great to exchange ideas and views with referees from other states.

Peter Smith

## REPORT ON NORTH HARBOUR, NEW ZEALAND REFEREE EXCHANGE

JUNE 26 - JULY 5, 1992

Other countries throughout the world amongst other things know Australia for the warmth and friendliness of its people. Our relatives across the Tasman are certainly on a par showing visitors a good time and making you feel welcome. The support, friendliness and comraderie of the North Harbour Referees Association members was excellent. Nothing was a problem. My thanks especially must go to Mark Rowley and Nic Lameletti who looked after me for my stay. Mark even managed to persuade me on my holidays to work at his school as a relief teacher without pay.

Apart from the holiday my refereeing took in 3 seven-a-side games, one First XV schoolboys match and two senior games. I ran touch in a Senior game as well.

There was an excellent spirit amongst the players in all the games and they seemed to appreciate having a Queensland referee for their matches. There was no sledging and very little foul play if any. The matches tended to be vigorous forward encounters, this was probably a result of the heavy conditions in the 10 days I was there.

This spirit spilled over into the clubhouse after the game where three or four opposing clubs would meet for after match speeches, drinks and presentations. It was very much a family affair and reminded me greatly of my time in Bowral, New South Wales where I lived for ten years and played rugby. There was a positive rapport between club administration, players and referees. Brisbane clubs could learn a lot from this spirit which generated positive things for rugby.

The grounds were very heavy due to heavy rains in the weeks before I arrived and any referee going to North Harbour in June - July would be well advised to take boots with long tags. I spent quite a few embarrassing moments on my backside because of my moulded sole boots suited to Brisbane fields.

The highlight of my time happened not on the field but at one of the after match functions. The last Saturday I refereed Navy and Western United (Senior B) at Navy. After the Senior A game we retired to the Navy club to witness Australia beat New Zealand in the First Test. I will not easily forget the feeling of being the only Australian in the place and looking at the expressions on the faces of the 150 supporters when the final whistle went.

I would like to thank particularly the Classifications/Appointments Committee for the exchange opportunity and the Management Committee for the financial support. I sincerely hope that future exchanges with North Harbour will be a part of the Referee season. It was a very worthwhile experience.

Terry O'Connor

## REPORT ON HAMILTON INTERCHANGE

Warm hospitality and cold weather featured strongly as I remember my interchange experience in Hamilton, New Zealand in July.

The first day memories were fog - right up until after 2 p.m. which was half way through my first game on the Hamilton Rugby Park. As the major semi-final, it proved to be a hard fought contest which I enjoyed refereeing. Post-mortems were shared over social drinks back in the Referees' Room.

Sunday was different - it only rained in the afternoon. Live from Ballymore, the second test was watched at Rugby Park with my being the only happy person in the room to celebrate the Bledisloe Cup victory. It was a very subdued atmosphere.

On the Wednesday night, back at Bruce Currie's, we watched the All Blacks being thrashed by Sydney. The atmosphere had now become morbid, with none of the usual kiwi skiting.

During the week, I enjoyed a variety of activities which included a personalised tour of Graham Bowen's A.I. sperm plant - from collection to birth - different batches, of course. I even observed N.Z. Police in action, on the rugby field, from a police car, and especially at the Police Club.

It was a great experience, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Association for selecting me, the Waikato Association for hosting me and my billets for sharing the good times: thanks to the Bowens, the Curries and the Eichmanns.

Mike Gahan

## REPORT ON SYDNEY INTERCHANGE - 30 MAY, 1992

This was a hectic weekend. The Kerry Fitzgerald Memorial Dinner on the Friday night, an early morning flight to Sydney, the trek out to Parramatta, the game, the interchange dinner at Concord, an early morning flight back to Brisbane to referee the Brisbane vs Queensland Country game.

### **THE GAME**

I was appointed to the Parramatta vs Warringah 1st grade match where both sides were battling to stay in contact with the "top four". As a result the game was tight and tense, with Warringah finally winning the match and two Parramatta players earning an early shower and a trip to the judiciary.

Interestingly enough three of the four grades were referred by interchange referees and four home team players were sent off. There must be a message in that somewhere.

After the match, both sides and the officials went back to the Parramatta clubrooms for drinks and awards. I was called upon to say a few words and was hosted extremely well in spite of the Club's despondency. I couldn't help comparing it to the reception I would have got in a similar situation in Brisbane.

The referees then adjourned to Concord for the NSW Society's dinner for the twenty or so visiting referees.

I thoroughly enjoyed the experience, although rushed, and thank the Association for the opportunity.

Tony Dunne

## REPORT ON CHRISTCHURCH INTERCHANGE 1992

Cole Barrett went on this exchange. A report was not received from him prior to printing deadline.

## REPORT ON SOUTH AFRICA INTERCHANGE

Barry Leask who went on this exchange provided a full report to Members at a general meeting during the year.

*The Association wishes to thank*

**Ansett Air Freight.**

*for their most generous support  
during 1992*