



**QUEENSLAND  
RUGBY  
REFEREES  
ASSOCIATION  
INC.**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**October 1996**

# Queensland Rugby Referees Association Inc.

## Annual Report 1996

### Office Bearers - 1996

PRESIDENT	TONY MELLICK
VICE-PRESIDENT	GEOFF GARDINER
SECRETARY	PAUL HARDING/ FRANK MEIKLEJOHN
TREASURE	PHIL QUINN
COMMITTEE	ROGER MASTERS
	PHIL CASEY
	GREG HINTON
	KEITH JENNINGS
	PAUL MARTINEZ
	BARRY LEASK
	PAUL O'BRIEN
	REX WARD
	CHRIS NEWTON
	CHRIS DONOVAN
	ROSS AJAX

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT 1996**

Dear Members,

It is with mixed emotion I write my last Presidents' Report for the Q.R.R.A.. My decision not to seek re-election was not taken lightly.

My time has come to pursue other challenges within the rugby world. The last four years have provided a number of challenges for me as President and for all Referee's in Queensland. It is not for me to list or comment on my achievements, or as some may say failures. The members and the rugby community will be the ultimate judge as to my time as President.

In my own mind I know I have performed the job to the best of my ability. There are an immense number of people to thank who have supported me over many years. To name all of them would rebuild a second volume of this report to be printed.

However, I am sure these people know who they are.

Firstly, I wish to place on the public record the immense sacrifice my wife and family have made during my term as President. I publicly thank them on behalf of myself and all Referee's in Queensland thank them. If not for there sacrifice I could not have fulfilled the position.

In saying farewell I will not be lost. I hope to have a long involvement with all Referee's for many years to come.

Many thanks & regards

**TONY MELLICK**

**QUEENSLAND RUGBY REFEREE'S ASSOCIATION INC.**

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

**Year Ended 30th September 1996**

	30/9/96	30/9/95
<b>INCOME</b>		
Sponsorship & Donations	26,598.40	8,700.00
Subscriptions	3,895.00	3,505.00
Interest	103.88	135.13
Fund Raising Lunch	3,540.00	1,147.67
Room's Committee Donation	500.00	2,500.00
Merchandise	105.00	4,285.00
Annual Dinner	2,735.00	2,885.00
Bar Takings (Nett)	4,407.40	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>41,884.68</u>	<u>23,157.80</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Accountancy Fees	275.00	260.00
Affiliation Fees	100.00	110.00
Annual Dinner	5,308.60	4,252.50
Bank Charges	58.65	133.45
Courier	33.60	152.27
Equipment	2,240.00	126.00
Entertainment Expenses	1,556.31	1,672.09
Fees & Permits	74.50	48.00
Insurance	298.38	298.38
Merchandise	1,100.00	0.00
Match Tickets	660.00	590.00
Postage	163.50	301.30
Printing and Stationery	3,948.76	3,273.00
Pre Season Camp	866.60	1,370.50
Sundry Expenses	524.00	540.25
Training & Fitness	1,250.00	400.00
Telephone	1,651.81	267.28
Travelling Expenses	6,857.30	2,331.70
Trophies & Gifts	235.00	285.00
Touchdown Club	0.00	8,540.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u>27,202.01</u>	<u>24,951.72</u>
<b>Total Income less Total Expenditure</b>	<u>14,682.67</u>	<u>(1,793.92)</u>



**QUEENSLAND RUGBY REFEREE'S ASSOCIATION INC.**

**Statement of Assets & Liabilities**

**As at 30th September 1996**

	1996	1995
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Cash at Bank</b>		
Commonwealth Bank	14,358.42	5,174.15
Term Deposit	5,498.40	0.00
	<u>\$19,856.82</u>	<u>\$5,174.15</u>
 <b>Represented By</b>		
Accumulated Profits B/fwd	5,174.15	6,968.07
Profit/loss for the Year	14,682.67	(1,793.92)
	<u>\$19,856.82</u>	<u>\$5,174.15</u>

## DARLING DOWNS BRANCH 1996

Greetings from the mountain,  
As with many other Branches, our year began with the Canungra gathering - and what a gathering it was. Whilst the Downs' Thespians demonstrated that they have little chance of making a living on the stage, it was great to see some of the Panel Referees decide to try the muddier side of the weekend! As in previous years, the Cole/Young combination produced an outstanding weekend - great technical content (it was interesting to meet some 1st Grade coaches who don't know some of the most basic Laws of the Game) and the active social side was unsurpassed.

The Downs' Branch has had another busy year and although we were sorry to have Graeme Harris go into early retirement, we were delighted to welcome back James Anderson from Mackay. Former Warwick A Grade player turned referee, Ian McGowan, after a promising start to his refereeing career over the last two years, has been transferred out of the district; we miss his cheery presence.

Whilst every member of the Branch worked hard on the field, our thanks go to Geoff McIntyre, Marcus McMannus and Jim Blaikie who provided the bulk of referee coaching throughout the year, to Geoff McIntyre (assisted by Tom Fahy and Steve Connelly) for his work as the Appointments Secretary, Ian Andersen for his willing and enthusiastic work as our Development Officer, Tom Fahy who conducted a successful Level 1 Referee Course, Michael Darcy for his ability to provide the all important administrative support, Rob Imray for keeping us "in the black", and to Ian Morgan for his work in organising sponsorship.

During the year we were delighted to host the visits of Tim Baron (SARRA), Gary Craig (Wide Bay Branch), Peter Lingard (Gold Coast Branch) and Mike Agnew (Brisbane Branch). Graeme Harris was appointed to the referee panel for the

Ballymore 10s and Ian Forbes was selected to join the referee panel for the QCRU Championships at Rockhampton.

The culmination of the Downs' rugby year saw the appointment of Steve Connelly to the C Grade Grand Final, Brody Bassingthwaithe to the U19 Grand Final, Dave Doherty to the Reserve Grade Grand Final and Ian Forbes to the A Grade Grand Final. As always, those referees were ably supported by other Branch referees appointed as Touch Judges.

David True's resignation from his position as the QRU Coaching Director - Referees (to go on to bigger and better things in the road transport industry) marks the end of a significant period in the development of referees in Queensland. Under David's initiative and direction, the QRU embarked on a programme of referee development which included the establishment of RDOs, the establishment of referee panels for all major championships and an exacting programme of visits to as many Branches as possible for advice and coaching. In addition, he maintained his position in the top of the referee list in Queensland. Many of the initiatives introduced by David have been adopted by the ARU and the NSW RU. Whilst I have no doubt that David's replacement will bring to the job that same dedication and professionalism, it would be remiss of us not to acknowledge the outstanding contributions made by David True to rugby in Queensland.

I will not be standing for a position on the Downs' Branch Executive next year, but I take this opportunity to acknowledge the loyalty and support of all of the Downs' Branch members over a number of years. However, I will still be around and I look forward to watching and coaching you for some years to come.

Paddy O'Brien  
Branch President

The Downs' Branch acknowledges the generous sponsorship of COTTCO



## CENTRAL HIGHLANDS RUGBY REFEREES

Active Referees: Danny Doyle (RDO) Emerald Ph....

(W) 079 828282  
(H) 079 824500

Paul Tyndall  
Gordon Lane  
Mick McKenna  
Kurt Andrews  
Gill Kerr

Emerald  
Emerald  
Emerald  
Clermont  
Blackwater

An experiment which consisted of two games being played at the one venue and the third at another was trialled in the central highlands this year. This was done primarily to enable 4 clubs to be at the same ground together, with obvious benefits, and to enable the referees to observe their peers in action. This has never been the case in the past as all games were played at various home venues in the towns with the "home" referee officiating.

All have agreed that the support and sometimes guidance of other referees acted as a great boost to confidence and in some cases skills. This was tremendous to see as some of the referees had never worked with other referees "live" before.

We lost some of our established people to job transfers but at the same time recruited a new

member, Gill Kerr in Blackwater. Gill refereed the first semi final between the Agricultural College and Clermont, doing a great job in his first year. The Major semi was refereed by Danny Doyle, won by Capella, with Kurt Andrews officiating in the preliminary, won by Clermont. A referee from Rockhampton was recruited for the Grand Final due the unavailability of Highlands referees for personal and business reasons with the winner being Capella.

Uvex Australia continue to generously sponsor the Central Highlands referees and provides us with uniforms, travelling expenses and other costs. The Central Highlands Referees would like to thank "Truey" for his guidance and assistance over the years and wish him well for the future.

DANNY DOYLE

## ROCKHAMPTON DISTRICT RUGBY REFEREES ASSOCIATION

### 1996 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Departures and injuries seriously affected our refereeing numbers in 1996. However those who remained and could stand up showed considerable enthusiasm and dedication. Great effort over a long season.

The season had an early start with Rockhampton hosting the Queensland Reds in a trial game in early February. This was quickly followed by a local 10-a-side competition run over three weekends and the "Brothers Confraternity" competition on another weekend. The competition proper commenced in mid-March and finally concluded with Grand Finals being conducted on 21st September. The first grade Grand Final was fought out between University and Brothers with University lasting to win 15 to 11 in a tight game. Congratulations to the Grand

#### *Finals Referees:*

First Grade -	Trevor Hulme
Second Grade -	Wayne Carolan
U/19's -	Jeff Cowley

Rockhampton was lucky enough to host the Country Carnival from 2 to 5th May. Trevor Hulme was selected to referee at the carnival and the RDRRA provided touch judges for most games. This provided a unique opportunity to gain valuable experience by watching good referees and good rugby close up. Barry Vains was in the right place at the right time to score a U/19's game on the last day of the carnival - congratulations Barry

The Morning Bulletin once again saw fit to be in partnership with our Association in 1996. Their sponsorship is very much valued and appreciated. This year also saw Callide Coalfields and



Hastings Deering provide funds to allow all our referees to be fitted out with the new Queensland Referees' uniform - thanks to these two organisations.

The unfortunate premature retirement of Andrew Palmer has created the chance for Andrew to move into the referee coaching and assessing ranks. When opportunities arose in 1996 Andrew provided valuable assistance and constructive advice to all referees and we look forward to this continuing in 1997 - thanks Andrew.

Thanks to our Secretary Paul Hoolihan, who has once again worked tirelessly throughout the year

and who came up with the fantastic idea of putting a fully stocked fridge into the Referee's room. Also thanks to Terry Moore and John Flood for their work on the Appointments Board in a sometimes confusing and disruptive year due to last minute changes by the RDRU to the draw.

Once again, thanks to all the referees for their efforts in the 1996 season and I hope to see you back in 1997.

TREVOR HULME  
PRESIDENT,  
R.D.R.A.

## SUNSHINE COAST & DISTRICTS 1996 REVIEW

The 1996 Club season commenced on a rather flat note with the loss of two senior clubs; Gympie to Wide Bay and the amalgamation of two clubs to form Souths.

However far from being flat, the season evolved into one of our busiest, and kept one and all busy during the week and weekends with seniors, juniors, schools and various other visiting sides. All this along with regular referees meetings, running three touch judges courses with each club & school now able to provide badged touch judges, two level one referees courses and coaching of our referees made for a busy season.

Whilst the senior clubs contracted, they, in fact for the first time fielded three teams each weekend. First grade, Reserve grade & Under 19 Colts teams.

The Sunshine Coast Junior Rugby Union expanded during 1995 and ran sides from Under 7's to Under 16/17 and junior colts.

The school competition lost two schools due to teacher transfers but actually expanded their overall competition and a lift in playing standards. In total, excluding visiting sides there were a total of 796 regularly scheduled games in 1996.

Referee numbers remain even allowing for retirements and new entrants.

A more formalized interchange arrangement with Brisbane and other country areas for 1996 was adopted and the value of these interchanges is not to be underestimated from a referee and player point of view.

Coaching of our referees by the C.A.B.S. took up considerable time but was well worth the effort in the lifting of standards.

A number of our members attended various carnivals and courses in Brisbane, Queensland country areas, the Gold Coast, the Far North Coast N.S.W. and Canungra.

Our thanks must go to our R.D.O. Mike Gahan, School and Junior appointments officer Rob Hall and Mike Hurley, Treasurer Dan Kalle for keeping us solvent.

We look forward to 1997 but in the mean time, a well deserved rest.

Ray Lewis  
President  
Sunshine Coast & District Branch Q.R.R.A.



## M.D.R.U. REFEREES ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1996.

1996 began with a change of President as Steve Ryan, the doyen of Mackay Rugby, felt a strong urge to abdicate. As those of us who know Steve, we can confirm he is the master of the understatement and a silver tongue advocate of the bovine excrement; hence my rise to the exulted positions. I would like to acknowledge Steve's contribution to Mackay refereeing over the past decade both on and off the field. He has been a fine ambassador; thank you from the team.

Following the success of the 1995 Airlie seminar Kev O'Halloran and Grant Liddell planned another one for January but unfortunately it was cancelled. Luckily the inaugural Airlie 10's brought together refs from Cairns Townsville and Mackay for some social interaction and drinking. My thanks to Kev for organising the ref attendance and accommodation.

The early part of the local season was very disappointing as early enthusiasm faded with a prolonged 7's, 10's, 12's, or whatever comp saw club numbers fall along with referee interest. Numbers were already low at 6 but vigorous recruitment of ex-players, drunks and sideline knowalls swelled our numbers to 10. Hopefully this meteoric growth will continue although if the promised millions from Rupert don't eventuate I'll be unable to honour all the contracts. Welcome fellow abuse seekers and I hope you enjoy contributing in a positive manner.

Grant Liddell, our ref's coach, once again handled weekly appointments with all the finesse his burgeoning frame could muster. A return to the field may be the answer. Thank you Grant.

Kev O'Halloran, Australian Panel Referee, as our development officer has been an invaluable source of knowledge and has provided enthusiasm when needed. If it hadn't been for Kev we would still be waiting for draft no.20 or whatever of the new law changes. I share in the disappointment of our Association that higher honour were not bestowed on our guru. Sadly for Mackay and Australian Rugby Kev is returning to the All Black fold and I am unable to express adequately my sincere thanks and best wishes for his future. Maybe a Test may come his way and he can return to

display his talents. All the best Kev and to your understanding family.

This year has seen only one assessor, Don Duffel, visit us. Don's insights and words of encouragement were welcome and we always enjoyed a social evening later. Don's, Grant's and Kev's effort, were realised when local Damian Eales was appointed to the Country Panel and also refereeing the final of Country Week. Congratulations Damian and hopefully more good years will follow.

We were lucky to retain our sponsorship deal with McDonald Murphy Mobil Fuel Supplies, which has helped us concentrate on our performance rather than off field scrounging. I offer our thanks in appreciation and hope we can continue the association.

Neil Sharp was once again responsible for organising a magnificent competition including a womens comp. Congratulations Neil on a job well done.

A very important role was once again shouldered by Geoff Stenson, Judiciary Chairman. We would like to thank you and your committee for listening to the preposterous liberties taken with the truth expressed by the "who me?" brigades

The reintroduction of a ref liaison position with each club has been as player feed back has indicated that a high level of consistency with law interpretation was established. I wish to thank all our members for their efforts both on and off the field and for their support this year and I hope we can maintain the high standard that has been set by senior referees

Finally I would like to express my concern about the infrequent commination from our leader in QRRA headquarters. It does not make us feel that we are part of the picture. I hope the incoming committee can improve this situation.

Guy Greenhill  
President.



## Portfolio Report - Referees Rooms

The success of the Super 12 competition and the ever increasing patronage of Rugby by disgruntled Rugby League supporters all contributed to a very good year for the Referees Rooms and in particular the bar takings. With the help of a number of members, Mark Smeaton, Simon Scoble and Peter Gofton deserving special mention, the burden associated with the running of the bar during representative matches was spread.

It would be remiss of me not to also recognise the members of both Souths and Brothers Rugby Football Clubs who probably contributed at least two-thirds of the takings and when and individual became unruly assisted them to the door identifying the various exits to Ballymore at the same time.

With rumours abounding throughout the year about the redevelopment of the Mclean Grandstand and the administration block and

possible relocation of the Referees Rooms to the Eastern Grandstand it was decided that no significant money would be spent on the rooms.

It is acknowledged that the rooms are starting to look tired, however to spend a considerable sum to rejuvenate them would be imprudent if the rumours are in fact true. If a member has access to cheap "good quality" paint a coat or two could transform the rooms for a short period. The QRU have been approached to have the carpets steam cleaned during the off season.

In closing I wish to thank the QRU for their continued support in the provision of these facilities and encourage more of our members to utilise and participate in their running.

All the best for the 1997 season.

Frank Meiklejohn  
Rooms Committee

## Portfolio Report - Secretary

Another season has just drawn to a close and I find that for the first weekend in months there is no football of any code to be seen. Nonetheless, the politics of our game rumbles on with the election for a new Management Committee in full swing.

To all the candidates, congratulations for having the courage to stand up and be prepared to put the extra time and effort into developing our Association.

The 1996 year was an extremely busy one, beginning early with the Ballymore 10's and the Barbarian 7's followed by the Super 12, National Mutual, Suburban, schools and Junior club competitions with National representative matches and Country championships squeezed in between. And then there were the finals.

While all of this was going on our Association and its various Sub-branches ran various camps, level 0, 1, & 2 referee courses, CAB courses and

assisted at coaching seminars and squad camps. We had members sit on judiciaries and committees covering everything from Laws to the development of a national club competition. Through it all one thing shone through - some of our members have an enormous propensity for work and contribute extraordinary amounts of their own time to ensure our Association and the it's Sub-branches operate smoothly - to those members we say thank you.

The Management Committee met 19 times throughout the year with the average attendance at these meetings being 10 members (of a committee of 14). Committee members each managed a specific portfolio and contributed to what were some lively debates with meetings lasting on average 1½ hours. Issues covered were wide ranging, as trivial as the lock & key register and as significant as the loss of control of referee appointments at state and national levels.

## INTERCHANGE REPORT - Convenor Keith Jennings

The 1996 season saw the normal number of interchanges both inward and outward. The table below lists the details -

NAME(S)	ASSOCIATION/LOCATION
<b>OUTWARD</b>	
F Meiklejohn/A Cooper	North Harbour, Auckland, NZ
P Harding	Hamilton, Hamilton, NZ
T Ryan/R Kersnovske	Taranaki, New Plymouth, NZ
P Talbot/L Monaghan	Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ
T O'Connor	NSW, Sydney
<b>INWARD</b>	
Nil	North Harbour, Auckland, NZ
H Bruton	Hamilton, Hamilton, NZ
R Washington	Taranaki, New Plymouth, NZ
S Mather	Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ
B Heap	NSW, Sydney
M Greber	Victoria, Melbourne
N Long	ACT, Canberra
S Kawasaki, M Okumura, T. Kanemaru, S Sasaki, M Ishikawa, T Hirabayashi, K Nagatomo	Miyazaki, Japan

The interchange with the Miyazaki Association from Japan was arranged through our resident QRRA member Michael Jennings who is working in Onoda and refereeing mainly in the Kyushu Association. Michael had met the Miyazaki President (Shigeo Kawasaki) at a referees seminar and was approached to see if such an interchange could be arranged. The QRRA agreed and with the assistance of David True, a suitable week of refereeing, coaching, training, the Test between Australia & the All Blacks and sightseeing was organised and a group of 12 (including Michael) visited Brisbane during the week of the All Black test. Members who attended the usual meeting night that week will always remember the 'dancing display' put on by the visitors as well as a group of locals!!

There were also useful exchanges between the Gold Coast, Darling Downs and Sunshine Coast Associations, plus interstate and overseas referees for the Queensland and Australian matches.

I would like to thank the following members for their help in billeting our visiting referees - Richard Bendeich, Trevor Cichero, Russell

Davies, David Elphick, Keith Jennings, Paul Marks, John McCarthy, Terry O'Connor, Geoff Pegg, Greg Rourke, Simon Scoble and Peter Smith. It would help share the load if more members would assist in this regard.

Also, thanks to the Jennings' for hosting an evening at their place when the Japanese visitors were in town.

The QRRA's thanks go to one of our sponsors ASICS for the generous sponsorship of tracksuits for each of our outward interchanges. They are great gifts and much appreciated.

**TARANAKI** - Tom Ryan, Robert Kersnovske

We were privileged enough to be asked to visit New Zealand and to referee a number of games in the Taranaki region of NZ. Our first questions were: "Where is Taranaki" and "Why us". The answer to the former is : East coast of the North Island and the answer to the latter was provided by some of our colleagues who suggested that a number of players had funded a one way ticket. In any case we found ourselves flying to New



Zealand not really knowing what to expect (Tom left on Friday morning and Robert on Saturday morning). Tom reports 'I was collected at New Plymouth airport by my host Eddie Westbury. Eddie was extremely helpful in showing me the sights of the region, getting me acquainted with the social spots of New Plymouth and how to consume vast quantities of Lion Red. Along the way he also explained some of the aspects of the game that I might face in NZ.

New Zealand Rugby has had a spate of neck injuries in scrum engagements in recent times and have adopted a variation of the U19 engagement to all levels of rugby. Essentially it involved each hooker disengaging and establishing arms length contact before packing in the front row then the referee manages the scrum engagement to occur at a much slower rate. They have also initiated compulsory coaches, referees and players scrum education sessions as well as insisting that a game cannot proceed unless a qualified referee (who has attended such a session) is available. They were keen to learn how scrums were handled in Australia.

My first game was on Saturday, an Under 21 match between New Plymouth Old Boys and Stratford played at Vogeltown park. As expected the field was fairly soft and it rained intermittently (the coldest rain I have ever experienced) which made conditions a little slippery. Welcome to New Zealand Rugby - tough, physical and plenty of forward play. The game occasionally deteriorated due to the conditions and the utter determination of both teams to maximise physical damage. After several flare ups I sin binned several players to settle things down. A move I was to regret several days later when I was presented with several reams of reports to complete - they certainly take their rugby seriously and let no misdemeanour go unrecorded. I could help but notice how both teams wanted to see how far they could stretch the law with a foreign referee.

I had been warned that New Zealanders were well versed in the laws of rugby. I knew I was under scrutiny when, instead of the usual Australian cry of "what about the offside" I heard from the crowd "what about law 23 J 1"! Perhaps this has to do with the TV program "Jeff the Ref" which is on before the news at night. No problem with that return ticket, the spectators had the funds before half time. As part of the team sheet endorsement at the end of the game

there is a section to complete (a simple tick list) on player behaviour, crowd behaviour, set up of field etc which would be a good innovation for Brisbane games.

My hosts then took me to Rugby Park - surely one of the more picturesque rugby grounds in the world - to see Western Samoa play Taranaki (Western Samoa won narrowly). The post match function was attended by a number of referees and their interest in QLD Rugby and the hospitality shown to me was outstanding. Afterwards we visited the Hard Rock Cafe (yes, there is one in New Plymouth but it is unlike any other) and the Ruck and Maul bar. Where else in the world does a scrum machine take pride of place in a bar in case the lads feel the urge to pack down.

I was allocated an U15 game between Palmerston North and New Plymouth High School Boarders at the Gully reserve on Monday. An entertaining and free flowing game with the pre match Haka a highlight for me. The post match social aspect of rugby is very strong. Usually this takes form of a function post match with speeches, food, drink etc with both teams and referees involved. I'd like to see this become a regular occurrence in Brisbane. My host, Eddie, kindly videoed some of the games that I refereed - viewings by appointment.

By this time Bob Kersnovske had arrived from Brisbane and it amused the locals to learn that we had never met one another despite refereeing in Brisbane for some years. Bob's host in New Plymouth was Ray Hopkinson. Ray and Eddie took us for a short walk up Mt Taranaki with snow thrown in for free. Bob refereed a Senior 3rd game on Sunday afternoon and a 1st XV game between Spotswood and Hawera on Monday. The level of skills and commitment of the players was impressive.

Our next stop was at Harewa, a town to the south of New Plymouth. Both Bob and I stayed with Ross Patterson and his family on his dairy farm. We quickly embraced the country life and developed expertise in managing cattle, tractors, dogs and farm bikes. The mud was up to our ankles but the weather was surprisingly fine with a temperature of 5-15°C. We both agreed that cows are only marginally more obedient than rugby players and that cattle prods and ear tags would be a useful innovation. We enjoyed the country life which included getting cows off the road at 2 am, scuba diving, a spot of shooting



and of course watching the All Black trials on TV. A wonderful experience for two city dwellers.

The Taranaki Referees Assoc scheduled a meeting so that Bob and I could attend and they were keen to have our input on various issues from an Australian perspective. Referee appointments are announced at these meetings. Non attendance means no appointments. The Association also held a dinner for us and generously presented us with their Association's tie, badge and referees jersey.

Tom's next game was some school trial games at Stratford and on the following Saturday a 1st XV between Harewa and Inglewood. Again fast and free flowing and a "take no prisoners" approach in the forwards. New Zealanders are very well drilled from an early age in forward play and cleaning out the ball. A feature of their game that is noticeably different to Australian methods. We were both appointed touch judges for 1st grade game between Southern and Spotswood and we were complimented afterwards for keeping the "silly flag waving down to a minimum". The social function afterwards saw both of us trying to consume the many drinks purchased for us by the club patrons (Southern won the game).

The hospitality shown to both of us from all levels of the rugby fraternity was magnificent and will be remembered for a long time. The trip gave both of us the chance to experience a different facet of rugby and also gave us the opportunity to focus on refereeing for a longer period than we would normally have available. I'm pretty confident that we both came back better referees.

Thanks to the QRRA for giving us the opportunity and thanks also to ASICS who generously supplied us with our track suits.

### **HAMILTON - Paul Harding**

I arrived in Hamilton on Friday 7 June and was greeted with the news that the All Blacks were playing Western Samoa that night - everybody seemed to be racing for a TV screen. Saturday I was appointed to a Colts (U21) game, which Hamilton Marist won easily in the end. Sunday brought a women's game at Hamilton University. A fine day but heavy track by our standards - firm by NZ standards.

Monday and Tuesday were social/sightseeing days. Wednesday involved a 9.00 am game between Southall College (a Junior Boys High School) against a visiting school. In the afternoon, there was a traditional game between Hamilton Church College and Weaselley College - both Maori colleges. The teams did their Haka starting on their own 10 m line with the 2 captains and a number of other players ending face to face on the halfway line (I understand it has been known to have to stop a fight before the game starts!) The game was played in great spirit with some very solid tackling.

Thursday was a trip to a field day - unless you are a Kiwi you won't know what these are! Friday was a game between a local U 15 boys school and John Paul College from Brisbane. Saturday I was appointed to a Senior B game between Marist & another club (the name of which escapes me) - number one and two on the ladder. This was a tough encounter with a number of good tries scored.

From my point of view I could not more highly recommend the interchange. The people who looked after me were very hospitable and could not do enough for me. The rugby was most enjoyable and the interchange gave me an insight into how much of a religion the game is in NZ and the spirit in which it is played. There is very little backchat or abuse of the referee, if a Captain has a query, they ask for an explanation and accept it. It was most refreshing to referee in such an environment.

Finally, I would like to thank the Association for selecting me to take part in the interchange and in particular Keith Jennings for all his efforts.

### **NORTH HARBOUR - Frank Meiklejohn & Ash Cooper**

Loaded up with duty free and rearing to go, our flight was delayed an hour. Undeterred this allowed us the opportunity to savour further the hospitality of the Qantas lounge and to prime ourselves for the 5 hour flight which we shared with Paul Harding (on his way to Hamilton) and a Kiwi 'Banditos' bikie. After clearing NZ Customs, purchasing more duty free nectar and losing the bikie in the masses, the task of locating our welcoming party began. Don Coster who billeted both of us for the full 10 days that we were in the land of 'The Great White Cloud' met us at the airport. Both of us were appreciative of Don and his family's hospitality,



particularly given Joy (Don's wife) was away 3 days during our stay, visiting her sick mother on the South Island.

The first couple of days were spent acclimatising to the fickle NZ weather, drinking copious amounts of nectar and preparing ourselves for what was to be the first of only 2 games (each) that we were to do on tour. The game was between Glenfield and North Shore, with Ash controlling the Senior A Reserves whilst I did the U 21s. The assessor for the day provided the usual touring report - 'Excellent display of control and running rugby, could not believe that we were not doing a Test match in the next week. Who is this Gus guy anyway?'

Glenfield, the home team, were extremely hospitable, maybe because their favourite son Walter Little had just been reinstated to the National Team that afternoon. The Referees Association took us out to dinner after the game. Off to the Referees meeting on Monday night and after the obligatory introductions, recounting of Geoff Pegg stories and exchange of gifts, we were informed that there were no mid weeks games available for us to referee.. However the Association had organised tickets for us to see Manu Samoa v NZ Maoris at Ericsson Stadium - a night where the temperature fell to below zero.

Given the lack of games we decided that we would take the opportunity to have a look around Auckland and the North Island. A day or so later, having visited the hallowed grounds of the Auckland Blues - Eden Park - , walked the streets and lost our money at the Casino, chilled out at Kelly Tartons aquarium & searched the Rugby Museum, we hired a car and headed down to Hamilton (to try and catch up with PH), then on to Rotorua for an overnight stay at the majestic Princess Gate Hotel. The next day was spent doing all the usual tourist things, all of which seem to involve sulphur (a very distinctive aroma). Then back to Auckland and the North Shore to prepare for the Saturday games between Birkenhead and Glenfield.

Our roles were reversed for these games, Ash doing the U21s and me the Senior A Reserves, with the home team putting on drinks for everyone in dressing rooms after the game. The games coincided with the Test match - Scotland v NZ. The Association took us out to dinner again after the game. So ended the tour.

Many thanks to Keith Jennings for organising the trip, Gabrielle at the QRU for booking the flights and to our hosts in NZ Don and Joy Coster.

## **CANTERBURY - Peter Talbot & Laurie Monaghan**

Arriving at Christchurch we were met by Neil Pavitt (CRRRA President) and Colin Hammond (Exchange Co-ordinator). We were given a brief outline of what was planned for our exchange and also warned to expect some pretty ordinary weather over the next few days. Five games each had been allocated - ranging from Women's, 4th Division, Colts I & II & 2nd Division.

Saturday 1 June was to be our first games. Laurie had a 4th Division game which was contested strongly. Both teams had plenty of experienced players who enjoyed their rugby. My game was a Colts II which was as you would expect of a Colts game - heated in parts and contested fiercely. Skill level was average. We were both watched by CRRRA panel coaches and received comments on how we could improve our game. The advice was both constructive and helpful. There was just one other detail I should mention - the weather was unbelievable during the games. We experienced rain, hail, sleet and a -10 degrees wind chill factor (so we were told). All I can say that it was a bit chilly!!

After the games we went back to the CRRRA Rooms and enjoyed the company of the Canterbury referees and listened to some excellent story telling and yarns of achievement. This is also where Laurie learnt more about how he played his games for Australia than he knew himself. It was incredible. We also found out that there is a tradition associated with this exchange which was started by one Chris Oxenford (his time in Christchurch is still talked about), this being the dreaded bottle of OP Bundy. Someone should have warned us!

Sunday we both had women's games. These were played in good spirit with some very good skills both in running and ball handling. Monday we were invited to referee at an U21s carnival. This was supposedly the cream of the up and coming players. Both Laurie and I had 2 games allocated with one of Laurie's being a forfeit. The standard overall was very high and contested fiercely. The visiting referees caused some controversy with Laurie hearing a voice from the sideline that he remembered - how I do not know. the trouble was this voice had repeatedly questioned



Laurie's decisions on law and Laurie being the shy fellow he is took this fellow to task on points of law. Laurie was very controlled (not). The other being in my game where there was a discrepancy in the score causing one team to lose a place in the semi-final, The trouble being the manager's agreed on the score being correct but I did not and the Refs score was the one that was to be recorded as correct. Talk about playing for sheep stations. These guys meant business. Anyway, the refs score was accepted (I think I quoted to them something about being sole judge of fact?!!) Again we were subject to the scrutiny of the CRRA panel coaches and yet again given very sound advice on how to improve, which was taken on board. After the tournament, more story telling was the order of the day. This was where Laurie became a radio star and asked about his playing days for Australia and how his views had changed about referees now that he was one himself. Laurie said his views had not changed (I do not know what he meant by that).

Wednesday, Laurie had a First XV game - an annual game between Rathkeale College (from the North Island) and Christ College. It was of fairly good standard with the weather being on the chilly side. Final games were on Saturday, with Laurie appointed to a 3rd Division game and I had a 2nd Division game. Both games were played in good spirit and contained experienced players with some good skills. We were also watched by the panel coaches and took on board their advice.

In summary, the games were of the same standards that we were used to. Points that were strongly stressed that we manage well were - scrum engagement, tackle law and rucking. Strangely enough we were asked to prevent overvigorous rucking - in New Zealand of all places.

In closing we would like to take the opportunity to thanks our hosts and the CRRA for a great week & to the QRRR for the opportunity to experience refereeing in another country. It was a very enjoyable experience and one we shall not forget.

## SYDNEY - Terry O'Connor

Having my origins as a referee in NSW (Illawarra) and not ever having refereed in Sydney, it was with great enthusiasm I accepted the offer to go on interchange there. It was my first experience of refereeing in the wet for some time and I cannot recall a heavier ground or a colder day in Brisbane.

The rain and cold experience in the week prior to the match between Southern Districts and Northern Suburbs meant that all the games except the 1st grade were moved off North Sydney Oval. The 2nd grade match was held at Northbridge and North's won 28-17. Although the ground was heavy the match was played openly and both sided threw the ball around which led to an entertaining game. I found the players well disciplined and there was little talk at the referee - only the captains asked questions occasionally. One of the major differences I found was the willingness of the forwards to pick up the ball after a tackle before the maul or ruck had formed. Sometimes they were a little late and penalties ensued but generally they were willing to quickly and legally pick up the ball rather than drive over and clean out. As a result in this game many more players stayed on their feet.

After this game I travelled to North Sydney Oval for the 1st grade game which Craig Pudig refereed. A Victorian referee and I ran the line. The match had over 50 points scored in it. That evening the exchange referees travelled to Carlingford in the west for a function organised by the Sydney referees. Over 50 referees, wives, girlfriends and exchange referees from Victoria, South Australia, NZ as well as myself attended.

I would like to thank particularly Peter Meagher (Sydney exchange convenor) and Keith Jennings (Brisbane exchange convenor) for their organisation and efforts. Thank you also to the Committee for their selection.



# QRRR 1996 MATCH STATISTICS

Name	Joined Assoc.	Rep	Other	Grade				Women	Colts			Suburban	School	Jnr	1996 Games	Total Games
				1	2	3	4		1	2	3					
M. Abell	1979		4			4	2	2		1	3	11	4	3	34	716
G. Acton	1994		6			4	2	1	1	1			3	1	19	84
C. Agnew	1994														-	7
M. Agnew	1994		3		6				2			6	4		21	69
R. Ahkoui			1							1		20		1	23	23
R. Ajax	1994		1										5	5	11	99
N. Allen	1994												1	18	19	83
I. Anderson	1994		1	6					2			2	4		15	62
N. Armstrong															-	3
P. Armstrong	1994														-	57
M. Backstrom										1	1				2	2
W. Banks	1994														-	6
T. Barker	1995		4			4	2		1			1	4			16
Clay Barrett	1995														-	41
Cole Barrett	1988	4	18	2	11			4	8	1	1	7	17	2	75	343
D. Baynes	1995		12									18	2	20	52	115
C. Bell													2	5	7	7
R. Bendeich	1976		5	1	4			1	3			7	4		25	674
F. Benyon	1995														-	10
P. Betchel	1976														-	355
W. Biggs	1994														-	3
M. Black	1990					2	1			1		6	3		13	137
J. Bladett	1995														-	3
P. Bock													1	3	4	4
M. Borgen	1995														-	9
K. Brennan	1994														-	21
R. Brockett	1988	3	8	4	5				4			1	2		27	390
B. Brown	1995					1									1	3
W. Brown								1				11	1	14	27	27
T. Browning															-	6
P. Burnett	1995													21	21	52
J. Burr	1993												3		3	23



## QRRA 1996 MATCH STATISTICS

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## QRRA 1996 MATCH STATISTICS

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				Grade					Colts							
Name	Joined Assoc.	Rep	Other	1	2	3	4	Women	1	2	3	Suburban	School	Jnr	1996 Games	Total Games
N. Lloyd	1995														-	5
P. Locke															-	40
S. Major	1995														-	2
F. Mallon												3		2	5	5
M. Maloney	1995														-	4
D. Mann	1994														-	6
E. Marconi	1989		10			1			3	1		5	4		24	190
P. Marks	1993		23		1	4	1		5	2		3	3		42	105
D. Martin	1995														-	8
R. Masters	1992		3			1	5	1			1	7	4		22	98
B. Mateer													4	17	21	21
J McCarthy													19		19	162
N. McClay	1993													10	10	31
L. McConville								4		2	2	3			11	260
S. McCrohan			1		1	6			2	1	3	5	2		21	21
R. McDougall	1995														-	2
A. McFerran														12	12	12
P. McFerran			1								1	9	1	7	19	19
A. McGregor-Lowndes	1995													25	25	40
L. McInlay	1995														-	9
I. McIntosh	1995												12	14	26	56
T. McIntosh	1995														-	10
J. McKay											1				1	1
G. McLean	1994												4	19	23	31
I. McPhee			17									10	7	7	41	358
A. McTaggart	1993														-	4
F. Meek												1	16	17	34	731
C. Meibusch	1995														-	15
F. Meiklejohn	1994		4		7				2			4	2		19	94
M. Mellick	1990	5	1	5					6			1	1		19	213
T. Mellick	1986														-	201
R. Melloy	1992													11	11	94



# QRRR 1996 MATCH STATISTICS

Name	Joined Assoc.	Rep	Other	Grade				Women	Colts			Suburban	School	Jnr	1996 Games	Total Games
				1	2	3	4		1	2	3					
D. Metrikas	1994		1				3	2		2	1	4	1		14	49
R. Mewett															-	454
P. Micaillif													2		2	2
R. Milne	1989		2			5	1			1		2	3		14	128
R. Mitchell	1995														-	3
J. Moffatt	1993		1				1	1			2	6	1		12	19
L. Monaghan			4		3	3			3			3	3		19	95
J. Morphett	1995														-	40
P. Morris													3		3	3
P. Moulds													3		3	3
J. Murdoch	1990											4	2		6	224
D. Murphy															-	185
K. Murphy	1991														-	50
D. Murray								3			1		1	12	17	126
D. Neagle															-	64
N. Newbold															-	280
C. Newton							3	6		2	1	5	3		20	161
B. Nicol	1995														-	16
S. Osborne															-	44
B. O'Connell	1989												1		1	36
T. O'Connor	1989	4	4	4	8				2				3		25	236
P. O'Neil													1	6	7	7
G. O'Rourke	1993											1	2	5	8	16
G. Palmer	1994														-	18
D. Parks													14		14	14
L. Peebles	1995														-	2
G. Pegg	1987	4	8	7	2				2				5		27	284
R. Perriman												2			2	2
M. Petrie	1995		2					4				1		14	21	22
N. Pocock	1993														-	37
B. Prasser															-	65
N. Prasser													9		9	134



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## QRRA 1996 MATCH STATISTICS

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# QRRRA 1996 MATCH STATISTICS

Name	Joined Assoc.	Rep	Other	Grade				Women	Colts			Suburban	School	Jnr	1996 Games	Total Games
				1	2	3	4		1	2	3					
L. Wine	1994														-	2
Joe Wright			5					1			1				7	29
John Wright															-	19
M. Yeates	1986														-	197
R. Young	1994		1					1		2	1	12	4	1	22	78
S. Young	1985	6		8								1	2		17	309
R. Zingelmann							1	1	1	3	2	4	4	7	23	386
Visitors			19	3	10	10	5	9	6	4	5	8	24	2	105	

Notes on the compilation of match statistics for season ended 1996.

- As in previous years only games sanctioned by the QRU, QJRU, GPS and TAS school competitions were used in the compilation of the 1996 statistics. Pre-season trial games, corporate seven a side tournaments and so forth were not counted.
- With the merging of the QRRRA and the QJRRA some referee's total games scores were not added together. This year this oversight has been corrected and to the best of messers Bendeich and Meek's knowledge the total games scores should now be an accurate reflection of the contribution each referee has made to the association.
- Amended totals appear for the following referees:
  - R. Bendeich, R. Brocket, A. Cole, J. Dee, J. Dempsey, J. Ezzey, B. Feinberg, R. Hoskins, P. Keech, J. Lawrence, B. Leask, L. McConville, F. Meek, L. Monaghan, J. Murdoch, R. Swanwick, C. Waldron.
  - J. Quinn was a member of the QRRRA since 1970 (with a 6 year break) but no game totals could be found. Only his current refereeing appointments are shown.

Although every care has been taken in compiling these statistics any errors or omissions are mine and are regretfully acknowledged.

Yours Sincerely

Peter Gofton

