



Manly Warringah Football Referees Association Inc

Annual Report & Financial Statement Season 2008

60TH Annual General Meeting

Monday 17th November 2008

Manly Warringah Football Referees Association Incorporated

2008 Annual Report

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The 60th Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on
Monday 17th November 2008
commencing at 7:30 pm
at the Manly Warringah Soccer Club
Cromer Park, 101 South Creek Road, Dee Why

Agenda of Annual General Meeting

1. Opening of Meeting and Welcoming of Guests
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting
4. Business arising from the previous minutes
5. Presentation of reports
6. Election of Office Bearers
7. Notice of motions
8. General Business
9. Close of Meeting

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Office Bearers 2008

President	Tom Browne
Secretary	Paul Respicio
Treasurer	Colin Stocks
Vice President - Seniors	James Raphael
Vice President - Juniors	Peter Muir
Floor Member	Kevin Martin
Assistant Secretary	Graeme Burns
Gear Steward	Trevor Croal
Registrar	Ed Penny
Theory Trainer	Matthew Gillett

Sub-Committees 2008

Field Inspection	Convenor	Peter Robson
	Members	Peter Muir, Rolf Rempt, Don Gale, Tony Seaman
Youth Inspections	Members	Ryan Shephard, Don Gale, Tony Seaman, Trevor Croal, Matt Gillett, Robert Brennan, Tom Browne
Disciplinary	Convenor	Ed Penny
	Members	Ryan Shephard, Trevor Croal, Matthew Gillett
Appointments		Tony Seaman/Ed Penny

Delegates 2008

NSWSRI	Tom Browne
MWFA	James Raphael

Auditor 2008

Santarosa Stapleton – Dee Why

Meeting Attendance

The Office Bearers, committee and sub committee members in 2008 applied themselves to their various tasks with enthusiasm but in a responsible manner. The Executive meet twice and the management team seven occasions to discuss and plan the activities of the association.

Name	Executive Meetings (1 meetings)	Management Meetings (7 Meetings)	General Meetings (5 Meeting)
Tom Browne	1	5	5
James Rafael	1	6	5
Paul Respicio		2	2
Colin Stocks		4	4
Peter Muir		3	3
Ed Penny		6	5
Trevor Croal		5	3
Graeme Burns		2	2
Kevin Martin		5	4
Tony Seaman		5	4
Matt Gillett		6	4

Life Members

Fred Adler – 1964 (dec'd)
 Joe Breen – 1968 (dec'd)
 Jim Davidson – 1971 (dec'd)
 Cyril Jack – 1975 (dec'd)
 Alan Bartlett – 1981
 Walter Kirk – 1982
 Tony Rathbone – 1985
 Jack Vincent – 1987
 Kevin Martin – 1989
 Peter Lovett – 1991
 Bernard Croweller – 1992
 Peter Robson – 1995
 Tony Seaman - 2005

J.W. Cook - 1966 (dec'd)
 Arthur Spence –1970 (dec'd)
 J.E.Boyer – 1973 (dec'd)
 John Etherington – 1977 (dec'd)
 John Geeves – 1981
 Sydney Russell – 1983 (dec'd)
 John Brilman – 1987 (dec'd)
 Bill McBurnie – 1988
 John Lax – 1989
 Jim Loke – 1991
 Gerry Muoio – 1993
 Trevor Croal - 2001

G.H. Hudson – 1967
 Gordon Geeves Snr – 1971 (dec'd)
 Bill van Leeuwen – 1973 (dec'd)
 Gordon Geeves jnr – 1980
 John Withnell – 1981
 Wayne Connor – 1983
 Col Coupland – 1987
 Shirley Bones – 1988 (dec'd)
 Dave Hill – 1990
 Hans Bosschieter – 1991
 Ian Massey – 1995
 Don Gale – 2002

Past Executive Committees

Year	Yr	President	Vice-President	VP Juniors	Secretary	Treasurer	Floor Member	Asst Secretary
1949	1	F.Alder	J.Breen		I.Lewis	I.Lewis	A.Bowyer	G.H.Hudson
1950	2	F.Alder	J.Breen		I.Lewis	G.H.Hudson	J.Smith	G.H.Hudson
1951	3	F.Alder	J.Breen		I.Lewis	G.H.Hudson	D.Sinclair	G.H.Hudson
1952	4	F.Alder	J.Breen		I.Lewis	G.H.Hudson	O.Scott	G.H.Hudson
1953	5	F.Alder	G.H.Hudson		J.Breen	O.Scott	O.Scott	O.Scott
1954	6	F.Alder	J.Breen		G.H.Hudson	O.Scott	G.R.Hudson	O.Scott
1955	7	F.Alder	T.O'Toole		G.H.Hudson	O.Scott	G.R.Hudson	O.Scott
1956	8	F.Alder	T.O'Toole		G.R.Hudson	R.Parker	G.H.Hudson	R.Parker
1957	9	F.Alder	G.H.Hudson		J.W.Cook	R.Parker	R.Schofield	R.Parker
1958	10	F.Alder	G.H.Hudson		J.W.Cook	R.Parker	G.R.Hudson	R.Parker
1959	11	F.Alder	R.Parker		J.W.Cook	J.Smith	G.R.Hudson	J.Smith
1960	12	F.Alder	G.H.Hudson		J.W.Cook	J.Smith	J.Treloar	J.Smith
1961	13	F.Alder	G.H.Hudson		J.W.Cook	G.R.Hudson	R.Schofield	G.R.Hudson
1962	14	F.Alder	C.Gavid		G.H.Hudson	C.Sutton	A.Spence	C.Sutton
1963	15	F.Alder	C.Gavid		G.H.Hudson	C.Sutton	A.Spence	C.Sutton
1964	16	F.Alder	G.H.Hudson		C.Sutton	J.Cook	C.Gavid	J.Cook
1965	17	F.Alder	G.H.Hudson		C.Sutton	J.Cook	C.Gavid	
1966	18	C.Gavid	G.Antill		G.Anderson	G.Geeves Snr	P.Scott	S Woolveridge
1967	19	C.Gavid	G.Antill		G.H.Hudson	G.Geeves Snr	J.Withnell	D.Maddox
1968	20	J.Davidson	J.Withnell		W.Van Leeuwen	G.Geeves Snr	G.H.Hudson	G.Geeves Jnr
1969	21	J.Davidson	J.Withnell		W.van Leeuwen	G.Geeves Snr	G.H.Hudson	A.Carnovale
1970	22	J.Withnell	C.Jack		W.van Leeuwen	G.Geeves Snr		
1971	23	C.Jack	J.Davidson		W.van Leeuwen	G.Geeves Snr	W.Kirk	R.Fitzpatrick
1972	24	C.Jack	J.Davidson		R.Duncan	G.Geeves Snr	W Van Leeuwen	W.Hardy
1973	25	J.Davidson	A.Perry		R.Duncan	G.Geeves Snr	W.van Leeuwen	T.Parker
1974	26	J.Davidson	W.Van Leeuwen		R.Duncan	G.Geeves Snr	R.Cockman	
1975	27	W.Van Leeuwen	J.Etherington		J.Brillman J.Connor	G.Geeves Snr	C.Jack	W.Connor S.Russell
1976	28	J.Etherington	G.White		P.Wood	R.Duncan	C.Jack	S.Russell
1977	29	J.Etherington	G.White		P.Wood	W.Harper	C.Jack	P.Wood
1978	30	G.White	B.Marsh		W.Connor	G.Richmond	C.Jack	J.Mahn
1979	31	G.White	A.Bartlett		W.Connor C.Coupland	G.Richmond	G.Geeves Jnr	J.Mahn
1980	32	G.White	A.Bartlett		C.Coupland	G.Richmond	W.Connor	J.Mahn
1981	33	A.Bartlett	A.Rathbone		C.Coupland	B.Rawling	W.Connor	D.Hill
1982	34	A.Bartlett	A.Rathbone		C.Coupland	D.Hill	S.Russell	V.Bush
1983	35	J.Geeves	A.Rathbone		C.Coupland	D.Hill	S.Russell	V.Bush
1984	36	J.Geeves	A.Rathbone		C.Coupland	D.Hill	S.Russell	V.Bush
1985	37	A.Rathbone	B.Fowler		J.Loke	J.Lax	P.Lovett	N.Connor
1986	38	A.Rathbone	C.Coupland		J.Loke	J.Lax	P.Lovett	F.Bones
1987	39	A.Rathbone	C.Coupland		J.Loke	J.Lax	P.Lovett	F.Bones
1988	40	C.Coupland	B.Crosweiler		J.Loke	J.Lax	P.Lovett	P.Robson
1989	41	C.Coupland	B.Crosweiler		J.Loke	J.Lax	P.Lovett	P.Robson
1990	42	C.Coupland	B.Crosweiler		J.Loke P.Robson	J.Lax	P.Lovett	P.Robson H. Bosschieter
1991	43	P.Lovett	C.Coupland		J.Loke	P.Robson	B.Crosweiler	C.Colwell P. Robson
1992	44	C.Coupland	J.Loke		L.Davies	P.Robson	B.Crosweiler	S.Carratt
1993	45	C.Coupland	J.Loke		P.Robson	I.Massey	B.Crosweiler	F.Bones
1994	46	A.Rathbone	J.Loke		P.Robson	I.Massey	B.Crosweiler	D.Morris
1995	47	A.Rathbone	J.Loke		P.Robson	I.Massey	B.Crosweiler	D.Morris
1996	48	A.Rathbone	D.Morris		P.Robson	I.Massey	B.Crosweiler	D.Morris
1997	49	P.Robson	K.Martin		D.Morris	J.Cuttle	D.Gale	G.Wilks
1998	50	P.Robson	C.Stocks		D.Morris	J.Cuttle	D.Gale	G.Wilks
1999	51	P.Robson	C.Stocks	T Seaman	V.Movsessian	J.Cuttle	D.Gale	G.Wilks
2000	52	L.Hudson	R.Shepherd	T Seaman	W.Ranson	A.Vale	D.Gale	G.Wilks
2001	53	L.Hudson	R.Shepherd	T Browne	W.Ranson	A.Vale	D.Gale	G.Wilks
2002	54	L.Hudson	R.Shepherd	T Browne	T. Browne	A.Vale	D.Gale/P Robson	G.Wilks
2003	55	T.Browne	R.Shepherd	P. Muir	D.Hill	A.Vale	C.Stocks/P.Muir	G.Wilks
2004	56	T.Browne	R.Shepherd	P. Muir	D.Hill	A.Vale	K. Martin	G.Wilks
2005	57	T.Browne	R.Shepherd	P. Muir	D.Hill	A.Vale	K. Martin	P Robson/D Hill
2006	58	T.Browne	R.Shepherd	P. Muir	P.Respicio	A.Vale	K. Martin	D.Hill
2007	59	T.Browne	R.Shepherd	P. Muir	P.Respicio	C. Stocks	K. Martin	G. Burns
2008	60	T.Browne	J.Raphael	P. Muir	P.Respicio	C. Stocks	K. Martin	G. Burns

Honour Roll

Referee of the Year					
1981	Tony Rathbone	1982	John Geeves	1983	Alan Bartlett
1984	Gordon Geeves jnr	1985	John Geeves	1986	Syd Russell
1987	Dave Hill	1988	Syd Russell	1989	Col Coupland
1990	Syd Russell	1991	Tony Rathbone	1992	Tony Rathbone
1993	Tony Rathbone	1994	Tony Rathbone	1995	Tony Rathbone
1996	Lyle Hudson	1997	Lyle Hudson	1998	Colin Stocks
1999	Andrew Vale	2000	Graham Wilks	2001	Andrew Vale
2002	Andrew Vale	2003	Lyle Hudson	2004	Ryan Shepheard
2005	Ryan Shepheard	2006	Andrew Vale	2007	Ryan Shepheard
2008	James Raphael				

Under 25 Referee of the Year					
1991	Andrew Vale	1992	Greg Coupland	1993	Andrew Vale
1994	Andrew Vale	1995	Andrew Vale	1996	Colin Stocks
1997	Colin Stocks	1998	Nick Dracakis	1999	Ryan Shepheard
2000	Ryan Shepheard	2001	Ryan Shepheard	2002	Ryan Shepheard
2003	Matthew Gillett	2004	Paul Clift	2005	Matthew Gillett
2006	Matthew Gillett	2007	Matthew Gillett	2008	Bradley Duke

Under 21 Referee of the Year					
1985	Annabel Lax	1986	Andrew Eason	1987	Paul Blackwood
1988	Andrew Hill	1989	Greg Coupland	1990	Andrew Hill
1991	Greg Coupland	1992	Scott Bendall	1993	Michael Dine
1994	Michael Dine	1995	Chris Parratt	1996	Ryan Shepheard
1997	Ryan Shepheard	1998	Mark Higgs	1999	Luke Ventress
2000	Adrian Carratt	2001	Matthew Gillett	2002	Matthew Gillett
2003	Paul Clift	2004	Matthew Gillett	2005	Bradley Duke
2006	Bradley Duke	2007	Bradley Duke	2008	Sam Steindl

Under 18 Referee of the Year (formerly Junior Cadet of the year)					
1983	Murray Connor	1984	Ken Artuso	1985	Oscar Gonzales
1986	Tom Haerland	1987	Greg Coupland	1988	Greg Coupland
1989	Dean Heffernan	1990	Julian Humphrey	1991	David Goodwin
1992	Michael Dine	1993	Rohan Ashover	1994	Matthew Jordan
1995	Ryan Shepheard	1996	Andrew Jordan	1997	Mark Higgs
1998	Trevor Simonsen	1999	Adrian Carratt	2000	Matthew Gillett
2001	Andrew Best	2002	Andrew Best	2003	Bradley Duke
2004	Bradley Duke	2005	Howard Louis	2006	Adam Trevor
2007	Adam Trevor	2008	Alec Smith		

Peter Clay Memorial Award					
1998	Graeme Kellow	1999	Greg Courts	2000	Greg Courts
2001	Richard Cant	2002	Richard Cant	2003	Chris Grant
2004	Matthew Gillett	2005	Paul Clift	2006	Colin Grant
2007	Ed Penny	2008	Paul Respicio		

Seniors Referee of the Year					
2004	John Cuttle	2005	David Torevell	2006	Peter Robson
2007	Niels Mathisen	2008	Frank Best		

FOOTBALL NSW Amateur Cup Final					
1980	Tony Rathbone	1983	Syd Russell	1988	Dave Hill (U/21)
1993	Andrew Vale	1997	Colin Stocks (U/21)	2002	Graham Wilks (U/18)
2002	Adrian Barlow (U/16)	2002	Greg Coupland (A/A)		

FOOTBALL NSW. Champions of Champions Final					
1997	Colin Stocks (U/18)	1998	Colin Stocks (O/35)	2001	Andrew Vale (U/18)
2002	Greg Coupland (U/21)	2003	Chris Grant	2005	Mitchell Compton (U/15)
2007	Matthew Gillett (U/21)	2008	Sam Steindl (U/16)		

N.S.W. Super/Premier Youth League Final					
2001	Graham Wilks (U/17)	2002	Andrew Vale (U/17)	2003	Andrew Best (U/13)
2004	Richard Cant (U/15)	2005	Howard Louis (U/13)	2006	Wayne Ranson (U/15)
2007	Adam Trevor (U/14)				

NSW Umbro Cup (Best Youth League Referee's Association)	
1995	2000

Australian Soccer/Football Titles			
1988	Kevin Martin (U/15)		

Minutes Annual General Meeting

Held 7.30pm 19 November 2007 at Cromer Park, MWFA Club House

Present: As per attendance book. President (T Browne) – Chairperson

Apologies: As collected by the Secretary

2007/G31 Minutes of 2006 AGM. Passed as true record: K Martin, C Stocks

2007/G32 Business arising from Minutes 2006 AGM

a) G108 g). Correction, "MWFA"

2007/G33 Presidents Report (T Browne)

a) Large increase in number of referees due to over 500 player referees joining MWFRA.

b) 8 theory courses. T Browne thanked M Gillett, R Shepheard & P Robson for their extensive support in running theory courses.

a. 26 ladies attended various theory courses, 24 passed.

c) FNSW amended constitution to align with FFA guidelines and requirements.

a. Referees to be controlled by Referee's Standing Committee & Referee's Manager within FNSW.

d) T Browne represented referee's on special panel to discuss & negotiate fees in 2008.

Proposal was rejected by FNSW. Decision pending at FNSW AGM on 24th November 2007.

e) Thanked Tony Seaman and various inspectors for efforts on appointments and controlling inspections throughout season.

f) Thanked Management Committee and members for their efforts on and off field and congratulated all on a successful season.

2007/G34 Treasurers Report (C Stocks)

a) No auditors report as of AGM as accounts are still being finalised for 2007 season.

b) Profit and loss is below expectation due largely to the number of washed out games.

c) Numerous emails have been received from referees claiming non-payment of match fees, however, almost 100 referees without any bank details. Slowly being followed up.

d) Proposed that in 2008 no uniforms or registration fees will be paid for by credit, with compulsory upfront payment. Accounting is painful and logistically very timely to follow up. To be discussed by Management Committee in 2008.

e) Question from the floor regarding a balance sheet. C Stocks advised that as accounts are still being finalised, auditors do not have enough information to complete balance sheet.

2007/G35 Vice President Seniors (R Shepheard)

a) Report as tabled.

b) Introduced FNSW Premier Youth League Panel

2007/G36 Other reports presented to AGM. P Muir, K Martin & M Gillett reports as tabled in Annual Report.

2007/G37 Referees Coach (T Croal)

- a) P Franklin commented that mentor program should be developed throughout 2008.
- b) Report as tabled in Annual Report.

2007/G38 Election of Office Bearers

- a) R Shepherd advised the AGM that he will not be available for re-election.
- b) K Martin (Floor Member) advised that he is happy to stand for re-election, however, will be away for 5 weeks during season and asked for assistance during this period.
- c) Positions available for nomination and election of office bearers, convenors and delegates as follows:

- i. Vice President Seniors: J Raphael, Proposed P Respicio, Seconder C Stocks.
- ii. Secretary: P Respicio, Proposed K Martin, Seconder D Gale
- iii. Floor Member: K Martin, Proposed P Respicio, Seconder T Croal
- iv. Gear Steward: T Croal, Proposed T Browne, Seconder P Respicio
- v. Registrar: E Penny, Proposed E Penny, Seconder P Respicio
- vi. Field Inspection: P Robson, Proposed T Seaman, Seconder R Rempt
- vii. Theory Trainer: M Gillett, Proposed P Robson, Seconder T Croal
- viii. MWFA Delegate: Vice President Seniors (J Raphael)
- ix. NSWRI: T Browne

2007/G39 Notices of Motion

- a) Motion 1, carried unanimously
- b) Motion 2, carried. Opposed – C Stocks

2007/G40 General Business

- a) K Martin thank T Browne for efforts as President in 2007
- b) D Gale – question regarding fee increase for inspectors. Decision pending Management Committee meeting.
- c) F Pickard & R Brennan – questions regarding U16 Grand Final and member of MWFRA charged with assault. T Browne advised that referee will not be able to rejoin as member of MWFRA.
- d) J Smit advised that MWFA still proceeding with investigations in regards to U16 Grand Final.
- e) F Pickard asked for clarification on appointments procedure for troublesome teams.
- f) R Brennan made suggestion that U15 & U16 Grand Finals be player on Cromer 1, not Cromer 2 from a crowd control perspective.
- g) G Lenihan asked if home and mobile numbers can be made available to referees. To be addressed by Management Committee.

Meeting closed at 9:08pm

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Reports

President

As this is my last report as your President, I would like to express my opinion on the state of affairs of the Manly Warringah Football Referee's Association.

On becoming President in November 2002, the Association had gone through quite a lot of change during the previous three years. We have come from an association where, appointments were done by hand and given out over the phone, registrations were done on paper and mailed to the Registrar and Secretary, and payment to referees was made by cheque, to where all registrations are recorded on computer and payment are made directly into your bank account on line. We also obtained our own website.

Since 2002, quite a lot has taken place in the running of our Association. We have continued to improve our computerisation to the point where we now have all of our appointments and registrations on line and the majority of communication is undertaken either by email or SMS. Our website has been improved dramatically (with a little hick-up during 2008) where we now have an enormous amount of information provided on line. It is anticipated that by February 2009, the MWFRA will have a computer program which will appoint all referees to games, record their availability, and link this into our accounts for easier and quicker payments to referees.

Over the last six years we have also seen quite a few changes in the football community. The old Soccer Australia is no more and has been replaced by a more professional Football Federation of Australia (FFA). We have seen a new and reconstituted Football NSW which, I hope, will be for the better, and we have seen a new grading system instituted by FFA for the progression of referees through the ranks for those that aspire to, one day hopefully, being a FIFA referee. Matt Gillett and Ryan Shepherd are two names that come to mind and, in my opinion, are excellent examples of what can be achieved if you so desire. (I taught them every thing I know!!!).

One of my initial plans on becoming President was to improve our relationship with the Manly Warringah Football Association. It was abundantly clear to me that the MWFRA seemed to be a fairly secretive organization when it came to communicating with our local football body. I set out remedying this situation by being always available to meet with the MWFA Executive and visiting the MWFA office every week to enquire of any problems. I was also on hand on Mondays for any problem which may have arisen due to send-off reports not being correctly filled out. I was also in regular contact with the President of the MWFA, firstly Linda Ward, and now Ray Fanning. I saw this as an extremely important measure in taking the MWFRA forward and gaining the assistance of the MWFA. Proof of this was the MWFA's help with increasing the numbers of referees by instituting the rules whereby a team cannot be registered unless they have at least two registered referees in that team. As you all know this was commenced in 2007, improved upon in 2008, and will again be strengthened in 2009. Another area where the MWFA has been very helpful was in a meeting your Executive had with them at the beginning of October. In this meeting the judiciary system in Manly Warringah was overhauled to the extent where there will be only 7 cautionable offences and 7 send-off offences in 2009. This will bring us into line with Football NSW and FFA and, I feel, will make it easier for referees to fill out their reports, especially as the match card (at least for PL and AA1) will consist of 4 copies of A4 size on which the referee will be required to complete ticking a box next to the players who have been cautioned or sent off. Of course send-off reports still will be required from the Referee. This initiative was introduced at the request of the MWFRA as we have evidence of some referees not sending in caution or send-off reports.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE MWFA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THEIR STAFF IN THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, HEADED BY JEREMY TOIVONEN, FOR THE CO-OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE THEY HAVE GIVEN ME AND THE MWFRA OVER THE LAST 6 YEARS. I FEEL SURE THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE AS THERE ARE MANY CHALLENGES AHEAD.

Another initiative of your Management Committee during the last six years has been the introduction of DVD instruction for the theory courses for new entrants to refereeing. Matt Gillett has been instrumental in setting this up with the added help of Ed Penny and various members of the management team. This is an excellent way of explaining the Laws of the Game to new referees, particularly the recognition of fouls and off- side in Laws 11 and 12. This has helped tremendously in the development of referees as it also aids those referees who aspire to upgrade themselves.

This year, sadly, saw the passing of one of our LIFE MEMBERS and previous long serving appointment officers, Shirley Bones. Shirley served the MWFRA as appointments officer for some 25 years up to 1997, and will be for ever in the memory of the MWFRA. We also say farewell to two long serving stalwarts of the MWFRA, Tony Seaman and Jim Loke, both of whom have retired. Tony started refereeing with the MWFRA in 1984 and served, amongst other things, as Vice President Juniors and appointments officer. He now resides in sunny Queensland. Jim Loke has been refereeing with the MWFRA since 1982 and served as Secretary for 7 years and as Vice President Seniors for four years. We wish both gentlemen all the best in the future and thank them very much for their beneficial contribution to the MWFRA.

It can be said that, by far, the largest initiative to have taken place in the MWFRA is the large increase to our membership over the last two years. We now have in excess of five hundred and fifty members (550), the majority of whom play in the grades we cannot cover. This all adds up to an exciting future for the MWFRA and has been a joint effort between your Management Committee and the Management Committee of the MWFA. To all of you I express my sincere thanks.

Before closing I would just like to say how much I have enjoyed being your President and to thank you all for the trust and faith you have had in me and the rest of the Management Committee. It has truly been an honour serving you and helping to build this wonderful referees association. I can honestly say that you are members of one of, if not the best referees association and football association in New South Wales and you should all be very proud of it.

LASTLY, A VERY, VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WHO, OVER THE LAST SIX YEARS, HAVE HELPED ME MAKE THE MWFRA WHAT IT IS TODAY. THERE IS A LOT OF WORK DONE BEHIND THE SCENES AND I HAVE HAD MUCH PLEASURE IN WORKING WITH ALL THOSE PEOPLE. THEY HAVE DONE A TREMENDOUS JOB.

SO TO ALL THOSE PEOPLE, I THANK YOU SINCERELY. TO ALL THE MEMBERS, I ALSO THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS AND CONTRIBUTION.

I BID YOU ALL FAREWELL.

Tom Browne

Vice President Seniors

I was not sure what I had let myself in for when I accepted to be the Vice President and didn't know if I could fit in with a whole new system.

However it has been a very enjoyable & rewarding year both on & off the field. I have made some new friends, I have seen several younger referees make the step to a higher standard Alec Smith, Sam Steindl, & Thomas Lee to name a few, hopefully there will be more to follow next season.

The mentoring system that is now in place will ensure we do have a future, I hope that Rob Brennan gets all the help he needs to accomplish this.

Whenever I needed guidance or had a question needing answering Tom, Ryan, Matt, Ed or the committee were always at the end of a phone with an answer.

The one big thank you I would like to make is to Peter Robson & his team of inspectors without them we would not have the information to put the right referee on the right game.

On a personal note I was very honoured to referee the Grand Final, the competition within the association is very high & there are some very good young referees in our association, I know that some experienced good referees who have been refereeing longer than me in Australia have still not had this honour, so I was not only surprised, but very pleased to be considered. I had planned to retire after this season & spend more time mentoring/inspecting if we have enough referees, that still may be the case, if not I will give it my best for one more season.

James Raphael

Vice President Juniors

I am very pleased to report that the 2008 season saw another good intake of quality junior referee's. Overall we had **46** new junior referees join our ranks. It was also very pleasing to see that they maintained the high standard expected of the MWFRA. I visited a number of games during the season and had the opportunity to speak to quite a number of managers, coaches and supporters, as well our junior refs. Generally all the officials spoke very highly of the junior referees.

Thank you to those referees who helped with the CC Strikers Cup. The feedback from the organisers was very pleasing. You all did a great job. It was a pity the Public Schools annual knock out competition had to be cancelled due to the weather, never mind with a bit of luck you can have a go next year.

Congratulations and a job well done must also go to all the junior referees who officiated in the finals of the MWFA junior competition. Selection of referees to officiate at these honour games is well contested ensuring all matches were refereed competently and efficiently. This also applies to those juniors who acted as assistants or 4th officials on the day of the senior finals.

A big thank you to the referee's coach, Trevor Croal, for his efforts in helping to make the junior referees job a little easier. We all appreciate a few words of advice and encouragement from the sideline. Trevor's advice helped enormously with our junior refs' performances. As we all know, you only really learn to referee when you are on the park. Thanks also to all the other senior refs who also provided helpful hints to our young referees. As a team we would welcome more volunteers to assist Trevor in this vital role. Anyone interested can contact me via our web site.

Congratulations to Nick Barrett on winning the Rookie of the Year award, a great effort young man, well done. It was a closely contested competition of very high standard and Nick squeezed in by a point.

In finishing off, it was very pleasing to see the improvement in performance from our new recruits as the season went on. It is not easy to go out onto the park and control a game of football for the first time. A special mention to Matt Gillett our referee's trainer who conducted out training courses. Also, I would like to thank the rest of my fellow committee members for their valued support and assistance.

I will not be re-electing for Junior VP, I will now pass this on to another parent who I'm sure will also serve the juniors with enthusiasm. I hope to see you all around the grounds next season in a different capacity purely as an assessor.

Peter Muir

Appointments Convenor

Availability:

1. Seniors – 77 were available Sat pm, this included 5 occasional and 2 that run at 3pm only.

There was an average of 15 who did not run each week due to various reasons, plus 4 who covered Youth League.

This left us approx 20 short each Sat pm not allowing us to cover M351 or MAA2 games. Occasionally we did have a few who were appointed to M351 when venue allowed us to utilise these Referees over 2 games.

2. Juniors – Games had good coverage over the season, but a number of them did not show up, resulting in coverage of 78% of Junior Games.

Some juniors did not get appointed every week due to conflicts i.e. at the wrong venue, the draw having real mixtures of age games. In general the Juniors stepped up to do Senior AR appointments in the afternoons but an occasional no show did let down a couple of them.

3. Ladies – Generally good coverage, but once again some referees especially the Player/Referees who indicated their availability to do ladies games did not show. In some cases coverage was down below 70% because of this. The call for the lower divisions of Ladies football clubs to have compulsory referees would alleviate this problem.

4. Club Referees – once again the using of Club Referees generally worked well and we had a lot of feedback from a number of Clubs and certain referees. The lack of some clubs not fulfilling their requirements (penalties imposed by Association) and of course the different levels of refereeing ability are always going to raise questions and feedback. This latter problem can be addressed by having a “free seminar” at each area location and give on going “coaching” at least twice during the season.

Thanks to Tom Browne for his valued assistance during the season, also to Tony Seaman for his efforts over the majority of the seasons appointments and all the Management Committee. Also like to thank Peter Muir for his assistance over the weather delayed FINALS but especially all the referees for continuing to stick to their availability over the 2 weeks including re-arranged venues and times and including for the 1st time Finals with evening kick-offs. There were a number of Senior Referees who unfortunately missed out on their initial appointed Finals due to the cancellations at the allocated date, but all games went very well without any incidences.

Games coverage of the MWFRA (in addition to Club Games)

Youth League	Cadet League on Sundays
Girls Youth League	Manly United trial games
CC Strikers U9 Knock Out	School Games
State Cup Games	Champion of Champion Games
Mid week MWFA Knock-out cup games	
Pre Season games	North Harbour Tournament
Mosman summer 5-a-side	FNSW Community Football Tournaments

E Penny Appointments

Registrar

2008 saw again an increase of 17% in the number of Referees. This was mainly down to the fact that the MWFA introduced a compulsory minimum of two qualified referees per team for MAA2 and M351 and additional referees from the other men's divisions MAA3 to MAA8, and M352 to M356. These new "Part Time" referees were allocated games at their teams' home game field, either before or after their teams' game. They were also able to wear the MWFRAs "black-and-white" gear while refereeing.

There was a slight increase in the junior numbers (101 with 91 in 2007) the worrying part is that we lost 50% of last seasons juniors (for many reasons for example: abuse, money, less freedom) but we gained another 10 above last years totals. If this trend continues we will effectively have more rookies every year than returning juniors, where returning juniors are better for the Association and the quality of refereeing, provided a much needed development program is put in place to keep them refereeing next year and for years to come.

We had many of these Player/referees return from last season, but it sure was a long process in getting them to RE-REGISTER. To improve the process of RE-REGISTERING, there will be a new online system in place next season to drastically decrease the processing effort of entering registration details to a database. Also to introduce an incentive (reduction in Management fee) to register before a defined date, would definitely help.

It appears that the women's leagues will definitely follow the same with the lower divisions WAA2 to WAA7 and W35s needing to have compulsory 2 Referees and then attending the basic introductory course.

We have 25 Life members.

Below is a list of referees who are now eligible for upgrading to higher classifications

Class 1 Eligible	Theory	Field Test		Class 2 Eligible	Theory	Field Test
<i>Michael Asbridge</i>		X		<i>Graeme Burns</i>		X
<i>John Cuttle</i>		X		<i>Rhett Butler</i>	X	X
<i>Andrew Best</i>	X	X		<i>Michele Cole</i>	X	X
<i>Wayne Ranson</i>		X		<i>John Coombe</i>		X
<i>Chris Parratt</i>	X	X		<i>Phiroze DeVitre</i>	X	X
<i>Gary Siddons</i>		X		<i>Bradley Duke</i>	X	X
				<i>John Ferranda</i>	X	X
<i>Alex Dokic</i>	X	X		<i>Roger Graham</i>	X	X
<i>Richard Cant</i>	X	X		<i>Steve Haggett</i>	X	X
<i>Hans Van Elden</i>	X	X		<i>Mark Hopkins</i>	X	X
<i>Colin Grant</i>	X	X		<i>Graham Irvine</i>	X	X
<i>Thomas Haerland</i>	X	X		<i>Michael Kellerman</i>	X	X
<i>Serge Mastroianni</i>	X	X		<i>Peter Muir</i>	X	X
<i>Niels Mathisen</i>	X	X		<i>Stephen Murray</i>	X	X
<i>Ed Penny</i>	X	X		<i>Martin O'Connell</i>	X	X
<i>Paul Respicio</i>	X	X		<i>Graham Sheldon</i>	X	X
				<i>Ken Taylor</i>	X	X
Class 2 Eligible	Theory	Field Test		<i>Luke Rogers</i>		X
<i>Stuart Auld</i>		X		<i>Alec Smith</i>		X
<i>Tim Barras</i>		X		<i>Keith Stewart</i>		X
<i>Gareth Evans</i>		X		<i>Alan Whitford</i>		X
<i>Sebastien Brennan</i>		X				
<i>Paul Franklin</i>		X				
<i>Neville Fry</i>		X				

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<i>Grahame Irvine</i>		X				
<i>Ken Lewis</i>		X				
<i>Frank Maiuolo</i>		X				
<i>Daryl Meppem</i>		X				
<i>Brett Downie</i>		X				
<i>Keith Muir</i>		X				
<i>David Page</i>		X				
<i>Robert Brennan</i>		X				
<i>John Pendergast</i>		X				

Members wishing to upgrade to Class 1 or Class 2, please speak to our Theory Trainer.

The breakdown of full Classes 1, 2 3 & 4 is as under:

Class	Active	Non Active	Total	Average age
1	17	4	21	59
1T	4	2	6	57
2	11	0	11	45
2T	20	1	21	41
3	22	0	22	48
4	561	68	629	27
Total	633	75	708	

Recent history

	Adult	Junior	Sub-Total		Inspectors	Non-Active	Sub-Total	TOTALS
1993	60	32	92		6	2	8	100
1994	77	32	109		6	3	9	118
1995	66	45	111		6	1	7	118
1996	68	5	121		9	1	10	131
1997	72	57	129		6	2	8	137
1998	77	66	143		9	1	10	153
1999	75	53	128		5	0	5	143
2000	68	73	141		5	1	6	147
2001	76	47	123		5	1	6	129
2002	90	61	151		5	2	7	158
2003	108	67	175		4	2	6	181
2004	112	97	209		6	2	8	217
2005	117	76	193		4	0	4	197
2006	94	97	191		5	1	6	197
2007	484	91	575		6	1	7	582
2008	600	101	701		6	1	7	708

Let's hope 2009 is as successful season.....

.....with a DEVELOPEMENT PROGRAM in place to benefit everyone

Ed Penny - Registrar

Inspection Convenor

107 assessments were carried out on the on-field performances of 52 adult referees this year. Congratulations to those who gained awards for their outstanding refereeing during the year.

Thanks go to the regular inspectors Richard Cant, Don Gale, Peter Muir, Rolf Rempt, the now departed Tony Seaman, and David Torevell,

Thanks also for the occasional assessments carried out by Gerry Lenihan.

The statistical validity of the final results would be greatly enhanced by more assessments; in particular, senior referees who were temporarily not running due to injury, would be most welcome additions to the inspecting ranks.

Peter Robson

Theory Trainer Report

2008 proved to be yet another successful year for the MWFRA with many (233 of which 52 were juniors) new referees joining the association. Courses were conducted starting as early as November 2007 with the first ever 'ladies only' classes held at Cromer. Two different dates were held and a total of 25 female officials obtained their Level 5 & 4 certificates enabling them to become active referees.

This year also saw the continuation of the football association's efforts to ensure all levels of senior men's football had accredited referees. To do this the compulsory referees courses were extended to include Men's Amateur League Division 2 & Reserve Grade as well as Men's Over 35 Division 1. A total of 6 courses were held and a further 168 player/referees were accredited. 2009 will see Ladies football added to the compulsory list and a further influx of new officials is expected.

A separate course for juniors aged between 13 and 17 was also run in March at two venues, Forest Killarney & Manly-Warringah Soccer Clubs. 28 successful candidates managed to pass the theory examination. Due to the large turnover of junior officials in previous years and the fact that most of these rookie referees were aged between 14 and 15 more effort must be targeted towards attracting older juniors moving forward. With the continuation of the mentoring system piloted in 2008, the worrying trend will hopefully be reversed.

It was pleasing to see a large percentage of our senior referees attempt the State Class 2 theory exam this year. We had 12 people attempt the written exam with the following people successfully achieving the 85% pass mark. Congratulations to:

Timothy Barras, Robert Brennan, Sebastian Brennan, Brett Downie, Ken Lewis, Frank Maiuolo, David Page, Luke Rogers, Alec Smith, Keith Stewart, and Alan Whitford.

Unfortunately due to FNSW lack of appropriately qualified Assessors, no one was able to have their field tests. We wish these gentlemen luck in their two field tests in 2009.

Chris Parratt and Ed Penny also sought to undertake the theory component in State Class 1 theory exam earlier this year and will complete their upgrade in 2009.

If you too are interested in furthering your knowledge of the game and obtaining higher quality games in the MWFA competition please keep a look out on the website for the next upgrade courses around May 2009. Places will be on offer for State and National Upgrades.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the committee for their hard work this year especially those that assisted me with running courses at various times of the year. These gentlemen were Tom Browne, Ryan Shephard, Ed Penny, Trevor Croal and Andrew Best. Your support and enthusiasm is greatly appreciated.

Finally, after three years as Theory Trainer and two years as Registrar I have decided not to stand for a committee position in 2009 but instead focus on my own refereeing career. I wish to thank everyone for their support and friendship during this time and I have no doubt that I will return in some official capacity in the future. I also hope to assist and guide the new theory trainer in 2009 as well as assisting with coaching at general meetings.

To all members have a great Christmas and a prosperous new year,

Matthew Gillett
Theory Trainer

Mentoring Report

During the 2008 season, a referee mentoring program was implemented with the objective of ensuring that each active junior referee receives a minimum of two mentoring sessions. A group of experienced referees met earlier in the season to establish a formal mentoring program including the preparation of a mentoring template, a method of allocating games and establish standards for game assessments designed to provide coaching advice for junior referees particularly those with between two to four years experience.

From a group of 100 junior referees, 133 individual mentoring assessments were completed with feedback provided to referees on their performance. Due to a number of factors including the availability of mentors, limitations on where and when junior referees can be appointed due to travel and age restrictions and changes to game locations due to wet weather, we fell marginally short of achieving our initial objective but the majority of active junior referees received at least two mentoring sessions and benefited from the feedback.

One of the key aims of the mentoring program was to provide support, guidance and valuable feedback to ensure a positive development program exists for junior referees who are keen to progress as referees. I know many of the junior referees and parents of these referees expressed appreciation for the time, effort and advice provided by the mentors. I am hopeful that next years mentoring program will build on the lessons learnt from the 2008 year and will continue to provide encouragement and positive feedback to maximise retention rates and improve the standard and quality of junior referees.

I would like to personally thank all the mentors for their commitment, time and effort all of which was provided on a voluntary basis.

Robert Brennan

Floor Member

During the season I received call for assistance and advice on such matters as playing field conditions, player's spectacles, match cards, goalposts, abandoned games, send-off and caution reports, referees incorrectly attired, no show at games and match fees.

I take this opportunity to impress on referees that not sending send-off and/or caution reports to MWFA will be regarded as a major lapse of duties during 2009. There will be a "paper trail" that will lead back to the offender.

My report last season was optimistic that verbal abuse towards referees from male or female players or team officials would be less during 2008. This did not happen and, in fact, numbers increased.

A joint MWFA/MWFRA meeting has been held concerning referee abuse and two decisions have resulted. It has been recognised that there is an abuse problem and it is proposed that teams be made responsible for their member's behaviour.

I attended many judiciary hearings and, in most cases, was satisfied with the decisions.

My thanks to members of this panel for their time spent in our interest and to Tom Browne for acting as Floor Member during my absence in May.

Kevin D Martin

Referees Coach

This year Matt Gillett was our Theory Trainer, assisted by our new DVD system and Training videos. Most of our new cadets passed their exam with high marks in theory.

When refereeing on the park some laws were forgotten until reminded by their coaches. All new cadets have been inspected and coached during the season
Trevor Croal

Gear Steward

This year we continued with our supplier of referee equipment, using KANGA brand clothing; all referees seem satisfied with their quality, considering the lower cost.

Sales of gear increased due to the influx of referees following the training courses throughout the year. Big thanks to my family in helping out during the Courses in kitting out the new recruits.

Trevor Croal

Treasurer

Reports available at AGM.

Notices of Motion

None for 2008.

Election of Office Bearers, Convenor and Delegates

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder	Elected
President				
Vice President Seniors				
Secretary				
Vice President Juniors				
Treasurer				
Floor Member				
Gear Steward				
Registrar				
Asst. Secretary				

Convenors

Field Inspection				
Theory Trainer				

Delegates

MWSA				
NSWSRI				
FNSW				