

Manly Warringah Football Referees Association

Minutes of Regular General Meeting
held at 7.30 pm on Monday 23 May 2022 at Beacon Hill Public School Hall.

1. Opening and welcome

The President, Toby Williams, opened the meeting at 7.10 pm and welcomed those in attendance to the Association's first in-person General Meeting since July 2021.

Toby remarked on the impact of wet weather on the start of the season and thanked referees for their patience regarding constant changes to appointments. He also thanked Sigrid for ensuring referees were aware of all changes.

2. Apologies

Received and recorded.

3. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Moved that the minutes of the previous General Meetings held on 5 July 2021 be accepted.

Mark Pryke / Wayne Plant – carried.

4. Business arising

None

5. Committee reports

President – Toby Williams

Toby was disappointed to confirm the 'referee shortage' was more severe in 2022 and presented the Management Committee's response to this issue:

- Contacting most junior and senior referees who were previously registered but who had not registered in 2022. This resulted in some additional registrations but more importantly, provided the Committee with an understanding about why referees had not returned (work constraints, study commitments, geographical relocation, injury).
- Issue of an email to all registered players in MWFA explaining the referee shortage and urging players to consider becoming a referee.
- Additional Level 4 Referee courses scheduled for 5 and 19 June 2022.
- Advertised commitment to facilitate a female only referee course prior to the 2023 season.

Despite the challenges, Toby was pleased to report several positives:

- Progression of many members to higher grades, including several PLR and PL debuts.
- Engaged participation at the Level 4 Referee courses, ably presented by Rob Iaconno.
- The Association's adoption of the 'teal shirt initiative', fostering greater respect and encouragement of new referees.
- Enjoyable senior referees' dinner, attended by over 30 members and Life Members.
- Positive feedback from several juniors regarding the 2022 match fee increase.

In the absence of the Treasurer, Toby was pleased to report the Association remained in a solid financial position and encouraged members to contact David Page if they had any questions.

Vice President Seniors – Wayne Plant

Wayne thanked all referees, in particular senior referees, for their commitment so far. He echoed Toby's comments regarding members attaining higher levels and congratulated members who had achieved Level 2 Referee qualifications.

Vice President Juniors – Jack Morales

Jack provided an update on the progress of the mentoring program, confirming 55 first year referees had already officiated as a centre referee and 50% of those referees had been mentored.

Vice President Team Referees – Mark Pryke

Mark reiterated his commitment to assist any team referee seeking mentoring or guidance.

Registrar – Frank Maiuolo

Frank provided a breakdown of the Association's membership:

Category	2022	2021
Senior referee	125	115
Junior referee	220	211
Team referee	330	310
Total	675	636

Branch Coach / Course Coordinator – Robert Iacono

Robert reiterated his commitment to organise assessments for all members seeking to be assessed. Those interested should contact Robert by phone or email.

Weather permitting, Robert confirmed Jackson Mackie was keen to re-start referee training nights if there was sufficient interest was expressed by members.

Regarding courses, Robert reported on the success of Level 4 Referee courses held earlier in the year.

Administrative Officer – Sigrid Mulherin

Sigrid thanked referees for making themselves available and provided some troubleshoot solutions to those experiencing issues with Dribl.

Moved that all Committee reports be accepted.

Brian Barkworth / Ryan Berlee – carried.

6. Guest speaker – James Barnes

Toby was very pleased to introduce James Barnes, a Level 2 referee and assessor who joined the Association in 2021 following a 50 year career with Football NSW.

James spoke about his career as a referee, during which the floor was open for questions.

7. General business

Toby reminded all members of the importance of looking after their mental health and wellbeing, which had been mentioned by Wayne and Rob previously during the meeting.

8. Close

The President closed the meeting at 8.15 pm and invited members to enjoy the refreshments that had been arranged by the Management Committee.

Attendance

Toby Williams, Peter Robson, John Haslam, Ryan Berlee, Brian Barkworth, Gus Mawein, Mariano Llana, Massimo Llana, Rebecca Mackie, James Barnes, Stephen Logue, Anthony Ruttyn, Sebastien Brennan, Sam Neader, Rhett Butler, Michael Aiello, Thomas Montes, Steve Marton, Andrew Hutt, Gary Siddons, Nathan Barlow, Adrian Barlow, Michael Grinsbergs, Kenneth Abbott, Geoff Hunt, Warwick Turpin, Colin Stocks, Chris Melville, Pim Ravestyn, Larry Scott Stein, Luca Stein, Mark Pryke, Frank Maiuolo, Robert Iaconno, Wayne Plant, Sigrid Mulherin, Jack Morales, Mia Verlarde, Jackson Mackie, Alessando Llana.