

Manly Warringah Football Referees Association

Minutes of Regular General Meeting
held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 23 September 2020 on Zoom

1. Opening and welcome

The President, Toby Williams, opened the meeting at 7.07 pm, welcomed everyone to the online meeting and acknowledged Robert Brennan, Life Member. He acknowledged the upcoming weekend of grand final matches would be different this year and thanked members for their efforts during a very difficult year, particularly with regard to enforcing the various COVID-19 requirements.

2. Apologies

Had been received and recorded.

3. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

*Moved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting held on 27 July 2020 be accepted.
Mark Pryke / Wayne Plant – carried.*

4. Business arising

Mark Pryke had advocated for the purchase of additional communications equipment kits and Toby confirmed MWFA financial support would be forthcoming and could be used for this purpose..

Mark Pryke has suggested publishing senior referee appointments on a Friday night. Toby advised this would be considered at a later stage when restrictions on spectators had been lifted.

5. Members' feedback

Brian Barkworth reported his frustration with inconsistent application of Law 4 in relation to the wearing of jewellery, particularly in the WAL1 and lower division competitions. The Branch Coach similarly expressed his frustration with this and requested all members apply Law 4 consistency.

Robert Brennan expressed his concern at the level of swearing he witnessed in at a MPL match he attended and was concerned the Association's swearing policy was not being adhered to. The Branch Coach agreed to re-circulate the policy and general discussion ensued on the subject of swearing.

6. Committee reports

President – Toby Williams

Toby asked members to make themselves available on 11 October 2021 for Champions Day (Manly Warringah v Northern Suburbs).

Several complaints had been received from team officials following a Friday night storm event regarding cancelled games. Toby asked members to strictly apply Football NSW's Lightning Policy in instances where lightning/thunder exists.

Toby confirmed junior referee awards would be issued in 2020, although a decision regarding senior referee awards would depend on assessment data available. He also cautioned the awards may not be announced prior to the finals.

Toby advised the AGM would be held on 16 November 2020 and asked members to contact him if they were interested in nominating for any of the following committee positions: President, Vice President Juniors, Vice President Team Referees, Tre, Floor Member, Assessors Convenor and Reviews Panel Chair.

Vice President Seniors – Wayne Plant

Wayne was pleased to report on the amount of positive feedback that had been received about the standard of refereeing throughout the year and congratulated members on a job well done.

Vice President Juniors – Jack Morales

Jack shared his presentation on mentoring statistics for the year and was pleased to report that 73% of junior referees officiated as a centre referee in 2020 and 85% of these were mentored. He then provided the following breakdown: J1-78/78, J2-30/40, J3-19/29, J4-8/12 and J5-3/3 and thanked all mentors for the commitment to assisting our junior members.

Toby thanked Jack for a job well done in coordinating the mentoring program.

Disciplinary Committee Liaison Officer – Toby Williams obo Craig McBurnie

Craig had been advocating for the removal of the need to submit a R7 report and Toby provided an update on this.

Branch Coach – Hayden Smith

Hayden reminded members of the procedure to determine the outcome of the match in grand final (1v2) matches – straight to penalty shootout in the event of a draw at full time.

Course Coordinator – Robert Iacono

Robert was pleased to note 100 expressions of interest had been received thus far for 2021 Level 4 Referee courses. A decision would be made as to how the courses would be run in line with NSW Government directives and the most suitable applications would be accepted. Rob also indicated courses would be held for members wishing to advance to Level 3 accreditation or wanting to become assessors.

Administrative Officer – Sigrid Mulherin

Sigrid reminded referees to complete the electronic match sheet at the ground soon after the conclusion of the game, as many do not and forget altogether, creating an administrative headache.

Sigrid was pleased to announce the amount of declined appointments list had reduced and thanked members for updating their availability and officiating on a weekly basis.

David Page

David advised the Association's financials were up to date and was pleased to note MWFA had been paying our invoices quickly. He would have the financial report prepared and audited in time for the AGM.

Toby thanked David for his diligent work and asked members to make contact with the Committee should they be interested in becoming the Treasurer.

*Moved that all Committee reports be accepted.
Mark Pryke / Wayne Plant – carried.*

7. General business

Mark Pryke thanked Toby, the Committee and Sigrid for their hard work throughout the season. Toby echoed Mark's comments and thanked Committee members for their dedication to and work on behalf of the Association.

8. Close

The President thanked members for their participation and closed the meeting at 8.15 pm.