

Manly Warringah Football Referees Association

Minutes of Regular General Meeting held at 7.00 pm on Monday 25 March 2024 at Manly Warringah Football Club, 101 South Creek Road, Cromer.

1. Opening and welcome

The President, Toby Williams, opened the meeting at 7.10 pm and extended a warm welcome to all in attendance, especially Robert Brennan and Frank Best, Life Members of the Association.

Toby acknowledged new members who were either commencing their first season with the Association or had transferred from another referee branch. For their benefit, Toby briefly explained the format of the Association's general meetings and confirmed a general meeting would be held monthly throughout the season.

2. Apologies

As noted at the end of the minutes.

3. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Moved that the minutes of the previous General Meeting held on 9 August 2023 be accepted.

James Barnes / Mia Velarde – Carried

4. Business arising

None

5. Report from the Management Committee

President – Toby Williams

For expediency, Toby delivered a broad report on behalf of the Management Committee (the Committee). He was pleased to report on the Committee's progress, noting it had met on five occasions since November 2023 to prepare for the 2024 season. Toby listed the key aspects of the Committee's strategy and action list for the 2024 season:

1. Building upon existing relationships and establishing new partnerships providing additional supports and benefits to members, including with *PhysXRehab*, *Associated Employee Assistance Providers* and a local personal trainer.
2. Purchasing new equipment, such as a *Veo Sports Camera* and *AirTags*.
3. Facilitating education and training opportunities by requiring all returning members to complete an online 'Laws of the Game' quiz and attain a mark of 80% or higher, encouraging participation in non-compulsory fitness tests that are suitable for a broad range of fitness and targeted training seminars/sessions.
4. Further refining the Association's successful mentoring program and completing more assessments.
5. Building camaraderie amongst members, with subsidised social activities for junior and senior members and weekly catchups on Saturday afternoons.

Vice President – Mark Pryke

Mark Pryke, along with Robert Brennan, provided an update on the Association's team referee working group and the objectives they wished to achieve in 2024.

Moved that all reports be accepted.

Chris Melville / Robert Iacono – Carried

6. 2024 pre-season briefing

Ivica Covic, presented on 'Laws of the Game' changes for 2025, which had and would continue to be available on the Association's website. He confirmed changes had been made to:

- Law 3 – The Players: Goal scored with an extra person on the field.
- Law 7 – The Duration of the Match: Allowance for time lost
- Law 11 – Offside: Deliberate play
- Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Disciplinary action against team officials
- Law 14 – The Penalty Kick: Procedure (goalkeeper)

He also provided feedback on the compulsory 'Laws of the Game' quiz and provided an overview of how the upcoming fitness tests would be conducted. The tests would involve two components (repeated sprint ability and interval test) with two separate timing categories. The first fitness test would be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 27 March 2024 at Cromer Park 5.

In Craig McBurnie's absence, Robert Iacono provided a summary of the modified rules for U/12 matches, following significant changes to that competition.

Sigrid Mulherin provided a brief update on administrative matters.

In the absence of the Vice Presidents, Colin Stocks and Jackson Mackie, Toby confirmed the Committee's expectations of members engaged in officiating:

1. Appearance – dress appropriately! MWFRA uniform only with shirts tucked in, socks up and the necessary equipment available.
2. Dissent – deal with it! Take action against dissent ("Public protest or disagreement, verbal and/or physical, with a match official's decision").
3. Technical area – keep it tidy! Bibs on substitutes, authorised individuals only, no alcohol, smoking or vaping, back from the sideline and no massage/physiotherapy tables.
4. Jewellery – get it off! Members were directed to enforce Law 4 as per Football NSW practice, that is:
 - a. Any jewellery sighted by the referee must be removed.
 - b. Any jewellery that has been taped but is still visible must be removed.
 - c. Fully taped jewellery that cannot be seen is permitted.

The directive relating to jewellery was of concern to some members, however, Toby's view was that it would ultimately ensure an easier process for referees and that if it was sufficient for Football NSW, it should be accepted locally.

7. General business

None

8. Close

The President thanked members for their attendance and extended his best wishes to all for a successful and enjoyable season. He then closed the meeting at 8.40 pm.

Date of next meeting: 7:00 pm on Monday 22 April 2024 at Manly Warringah Football Club.

Attendance:

Management Committee: Toby Williams (President & Registrar), Mark Pryke (Vice President Team Referees), David Le Ban (Secretary), and Robert Iacono (Course Coordinator)

Life Members: Robert Brennan and Frank Best.

Members: Stephen Logue, John Haslam, Rodrigo Calbiague Garcia, John Baylis, Kai Anderson, Steve Callow, Steve Alexander, Gary De Souza, Julian Humphrey, Gary Siddons, Ryan Berlee, Steve Marton, Mia Velarde, Sakash Kalimuthu, Daniel Kenny, Mal Olsen, Jimmy Bartolo, Kim Hall, Martin Sachs, Liam Poutney, Oscar Harley, Rick Elenbaas, Ashish Sharma, Noel Meredith, Tristan Bridger, Joss Grannan-Smith, Brian Barkworth, Calum Meakin, Jacob Covett, Sam Harris, Kiran Jacobsen, Ryan Sinclair, Warwick Turpin, James Blignaut, Michael Grinbergs, Keith Wilson, Ruby Blades, Larry Scott Stein, Michael Aiello, Nic Mumford, Matt Dyer, Ari Goodsir, Tony Ruttyn, Gus Mawein, Jasper Rlijn, Alex Kosack, Max Shacklock, Lewis Macleod, Scott Turner, Graeme Plowman, Sam Femia, Hayden Ling, Brody Cronan, Preston Hoare, Levi Phillips, Paul Franklin, James Barnes, Robert McTighe, William Baylis, Toby Huny, Paolo Susanna, Simon Ashari, Peter Auld, Kenneth Abott, Ellie O'Sullivan, William Kin, Alex Loeb, Ian Baldwin, Alec Gardner, Jaron Strasek, Lucas MacKenzie, Corey Frew, Allan Lang, Katy Greenleaf, Mark Greenleaf, Steve Hill, Pete McGee, Jonathan Lee, Hugo Cumberworth, Paul Wylie, Geoff Hunt, Ian Clarke, Alex Green, Rocky Falvo, Ritchie Bazzard, Jack Bazzard, Thomas Flinders, Jasmine Flinders, Andrew Jones, Brett Griffiths, Adrian Barlow, Frank Maiuolo, Remy Bourcier, Glen Cox, Jessica Clagnan, Perry Keenlyside, Owen Bierer, Mark Worrell, Charlie Taylor, Pete Carnel, Josh Carnel, Danny Wheeler, Liberty Blundell, Richard Evans, Lucas Smith, Bailey Andres, Anthony Lo Surdo, Avedis Fesdekjian, Gabriel Kuypers, Read Thakrar, Stephen Walsh, Kayla Lee, Alisha Armitage, Miles Miller, Thomas Gracie, Chris Melville.

Apologies:

Management Committee: Colin Stocks (Vice President Seniors), Jackson Mackie (Vice President Juniors), David Page (Treasurer) and Craig McBurnie (Disciplinary Committee Liaison Officer).

Life Members: Peter Robson