

Manly Warringah Football Referees Association

Minutes of Regular General Meeting
held at 7.30 pm on Monday 5 July 2021 on Zoom

1. Opening and welcome

The President, Toby Williams, opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed participants to the Zoom meeting.

Toby acknowledged the death of Tom Browne, a former President of the Association and requested members pause for a moment of silence in his memory.

Toby then acknowledged the upcoming 90th birthday of Peter Robson, a long term active referee of the Association, former President, Secretary and Registrar and Life Member. On behalf of the Association, he wished Peter a happy birthday and members joined him in congratulating Peter on reaching this milestone occasion.

Peter thanked everyone for their best wishes.

2. Apologies

Had been received and recorded.

3. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Moved that the minutes of the previous General Meetings held on 23 September 2020 and 24 May 2021 be accepted.

Mark Pryke / David Le Ban – carried.

4. Business arising

Toby indicated he would speak to business arising from the previous meeting later on in the meeting.

5. Committee reports

President – Toby Williams

Previously reported issues relating to a lack of available referees continued to plague the Association and Toby appealed to all members to make themselves available if they were able to do so. The Committee had intended to run a Level 4 Referee course on 11 July 2021, however, Toby confirmed the lockdown had necessitated cancellation of this course.

Toby reported on the outcomes of a meeting he attended, along with Mark Pryke and Sigrid Mulherin, with the President and CEO of MWFA. They were:

- Preparation of a joint proposal for 2021 in relation to team referees, requiring team referees to be registered players of their team (special exemptions considered) and requiring teams responsible for providing a team referee to appoint a referee to a game if both team referees are unable to do so, or face punishment if they do not.
- Changes to the Friday night match schedule to free up people over the age of 45 to potentially referee on the weekend (Friday night games in 2022: M18/1, W18/1, U/21, M45/2 & M45/3 [TBC]).
- Preparation of a joint referee drive to occur in the latter half of 2021 aimed at recruiting players aged 30-40 years who may be interested in retiring from playing and who may be interested in becoming a referee.

- MWFA agreement to the President's request of a referee match payment increase.

Toby was pleased to note the joint team referee proposal was unanimously endorsed by the Council of Clubs. He also confirmed that the MWFA Committee had resolved not to pay any member refereeing a team referee appointment and was not the listed team referee responsible for undertaking that appointment and that this was supported by MWFA.

Robert Brennan suggested all teams in the competitions playing on Friday night should be obliged to provide team referees to officiate on Saturdays. Toby agreed to raise this suggestion with David Mason.

Toby referred to a discussion at the previous meeting in relation to referee progression to higher grades and higher levels of accreditation. He thanked Seb Brennan for creating a draft pathways document for the Association and noted that the Committee would add further to this document before publishing it for the benefit of members.

Issues remained with delayed and non-completion of Dribl's electronic match sheets. Toby asked any member having trouble with Dribl to contact the Committee to ask for assistance.

Lastly, Toby thanked those members who were refereeing, mentoring and assessing each week.

Vice President Seniors – Wayne Plant

Wayne reminded all referees to ensure they were dressed appropriately and requested the gentle assistance of senior referees in enforcing our uniform requirements. He also reminded referees to ensure they were arriving at their appointments well in advance of kick off.

He also encouraged referees to read the Branch Coach's weekly newsletter.

Vice President Juniors – Jack Morales

Jack provided an update on the progress of the mentoring program.

Vice President Team Referees – Mark Pryke

Mark was pleased to report he had received insightful reports from team referees and some had taken up on his offer to observe them refereeing.

Robert Brennan remarked on a situation where a team referee was not advised that his match had been forfeited. Mark Pryke agreed to consider this issue to ensure this does not occur.

Secretary/Registrar – Jonathon Taylor

Jonathon provided an update on the Association's membership - 689 members (up 40 on 2020) including: 66 females (up 15 on 2020), 308 team referees, 127 seniors (up 8 on 2020) and 243 juniors.

Branch Coach / Course Coordinator – Robert Iacono

Robert advised the course scheduled for 11 July 2021 had to be cancelled due to the lockdown and the Association's next courses would be held at the start of 2022 with notification to go out to the football community in the latter half of 2021.

He reiterated Wayne's comments regarding uniform, noting most of the issues were team referees wearing the wrong gear.

Referee training had been cancelled for the duration of the lockdown but Robert encouraged members to attend post-lockdown (7.00 pm at Cromer Park).

Rob asked members to contact him if they had any useful information for his newsletter.

Disciplinary Committee Liaison Officer – Craig McBurnie

Craig provided a breakdown on the matters heard by MWFA's Disciplinary Committee and Robert Brennan asked if data could be provided on sin-bins issued.

He then initiated a discussion about send offs for pushing, for which eight red cards had been issued during the season thus far.

Treasurer – David Page

David advised all accounts had been paid, referee payments were up to date and invoices for all trail games had been paid. He was pleased to report there were minimal issues and MWFA continued to make their payments promptly.

A copy of the financials would be posted on the Association's website.

Assessors Convener – Malcolm Olsen

Malcolm advised 23 assessments had been completed, 15 PL and 8 AL assessments.

Administrative Officer – Sigrid Mulherin

Sigrid apologised for the delay in receiving the latest uniform order and advised gear could be collected during the week.

Further to Toby's earlier comments, Sigrid again requested referees diligence with regard to completing the electronic match sheets. She also asked MPL, MPLR, MPL, MPLR, WPL, WPLR and WAL to send their fair play points to Sigrid after the match.

Moved that all Committee reports be accepted.

Mark Pryke / Stephen Logue – carried.

6. Presentation by Robert Iacono

Robert Iacono presented on effective match management and at the conclusion of his presentation he was thanked by the President and other members.

7. General business

Toby recognised the success of Adam Powers, a former member of the Association and Ryan Shepherd, a Life Member. Adam had officiated a recent A-League semi-final and Ryan had been selected to officiate at the 2021 Futsal World Cup.

Robert Brennan suggested the Association codify an expectation as to how many games members should be refereeing.

Peter Robson confirmed he had been a member of the Association since 1978 and was proud of his 40 year service trophy. He thanked those who had sent him a birthday message throughout the meeting.

8. Close

The President thanked members for their participation and closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.

Attendance

Malcolm Olden, Mariano Llana, Matyas Vhynalek, Mia Velarde, Michael O'Shanassy, Nathan Barlow, Paul Franklin, Peter Robson, Rebecca Mackie, Rick Elenbaas, Robert Brennan, Ryan Berlee, Scott Stein, Luca Stein, Sigrid Mulherin, Robert Iacono, Toby Williams, Wayne Plant, Adrian Barlow, Alessando Llana, Andrew Chryssavgis, Terry Gatward, Xavier Sear, Andrew Jones, Anthony Tassone, Bailey Foster, Brian Barkworth, Callum Gamper, Cameron Smit, David Le Ban, Frank Maiuolo, Gary Siddons, Geoff Hunt, Gus Mawein, Ivica Covid, Jack Morales, Jackson Mackie, Jaz Hill, Jenna Howe, John Barnes, Jonathon Taylor, Luciane Lauffer, Craig, McBurnie, David Page, Mark Pryke.