



MANLY WARRINGAH FOOTBALL REFEREES ASSOCIATION INC

2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT



MANLY WARRINGAH FOOTBALL REFEREES ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Manly Warringah Football Referees Association will be held at Beacon Hill Public School Hall, 6 Tristram Road, Beacon Hill, on **Monday 1 February 2021**, beginning at 7.00 pm.

Agenda

- 1** Opening, welcome and apologies
- 2** Confirmation of minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
- 3** Business arising
- 4** Consideration of nominations for Life Membership of the Association
- 5** Receipt of Committee reports upon the activities of the Association
- 6** Receipt of the financial statement of the Association
- 7** Consideration of Special Resolutions
- 8** Election of office-bearers
- 9** General business
- 10** Close

All members are encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Jonathon Taylor
Secretary

10 January 2021

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Monday 18 November 2019

Venue: Cromer Clubhouse
101 South Creek Road
CROMER NSW 2099

Time: 7.00 pm

Present: As per the attendance sheet.

1. Opening, welcome and apologies

The President, Toby Williams, declared the meeting open at 7.00 pm and welcomed those in attendance and asked if there were any apologies. With sadness, Toby reported on the death of Laurel Voss and requested a moment of silence be observed in her memory.

2. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

Moved that the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 19 November 2018 be accepted.

Jackson Mackie/Mark Pryke – Carried

3. Business arising

None

4. Consideration of nominations for Life Membership of the Association

None

5. Receipt of Committee reports upon the activities of the Association

The 2018/19 Annual Report had been published on the Association's website for the consideration of members. Toby Williams provided a brief overview of the season and then invited members of the Management Committee to speak to their contributions to the Annual Report.

Peter Robson asked how the Association could increase its number of senior referees. Toby Williams provided an update on the Association's plans to attract team referees to 'full time' refereeing and also on the Association's efforts to increase referee retention.

Paul Franklin commended the MWFA's Disciplinary Committee and the involvement of our Association in their processes.

Moved that the 2018/19 Annual Report be accepted.

Mark Pryke/Paul Franklin – Carried

6. Receipt of the financial statement of the Association

In the absence of the Treasurer, Toby Williams presented a brief overview of the Association's financial position.

Moved that the financial statement for the Association for the year ended 30 September 2020 be accepted.

Jack Morales/Lucas Simonsen – Carried

7. Consideration of Special Resolutions

Toby Williams invited Craig McBurnie to provide an overview of the Special Resolutions to be considered.

Special Resolution 1: Moved that the MWFRA Objects and Rules be amended as per each and every numbered item in the Attachment of 'Notice of Special Resolutions for the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

Mark Pryke/Wayne Plant – Carried

Special Resolution 2 was not required due to the carriage of Special Resolution 1.

Special Resolution 3: Moved that the Association adopts a complete new Constitution (considering the changes made at the 2019 Annual General Meeting) and that the Public Officer or a Management Committee members is authorised to apply to the Director-General for registration of the changes to the Constitution in accordance with rule 38(3).

Wayne Plant/Andrew Best – Carried

8. Election of office-bearers

Toby Williams declared the following positions vacant: Vice President Seniors, Secretary, Floor Member, Registrar, Course Coordinator and Branch Coach. He also advised that, due to resignations, the positions of Assessors' Convenor and Gear Steward were also vacant. As the position of Gear Steward was proposed to be abolished during the consideration of Special Resolutions, Toby Williams suggested that the position remain vacant.

For the position of Vice Present Seniors, Wayne Plant was nominated by Mark Pryke and seconded by Andrew Best. Wayne accepted the nomination and in the absence of any further nominations was declared elected.

For the position of Secretary, Jonathon Taylor was nominated by Wayne Plant and seconded by Mark Pryke. Jonathon accepted the nomination and in the absence of any further nominations was declared elected.

For the position of Floor Member, Craig McBurnie was nominated by Jack Morales and seconded by Jonathon Taylor. Craig accepted the nomination and in the absence of any further nominations was declared elected.

For the position of Registrar, Jonathon Taylor was nominated by Robert Iacono and seconded by Wayne Plant. Jonathon accepted the nomination and in the absence of any further nominations was declared elected.

For the position of Course Coordinator, Robert Iacono was nominated by Hayden Smith and seconded by Wayne Plant. Robert accepted the nomination and in the absence of any further nominations was declared elected.

For the position of Branch Coach, Hayden Smith was nominated by Jack Morales and seconded by Jackson Mackie. Hayden accepted the nomination and in the absence of any further nominations was declared elected.

For the position of Assessors' Convenor, Malcolm Olsen was nominated by Wayne Plant and seconded by Craig McBurnie. Malcolm accepted the nomination and in the absence of any further nominations was declared elected.

In recognition of his retirement from the position of Gear Steward, Toby Williams presented Trevor Croal with a MWFRA jersey signed by members of the Association. Trevor Croal

thanked the Association and spoke about his long term involvement in both the sport and the Association.

9. General business

Toby Williams advised 2019 referee award recipients that their trophies and gifts were available for collection at the conclusion of the meeting.

Don Gale remarked on the success of the Association and the enjoyment he derived from refereeing and being involved in the sport more broadly.

10. Close

The President closed the meeting at 8.10 pm and invited members to remain for refreshments.

2019/20 OFFICE BEARERS

President	Toby Williams
Vice President Seniors	Wayne Plant
Vice President Juniors	Jack Morales
Secretary	Jonathon Taylor
Treasurer	Nick Beaugeard
Assessors' Convenor	Malcolm Olsen
Branch Coach	Hayden Smith
Course Coordinator	Robert Iacono
Disciplinary Committee Liaison Officer	Craig McBurnie
Floor Member	Joshua Courts
Registrar	Jonathon Taylor
Reviews Panel Chair	Mark Pryke
Reviews Panel Vice Chair	Frank Best
Reviews Panel	Richard Cant
	Michelle Cole
	Paul Franklin
	Stephen Logue
	Peter Robson
	Ryan Shephard
Historian	Kevin Martin OAM
Member Information Protection Officer	Mark Pryke
Webmaster	Jack Morales
Administrative Officer	Sigrid Mulherin

MWFRA LIFE MEMBERS

Fred Adler – 1964 *	John Withnell - 1981	Jim Loke - 1991
JW Cook – 1966 *	Walter Kirk – 1982 *	Hans Bosschieter - 1991
GH Hudson – 1967 *	Sydney Russell – 1983 *	Bernard Crosweller - 1992
Joe Breen – 1968 *	Wayne Connor - 1983	Gerry Muoio - 1993
Arthur Spence – 1970 *	Tony Rathbone - -1985	Ian Massey - 1995
Gordon Greeves Snr – 1971 *	John Brilman - 1987 *	Peter Robson - 1995
Jim Davidson – 1971 *	Col Coupland - 1987	Trevor Croal - 2001
JE Boyer – *	Jack Vincent – 1987	Don Gale - 2002
Bill Van Leeuwen – 1973 *	Bill McBurnie - 1988 *	Tony Seaman - 2005
Cyril Jack - -1975 *	Shirley Bones - 1988 *	Tom Brown - 2012
John Etherington – 1977 *	Kevin Martin OAM - 1989	Ryan Shephard - 2012
Gordon Greeves Jnr - 1980	John Lax - 1989	Robert Brennan - 2018
Alan Bartlett - 1981	Dave Hill - 1990	
John Geeves - 1981	Peter Lovett - 1991	

* Denotes deceased.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Management Committee of Manly Warringah Football Referees Association, I am delighted to present the 2019/20 Annual Report for your consideration as we reflect on a year that will undoubtedly be remembered as one of the most challenging years in the lives of many.

When reflecting on the year 2020, the famous Charles Dickens quote immediately comes to mind – *“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times”*.

The worst of times are not yet behind us, however, the best of times were certainly demonstrated by a football community that worked as one to ensure our season could proceed in a COVID Safe manner.



To that end, I would like to thank all of our active referees for their part in ensuring a COVID Safe competition. At the start of the season, I stressed that referees were not ‘COVID Police’ but nevertheless had a role to play in ensuring the return to competitive football was safe for all competitors, officials and spectators.

Manly Warringah Football Association’s (MWFA) efforts throughout the year were incredible and I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to David Wilson (MWFA Chairman) and the Board of Directors, along with David Mason (MWFA CEO).

MWFA is one of the largest football associations in Australia and footballers on the Northern Beaches are fortunate to have such a dedicated and experienced group of officials working on their behalf.

Wayne Plant and I have already met with David Mason and David Wilson in anticipation of the 2021 season and I assure you that the relationship between the two Associations remains friendly, constructive and open.

As an Association, the provision of referees to MWFA is our primary objective. Pleasingly, over the past nine years our overall coverage rate has steadily improved. In 2012, we covered 88.2% of the matches we were tasked to appoint to. In 2020, this figure was 99.5% and we also posted record coverage rates across the four groups: Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior Boys and Junior Girls.

These results are largely due to Sigrid’s dogged perseverance when it comes to appointments, however, our active referees should also be congratulated for working with Sigrid to achieve such outstanding results. Well done everyone!

Last year, I reported on the importance of referee retention. Increasing referee retention remains a significant objective of the Management Committee and I am pleased to note there has been an uptrend in first and second year referee retention. In 2021, the Management Committee must again consider ways in which referee retention can be further improved.

Despite the challenges of the year, I observed many of our members enjoying themselves on the pitch each week. I know I had some enjoyable games and I am always pleased to see people having a good time when they referee. After all, smiling is free!

Over the past two years, I have also witnessed our team culture strengthen. I think the level of support we provide one another continues to rise to new levels and new friendships are being made on a regular basis. Indeed, the best of times.

Some of the positives of 2020 include:

- Overwhelming interest in our Level 4 Referee course (MWFA does not have any issues in attracting new referees each year).
- 51 female referees registered with the Association in 2020.
- More junior referees were mentored in 2021 (well done, Jack!).
- Communication and collaboration among referees was regular, thanks to the Forum.
- The number of complaints received throughout the season was insignificant.
- New technology was adopted to allow members to 'meet' when physical meetings were prohibited.
- Strong MWFA representation at representative and championship events throughout the year.
- A high standard of report writing was submitted to MWFA's Disciplinary Committee each week.

To the Management Committee, Wayne, Jack, Jonathon, Craig, Hayden, Robert, Malcolm and Josh, thank you so much for your hard work throughout the year. We are a volunteer led Association and we are very lucky to have great people serving on our committees and in other office bearer positions.

We remain extremely fortunate to retain Sigrid Mulherin engaged as our Administrative Officer. Whilst I do drive her mad from time to time, it is important that she is aware of how much we rely on her throughout the year. She truly does an amazing job.

Finally, to our members, thank you for your support throughout the year and the professionalism with which you complete was is oftentimes a thankless task. I know that each of you enter the field of play with the best of intentions and with the honest objective to do the best you can – and you do.

I have now concluded my inaugural term as your President, a position I have thoroughly enjoyed over the past two years. With the training wheels ready to come off, I will happily submit myself to you should you wish for me to serve another term.

TOBY WILLIAMS



Photo Caption: We have some great female referees in our Association and I loved working with Michelle Cole, Jorja Boon and Zahra Chew on the MWFA v NSFA Select Match. Representing MWFA was Naomi Peterson (also pictured), another top MWFA referee.

VICE PRESIDENT SENIORS

Thank you to MWFRA committee members who volunteer/give up their time every week so that all referees can get out there and do what they do best.

Well done to you all for turning up for the 2020 season and enabling the game to be played. I am pleased to pass on the positive and respectful praise of MWFRA referees, provided by players, spectators and club officials.

It was great to see an improvement of the correct uniform kit being worn and in a manner that we can be proud of.

Congratulations to all those referees who upgraded their referee accreditations and who are advancing on to representative levels. Who knows where your refereeing career will take you? Hopefully you will remember where it all started.

Wow! How good were the MWFRA ARs this year? The level of officiating moved to a higher grade and was noticed and again complimented by all participants of the game.

A special shout out goes to the young referees who officiated at the NSFA vs MWFA Champions Day towards the end of the season. The visiting officials made several glowing statements about our young female referees, praising and our Association on the high standard delivered. Our all-female officiating teams were complimented in particular and I was proud of their efforts. This praise was also directed towards our young male referees, including our Branch Coach!

So – enjoy your short break because the 2021 pre-season returns in February. News from MWFA is that we may have an O/21s division, additional WPL teams and an O/55 Men's division.

WAYNE PLANT



VICE PRESIDENT JUNIORS

Despite the unconventional season format and structure this year due to COVID-19, the mentoring program has yielded great results, improving upon last year's numbers.

Prior to the commencement of this season, a motion was approved by the committee to increase mentoring fees from \$22 to \$30. This increase was proposed to incentivise members to become mentors and existing mentors to pick up more games. The increase was also sought to better reflect the time mentors spend mentoring which extends beyond attending the match, requiring the submission of a post-match mentor report. This season saw 243 games paid, equating to \$7,290.



The following table illustrates a breakdown of the number of junior referees who officiated a centre match and those who were mentored:

	Has Been Mentored	Has Not Been Mentored	Total
Has Not Officiated As A Centre Referee	0%	26%	26%
Has Officiated As a Centre Referee	65%	9%	74%
Total	65%	35%	100%

74% of junior referees officiated at least one centre match. Of those 74%, 65% were mentored which works out to be 87% of junior referees who officiated a match were mentored.

The following tables shows the breakdown by junior category (i.e. J1 are first year juniors, and J5 are fifth year juniors):

Junior Category	Juniors In Each Category	No. Referees Officiated A Centre	No. Referees Mentored	2020 % Mentored	2019 % Mentored	Movement
J1	96	78	78	100%	91%	10%
J2	67	40	30	80%	70%	14%
J3	40	29	19	68%	65%	5%
J4	16	12	8	75%	72%	4%
J5	4	3	3	100%	100%	0%
Total	223	165	144	87%	79%	10%

Overall, mentoring coverage has increased compared to the 2019 season. Those juniors that were not mentored this year, typically only officiated between one to four centre matches, though there were a couple who had officiated around seven centre matches.

The following table is a breakdown of the performance criteria of all mentoring reports received this year:

Performance Criteria	Not Applicable	Requires Attention	Competent	Good	Very Good
Foul Identification	8	17	60	97	57
Use of Advantage	170	3	20	28	19
Use of Sanctions	211	5	7	8	9
Referee Equipment	0	16	18	62	150
Referee Punctuality	1	16	7	70	153
Referee Uniform	0	10	17	63	156
Field Check	10	32	51	79	69
Organisation	1	11	42	92	94
Player Equipment Check	9	43	57	72	59
Player Communication & Management	1	13	55	87	82
Referee Presence	0	6	42	93	95
Anticipation	3	51	80	76	30
Fitness	4	8	38	94	96
Set Play Positioning	42	21	67	87	22
Use of Angles	15	59	79	68	18
Return Substitution Management	6	39	60	93	42
Restart Management	0	10	49	107	73
Use of Arms & Arm Signals	0	23	39	83	94
Use of Whistle	0	31	64	76	67
Wall Management	162	0	20	36	21

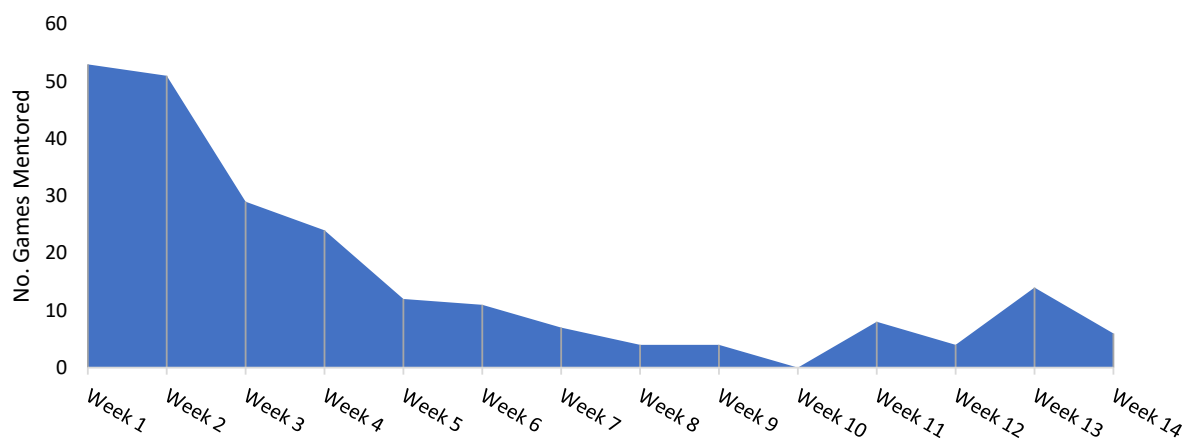
What appears evident based on the mentoring reports is that the areas most needing attention are:

- Positioning: Angles
- Positioning: Anticipation
- Equipment Check
- Interchange Management (Substitutions)

The first two are most likely due to them being slightly more advanced skills that aren't necessarily picked up straight away by first and second year juniors; which are the main junior categories where most of the mentoring occurs. The last two areas are likely because they are much more confrontational, requiring the referee to either tell someone to remove jewellery or reminding the players and coaches (often multiple times) the correct substitution procedure. Either way, these areas can be addressed in more detail at future courses and practicals.

It should be noted that most of the mentoring was conducted at the start of the season which is shown by the graph below. Therefore, these performance metrics do not capture improvement over time.

Games Mentored per Week



Finally, I would like to thank the following mentors who helped me this season, as none of this would be possible without them:

Frank Maiuolo Jackson Mackie Robbie Mattei Hayden Smith Robert Brennan Jorja Boon Brendan Giuffrida Rebecca Mackie Andrew Best	Alessandro Llana Mariano Llana Mark Pryke Phil Watson Geoffrey Peterson John Haslam Toby Williams Adrian Barlow Frank Best	Steve Smit Finn Berwick-Clerke Luke Peterson Andrew Chrysavgis Jasmin Hill Larry Scott Stein Sebastien Brennan Ken Lewis David Le Ban	Tim Stanwell Wayne plant Craig McBurnie Jonathon Taylor Nick Beaugeard Robert Iacono
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JACK MORALES



SECRETARY

I extend my thanks in particular to Toby for his valued assistance and support throughout this year. The MWFRA is fortunate to have Toby at the helm with his dedication and he is ably assisted by an exceptionally talented Management Committee. My thanks to them and to Sigrid for the smooth running of one of the largest football referee associations in the Southern Hemisphere! Currently the number of referees stands at 649.

During the year 9 members requested a letter confirming their involvement with the MWFRA. These were Clearance Letters for 6 members with four departing the association to other areas as well as 3 Reference Letters. Another task throughout the year has been ensuring the committee members register is kept up to date and publicly available if required.

At the 2019 Annual General Meeting, amendments to the Constitution were voted in, relating to the retiring of the Gear Steward, alteration of the Assistant Secretary position to Floor Member and the introduction of the Vice President Team Referees position. These amendments along with the change of Public Officer were registered with Fair Trading on 14 December 2019 and came into effect on 2nd March 2020.

JONATHON TAYLOR

ASSESSORS' CONVENOR

Once again, a number of referee assessments were completed throughout the year and I would like to thank our assessors (Ken Lewis, Robert Iacono, Robert Brennan, Frank Best, James Raphael, Jack Morales, Nick Beaugeard, Luciane Lauffer, Frank Maiuolo and Craig McBurnie) for dedicating their time so these assessments could be arranged for the betterment of our referees.

13 PL assessments were completed, 18 AL assessments and 4 other assessments.

MALCOLM OLSEN

BRANCH COACH

What can I say about season 2020? Agreeing to join the MWFRA committee and take on the Branch Coach position at the end of 2019 seemed like such a good idea at the time. I worked with other committee members pre-season to come up with a strategy and had so many good ideas and plans I wanted to implement to try and improve the standard of refereeing in the MWFRA. Unfortunately, the world had other plans and our season came to a grinding halt when it felt like we were just getting started.

Whilst there was a lot of things, I never got to do this season including Fitness Tests, there was overall a lot of positives to come out of what was a limited season. Starting in the off season at the end of 2019 with pre-season training that ran right up until the season started every Sunday morning. We had mixed attendance, but a consistent core group of people came every week and put themselves in the best position to succeed on the park. I attempted to continue fitness training throughout the resumed season every Wednesday night, unfortunately we had limited attendance, but I would like to give a special thanks to Seb, Jackson and Alessandro who consistently turned up every week.

Another key highlight was seeing so many amazing junior referees come through the ranks. I was fortunate enough to get the chance to mentor and work with a number of referees throughout the season. The desire to improve and receive feedback was incredible and it paid dividends. Seeing a core group of referees continue to improve and show confidence throughout the season was pleasing and knowing you have helped someone improve makes it all worth it. I can't wait to see the future refereeing careers of some of our talented juniors in the years to come.

Taking over from Frank, I wanted to continue with the theme of providing a weekly newsletter. I tried to change it up a little bit and keep it engaging, so thanks to everyone who took the time out of their day to read Referees Anonymous every week. It was great to see so many opens and more importantly, great to see so many of you engage with the quiz every week. It was very enjoyable to see the passion and dedication of so many of you to get good scores on the quiz every week. I learnt a lot about making sure I word things correctly and as per the LOTG. I would also like to give a big thank you to Jackson Mackie for his weekly contributions to the Newsletter.

One of my key projects heading into the 2020 season was to create/formalise a development panel of up and coming referees. Like most associations I saw a gap from when referees stop being juniors and start becoming seniors. Whilst we have always had an unofficial path to slowly bring our talented junior referees into the senior ranks, I wanted to formalise a process. I am pleased that despite a shorter season which had more than its fair share of availability and other issues, we were still able to bring several referees through. Using the men's and women's 18/1's competitions on Friday night we were able to, with the help of mentors, give some younger referees exposure to Senior quality football. This has also ensured that we have a strong pipeline of young, talented referees coming through the ranks and I am confident we will see them challenging for a place on the PL panel in the coming years. This is something I will look to continue and expand in 2021.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sigrid Mulherin and Jack Morales for all their help this season. Being on a committee is not an easy task and I could not have done it without the



support of the entire committee. Jack and Sigrid both provided a sounding board and helped me with ideas to improve the branch and complete my role.

Looking forwards to 2021, I am wanting to provide more coaching opportunities to all members and expand on fitness and general training throughout the entire season. I will be looking to bring back pre-season training from November, and I look forward to seeing you all back on the park soon.

All the best,

HAYDEN SMITH

COURSE COORDINATOR

In 2020 we had an overwhelming interest to attend our Level 4 Referee Course. Over 120 people expressed an interest to attend the Level 4 Referee Courses and regrettably we were unable to accommodate all who applied as we can only accept as many as 90 new Referees each year. Applicants who were not successful were advised to be placed on a waiting list for any new openings or to be considered for next year. The purpose of these rejections is to avoid disappointment for not being able to be appointed to games throughout the season.

2020 Referee Courses were held at MWFA Club House throughout February and March. Two Junior Courses and two Senior Courses were coordinated. The Junior session were held on Sunday 16th February with 38 participants and Saturday 7th March with 48 participants attending. The courses were a great success and I would like to thank Steve Smit, Ethan Ryan and Luciane Lauffer for their time and professional approach to running the courses on the day. I would also like to thank Steve for updating the participant manual and presentation material to include the new LOTG and to reflect the undertakings of the MWFA.

A Practical session for the Juniors was conducted on Sunday 15th March at Freshwater Campus with a good participation of 48. This was run in a professional manner with some of our top Referees, Jack Morales, Hayden Smith, Jackson Mackie, Alessandro Llana and Mariano Llana. This provided a practical demonstration and interaction with four stations set up to learn; running the line with a flag; how to identify and signal offsides; duties of the referee including whistle tone, arm signals and general running the field of play; and wall management and penalty kicks.

Level 4 Referee Senior Courses were conducted on Sunday 1st March and Saturday 14th March with a majority of participants were Team Referees. A total of 73 participants attended.

Due to the disruption of Covid-19 and announcement by the Government in late March that the country was going into lock-down, all further courses such as a third Senior course, the second Junior practical session, Level 3 Referee Course and a Level 3 Assessor Course were halted and subsequently cancelled. Upon the announcement that Community sports could begin in July, A Senior course was arranged as an on-line course for the first time via Teams with as many as 39 participants attending. I would like to thank Nick Beaugeard for preparing the event and the use of his equipment to run a successful on-line course. A second Junior Practical session and a refresher session for all new Referees were run in late June. Regrettably as to ongoing restrictions and time frame to recommence the season the Level 3 Referee and Assessor Courses were cancelled.

Feedback across the Course sessions was positive with most participants providing some comments which we will be considering to develop and introduce where practical for next season.

LOTG books were issued to all course participants along with the distribution of the uniforms. A special thanks to Sigrid for her support with the administration and expertise in ensuring all the participants were registered and had submitted their LOTG Certificates to attend the course as well as preparing the uniforms to be distributed.

I would like to acknowledge the support and contribution of the following people who provided support and providing their knowledge and experiences to the new referees for this year for conducting the courses or supporting the practical sessions; Jack Morales, Hayden Smith, Steve Smit, Lucianne Laufer, Ethan Ryan, Nick Beaugeard, Andrew Best, Jackson Mackie, Bec Mackie, Alessandro Llana, Mariano Llana and Toby Williams. A Special consideration and acknowledgement is for Sigrid Mulherin for all the Administrative Duties required to ensure all members were registered and provided with their new uniforms for the season.

2021 will bring further challenges with running courses. We are currently considering all options to ensure continuity with the process to educate new Referees. There are currently over 100 submission for expressions of interest to join the MWFRA in 2021 with expectations of more submission closer to the commencement of the new season. The courses to be considered will include the Level 4 Juniors, Level 4 Seniors (including Team Referees), Level 3 and Level 3 Assessor Course to be determined by the level of interest to be accredited. Our preferences will be to deliver these in a class format or on-line in conjunction with the courses being delivered by FNSW.

ROBERT IACONO

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE LIAISON OFFICER

The central work of the Disciplinary Committee Liaison Officer (DCLO) is to review and forward match reports to the MWFA Disciplinary Committee (the DC) and to attend the Committee's meetings. At the meetings, the role of the DCLO is as a non-voting adviser to the Committee on points of law, refereeing practices and to assist the Committee, as required, to interpret the match reports. The DCLO does not act as an advocate for a match official's report - in the case of referees attending hearings of challenges, another MWFRA Committee member attends in support of the referee.



In a compressed 2020 season, there were 15 meetings of the DC this year, down from 24 in 2019. There were 167 reports from match officials which were about 160 participants (135 players, 6 team officials, 9 spectators, 10 entire teams). Though there were fewer meetings and matches, the DC was busier than in 2019 with an average of 11.1 reports per meeting in 2020 versus 9.1 in 2019.

For send-off offences and citations, the DC determined 147 suspensions, including 3 'rest of season' suspensions and one '18 month' suspension. The conduct of 3 teams – toward each other including by team officials and spectators but raised in the match officials' reports – resulted in the MWFA Board removing them from the competition.

Members also need to play their part in submitting match reports that are comprehensive and unambiguous such that the DC can clearly visualise the circumstances of the incident and be confident that they have determined a sanction that fits the offence. Generally, match reports were of a high standard and fit-for-purpose – I only had cause to request referees to resubmit 8 of the 167 reports to the DC where I anticipated that the DC may otherwise have some uncertainties about what occurred in the incident according to the original report.

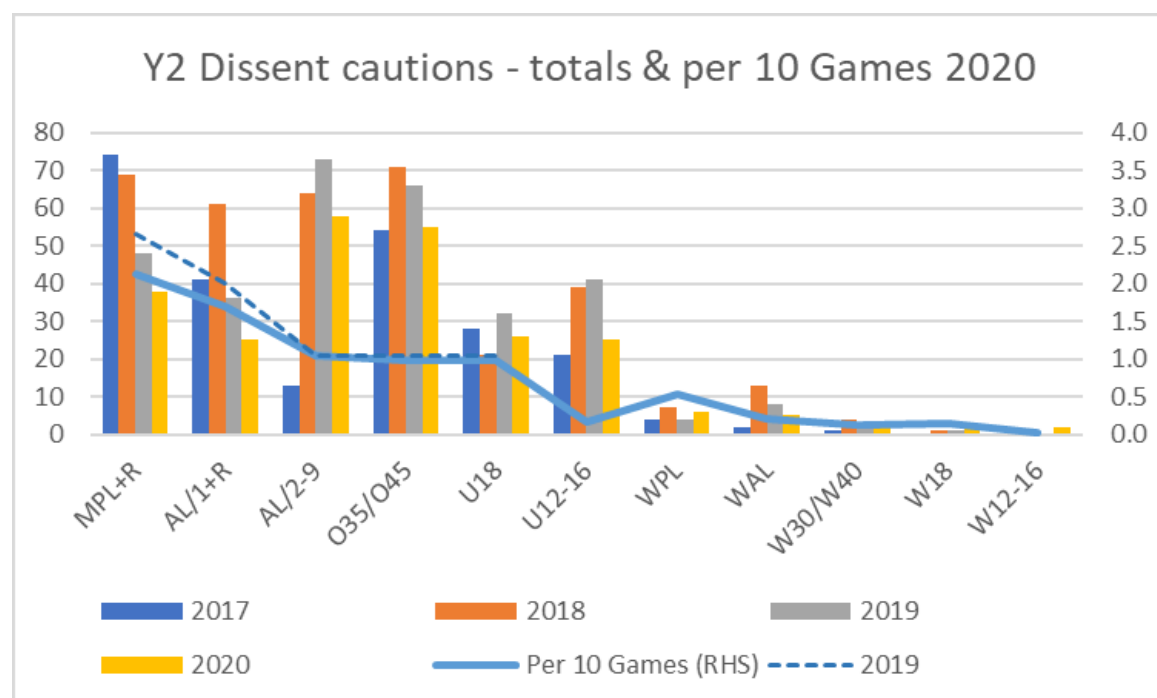
There were 3 challenges to Judiciary determinations arising from 3 matches. Each of these had some reduction in the severity of the suspension applied but there were no findings of errors in a match report. Challenges require that one or more match officials attend the DC meeting or submit a statement of additional information. The members involved in such challenges are commended for their willingness to put in the extra time involved in such meetings and to be questioned by the DC, the suspended player and the player's club representative. Challenges are generally conducted in a matter-of-fact manner under the DC Chair's control, but it can be adversarial at times and I also commend members for their calmness and appropriate conduct at the hearings.

Finally, I would like to thank the Committee members for attendance at the Challenges in support of the referees involved and to Jack Morales for standing in for me at meetings that I was unable to attend.

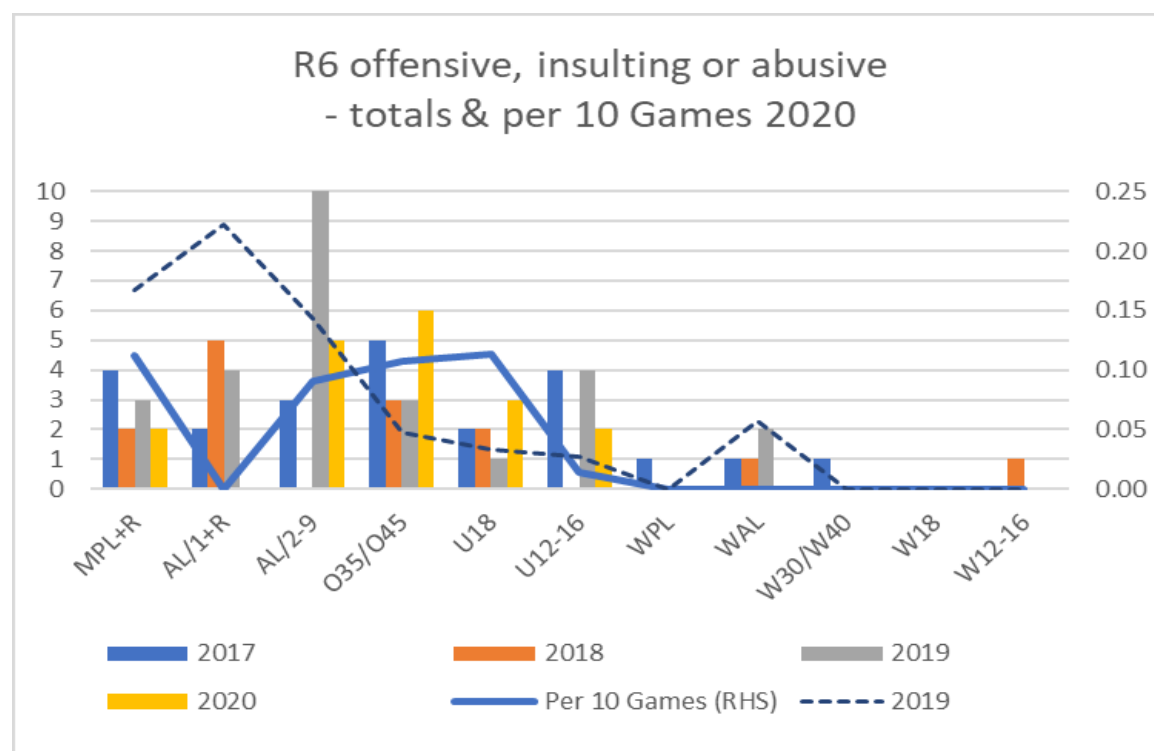
CRAIG MCBURNIE

Player conduct: misconduct toward match officials

The 'Sin Bin' deterred dissent in MPL & AL1 but there is no clear downtrend in other divisions. Normalising for the 2020 match count, the rate of Sin Bin usage fell in MPL from 2.7 times per 10 Games to 2.1, and in AL/1s from 2.0 per 10 Games to 1.7.

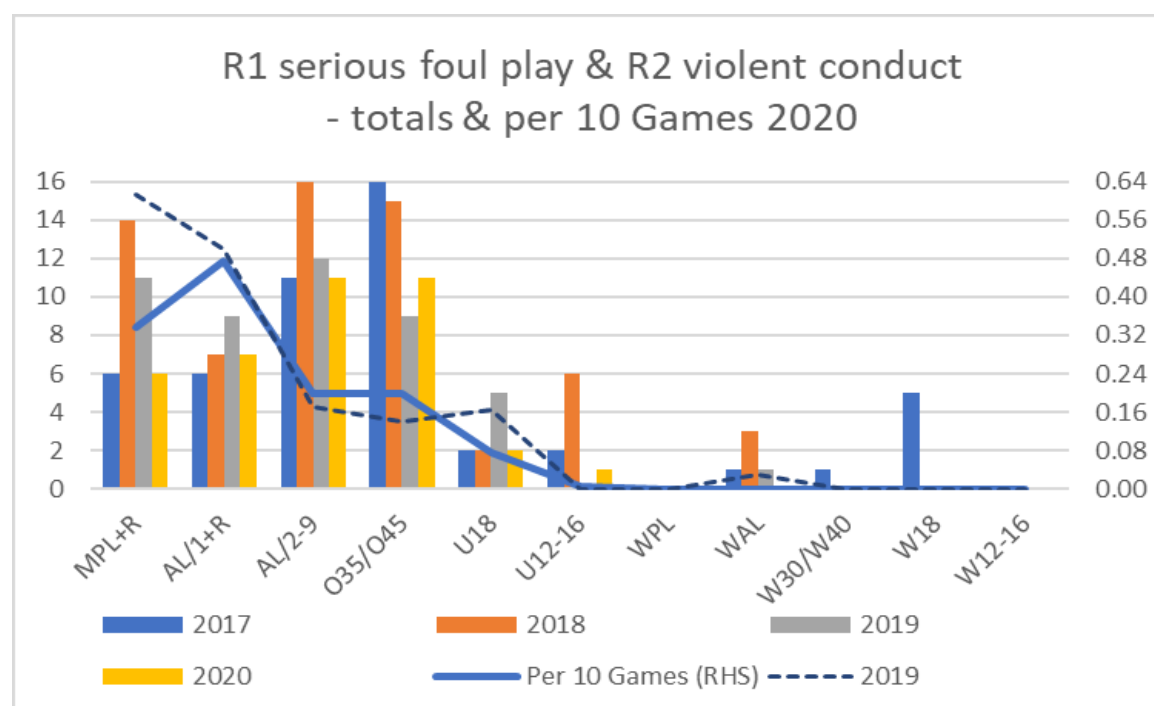


In 2020, R6 offences were mixed – maintaining low levels in MPL, zero cases in AL1, halving in AL2-9 but higher in O35/O45 and U18. The same can basically said about the rate of R6 per 10 Games. Note that a rate of 0.2 per 10 Games is alternatively expressed as one in every 50 Games.



Player conduct: violence offences toward other players

In 2020, violence offences were generally down across all divisions, but, other than for MPL, little changed on a rate per 10 Games basis.



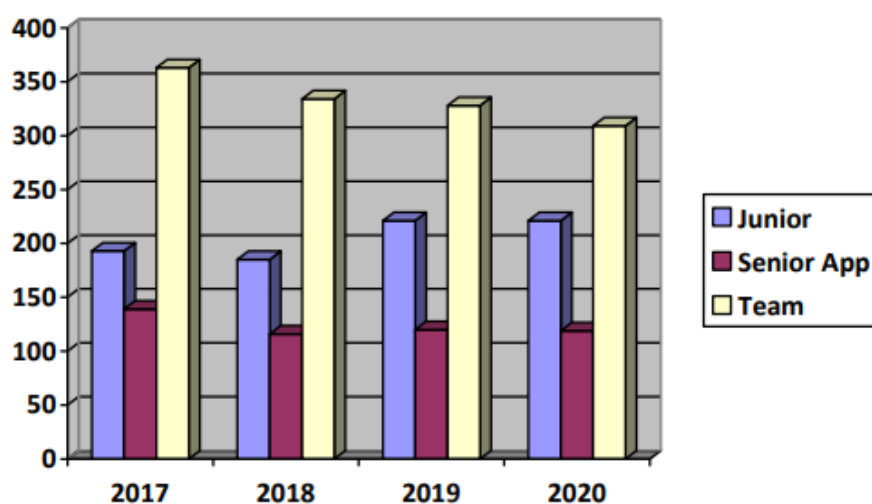
REGISTRAR

I extend my thanks to the Management Committee, with a special mention to Sigrid, whose efforts are tireless. Sigrid really is an absolutely devoted supporter of the MWFRA.

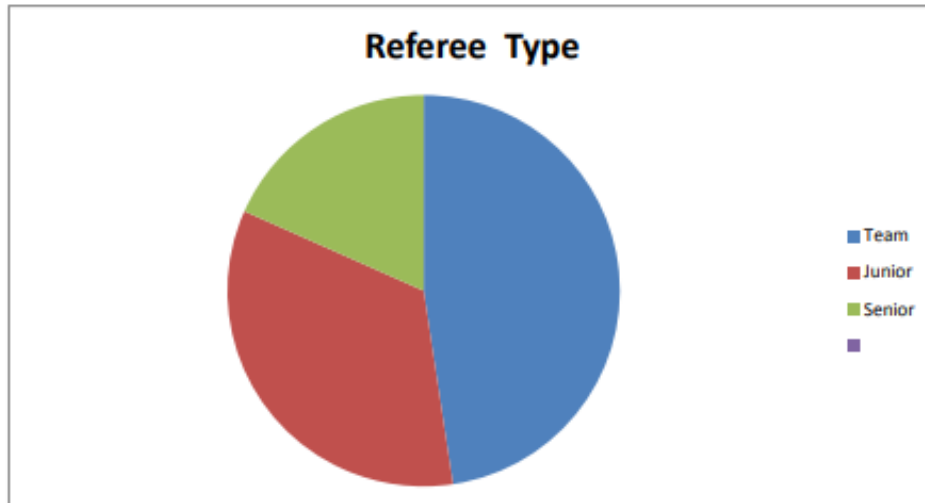
This year in numbers...

The 2020 registration statistics are reasonable considering the impacts of COVID-19. Approved registrations for senior and team referees reduced only slightly from 2019, whilst the number for junior referee approved registrations increased (by 4) to 221.

- Approved registered referee numbers decreased by 13, from 662 in 2019 to 649 in 2020.
- There was an encouraging 21% increase in the number of female referee registrations, up by 9 from 42 in 2019 to 51 in 2020.
- Senior referee registrations decreased slightly from 120 in 2019 to 119 in 2020.
- Returning team referee registrations was 211 in 2020, compared to 237 in 2019.
- 98 new team referee registrations, all of whom completed the L4 Course, were received in 2020.



Category	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Variation 2019 to 2020
Junior	193	185	217	221	1.84%
TOTAL Senior	502	450	445	428	-3.82%
Appointable	139	116	120	119	-0.8%
Team Ref	347	334	325	309	-4.9%
TOTAL	695	635	662	649	-1.9%



Team referees accounted for 47.6% of 2020 registrations, down from 49% in 2019

Junior referees account for 34% of approved registrations.

	2019	2020
14	29	32
15	72	51
16	51	79
17 & 18	65	59

Senior Appointable account for 18.4% of approved registrations

	2019	2020
19 - 21	63	52
22 - 25	40	44
26 - 35	67	59
36 - 50	141	133
51 - 60	98	108
61 - 70	27	23
71 - 90	9	9

JONATHON TAYLOR

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The 2020 season proved to be a 'great' season for referee appointments. It appears that as no one could go away, there were more people available to referee and most weekends we were close to 100% coverage. Last minute illness or injury were usually the only reasons for a game not having an appointed referee. The list of uncovered games that is published each week does seem long but generally by the weekend, most are covered. This method does ensure good coverage, but it does have a flip-side whereby it is not always easy to promote people up ages or divisions if they do not make themselves available. Please keep this in mind if you are always waiting for the uncovered games list.

Also, my method of making everyone unavailable for the season so that they could just add available dates and times, seem to work really well (and kept me occupied for a few days in lock-down). The number of declined games was very low throughout the entire season which certainly made my job easier.

On Friday nights we are now covering 5 divisions – 18/1, W18/1, plus 3 divisions of seniors. The biggest challenge was appointing experienced Assistant Referees to the 18/1, plus assistant referees on the W18/1 and the senior divisions. It would be good to see more 2nd, 3rd and 4th year juniors available on Friday nights for these games. 1st year juniors are well represented in the available list for ARs. We were able to use the 18/1, W18/1 and the higher senior divisions to promote some younger referees and to carry out assessments on senior referees. A number of L3 practical assessments were completed this way. It's pleasing to see a number of team referees officiating on Friday nights as this provides them with added experience.

Saturday mornings are always our biggest challenge, particularly when 15s and 16s play at 11.30am but sometimes even the younger, lower divisions at 8.30am. It can be difficult to arrange junior referees to officiate when they also play and it would be helpful if more were available even if they are playing so that the 15/1 and 16/1 always had assistant referees.

In 2020 we also covered the Manly Warringah AYL, giving our best juniors added experience before applying for FNSW Referee Academy or RDP. We also supplied referees for the Peninsula Cup – a football tournament run after school by local independent schools.

Thank you to all referees who officiated throughout 2020. A big thank you to those that I call at the last minute to cover unexpected issues.

SIGRID MULHERIN

EXECUTIVE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Association was formed in 1949, with Mr Fred Alder serving as its President for the first 17 years. The individuals listed below have been instrumental in our Association's success.

Year	President	VP/VP Seniors	VP Juniors	Secretary	Treasurer	Floor Member
1949	F Alder	J Breen	N/A	I Lewis	I Lewis	A Bowyer
1950	F Alder	J Breen	N/A	I Lewis	GH Hudson	J Smith
1951	F Alder	J Breen	N/A	I Lewis	GH Hudson	D Sinclair
1952	F Alder	J Breen	N/A	I Lewis	GH Hudson	O Scott
1953	F Alder	GH Hudson	N/A	J Breen	O Scott	O Scott
1954	F Alder	J Breen	N/A	GH Hudson	O Scott	GR Hudson
1955	F Alder	T O'Toole	N/A	GH Hudson	O Scott	GR Hudson
1956	F Alder	T O'Toole	N/A	GR Hudson	R Parker	GR Hudson
1957	F Alder	GH Hudson	N/A	JW Cook	R Parker	R Schofield
1958	F Alder	GH Hudson	N/A	JW Cook	R Parker	GR Hudson
1959	F Alder	R Parker	N/A	JW Cook	J Smith	GR Hudson
1960	F Alder	GH Hudson	N/A	JW Cook	J Smith	J Treloar
1961	F Alder	GH Hudson	N/A	JW Cook	GR Hudson	R Schofield
1962	F Alder	C Gavid	N/A	GH Hudson	C Sutton	A Spence
1963	F Alder	C Gavid	N/A	GH Hudson	C Sutton	A Spence
1964	F Alder	GH Hudson	N/A	C Sutton	J Cook	C Gavid
1965	F Alder	GH Hudson	N/A	C Sutton	J Cook	C Gavid
1966	F Alder	G Anthill	N/A	G Anderson	G Geeves Snr	P Scott
1967	C Gavid	G Anthill	N/A	GH Hudson	G Geeves Snr	J Withnell
1968	J Davidson	J Withnell	N/A	W Van Leeuwen	G Geeves Snr	GH Hudson
1969	J Davidson	J Withnell	N/A	W Van Leeuwen	G Geeves Snr	GH Hudson
1970	J Withnell	C Jack	N/A	W Van Leeuwen	G Geeves Snr	
1971	C Jack	J Davidson	N/A	W Van Leeuwen	G Geeves Snr	W Kirk
1972	C Jack	J Davidson	N/A	R Duncan	G Geeves Snr	W Van Leeuwen
1973	J Davidson	A Perry	N/A	R Duncan	G Geeves Snr	W Van Leeuwen
1974	J Davidson	W Van Leeuwen	N/A	R Duncan	G Geeves Snr	R Cockman
1975	W Van Leeuwen	J Etherington	N/A	J Brilman & J Connor	G Geeves Snr	C Jack
1976	J Etherington	G White	N/A	P Wood	G Geeves Snr	C Jack
1977	J Etherington	G White	N/A	P Wood	R Duncan	C Jack
1978	G White	B Marsh	N/A	W Connor	W Harper	C Jack
1979	G White	A Bartlett	N/A	W Connor & C Coupland	G Richmond	G Geeves Jnr
1980	G White	A Bartlett	N/A	C Coupland	G Richmond	W Connor
1981	A Bartlett	A Rathbone	N/A	C Coupland	B Rawling	W Connor
1982	A Bartlett	A Rathbone	N/A	C Coupland	D Hill	S Russell
1983	J Geeves	A Rathbone	N/A	C Coupland	D Hill	S Russell
1984	J Geeves	A Rathbone	N/A	C Coupland	D Hill	S Russell
1985	A Rathbone	B Fowler	N/A	J Loke	J Lax	P Lovett

1986	A Rathbone	C Coupland	N/A	J Loke	J Lax	P Lovett
1987	A Rathbone	C Coupland	N/A	J Loke	J Lax	P Lovett
1988	C Coupland	B Crossweller	N/A	J Loke	J Lax	P Lovett
1989	C Coupland	B Crossweller	N/A	J Loke	J Lax	P Lovett
1990	C Coupland	B Crossweller	N/A	J Loke & P Robson	J Lax	P Lovett
1991	P Lovett	C Coupland	N/A	J Loke	P Robson	B Crossweller
1992	C Coupland	J Loke	N/A	L Davies	P Robson	B Crossweller
1993	C Coupland	J Loke	N/A	P Robson	I Massey	B Crossweller
1994	A Rathbone	J Loke	N/A	P Robson	I Massey	B Crossweller
1995	A Rathbone	J Loke	N/A	P Robson	I Massey	B Crossweller
1996	A Rathbone	D Morris	N/A	P Robson	I Massey	B Crossweller
1997	P Robson	K Martin OAM	N/A	P Robson	J Cuttle	D Gale
1998	P Robson	C Stocks	N/A	D Morris	J Cuttle	D Gale
1999	P Robson	C Stocks	T Seaman	D Morris	J Cuttle	D Gale
2000	L Hudson	R Shephard	T Seaman	V Movsessian	A Vale	D Gale
2001	L Hudson	R Shephard	T Browne	W Ranson	A Vale	D Gale
2002	L Hudson	R Shephard	T Browne	W Ranson	A Vale	D Gale/P Robson
2003	T Browne	R Shephard	P Muir	T Browne	A Vale	C Stocks/P Muir
2004	T Browne	R Shephard	P Muir	D Hill	A Vale	K Martin OAM
2005	T Browne	R Shephard	P Muir	D Hill	A Vale	K Martin OAM
2006	T Browne	R Shephard	P Muir	D Hill	A Vale	K Martin OAM
2007	T Browne	R Shephard	P Muir	P Respicio	C Stocks	K Martin OAM
2008	T Browne	J Raphael	P Muir	P Respicio	C Stocks	K Martin OAM
2009	J Raphael	R Shephard	R Brennan	J Barnes	G Ashcroft	K Martin OAM
2010	J Raphael	R Shephard	R Brennan	A Smith	G Ashcroft	I Bernard
2011	R Brennan	R Shephard	S Brennan	M Worwood	G Ashcroft	T Lee
2012	R Brennan	F Best	S Brennan	M Worwood	D Page	Discontinued
2013	R Brennan	F Best	S Brennan	M Worwood & D Le Ban	D Page	
2014	R Brennan	F Best	M Pryke	D Le Ban	D Page	
2015	R Brennan	N Barrett	C Senior	D Le Ban	D Page	
2016	R Brennan	Ken Lewis	C Senior	J Morales	D Page	
2017	R Brennan	Ken Lewis	C Senior	M Llana	D Page	
2018	R Brennan	W Plant	C Senior	R Socratous	N Beaugeard	
2019	T Williams	W Plant	J Morales	R Socratous	N Beaugeard	
2020	T Williams	W Plant	J Morales	J Taylor	N Beaugeard	

HONOUR ROLL - AWARDS

Since 1981, the Association has issued refereeing awards to our high performing referees.

Referee of the Year – Syd Russell Memorial Award

1981	Tony Rathbone	1995	Tony Rathbone	2009	Ryan Shephard
1982	John Geeves	1996	Lyle Hudson	2010	Jorge Martins
1983	Alan Bartlett	1997	Lyle Hudson	2011	Jorge Martins
1984	Gordon Geeves Jnr	1998	Colin Stocks	2012	Jorge Martins
1985	John Geeves	1999	Andrew Vale	2013	Jorge Martins
1986	Syd Russell	2000	Graham Wilks	2014	Sebastien Brennan
1987	Dave Hill	2001	Andrew Vale	2015	Sebastien Brennan
1988	Syd Russell	2002	Andrew Vale	2016	Sebastien Brennan
1989	Col Coupland	2003	Lyle Hudson	2017	Jorge Martins
1990	Syd Russell	2004	Ryan Shephard	2018	Andrew Best
1991	Tony Rathbone	2005	Ryan Shephard	2019	Andrew Best
1992	Tony Rathbone	2006	Andrew Vale	2020	Not awarded
1993	Tony Rathbone	2007	Ryan Shephard		
1994	Tony Rathbone	2008	James Raphael		

Assistant Referee of the Year

2006	C Ramsay	2014	Ivica Covic
2007	Thomas Lee	2015	Ivica Covic
2008	Thomas Lee	2016	Reece Senior
2009	Thomas Lee	2017	Jackson Mackie
2010	Tyler Egger	2018	Jackson Mackie
2011	Courtney Jones	2019	Brendan Giuffrida
2012	James Hepworth	2020	Geoffrey Peterson
2013	Reece Senior		

Senior Referee of the Year

2004	John Cuttle	2013	Gerry Lenihan
2005	David Torevell	2014	Gerry Lenihan
2006	Peter Robson	2015	Kenneth Lewis
2007	Niels-Otto Mathisen	2016	Gerry Lenihan
2008	Frank Best	2017	Gerry Lenihan
2009	Kenneth Lewis	2018	Wayne Plant
2010	Frank Best	2019	David McLean
2011	Keith Stewart	2020	Not awarded
2012	Stephen Logue		

Under 25 Referee of the Year

1991	Andrew Vale	2001	Ryan Shephard	2011	Brett Downie
1992	Greg Coupland	2002	Ryan Shephard	2012	Sebastien Brennan
1993	Andrew Vale	2003	Matthew Gillett	2013	Sebastien Brennan
1994	Andrew Vale	2004	Matthew Gillett	2014	Alec Smith
1995	Andrew Vale	2005	Paul Cliff	2015	Alec Smith
1996	Colin Stocks	2006	Matthew Gillett	2016	Alec Smith
1997	Colin Stocks	2007	Matthew Gillett	2017	Toby Williams
1998	Nick Dracakis	2008	Bradley Duke	2018	Toby Williams
1999	Ryan Shephard	2009	Brett Downie	2019	Naomi Peterson
2000	Ryan Shephard	2010	Brett Downie	2020	Not awarded

Under 21 Referee of the Year

1985	Annabel Lax	1997	Ryan Shephard	2009	Alec Smith
1986	Andrew Eason	1998	Mark Higgs	2010	Alex Smith
1987	Paul Blackwood	1999	Luke Ventress	2011	Sebastien Brennan
1988	Andrew Hill	2000	Adrian Carratt	2012	Josh Ward
1989	Greg Coupland	2001	Matthew Gillett	2013	Nick Barrett
1990	Andrew Hill	2002	Matthew Gillett	2014	Jack Morales
1991	Greg Coupland	2003	Paul Clift	2015	Jack Morales
1992	Scott Bendall	2004	Matthew Gillett	2016	Jack Morales
1993	Michael Dine	2005	Bradley Duke	2017	Josh Courts
1994	Michael Dine	2006	Bradley Duke	2018	Ivica Covic
1995	Christopher Parratt	2007	Bradley Duke	2019	Jasmin Hill
1996	Ryan Shephard	2008	Sam Steindl	2020	Not awarded

Level 3 Referee of the Year – Peter Clay Memorial Award

1998	Graeme Kellow	2006	Colin Grant	2014	Jorge Martins
1999	Greg Courts	2007	Ed Penny	2015	Luke Petersen
2000	Greg Courts	2008	Paul Respicio	2016	Darius Turner
2001	Richard Cant	2009	Colin Grant	2017	Damien Bury
2002	Richard Cant	2010	Colin Grant	2018	Damien Bury
2003	Chris Grant	2011	Allan Whitford	2019	Hayden Smith
2004	Matthew Gillett	2012	Not awarded	2020	Not awarded
2005	Paul Clift	2013	David Le Ban		

Under 18 Referee of the Year – Shirley Bones Memorial Award

1983	Murray Connor	1996	Andrew Jordan	2009	Matthew Collins
1984	Ken Artuso	1997	Mark Higgs	2010	Nick Barrett
1985	Oscar Gonzales	1998	Trevor Simonsen	2011	Nick Barrett
1986	Thomas Haerland	1999	Adrian Carratt	2012	Toby Williams
1987	Greg Coupland	2000	Matthew Gillett	2013	Jack Morales
1988	Greg Coupland	2001	Andrew Best	2014	Andrew Iles
1989	Dean Heffernan	2002	Andrew Best	2015	Joshua Courts
1990	Julian Humphrey	2003	Bradley Duke	2016	Joshua Courts
1991	David Goodwin	2004	Bradley Duke	2017	Jasmin Hill
1992	Michael Dine	2005	Howard Louis	2018	Alessandro Llana
1993	Rohan Ashover	2006	Adam Trevor	2019	Jackson Mackie
1994	Matthew Jordan	2007	Adam Trevor	2020	Not awarded
1995	Ryan Shephard	2008	Alec Smith		

Rookie of the Year

2006	J Jackson	2014	Alex Zhou
2007	Alana Wallis	2015	Evan Mitchell
2008	Nick Barrett	2016	Brendan Giuffrida
2009	Hayden Jewell	2017	Geoffrey Peterson
2010	Adam Powers	2018	Jorja Boon
2011	Joshua Pierre	2019	Callum Eason
2012	Liam Power	2020	Samuel Stanbury
2013	Ivica Covic		

2nd Year Referee of the Year

2017	Harry Armstrong
2018	Joe O'Brien
2019	Thomas Dale
2020	Mia Velarde

3rd Year Referee of the Year

2017	Jacob Gallagher
2018	Brendan Giuffrida
2019	Shaun Denham
2020	Hannah Lovlin

Vice President Juniors' Achievement Award

2014	Rebecca Mackie
2015	Jasmin Hill
2016	Jacob Gallagher
2017	Alex Giles
2018	Ethan Robb
2019	Zahra Chew
2020	Daniel Flewin

HONOUR ROLL - APPOINTMENTS

Our Association has been well represented over the years by our members who have been selected to officiate prestigious finals matches and events.

Football NSW Amateur Cup (State Cup) Final

1980	Tony Rathbone	2002	Greg Coupland (AL)
1983	Syd Russell	2009	Jake Parker (W-U12)
1988	Dave Hill (U21)	2009	Christopher Parratt (AL)
1993	Andrew Vale	2011	Adam Powers ((U14)
1997	Colin Stocks (U21)	2012	Scott Peterson (U16)
2002	Graham Wilks (U18)	2017	Naomi Peterson (U17)
2002	Adrian Barlow (U16)	2018	Finn Mitchell (W-U16)

Football NSW Champions of Champions Final

1997	Colin Stocks (U18)	2008	Matthew Gillett (U21)	2013	Ken Lewis (U17)
1998	Colin Stocks (O35)	2008	Sam Steindl (U16)	2014	Michelle Cole (W-U21)
2001	Andrew Vale (U18)	2009	Michelle Cole (WO30)	2015	Sebastien Brennan (AAM)
2002	Greg Coupland (U21)	2009	Nick Barrett (U12)	2017	Josh Courts (U21)
2003	Chris Grant (U13)	2010	Chester Lenihan (U13)	2018	Ivica Covic
2004	Ryan Shephard (U13)	2011	Josh Ward (U15)	2019	Conor Carroll (W16)
2007	Mitchell Compton (U15)	2012	Toby Williams (U14)	2019	Shaun Denham (U14)

NSW Super/Premier Youth League Final

2001	Graham Wilks (U17)	2006	Wayne Ranson (U15)
2002	Andrew Vale (U17)	2007	Adam Trevor (U14)
2003	Andrew Best (U13)	2008	Alana Wallis (WU16)
2004	Richard Cant (U15)	2009	Nick Barrett (U13)
2005	Howard Louis (U13)	2010	Nick Barrett (U15)

Australian Football Titles

2001	Kevin Martin (U15)
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2020 SEASON PHOTOGRAPHS

One of our members, Jeremy Denham, generously provides complimentary access to the photographs he shoots of our referees throughout the year. Thank you, Jeremy, for both refereeing and capturing our best (and not so good) moments.



