



# THE WHISTLEBLOWER

newsletter of the  
CENTRAL COAST RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

**Edition:** 2

**Date:** 6 January, 2020

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As this newsletter is being written our state, and much of our nation, is being gripped by the devastating bushfires. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to all in the Rugby community who have been affected by the fires and thanks to those who have given so much as volunteers to fight the fires or provide other support to those affected by, or fighting the fires.

On the 19th December, 2019 I participated in a national referees associations phone hook up organised by Shane Barr to update all Referees Associations across the nation regarding changes and updates that would be in place for the 2020 season. Shane has just been appointed to replace Jamie McGregor as the RA National Community Match Officials Manager.

The following notes were taken from the meeting:

*Meeting Moderators:*                *Shane Barr*  
    *Scott Young*

*A total of seven representatives logged/phoned in to this meeting from across Australia.*  
*NSW Country referees associations were represented by two of those seven - myself and Ian Richardson (CWRRA)*

*Information Disseminated:*

**Shane Barr**

*Shane will take over the role of RA National Community Match Officials Manager from Jamie McGregor.*  
*Shane will be moving to Sydney in the near future.*

*Scott Young oversees the whole of refereeing from a Rugby Australia perspective.*

*Shane indicated that he would like to build on Association members being able to run and deliver Referee Kids Rugby and Level 1 courses (or part thereof).*

*There will be a workshop in mid January to align delivery of referee education programs. This will be the weekend of 17/18/19 January at the AIS in Canberra. A few from each state to attend.*

*There will be another meeting in 2020 similar to the one held in 2019. (NSW Country RRA President to attend). Date TBA.*

**Scott Young**

*Match officials at community level have received increases in funding.*

*At the elite level, 2019 has been the best for RA match officials since 2003. An increase in World Rugby appointments (a total of 52).*

*This has resulted in an increase in funding from World Rugby for elite level refereeing in Australia. We are now ranked fourth:*

- 1. France*
- 2. England*
- 3. New Zealand*
- 4. Australia*

*Australia has the least number of semi professional games to appoint to each weekend. We have less than 60 nationwide. England have in excess of 1000 and France has more than that again.*

*We have seen good growth in our position in the last 18 months.*

*Going really well in both men and womens 7s*

*Discussion about how rankings are done and what 'counts' towards' these rankings - currently is based on senior mens (Wallabies) competitions. What about 7s/Womens/Under 20s/Under 18s appointments??*

**General Information**

*Education for Judiciaries - This is coming so that all judiciary committees across the nation are aligned.*

*Annual Referee Survey to be revamped. Some questions to be refreshed.*

*Action Items for Associations from last President's Meeting held in Canberra in 2019. All Associations to keep an eye on these and action them as appropriate.*

**End of Meeting.**

*Hopefully we will see continued growth and interest in refereeing community level Rugby from Rugby Australia into the future.*

**Busy Times Over Christmas/New Year**

For many of our members and their families, the Christmas/New Year period has been very busy, but not on the rugby field. We have members who have:

- Achieved well deserved, positive Higher School Certificate results,
- Been travelling overseas with their families in Europe, the USA and Canada
- Sold, bought and moved houses, and
- Celebrated 'significant' birthdays.

Congratulations to all.

## Training

Don't forget that formal training for all members of the Association will begin on Tuesday 21 January. This will be an ongoing program throughout the season. Hopefully we will be able to run it as a mix of training individually as an Association and also in joining some clubs at their training sessions. The venue for this training session will be advised shortly.

At the end of last year we had members attend training sessions with the Ourimbah Razorbacks club and that was a very well-received experience and we thank them for welcoming our members.

Looking forward to getting our 'official' season underway with this training session.

*Tony Rudd*

## MEMBER PROFILE

### DAVID HALL



#### **Occupation:**

Social Worker

#### **Family status:**

Married to the very beautiful Angela with 2 boys Aiden "AJ" (13) and Micah (10), who both play for Ourimbah juniors.

#### **Why you started in refereeing:**

When I was in Year 10, my junior rugby team folded half way through the season. I did a referee course to allow me to continue to be involved in weekend rugby that season.

#### **What you like most about refereeing:**

I really enjoy being close to the action of the game. I also enjoy the mateship of the game, having a connection with all the players and supporters not just on the Coast, but around the country and the world.

**Challenges in Refereeing:**

I have found several challenges through my years of refereeing. One of them has been to not take personally the way players (and spectators) react to decisions. I remember in my first season on the Central Coast I had a bit of a difficult run with a particular captain in my second game of the year. Two weeks later I was appointed to referee the same team, and I spent the week worrying about how this captain was going to react when he saw me. Upon arrival at the ground this captain was really friendly to me, which is when I realised that players do not hold onto issues in regards to referees most of the time.

**Highlights of refereeing to date:**

- Refereeing my first grand final in Sydney (subbies colts),
- Being appointed to run touch for a schoolboy game which was the lead up game to the first ever Bledisloe Cup game at Stadium Australia (Homebush) in 2000. This allowed me the chance to watch the Haka at ground level before kickoff.
- Being selected to participate in a referee development program in Sydney.
- Being selected to referee NSW CHS 2nds vs NSW GPS 2nds, and running touch for firsts that year (which was refereed by test referee Stu Dickinson)- it was the last time CHS beat GPS for about 25 years.
- Being selected to referee Kings vs St Ignatius College first XV (the year Dean Mumm and many others were playing), which ended up being the championship deciding game that season.
- Refereeing my first (and only) Shute Shield second grade game (the last season I did in Sydney before I moved to the Coast).
- Being selected in the country representative panel for the first time.
- Refereeing my 200th first grade game on the central Coast
- Refereeing my 600th game as a referee (Sydney and Central Coast combined)

**Where you'd like to go with your refereeing?:**

I would like to referee a first grade grand final on the Central Coast, I would still like the opportunity to be selected in the NSW Country referee panel for the senior country championships one year, and I would like to try and referee more games than Tony Furey on the Central Coast.....

**Most unique experience as a referee:**

I was given the opportunity to referee a combined Sydney University team (primarily 2nd and 3rd grade players) against a touring Japanese University team. Not one player on the Japanese team could speak, or understand, English, which made on-field communication very difficult- especially when I had to put a Japanese player on a warning for a possible yellow/red card.

**Favourite Movie:** Star Wars

**Favourite Song:** The Power of Love (Huey Lewis- theme song from Back to the Future)

**Favourite TV show:** Survivor

**Favourite Food:** Roast lamb.

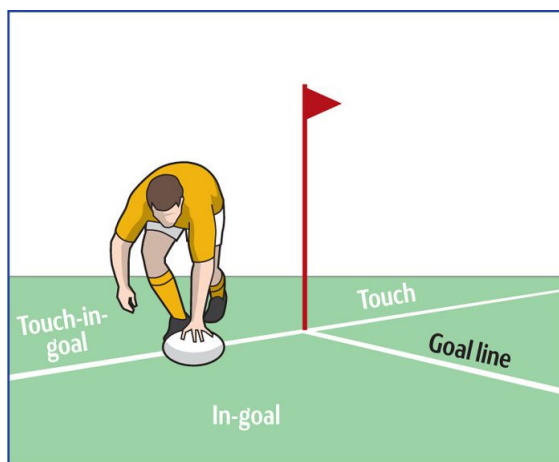
## BECAUSE IT'S LAW

### Law 8

#### Scoring a Try (one of those you would rarely see)

A try is scored when an attacking player:

(e) who is in touch or touch-in-goal, grounds the ball in the opponents' in-goal provided the player is not holding the ball.



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2020-2022

With our previous sponsorship agreements expiring at the end of the 2019 season, we are now in the process of seeking new sponsor partners for the seasons 2020 through to 2022.

Our Association offers the unique opportunity for businesses to be recognised at **every game, every week** throughout the Rugby season.

For details of the various levels of sponsorship available follow the link to our website where you will find the current sponsorship proposals.

<https://www.ccrura.com/sponsors>

Any businesses interested in sponsoring the Central Coast Rugby Union Referees Association can contact Tony Rudd at [tonyrudd58@gmail.com](mailto:tonyrudd58@gmail.com)

## GAME MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES UPDATE

This will be held in conjunction with our first meeting for the year on 24 February, 2020. This meeting will begin at 7:00pm, being held at the Bateau Bay Bowling Club.

This is compulsory for all referees. Club representatives will also be in attendance. The GMG update will be presented by staff from NSW Rugby.

Please put this in your diary.

## RECRUITMENT

The CCRURA is always on the lookout for new members and now is an ideal time for prospective referees to express interest in gaining their referee qualification for 2020. There are a number of pathways for doing this:

### Refereeing Under 8 to 12

Course – Refereeing Kids Rugby 8-12 (RKR)

Post Course Accreditation – Optional Exam

You must be 13 years old to referee these age groups. Anyone who completes the RKR course can be a Referee or Assistant Referee (AR) up to Under 12's.

These referees can also be appointed to matches by their club through the Club To Appoint (CTA) mechanism.

Smart Rugby will need to be completed separately to this course.

### Refereeing Under 13 to Senior

Course – Foundation

Post Course Accreditation – Exam & On-Field Competency Assessment

You must be 15 years old to referee Under 13 matches or older and for junior referees who are 15/16/17 years of age you can only referee to an age group 2 years younger than your own age.


Adults that do this course can referee at any level.

This course covers the requirements of Smart Rugby.


Do you wanna be...  
wanna be ...  
wanna be a Wallaby?

or better still...

Do you wanna be...  
wanna be ...  
wanna be a Referee?



**CENTRAL COAST RUGBY UNION REFEREES' ASSOCIATION**  
**is recruiting now.**




Come and join us for the best seat at the game.  
On the field in the middle of the action.

Prospective referees must be 13-14 years to complete the Referee Kids Rugby course or 15 years to complete the Level 1 accreditation.  
Stay tuned for details regarding an information session.  
Payments for junior games range from \$15 - \$30 per game depending on the age group refereed.

Express your interest by completing the form at the link below or by using the QR code and a member of our Association will contact you with details:

<https://forms.gle/TYxX9gFU48fdid2q8>



Anybody interested in undertaking either of these courses should contact either our Recruitment and Retention coordinator, Gary Scholes at [wattletree1@gmail.com](mailto:wattletree1@gmail.com) or by scanning the QR code above and filling in your details (you will be contacted by an officer from our Association).

The Foundation/Level 1 Referee course will be held on the Central Coast on 16 March, 2020.

## REFEREE PAY AMOUNTS FOR 2020

Both CCRU and CCJRU have approved payments for appointed referees in 2020.

The rates are:

- Under 9 and 10 \$15
- Under 11 to 15 \$20
- Under 16 to 18 \$30
- Under 19 \$50
- President's Cup \$40
- Premier 2 \$60
- Premier 1 \$70
- Women's 7's \$10
- AR Premier 1 \$15

This is great news for our members.

## FUTURE DATES FOR DIARY

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 21 January  | CCRURA Training commences. Venue TBA   |
| 22 February | The Lakes 'Sevens By The Sea' - Slade Park. All day                            |
| 24 February | CCRURA Meeting - GMG Update - Compulsory attendance for all members.           |
| 28 February | Summer 7s Recommences  |
| 5 March     | Central Coast Primary Schools Gala Day. Tuggerah Sports Complex                |
| 7 March     | Foundation / Level 1 Referee Course. Central Coast Grammar School              |
| 12 March    | Central Coast Primary Schools Gala Day. Carrington Street Oval                 |
| 19 March    | Central Coast Primary Schools Gala Day. Finals Day. Carrington Street Oval     |
| 14 March    | NSW Country Women's Championship Carnival. Woy Woy Oval                        |
| 26 March    | Girls & Boys U18 CHS Schools Gala Day - Tuggerah Sport Complex                 |
| 30 March    | CCRURA Meeting - Note this is not the 4th Monday of the month.                 |
| 2 April     | Boys Under 14 & 16 CHS Schools Gala Day - Tuggerah Sports Complex              |
| 27 April    | CCRURA Meeting - Education Topic TBA   |
| 25 May      | CCRURA Meeting - Education Topic TBA   |
| 9 June      | Brian Palmer Shield. Primary School 12-a-side Knockout. Carrington Street Oval |
| 22 June     | CCRURA Meeting - Education Topic TBA   |
| 23/24 June  | Zone Finals CHS Schools Gala Day - Tuggerah Sports Complex                     |
| 2 July      | Chris Gamngemi Shield. Primary School 12-a-side Knockout. Venue TBA            |
| 27 July     | CCRURA Meeting - Education Topic TBA   |
| 24 August   | CCRURA Meeting - Education Topic TBA   |
| 26 October  | CCRURA Annual General Meeting  |