



National Rugby League Limited
Fox Studios Development
Lang Road, Moore Park NSW 1363
Postal Address:
GPO Box 3498 Sydney NSW 2001
ABN 23 082 088 962
Internet: www.nrl.com
Telephone: (02) 9339 8500
Facsimile: (02) 9339 8508

Memorandum

To:	ARLRA Referees' Coaches
From:	Michael Stone
Date:	4 July 2002
Subject:	MS002/02

NEWSLETTER 2/02

Welcome to our newly registered brethren. I will attempt (with the help of Richard) to maintain our Networking facility on a very regular basis.

There are currently fifty-nine coaches registered with the Association. Of these, three have been granted Level 2 status with a further twenty having completed the workshop requirements for their upgrade. The upgraded status cannot be granted until the post workshop tasks are completed and assessed.

Those of you on Email will have received the "test" banner for our recruitment drive. The initial feedback which we got was very positive. The banners went up on the various sites on Tuesday and Abigail from the firm Recruitment Solutions tells me that there have been about 200 hits already. When the advertising campaign gets underway (we hope) very shortly, the number of hits should increase dramatically. The banner appears at the top of the NRL website at www.nrl.com.au. If the Road train or another banner is there, hit the refresh button and it should appear.

Gerry Callinan, from South Sydney, Public service and Central Coast Referees' Associations, passed away the weekend before last. Gerry was a personal friend of mine and a good number of other referees. His input will be sorely missed. Our sympathies are extended to his family.

NEWS FROM NRL

You will note that there have been some changes to the refereeing ranks in recent weeks. This is due to the fact that the referees' coaches have decided that they need to rotate a number of referees through the top grade. Whilst this may appear at first blush to be a somewhat cavalier approach to refereeing first grade football, indeed it is far from that.

In the days when scrutiny was not quite as fierce, we could move a new ref around and still keep him in firsts. With all seven matches the subject of 7-9 camera coverage, that luxury is gone. So the alternative is to rotate the refs to enable them to be "blooded" without them having to "bleed" too much in their embryo state. The result in the NRL is that there is an extended First Grade squad which rotates through the main grade. Not possible for all Leagues, but certainly for the NRL. What is the result? Well, Matt Cecchin has certainly benefitted from the policy, as has "Teddy" Lyons in more recent weeks.

LEVEL 2 CANDIDATES

It was agreed at our workshop in May that as a Level 2 coach, you needed to take more responsibility not only for your own district/group, but also for refereeing in the future. In order that you may fulfil that most worthy desire, we have decided to implement a new program to benefit all referees Australia wide.

The Program

The idea is to watch **all** NRL games between now and the end of the year. Remember all matches are televised either on free to air or pay TV. We are looking for incidents that will be a valuable tool for future coaching in a generic environment. Matches are allocated (probably by me) to be viewed by a nominated person. Incidents to be recorded in a format which will identify the match, description of the incident, time of the incident. There should also be some kind of brief commentary which will include such statements as ..."positional play poor...needed to move laterally to get a good view of the pass...".

Now before you start panicking about how much work I'm going to give you, if all 20 Level 2 candidates are available to do this, it means 1 match every three weeks. Maximum 4 until the end of the season. And if any other coach wishes to be placed on the list to be allocated a game, let me know and I'll put you on.

I will be looking to bring all the assessors together near to the end of the season to edit and put together a number of the incidents reported into a video tape which we can all use for our own purposes. There may be sufficient incidents for two, three or maybe more tapes covering things such as control, body language, scrum control, rules,

advantage play etc. At this stage I plan to edit the tapes, with the assessors, in the offices of the NRL in Fox studios on the weekend prior to the Grand Final.

So, the first three weeks allocations of matches is as follows. Please call if you have any problems. Results should be Emailed to me or faxed on 02 93398501. Further in structions overleaf.

Good luck, clear rucks and good ten in the future.

Michael Stone
NRL REFEREES' CO-ORDINATOR
ARLRA PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE CONSULTANT

Match allocations for ARLRA Video project

Round 17

Newcastle v Parramatta	M Stone
Melbourne v Wests	D Jay
Bulldogs v Eagles	M Reid
Penrith v Souths	J O'Sullivan
Roosters v Canberra	M Ryan
Cronulla v Warriors	D Turvey
Brisbane v Dragons	R Johnston

Round 18

Australia v Gt Britain	M Dunn
Melbourne v Roosters	R Peard
NQ v Eagles	J Stone
Penrith v Brisbane	S Watson
Dragons v Bulldogs	W Loveday
Canberra v Newcastle	P Bungate
Wests v Souths	B Goldsworthy
Parramatta v Sharks	M Quailey

Round 19

Bulldogs v Roosters	B Lynch
Souths v Dragons	A Farlow
Brisbane v Wests	N Bissett
NQ v Canberra	J Roe
Newcastle v Penrith	C White

Warriors v Parramatta

P Byron

Eagles v Sharks

D Spagarino

Times for all matches and the networks on which they are broadcast appear in Big league magazine.

Incidents should be categorized under one of the following broad headings.

Rulings

Advantage play

Scrum

Positional play

Communication

Body language

Touch judging

Stolen ball

Sin bin

If you find an incident worthy of examination which doesn't quite fit the description above, include it in your report anyway. **BUT REMEMBER, WE ARE DOING THIS EXERCISE TO ASSIST ALL REFEREES. IF THERE IS NOTHING IN A PARTICULAR GAME WHICH YOU THINK WILL ASSIST REFEREES BY LOOKING AT IT AND DISCUSSING IT, THEN SO BE IT.** Don't think that you have to include something for the sake of it.

Example

Match	Time	Incident	Comments
Parra v Bulldogs	1/23-45	Scrum	Prop breaks early, won against feed, look at refs position. Too close to scrum?

If you have any problems, or don't understand why this is a vitally important project for you to be involved in, call me. Otherwise, Email, fax or snailmail the results to me please. I will maintain a database.