

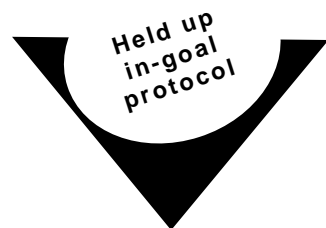
QRL - Referees' Coaching & Development Updates

**JUNE 2008
Issue 6**

Publication of the QRL Referees' Development Officers

**David Isaacs
Richard Johnston
Paul Oliver**

**Submission of all articles to:
John Topp
QRL Referees' Board
Executive Officer
Email: j.topp@qrl.com.au**



From the RDOs' Desk

I have received some interesting articles from the rank and file out there in referee land. They have been included in this month's publication and make for some interesting reading. The following articles appear in this issue:

- ◆ An article from Peter Worth, Townsville Referees' Association Supervisor
- ◆ A contribution from one of Central Highlands newest female recruits
- ◆ Another gem from Richard Johnston
- ◆ Aaron Geddes' report from the U/15 Schoolboy Championships
- ◆ Daniel Griffins' report from the Open Schoolboy Championships
- ◆ Photo gallery from the Under 15 & Open Schoolboy Championships



The contributions now being received is encouraging, so if you have an article for inclusion in the next publication please e-mail to David, Richard, John or myself.

The Queensland Open Schoolboy and Under 15 Schoolboy Championships have been contested with all match officials who attended acquitting themselves and representing their respective associations with distinction. Match officials are appointed to semi final and finals as a reward for their performance/s at these championships. Unfortunately only one person can be appointed to referee the final.

Under 15 Schoolboy Final Appointments:

Referee: Aaron Geddes (Rockhampton)
T/Judges: Cameron Sleep (Brisbane) and Alex Holmes (Sunshine Coast)
Interchange: Liam Kennedy (Brisbane) and Zac Schwass (Gold Coast)

Open Schoolboy Final Appointments:

Referee: Jon Kennedy (Brisbane)
T/Judges: Peter Gough (Sunshine Coast) and Liam Wilkins (Rockhampton)
Interchange: Chris Donaghy (Gladstone) and Chris Harvey (Sunshine Coast)

Match Officials have been selected to attend the following Carnivals.

- ◆ Under 11 Schoolboy Championships
- ◆ Under 12 Schoolboy Championships
- ◆ Outback Carnival
- ◆ Under 13 & 14 QRL State Championships

Division Referee Coordinators, Associations and Match Officials have been advised.

Congratulations to all selected match officials.
Ed.

2008 DATES TO REMEMBER

Signal - Held up in goal	✓		
Whistle	✓		
Signal - Time out	✓		
Take control	✓		
Communicate to player held up to ptb 10 metres out	✓	Harvey Norman State of Origin 2 - Brisbane	June 11
Referee position - goal line (preferred)	✓	QPSBRL U/12 Championships - Chinchilla	June 26 - July 2
Whistle/Signal to restart play	✓	National U/15 Schoolboy Championships - Wynnum	June 29 - July 4
Tackle count continues	✓	QISRL Confraternity Shield - Rockhampton	June 30—July 4

*QRL- Referee Association
Registrations as at June 1.*

Association	2007	2008	Association	2007	2008
Brisbane	404	356	Mackay	51	33
Bundaberg	32	12	Northern Districts	9	10
Cairns	61	67	Rockhampton	24	23
Central Highlands	74	67	Roma	52	25
Fraser Coast	19	17	South Burnett	20	14
Gladstone	26	23	Sunshine Coast	93	101
Gold Coast	92	78	Toowoomba	112	83
Ipswich	72	58	Townsville	63	38

Not in the Referee Manual - Peter Worth (Townsville DRLRA Supervisor)

I was refereeing a Townsville under 19's match Shark's V Brothers and the game just got going we were into the 3rd set of six Shark's had the ball about 20 metres out from Brothers goal line when one of the Brothers player came running up to me Sir, Sir you have to stop the game he was shouting at me, I had a quick look around and could not see anyone down on the ground and so I ask what was wrong and he said there was a snake on the field. So I stopped the game and when I looked around to see where the snake was all the Brothers player on the left side of the field were all running for cover. Michael my touch judge had just done his quickest 50 metres of all time and the ball boy was close behind him.

I looked around for an official to come and remove the snake but no it was up to me, slowly I walked over to it and yes it was a Taipan. Crikey I needed a hand but was not getting one from anyone all the players from both teams were on the right hand side of the field and they were happy to stay there. So I walked up slowly behind the snake and it started to move away from me towards the sideline which was good but then it stopped and popped its head up and looked around at me, so I moved away a little and it moved off to the sideline. This process continued for several minutes until the snake was over the mound onto the second field.

When I ran back to restart the game all I could think about was when I was young and a dog came onto the field and the ref chased him off the field and every time the ref ran back onto the field the dog chased the ref, so I had a look over my shoulder, but the snake wasn't there.

Michael my touch judge came back to the sideline but every time I looked at him he was looking over his shoulder and both touch judges didn't want that side in the second half. That's a first for me.

Penalties, Scrums and Tries - Teearna Morrissse (Central Highlands RLRA)

Young referees have dreams, Old referees have memories

I am young and I have dreams but, I'm yet to take away great memories.

Football is a sport we all love. Backing our favourite team and enjoying the atmosphere. I come from a long line of footy players, so you could pretty much say it's in my blood.

I've always been involved with football ever since I was very young, but never to such a huge extent until this year. I got hooked on refereeing after watching my best mate Michael Madden at home and away games in action for a couple of years. I've always loved footy so I decided to go for it.

The first ref's course that I attended was in early April, where I had the pleasure of meeting the one and only Richard Johnston. With his way of explaining and talking techniques it made me more ambitious and eager to get out on the field, while spending the time making the game of football safe and enjoyable for the young kids involved.

Then the 27th of April rolled around, quicker than what I expected! It was my first game that I was going to referee. I'd have to say that yes I was extremely nervous!. Sitting in the ref's dressing shed looking at my uniform and com's gear hanging up I sucked it up rubbed some dirt on it and promised myself I would do my best.

Coming out of the sheds everyone was wishing me well, which really made me feel much more confident. The kids had even asked if I would please ref their games again.

I went on glowing, but came off shining!.

Being asked to be a touchy at a U'11 and 13's School Boy's carnival, I didn't know it but I was being watched. After the games were finished I was asked by Andrew Lawrence if I would be interested in going away to the next Carnival, which is set over three days to referee. I was that stocked since I'd only refereed my first game the day before.

Being from Tieri, with it being such a small place it's hard to have courses and seminars and such on out this away, but when we do, all who attend take away everything said and lock it in.

I am pushing myself and have my mind set on the Laurie Spina Shield Carnival Townsville for '09, Im in refereeing to do my best and to have fun with the kids. I know along the way it's going to be hard but, I am a girl with pride and ambition who is going to make the Central Highlands, Peak Downs and Tieri proud. I may not be the next Bill Harrigan but I am aiming to be the next best female referee or The Princess to Richard Johnston.

My whistle may be my weapon, but my uniform is my pride.

Coaches Corner



COMMUNICATION: What are the most recurring aspects in the game of Rugby League which establish patterns which either make or break aspiring Referees? The answer is clearly visible: The tackle and play the ball.

Referees need to be “COMMUNICATORS” but “EFFECTIVE” is the operative word. Too many words can create player confusion which leads to player frustration and eats away at a Referee’s player rapport. A clear example is seen at the TACKLE. Simply call the “count” and identify the tackle. For example: 3, movement! This then allows the time to address the marker/s and players on the 10 or 5 metres.

The markers are always testing a Referee’s tolerance level especially in the YARDAGE ZONE and here the talk must be relevant. It is ineffective to call out, “no markers!” as this has many connotations. Are we indicating in fact there were no markers or are we saying there is something they shouldn’t do? This is similar to using the lead in word PLAY before indicating it is in fact the Referee’s decision to “play the ball” or in fact “play on”. Here we need to clearly distinguish between, HELD(play the ball) or PLAY ON! How often have we seen the “Referee created penalty” arising from poor selection of words?

Another often quoted line is “Go low.” Our task is to officiate NOT coach. Players are aware of the tackle zone and the consequence of infringing.

Many referees appear to possess a range of dialogue on the field but is it reflective of the situation or is it in fact irrelevant jargon? We need to communicate in a language the “natives” understand. All this communication is reliant on VISION which in fact is determined by POSITION. All the fundamental building blocks we need to master to be a successful match official.

These are the tip of the iceberg but a start in the goal to “smart refereeing!”

A Question of Law

With the shoulder charge now outlawed in all matches up to and including the under 18 grade the following scenarios have been raised.

Scenario 1: Two players are running side by side, near to and towards the ball. The Red player shoulder charges the Blue player off the ball. What is your decision if this occurred in a -

- i. Open schoolboys game.
- ii. Under 14 game.
- iii. A grade game.

Scenario 2: In a game played under the Safe Play Code red places the ball for a try and is fouled.

Answer - scenario 1:

- i. Play on. This is interpreted as jostling for the ball and is not an attempt to affect a tackle. Refer page 3 of the SPC.
- ii. Play on. This is interpreted as jostling for the ball and is not an attempt to affect a tackle. Refer page 3 of the SPC.
- iii. Play on

Answer Scenario 2:

1. Award try. Take appropriate action with player who committed foul.
2. Red take conversion of try.
3. Red are awarded a penalty 10 metres out directly in front of posts. A penalty kick for goal must be taken and play restarts with a kick off from the centre of 1/2 way. Refer to page 4 of the SPC.

2008 State Under 15 Schoolboy Carnival Redcliffe (May 8 - 11)

This years Queensland U/15’s Schoolboys Championships held at Dolphin Oval in Redcliffe, was tightly contested between teams and referees a like, with both the players and referees putting their best foot forward in hope of gaining the chance to line up at this years National Championships. Over the 4 day long carnival, teams continuously delivered high quality, and fast paced football, and after 5 minutes of the first of 24 games to be played over the 4 day event all referees knew that match fitness and fitness in general was going to play a big factor in delivering strong refereeing performances, however all referees coped with this aspect fairly well.

Early morning walks conducted by Paul ensured we were bright and ready for games each day, however some of us begged to differ that an alarm set for 6:00am would help in any way, shape or form. The day-to-day and game-by-game reviews given by both Richie and Paul assisted all referees greatly and regardless of whether we refereed on the final day or not we all took a wealth of knowledge back home to put into practice to further hone our skills as referees.

The final day of the carnival saw classy football being played with both the consolation cup and main play-offs producing quality football. However all 3 play-off games played on the main field were nail biters ensuring all referees were tested, with each game going right down to the wire and the game between 5th and 6th wasn’t decided until after the full time siren with Metropolitan West producing a length of the field back line movement to crash over after the siren and defeat Capricornia. The final game never looked like slowing down with both South Coast and Northern not giving an inch and each time one team scored the other would hit straight back. The game wasn’t decided until the last 10 seconds when South Coast dived over to take the lead on Northern and win the match 24-20 and take out the championship.

All referees were tested at this carnival and we all took something back home to our local association to improve our games, and our desires to be referee’s, cause that’s what we do.

Aaron Geddes

2008 State Open Schoolboys Carnival Ipswich (May 15 - 18)

Ipswich was the location of the latest QRL funded jaunt for some of the best up and coming referees in the state. The local charges of Nick Morel, Jon Kennedy, Josh Kelly, David Newman and Daniel Griffin joined the Coast kids of Michael Gordon, Chris Harvey and Peter Gough and the Northern contingent of Josh Kersevani, Zane Wright, Liam Wilkins and Chris Donaghy. This rowdy bunch lapped up the luxurious surrounds of the Central Motor Inn for the week. Control of the bunch was placed in the capable hands of Paul Oliver and Richard Johnston.

On Wednesday after all the lads had checked in, except Josh who was fashionably late, the group headed to the Ippy Jets Leagues Club for a feed. A poker game was then contested by most once back at the motel, with Peter Gough the nights winner.

Day One of the carnival saw the first 6 games, with all referees performing with distinction. The group then headed for the showers and the local RSL for dinner. Match reviews were done during the night and an early night was had.

Day two saw the six remaining referees get their chance in the limelight. After some more terrific officiating the showers were had and the RSL again was invaded by the hungry mob. All was proceeding as planned until the lovely waitress got Goughy's attention and with noted wingman Richard, the courting began. However, Peter was stood up on the Saturday night. Another poker tournament was played on Friday night with a stalemate between Peter Gough and Daniel Griffin being called at roughly midnight

Day Three saw the qualify finals being played, with Nick Morel controlling the Met East v South Coast game and Daniel Griffin controlled the Northern v Capricornia Game. Dinner for the night was again served at the RSL and special thanks to the staff for their wonderful service and great food. Poker was again the source of entertainment for the evening, with Daniel Griffin the eventual winner.

The final day's play saw the play offs contested. Control for the 7 v 8 encounter was with Chris Donaghy. Zane Wright controlled the 5 v 6 play off until a rolled ankle ended his game, with Daniel Griffin finishing the Game. 3 v 4 was in the hands of the Italian Stallion Josh Kersevani and the grand Final was controlled by Jon Kennedy.

All referees performed exceptionally well over the entire 4 days, and a big thanks to Paul and Richard for their superb efforts and their fountains of knowledge.

GRIFFO

CONGRATULATIONS

- ♦ Justin Eastwood refereed his 100th Qld Wizard Cup match in Round 10, 18/5/2008. Justin made his debut in Round 1 of the 2003 season and is a member of the Gold Coast RLRA. Justin now joins Robbie Alexander (185), Tony Maksoud(168) and Stuart Berndt (103) as the only match officials to officiate 100 Qld Wizard Cup matches. A commemorative jersey was presented to Justin by Eddie Ward in recognition of his milestone.
- ♦ Gavin Morris refereed his 50th Qld Wizard Cup match Round 9, 11/5/2008. Gavin refereed the 2007 final and made his debut in the Qld Cup in Round 11, 27/5/2001. Gavin commenced his refereeing career with the Townsville RLRA, relocated to Brisbane in 2008 and is now a member of the Brisbane RLRA.
- ♦ Brendan Rose made his debut in Round 9 of the Qld Wizard Cup Saturday 10/5/2008. Brendan, in 2008 joined the Brisbane RLRA after a long affinity with the Ipswich RLRA.
- ♦ Aaron Geddes (Rockhampton) and Daniel Griffin (Brisbane) are the Queensland match officials selected to officiate at the Under 15 National Schoolboy Championships being held at Wynnum June 29 - July 4.
- ♦ Peter Gough (Sunshine Coast) and Nick Morel (Brisbane) are the Queensland match officials selected to officiate at the National Open Schoolboy Championships in Darwin July 13 - 18.



WIZ'S WISDOM

There has been some great football being played lately at Queensland Cup level and it is great going in to referee a game with no idea who will come out on top. Who would have thought that Tweed Heads and Redcliffe, the top two teams from last year would be towards the bottom of the ladder while the new boys on the block Northern Pride share the top with Souths-Logan and Ipswich. It is no longer the case that the top teams will beat the bottom teams and from a refereeing point of view we are getting exciting, competitive games that have intensity from the 1st to the 80th minute.

It is great to be refereeing in the cooler conditions compared to the games played in February and March however refereeing in Cairns on the weekend I thought it was the middle of summer. Running out at 6pm at night with the temp nudging 30 degrees and high humidity is certainly an experience. One thing I did miss was the ice bath after the game. After training on Tuesday and Thursday we use ice baths to help the muscles recover from the stress of training. As you can imagine this is quite a painful experience especially in the middle of winter. It is a technique that has been introduced over the last couple of years and aids in the recovery to enable us to perform at our peak on the weekend.

It is hard not to start getting excited about this time of year. With State of Origin kicking off, the majority of the representative games are also held over the next 6-8 weeks including all the carnivals for various age groups. These games and carnivals are a great opportunity to showcase the talent that we have right throughout Queensland in the refereeing ranks. If given an opportunity go out, enjoy yourself and make sure you take two things with you: Your whistle and your integrity. Enjoy your footy.

WIZ

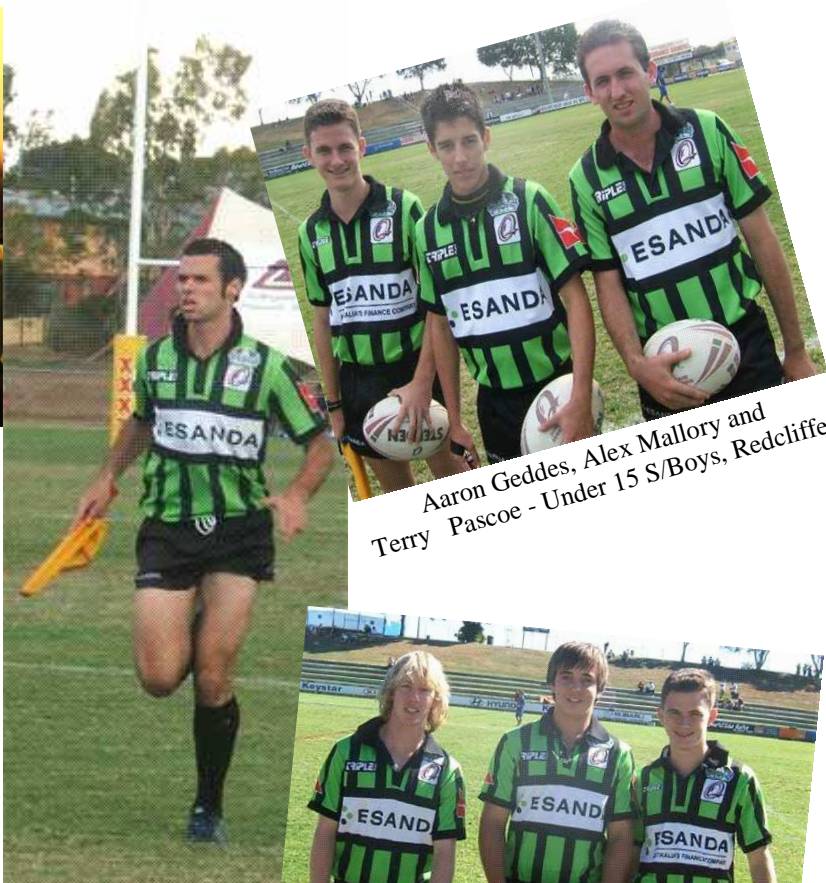
Although it is our 100th year, let's still look young and enthusiastic! - MICHAEL STONE



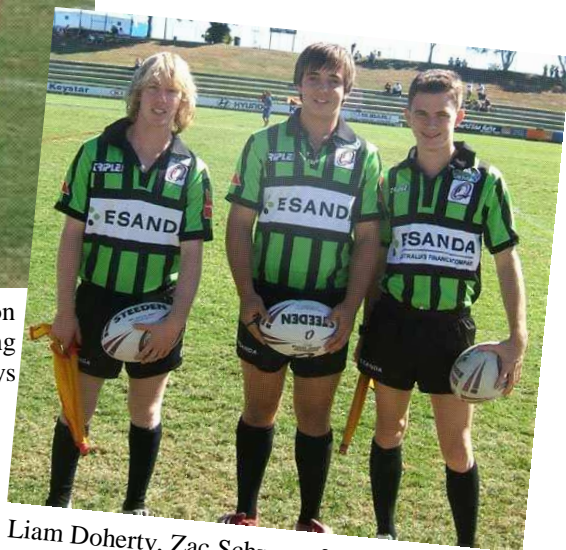
Boys will be boys
Night one at the Open Schoolboys - Ipswich



Jon Kennedy (JK) in action refereeing the
South Coast v Capricornia Open
Schoolboys final - Ipswich



Aaron Geddes, Alex Mallory and
Terry Pascoe - Under 15 S/Boys, Redcliffe



Liam Doherty, Zac Schwass & Aaron Geddes -
Under 15 Schoolboys, Redcliffe



How tough are the NYC National under 20 games?
Ask Gavin Morris who received a nasty gash after a
head clash with a Bulldogs player.



Alec Holmes working hard for an acceptable scrum,
South West v Darling Downs, Under 15 Schoolboys - Redcliffe



Brendon Rose hard at
it - Under 15 School-
boys, Redcliffe.
Brendon is employed
by ARLD and is
responsible for
updating scores at
Carnivals on the web.

Carnival photos - curtesy of David Newman