



*Penrith District Rugby League
Referees Association Inc.*

**30th
ANNUAL
REPORT
1996**



MAJOR SPONSOR

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
2. Correspondence
3. President's Report
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Office Bearers for 1997
7. Life Membership
8. General Business

PATRON'S REPORT

The year 1996 was a year of turmoil within Australian and New South Wales Rugby League.

Penrith Junior Rugby League Club members decided to remain loyal to the Australian Rugby League. This decision had a stabilising effect both in Junior League and Referees Association. Some Junior Leagues were thrown into confusion.

My congratulations to the Executives on their devotion and efforts throughout a difficult year.

As a patron the success of the Association and its members is of great importance to me. In this position you can be sure of my support in as many areas as long as I am able.

Our representatives in the President's Cup, Jersey Flegg, S.G. Bell and Harold Mathews Cup competitions performed with success.

To all active referees I extend my congratulations on their various appointments throughout the grades, both competition and finals. To those who were runners-up, your opportunity will come - but only through your personal efforts. It is important to have the belief you can do better. Your performance on and off the field is the standard by which the Association is judged.

Though I have advocated for a number of years a Life Members' night be included in the social calendar, our Life Members did get together in March, through the efforts of Don Courts and Phil Sanders.

The Association was formed 20th August 1966. Unfortunately the attendance of Life Members and non-active members at meetings is a disappointment.

May the year 1997 be one of stability and success to all members of the Association.

L.O. MANUEL JP
PATRON

OFFICE BEARERS 1996

Patrons:	Len Manual, Ian McCall Les Matthews, Roger Cowan
President:	Gary Haines
Secretary:	Steve McFarlane
Treasurer:	Aaron Jones
Vice President:	Don Courts
Assistant Secretary:	Peter Browne
NSWRLRA Delegate:	Russell Turner
NSWRLRA Proxy Delegate:	George Jankowski
Penrith DJRL Delegates:	Trevor Sperring, Peter Butler
Penrith DJRL Proxy Delegate:	Jason Robinson
Social Committee:	Jason Robinson
Gear Steward:	Jason Robinson
Referee's Co-Ordinator:	J. Mewett
Appointments Board:	P. Browne, C. Williams J. Lavin, J. Jordan
Advisory Panel:	S. McFarlane, P. Butler, Jason Robinson, John Robinson, K. French
Coaching Directors:	J. Jordan, J. Kelly
Internal Auditors:	J. Robinson, J. Jordan
Life Members:	J. Jordan
Merit Award Committee:	T. Sperring, P. Butler, L. Manual

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am pleased to present to the members my report as President for the 1996 season.

This year represented the 30th Anniversary of the Association and while there were many notable achievements it was also tinged with sadness as the Association suffered the loss of some fine people. Most notably, the untimely death of Ray Steele to cancer shook us all, even more as he was still in the prime of his life.

An obituary to Ray and his service to rugby league in the Penrith district is presented elsewhere in this report.

1996 also saw the passing of John Manuel and Val Sanders. Both Col Williams and John Jordan lost their fathers. On behalf of the members I offer my sympathy to the families.

At the commencement of the season the Association was without a sponsor and had a critical shortage of referees. We came through on both counts.

TIP TOP Bakeries at Fairfield agreed to a three year sponsorship which was overwhelmingly endorsed by the members. On behalf of the Association I extend my gratitude and thanks to Col Davies and Desree Dunn for their support in 1996 and look forward to an ongoing relationship for many years.

The efforts of Jack Harris, John Jordan and Jim Kelly deserve special mention regarding the recruitment of new members. These gentlemen worked tirelessly at the coaching classes instructing new referees on the finer points of refereeing. In particular the work of Jack Harris on implementing the National Referees' Accreditation Scheme in this district was noteworthy. We are truly indebted to them for their work.

To John Mewett and his hard working team on the Appointments Board, Advisory Panel and Development Panel, congratulations on an outstanding job. As we all know the task of appointing referees can be disappointing for some, but I am sure I speak for all members when I say "thank you".

Planning has already commenced for 1997 which will see the continuation of initiatives and programs introduced this year.

The Penrith Junior League has long been recognised as one of the best administered organisations in rugby league. This year was no exception and to Don Feltis, the Board of Management and all clubs, I offer my thanks on behalf of the Association and look forward to another great year in 1997.

Life Membership was awarded to John Jordan, a worthy recipient who has dedicated many, many hours to the recruiting and coaching of referees. Congratulations John.

Socially, the members were again treated to a smorgasbord of functions and activities. Ladies Night was, as always, the feature event but Presentation Night, post meeting conviviais and barbeques at training were well organised and appreciated.

After a slow start the Junior Branch functioned effectively and with the continuing support of our juniors and their parents we look forward to even better results next year.

To all members who blew a whistle this year, your commitment and effort was greatly appreciated. Hopefully you will return to the field wiser and more learned for the experience. Your Association needs to, rugby league needs you, so enjoy the break and I look forward to your participation in 1997.

I offer my sincere thanks to my fellow Executive members fir their advice, assistance and support throughout the year. To all office bearers, I also offer my thanks for your work. The Association is very fortunate to have a committed group of people who work extremely hard on behalf of the members.

In closing I would like to extend to all members and their families best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas and a successful 1997.

GARY HAINES
PRESIDENT

SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is my privilege and pleasure to present for the consideration and adoption the 30th Annual Report of the Penrith District Rugby League Referees' Association inc.

In 1996, as in past years, the administration of an association such the size of Penrith involved an enormous amount of time. This has not changed this year and I must say that without the help of my fellow executive members the position of Secretary would have been very difficult and I thank them sincerely.

This year we saw John Mewett return to the position of Referees' Co-Ordinator, and I think John will admit that this is a thankless job as you can not please all the active referees all the time. So on behalf of the active Referees' well done and thanks John.

To the Social Committee I extend, on behalf of the Association, a very big thank you for all your efforts this season and hope you will all back up again next year.

I would also like to thank Don Feltis and his staff for all their help this season, no problem was too big or too small.

To Gary Haines I would like to congratulate him on his A Grade Divn 1 appointment in the 1996 season.

To our new sponsor, **TIP TOP**, I would like to thank you for your support in 1996.

Last but not least I would like to say a very big thanks to my wife Theresa and my two children Roxanne and Marc for without their help and understanding, both with my executive duties and my active refereeing, I do not think I could have lasted a full season both on and off the playing fields.

To our Life Member this year Mr John Jordan, congratulations on obtaining this, the most prestigious award that can be bestowed on any member of any Association.

May I take this opportunity to wish all members and their families the very best for Christmas and the 1997 season.

STEPHEN MCFARLANE

TREASURER'S REPORT

It is my pleasure to present to the members my Treasurers' Report and the Statement of Accounts for the 1996 season.

Once again I have enjoyed the challenge offered by the daunting task of being the Associations' Treasurer. With the continual aid of computers I have been able to continually improve the way in which the accounts are maintained, in particular (on average) invoices issued to the clubs have been posted within 3 to 7 days following the completion of the round.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express a special note of thanks to Mr Don Feltis for without his co-operation the amounts owed to the Association (by the clubs) would have been much greater.

To our sponsors **TIP TOP** I would like to thank you for the support throughout the 1996 season. Your assistance, both financially and at social functions, have provided members with benefits which have not previously been available. (I would also like to thank Lee and Desree for the rather embarrassing photo which was published in the local press).

In addition I would also like to thank my fellow members of the Executive Committee for their guidance and continued pressure (?) throughout the past season.

To our internal auditors, John Jordan and John Robinson, I would like to thank you for your advice during my term as Treasurer - thanks guys!

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jason Robinson and his Social Committee for their efforts in producing yet another successful (but stressful) ladies night.

However, they say all good things must come to an end? (Perhaps not in this case), but it is with regret that I have decided that I will not be standing for the Treasurer's position for the upcoming season. Even though I have enjoyed the task for the past two years I no longer have the time available to devote to such a position. I would like to wish my successor the very best of luck for the following season.

Finally I would like to send a special thanks to the Association's "Unofficial" Assistant Treasurer, for without her invaluable support and assistance throughout the year my job would have been an absolute nightmare. To my wife, thank you very much Cassandra.

AARON JONES

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS STATEMENT 1996

Account 721396-81 @ 31.10.95	20,281.35
Term Deposit @ 31.10.95	10,000.00
	<u>30,281.35</u>

ADD Income	123,065.86
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Trial/Match Fees	103,409.00	
Bank Interest	1,101.80	
Grants	1,600.00	
Sponsor	6,000.00	
Social	1,670.00	
O/S Debtors	6,251.00	
Non Active Fees	110.00	
Sundry	982.03	
Debt Recovery	1,200.00	
Interest on Investment	742.03	
		<u>153,347.21</u>

LESS Expenditure	117,948.26
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Refunds	(4.00)
Stationery & Postage	651.24
Printing	199.66
Insurance	308.05
Phone	1,396.25
Gear	13,631.92
Social	12,432.45
Trophies & Gifts	2,298.55
Rule Books & Kits	372.00
Match Fees	81,455.00
Bank Charges	711.14
Other	4,496.00

Account 721396-81 @ 31.10.96	<u><u>\$35,398.95</u></u>
(*** Incl. \$10,374.68 Term Deposit)	

Balance Sheet for period ending 31 October 1996

Assets

Cash in Bank A/C 721396-81

25,024.27

Cash in Bank - Term Deposit

10,374.68

Sundry Debtors

Cambridge Park JRL 762.50

Colyton JRL 156.00

Katoomba JRL 94.50

Minchinbury JRL 120.00

Mt Druitt City JRL 1,533.50

Quakers Hill JRL 35.00

Riverstone JRL 252.00

St Clair JRL 648.00

Windsor JRL 17.50

State Bank 367.35

Members 628.90

Other Debtor

5,595.85

\$45,610.05

Liabilities

Retained Earnings

36,145.06

Provision against

9,464.99

funds received

\$45,610.05

AUDITOR'S REPORT

SCOPE

I have audited the attached accounts of Penrith District Rugby League Referees Association Inc. for the year ended 31 October 1996. The audit was conducted to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. My procedures were restricted to examination, on a test basis, of cash transactions.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion the Receipts and Payments Statement and Balance Sheet of the Penrith District Rugby League Referees Association Inc. have been drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the Associations' state of affairs as at 31 October 1996.

DARREN KINGSFORD ACA
9 November 1996

OBITUARY - RAY STEELE (1957 - 1996)

RAY STEELE joined the Association in 1981 and gave 16 years continuous service to the Association and rugby league in the Penrith District.

After a relatively quiet start he quickly established himself as a respected member and progressed through the ranks until he was ranked No. 1 referee in the Association in 1995. During his period as an active referee Ray refereed many grand finals, including two A Grade Division 2 grand finals, an A Reserve Division 1 and the ultimate for any referee, the A Grade Division 1 grand final last year. he also has the distinction of refereeing every age group in grand finals from under 14's to A Grade, a unique achievement.

In 1992 Ray was awarded the Bob Kandelas trophy - selected by his peers as the "referees' referee".

His service to the Association was not restricted to on-field activities. Ray undertook duties on the Appointments Board, Advisory Panel, Development Panel, Purchasing Officer and delegate to the Junior League.

Many referees owe Ray much for the advice he provided over 16 years. Ray never waned in his approach to advise and assist the younger and inexperienced members. Ray also listened to others and used that advice to his best advantage.

It was Ray's loyalty to the Association and to his wife Yvonne, it was fierce loyalty, his honest and his forthright attitude that stood him apart from other referees. When Ray spoke you know he spoke from the heart. There are several members who can testify to Ray's strong willed attitude.

When we learned of Ray's illness there was a general feeling of disbelief and shock. Ray was undeterred; he was determined to get back on the field and do what he did best - referee. Unfortunately this was not possible but Ray never gave up and undertook Advisory Board duties.

Refereeing was a major part of Ray's life; it was something he enjoyed immensely and it gave him great satisfaction. He made many friends, he made some enemies but he was well respected.

When we reflect on Ray's career as a referee words such as **loyalty, honesty and big hearted** come readily to mind.

Whilst Ray is no longer with us he will not be forgotten. He was a fine referee, a good member and a friend to many.

May He Rest In Peace

SOCIAL SECRETARY

It is with great pleasure that I present my first report as Social Secretary.

This season saw us involve the parents of the juniors and without your support the junior referees would find it hard to fulfil their duties, this was born out at the parent / junior night held for the first time this season.

The Ladies Night was again the highlight of our social calendar. The venue was excellent and I would like to express my appreciation for the support the Social Committee received from the management and staff of the St Marys Band Club.

Several BBQ's were held after training and convivals were also held after Sunday Grand Finals. In summary, the members were well and truly looked after in 1996.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Social Committee for their assistance which ensured the social activities were always of the highest order.

I feel very proud to have worked with such a great committee which received excellent support from the members.

Best wishes to all members for the festive season.

JASON ROBINSON

THANK YOU

Each year the Association strives to improve its performance both on and off the field. The success of those endeavours is only made possible by the contributions of several people. I would like to personally thank the following for their assistance and support during 1996.

- ▶ The Development Panel members who gave valued advice and assistance to all Saturday referees.
- ▶ Don Feltis and the officials of the Penrith District Junior Rugby League.
- ▶ The Principal and staff of St Dominic's College for once again providing rooms for the conduct of coaching classes.
- ▶ To our major sponsors, **TIP TOP**, for their great support - see you in 1997.
- ▶ The Illawarra, Victorian and Group 18 Associations for the hospitality afforded to our members during their visits to your districts. We are most appreciative of the friendships being forged.
- ▶ To my fellow Executive members for your contributions and total support in a year when some tough decisions had to be made.

N.R.A.S. CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

To review the 1996 season one would do it with mixed feelings of progress and disappointment. I believe for the first time since the N.R.A.S. was introduced in 1994 the members now understand it more and realise that it is not an A.R.L. monster come to control the association but rather a system of development run by the members for the members' benefit.

To my mind the most important aspect was to train those interested members into their respective portfolios for a consistent and uniformed approach, this then was the area that disappointed me the most because it did not happen, unfortunately I wanted to run one series of courses and waited too long for the members to supply me with the information to do two things.

One to make sure that all members were registered in the N.R.A.S. before the commencement of the 1997 season, this I am very happy to say has now been completed. Secondly, to organise the courses, the structure and organisation to run the scheme, in conjunction with your executive this was delayed until the season was completed because of the heavy commitment of those interested members, however, during the off season this will take place in the most urgent of the portfolios and that is, the assessors - enough of the negatives.

RECRUITMENT: a meeting with the appointment authority established that the most urgent requirement was for new members, in this area, due to the efforts of John Jordan and Jim Kelly, we were able to exceed the number requested. I compliment and thank them for their time and effort.

TRAINING: despite comments of disappointment of our training efforts I believe that the numbers attending was encouraging, however, the attitude to our commitment to training was our downfall. Some members only attended to be marked as present. There is a big difference between STATUS and PERFORMANCE, with performance comes status. Status without performance is nothing. For their valuable assistance at training I would like to thank the keeper of the roll John Jordan, the light keeper John Mewett, to the warm, stretch and sprint coaches Aaron Jones, George Jankowski and Gary and Kathryn Haines.

Heartiest congratulations and thanks to John Bourke on his award for 10 years service as a rubber for the NSW Referees and contribution of adding a new dimension to our training nights.

WORK SHOPS: skill drills at training seem to become disruptive with some members becoming disinterested and dropping out so we organised workshops for the new preliminary members, to my mind it proved a huge success, the attitude and attendance was 100% and the results showed. A lot of the success was due to the attendance and attitude of some of our "senior" junior members.

I would like to pay tribute to the parents of the preliminary referees for their support of the Referees Association and myself, their efforts was the reason for us to be able to retain, develop and meet our commitments to the junior competition.

Unfortunately, due to a term called safe play, there was a gap created between myself and the Junior League Executive, a gap yet to be breached, however, out of every negative there comes a positive. We were made to realise that within our coaching there was an area of concern that needed to be addressed. Through a joint effort by the co-ordinator, association and myself this was done at a well attended meeting by you, the members. Because there was a few absentees some inconsistencies still exist. If there is one destructive element that effects the acceptance of our members by the public it is "inconsistency".

A meeting between the co-ordinator and myself will determine a list of referees who will be brought together for off season training. At these sessions all interested members will be more than welcome, they will be so organised that members representing this association at the Junior Rep Squad Seminar on February 9th will have no problems with their Rules and Fitness assessment. All members will receive notification of the arrangements.

To summarise my first year as the N.R.A.S. Co-ordinator, this has been very much a learning, fruitful in that it has identified many areas that need to be addressed, every endeavour will be made to provide each member with that assistance that will enhance his or her performance. Please give thought to the fact that no matter how much assistance is given, success will only come if you as an individual heed advice and put in the effort.

The co-operation, support and working relationship that existed throughout the season between the co-ordinator, social committee, coaching panel, executive and myself gives every indication that the members will receive benefit from the scheme in the future, thereby ensuring improved standard of performance and status of the Association.

Have a healthy and enjoyable break over the festive season, looking forward to a more enthusiastic and successful 1997.

**J. HARRIS O.A.M.
CO-ORDINATOR N.R.A.S.**

COACHING DIRECTORS' REPORT

The 1996 season was a rewarding one for the coaching directors.

Candidates were recruited by word of mouth and as a result of an extensive media campaign.

At the beginning of the season a minimum of 12 new members was required to ease the workload on members. During the season 28 candidates obtained their preliminary tickets. Of these, 6 decided not to continue with their refereeing careers, 17 candidates went on to obtain their Level One ticket, the remaining 5 candidates have indicated that they will endeavour to obtain this qualification in 1997.

One existing member, who already held a Level One ticket, was successful in obtaining his Level 2 ticket.

A further 8 existing members who held mini-mod tickets obtained their Level One ticket.

As a significant number of new members were juniors the results of this year should benefit the Association for some time to come.

We wish to thank:-

- ▶ The Principal of St Dominic's College for making classrooms available on a Thursday evening to enable the coaching classes to be held, and
- ▶ All those persons who assisted us in the conduct of the classes during the season.

**JOHN JORDAN
JIM KELLY**

COACHING DIRECTORS

JACK HARRIS MERIT AWARD

The Jack Harris Merit Award is our Association's most prestigious award and, as in previous years, there were several members whose efforts during the year identified themselves as worthy candidates.

Some of the factors used to determine this years winner were:-

- ▶ An evident passion for the Association (and the principles it stands for) in all tasks undertaken, showing a willingness to stand for positions of office and fulfil these beyond their obligations.
- ▶ A participant in events both on and off the field with all members best interests being the ultimate result. Never losing sight of their personal goals whilst leading by example where ever possible.
- ▶ A sense of humour, no matter how frustrating the situation, when dealing with others, both as a pupil or a teacher. Always treating fellow members and others with dignity, fairness and respect.
- ▶ Being dependable and dedicated in their duties as a referee. Showing their knowledge of the rules and the effects on others.

This year's winner, **JENNY YATES**, has displayed all these qualities and more. She has met all challenges front on, showing a competence in all duties undertaken. In her position as Publicity Officer she has represented all members of the Association with sensitivity, integrity, trust, respect, understanding and competence. As a referee gaining selection at Junior Representative level as well as A Grade at a local level capped off an outstanding year.

Congratulations **JENNY YATES**. You are a worthy recipient of this award for 1996 and, as always, an example to all your fellow members.

LEN MANUEL, PETER BUTLER, TREVOR SPERRING
MERIT AWARD COMMITTEE

JUNIOR REP REPORT

1996 saw the first two female referees to in to the squad, with Jenny Yates and Ski Edwards (Nth Sydney), both starting the year very well.

A few things had to change, along with a new dressing room at training, however, a new language was adopted, that is to say one without any four letter words.

Highlights for Jenny included centres in Harold Mathews (under 15's) for most of the year, one taste of S.G. Bull (under 17's), as a late fill in. Finishing the year as a touch judge for S.G. Bull and Jersey Flegg (under 19's).

Jenny says one of the funny moments for the year was having John Yard on her S.G. Bull game, it was good to see he remembers what it's like.

Jason Robinson made a confident come back to the junior rep squad starting in Mathews, progressing quickly to S.G. Bull and finishing the year in Jersey Flegg, no doubt big things for him next year, as long as Jenny keeps him in line.

Aaron Jones started the year doing the President's Cup (under 21's) trials, whilst starting the year in S.G. Bull, unfortunately things didn't go his way early in the season he got a lot of practise as a tough judge for S.G. Bull and Flegg.

Russell Turner and George Jankowski represented Penrith as specialist touch judges (first year special touch judges were introduced). Running the whole year at President's Cup Level.

Russell's highlight was to run on to the Football Stadium week three of the semi final and run the line for the Academy County Championship before reserve grade.

Whilst George's highlights were semi finals in Harold Mathews and S.G. Bull, doing a centre for President's Cup when there was a mix up with what time the ref was supposed to be there.

Also, getting the chance to adjudicate for "the best kicker in league" competition, held on the Sydney Football Stadium, as one of the touch judges.

Next year sees a leaner squad, losing President's Cup to the graded boys, which will run in place of Reserve Grade. Plus the returning of man back from the bush Michael Warnock, should prove a positive thing for the Penrith Association.

Congratulations to all who achieved their goals this year and good luck for next year.

GEORGE JANKOWSKI

HONOUR ROLL

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Steve Carey (dec)
Frank Walsh (dec)
Cyril Wigzell (dec)

HONORARY MEMBERS

Rosemary Wilkinson
Ian McCall
Mavis Kandelas

LIFE MEMBERS

Jack Harris O.A.M	Merv Edwards	Trevor Murphy	Joe Beacroft
Don Courts	Keith French	Herb Creighton	Les Brennan
Barry Kendall	Herb Reedy	Reg Newsome	Jack Turner
Phillip Sanders	Graeme King	Peter Filmer	Bob Kandelas
Noel Cahill	Len Manuel	Gary Haines	Peter Browne
Peter Kerr	Barry Beveridge	Peter Butler	John Jordan

BOB KANDELAS

1980 Barry Izzard	1988 Tom Peet	1996 Jason Robinson
1981 Len Davies	1989 Tom Peet	
1982 Keith Hogan	1990 Graeme Priest	
1983 Peter Filmer	1991 Ken Evans	
1984 Kevin Russell	1992 Ray Steele	
1985 Michael Quinn	1993 Steve McFarlane	
1986 Tony Butler	1994 Steve McFarlane	
1987 Gary Haines	1995 Aaron Jones	

JACK HARRIS MERIT AWARD

1972 Bob Kandelas (dec)	1984 Brett Cowan
1973 Herb Creighton	1985 Peter Shaw
1974 Trevor Murphy	1986 Reg Newsome
1975 Arthur North	1987 Peter Butler
1976 Ron Beetson	1988 John Jordan
1977 Barry Beveridge	1989 Peter Browne
1978 Herb Reedy	1990 John Jordan
1979 John Bryant	1991 Gary Haines
1980 Reg Newsome	1992 John Skinner
1981 Graeme King	1993 John Mewett
1982 Brian Kidd	1994 Peter Browne
1983 John Skinner	1995 Trevor Sperring

JOE BEACROFT MEMORIAL TROPHY

1989 Gary Haines	1993 Brett Lynch
1990 Gary Haines	1994 Brett Lynch
1991 Ken Evans	1995 Ray Steele
1992 Ken Evans	1996 Gary Haines

DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS SINCE 1967

YEAR	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
1967	J. Harris	M. Edwards	L. Brennan
1968	J. Harris	M. Edwards	L. Brennan
1969	J. Harris	M. Edwards	L. Brennan
1970	E. Mitchell	M. Edwards	L. Brennan
1971	J. Harris	M. Edwards	L. Brennan
1972	J. Harris	J. Turner	L. Brennan
1973	J. Harris	J. Turner	L. Brennan
1974	D. Courts	J. Turner	H. Creighton
1975	D. Courts	B. Kendall	H. Creighton
1976	D. Courts	B. Kendall	H. Creighton
1977	B. Kandelas	B. Kendall	H. Creighton
1978	J. Harris	H. Reedy	H. Creighton
1979	K. French	H. Reedy	H. Creighton
1980	K. French	H. Reedy	H. Creighton
1981	H. Reedy	J. Turner	H. Creighton
1982	H. Reedy	S. Tyrrell	H. Creighton
1983	J. Harris	P. Filmer	S. Tyrrell
1984	J. Harris	P. Filmer	S. Tyrrell
1985	N. Cahill	G. Haines	B. Cowan
1986	D. Courts	G. Haines	P. Filmer
1987	D. Courts	M. Lynch	P. Filmer
1988	D. Courts	G. Haines	P. Filmer
1989	D. Courts	G. Haines	P. Filmer
1990	A. Danks	G. Haines	M. Lynch
1991	A. Danks	G. Haines	M. Kerr
1992	A. Danks	G. Haines	M. Kerr
1993	A. Danks	G. Haines	G. Haines
1994	A. Danks	A. Butler/C. Williams	S. McFarlane
1995	G. Haines	S. McFarlane	A. Jones
1996	G. Haines	S. McFarlane	A. Jones

A GRADE GRAND FINAL REFEREES

1967	D. Courts	1977	B. Izzard	1987	G. Haines
1968	D. Courts	1978	K. Hogan	1988	G. Haines
1969	D. Courts	1979	B. Izzard	1989	G. Haines
1970	M. Beacroft	1980	K. Hogan	1990	G. Haines
1971	B. Kandelas	1981	K. Hogan	1991	K. Evans
1972	B. Kendall	1982	J. Mewett	1992	K. Evans
1973	K. French	1983	M. Bunnage	1993	B. Lynch
1974	K. French	1984	P. Filmer	1994	B. Lynch
1975	N. Cahill	1985	A. Butler	1995	R. Steele
1976	T. Murphy	1986	M. Bunnage	1996	G. Haines

SATURDAY FOOTBALL

Weather conditions for the 1996 season again allowed an almost uninterrupted competition.

Trial matches proved to be a burden with not all members being available and difficulty in recruiting new members. Consequently some clubs only received referees on a rotational basis.

With an increase in the number of teams and the Home and Away format of the draw it was impossible to appoint Touch Judges to International rules matchers. Newer referees were consistently appointed to those grounds with a large number of matches to ensure a senior referee or Development Panel member was present where possible.

Recruitment improved as the season proper got underway, although most members were frequently required to officiate on four and five matches. Late withdrawals placed an even greater load on junior members.

John Jordan accepted responsibility for appointments to school fixtures and was able to satisfy most requests, thanks to the co-operation of a small number of members.

The Annual Panther Trophy Competition was successful, despite a large number of withdrawals in the Secondary Divisions, and gave us the opportunity to provide match experience for a number of the newer referees.

Brett Harding and Melissa Yates were selected to participate in the exchange program with the Parramatta Association. It is hoped that we can expand this area in 1997.

The U/15 competition will revert to Saturday football in 1997 and we will require more members to make themselves available to adequately cover these matches. The plan to have Touch Judges accredited from the clubs should prove helpful for these fixtures.

With the new Accreditation Scheme to be fully implemented in 1997 a new scheme for assessing referees will be in place and will require the support of more senior members to succeed.

To John Kelly, Jim Kelly, Jack Harris and their assistants on the Coaching Panel - thank you for a job well done.

To those Development Panel members who worked tirelessly each week and the parents who supplied transport during the season - thank you on behalf of us all.

PETER BROWNE

1996 GRAND FINAL APPOINTMENTS

SATURDAY GRAND FINALS

GRADE	DIVN	REFEREE	TOUCH JUDGES
Under 7	1	R Lea	J McPherson / B McPherson
Under 7	2	L. Dorrell	J Jordan / G. Cloake
Under 7	3	J Osborne	J McPherson / B McPherson
Under 7	4	M McHugh	J Lea / L Dorrell
Under 7	5	J McPherson	J Osborne / B McPherson
Under 8	1	J Whitney	T Sperring / W Cunningham
Under 8	2	J Jordan	J Lea / R Vanderpol
Under 8	3	T Sperring	J Whitney / W Cunningham
Under 8	4	D Sullivan	G Cloake / S Dicinoski
Under 8	5	P Browne	R Lea / W Cunningham
Under 8	6	J Lea	M McHugh / G Cloake
Under 9	1	P Browne	J Whitney / J Cunningham
Under 9	2	C Potts	J Jordan / B Beveridge
Under 9	3	J Cunningham	P Browne / R Cunningham
Under 9	4	S Dicinoski	D Sullivan / R Vanderpol
Under 9	5	R Cunningham	J Cunningham / T Sperring
Under 9	6	B Beveridge	J Jordan / R Vanderpol
Under 10	1	L Natrass	M McHugh / M Heinemeyer
Under 10	2	B Cooper	R Lea / J Edwards
Under 10	3	M Heinemeyer	J Lea / S Fallon
Under 10	4	J Edwards	R Lea / P Lea
Under 10	5	S Fallon	J Lea / L Natrass
Under 11	1	P Haines	R Moffit / M Pritchard
Under 11	2	M Pritchard	B Woodhead / W Lovell
Under 11	3	A Dengate	D Reynolds / J Lea
Under 11	4	W Lovell	G Cloake / R Lea
Under 11	5	R Moffit	A Dengate / M Pritchard
Under 11	6	P Lea	G Cloake / B Cooper
Under 12	1	B Woodhead	R Moffit / C Potts
Under 12	2	D Reynolds	W Lovell / R Moffit
Under 12	3	C Potts	P Lea / M McHugh
Under 12	4	M Ryan	R Cunningham / J Kearnes
Under 12	5	Y Steele	S Dicinoski / C Heinemeyer
Under 13	1	R McFarlane	J Cunningham / B Harding
Under 13	2	G Yates	J Cunningham / B Harding
Under 13	3	B Harding	J Kearnes / R McFarlane
Under 13	4	J Kearnes	J Hammonds/R Cunningham
Under 13	5	J Hammonds	R Cunningham / M Ryan
Under 14	1	M Duncan	J Whitney / S Lewis
Under 14	2	S Lewis	J Whitney / M Sullivan
Under 14	3	M Sullivan	M Duncan / S Dicinoski
Under 14	4	C Heinemeyer	J Emms / J Whitney
Under 14	5	J Emms	S Dicinoski / Y Steele

1996 GRAND FINAL APPOINTMENTS

SUNDAY GRAND FINALS

GRADE	DIVN	REFEREE	TOUCH JUDGES	IN GOAL TOUCH JUDGES
Under 15	1	C Radford	R McFarlane / M Yates	M Pritchard / J Davison
Under 15	2	J Robinson	B Harding / L Natrass	J Davison / S Dicinoski
Under 16	1	J Yates	G Yates / S Lewis	L Natrass / M Pritchard
Under 16	2	P Williamson	T Sperring / J Kearnes	A Dengate / J Cunningham
Under 18	1	A Jones	S Cook / P Carter	B Moffit / T Sperring
Under 18	2	M Brown	M Ryan / B Moffit	B Harding / L Natrass
A/Res	1	J Robinson	P Scibberas / A Whetland	J Skinner / B Beveridge
A/Res	2	F Lucas	Y Steel / J Emms	R McFarlane / M Pritchard
A Grade	1	G Haines	M Duncan / M Sullivan	J Robinson / M Emms
A Grade	2	S McFarlane	C Heinemeyer / B Beveridge	M Pritchard / C Potts

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life membership is the highest and most prestigious honour that can be bestowed upon a referee. To be awarded Life Membership, it is necessary to have attained a minimum of ten years continuous membership.

RAY STEELE

Ray joined the Association in 1980, he has refereed all grades from U/6's - A Grade Division 1 Grand Final.

▶ Development Panel Member	1992/93/94/95
▶ Appointments Board Member	5 years
▶ Advisory Panel Member	4 years
▶ Social Committee Member	2 years
▶ Junior League Delegate	1 year
▶ Gear Steward	1 year
▶ Bob Kandelas Trophy Winner	1992

MICHAEL GRADY MERIT AWARD

The 1996 season saw an increase in numbers in the Junior Branch to a level that could only lend itself to a strong competition for this highly sought after award.

The task of selecting the worthy beneficiary of the **Michael Grady Merit Award** was made all the more difficult as several members showed attributes that were considered essential for this award.

The committee believes that **Lisa Natrass** has displayed all the qualities required to be selected for this award. Some of these being dedication, enthusiasm, respect and pride for her chosen sport.

Lisa has attended meetings as well as representing the Junior Branch as delegate at Senior Meetings. Although being a quiet achiever Lisa has always been a good listener at seminars, courses and matches also she is a consistent participant at training (missing very few sessions) and functions.

With a commitment to refereeing both on Saturdays and Sundays it has shown that she is prepared to work hard to maintain the high level expected of her fellow members.

Showing an enthusiasm in doing what she obviously loves - refereeing - Lisa has set a standard for others to strive to achieve both at Junior or Senior level.

Congratulations to **Lisa Natrass** a member prepared to put in the effort, follow it to the end, thus gaining the rewards that are justly deserved. Therefore we present to you a worthy winner of the **Michael Grady Merit Award** for 1996.

LES MANUEL PETER BUTLER TREVOR SPERRING
MERIT AWARD COMMITTEE

PENRITH REFEREES ASSOCIATION

JUNIOR BRANCH

H O N O U R R O L L

MICHAEL GRADY MERIT AWARD

1976 Steve Tyrrell
1977 John Birrell
1978 Brad McGarry
1979 Dean Parkin
1980 Peter Sutherland
1981 Paul Quinn
1982 Tom Peot
1983 Tony Crane
1984 Chris Kolkman
1985 Brett Wright
1986 David Quinn
1987 Jason Robinson
1988 John McDonald
1989 Russell Turner
1990 Jason Robinson
1991 Greg Banks
1992 Matthew Brennan
1993 Paul Carter
1994 Shannen Lewis
1995 Lisa Natrass
1996 Lisa Natrass

REG NEWSOME TROPHY

1982 Chris Green
1983 Paul Blunt
1984 David Quinn
1985 Brett Wright
1986 David Bonham
1987 Jason Robinson
1988 Sarelle Woodward
1989 Brett Gainsford
1990 Greg Banks
1991 Brendan Egan
1992 Troy Priest
1993 Ricky McFarlane
1994 Brett Harding
1995 Rebecca Lea
1996 James Whitney

OFFICE BEARERS 1996

Patrons:	Jason Robinson, Peter Butler
President:	Shannon Lewis
Vice President:	Steward Cook
Secretary:	Ricky McFarlane
Assistant Secretary:	Melissa Yates
Snr Branch Delegate:	Lisa Nattress

JUNIOR PRESIDENTS REPORT

1996 saw many interesting developments in the junior branch and it is with pleasure I present the Junior President's Report for 1996.

Firstly I would like to congratulate everyone for their efforts in 1996. With the numbers decreasing in the junior branch the workload, which was placed on the remaining and new members, was quite extraordinary. It was not strange to see on the appointments referees officiating up to five games each Saturday. I would like to thank all the juniors for their efforts throughout the year. Also to the parents of the juniors who had the pleasure of ironing their son/daughters gear every week

(ha ha) and chauffeuring their son/daughter to and from the games each weekend - a huge THANK YOU.

On HUGE THANK YOU'S one must go to our legend Patron Jason Robinson. Jason has consistently looked out for us as juniors because he was one of us. In 1995 Jason played a vital role in saving the junior branch. In 1996 his efforts saw him organise our first Junior Parent Night. To the senior members and parents who made this night a tremendous success THANK YOU. I am sure this night will remain as part of our social calendar in years to come. Jason has also been re-selected the coach for the juniors (which is an honour in itself) for the Junior vs Senior game for his second year in a row. On behalf of all the juniors a huge thankyou goes out to Jason for his contribution to the junior branch in 1996.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate those members who were appointed to officiate in Saturday and Sunday Grand Finals. Well done ladies and gents. Congratulations must also go to Brett (Hitman) Harding and Melissa Yates who were selected to represent us in a parramatta exchange. Unfortunately Melissa was unable to attend but Brett informed me it was an interesting experience!!! (see Brett for further details).

To our new members I extend a sincere welcome and hope you enjoy your time as juniors as much as I have.

I would just like to say that at the beginning of 1996 our meetings lasted a whole 13 to 15 minutes (because of some strange reason the only people that were able to talk were myself and people giving reports...) However, after an inspirational speech by yours truly and our Patron Jason Robinson, members found their tongues and became involved at meetings. Those 13 to 15 minute meetings became a thing of the past. Our meetings started lasting half an hour. It is really important for juniors to speak up at these meetings and participate because this is your chance to play an active role in the running of our association. Next year do not be scared to speak up and ask questions (no matter of what the question is) because the answer to your question might be beneficial to other members. Thank you to those members who attended our meetings and actively participated in them. You made my job a lot easier.

Whilst talking of people who made my job easier I would like to thank Ricky McFarlane and Melissa Yates and my fellow junior executive members. I would also like to thank Garry Haines and the senior executive for their help and guidance throughout 1996.

As this was my final year as a junior I would like to wish the junior branch every success in the future and I hope to see more and more juniors becoming actively involved in the association.

SHANNON LEWIS

ANNUAL REPORT - JUNIOR SECRETARY

Another successful season has passed with the Junior Branch representing the Association with pride. The juniors had good attendance overall at meetings and as the season went on they got more involved and learning what meetings are really about. The standard of refereeing was high and was maintained during the season and through the finals.

Thanks to the Executive, Development panel, Coaching Panel and our Co-ordinator John (legend) Mewett. Without these people our association could not function.

On a personal note I really enjoyed this season and would like to thank my fellow referees for making it enjoyable. I hope to see everyone next year.

RICKY MCFARLANE
JUNIOR SECRETARY

THE 1997 REFEREES' DIARY

The dates listed below are subject to ratification by the Annual General Meeting. All meetings to be held at Howell Oval unless otherwise advised, Junior meetings commence 7.00pm, Senior meetings at 7.30pm.

March 10	Adjourned Annual General Meeting Junior Branch Annual General Meeting
April	Saturday Competition Begins
April	Sunday Competition Begins
April 14	General Meeting
May 12	General Meeting
June 9	General Meeting
July 14	General Meeting
August 1	Ladies Night
August 11	General Meeting
August	Saturday Grand Finals
Sept 8	General Meeting
Sept	Sunday Divn 1 Grand Finals
Oct 11	Presentation Night / General Meeting
Nov 24	Annual General Meeting
Dec	Christmas Tree

MEETING ATTENDANCE 1995

G. Banks	1
B. Beveridge	2
M. Brown	6
P. Browne	7
P. Butler	5
P. Carter	1
N. Cahill	2
S. Cook	3
D. Courts	7
R. Cunningham	3
W. Cunningham	1
T. Danks	1
J. Davidson	4
A. Davies	2
A. Dengate	3
B. Dickenson	5
M. Duncan	1
J. Edwards	1
J. Emms	6
K. French	2
P. Filmer	1
S. Fallon	7
G. Haines	8
P. Haines	2
J. Hammonds	1 L.O.A.
B. Harding	2
J. Harris	7
G. Heinemeyer	2
G. Jankowski	6 L.O.A.
A. Jones	8 L.O.A.
J. Jordan	7
J. Kearnes	7
J. Kelly	7
P. Kerr	4
J. Lavin	6
P. Lea	3 L.O.A.
S. Lewis	7
W. Lovell	1 L.O.A.
F. Lucas	6 L.O.A.
B. Lynch	3

L. Manuel	7 L.O.A.
S. McFarlane	8
R. McFarlane	4
M. McHugh	1
J. Mewett	8
R. Moffit	5
C. Morrissey	4

L. Natrass	5
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G. Priest	3
M. Pritchard	7
C. Potts	2

C. Radford	0 L.O.A.
D. Reynolds	5
Jason Robinson	7
John Robinson	8
M. Ryan	1

P. Sanders	7
A. Schillito	1
P. Sciberras	3
J. Skinner	8
T. Sperring	8
R. Steele	2 L.O.A.
Y. Steele	2 L.O.A.
D. Sullivan	2

S. Tibbetts	4
D. Toby	3
W. Tricker	1
J. Turner	2
R. Turner	2

R. Vanderpol	1
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M. Warnock	1
A. Wheatland	3
C. Williams	2
P. Williamson	5
C. Wouters	2

G. Yates	8
J. Yates	8
M. Yates	5

OFFICE BEARERS 1997

Patrons:

President:

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Vice President:

Assistant Secretary:

NSWRLRA Delegate:

NSWRLRA Proxy Delegate:

Penrith DJRL Delegates:

Penrith DJRL Proxy Delegate:

Social Committee:

Gear Steward:

Referee's Co-Ordinator:

Appointments Board:

Advisory Panel:

Coaching Directors:

Internal Auditors:

Life Members:

Merit Award Committee: