



THE WHISTLEBLOWER

newsletter of the

CENTRAL COAST RUGBY UNION REFEREES ASSOCIATION

Edition 1, 2021

4 January

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome back to what we all hope will be a far better 2021 than what 2020 was. Having said that, there were a lot of positives to come from 2020:

1. Through the hard work and dedication of both CCRU and CCJRU Boards, we at least got half a season of Rugby with a full finals series. Congratulations again to all referees appointed to games in the finals series.
2. A significant number of our members who upgraded their qualifications, or added new qualifications e.g. Level 1 Referee Coach, through the online learning opportunities offered by Rugby Australia.
3. A new culture of regularly attending physical training sessions, both as an Association and with clubs.
4. A positive uptake of online (Zoom) education sessions led by various members using materials supplied by Rugby Australia.

Some of the things that didn't go so well included:

1. Providing our sponsors with exposure opportunities and attendance at social functions (due to COVID).
2. Face to face meetings and education opportunities.
3. Organisation of formal functions.
4. Partnership with Newcastle Referees Ass'n.
5. The fall off in numbers at training towards the end of the season.

These are things that we can work on this year, along with the remainder of goals set out in our Strategic Plan.

Once again, welcome back.

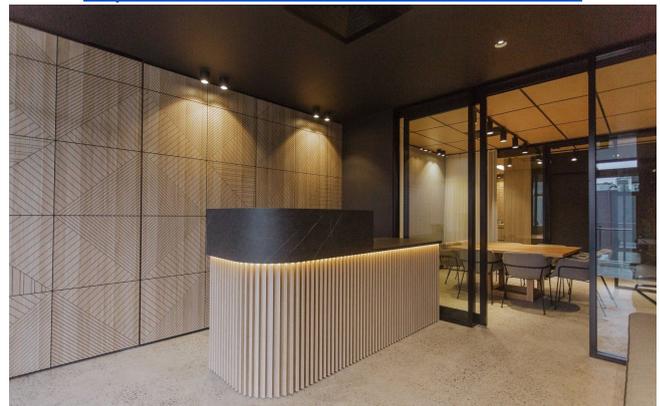
Tony Rudd

GOLD LEVEL SPONSOR

Fabric Architecture Studio

87 Toowoon Bay Rd, Toowoon Bay NSW 2261
Phone: 4332 1377

<https://www.fabricarchitecture.com.au/>



BRONZE LEVEL SPONSOR



0404 448 624

<https://callawayplumbing.com.au/>



0404 448 624
24 HOUR SERVICE FOR
ALL DOMESTIC PLUMBING

POSITIONS VACANT

You may recall at our Annual General Meeting we were unable to fill the position of Assistant Secretary. This position, in 2020, was filled by Malcolm Hunt who did an outstanding job. Mal is no longer able to complete this role.

If anybody is interested in filling this position, please nominate yourself through an expression of interest email sent to Kate Thomson (stompson34@hotmail.com) by Monday 11 January. If we get more than one EOI, the position will be put to a vote either electronically or at our next meeting, if we can hold these.

The role of the Assistant Secretary includes:

1. Maintaining the game count of all members
2. Collecting and collating weekly send off reports and forwarding this information to the CCRU Judiciary
3. Collecting and collating weekly Best and Fairest player votes from Premier 1 referees.
4. Supporting the secretary in duties as required
5. Supporting the CCRURA executive in duties as required.

In addition at our 2020 Annual General Meeting, it was agreed by members that the Association create two additional development positions for the period 2021 onwards.

These two positions will be:

- Referee Development Officer
- Referee Coaching Coordinator.

Below are the criteria for each position. Should you wish to express interest in being considered for either position, please complete a written application of no more than one (1) A4 page. This completed application should be forwarded to our Association Secretary, Kate Thomson (stompson34@hotmail.com) by Monday 11 January. All applications will be considered by the Executive before a decision will be made.

Referee Development Officer

This role is being introduced to have a person in our Association with responsibility for ensuring referees maintain a mindset of continual improvement.

Essential Qualifications:

Smart Rugby

Level 2 Referee

Level 1 Referee Coach (or willing to attain it in 2021)

Position Criteria:

1. Work with referees across all levels of experience to assist with their performance growth.
2. Liaise with the CCRURA Coaching and Grading Board and the Referee Coaching Coordinator to ensure consistency of messaging between coaches and referees.
3. Coordinate and implement training, including education sessions at monthly meetings, and fitness regimes for referees, including fitness testing and tracking for Premier 1 referees or those aspiring to that level.
4. Coordination of new referees' accreditation, and existing referees reaccreditation, requirements ensuring that these are met and reports uploaded to the appropriate sites.
5. Liaises with the CCRURA executive to have any other aspects of referee development requirements added to the program to further enhance referee development opportunities.

Referee Coaching Coordinator

This role is being introduced to have a person in our Association with responsibility for ensuring consistency in referee coaching. This will include, pre game and post game discussion, report writing, game analysis and in referee appointment and grading discussions.

Essential Qualifications:

Smart Rugby

Level 2 Referee (preferred, or at least a former Level 2 referee)

Level 2 Referee Coach (or willing to attain it in 2021)

Position Criteria:

1. Work with referees coaches across all levels of experience to assist with their performance growth.
2. Liaise with the CCRURA Coaching and Grading Board (CGB) and the Referee Development Officer to ensure consistency of messaging between coaches and referees.
3. Coordinate and implement training, including education sessions for referee coaches on aspects of the role including, but not limited to, pre game and post game discussion, report writing, game analysis.
4. Liaise with the CGB with regard to referee appointments and grading.
5. Liaise with the CCRURA executive to have any other aspects of referee development requirements added to the program to further enhance referee development opportunities.

REGISTRATION

Could you please make the effort to register with our Association as soon as possible if you intend to referee with us in 2021?

Registration is completed through the Rugby Portal, <https://myaccount.rugbyexplorer.com.au/>.

When you log in and are searching for a club, search for 'Central Coast Referees' and then follow the prompts. You do not have to have a Working With Children Check number, although many do have and please **DO NOT MAKE PAYMENT** via this portal.

At this stage, the executive have not set fees for 2021 and many referees paid the full amount last year and may wish to use part of that for their 2021 fees remembering that we halved our fees last year due to COVID and only getting half a season in.

If anybody has trouble registering, please let me know and I will try to walk you through the process.

Once registered, please check your accreditation and make it a priority to update any aspect of accreditation that has lapsed. e.g. My Level 2 Referee Coach accreditation runs out on 31/12/2020. I will need to register via the Learning Centre to complete the Law exam and then have somebody assess me as a coach by sitting in on a feedback session, assess my written report on the referee etc early in the new season. No member will be appointed to games in 2021 who is not accredited, especially with SmartRugby.

COURSES AND QUALIFICATION UPGRADES

All referees and referee coaches are encouraged to consider upgrading their qualifications for 2021. e.g. upgrade from Level 1 to Level 2 in both refereeing and coaching. At this stage, dates for these courses have not been confirmed. But, keep an eye out on the Learning Centre on the Rugby Portal for these dates.

Even if it has been some time since you did your L2 Referee course (for example), it may be a good idea to do the course again to learn new skills and approaches. Many of our 'experienced' members have already indicated they will be resitting course in full rather than just do the minimal upgrade of Law exam and on-field assessment.