



**ACT Rugby Referees  
Association**



**Minutes of ACTRRA Annual General Meeting**

**23<sup>rd</sup> November 2010**

**Held at:**

Olim's Hotel, Ainslie

**Attendees:**

*Nathan Kearns, Simon Carroll, Doug Collins, Mark Snow, Andrew Edelman, John Snell, Ian Schubert, Peter Langford, Peter Gillard, Rohan Nishantha, Damien McLachlan, Bob Davidson, Geoff Davidson, Craig de Boos, Rob Paloni, Ian Glasgow, Brett Bowden, Bill Teece, Dennis Beissner, Peter Janssens, Jim Smith, Peter Lawler, Michael Corrigan, Sarah Corrigan, (24 attendees).*

**Apologies:**

*Michael Cleary, Tony Daniels, Allan Casey, David Fryer, Rob Orr, Irene Jones, Jennifer Jones, Michael Toirkens, Gordon McGurk, James Willemsen, Chris Field, Ben Reedy, Bryce Gorrell, Michael Carnahan, Wilf Hedley, Adam Nelson, Robert Nelson, Adam Nelson, Benjamin Nelson, Paul Scholtens, Paul Larsen, Denis Hughes, Shane Hughes, Owen Hughes, Scott Izod, Brendan McCormick, Louise Smith, Peter Flanagan, Angus Teece, (28 apologies).*

1. The Vice-President, *Nathan Kearns*, presiding on behalf of the President, welcomed the Members of the Association in attendance and the meeting was opened at 7.39pm.
2. Prior to the formal commencement of the Annual General Meeting the Vice-President presented some awards that were announced at the 2010 Presentation Dinner and Awards night but were not made due to the absence of the recipients. Presentations were made to:
  - Bob Davidson – 200 games
  - Damien McLachlan – 100 games
  - Rohan Nishantha – 200 games



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### **Previous Minutes**

3. The meeting was asked to approve the Minutes of the ACTRRA Annual General Meeting held on 1st December 2009 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**Proposed by:** *Nathan Kearns*

**Seconded by:** *Rob Paloni*

**Motion carried**

### **Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

4. The Secretary Simon Carroll advised the members that business arising from the Minutes of the 2009 AGM would be addressed in General Business.

### **Annual Reports**

5. The full written versions of all reports mentioned in this section of the Minutes can be found in the revised version of the 2010 ACTRRA Annual Report which will be placed on the Association's website subsequent to the AGM.
6. Prior to the formal delivery of the 2010 ACTRRA Annual Report the Secretary, Simon Carroll, thanked those members of the Association for their individual inputs into the Report. He also advised that any editorial errors would be corrected and the Report re-issued on completion of the financial audit.
7. President's Report: The Vice-President, Nathan Kearns delivering the President's Report on behalf of Mick Cleary, provided an overview of the Report as submitted for the 2010 ACTRRA Annual Report. The Vice President commended the President's Report to the Association and moved that it be accepted by the members

**Proposed by:** *Nathan Kearns*

**Seconded by:** *Andrew Edelman*

**Motion carried**

**Note:** As a result of this overview *Simon Carroll* advised the Members that a letter of thanks would be sent to the Canberra Grammar School, thanking them for their ongoing support of the Association by providing continuing access to their facilities for the conduct of training and development nights.

8. Coaching, Grading and Appointments Committee (CGAC) Report: An overview of the CGAC Report was delivered by Brett Bowden, on behalf of Alan Casey. Brett invited Andrew Edelman to provide an overview of the U19 Appointments and Co-ordinator's Report and then invited Peter Langford to provide an overview of the Grading Committee's Report. On conclusion he proposed that the 2010 CGAC Report be accepted.



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**Proposed by:** *Brett Bowden*

**Seconded by:** *Craig de Boos*

**Motion carried**

9. Brumbies Rugby Referees Department Report: The Referee Development Officer, *Mark Snow*, provided an overview of his report that was presented in the 2010 ACTRRA Annual Report. He again directed Members attention to the participation state for 2010. As an aside he advised Members that David Fryer had undergone a hip replacement operation and was currently confined to the John James Hospital recuperating. He asked Members if they had some spare time, a visit to David would help him through this particular phase of his recovery.

**Proposed by:** *Mark Snow*

**Seconded by:** *Bill Teece*

**Motion carried**

10. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, *Sarah Corrigan*, detailed the overall financial position of the Association, to date. She advised that the Association's share of the take from the catering activity undertaken at the Premier Division Grand Finals, jointly undertaken by the Association and the Uni-Norths Owls Rugby Union Football Club, was \$4,660, leaving the Association in a sound financial position with a balance of \$5,674 at the end of the 2010 season.

A full breakdown of the Association's financial position will be provided in the final version of the 2010 ACTRRA Annual Report following the completion of the financial audit.

The Treasurer commended her report to the Association and moved that it be accepted by the members.

**Proposed by:** *Sarah Corrigan*

**Seconded by:** *Rob Paloni*

**Motion carried**

### **Election of Office Bearers for 2011**

11. Patron. The Vice-President advised the Members in attendance that he had approached the Association's current Patron, *Peter Lawler*, with respect to whether he would accept a nomination for Patron of the Association for the 2011 season. *Peter* advised that he would be honoured to again serve the Association as its Patron.

**Nomination:** *Peter Lawler*

**Accepted by acclamation**



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12. The positions of all office bearers were declared vacant and it was reported that written nominations had been received for all positions. As there was only one nomination for each of the positions on the Executive Committee, and no nominations received from the floor. The Meeting was asked to confirm the persons nominated. The nominations proceeded as follows.
13. President  
**Nomination:** *Simon Carroll*  
**Proposed by:** *Nathan Kearns*  
**Seconded by:** *Doug Collins*  
**Motion carried.** The President of the ACTRRA for 2011 is Simon Carroll who duly took the chair.
14. Vice-President  
**Nomination:** *Nathan Kearns*  
**Proposed by:** *Simon Carroll*  
**Seconded by:** *Doug Collins*  
**Motion carried.** The Vice-President of the ACTRRA for 2011 is Nathan Kearns.
15. Secretary  
**Nomination:** *Bill Teece*  
**Proposed by:** *Simon Carroll*  
**Seconded by:** *Nathan Kearns*  
**Motion carried.** The Secretary of the ACTRRA for 2011 is Bill Teece.
16. Treasurer  
**Nominations:** *Sarah Corrigan*  
**Proposed by:** *Nathan Kearns*  
**Seconded by:** *Doug Collins*  
**Motion carried.** The Treasurer of the ACTRRA for 2011 is Sarah Corrigan.
17. Assistant Secretary  
**Nominations:** *John Snell*  
**Proposed by:** *Nathan Kearns*  
**Seconded by:** *Simon Carroll*  
**Motion carried.** The Assistant Secretary of the ACTRRA for 2011 is John Snell.



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### **Coaching, Grading and Appointments Committee for 2011**

18. In accordance with the Statement of Objects and Rules of the Association the appointment of members to the CGAC for 2011 will be advised by the Association President. These appointments are expected to be confirmed before the end of 2010.

### **Appointment of Honorary Auditor**

19. The Treasurer advised that the current Auditor was willing to continue in the role of Honorary Auditor to the Association and she supported their continuing honorary role. With no objection from the members present, the President then declared that Hardwicke's would again serve as the Association's Auditor.

### **General Business**

The President opened the Meeting for general business.

20. ACTRU 2011 Competition Structure. The President briefly described the 2011 Competition Structure which now consists of 19 rounds with the first round, also the first round of the Pre-Season Competition, occurring on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011. Further details regarding the competition structure will be advised at the ACTRRA Pre-Season Seminars.
21. 2011 Referee Exchange Program. The President provided a brief on the 2011 Referee Exchange Program as follows:
  - a. The Association would be sending the following members to the Darwin 7's Competition:  
Brett Bowden (Referee Coach)  
Rob Paloni (Referee)  
Adam Nelson (Referee) will also participate with the support of the ACTRRA as he will be undertaking Defence training in the Darwin area during the period of the Competition.
  - b. Outgoing. Outgoing exchanges are scheduled to take place with Waikato, Bay of Plenty and possibly interstate.
  - c. Incoming. Incoming exchanges are scheduled to take place with Canterbury, South Canterbury and possibly Victoria.

The incoming exchange weekend will be based around the Brumbies home game against the Stormers on 28 May 2011. The President asked that Members make a note of this activity as the Executive will be calling on Members for assistance around this time period in relation to billeting and hosting incoming exchange personnel.

22. ACTRRA Membership and Subscriptions. The President raised the following discussion points for Members present, to consider:



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- a. Annual Subscriptions. The issue of members paying subscriptions was raised and provoked a discussion from the floor; Bob Davidson was not in favour of such a proposal as he was happy to be recognised as a volunteer. Damien McLachlan thought that the paying of a subscription would provide some 'ownership' by the referees. Bill Teece suggested that the re-introduction of subscriptions would come with an administrative overhead that the Association could probably do without. No formal action was taken on any of the points raised. The President advised that any further discussion on this matter would be conducted via Association general meetings and the website.
- b. Social Levy. The President sought the views of those Members present on the introduction of a Social Levy as a means of trying to engender the social amenity of the Association and with a specific aim of trying to get more Members to the Annual Presentation Dinner. Again a number of views were presented by the Members present such as; administrative overhead, attendance at functions is dictated by work or family commitments and some people just do not want to attend such functions. Again the President advised that any further discussion on this matter would be via Association general meetings and the website.
- c. Referee Payment. The President raised the issue of referee payments. He advised that he had been discussing this issue informally with other sporting organisations with a view of developing a business case for the implementation of such a scheme for Association members and presentation to Brumbies Rugby. Again this provoked a range of views from those firmly opposed to such a proposal to those who thought a payment was a logical move at this point in the Association's life. Again the President advised that any further discussion on this matter would be via Association general meetings and the website.
- d. Operations Manual. The Vice-President advised the Members that the revision of the Operations Manual was nearing completion and would be finalised prior to the commencement of the 2011 season.
- e. ACTRRA Online 2011 Calendar. The President asked Members present to provide any inputs to the online calendar for 2011, at their earliest opportunity as he would like to present a draft to the Executive at their first meeting scheduled for early December 2010.
- f. Association Training. The President advised that the Training program continued during the 2010 season would be retained for 2011. He also advised that during his discussions with other sporting organisations, particularly the Rugby League referees, he canvassed the idea of conducting some 'cross' training with them. This was still early days and any further information would be passed to Members for consideration.



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- g. Referee Abuse. The President advised that the issue of referee abuse would be his number one priority during the 2011 season. The issue of abuse again provoked considerable discussion with the following points being highlighted:
- (1) The lack of noticeable action taken by either Brumbies Rugby or the Association on instances of referee abuse. The President acknowledged that the Association had failed to follow up more rigorously the outcomes of a meeting the Association had with Brumbies Rugby which had determined a process for managing the issue of referee abuse but this would be rectified for the 2011 season.
  - (2) No feedback to Members concerning the reporting of referee abuse and the resulting action.
  - (3) More encouragement of referees to make reports of referee abuse.
  - (4) Official reports of referee abuse to be more widely circulated among the Association Executive.

### **Other General Business**

23. The Chair was advised that the Ground Locations web link was not working. The President along with the Brumbies Rugby would attend to this matter.

### **Next General Meeting**

24. The next Annual General Meeting would be advised to Members via the website and Association email later in 2011. The next General Meeting would also be advised to Members via the website and Association email early in the New Year.

### **Close**

25. There being no further business the Annual General Meeting for 2010 was closed by the President at 9.04pm

Simon Carroll  
ACTRRA President  
8 December 2010

Doug Collins  
Outgoing ACTRRA Assistant Secretary  
8 December 2010