



ACT Rugby Referees Association

JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the ACTRRA Newsletter for June 2023. We hope to use this together with other social media avenues to keep you advised of what is happening within the Association itself and around the grounds.

The Executive meets monthly to discuss organisational matters including finance, exchanges, uniform, calendar events, recruitment and retention, and education/training. Unfortunately referee abuse continues to come to our attention. This season, with the assistance of Reflive, we can identify areas of concern and direct those to the appropriate bodies for attention. However, the success of this rests with us all. We need to complete the Reflive document, which is found on Rugby Xplorer, after each game.

Congratulations to Ben Nelson on achieving his 200 games.

Additional congratulations to Ethan Gumbrell and Amy Kilmister who both represented the Association as referee and referee coach respectively on an exchange to Melbourne. The Executive is currently investigating the possibility of additional exchanges into the future. If, you are travelling interstate or overseas during the season and you may have the opportunity to referee please let the Coaching and Grading Committee know and we may be able to assist with the arrangements.

Save the date Presentation afternoon 10 September 2023 at the RUC

What's happening in your Association?

- Development Meeting THEME: Communication & Head Contact 4 July 2023 BRUMBIES HQ 7:30pm
- Coaches meeting 19 June 2023
- Levels 1 & II Coaching courses Postponed
- If you may be interested in attending these rescheduled courses Level I & Level II, please contact Jack Cunningham on actrra.coaching@gmail.com
- Referee Ready Course 18 June 2023 Brumbies HQ 1:00 – 4:30pm
- Training: Junior Tuesday 4:15pm Griffith oval
Fitness Tues and Thursday 6:00pm all levels encouraged to attend BRUMBIES.

Carnivals

- ACT Brumbies Southern States Championships 11-14 July 2023 Nicholls (U/12 boys, U/14 Boys & Girls, U/16 Boys & Girls, U/18 Boys & Girls) Referees required contact Anne Dickeson
- Australian U/18 Australia v New Zealand 27 September 2023 Viking Park ACT
- Australian U/18 Australia v New Zealand 2 October 2023 Viking Park ACT
- Australian Rugby Shield 27-29 September 2023 Ballymore QLD
- U/18 Academy games 1st, 5th, 8th July, 19 Sept 2023
- U16s and U19s 30th September 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st October 2023
- Canberra Owls Sevens Carnival 17th September 2023

Kit

The following items have been ordered and will be issued on their arrival. The NAIDOC jersey may be worn as our alternate strip for the duration of our current uniform.

- Caps
- Jerseys for female members
- NAIDOC jerseys

Need kit contact actrra.asstsec@gmail.com

Member profile: Brendan McCormick our Patron

Brendon's introduction to rugby union was in the mighty St Thomas More's U9 side. He went on to represent ACT in U12 and U14 and then play in Daramalan's First XV and when they joined the senior competition, he played in their 1st grade team.

He started his refereeing career in 1986 and also coached the U15, 16s and Colts age groups. He also lent his talents in the softball arena, coaching for 20 years including a stint as Assistant ACT coach.

Referee coaching beckoned and in 1993 he achieved his Level I qualification going on to achieve his Level III qualification in 2002. From here Brendan did not look back. His natural ability to improve the ability of referees across a broad spectrum of abilities was identified by Rugby Australia and he was invited to pursue roles as, Referee coach at National championships around Australia and at the IRB U19 World Championships in Durban and Dubai, TJ assessor, TJ evaluator, National TJ coach, National Academy coach, High performance coach, Super Rugby Assessor, and IRB assessor at test matches. He also was a selector/assessor for the World Cup Qualifiers in Hong Kong.

Brendon became our Patron at our 2022 Annual General Meeting taking over the baton from our retiring Patron Peter Lawler.

From the Chairman Coaching and Grading

- **Reflive**
All referees are encouraged to register with Reflive via Rugby Xplorer. It is important that we all complete Reflive after each game we officiate at. This in turn assists referee coaches to identify trends that our occurring across the competition, which may be discussed at development meetings. It encourages us (referees) to review our own performance and identify aspects of our game (both positive and negative) to work on.
In addition to this, it collates data about team and club behaviour and provides useful information for coaches to discuss with referees both before and after their game.
- **Trends:** Ball carrier raising their forearm as they approach the tackler. Players placing their hand on the ground and then scooping the ball back in the TRM. Kicks in general play not scanning players in front of the kicker. Scrum advantage.
- Grading panels go to the following link: ACTRRA.org.au

Quiz: What's your decision?

1. Blue player gathers the ball and kicks it directly into another Blue player standing in front of him. The ball is propelled back towards Blues goal line. A white player standing 10metres directly across from where the ball was kicked plays at it and is immediately tackled. A Blue player lying on the ground in close proximity to the ball plays it to another Blue player.
Your decision?
2. A scrum is packed on the junction of the 15metre line and 22 and fed by Blue who are attacking their line. The scrum travels through 40degrees and the Red prop falls to his knees and the scrum collapses. The ball immediately emerges from the scrum at the feet of the Blue half.
Your decision?
3. The ball is kicked down field by Blue. A Red player jumps to take the ball in the field of play. A Blue player from an onside position makes contact with the player without wrapping his arms in the tackle and collides with the Red player who has secured the ball before he lands on the ground.
What do you need to consider when making your decision, if any? What is your decision?
4. A Blue player from the field of play inside his half kicks the ball, in general play, into his opposing 22 and the ball passes the plain of touch. A Red player standing outside the field of play jumps and knocks the ball back into the field of play and another Red player regains it and proceeds to run down the field carrying the ball.
Your decision?