



ACT Rugby Referees Association

Minutes of the General Meeting 02 May 23 Brumbies HQ, Bruce

1. The meeting commenced at 20.58. The President assumed the chair, welcomed all attending and paid respect to the first nation's people for which we use their land to conduct this meeting.
2. Members present at the General Meeting (GM) are below in *Table 1*, and apologies in *Table 2*.

Bryce Gorrell	Benjamin Nelson	Nick Stoker	Jack Cunningham	Damien McLachlan
Damien McGrath	Ben Reedy	Toby Kitchen	Josh Winchester	Ethan Gumbrell
Brendan McCormick	Chris Cousin	Geoff Palmer	Jacques Smith	Karl Hamlyn
Annie Dickeson	Hamish Innes	Riley Byrne	Jo Brinkley	Max Kailis
Dennis Beissner	Kevin Cullen	Peter Langford	Sam Whittle	Ivan Gavazov

Table 1 – Members present at General Meeting

James Willemsen	Amy Kilmister	Mitchell Egan	Nathan Mass	Michael Dowsett
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Table 2 – Apologies for General Meeting

3. **President's Report**
The president thanked the members that have stepped up to help run the association for this year:

- Brendan McCormick (patron)
- Nick Stoker (Vice president)
- Mitchell Egan (Secretary)
- Ivan Gavazov (A/Secretary)
- Peter Langford (Treasurer)
- Karl Hamlyn (Chair, Coach and Grading)
- Jack Cunningham (Coach liaison)
- Geoff Palmer (Junior Coach liaison)
- Jim Phillipps (Junior coordinator)
- Annie Dickeson (Junior Educator)

He also thanked all other members that have worked behind the scenes helping in things such as Referee Ready courses, junior and senior fitness training, social media and web page maintenance, comms equipment and maintenance etc.





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4. Activities during 2023
 - a. Level 2 referee course was held in Sydney during last weekend, and we were represented by Nye Konig and Nathan Mass. They had an opportunity to work with some of the best MO coaches in Australia and network on behalf of ACTRRA.
 - b. Rohan Hoffman will visit ACT at the end of May or the beginning of June to run referee coaching courses. The president invited any ACTRRA members that are interested to attend these courses.
 - c. Amy Kilmister and Annie Dickeson attended a “Women as Officiating Leaders” course in Sydney that was run by Amy Perrett, a former super rugby referee.
 - d. Nick Stoker has successfully initiated a referee exchange for Ethan Gumbrell to Melbourne (VRRRA) during May. We are hoping of similar exchanges with other rugby referee associations within Australia for any up-and-coming aspiring senior referees.
 - e. Junior Workshops and Referee Ready courses during February and March, led by Annie Dickeson and Nick Stoker. We are hoping to have a few more of these in the next few months. Annie has also been instrumental in organising weekly training for new junior referees. These junior referees are to be appointed over the next few weeks to their first appointments. Our senior referees are strongly encouraged to be present to as many of these appointments as possible and to provide moral and “professional support to these young members.
 - f. The Recruit, Develop, Retain consultancy with the initial investigations and workshop is now complete. Many thanks to all that contributed.
 - g. ANZAC Round was successfully completed on Saturday 22nd April, 2023.
 - h. NAIDOC jersey development is on track to be produced and distributed to all ACTRRA member in time for the Indigenous round in early July. Huge thanks to our member and sponsor Kevin Cullen (WAIDT Services Australia Ltd) for his big contribution with this project.
 - i. The president also noted that so far this year we are successfully dealing with MO abuse. He also strongly encouraged all members that have been subject to MO abuse to continue to report these cases promptly and thoroughly.

Motion: President’s report accepted, moved by Jack Cunningham, seconded by Benjamin Nelson. Motion carried.

5. Treasurer’s Report.
 - a. It was noted that executive couldn’t show the budget during this meeting due to technology issues. The budget will be sent out in the near future alongside the minutes.
 - b. The Treasurer thanked all of our sponsors thanked for continuing support
 - c. The Treasurer reported that ACTRRA currently is in a healthy financial state (please refer to the budgeted document)





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- d. The Treasurer added that any appointed referee or referee coach who travels to Penrith has the option of arranging their own overnight accommodation.
- e. Upon supply of receipts to the Treasurer, referees will be reimbursed by ACTRRA, up to \$220 to cover accommodation [nominally \$180] and meals, [nominally \$40].
- f. Travel [vehicle] allowance and match payments remain managed and payable by Brumbies irrespective of accommodation choices.

Motion: Jack Cunningham proposed for the Treasurer's report to be accepted, seconded by Damien McGrath. **Motion carried.**

6. CCAG Report

- a. Karl Hamlyn outlined the importance of prompt and thorough reporting of MO abuse. He also noted that ACTRRA had one big event recently-Shaun Rigby's-1st grade debut last weekend, with Jacques Smith also having his 1st grade debut in the coming weekend.

Riley Byrne proposed for the CCAG report to be accepted, seconded by Benjamin Nelson.

7. "Recruit, Develop, Retain" Planning

- a. Nick Stoker (VP) provided an update:
- b. We had a workshop at the Brumbies HQ last month at which a cross section of members were participating. At the moment, all that data is coming together and is being analysed by Taryn Langdon (our consultant). After her analysis she will provide us with that data with by the end of May or start of June. Once we have it, we will disseminate it to members for input towards the final product.
- c. Nick (VP) also reported that 56 people did the RR course this year, with about half of them (26) registering as ACTRRA members. 18 of these new referees have already taken the field, mostly in junior capacity.
- d. VP hopes that more will be involved in similar manner.
- e. VP also appealed to all senior members, when possible, to assist if with future RR activities.

8. ACTRRA Welfare update

- a. Chris Cousin-our new welfare officer outlined that we had few incidents in 2023 season that have already been reported in the right manner and the offenders have been reprimanded accordingly (added by Karl Hamlyn).

9. Other Business





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- a. Geoff Palmer asked if international exchange with NZ is still possible, the president responded that this is unlikely to occur due to lack of value for money. We are looking to do this locally-eg Ethan Gumbrell to Melbourne. Annie Dickeson suggested that Illawarra and the Central North are also good options for collaboration.
- b. also explained to the present members how to use RefLive. If anyone has any problems with it, please contact Jack Cunningham via an email.
- c. Nick Stoker (VP) added that from a governance perspective/business plan-something to have hopefully completed soon, policy work has been also done behind the scenes.
- d. The next Development Night is scheduled for 30th May.

ACTRRA President closed the meeting at 21.30.

