



BOP Rugby Referees Newsletter

February 2009

Welcome to 2009. Yes, I know it seems early but some of you will have already experienced reffing in these summer conditions and there is not too long before your fitness will be tested when the season (proper) starts.

It is intended that this newsletter be a short and regular feature for your information and enjoyment!

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- Welcome new members
- Referee Advisory Group (RAG)

Important Dates (Diary these please)

Monday 2 March. Baywide meeting at Eastern Districts RFC, Paengaroa. 7.00pm
Those who want an organised (short) training run, meet at 6.00pm.

Referee Coaches please meet at 6.30pm

Agenda:

7.00pm: Welcome

7.10: Address by BOP Board Member on BOPRU issues and presentation of 2008 Referee trophies

7.30pm: Rugby Smart and ELV rollout (Bryce Lawrence and Nick Briant)

The vacancy in the REO position means we have less resource initially to deliver you the Rugby Smart and ELV info to allow you to meet your reffing commitments. You need this info before you run on to the paddock. PLEASE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY. Baywide meetings will be a must for you this year. We will be looking to hold these monthly.

Monday 9 March. Local meetings start in your area - 7.00pm. We are keen that meeting participation represents one of the criteria for panel entry so expect to be reminded of your responsibilities this year

Training and development contacts:

Western: John Donnelly. Phone Home 07 544 7000, Work 07 577 1762
Email john.d@assetfinance.co.nz

Eastern: Tony Dunlop. Phone Home 07 307 0773, Mobile 021 933 879
Email dunlops@xtra.co.nz

Central: Malcolm Fluker. Phone 027 245 1411, Email malcolm.fluker@rabobank.com

ELVs and Rugby Smart

As mentioned we all need Rugby Smart before going on to the paddock. Take the opportunity above and don't rely on playing catch-up in your local area.

'ELV' has become an acronym, the 'E' standing for 'Experimental'. I guess someone in NZRU will tell us whether or not we now refer to these as 'LVs'.....ie Law Variations. We are certainly using these variations this year (13 of them). We all learn differently and need to use our various styles to get to grips with the changes in order to be as consistent as possible in our matches. We'll make sure to get you written material, presentations and practical coaching in the application of these variations. It is YOUR responsibility to attend the relevant sessions

Referee Coordinator

The REO position vacated by Matt Peters has been re named 'Referee Coordinator'. The RAG members had input into developing the job description, which was recently advertised. Mike Rogers tells us that several applications have been received and interviews will be held on 24 Feb.

In the meantime please bear with us (the 'us' being BOP Union staff, RAG members, Bryce, Nick et al) while we collectively work on getting the season up and running.

Training and Development (T&D)

This starts with introduction of new referees and induction. DO NOT under estimate the importance of making yourself known to new members. DO NOT assume that someone will magically explain our culture and who does what. The key to leadership is taking responsibility.

T&D will be continued through innovative programmes at local meetings, on field coaching via a better than ever number of referee coaches, and lead some to an 'Academy' type programme which will benefit individuals and BOP refereeing generally. Watch this space. A proposal is presently being worked on within BOP.

Welcome

To new members and a some transferring in:

Phill Van Syp (Greerton)
Sam Le Mon (Greerton)
Roi Rangī (Arataki)
Charles Rikiti (Arataki)
Alan Jarvis-Cook (Te Puke)
Joel Draffin (Tga Boys College)
Wil Wilson (Counties Manukau???)
Andrew Lindup (Auckland)
Joe Waru (Kerikeri)
Mark Hollinshead (Papamoa)

There is also a whisper that we may be able to entice Charles Baxter, so we'll rely on him being shoulder tapped.

Referee Advisory Group (RAG)

This group represents your voice at BOP Union level. It comprises a member from Western, Central and Eastern Referees, a BOP Union person and is also attended by the Referee Administrator and Referee Coordinator. To date the effectiveness of the group has been demonstrated by the fact that there has not needed to be 'voting' on issues. The Union relies on the Referee reps to meet certain responsibilities and in turn has acted upon any and all of our (reasonable) requests.

The RAG asks that any issues for attention of BOPRU be channeled through RAG members. This doesn't have to be the regional person. Any one of the Referee RAG members will raise an issue for you.

RAG Contacts and roles:

Western; Graeme Meyrick, Phone Home 07 576 3815, Work 07 577 5933, Mobile 027 271 5908, Email meyrick@xtra.co.nz
Rugby Committees and Baywide Meetings

Eastern; Tony Dunlop, Phone 07 307 0773, Mobile 021 933 879,
Email dunlops@xtra.co.nz
Head Coach, Academy, Liaison with Referee Coordinator

Central; Greg Steele, Phone 07 362 4481, Mobile 0274 317 211,
Email greg.steele@xtra.co.nz
Chairman, Newsletter and Communications

Feel free to make contact, particularly with any news items to Greg above or Morag at BOPRU, Phone 07 927 1318.

Next issue

Refs' survey

Training and development

Referee coordinator position

Roles and responsibilities, Coaches, Selectors

Refs' Gear