



Volunteer of the Year Program

Don't forget to get involved in this Years CRL Volunteer of the Year Program proudly brought to you by the Holiday Inn Potts Point. Nominations close on the 28th August 2009. So get in quick and nominate a hard working volunteer within your club or group. Visit www.crlnsw.com.au for more information. The Top 20 volunteers will be selected to attend a presentation night on Saturday 26th September in Sydney with the winner to go onto the National Awards presented by the NRL's One Community.



Development Officer of the Week

On behalf of Country Rugby League we would like to welcome new Development Officer in the Riverina Area Adam Vanzanten. Adam has been involved in football for most of his life, whether it be playing the game or coaching. The CRL would like to wish Adam the very best in his new role!

AAMI Country Rugby League
Level 5, 165 Phillip St
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Phone: 02 9232 5867
Website: -
www.crlnsw.com.au



CFMU Outback League Grand Final - Preview by Ken Kennedy (Outback RL)

Undeafated Minor premiers Wilcannia will battle out the Musicians Club Cup at against the ever improving Geebung at Memorial Oval on Sunday 3pm. The Geebung showed in last weeks' final that they can match any team in the league lead by representative five-eight Jeffery Webster and halfback Steven Johnson. The Geebung have a big set of forwards with Roger Bugmy in great form, his ability to unload the ball under pressure caused Saints all sorts of problems last week, and he was well supported by Robert Young Jr who made big meters on the edge of the rucks. The Geebung support play was outstanding against Saints with Steven and Colin Bugmy and Cy Crow making good ground off the big forwards. In defence the second row pairing of Michael Martin and Brian McKenzie work themselves to a standstill each week and will need to do so again to give the Geebung any change of defeating the Boomerangs. Out wide William Webster cut holes in the Saints defence with fullback Leroy Barker injecting himself into the backline could cause the Boomerangs a few problems out wide. The Boomerangs will build their game around gun five eight Thomas Whyman and ageing half back Brandon Adams, while out wide there is speed and experience in centre with prolific point scorer Michael Kennedy and his partner Allan Carroll. Big winger Bojames Griffin will also need to be marked as his strong running has caused opposition teams problems all season, and the selection of Reggie Shepherd at hooker will ensure that Wilcannia have players that can attack from anywhere on the field. We can expect to see Shepherd dart out of dummy half at any time, so the Geebung marker defence will need to be on the ball. This game could go down the wire as the Geebung have been the surprise package of the season. The Ron Cochrane Shield Premier league game between Wilcannia and Saints promises to be a great curtain raiser to the senior game. Wilcannia will be looking to Lawrence and Kerry King to lead them smart centre Tyler Quyle is a player of the future that can score tries.

Northern Shield Wrap Up

Toukley RLFC and Northern Lakes RLFC are excited to announce the outstanding success of the inaugural 'Northern Shield', played at Darren Kennedy Oval, Norville on Saturday 8th August 2009. The match attracted a total crowd of 3,281 with a large number of young families enjoying the alcohol-free area on the eastern hill. A Toukley RLFC initiative in providing all Toukley Hawks juniors with free passes to the game attracted a very good response with a huge number of children on the sidelines cheering on the Hawks. The match itself was a typical local derby with plenty of bone crunching hits and enterprising play. Northern Lakes skipped out to an 18-10 halftime lead before a tense second half in which only two tries were scored. Toukley RLFC scored first and the score remained at 18-14 until a late try sealed the match for Northern Lakes. The presentation of The Northern Shield was made by local MP, David Harris to winning captain, Clint Goldie. In other matches, Toukley and Northern Lakes played out a 10-10 draw in the U18's, Northern Lakes kicked away late in both U20's (19-4) and Reserve Grade (20-4) to register important club championship points. The Golden Oldies match proved a hit with the fans and it was great to see some of the legends pull on their boots one more time. Legends included Geoff Todd from the Country Rugby League, Phil Gearside and Damien Maddocks.



Country Referee's Shine at all Schools

Nearly 40 referees from all over country NSW attended the 63rd NSW All schools Carnival at St Marys last week. The largest contingent from the country for a number of years. They came from as far away as Inverell in the north, Forbes in the west and Wagga and Harden in the south to officiate.

All performed well with guidance from some of the top NSW referee coaches to guide them over the 3 days of the carnival. The highlight was on the Wednesday when NRL referee Gavin Badger was on hand to give some coaching tips to our young refs. NRL referees scouts David Jay and Tony Kelly were also on hand to view the talent and were suitably impressed with some of the young country refs.

Over the 3 days referees were put into groups for each age group and were competing not only amongst themselves but also referees from the Sydney District associations for finals held at St Marys Western Weekender. Of the 15 finals contested over the 3 days 11 were refereed by our Country referees. The competition among the referees was every tight with the co-ordinators having a difficult time picking the top ref in each group.

Some of countries referee coaches also attended to assist and gained valuable experience from the NSW coaches.

The referees how gained finals were:

Monday	Primary Division
9 Years	Ben Jobson (Group 7)
10 B Years	Sam McDonald (Group 6)
10 A years	Jarred Borg (Group 7)
Open B	Peter Harbourne (Group 6)
Tuesday	Secondary schools
12 Years	Luke Yates (Group 6)
15 Years	Mitch Fing (Group 6)
16 Years	Darian Funer (Central Coast)
Wednesday	Secondary Schools with Rugby League Program
13 years	Brad Smith (Group 7)
14 Years	Zac Tozer (Group 19)
15 Years	Joshua McGowan (Central Coast)
16 Years	Anthony Grady (Illawarra)



CRLRA REFEREES

Congratulations to not only these referees but all referees from the country area, all performed exceptionally well and were a credit to both themselves and their associations. The future of refereeing in the country is in good hands from the performances over the 3 days.