

GLANVILLE VERNON PUGH

5th JULY 1945 – 24th APRIL 2003



commitment to rugby before his professional career.

A hard-tackling centre three-quarter, Vernon Pugh played rugby for Amman United, Leicester, Pontypridd, St Peter's, Cardiff and Cardiff High School Old Boys.

Another memorable Cardiff High School Old Boys match was in the first round of the Welsh Cup in 1973-74, when Vernon scored a try in a shock 24-0 win against Penarth. He also regularly played alongside his brother John in the Old Boys centre. He competed until the late 1970s, being skipper of the Old Boys 2nd XV in 1977-78.

When the time came for Vernon to hang up his playing boots, he turned his enthusiasm to coaching, initially at Cardiff High School Old Boys, whom he renamed Cardiff Harlequins, and later at Cardiff Institute (now UWIC), and with the Welsh Universities.

In 1989, the Welsh Rugby Union commissioned Vernon Pugh QC to examine and report upon the circumstances in which a number of Welsh players and officials had gone to South Africa to participate in the celebration of the centenary of the South African Rugby Football Union. He produced a powerful report critical of all those involved, and critical too of the Welsh Rugby Union.

When the contents of his report were leaked to the press in 1993, a vote of no confidence in the Committee of the Welsh Rugby Union ensued, followed by new Committee elections.

Pugh was called upon to stand for election and, despite his reluctance, was persuaded to do so. He joined the Committee, and was elected Chairman at his very first meeting, an office he went on to hold until 1997. During this time, he oversaw the restructuring of Welsh rugby, both on and off the field, and was responsible for striking a number of major television and sponsorship deals.

Vernon Pugh's qualities as a rugby administrator and negotiator were quickly recognised outside the Principality, and he rapidly assumed office on the international stage. In 1994 he became Chairman of the International Rugby Board on a

rotational basis as was then the custom; the following year he chaired the IRB's influential Amateurism Committee, and in 1996, he became the first elected Chairman of the Board. He served as the Board's Chairman from that date until his untimely death last month.

It was his work in relation to amateurism which first etched Vernon Pugh's mark indelibly on the face of world rugby, for he successfully persuaded the traditionalists that rugby had no option but to relinquish its amateur status. He argued that, unless the International Board established full control of the sport and rewarded elite players financially, then promoters would step in and wrench authority from it.

Under his direction and guidance, the sport embraced professionalism, yet retained the essential qualities and ethos of an amateur game, played recreationally by the vast majority of its adherents.

And it was Vernon Pugh who led the move towards rapid enlargement of the International Rugby Board, doubling its membership to around 100 national unions and extending enormously both the influence of rugby and the geographical area within which it is played.

The entry of China to membership was a development of immense significance and one for which Vernon Pugh was largely responsible.

One of his greatest ambitions was to see Rugby Union recognised again as an Olympic sport.

Rugby had last featured in the Paris Olympics of 1924, and he lobbied tirelessly to have it readmitted. He succeeded first with the granting of full International Olympic Committee status for rugby in 1997. And, last year, rugby was short-listed for possible inclusion in future Games.

Vernon Pugh also served as Chairman of the Five Nations Committee, and was instrumental in the admission of Italy to the Tournament. He also played a crucial role in the creation of the Heineken European Rugby Cup and was a Director, and latterly Chairman, of Rugby World Cup.

Vernon Pugh was, above all, a Welshman. Proud of his roots, he spoke Welsh, as he demonstrated so evidently at the Opening and Closing ceremonies of the 1999 Rugby World Cup in his adopted home town, Cardiff. For many years he was the Chairman of the Dragons Rugby Trust, Wales' foremost youth rugby charity being firmly committed to the participation of young people in the sport. And he was devoted to his family. He married a local girl, Dorinda Davies, and together they had three daughters, Non, Nerys and Nia.

Vernon Pugh was a truly exceptional man. In his professional life, he was one of a very small handful of great planning silks, a man whose advice and advocacy proved invaluable to some of the world's biggest corporations; a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn and a member of one of the most admired sets of Chambers in Gray's Inn; and a man who seamlessly combined an outstandingly successful commercial practice with the public duties of the bench.

And yet, in addition to all of this, there was another world. A world in which Vernon Pugh also stood head and shoulders above the rest. A world to which he gave more time in a year than most men give to their job in a lifetime. The world of rugby.

Vernon Pugh was a visionary, and he was an architect of a more secure future for the sport which he loved. His influence on the game has been profound, and it will last for many, many years to come. That he was taken from us at such an early age was a tragedy for his family and his many friends. We mourn his passing.

INSIDE	Page
• U21 World Cup	2
• RWC referees	2
• 6th General Meeting	2
• RWC 2007	3
• Council Decisions	3
• State of the Game	4
• RWC 2003 Diary	7
• IRB SOS Kit Aid	7
• U19 World Champions	8
• IRB Sevens	8

U21 World Cup draw unveiled

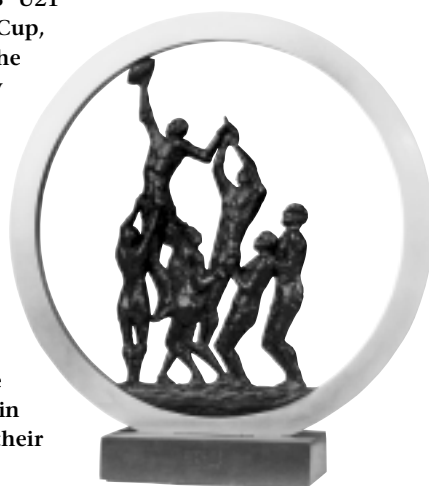


The 2nd IRB U21 World Cup, hosted by the Rugby Football Union, will commence on June

13, with the finals scheduled for June 29. The 12 participants are divided into four pools of three, with the teams in pool A playing against the teams in pool D and those in pool B, taking on their counterparts in pool C.

The holders of the trophy, South Africa, top pool A, the silver-medallists, Australia, are seeded one in pool B. New Zealand, who finished third, top pool C and Wales, the losing third-place play-off team, but the highest placed Northern Hemisphere side, lead pool D. Therefore in the pool stage South Africa will play Ireland, Canada and Wales, Australia will take on New Zealand, England and Italy, New Zealand play against Australia, France and Japan, and Wales play South Africa, Argentina and Scotland.

On day one, June 13, the tournament kicks off with six mouth-watering encounters: South Africa v Ireland, Argentina v Canada,



The coveted U21 trophy

Scotland v Wales, Australia v England, France v Italy and Japan v New Zealand. The second round of matches is held on June 17 and the final pool-match day, when the seeded teams play against each other, is June 21.

The semi-finals are scheduled for June 25 at Kassam Stadium, Newbury and Henley. In the final round on June 29 the winners of the semi-finals play each other, with the losers involved in ranking play-offs at the same venues. In all each team plays five matches in the two-week tournament, a very intense schedule which is part of the developmental aspect of the competition.

POOL A	POOL B	POOL C	POOL D) seeding
(1) South Africa	(2) Australia	(3) N. Zealand	(4) Wales	
(8) Argentina	(7) France	(6) England	(5) Ireland	
(9) Scotland	(10) Japan	(11) Italy	(12) Canada	
MATCH DAY 1 FRIDAY 13th JUNE				
KICK-OFF	TEAM	TEAM	VENUE	
15.00	South Africa	Ireland	Iffley Road	
17.00	Argentina	Canada	Newbury	
15.00	Scotland	Wales	Henley	
19.00	Australia	England	Iffley Road	
19.30	France	Italy	Newbury	
19.00	Japan	New Zealand	Henley	
MATCH DAY 2 TUESDAY 17th JUNE				
KICK-OFF	TEAM	TEAM	VENUE	
15.00	South Africa	Canada	Henley	
15.00	Argentina	Wales	Iffley Road	
17.00	Scotland	Ireland	Newbury	
19.00	Australia	Italy	Henley	
19.00	France	New Zealand	Iffley Road	
19.30	Japan	England	Newbury	
MATCH DAY 3 SATURDAY 21st JUNE				
KICK-OFF	TEAM	TEAM	VENUE	
14.00	South Africa	Wales	Newbury	
14.00	Argentina	Ireland	Iffley Road	
14.00	Scotland	Canada	Henley	
18.00	Australia	New Zealand	Newbury	
18.00	France	England	Henley	
18.00	Japan	Italy	Iffley Road	

RWC provisional referee squad



The IRB Referee Selection Committee, which met in Dublin from 1-3 April, has selected a provisional squad of 26 officials for

the Rugby World Cup 2003, from which the final 24 will be selected.

Out of these 24, 16 will be selected as referees and eight as touch judges or television match officials.

Pablo Deluca	Argentina
Giulio De Santis	Italy
Joel Jutge	France
Joel Dume	France
Chris White	England
Steve Lander	England
Tony Spreadbury	England
Nigel Williams	Wales
Nigel Whitehouse	Wales
Stuart Dickinson	Australia
Andrew Cole	Australia
Peter Marshall	Australia
Scott Young	Australia
Donal Courtney	Ireland
Alan Lewis	Ireland
David McHugh	Ireland
Alain Rolland	Ireland
Steve Walsh	New Zealand
Paul Honiss	New Zealand
Kelvin Deaker	New Zealand
Paddy O'Brien	New Zealand
Andre Watson	South Africa
Jon Kaplan	South Africa
Mark Lawrence	South Africa
Andy Turner	South Africa
Iain Ramage	Scotland

Published by IRB Services Ireland Ltd
Huguenot House,
35-38 St. Stephens Green,
Dublin 2, Ireland.

IRB Head of Communications
chris.rea@irb.com

Editorial:
chris.thau@irb.com
michelle.treacy@irb.com

Design:
bleddyn@cheekymonkeycreative.co.uk

Print:
sales@zenith-media.co.uk

The 6th General Meeting

The Sixth General Meeting of the IRB which was held in Dublin on 4 and 5 of April was attended by representatives from 89 of our 96 Member Unions writes IRB Chief Executive Officer, Mike Miller.

The Regional Associations from Europe FIRA-AER, South America CONSUR, North America NAWIRA, Oceania FORU, Africa CAR and Asia ARFU were also represented. The format was changed from previous meetings, and breakout groups covering such topics as Trust Fund Grants, Game Development, Competitions, Player Welfare, Commercial and Communications, enabled full and rigorous discussion on these important issues by all those who attended.

There were a number of key issues which emerged, among them the importance of Olympic participation for Rugby and the need for greater promotion of the game through wider television exposure. A most successful meeting concluded with a reception and gala dinner at Dublin Castle kindly hosted by the Irish Rugby Football Union and attended by the Irish Prime Minister, An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD.

Despite the fact that the decision to award France host status for the 2007 Rugby World Cup excited most interest, the Annual Meeting of the IRB Council made progress on a number of important issues including IRB Governance and practical ways of helping the disadvantaged countries. The Working Party set up to consider all aspects of the Board's Governance will consult with Member Unions and the Regional Associations on the structure and best practice for the Governance of the Game going forward. While the IRB core values and aims have not changed, and development and global expansion remain the cornerstones of IRB policy, the Board is fully conscious of the need to adapt to the game as it evolves in the professional era.

Council reaffirmed its support for those countries most in need of financial aid and the concept of a composite Pacific Island side involving Fiji, Samoa and Tonga touring in the Northern and Southern hemispheres, became a reality with plans to be considered for tours in 2004 and 2005 and the revenues raised from the tours being used to ease the financial problems of these Unions.

RWC 2007 to be hosted by France



Despite the overwhelming vote – 18-3 – in favour of France as hosts of the Rugby World Cup in 2007, the decision was not an easy one. Dr. Syd Millar, the IRB Vice Chairman, made that very clear in the statement which followed the announcement. “We received two very fine bids from two of the most powerful and influential rugby nations in the world”, he said. “There is no doubt that both could – and would – have staged a wonderful Rugby World Cup.”

With both bids meeting the key operational and financial criteria, the IRB Council was able to give careful consideration as to which bid would prove to be in the better and wider interests of the global development of the game. The preferred RFU option was for the division of the tournament into two sections with a smaller, more elite group competing for the main prize, and a larger, additional group competing for a new trophy.

This was considered by most to be innovative and imaginative, but Council was overwhelmingly of the view that the structure should remain

as it is, namely a tournament comprising 20 teams, playing in four pools of five. Dr. Millar added: “Whilst the underlying concept of greater inclusiveness was appreciated, widespread soundings amongst the developing nations had indicated a strong preference to maintain the current format. The dream of one day performing on a world stage alongside the giants of the game, sustains the aspirations of many of our most promising nations and their players.”

Mike Miller, Chief Executive Officer of the IRB confirmed the view held by the majority of the world's rugby playing nations. “We took the opportunity which presented itself at the General Meeting to seek the views of those who were representing the Member Unions, and there was massive support for retaining the existing structure, both from a playing point of view and in relation to the promotion of RWC.

In the four years since the last World Cup there have been some staggering attendances at RWC qualifying matches, particularly in parts of Africa and Eastern Europe. It will be our intention to build substantially on this burgeoning interest in the next four year cycle.”

Speaking on behalf of France, the

FFR President Bernard Lapasset said: “From a sporting, economic, financial and administrative point of view, France has never been better prepared to offer the participating players, officials, supporters and partners a superb tournament in the best traditions of the game. The entire rugby world is eagerly awaiting this first ever World Cup *à la française*.”

In summary Dr. Millar said, “On behalf of the Council, I would like to say how delighted I am that the 2007 Rugby World Cup will take place in France. At the same time, I would like to express my thanks and commiserations to the Rugby Football Union who put a great deal of time, effort and thought into their

bid. I am only sorry that in such situations there has to be a loser.”

The finals of RWC 2007 will be played during the months of September and October. Looking to the future, the RWC Board of Directors indicated to the Council that the decision concerning the location of Rugby World Cup should be taken earlier than has happened in the past. It is felt that the scale and nature of the preparatory work in delivering such a complex event requires more time, and the recommendation is that the decision should be taken two years earlier than is presently the case. On that time scale a decision on RWC 2011 would be taken in 2005.



The French representatives on the IRB Council from left Bernard Lapasset and Jacques Laurans during the Sixth General Meeting. Alongside them in the front row: the ARU Chairman, Bob Tuckey and the RFU representative Malcolm Phillips and RFU Chairman Grahame Cattermole.

IRB COUNCIL DECISIONS (April 2003)

IRB Governance

A Working Party was established to consider all issues relating to IRB Governance. Part of the remit will be to consult with Member Unions and Regional Associations giving them a meaningful input into the best possible policy, structure and practices for the governance of the game going forward.

Rugby Union has undergone a profound transformation in the eight years since the introduction of professionalism. While the IRB core values and aims have not changed, structures and working practices have evolved and will continue to do so as the Board strives to develop rugby into a truly global sport.

Special Dispensation

A special dispensation has been granted to Italy and Wales in respect of their tours of Canada and USA and Fiji respectively, which have now been cancelled. This is due to the additional commitments in a Rugby World Cup year.

Conference on the Game

The Council agreed that a Conference on the Game will be held in January 2004.

Anti-Doping

The Council agreed in principle to the World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”) Code. A number of aspects of the WADA Code remain to be finalised by WADA. Pending final constitutional adoption by the IRB of the WADA Code, a number of interim measures were accepted including the adoption of the WADA position on exceptional circumstances.

Referees

A strategic review of elite refereeing processes will be undertaken. This review will be presented to Council at the Annual Meeting 2004. Referees can in exceptional cases gain advice from the TMOs in matters relating to a dropped goal, which will take effect from 1 June 2003.

Eligibility

There will be an overall review of Regulation 8 – Eligibility and Unions will be consulted on the various issues. Council upheld the decision to rule Paul Thompson ineligible to play for Scotland.

Water Breaks

When weather conditions are exceptionally hot and/or humid, the referee, at his discretion, will be permitted to allow one water break in each half. This water break should be no longer than one minute. Time lost should be added on at the end of each half. The water break should normally be taken after a score or when the ball is out of play near the half-way line.

Under 19s World Championship

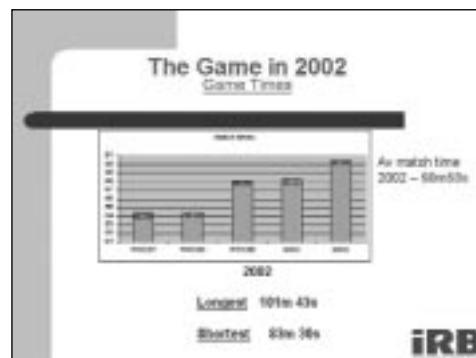
The 2004 Under 19 World Championship consisting of 24 teams will be held in South Africa.

Disciplinary

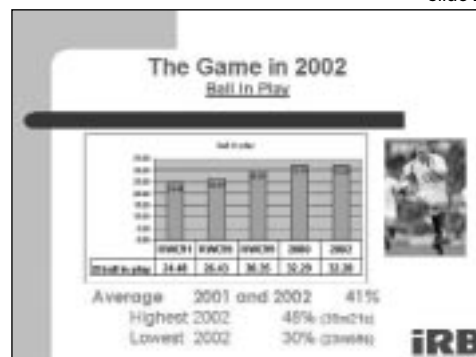
The Council agreed revisions to its Disciplinary provisions in respect of Regulation 17 – Illegal and Foul Play, but agreed to maintain the underlying principles of the current Regulation. Amongst the changes was the acceptance that, in certain instances, single Judicial Officers may sit as adjudicators rather than three man disciplinary committees.



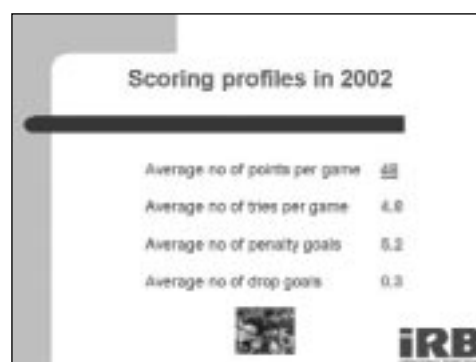
Slide 1



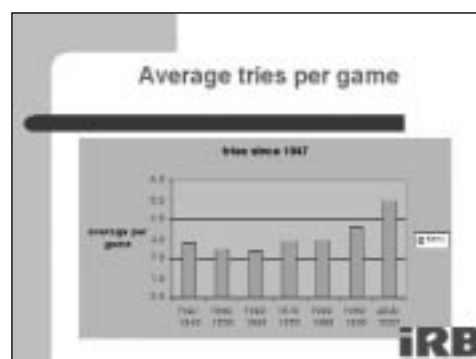
Slide 2



Slide 3



Slide 4



Slide 5

The State of the Game – Year 2002



Unlike other games such as soccer and hockey, rugby, through its very nature, is changing all the time. The role of the IRB Game Analysis Centre is to track the way the game is played at international level to enable the IRB to monitor its evolution and indeed changes on a monthly basis. Former International referee Corris Thomas, who is in charge of the IRB Analysis Centre, offered the participants at the 6th IRB General Meeting a fascinating insight into the way the game is played and refereed at the end of year 2002.

We approach the game analysis in a proactive manner because the monitoring and reporting is done on a monthly basis. So if we see a trend developing, it's not a question of lagging a year or two behind, we can identify the pattern within a month or two. In the old days there used to be up to 150 – 160 stoppages per game, while now the number of stoppages has gone down to fewer than 100 (slide 1). There were more lineouts then, between 70 – 80 on average (in one particular match there were 111) while now the average is about 30 – 40. There were more scrums and more kicks in the open field too. In the famous Barbarians v All Blacks game, there were 97 kicks, would you believe? Now the average is just about 50. There were more errors, and there were more turnovers. In the modern game, we have more ball in play, more tries are scored, there are more conversions, the kicking is better, there are more penalty goals, more passes, more rucks and mauls, and we even have more players, simply because we now have substitutes, and tactical substitutes.

The game is getting longer – the average length of a game now is 90 minutes 53 seconds. The longest game in 2002 (slide 2) had 21 minutes of extra time. And this is not just because of injuries and the increased attention for injured players; we now have substitutions, which take more time, we have stoppages for the television replays, not to mention the breakdowns in communications equipment. The ball-in-play time has gone up considerably as well (slide 3). In RWC 91 the ball

was in play for 28 minutes 48 seconds on average. Now we have 32 minutes of ball-in-play time, which is around 41% of the duration of a match. In one game the ball-in-play time went up to 48%, which is almost 40 minutes playing time. In one of this year's Six Nations we actually reached 50% ball-in-play time for the first time, while in the past, we would have been lucky to average 25%.

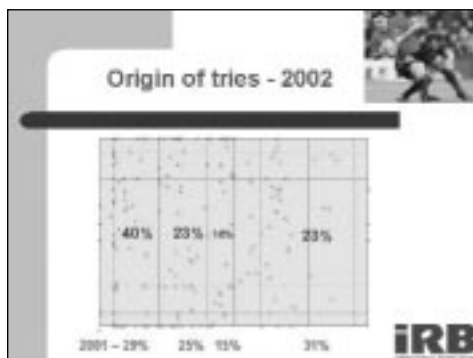
The average number of tries per match is 4.8, penalties 5.2 and there is one drop-goal in every three games (slide 4). In the 1960s there were just over 2.5 tries a game. We looked at conversions and the kicking is certainly a lot better now than in the past. For 50 years we were hovering around a successful conversion rate of around 55%, while now it has gone up to 76 – 72%. At top class level around 75% of all tries are converted (slide 5).

Where do tries originate from? They come from various sources of possession, but over 50% come from set pieces, from a throw at the lineout, or from a put in at a scrum (slide 6). Far fewer come from opponents' handling errors, kicks and turnovers than from set pieces.

Which area in the field do they come from – the point on the pitch where the team who scored the try, last obtained possession (slide 7)? Some 40% of tries scored start somewhere within the 22 metre area; 23% between the 22 and 10m lines, 40% between the 10 metre line and the halfway line, and 23% of all tries started with possession gained by the scoring team in their own half of the pitch, which is slightly less than last year when it was



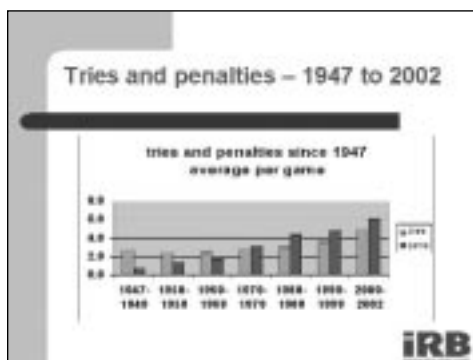
Slide 6



Slide 7



Slide 8



Slide 9



Slide 10

the 1940s (slide 8). By 2002 it had gone up progressively to over six penalties per game. But even so, penalties do not have a considerable impact on the final result. Take a look at the way tries and penalties have evolved each decade. In the early days tries outweighed penalties by 3 – 4 to one. By the end of the 20th century penalties had become the most common form of scoring but, despite all that, nothing had changed in terms of what actually won matches (slide 9). The team scoring more tries than their opponents won 470 matches of the 498 matches played between 1946 and 1996. That means that only 28 times in 50 years the team who scored more penalties won a match.

Interestingly, the team scoring fewer tries won only 17 of the 210 matches played since 1996 (slide 10). The reality is that tries win matches. If we look at 2002, in the Six Nations 13 out of 15 matches were won by the team scoring more tries, while in the Tri Nations it was four out of six. For other tests it was nine out of ten, which overall gives an average of 84% for all 2002 matches. The same message comes from all Rugby World Cup Tournaments to date – 84% of all matches are won by the team scoring more tries (slide 11). Unsurprisingly perhaps, tries are getting scored towards the end of the game, while if you look at penalties, the opposite happens, penalties start at the beginning of the game and the gradually fade down.

There are now on average 21 scrums per game and the percentage of possession maintained by the team putting in is consistently over the 90% mark (slide 12). The other 10% is not necessarily the other side striking against the head, it is almost always the team putting the ball in giving away a penalty. The average number of lineouts in a game is 34, but unlike scrummaging the percentage of possession retained by the team throwing in is progressively coming down (slide 13).

The competition for the ball in the lineout is more intense, and therefore the percentage of ball won by the team throwing in is going down.

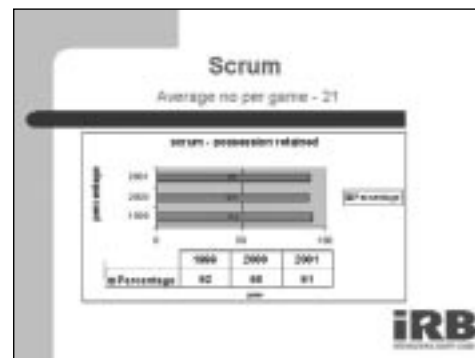
Interestingly enough, there are fewer scrums per game, yet they are taking twice as long. Lineouts on the other hand take the same amount of time now as they did 20 years ago, but there are far fewer of them. In 1983/4, in some of the longest games almost 25 minutes was taken up by just throwing the ball at the lineout. In the old days sometimes the lineout and the scrum between them would take over half the game. These days are gone; there is much, much more activity now (slide 14).

Professionalism has brought with it a new type of player – bigger, stronger and heavier. I have at home a match programme from an All Black game I refereed in 1973 and I compared the sizes of the New Zealand backs then, with the All Blacks in the 1999 RWC (slide 15). The fly-halves have gone up from 74.4 kg to 86.3 kg, the centres from 81.8 kg to 91.8 kg and the wingers from 80 to 102 kg, with the full back making the smallest gain from 80 to 86 kilogrammes.

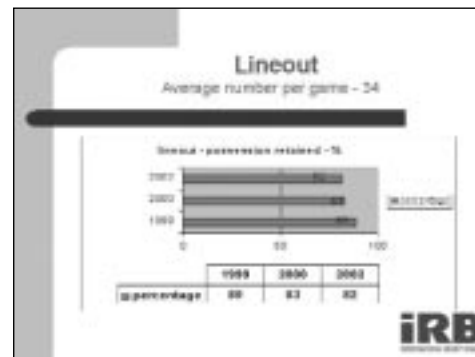
So, what are all these players doing? Well, they are involved in the so-called activity cycles, which is whatever happens in the game between two stoppages: rucks, mauls, passes, runs, kicks, tackles, etc. In 2002, the average number of passes was 258 per game, while the number of kicks was 57 – 4.5



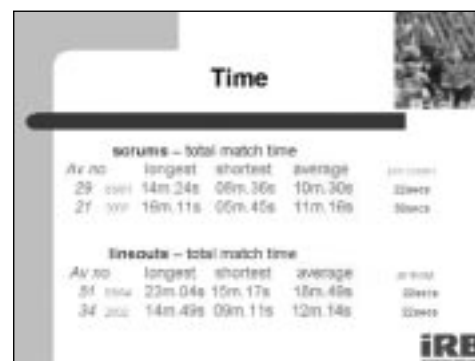
Slide 11



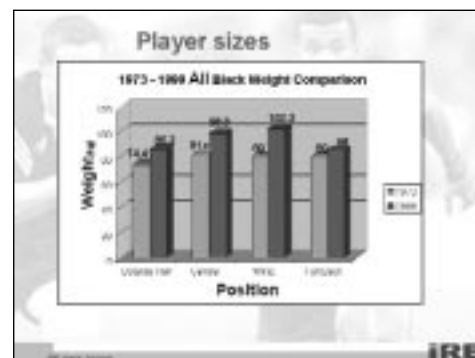
Slide 12



Slide 13



Slide 14



Slide 15

31%. So tries are now starting closer to the goal line and we'll be tracking this trend from year to year.

There was less than one penalty goal per game in

passes for every kick. The average number of rucks and mauls in a game was 130; varying between 160 and 110 per match – with a Super 12 final a couple

of years ago holding the record of 220 rucks and mauls, the highest ever recorded (slide 16). Since RWC '99 the rucks and mauls have gone up and up and then stabilised, passes went up and then stabilised and followed pretty much the same pattern.

There is a huge difference between the current game and rugby played 30 years ago. The 1971 column refers to a match regarded as one of the greatest of its era in terms of quality of rugby, exciting open play and so on – that was Scotland v Wales, when Wales won with a conversion in the last couple of minutes of the game. That match had only 37 rucks and mauls; there were half as many passes and 60% more kicks; it stopped 152 times, whereas the modern games stops less than 100.

Amazingly after all this time, there is still discussion in certain quarters about the difference between Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere referees. Well, we have been tracking this for a number of years and the fact is there is precious little, if any, difference between the two. We follow their performance year on year, but the figures remain the same (slide 17). I took the current top list of IRB referees and I went back and looked at every single international match they have refereed. The average number of penalties awarded by Northern Hemisphere referees and Southern Hemisphere referees was virtually identical – there was only one-third of a penalty between them (slide 18).

Sin Bin is a relatively recent innovation and there are a lot of myths related to the scoring rate when a player is sent off (slide 19). The fact is that teams score less when an opposition player is in the Sin Bin, than during the rest of the game. On most occasions no tries are scored, while the average number of points scored during the Sin Bin is between three and four, and if the points scored by the team with 14 players are taken off, the average goes down to about two. So, ignore those who say the average number of points scored in the Sin Bin is 10 – they talk nonsense.

We also proved the reduced efficiency of an attacking lineout, following a penalty kicked into touch near the defenders in-goal (slide 20). The conventional wisdom is that a team has a good chance of scoring a try when they win the lineout following the penalty kick into touch, by driving over at the lineout. We looked at how often that happened. Of the 14 tries scored following 98 kicks into touch from within 45 metres, only four were scored following a drive in the lineout.

Another myth we have exposed is the one related to the “right” and “wrong” foot of a kicker (slide 21). Before a kicker kicks for goal, you hear some commentators saying this is the wrong side of the posts for a right-footed kicker, in other words they imply it is easier for a right-footed kicker to kick from the left side. Well, we have found out there is very little difference between the success rate of the left side and the right side of the posts. Then there are people like Neil Jenkins who was more successful from the “wrong” side of the posts than he was from the “right” side. Jonny Wilkinson and the other kickers of the new era are now proving that it makes precious little difference where the kick is taken from.

Activity cycles

	1999	2000	2002	1971
Rucks/mauls	117	143	130	37
Passes	239	272	268	145
Kicks	51	51	87	86
Kick/pass ratio	1 to 4.7	1 to 5.3	1 to 4.5	1 to 1.7

Slide 16

Sin Bin summary

- Scoring rate is often LESS in sin bin period than rest of game
- On most occasions no tries are scored in the sin bin period
- The average number of points scored in the sin bin period is between 3 and 4 reducing to 2
- Scoring during sin period has a minimal, if any effect, on the scoring outcome of most games.

Slide 19

Northern & Southern Hemisphere Referees

	NH	SH
Avg Points per Game	45	41
Avg Points differential	11	10
Avg Pens per Game	37	36
Avg Scrum per Game	25	28
Ball in Play Average	38%	36%

Ruck/Tackle area – no difference in interpretation

Slide 17

Scoring from lineouts directly following penalty kicks to touch

- 98 kicks to touch from within 45 metres
- 14 tries resulted from subsequent lineout

BUT

ON ONLY 4 OCCASIONS WAS A TRY SCORED FROM A DRIVING LINEOUT

is 4 out of 98

Slide 20

Northern and Southern Hemisphere referees

Current international referees

Average number of penalties awarded

	Average
Northern	26.8
Southern	26.6

Slide 18

Kicks from Right/Left Side of Post

	Left	Right
Success Rate	64%	60%
6 Nations	62%	65%
Tri Nations	65%	57%
Other Tests	66%	66%

Slide 21



“A mobile, handling, continuous game with less space and more contact, where players are now bigger, faster, fitter, stronger and more skilful. A game where forwards play like backs and backs play like forwards.”

Corris Thomas

RWC '03 – Australian Diary

By Greg Thomas

VENUE TESTING

The ARU's Rugby World Cup management team will take advantage of the 2003 Super 12 series and the Wallabies' domestic Test series to test venue operations at grounds around Australia.

In February the ACT Brumbies played a Super 12 trial against the Auckland Blues at WIN Stadium in Wollongong, two hours south of Sydney. The ground's layout and team and player facilities were tested along with traffic control around the beachside venue.

The Wallabies World Cup preparations include June Tests against Ireland in Perth, Wales in Sydney and England in Melbourne, affording the ARU the opportunity to test World Cup operations and management. Two home Tri-Nations matches in July and August against South Africa in Brisbane and New Zealand in Sydney will provide the ARU with the opportunity to fine-tune operations before the World Cup kicks off in October.

FINALISTS PREPARE

The Irish Rugby Football Union's Operations Director Martin Murphy and Ireland coach Eddie O'Sullivan undertook site inspections in Sydney, Gosford, Adelaide and Melbourne in January. Ireland qualified as Europe 1 for the finals and is in Pool A with host nation Australia. Like the Wallabies, Ireland will contest each of its four pool matches in a different city. The Irish also inspected Perth as

they will play the Wallabies there in June as part of World Cup preparations.

Japan RWC squad went to Townsville for a training camp at the end of March. The team trained daily at Townsville District Rugby Union grounds and played a trial match against Queensland A at the Dairy Farmers Stadium. Japan will play three of its World Cup pool B matches at the Dairy Farmers Stadium in October against Scotland, France and Fiji.

Scotland has announced that it will embark on a two-Test tour of South Africa in June. It will play matches in Durban and Johannesburg as preparation for the World Cup. Scotland is in Pool B with France, Fiji, Japan and Tonga. Following the South Africa visit Scotland will play a home Test against Italy on 23 August and an away Test at Millennium Stadium in Cardiff against Wales on 30 August.

BUSINESS PROGRAMME

With New South Wales hosting 17 of the 48 matches, the NSW Department of State and Regional Development has kicked off a RWC 2003 NSW Business Programme. Networking events have already begun and a variety of opportunities are organised in the lead up to the tournament including international investment forums; technical and regional visits; market visits; business briefings; and other business functions.



Black market tickets warning

In order to prevent the black market exploitation of Rugby World Cup tickets, the public can only obtain tickets for the Tournament either from the Australian Rugby Union, via its own ticket allocation process, or from the Official Travel Agents who deal with the overseas applications. The allocation process is aimed at protecting the bona-fide rugby spectators from unscrupulous black market operators, who deprive the game of much-needed revenue. Not to mention the fact that tickets obtained from any sources other than those mentioned above, including via unauthorised competition prizes, may lead to the ticket holder being refused entry to the Tournament venue(s). You can help protect the integrity of the Rugby World Cup, its Commercial Programme and, by extension, the game of rugby, by reporting any unauthorised use of RWC tickets. A blackmarket report form can be downloaded by accessing the IRB Internet site at www.irb.com.

IRB SOS Kit Aid explosion!

The phenomenal expansion of SOS Romania has enabled the IRB to expand the programme to other needy unions in Europe with Moldova, Bulgaria and Georgia being the prime targets. SOS recently met the President of Moldova Rugby Federation, Boris Iacob and his Georgia Rugby Union counterpart, Bidzina Gigidze to organise the logistics of the programme's expansion in their countries. However, as the programme expands fast, its mastermind John Broadfoot calls for volunteers to join the SOS team:

As youngsters aged 8 – 17 grow out of their rugby kit every year there is so much unwanted rugby kit going to waste in the UK it is perhaps not surprising that SOS IRB Kit Aid is expanding so fast. Of the 3000+ rugby clubs and rugby-playing schools in the UK and Ireland, SOS has only really recruited some 10% of that total target area so far, yet already SOS is supplying good quality kit, in addition to Romania, to three other emerging rugby nations: Georgia, Moldova and Bulgaria – with many other countries on the waiting list. One wonders how fast SOS IRB Kit Aid could develop if it could cover all 3000 rugby-playing schools/clubs! In order to expand, SOS urgently needs more volunteers, more schools and clubs ready to join and more sponsors keen to help fund the transportation of kit, the single most expensive item of the programme.

1. We need Area Kit Coordinators – If you would like to put something back into rugby and can spare 3–4 days per year maximum, then you could really make a difference to youngsters' lives. If you live in following areas – Dublin/Newcastle/Leeds/Nottingham/Leicester/Cambridge/Edinburgh/Glasgow/Southampton/Newbury/Crawley/Tunbridge Wells/Ipswich/Brentwood/Southend and Norwich, please come forward. You can contact us either via the website www.sosromaniarugby.org or on 0208-776-2085.
2. We need more schools/clubs/referees societies to join the SOS scheme via the website and donate their clean second-hand kit.
3. We need more kit manufacturers to join SOS and donate unwanted, clean rugby kit
4. We need sponsors to help fund the kit transport – the most expensive part of the programme. For ex-rugby-playing MDs, there is fantastic PR to be had by associating your company with such a wonderful cause – the development of the great game of youth rugby throughout the world (see website for contact details).



Moldova Rugby Federation President Boris Iacob (left) meets IRB SOS Kit Aid programme leader, John Broadfoot.

South Africa U19 World Champions



After dispatching the host nation France in a semi-final full of drama and excitement, South Africa triumphed 22-18 in the final of the World U19 Championship against a never-say-die New Zealand in Bondoufle, near Paris.

Throughout the tournament the South Africans, coached by Eugene Eloff, displayed tremendous

in a tight game 10-6 to finish seventh, while Japan overcame Georgia 28-20 to come ninth. Italy finished 11, thanks to a narrow 6-3 point win over Russia, the lowest scoring match of the tournament, while Korea beat newcomers Namibia 21-5 to finish thirteenth. Finally, Romania, a former winner of the competition, managed to overcome a spirited Canadian resistance to win 13-3. Another penalty shoot-out



South Africa celebrate.

discipline, a healthy appetite for attacking rugby and a very well-organised defence, having had their character sternly tested in the dying seconds of an epic battle with the young Blacks. They entered the closing stages of this draining encounter only one point ahead, but Dollie's drop goal gave them a crucial four point lead and the confidence to weather the storm unleashed by the New Zealanders. It is not just a coincidence that South Africa have added the U19 World title to their U21 World crown – rugby's two most prestigious developmental prizes. The World U19 title is a reward for the hard work and dedication of a young and talented Rainbow squad, their coaching staff and families, but more than anything else it vindicates the vision and the determination of SARFU to pursue a development programme of unprecedented magnitude, which is now paying off.

France shook off their disappointment in the aftermath of the semi-final defeat at the hands of SA, to finish with a 45-24 flourish against the Pumitas. Ireland and England finished level 22-22 after 70 minutes, with Ireland winning the penalty shoot-out drama and the ranking match. Wales beat Scotland

secured Uruguay a lucrative place in next year's tournament as they finished 19-all against a gallant Chile team in the final of the second division. For the third place in the second division Portugal finished level 15-15 with plucky Tunisia, but won on penalties, Spain beat Belgium 33-3, Paraguay had the better of Germany 24-17, Morocco beat Ukraine 24-10, Poland defeated Lithuania 25-10, United States beat Czech Republic 33-15, with Hong Kong being awarded the match against Cote d'Ivoire by default.

Final U19 rankings for 2003

1	South Africa	17	Uruguay
2	New Zealand	18	Chile
3	France	19	Portugal
4	Argentina	20	Tunisia
5	Ireland	21	Spain
6	England	22	Belgium
7	Wales	23	Paraguay
8	Scotland	24	Germany
9	Japan	25	Morocco
10	Georgia	26	Ukraine
11	Italy	27	Poland
12	Russia	28	Lithuania
13	Korea	29	USA
14	Namibia	30	Czech Rep.
15	Romania	31	Hong Kong
16	Canada	32	Cote d'Ivoire

IRB 7s climax at Twickenham & Cardiff



Great things can sometimes come in small packages – and in Sevens' terms that doesn't just mean Fiji's Waisale Serevi or New Zealand's Nathaniel Walker! In this instance it's the IRB's Sevens Series itself – shortcircuited by extraneous factors that most recently have deprived us of the exciting prospects of the Beijing and Singapore tournaments, on account of health reasons.

Nil desperandum! There's still a grand finale in store – two of them in fact – with the Cardiff and London Sevens to round off the season. And what a climax awaits. For a change, although New Zealand are still favourites to retain their title, the 40 tournament points on offer mean that it is still possible for England or Fiji to overhaul them. Last year New Zealand won seven of the 11 events, an

extraordinary achievement. This season they have two titles as have England, with Fiji just one. The yawning gap between New Zealand and the rest has closed remorselessly.

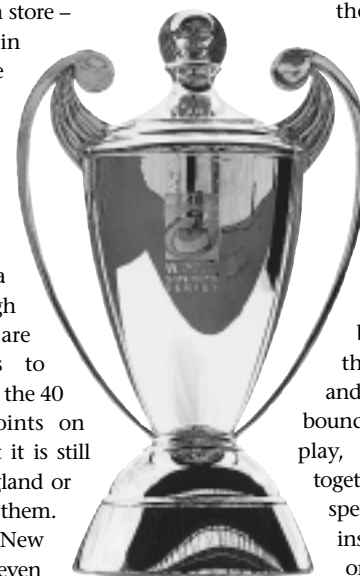
More importantly, this season's IRB Sevens Series has not just been about New Zealand, England, Fiji, South

Africa and Australia, but about the whole wide world of rugby. Thirty nations have taken part so far and by the time Spain, Portugal and Georgia join in it will be 33. Equally, it has not just been about the stars who light up the rugby sevens firmament, like Roy Kinikinilau, Sireli Bobo, Ben Gollings or Henry Paul. Let me put forward to you the claims for recognition of Canada's playmaker Marco di Girolamo, Tonga's tryscorer supreme Kiniconi Bakewa, China's revelation He Zhong Liang or Kenya's irrepressible Oscar Osuia. They, and

the nations they represent, have also had their moments in the limelight. So, too, along the way, Morocco, Namibia, Cook Islands, Russia and France.

Upsets are the name of the game in 7s – like Kenya beating Australia – thrills are guaranteed and excitement knows no bounds. It's easy to learn to play, easy to put a side together, easy to follow as a spectator. The appeal is instant. Yet the accent is on skills that combine the very best elements

of the sport of rugby union – passing, handling, running, ball-winning and tackling, allied to teamwork, organisation and supreme levels of fitness. At its best the pace is unrelenting and the intensity of those 14, or 20, minutes of action is unrivalled. **Nigel Starmer-Smith**



	Total Points	Dubai	George (SA)	Brisbane	Wellington	Hong Kong	Cardiff	London
New Zealand	92	20	16	12	20	24		
England	76	6	4	20	16	30		
Fiji	74	8	20	16	12	18		
Australia	52	12	12	8	12	8		
South Africa	50	12	12	4	4	18		
Samoa	44	16	6	6	8	8		
France	20	2		12	6			
Argentina	20	4	8	4	4			
Kenya	12		4			8		
Tonga	10			2		8		
Canada	6				2	4		
Wales	4	4						
Scotland	3						3	
Namibia	2		2					
Cook Islands	2					2		
USA	1					1		