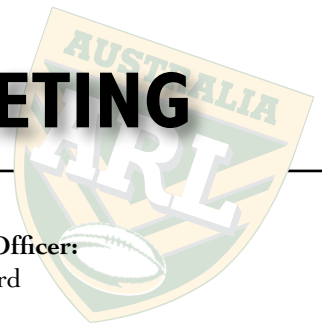


# NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**Colin Love**  
CHAIRMAN



**John McDonald**  
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN



**Geoff Carr**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



**John Barrett**  
DIRECTOR



**Kevin Brasch**  
DIRECTOR



**John Chalk**  
DIRECTOR



**Barry Pierce**  
DIRECTOR



**Bob Millward**  
DIRECTOR



**Ross Livermore**  
DIRECTOR



**Terry Quinn**  
DIRECTOR

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Rugby League Limited will be held at the office of the Queensland Rugby League, 411 Vulture St Woolloongabba, on Monday December 12, 2005 commencing at 10.00am

## Business

1. To receive and consider the Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Financial Performance and the reports of the Directors and Auditors in respect of the financial year ended 31 October, 2005.
2. To elect 8 Directors:
  - i) Four persons nominated by the New South Wales Rugby Football League Limited
  - ii) Four persons nominated by the Queensland Rugby Football League Limited
3. To elect a Chairman
4. To elect a Deputy Chairman
5. To appoint the company's auditors for 2006
6. To transact other business of which due notice has been given

By order of the Board  
**Geoff Carr**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## Office Bearers 2005

**Patron:**  
HRH Prince Phillip, KG, PC, KT, GME, FRS

**Selectors:**  
Bob McCarthy, NSW  
Bob Fulton, NSW  
Arthur Beetson, Qld  
Les Geeves, Qld

**National Coach:**  
Wayne Bennett

**Australian Team Managers:**  
John Hayes and Steve Walters

**Hon. Medical Officer:**  
Dr. Hugh Hazard

**AIS RL Program Head Coach:**  
Brian Johnson

**Incorporated:**  
May 23, 1986

**Registered Offices:**  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 165 Phillip St,  
Sydney, NSW 2000

**Life Members:**  
NC Robinson \*  
JJ O'Toole, OAM, MBE  
RE McAuliffe, OBE \*  
KR Arthurson, AM  
TJ Bellew, OAM \*  
RA Dunn, OAM  
\* Denotes deceased

**Auditors:**  
Campbell Griffin & Co,  
22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 288 Edward St, Brisbane  
Qld 4000

**Bankers:**  
Commonwealth Bank of Australia  
Martin Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

**Photographs:**  
Melba Studios  
Action Photographics

## Board of Directors

**Chairman:**  
Colin Love

**Deputy Chairman:**  
John McDonald AM

**Chief Executive:**  
Geoff Carr

**Directors:**  
John Barrett OAM  
Kevin Brasch  
John Chalk  
Ross Livermore  
Bob Millward  
Barry Pierce  
Terry Quinn



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Rarely has rugby league enjoyed a year as prolific as the past twelve months have been, with successes on every conceivable front and the game growing at all levels.

From the Kangaroos, through the National Rugby League, the state leagues and all the affiliated leagues right down to the junior levels of the game, rugby league is booming and can reflect with great satisfaction on a year of expansion.

Our senior nation team, the Kangaroos, again maintained the proud record Australian teams have built over the past two decades. After defeating New Zealand 32-16 in the Test played at Suncorp Stadium in April they faced spirited opposition in the end of season Gillette Tri Nations matches.

A reinvigorated New Zealand was able to defeat Australia 38-28 in the first match of this series, played at Telstra Stadium, the first win by the Kiwis in Sydney for 48 years. Australia balanced the ledger with a 28-26 win in the return encounter, played at Ericsson Stadium and then defeated England 20-6 at JJB Stadium, Wigan, in their first match of their campaign in the northern hemisphere.

That was followed by a 44-12 victory over the improving French side at Perpignan. At the time of writing the Australians still had to defeat Great Britain to ensure a place in the tournament final against New Zealand.

Our other national teams enjoyed varying degrees of success. A Prime Ministers

XIII was selected for the first time, and they toured Papua New Guinea as part of the celebrations of that nation's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence. The team conducted a series of coaching clinics and assisted the PNG government with the delivery of messages regarding safe sex and domestic violence. Their match against the Kumuls resulted in a 34-0 win to the Prime Ministers XIII, capping a tour that achieved a great deal on behalf of rugby league.

The Junior Kangaroos were narrowly defeated by Papua New Guinea, Australian Schoolboys shared their series against the Junior Kiwis, the Australian Women's Rugby League sent an Under 21 side on tour to New Zealand, where they performed creditably. I congratulate all players and officials associated with our national representative teams.

New South Wales retained possession of the Harvey Norman State of Origin Shield with victories in the second and third matches of the 2005 series, which added a new chapter to the phenomenal success story that is Origin football. Crowds and television ratings again reflected the central place these matches now command in our national sporting psyche.

The NSWRL and QRL each conducted successful domestic competitions and remain productive and important nurseries for the game, developing players for the elite level of rugby league and providing opportunities for players of all ages. Likewise, our affiliated states

and leagues each ran their programs to the usual high standards associated with rugby league in this country.

It is pleasing to record that player registrations increased in all areas of the game, and this augurs well for ongoing growth in the years ahead. I congratulate all players and officials working for clubs at all levels across Australia for their efforts in 2005, which have played an important part in our successful 2005. I would especially pay tribute to the army of volunteers across the nation that continues to work to provide opportunities for our players at all levels.

ARL Development has again enjoyed a year of hard work that has brought tangible and ongoing benefits to the code. Their work, assisted by the staff of each of the relevant leagues, continues to be an important investment in our future.

2005 also saw the establishment of the Centenary Committee, who are charged with overseeing activities that will appropriately celebrate this landmark event in the game. Chaired by former ARL Executive Chairman Mr Ken Arthurson, the Centenary Committee has already begun this arduous task and has a wealth of experience and expertise within its ranks.

Our corporate partners have again worked closely with us to assist in achieving our goals for 2005, and we are indeed fortunate to have such support from the likes of Harvey Norman, Classic Sportswear, Sony Playstation, Bundaberg Rum, Carlton United Brewing, Coca Cola and Beiersdorf.

The assistance of the Federal Government in the introduction of the Prime Ministers XIII and the ongoing work of the Australian Sports Commission has also been of enormous benefit to rugby league and we acknowledge their contribution to our success in 2005.

Finally, I would thank the ARL Board of Directors, Chief Executive Geoff Carr and the ARL staff for their tireless efforts on behalf of the game throughout 2005.

**Colin Love**  
CHAIRMAN



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



By any means of reckoning the 2005 rugby league season has been a remarkable success. At every level and in every aspect there have been record figures and it is with the greatest pleasure that we look back on the highlights of a landmark year.

The Australian Kangaroos once more upheld the traditions associated with the green and gold jersey, continuing the reign of supremacy that stretches back to 1978. The Test match against New Zealand in April was played at Suncorp Stadium, and produced a memorable match that saw Australia victorious by 32-16.

At the end of the season the Kangaroos once more took part in the Gillette Tri Nations. New Zealand caused a massive upset by winning the first of these matches 38-28, with the Test played at Telstra Stadium. Australia returned to their best form in the second match, and recorded a thrilling 28-26 win at Auckland's Ericsson Stadium.

At the time of writing the Kangaroos were in the middle of the Gillette Tri Nations but all rugby league fans in Australia are confident that they will be able to retain the trophy in the face of spirited opposition from both New Zealand and Great Britain.

Other Australian teams enjoyed varying degrees of success. The Junior Kangaroos were defeated by Papua New Guinea 24-16 in Darwin in a match that was a magnificent advertisement for rugby league in one of the game's frontiers.

2005 also saw the introduction of a Prime Minister's XIII, who toured Papua New Guinea as a celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their independence. Coached by Mal Meninga and with Brad Fittler as Assistant Coach and Luke Ricketson as captain, the tour gave an opportunity for Australia and in



particular our rugby league icons, to help promote the sport through a series of coaching clinics.

The tour was also used as an opportunity to highlight messages regarding safe sex and domestic violence, and the players and officials revelled in their ambassadorial role. The match itself saw Australia record a hard fought 34-0 victory but the initiative was an overwhelming success and it is anticipated that this will be an ongoing feature of the rugby league calendar.

New South Wales retained possession of the Harvey Norman State of Origin Shield, winning the second and third matches of the series after Queensland had claimed the first in golden point extra time by 24-20. The Wizard Blues played some scintillating football in their wins and were inspired by the return to the representative stage of Andrew Johns, who steered them to 32-22 and 32-10 wins.

The other interstate fixtures saw NSW triumphant in the Residents and Under 17s fixtures, with the respective scores in those games 16-

6 and 28-12. Queensland won the U19s match with a resounding 42-12 victory.

Domestically, each of the state leagues has reported on successful seasons, and it is very pleasing to see that the number of registrations nationally has increased. I congratulate the premiers in the major senior competitions for the NSWRL and Queensland Rugby League, as well as all players and officials who have contributed to the success of the 2005 season.

Our affiliated leagues also enjoyed the benefits from the rugby league resurgence that characterised the 2005 season. The Australian Schoolboys Championships were, as always, a magnificent advertisement for rugby league and a testament to the development structures we have in place. The 15 Years Championships, held in Rockhampton, were won by Queensland while the 18 Years Championships were conducted in Wagga Wagga and resulted in NSW Combined Catholic Colleges winning the title.

The 2005 Australian Schoolboys played two matches against the





# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Junior Kiwis, winning the first 42-24 at Olympic Park Melbourne. The return match was held at Kougari Oval, Wynnum, and saw New Zealand post an emphatic 46-8 victory.

An Affiliated States team took part in the U16 World Youth Championships in Russia and was successful in winning the final, a tremendous effort from this young side.

The National Indigenous Rugby League Program did a marvellous job once more in providing opportunities for our indigenous youth. Now in its third year, the program continues to grow in breadth and scope. Under the astute direction of Ricky Walford, the NIRL Program also works closely with relevant government authorities and their combined efforts are providing a huge boon to the game in indigenous communities

ARL Development have continued their work in assisting the growth of

rugby league at the grass roots level across the country and their efforts have been in no small way responsible for the increased popularity at all levels and the rise in junior registrations. I congratulate their General Manager Bill Palmer and his army of staff for the ongoing work they do to spread the rugby league gospel.

2005 also saw the induction of another six former great players into the ARL Hall of Fame. Once again, an exhaustive voting process was conducted before the six players were decided upon, and we acknowledge the contribution of all those who were involved in the voting. The six players inducted this year were:

Pre 1940: Jimmy Craig, Duncan Thompson, Chris McKivat  
Post WWII: Ron Coote, Brian Carlson, Brian Bevan

With the centenary of rugby league in Australia rapidly approaching, a Centenary Committee was

established this year to co ordinate activities that will properly celebrate this milestone event across the game. Already the Centenary Committee has met several times and begun the preparatory work required to ensure the centenary is marked appropriately.

The Centenary Committee members are: K Arthurson (Chairman), G Carr (NSWRL), R Livermore (QRL), P Kind (NRL), J Brady (NRL, D Fitzgerald and S Noyce (Club Representatives), R Coote and the Hon J Fahey (Independent Advisors), M Howell, I Heads and G Armstrong (Historians) and T Williams (Secretary).

Our corporate partners have also played a big part in the success of 2005 and we acknowledge the valuable contribution made by the likes of Harvey Norman, Sony Playstation, Classic Sportswear, Bundaberg Rum, Coca Cola and Beiersdorf. I would also pay tribute to the ongoing support we receive from the Australian Sports Commission, which assists us in the overall development of the game. I would also like to thank Chairman Colin Love and the Board of Directors for their support throughout 2005 as well as the staff and army of volunteers who continue to serve the game with such distinction.

With record television ratings for our signature matches, increased playing numbers and attendances and a growth in revenue across the game, 2005 has been a truly remarkable year. The challenge facing all levels of rugby league in the coming season is to maintain and build upon this success so that rugby league continues to hold its lofty position in Australia's sporting hierarchy.

**Geoff Carr**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



# NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE REPORT



Phrases like 'fairytale finish', 'rags to riches rise' and 'Cinderella team' can be overused at times.

But in 2005 the Wests Tigers put meaning back into those clichés with their astounding Telstra premiership success.

The Wests Tigers secured the title with a 30-16 win over North Queensland in front of 82,453 fans at Telstra Stadium, a Television audience of over 2.5 million in capital cities and 1.5 million on regional television (an overall increase from 2004 of 800,000 viewers).

Representing two of the game's foundation teams, the joint venture club also represented a brave move into the future.

Since being established in 2000 it had not finished higher than ninth before this year.

At the start of the season, the Wests Tigers' mix of youth, enthusiasm, a wily veteran coach and some flamboyant football was interesting enough but nobody rated them as title contenders.

What started off as an intriguing run of upsets soon developed into a club record eight match winning streak, during which competition's traditional heavyweights began to feel the heat.

The Wests Tigers' growing success generated unprecedented support from fans with ground records being set at Campbelltown, Telstra Stadium and Leichhardt in the final rounds of the regular season.

It was fitting that the club chose what many now regard as the game's best ever season to show its true colours as the first joint venture team to win a Premiership.

For the Cowboys and their fans the loss was disappointing but the club remains one of the game's great success stories.

In two seasons, the North Queensland team has established itself as a genuine



premiership force bringing with it a welcome boost to the profile of our game in Queensland.

The success of the Cowboys has provided an encouraging background to the NRL's decision this year to expand to the Gold Coast in 2007.

Indeed the Telstra Premiership is testimony to the depth of enthusiasm and support that exists for the game in general.

Crowds were at unprecedented levels in 2005 with a third straight season of record average crowds. This year's figure was 16,688 up from 14,671 in 2004. Overall crowds have risen 27% in the last three years.

Total attendance for the Telstra Premiership rounds was 2,963,968, up by more than 300,000 on last season. The Finals Series added a further 312,387 fans bringing the overall figure to 3,276,354.







# NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE REPORT

In all, seven ground records fell during the season and as further evidence of the strength of joint venture teams, four of those fell at the hands of the St George Illawarra Dragons.

Few supporters were as loyal though as those of the Newcastle Knights who faced with an injury crisis in the playing ranks had to endure the worst start to a season in the club's history.

Yet still they turned out in massive numbers inspiring the club to a thrilling run that finished just short of a finals berth.

The Broncos led the way on crowds finishing with an average of 30,331, while 11 of the 15 clubs recorded rises in average home crowds from 2004.

Rugby League again gave Channel Nine the highest rating programmes in Sydney and Brisbane as well as producing the most watched subscription television programming on Fox Sports.

Melbourne produced an incredible Grand Final result with the match winning every quarter hour on Channel Nine in Melbourne to finish with an average of 511,120, an increase of 120,000 viewers on 2004.

The growing acceptance of the game in Victoria is a welcome sign and a good foundation that will be added to in 2006.

This year's renewal of contracts with the Nine Network and Fox Sports until the end of 2012 is a major achievement for the game and a clear sign of the confidence in Rugby League's growing attendances and in its ratings dominance among more than half Australia's population in NSW and Queensland.

The agreement will, from 2007, see more matches on free to air television, more live games on subscription television and more investment in every level of the game.

One immediate benefit for clubs will be a \$250,000 increase in the club grants next season and a \$500,000 increase in 2007.

This unpredictability of the season was due in no small part to the success of the salary cap.

The distribution of playing talent saw the Wests Tigers become the NRL's seventh different premier in eight years, while 14 clubs have now finished in the top eight at some stage since 1998.

The 2005 salary cap rose to \$3.3 million and rises to \$3.366 next season.

Sponsorship in the game remains extremely strong with an overall increase of 39% on 2004.

Licensing and merchandising reflect the enthusiasm of fans for supporting their team with a 41% increase in merchandising royalties (exclusive of video games).

On line activity has seen considerable growth with more than 800,000 individual users logging onto nrl.com in a single month, an increase of 53% on the peak month of 2004.

Over the next 12 months the NRL will face a number of exciting challenges.

These will include strategic support for Melbourne Storm matches, preparation for a new team and a new Monday Night football concept in 2007 and preparation for the game's centenary in 2008.

Importantly 2006 will also see the negotiation of a new Collective Bargaining Agreement with our players and the restructuring of club and game funding that will flow from the new television agreements.

Certainly 2005 has provided an outstanding base from which to move forward.

It is a base underpinned by the efforts of everyone in the game from the development officers to volunteers, coaches local administrators and local team supporters to the Boards of the Australian, NSW, Queensland and Country Rugby League.

It is with all these people in mind as well as the players and clubs of the NRL, that I congratulate everyone who has been a part of the game's success.

**David Gallop**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
NATIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE



# NEW SOUTH WALES REPORT



The New South Wales Rugby League has achieved another year of success in 2005, with great strides being made in every aspect of the game. From the elite level of State of Origin right down to the junior league level, rugby league has had a benchmark season with outstanding results in all areas.

Our flagship team, the Wizard Blues, again retained possession of the Harvey Norman State of Origin Shield with one of the most dynamic performances in recent years. The first match in this year's series was played at Suncorp Stadium and required extra time to separate the sides after 80 minutes of non-stop action.

Queensland claimed an intercept during the period of golden point extra time to give them a 24-20 win, although the NSW camp felt that they had let the match slip through their fingers.

Unperturbed, the Blues worked even harder in preparation for the second match, played at Telstra Stadium. Ricky Stuart's team received a boost

when Andrew Johns was called into the side as a replacement for selected halfback Trent Barrett, who was ruled out through injury.

Without detracting from any other player, it can be safely said that Johns adds a new dimension to any team in which he plays and his presence proved inspirational in the camp and on the field.

A fired-up NSW team levelled the series with a 32-22 win that was more dominant than the final scoreline suggested, setting the scene for the deciding match at Suncorp Stadium.

Queensland enjoyed the home ground advantage and a capacity crowd turned up hoping to cheer the Maroons to victory but neither crowd or ground made any difference as NSW posted a 32-10 victory that was fit to rate alongside any other team effort in the annals of Origin history.

Congratulations must be extended to all the players and officials associated with the magnificent series win by the Wizard Blues. I would especially like to congratulate debutant coach Ricky Stuart, who fostered a spirit of harmony and hard work that has raised the bar to new levels for Origin football.

Queenslanders have always boasted of having a greater commitment to Origin football than New South Welshmen but the efforts of those in the sky blue jersey in recent years, and in particular in 2005, show that they have no monopoly on pride, passion or determination.

The other NSW teams also enjoyed successful seasons, with the NSW Residents battling their way to a hard fought 16-6 win while the Under 17s recorded a 28-12 victory that was full of merit. The only dampener on the success of 2005 was the loss to the Under 19s, who were defeated 42-12.

This year's City-Country Origin fixture was as keenly contested as any

in the history of the fixture. Lismore's Oakes Oval was the venue for the clash, which was preceded by coaching clinics and public appearances by both teams throughout the region. The game itself was in the balance until the final minutes, when a field goal secured a 29-22 win for City Origin.

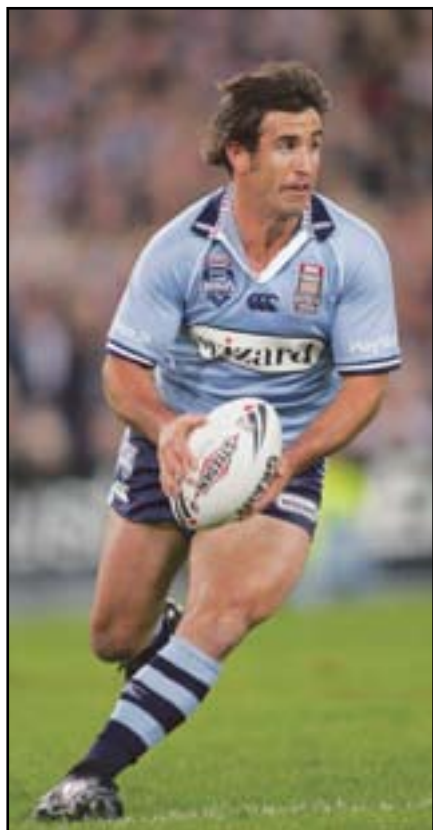
Our NSWRL competitions again lived up to their deserved reputation for excellence and produced outstanding football on a weekly basis. The standard continues to improve each year in all grades and I would pay tribute to each and every one of the competing clubs as well as their respective players, coaches and officials for their part in the success of the 2005 season.

Special acknowledgement and congratulations are due to the respective premiers in each grade, ie Parramatta in the VB Premier League, St George-Illawarra in the Flegg Cup, Windsor in the Jim Beam Cup, Canberra in the SG Ball Cup and Penrith in the Matthews Cup.

I would also pay tribute to the various junior leagues for their tremendous efforts throughout 2005. The continued growth in the number of registered players at all levels is indicative of the game's popularity but it also reflects the great work being done by development staff, club volunteers and our administrators.

The NSWRL Referees Association have again done an excellent job in providing officials for our competitions and developing officials in preparation to step up to higher levels. I congratulate President Tony Danks, Secretary Les Matthews and Co-ordinator Dennis Spagarino and all members of the Association for their ongoing efforts on behalf of the game.

Our NSWRL Judiciary members have performed their duties with distinction and I offer the sincere thanks of all involved with our competitions for their efforts in the 2005 season. I would







offer sincere condolences to all those who suffered bereavements throughout 2005. The League community mourns the loss of several people who made an outstanding contribution to the game over many years, including Life Members Ray O'Donnell, Ron Watson, Gordon Willoughby, Roy Bull, Laurie Doust and Robert Stone, as well as CRL official Gary Tiernan and several former players and officials.

The co-operation that has existed in recent years between the NSWRL and the other leagues has again been evident in 2005 and I would thank the respective members of the NRL, QRL, CRL and affiliated leagues for their efforts and co-operation during the past twelve months.

particularly pay tribute to Paul Conlon, Peter Kite, Greg Glass, Bob Abood as well as our Video Review Committee of Ron Massey, John Hayes and John Coates.

It would be remiss of me not to also acknowledge the contribution of our NSWRL Vice Presidents as well as former players who served on the panel including Gerard Raper, Ron Sigsworth, Ricky Walford, Mark Coyne, Royce Ayliffe, Ian Roberts, Scott Tronc, Mal Cochrane, Don McKinnon, Jeff Hardy, Bob Lindner and Darrell Williams.

Rugby league has been fortunate once more to have a committed group of corporate partners who have worked closely with us throughout 2005 to assist in the successful achievements that have characterised our year. In particular I would like to pay tribute to Wizard Finance, Philips, Harvey Norman, Classic Sportswear, Carlton United Breweries, Jim Beam Brands Australia, Canterbury Clothing Company, Coca Cola, Beiersdorf, the Motor Accident Authority and Blades.

The NSWL Board of Directors, headed by Chairman Colin Love, deserve the thanks of all associated with the

game for the sage leadership they have provided over the last twelve months and they have been an integral part of rugby league's success in that period.

I would also place my gratitude on record for the manner in which the NSWRL staff has carried out their duties. Their knowledge and skills are without peer but equally important is the passion for the game they bring to all their work.

On behalf of the NSWRL I would

It is nearly 100 years since J.J. Giltinan, Victor Trumper and Harry Hoyle took the momentous step of breaking away from rugby union to establish the New South Wales Rugby League. I am sure that if those who founded the game were to return in 2005 they would be amazed at the growth of the game and the developments which have taken place since the inception of rugby league.

**Geoff Carr**  
GENERAL MANAGER





# QUEENSLAND REPORT



The old adage – “Rugby League was the winner” received due airing in Queensland during the 2005 year and in particular in the areas north of the Tropic of Capricorn where the Cowboys Club embarked on a premiership frenzy as a culmination to an emotion charged season.

The year started with the State-wide player Sign-on campaign again attracting record participant numbers to the fold in Queensland. An additional 158 junior teams played rugby league during the year with a 12% increase in junior registrations.

Spectator numbers also continued their upward spiral on the back of on-field success for both Queensland’s NRL Clubs, and on the domestic front the Queensland Wizard Cup Clubs maintained healthy crowd attendances during the rounds and the finals series.

Television ratings also continued to confirm rugby league as the dominant sport over its “rivals” in this medium, with State of Origin football again prominent and the NRL Grand Final attracting number one support for its enthralling battle of the “underdogs”.

The Harvey Norman State of Origin Series celebrated 25 years of Origin football in 2005 with both States paying tribute to former stars and naming their “greatest” squads of 25 players.

A fund raising Legends relay, proceeds going to the Make a Wish Foundation, was also conducted with many player identities making the trek in stages from

Cairns to Sydney. The Blues had a new coach in Ricky Stuart with Newcastle coach Michael Hagan continuing in the role for the Maroons. The difficulty for NRL coaches to juggle their Club duties with representative commitments is onerous and the QRL acknowledges the support of the Roosters and the Knights to make time available to their Senior coaches.

In game 1, 52,482 fans packed into Suncorp stadium to witness another chapter in Origin folklore when Queensland built on an almost perfect first half of football to lead 13-0 and then 19-0 early in the second term only to see New South Wales score four tries in 19 minutes to lead 20-19 near the end.

A Johnathan Thurston field goal levelled the scores and the teams were forced to endure another bout of golden point extra time to establish a “winner”. Four minutes into the extra period, Blues playmaker Brett Kimmorley opted for a long pass to his outside speed men. Matt Bowen however anticipated the play, snatching the ball out of mid-air and racing 40 metres to secure a thrilling victory.

The match featured many highlights, but most significant was the man of the match effort from Steven Price assuming the prop forward mantle void following the representative retirement of Shane Webcke. Although NSW failed to pull off Origin’s most stunning comeback, it is difficult to begrudge the Maroons their win after a game completion rate of 95% again raising the bar on intensity levels required for these contests with the

Blues’ players only too willing to push their bodies to extreme.

Player changes were significant for game 2, with Price ruled out with injury and Trent Barrett named to replace Kimmorley at halfback before also succumbing to injury during the camp lead-up. Queensland nemesis Andrew Johns, only himself recently returned from career threatening injury, was rushed into the Blues team and he proved again he is a champion player with ability to perform on the grandest stage.

In a frantic battle Queensland was denied a try to winger Ty Williams just after half-time which proved to be a decisive call from the touch judge as NSW crossed minutes later. A 14-12 scoreline could easily have read as an 18-8 advantage for the Maroons and the final result may well have been different.

NSW, with Johns instrumental, dominated the second half to run out 32-22 winners. The sell-out Sydney crowd took much pleasure in seeing Queensland’s woeful record of never having won an Origin match at Telstra Stadium continue for another Series.

The decider back at Suncorp Stadium had all the hallmark features for a classic Origin encounter, but unfortunately the Blues provided the only sparkle. NSW clinched their third straight Series with an emphatic 32-10 romp. With Johns again outstanding the Blues dominated all aspects of the match. Winger Matt King, who resurrected his NRL career after a playing stint in the Queensland Cup with Brisbane Norths, crossed for a barnstorming hat-trick.

Even after 25 Years, the 2005 Series reinforced that the State of Origin concept continues to be infectious with supporters (total crowd attendances of 187,369), television audiences, players and the dedicated officials that drive each State’s campaigns singular in the desire to see a win for their team.

The year featured many memorable moments – Bowen’s try, the Webb – Bailey joust, Johns’ mastery, King’s three tries at the enemy’s Cauldron, and a significant win for coach Ricky Stuart in his maiden year. Origin football continues to produce such defining incidents and next year should prove no





# QUEENSLAND REPORT

difference with the Maroons recently appointing Queensland and Australia legend Mal Meninga, a teammate of Stuart at Canberra, as the team's coach.

Storm's young hooker Cameron Smith earned the Ron McAuliffe Medal as Queensland's best player, with the remarkable Blues fullback Anthony Minichello receiving the Wally Lewis Award as the stand out player of the Series.

Seven Queensland players were included in the Kangaroos team for the Bundy Rum Test match against New Zealand at Suncorp Stadium – Darren Lockyer as skipper, Tonie Carroll, Petero Civoniceva, Steven Price, Shaun Berrigan, Willie Tonga and Matt Sing. Lockyer retained the captaincy for the Kangaroos end of season Tri-Nations schedule in Australia, New Zealand, England and France. Brent Tate and Clive Churchill Medal winner Scott Prince joined Civoniceva and Price in a disappointing Queensland representation in the squad.

Following the League's review of its domestic Representative football structure an alternate competition and selection program was implemented this year culminating with the XXXX Queensland under 19 team being selected on an Origin basis and including six players currently with interstate NRL Clubs.

The co-operation of the NRL and its Clubs in this endeavour is acknowledged. The 19's won easily 42-12, but NSW extracted revenge in under 17 (28-12) and Residents (16-6). The XXXX under 19 Maroons were too strong for a West Australia Development squad and the XXXX Queensland Rangers continued their history of enthralling battles with NSW Country, going down 24-28 at Blackwater. The Rangers also hosted WA at the end of the season winning 50-24 on the Sunshine Coast.

Seven Queensland players were named in the Junior Kangaroos team for a match against Papua New Guinea in Darwin. Six of these players also were retained for an ARL Invitational Selection, which was bolstered by six senior Australian representatives, for a match against New Zealand A in October as a curtain-raiser to the Tri-Nations clash at Telstra Stadium.

The QRL's flagship State-wide competition boosted its profile adding Wizard Home Loans as major sponsor of the Queensland Wizard Cup for an initial three year period. Burleigh qualified for the Club's third straight grand final but the Bears were no match for the NQ Young Guns in their maiden finals appearance.

For the first time the competition's three direct NRL feeder teams – Young Guns (Cowboys), Norths Devils (Storm) and Toowoomba Clydesdales (Broncos) all qualified for the finals. The other finalists were Redcliffe Dolphins and Burleigh with last year's grand finalists Easts Tigers and also pre-season favourites Wynnum just missing a finals berth.

It was perennial performers the Dolphins that again sparked the finals from fourth spot, eliminating Toowoomba 23-22 in an extra time nail-biter, too hot for a strong Devils outfit 33-10 and a field goal in the last few minutes giving them a 19-18 advantage over Burleigh in the Preliminary final. A Bears try in the dying seconds halted the victory song of the Red and White Dolphins army and set the scene for the decider between the best two defensive outfits. North Queensland enjoyed a stellar season, clinching the minor premiership on the back of playing the last 13 rounds without loss, securing the Club its maiden Wizard Cup finals berth and a spot in the decider with a 22-6 result over the Bears in the qualifying semi. As you would expect, the grand final was a tight tussle until a blistering four try burst from the Young Guns late in the match saw them deserving champions, winning 36-6.

ABC Television continued its long term association providing weekly live coverage of the match of the round and this game was replayed to a national audience on the Fox Sports network as well as ABC Digital. The QRL will continue to pursue the expansion of television coverage for the competition exploring avenues through the Pay Television arena and Free to Air options. The ABC's coverage again proved to be very popular with supporters achieving a high level of ratings in the Saturday afternoon timeslot competing with live Australian Rules.

The QRL and the Young Guns and Tweed Heads Clubs again received the

benefits from the National Rugby League Partnership's ongoing commitment to underwrite the approved expenditure to conduct the competition, including Teams travel costs.

This support is greatly appreciated in Queensland providing a windfall to grassroots projects throughout the State and it is anticipated that this financial support will continue. The addition of Wizard as Major Sponsor also provides the format with much needed stability. Awards were again spread across the Clubs with Burleigh stalwart Reggie Cressbrook the leading points scorer with 206 (14 tries, 75 goals), Wynnum's Simon Phillips snaring the try scorer award with 19 tries, veteran Ipswich halfback Ricky Bird clinching the prestigious Qantas Player of the Year and rising Norths/Melbourne star Greg Inglis named as the Courier-Mail's best and fairest player.

The "third-tier" XXXX Country Challenge series continued for Local League players not participating in the Wizard Cup. The Carnival followed selection trials in the six Divisions involving all Local regions and was conducted over the Queen's Birthday weekend in Gladstone.

The Rangers teams were selected from the Carnival for its clashes with NSW Country and WA. This program remains a vital component in the QRL's endeavours to provide players and regions not participating in the State-wide structure an opportunity to attain the rewards of representative level football. The structure is also acknowledged as an incentive for players and team officials to continue participation in the game.

Keebra Park from the Gold Coast won the State final of the Arrive Alive Cup with a 20-8 result over Kirwan SHS (Townsville) at Suncorp Stadium. Keebra clinched a berth in the National final after a 22-0 win against Farrer College in Sydney, but reigning champions Endeavour Sports retained their title with a 20-10 victory. In some consolation Keebra second rower Ben Te'o was awarded the Peter Sterling medal as the competition's best and fairest player. The support of the NSW Motor Accident Authority to sponsor this wonderful schoolboys format is appreciated, as is the television coverage by Channel 9.



# QUEENSLAND REPORT



ARL Development continued to provide financial support for State-wide competitions for Primary Schools (12 years) and Club teams (15 years). Finals were staged as curtain-raisers to NRL clashes in Brisbane and Townsville respectively and this remains a major focus for all participants. Worongary (Gold Coast) won the ARL Development Cup 38-20 in a see-sawing battle with Innisfail and Burleigh capped the Gold Coast hat-trick of titles with a thrilling 35-34 extra time win over Townsville Centrals in a successful defence of the ARL Development Shield title. The benefits to rugby league from these Club and School programs should not be underestimated.

A survey of 2,500 non-returning players from 2004 was conducted this year. A reasonable response was gathered (11%) and it is hoped this feedback can provide some evidence to administrators of the game to implement any appropriate improvements or adjustments.

The Brisbane Broncos again carried the hopes of many rugby league supporters, heading the NRL competition ladder until late in the season, finishing only one win from the minor premiership. Unfortunately the Broncos again suffered the ignominy of losing their final seven matches, including two finals matches to be eliminated early from the finals. With this losing trend following the disappointing pattern of recent years the Club undertook a review of its coaching personnel and Head Coach Wayne Bennett appointed a revamped support staff for 2006.

After the highs of the 2004 year the Cowboys could have returned to the wilderness this season but the Club maintained composure and continued its growth into a premiership force. With record Origin representation and threatening to eclipse the Broncos as market leaders in the state, the North Queensland outfit hurdled every obstacle.

One of the Club's most stunning achievements was the Young Guns blitzing of the Wizard Cup competition to secure its maiden premiership title. Then the Cowboys had to regroup after the embarrassing thrashing at the hands of the Wests Tigers in week 1 of the NRL finals. Written off as pretenders,

North Queensland went on to eliminate Melbourne and premiership favourites Parramatta to secure a grand final spot, and a rematch with the Tigers.

History will show Wests triumph in the decider, but the Cowboys under the stewardship of Head Coach Graham Murray finally appear to be capable of wearing the weight of public expectation with pride. Unfortunately, the Club lost Chief Executive Denis Keeffe at season's end, but his legacy of a successful club in the region should continue into the future.

The League's Directors acknowledge the continued level of corporate support from a number of major Companies and accept that their involvement hinges on an association with the professional image of the game that must be maintained. The availability of sport sponsorship dollars in a competitive market compounded by economic uncertainty only highlights the League's extreme gratitude to its associated Companies. The Directors express their appreciation to – ABC Television, Australian Associated Motor Insurance (AAMI), Canterbury International (Australia), Castlemaine Perkins (XXXX), Harvey Norman, Qantas Airways, the QLD Group, the Queensland Government's Office of Sport, Wizard Home Loans, Pioneer Construction Materials and CFMEU.

This support, and the ARL's operations grant, enabled the League to maintain the level of its grants to Divisions this year for grassroots programs at \$1.38M. The funding has also allowed the League to expand the Coaching & Development operation with a total of fourteen personnel now engaged full-time in the field throughout the State.

The QRL again presented special recognition awards for outstanding service achieved by volunteers within the rugby league community. The six award winners, representing each of the Divisions, were confirmed at the 2004 Annual General Meeting and were special guests of the League at Suncorp Stadium for the third Origin clash.

And finally, the game's apparent resurgence appears to be going from strength to strength on the back of fairytale runs such as that achieved by the Wests Tigers in the NRL Telstra premiership decider. The celebration of the Centenary of the game in Australia also beckons as an ideal opportunity to enhance rugby league's popularity with the burgeoning supporter base. And if the current level of co-operation between the game's stakeholders is maintained the potential for the sport's development appears to be boundless.

**Ross Livermore**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR



The Victorian Rugby League has enjoyed steady growth and success over the 2005 season. The junior competitions increased in both players and teams during the year with junior registrations rising by 8% on the previous season. The particularly pleasing aspect of this growth was at the lower level with many clubs fielding more than one team in the Mini League competitions. The challenge for the Victorian Rugby League is to manage this growth and maintain the participation of these new consumers of the game.

The Victorian Rugby League also experienced an increase in the number of schools and teams that participated in the school based programs. Despite this growth, it was identified that there was a need to improve our methods of engaging both Primary and Secondary schools. In June 2005 Luke Ellis from the New South Wales Rugby League Academy was employed as the VRL's State Development Manager. This appointment is already bearing fruit with the Victorian Rugby League working toward a more formalised relationship with the two major stakeholders of the school system in the Victorian Primary School Sports Association (VPSSA) and the Victorian Secondary Schools Sports Association (VSSSA). A closer alignment with these bodies should result in further exposure for our sport and programs across a broader range of schools.

The Victorian Rugby League's junior representative program enjoyed an extremely successful year with each age group experiencing collective success and individual recognition during their respective 2005 campaigns.

The Under 12 team participated in the National Exchange in Adelaide under the Victorian Primary School Sports Association (VPSSA) banner. The Under 12 team was coached by Keith Mellor and assisted by the Victorian Rugby League's State Development Manager Luke Ellis. The Under 12 performed admirably against all opposition and were narrowly beaten 16 - 7 in the 3rd vs 4th game against the Northern Territory.



The Victorian 15's Years team was our most successful representative team in 2005 winning the 15 Years Affiliated States National Championship in Rockhampton. In winning the John Allen Shield, the 15's side created Rugby League history being the first Victorian representative side to progress through the National Championships undefeated.

The Victorian 15 Years team was coached by Stuart Millgate and he was ably assisted by Johnny Faamoe. There were also individuals recognized for the teams outstanding performance with six players selected for the 15 Years Affiliated States Australian team. The players were Sam Nguyen (Bayside Secondary College), Johnson Taipiri-Reeves (Altona Secondary College), Drury Low (Box Forest Secondary College), Cameron Micallef (Mackillop Secondary College), Josh Millgate (Parkdale Secondary College) and Jake Paczkowski (Parkdale Secondary College).

The Victoria 18's team participated in the 18 Years Australian Secondary Schools Rugby League National Championships at Wagga Wagga. The team was coached by Paul Boyce and finished third in their pool, however ended the championships in a blaze of glory defeating South Australia 34 - 16. The performances of our boys during the Championships were recognised with five players selected in the 2005 18

Years Affiliated States Australian team. The Victorian players that were named in the Affiliated States Australian team are Beau Ryan (Bayside Secondary College), Jarrad Stack (Doncaster Secondary College), John Mackai (Sunbury Downs Secondary College), Josh Lum (Bentleigh Secondary College) and Jarred Hustler (Berwick Secondary College).

There were also eight Victorian players selected in the 17 man Affiliated States Australian team that won the 16 Years Rugby League Junior World Cup in Russia in September. The players that wore the Green and Gold in Russia were Laurance Nathan (Lyndale Secondary College), James Sandbach (Mt Waverley Secondary College), Bradley Potae (Bayside Secondary College), Beau Ryan (Bayside Secondary College), Petera Tamarua (Bayside Secondary College), James Tei (Bayside Secondary College), Adam Leslie (Bayside Secondary College) and Brayden Ballard (Albury Secondary College). In further recognition of the players performances Petera Tamarua and Adam Leslie were selected in the World team at the conclusion of the World Cup.

The Victorian Academy of Rugby League, which was launched last year, continued to grow in 2005. The Academy's objective is to provide elite training and development programs for the State's most promising junior



# VICTORIAN REPORT



players. There are 20 players aged from 15 to 17 years selected for the Academy Squad and this was primarily based on their performances at their respective National Championships. The Victorian Academy of Rugby League participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Academy Carnival Challenge in Canberra during October.

In the Victorian Rugby League Melbourne division, the Altona Roosters made it three Victorian Rugby League First Grade Premierships in a row with a hard fought 36 - 16 victory over a gallant Doveton Steelers. The Steelers made the best possible start in their first grand final by scoring the first try of the match. The Roosters hit back hard scoring the next three tries to take a 16 - 10 lead into the half time break. The first 20 minutes of the second half was an absorbing arm wrestle between the two teams with the Steelers making the Roosters work hard to defend their line. The game was broken open late in the second half by two quick tries to Altona as the Roosters went on to claim its third title in as many years.

The Colts Grand Final between the Casey Sharks and the Waverley/Oakleigh Panthers was a closely contested match involving the up and coming stars of the Victorian Rugby League competition. The Casey Sharks skipped away to a convincing 20 - 10 half time lead and looked to have the game sewn up late in the second half with a commanding 32 - 10 buffer. The Waverley/Oakleigh Panthers charged back into the game with a spirited fightback scoring a try on the siren to bring the scores to 32 - 30. The conversion to tie the scores was waved away by the touch judges and the Casey Sharks were crowned the 2005 VRL Colts Premiers.

In the Goulburn Murray Rugby League, the Corowa Cougars made it back to back premierships after defeating the Southern Riverina Jets 50-6 in the 2005 Goulburn Murray Rugby League Grand Final. The Cougars dominated the Jets from the opening kick-off and raced to an 18-0 lead after 13 minutes. The Jets settled after the initial Cougar

onslaught and scored on the half time siren to go into the break trailing 28-6.

The arm wrestle between the two teams continued at the start of the second half and the game became a battle of attrition. The Jets, who had fought from the Elimination Final to make the Grand Final, began to run out of steam in the last 20 minutes of the game. The Cougars, fresh after the weeks break following their win in the Major Semi Final, dominated the Jets to claim the 2005 GMRL Premiership. Corowa Cougars fullback Ben Nicholson was voted Grand Final Man of the Match after a solid performance in wet conditions.

The Cougars, and specifically five eighth Mark Purtell, scooped the pool in the GMRL Awards that followed the Grand Final. The GMRL Best and Fairest Award for the 2005 season was shared between Mark Purtell (Corowa Cougars) and Kalum Krautz (Wodonga Bears) who both finished with 10 votes. The leading point's scorer for the GMRL Competition was Mark Purtell (Corowa) and the leading try scorer was Jon Solomon (Southern Riverina Jets).

The Victorian Rugby League's Melbourne Division Junior Grand Finals were held in brilliant sunshine at Loft Reserve, Newport on Saturday August 27, 2005. The Altona Roosters dominated proceedings winning three

out of the four Grand Finals played on the day. All games were played in terrific spirit and excellent sportsmanship was exhibited by all teams.

Below are the results from the 2005 Victorian Rugby League Junior Grand Finals:

**Under 11's - Grand Final:** Altona Roosters 26 def Berwick Bulldogs 6

**Under 13's - Grand Final:** Waverley/Oakleigh Panthers 50 def Altona Roosters 4

**Under 15's - Grand Final:** Altona Roosters 40 def Waverley/Oakleigh Panthers 16

**Under 17's - Grand Final:** Altona Roosters 40 def Berwick Bulldogs 14

The Victorian Rugby League Commission and staff would like to thank the Victorian Primary School Sports Association and the Australian Secondary Schools Rugby League for their continued commitment and support of primary and secondary schools Rugby League. The Victorian Rugby League would also like to thank all clubs, players, coaches, volunteers, parents and helpers who were involved in the various Victorian Rugby League programs and competitions during 2005.

**Linda Boyce**  
CHAIRPERSON





# NORTHERN TERRITORY REPORT

The past twelve months in Northern Territory Rugby League have been extremely strong in a number of areas in order to grow the game and capitalise on the real benefits and resources already in place. There is no doubt that there is a definite passion for the game throughout NT and growth and awareness has been achieved through much hard work, vision, and the dedication and commitment from people from all quarters who share the same desire for NT Rugby League to be recognised as a major football code from juniors through to the highest grade throughout the NT.

Like all other regions throughout Australia, sport plays an integral part in both the social & community fabric in society and Rugby League certainly has risen to the occasion in 2005. While there has been vast gains made, there are also areas where there is still room for growth and improvement, however the base that has been established is an exciting pathway for the future.

‘Success Comes From Hard Work and Team Work!’

## Darwin Rugby League

The Darwin Rugby League Sportingbet Premiership Cup competition saw some wonderful Rugby League played amongst the six clubs competing in both Senior & Reserve Grades. With the influx of new players and coaches into Darwin due to employment on the major LNG gas project, the game excelled in terms of competitiveness and skill sets, raising the overall profile of the game. Crowd attendances were strong throughout the season as patrons voted with their feet to watch and enjoy some commendable feats on the sporting field. An ugly incident in July which gained national media exposure dampened the game, however the issue was dealt with properly and in line with the ARL Code of Conduct. All six clubs and official willingly participated in the Purple Armband campaign, expressing their support for opposing sexual assault to women, gender violence in sport and the broader community. The Grand

Final on September 17<sup>th</sup> saw Nightcliff Dragons win by one point against a very determined Brothers 13 – 12 in what has been described as one of the best ever grand finals, if not the best!

The DRL Board of Directors are to be congratulated for having the vision to approve the many improvements that have occurred at Richardson Park – The Home of Rugby League! These improvements are part of a business plan in order to both grow and develop both sides of the sport for players and fans alike, along with building a future financial base to further develop the game.

The live direct transmission of Friday Night NRL Football via Channel Nine @ 7:00pm was a huge boost and this generated great interest and exposure for the game. Channel Nine are to be commended for having the foresight to broadcast the games at peak viewing time and this has undoubtedly strengthened the code overall. Phil Gould made a special visit to Darwin for the official announcement of same. The production of adverts for local DRL fixtures became a highlight for the local fans who always enjoyed the catchy jingles.

The prestigious Frank Johnson Medal was won by Daniel Obodin from South’s RLFC in front of a great crowd along with special guest, former Australian Cricketing great, Greg Ritchie.

## Darwin Junior Rugby League

Junior development and participation continues to grow and this is the foundation of our great game. The DJRL committee worked hard to provide strong and healthy competitions for the younger brigade and to encourage participation and learning of new skills. The surprise visit of Gordon Tallis & Alan Wilson one July Saturday morning to competition matches certainly was a morale booster for players and parents alike.

Lyle Ah Sam from the Palmerston club was selected to join the Australian Affiliated States team to play in Russia in the World Youth Cup, where he won Man of the Match in the final against France.

## Katherine Junior Rugby League

The year has been has an exceptional one for Katherine with the U17 Team competing in the Darwin competition, of which the Katherine boys can be mighty satisfied with the results overall. Seven players represented the NT and a further five wore the Australian Affiliated States jumper in U18 & U15( four U18 & one in U15 ). Over 200 players played Rugby League in 2005, which is great for a small community. Support came from the NTRL & also the ARL Development Officers. Highlight of the year was the visit to





# NORTHERN TERRITORY REPORT



Katherine by the Wests's Tigers U17 Development Squad who played a match in Katherine with a mass crowd in attendance showing their support for the players and the game overall. A great year, and we look forward to greater year in 2006.

## Central Australia

A strong year for CARL in all areas with continued growth & development. Kids to Kangaroos Junior program saw increased registrations ( 175 ). Central Australia won the State U15 Championships and 13 local players represented NT in various teams. Aaron Costello also won the distinction of playing in the Australian team in Russia in the World Youth Cup. Strong growth recorded in the Secondary Schools competition with increased numbers from 60 in 2004 to 260 in 2005. The Senior competition saw four clubs compete and Alice Springs made a strong contribution to the Representative teams playing outside NT. Areas for future progress are coaching and referring and steps are being made to capture retiring players to stay involved. All leagues ended the year in a satisfactory financial position through sound administration. Chairman Brad Tessman steered the ship ensuring policies were adhered to. An air of confidence with the closure of 2005 and 2006 looks to be as strong a year for the code overall.

## Representative Program

NT Teams performed strongly in all grades of the representative calendar. The NT Titans were pipped at the post against WA in the final in Adelaide, however six players were chosen to play in the Australian Affiliated States team in the Cook Islands. Brad Tessman coached the Senior NT Titans squad. The NT U18 squad won the Championship in Wagga undefeated and nine players were chosen to represent in the green & gold in Townsville. The NT U13 & U15 teams also performed admirably in the School Sport Australian Championships in Adelaide & Rockhampton.

## NT Govt

The NT Govt & Dept of Sport & Recreation are to be commended for their continued financial Annual Grant assistance to the Peak Sport Body. Sports Minister Delia Lawrie has shown extreme interest in our game along with the Govt assistance to players who have gained Australian selection throughout the year. We thank the NT Govt for its unqualified support in hosting the NRL trial match in Alice Springs between Newcastle & Penrith in Feb 2006.

## NTIS Program

The NTIS have provided invaluable assistance to NT Rugby League and Head Coach Michael Rawiri must be applauded for his commitment and dedication to the game. The benefits of the partnership link became apparent with the NT U18 team winning the U18 Championships @ Wagga under Michael's stewardship. The game has a strong future with the NTIS helping develop NT athletes for future pathways and excelling their careers.

## Sponsors

NTRL are indebted to the great support that has been forthcoming from the corporate sector. We could not possibly have achieved what we have without the partnerships we have with Sportingbet, Channel Nine, Foster's Group, Coca Cola Amatil, Palmerston Sports Club, Cricket & Football Shop, Aussie Signs. We have worked hard to ensure all sponsors receive a return on their investment and grow with us and our game into the future.

## Development Officers

Game development continued throughout NT ably handled by the ARL Development Officers. Growth and increased participation has been the result through the various coaching clinics & programs from juniors, schools, high schools & clubs, along with the introduction of a girls league tag competition.. A Trainee

Development Officer joined the team in Darwin and this appointment has certainly helped to increase the games profile and expand further afield.

## Referees

The man in the middle has probably the most difficult task to perform in the game. NTRL thanks the NT Referees Association for their great contribution under somewhat tiring circumstances.

## Leaguenet

All NT clubs participated in Leaguenet training officiated by Paul Walker. This will enable clubs to be able to contribute club data electronically with ease and confidence for the wider community to enjoy.

## ARL

The ARL are to be commended for their great support to NT in 2005. Graham McNaney travelled to NT & introduced the Code Of Conduct and this has gone some way to helping everyone involved curb unruly crowd behaviour .

The year concluded with the Australian Junior Kangaroos playing Papua New Guinea in Darwin and 2000 people attended and witnessed a magnificent game won by the Kumuls 24 – 16. The NTRL are honoured to have been chosen to host the event and NTRL sincerely thank the ARL for their trust and confidence.

## Summary

While there has been progress made this year, we still have a long journey ahead. With sound planning and execution, the NTRL is confident of continuing to grow the game of Rugby League and for the game to be recognised as a major football code among all the Peak Sports on offer. The NTRL thanks all clubs, players, supporters, administrators, volunteers for their magnificent contribution to our great game, and look forward to another great year of Rugby League in 2006.

**Mick Palmer**  
CHAIRMAN



# WESTERN AUSTRALIAN REPORT

Season 2005 has been arguably the most successful season for the Western Australian Rugby League since the demise of the Perth Reds. Two NRL matches were held in Perth which attracted healthy crowds. Junior registrations have risen once again, this year by 14.6%, we expect this number to increase again in 2006.

2005 heralded the return of NRL action in Perth, the February 25<sup>th</sup> NRL trial between the Bulldogs and Rabbitohs and the May 7<sup>th</sup> premiership fixture between the Sharks and Warriors. The games proved a huge success with strong crowds attending considering the competition from other events.

This included pre season and premiership AFL fixtures, V8 Supercars (that attracted 30,000 spectators) and a live Perth Foxtel Broadcast of the May 7 match. The Perth sporting public is keen to see an NRL franchise back in Perth and a truly National Rugby League in the short term. The WARL are targeting fixtures at the back end of season 2007 as well as World Cup fixtures in 2008.

However 2005 also had its fair share of set backs for Rugby League in the west with the introduction of the Super 14 side the Western Force. The force will play six home games between February and May 2006, this will certainly increase the profile of both rugby codes in Western Australia and can work in our favour.

Pressure has been put on our elite juniors as they are being targeted by the Western Force. Live coverage of the NRL is still non existent, although Channel Nine Perth is privately owned, the NRL are pressuring to get live coverage

of major matches including State of Origin, Grand Finals and Tests.

Our Senior State side regained the title of Affiliated States Champions in Adelaide with 10 players selected to represent the Affiliated States against the Cook Islands for two tests in Raratonga. The Seniors also traveled to Queensland at the end of the season to play the QLD Rangers, and although defeated WA showed they are more than competitive at that level.

The under 18's had a busy year that began with a matches against the touring Saddleworth Rangers (UK) side as well as NSW Country Group 21 representative side. The Nationals saw WA finish third with two players being selected in the Affiliated States Side. The under 15's side is rebuilding nicely and will be very competitive in 2006, Adam Egan was our sole representative in the recent Affiliated states tour to Russia. Many of the 15's along with the states best 16's combined to play two matches against the Canberra Raiders 16's Development side. WA surprised the Raiders by only narrowly being defeated on both occasions.

On the local scene South Perth were victorious in defending last year's title for First Grade, while in Premier Grade the Bulldogs Brothers were crowned premiers and the Rockingham Coastal Sharks were named club champions for 2005. This year's senior participants increased by 18%, the competition consisted of 6 first grade and 8 premier grade sides. In 2006 we are looking to expand to 7 first grade sides to include a side from Kalgoorlie.

Our schools program continues to flourish with a record 135 teams

participating in the ARLD Cup (LeagueTag). Term 4 will see the first Primary School tackle competition, the Legends Cup. This will include an expected 30 teams. Our high school competition (Drug Free Cup) this year expanded into two divisions, Year 10 and Opens to include a total of 16 participating teams.

The WARL Academy Program was introduced between the 2004 and 2005 seasons and will continue in 2005/2006. The program has been very well received by players and parents and it will continue to focus on developing our elite players from the age of 13 to 18 years. Three players from the Academy Program were selected in the Australian Affiliated States Sides for 2005.

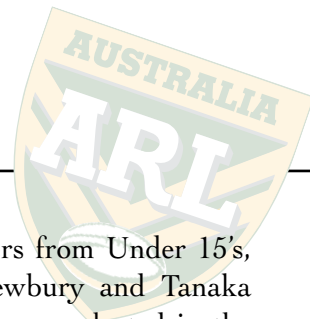
Finally the Board and Management of the Western Australian Rugby League would like to thank the ARL for their continued support, as well as the volunteers, officials, players and supporters for the successful year that was 2005.

**Bill Nosworthy**  
GENERAL MANAGER





# SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REPORT



Rugby League in South Australia started on a very positive note early in February when four players from the Manly Warringah Club in Sydney arrived in Adelaide as part of the QANTASLINK program.

Luke Williamson, Jye Mullane, Nathan Hollingsworth and Ashley Alberts were the focus of the media and coaching clinics. Over 353 children attended clinics at Hindmarsh Stadium, and Club grounds at, Doctors Road, Hackham, Ladywood Drive, Golden Grove, Langham Place, Port Adelaide, Uley Road, Elizabeth and Quick Road, Mitchell Park.

The League took the opportunity of their visit to launch the 2005 domestic season and the occasion was successful with over 100 people attending and \$1400 was raised for the SA junior rugby league.

## Representative Teams

- During the 2005 season the South Australian Rugby League representative teams showed improved performances
- The SARL hosted the Open Affiliated States championships at Hindmarsh Stadium, which saw a lot of quality rugby league over 3 days at the championships.
- Kelso Mc Ewan was selected in the Australian Affiliated States team to tour the Cook Islands. Coach of the South Australian State Team Col Fry was selected as the Assistant Coach.
- The Under 18's and Under 15's both performed and competed above expectations and drew very positive comments from ARL officials at both championships.

- Two players from Under 15's, James Newbury and Tanaka Dzimano were selected in the Australian merit Team.
- One player Nat Gosche was selected in Under 18's Australian team that spent a week with the North Queensland Cowboys.

## Junior League

- The main focus of the league in 2005 was to concentrate at junior level.
- Numbers increased in 2005 and were strong at Under 18, which showed each week at the Under 18 's Friday night competition. Also a great sight was to see 54 minis play before the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade on Grand Final Day.
- The future of the game is our juniors and we will look to increase numbers in different age groups in 2006



## Domestic Season

- The domestic season comprised 5 clubs and the ARL Code of conduct introduced early in the season greatly assisted the league with control of any inappropriate behaviour both on and off the field.
- Grand Final day saw a good crowd watch the Eels defeat a gallant Central Districts 22 –18.
- The competition is confident of increasing numbers next year to include a sixth club.
- A great boost for Rugby League in SA will be the arrival of the NRL Penrith Panthers who will bring a home competition game to Hindmarsh early in 2006 season. The media attention generated will be huge for the game, and give Rugby League the profile needed to commence a new season.



## School Competitions

- The development officers continue to grow the game at school level. In only its second year the secondary schools rugby league Competitions increased from 6 schools in 2004 to 14 in 2005. Next year there will be 21 schools in the competition.

- The game has also been embraced by children of schools, as far away as Coober Pedy, Port Lincoln, Whyalla and Mount Gambier.
- The students have had the opportunity to learn the skills of our game and put them into action in tackle carnivals or the non contact version – Rugby League Tag.
- Hindmarsh Stadium and the SARL also played host to The School Sport Australia Rugby League Exchange. The enthusiasm and skill level at primary school age was fantastic to see and the exchange was a great success.
- Through the funding and assistance of the ARL the SARL will continue to grow Rugby League in SA and endeavour to lift the profile of the sport when ever possible.



**Bruce Walker**  
GENERAL MANAGER



# UNIVERSITIES REPORT



The Australian Universities RL had a big year with domestic competitions being successfully conducted in both New South Wales and Queensland, and a busy representative calendar.

Queensland Universities Rugby League Team followed on from the State of Origin Wednesday night and walked away victorious in a curtain raiser match for the NRL Cowboys v Bulldogs at Carrara Stadium on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May.

In front of a 400 strong crowd, home favourites Queensland went to a 16-0 lead after 35 minutes commencing with Chris Flemming from Central Queensland University scoring in the 10<sup>th</sup> minute.

Fellow team mate Kevin Stevenson (The University of Queensland) motivated the Queensland team with an 85 metre try in the 20<sup>th</sup> minute, to be followed by the skipper Quinn Smith (Griffith University) to extend the lead.

Facing a 16-0 scoreline, New South Wales picked up their heads and crossed the line three minutes before half time thanks to Macquarie University star Sam Williams. The successful conversion from Ali Kourouche (University of Western Sydney) took the score to 16-6 and kept the game in reach for NSW going into half time.

Flemming started the second half similar to the first with a try in the 60<sup>th</sup> minute, and converting it himself for Qld.

The never say die spirit of NSW, saw them unleash a final 10 minute scoring frenzy where three

unanswered tries by Matt Freeman (Australian College of Physical Education), Clint Lovering (Australian College of Physical Education) and Shane Wooden (Macquarie University) to etch the southerners closer to stealing victory from QLD.

However strong QLD defence in the last minute of the game denied NSW any further scoring opportunities, ensuring QLD defeated NSW 22 - 18.

This result returned the shield back home to QLD after just the one year absence. Queensland Captain Quinn Smith (Griffith University) was named Qld's best on field and Lovering best on field for the NSW Team.

From this an Australian team was selected to represent the universities and one to represent the Tertiary RL, who toured the Pacific in September.

Queensland Universities 22 (Tries: Flemming 2, Stephenson, Smith; Goals: Crawley 2/3, Flemming 1/1) defeated New South Wales Universities 18 (Tries: Williams, Freeman, Lovering, Wooden; Goals: Korouche 1/4)

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly hosting the sixth Universities World Cup. Eight teams found themselves fighting for the right to be crowned world champions. New Zealand, being the current title holders, were keen to defend their crown.

Special mention to those who bore the bulk of the workload in a busy year :

- Mike Loftus - CEO of Australian University RL who worked on the World Cup for the past two years and needs to be thanked for his tremendous efforts. This resulted in an incident free competition with plenty of high points, including matches before Origin III in Brisbane and Brisbane v Cronulla in the NRL.
- Martin Unicomb, who ran the operations at Griffith University in hosting the World Cup. His contribution to a smooth event cannot be underestimated.
- Bob Lennox and Mick Williams who were part of the Australia University team staff but also led the tertiary team to a terrific trip of the Pacific where a lot of development work was done.
- Sincere thanks to Australian University Sports Federation and their Chief Executive Daniel Marsden and his staff for their continued support and direction.
- Finally to the Australian Rugby League for its support and encouragement, including our state bodies in both Queensland and New South Wales. The NSWRL coaching and Development Academy at Narrabeen also critical, in assisting with peripheral matters such as equipment, match officials and venues.

## University World Cup

### Round 1 - 1-3 July

Pacific Islands 48 def Ireland 46  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

Australia 66 def Scotland 4  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

New Zealand 46 def Wales 0  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

England 35 def France 18  
at Suncorp Stadium (before Broncos v Sharks)

### Round 2 - 5-6 July

France 28 def Pacific Islands 6  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

England 26 def Ireland 4  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

Wales 31 def Scotland 16  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

Australia 32 def New Zealand 14  
at Suncorp Stadium (before State of Origin III),

### Round 3 - 9-10 July

England 30 def Pacific Islands 24  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

France 82 def Ireland 18  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

Australia 74 def Wales 6  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

New Zealand 70 def Scotland 4  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

### Plate Semi-Finals - Tuesday 12 July

Pacific Islands 30 def Scotland 16  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

Wales 25 def Ireland 10  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

### Cup Semi-Finals - Wednesday 13 July

New Zealand 34 def England 4  
at Arana Hills RLFC

Australia 22 def France 0  
at Arana Hills RLFC

## University World Cup

### Play-off for 7th-8th - Friday 15 July

Scotland 13 def Ireland 4  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

### Plate Final (for 5th-6th) - Friday 15 July

Pacific Islands 74 def Wales 18  
at Griffith University Nathan Campus

### Play-off for 3rd-4th - Saturday 16 July

France 31 def England 12  
at Easts RLFC, Langlands Park, Brisbane

### World Cup Final - Saturday 16 July

New Zealand 17 def Australia 8  
at Easts RLFC, Langlands Park, Brisbane

## Australian Tertiary tour of Pacific to Tonga, Samoa and New Zealand

Tonga	24	def	Australia	10
Samoa	26	def	Australia	18
Australia	40	def	Samoa	14
New Zealand	30	def	Australia	22
Fiji	18	drew	Australia	18

## Interstate clash for Australian selection

Qld Uni	22	def	NSW Uni	18
NSW Tertiary	42	def	QLD Tertiary	16





# WOMEN'S REPORT



Each State affiliate has been working towards developing junior girls rugby league within their states and widening the women's rugby league perspective in the regional areas.

## Qld Update

Queensland Women's Rugby League took their representative fixtures to Mackay and Townsville this year with South East Qld Schoolgirls competing for the Ebanc Challenge Cup against a North Qld Invitational Schoolgirls team as curtain raiser to the Foley Shield match between Cairns & Mackay.

In the meantime, an Open South East Qld team traveled to Townsville to play against North Qld as curtain raiser to the Roosters vs North Qld Cowboys NRL game at Dairy Farmers Stadium, Townsville. Both teams thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to play at the Townsville Stadium and the womens game has spread to the tropics with Cairns and Townsville eagerly working towards running competitions in 2006.

Cairns WRL ran a successful 4 team competition with the Cairns Districts RL this year and are expecting 6 teams to play in the local comp next year while Townsville, Mackay and Rockhampton have plans to run organised competitions in 2006.

Plans are underway to stage the first official State Titles with South East Qld, Rockhampton, Central Qld, Mackay, Cairns and Townsville all vying for State title supremacy.

In the Schoolgirls Division, Wavell SHS took out the South East Qld Schoolgirls Premiership as well as the Super 7's Challenge at the beginning of the season. The Schoolgirls competition has been progressing well with 8 Schools playing in organised fortnightly matches.

The QWRL is now into its next development stage with Junior Girls RL competitions benchmarked for a 2006 kick off.



However, some extra funds will be needed from the QRL in order to continue the development progress with all 2005 rep programs self financed by players.

## NSW Update

South of the border Sydney Women's Rugby League has successfully reestablished its competition with 4 teams competing for the "David Sproule Shield".

Several Representative fixtures took place with NSW City playing NSW Country in Parkes and QLD playing against NSW for the Inaugural "Nellie Doherty Cup". Queensland edged out the NSW contingent 22-20 in what was an exciting game of representative football.

The Sydney competition is expected to increase its team entries next season.

The juniors are also going strong with under 13 & under 14 Junior girls rugby league competitions running through the Parramatta Juniors RL.

2006 sees the National tournament heading to Sydney with several teams expected to compete for the National title.

## National Representative teams

The AWRL selected two representative teams this year from the National Titles which were held at Runaway Bay JRLFC on the Gold Coast during the long weekend.

The Senior Jillaroos and Junior Jillaroos U21 Development team were selected from NSW City, NSW Country, South East Qld and Qld Barbarians representative teams who competed during the weekend.

South East Qld won the coveted title against Qld Barbarians, however the NSW teams were not to be disappointed with plenty of representation on the Australian teams. Glenn Lazarus attended the presentation night announcing the Australian representatives for 2005.

While the Senior program has been delayed with some scheduled camps for February 2006, the u21's participated in three training camps after their selection, with 2 staged in Brisbane and one camp in Sydney. The team ended up touring New Zealand in October to play against the Auckland invitational representative team. Having experienced some tough womens rugby league for the first time,



# WOMEN'S REPORT

the Junior Jillaroos came home with one win from three, a 22-14 first match loss at Papakura RLFC and plenty of injuries sustained in the 2nd game which was played at Cornwall Park. The Aussies were able to hold on to a 2 point margin in the 2nd match, winning 16-14 in an exciting display of junior girls rugby league however with plenty of disruptions and injuries on the cards before the third game, the Aussies were unable to match a more superior Auckland side, losing 58-8.

Australian Player of the Series was Morayfield SHS and Wests Mitchelton JRLFC player Terese Aiton who outplayed the Auckland defence with some darting runs from hooker and performed some remarkable defence for someone of such small stature. AWRL Selectors were extremely impressed with the Brisbane based player and are expecting future selections to the senior side.

Plans are now underway to organise International fixtures for the coming

years, with the highlight of staging the third Women's Rugby League World Cup in March 2008. Rated 2nd in the World women's rugby league rankings, great emphasis is being placed on the development of the junior players in preparation for the World Cup which we hope to host up to 10 national women rugby league sides.

2006 initial plans include fixtures for our u21's against a Great Britain & Ireland u21's side as well as international tests against the New Zealand Kiwi Ferns or Pacific Islands representative teams.

The AWRL have also reviewed their 3 year Development Plan and hope to gain the support from the ARL in applying for grant assistance for its future development programs.

Special thank you to all our committee members for your overwhelming support throughout the 2005 season.

**Veronica White**  
AWRL PRESIDENT

## Australian Under 21's rep team

- Bianca Bobongie (captain) - Qld
- Emily Nicholls (vice captain) - Qld
- Moana Barnes - Qld
- Lana Sila - Qld
- Farlane Wineera - NSW
- Rachel Taputo-Crombie - Qld
- Casey Drew - Qld
- Brittany Banks - Qld
- Vasiti Nasolo - Qld
- Chloe Caldwell - NSW
- Terese Aiton - Qld
- Jayde Ferguson - NSW
- Tiana Simmons - NSW
- Lisa Tafa - Qld
- Angelica Lowndes - NSW
- Vika Fenunuti - NSW
- Kristy Ross - Qld
- Virginia Gale - Qld
- Kristie Abela - NSW
- Krysten Sharkie - Qld
- Amie Solomona - Qld

Special thanks to our Under 21 Rep team sponsors:  
**Ebanc Trade, South Sydney Juniors, Soultrax Entertainment, ASSI, Kombat and Classicsports.**





# POLICE REPORT



The past 12 months has seen the Australian Police Rugby League go from strength to strength. The National Championships from Newcastle late 2004 were our most successful to date. ACT and WA fielded full teams and NSW Country had North and South representation. Congratulations to NSW Country South on being crowned National Champions.

It was also great to have a NSW Barbarians team competing and supporting the APRL.

We then had the highlight of our year - the representative tour to Argentina. This was an historic initiative in that it was the first tour there by anyone. The group had a great time, the place is just fantastic and we hope it will kick start better things for the organizers there.

APRL won both games 40 to 4 and 50 to 6. Six players made their debut on tour. Tas Baiteri came with us on tour and he has helped us with organizing tours in the past and we thank him for his efforts. Also Terry Liberopoulos from Rugby League Review also made the trip to see first hand how the APRL operates, and was impressed by our professionalism and commitment.

Congratulations to our National Coach Adam "Gus" Purcell on being appointed a Co manager of the NSW Blues team in the State of Origin series.

ACT played NSW Country in a one off game at Canberra before a Raiders fixture with "The Feds" winning 20 to 6.

Congratulations to Cronulla Police team who beat the Corrective Services team 17 to 16 in the NSW Metro competition, they were the underdogs and it was a first class game of football.

NT, Victoria and WA have played a number of games locally during the year to gear up for the national titles in Alice Springs in October 2006. A rep team will then tour in 2007 with the Nationals again held in Canberra to pick a team for the police World Cup in Australia in 2008, which the ARL had indicated they would like us to organize. I have already had feelers from a number of nations about the World Cup and we hope to have 8 teams competing, Australia, NZ, England, France, PNG, Pacific Islands, Jamaica, European/ Combined Rest of World

We are just deciding our tour venue for March 2006 at present it is Jamaica, but due to a number of reasons this could be changed to another venue.

NSW and Qld played their interstate clash earlier this year before a Broncos game with NSW edging out Qld 12 to 10.

Congratulations to the Western Australia Police Rugby League team in being named the sports team of the year in WA.

Recently there have been talks with the NSW and Qld Police leagues along with the ARL and our member bodies, it is hoped that a more united

association will become a reality in 2006. So far in talks a fair and equitable system has not been reached but all parties are working towards that goal.

Since my involvement in 1997 when the association was first mooted by 3 men, the association has achieved its goals in a very short period of time that is because of the commitment and dedication of a large number of people, who should not be forgotten in the recent circumstances. I thank them all for a their support.

Our association would like to thank the following, ARL, ASCAS Pty Ltd, Manchester Unity Health Fund, Retravisation Southport, Mako Sunglasses, Zed n Zed Jewelers, Hoyts Theaters, Hogs Breath Cafes, P.M. Irving Investments and Classic Sportswear - without your help we cannot achieve what we do.

Personally I was very touched to have received the inaugural Life Membership of the Association; it is truly an honor. The APRL has a great future and must thank the hardworking members of the committee for their tireless efforts which are greatly appreciated.

**Doug Keen**  
SECRETARY APRL





# COMBINED SERVICES REPORT

2005 has been another productive year for the CASRL organisation. Big inroads have been made within the Australian Defence Force (ADF) with CASRL now been identified as a major sporting body within the defence organisation.

The majority of the early months were taken up pre-planning the 2005 interservice carnival in Brisbane. Originally the carnival was set down for Townsville, however the ARL gratefully decided to host the New Zealand Defence Force and CASRL as the main curtain raiser to the 2005 ANZAC Day Test at SUNCORP Stadium.

The inter service carnival was held at the Eastern Suburbs Rugby League Club at Langlands Park, Stones Corner, Brisbane. The club provided us with excellent facilities. We were able to use their home ground to play the three matches as well as the use of their club facilities free of charge. Many thanks go to the CEO of the club Mr Darren Smith.

Our Patron, Major General Frank Roberts, was present for his first ever look at Defence rugby League after taking up his position. He was more than impressed in the standard of play displayed by all sides. RAAF won both of their games becoming the CASRL interservice champions for 2005. This has now created great interservice rivalry with a different service winning a carnival since its inception three years ago.

A very strong CASRL representative side was chosen from the interservice carnival and on 21 April 05 saw us matched up against our Kiwi brothers. The lead up to the game was a case of uncertainty, as neither side knew what to expect not having played each other before.

The game was played at a frantic pace and was well received by the 20,000 or so crowd. CASRL took out the

game in a tight battle 30-0. The score line certainly does not indicate how hard the game was for both sides. Members from both teams were in awe of SUNCORP Stadium and will cherish the chance to play there for the rest of their lives.

At short notice an invitation from the ARL was happily received to participate in the affiliated states carnival in Adelaide over the long week end in Jun 05. A team representing CASRL was sent with only four members from the ANZAC day test side available due to work commitments.

This did not stop CASRL giving an excellent account for itself against tough opposition. Although CASRL lost all of its three games the experienced gained from competing will put us in good stead for better results at next year's carnival.

In all CASRL has had a very successful year and will only get bigger and better. In what looks to be an exciting year the 2006 inter service tournament will be played in Townsville and the Great Britain Defence Force is touring with two test matches to be played in Sydney during April.

Sadly Major General Roberts has resigned as Patron due to taking up a civilian job. Lieutenant General Hurley has however accepted our offer to be the new Patron.

CASRL would like to thank the NSWRL, QRL and ARL for all of its assistance in 2005 and hopes forge stronger bonds with these organisations in 2006.

Also a big thanks to Mr Don Gailer who through his company Carlton and United Breweries has provided generous sponsorship through to 2007.

**Lt. David Wallis**  
CASRL





# AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS REPORT



2005 has proven to be a most successful year for the Australian Secondary Schools Rugby League Council. The program was highlighted by two outstanding Championships at Rockhampton and Wagga Wagga, and an International series of the highest standard between the Australian Schoolboys and the Junior Kiwis.

The Executive of the Australian Secondary School Rugby League Council for 2005 saw one change with the resignation of Greg Flood as Events Coordinator. We welcome Grant Edwards into this position and pass on our best wishes and gratitude to Greg Flood for his contribution to the programs of the ASSRLC Inc.. 2005 Executive: Bruce Wallace - President, Phil Beecher - Secretary, Brian Pearson - Treasurer, Grant Edwards - Events Coordinator.

On a sad note the ASSRLC wishes to pass on its sincerest sympathy to the families of the late Robert Stone, Ron Smith and Garry Tiernan. The Dragons are great supporters of the ASSRLC and Schoolboy Rugby League in general, and Robert was integral to that support. Ron Smith was manager of the first ever Australian Schoolboys team with Roy Masters and the late Sam Davey in 1972 and one of the founders of the ASSRLC. Garry Tiernan was the Administration Manager of Country Rugby League NSW for many years. The ASSRLC wishes to pay tribute and recognise the invaluable contribution of these men to Rugby League. They will be fondly remembered as great characters and contributors to our great game.

We are proud to announce the inauguration of two new life members to the ASSRL Council. Ray Montgomery from New South Wales Combined High Schools (retired) and Phil Tobin from New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges (current delegate and President of NSWCCC). Both of these men have made outstanding contributions to every aspect of Schoolboy Rugby League and are most deserved recipients of this honour.

The 15 Years Australian Championships were hosted by Queensland Secondary Schools Rugby League and conducted in Rockhampton. These Championships were an outstanding success and all credit goes to the organising committee headed by Steve Parle, President QSSRL.

The 15 Years Australian Champions POOL A Queensland

The 15 Years Australian Champions POOL B Victoria

Two Australian Merit Teams were selected at the conclusion of these Championships.

The 18 Years Australian Championships were hosted by New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges and conducted in Wagga Wagga. These Championships were also an outstanding success and all credit goes to the organising committee headed by Phil Tobin, President NSWCCC and Simon Huntly, Vice President NSWCCC.

The 18 Years Australian Champions POOL A NSW Combined Catholic Colleges

The 18 Years Australian Champions POOL B Northern Territory.

Both of the 2005 Championships emphasised the great advantage of hosting high profile sporting events in regional centres in the eastern states. The support of the media, both television and written was incredible as was the support of the communities in general. All accolades for the success of these events belong to the respective host bodies. Congratulations!

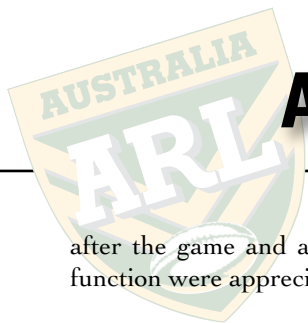
The ARL Referees Association are to be applauded for their support of the Australian Championships and the Corporate Sports Australia International Series. As an exercise in elite development of players and referees it is an outstanding model. We extend our sincerest appreciation to Steve Betts (CEO) and the Executive

of the ARLRA for their initiative and efforts in support of the programs of the ASSRLC.

The ASSRLC recognises; the sponsorship of the SFX group for their support of the Player of the Series at both Championships and also the Australian Training Company for their continued support of the 18 Years final, MVP award. Appreciation is extended to Paul Walker (ARL Development) for his attendance, expertise and invaluable contribution at both Championships. Also thanks to Bill Palmer, General Manager and Steve Palin, Operations Manager of the ARL Development for attending and participating in the presentation ceremonies. Many thanks to Michael Beuttner, former NRL player, present Welfare Officer of the NRL and Patron of the Australian Secondary Schools Rugby League Council, for his continued interest and participation in all Council activities.

The Australian Schoolboys Team selected at Wagga Wagga played in two international Test matches against the Junior Kiwis in the Corporate Sports Australia International Series. The first Test was hosted by the Melbourne Storm and played at Melbourne's Olympic Park as the main curtain raiser prior to the Storm versus Roosters NRL fixture. This was a fantastic occasion with the Australian Schoolboys being successful over their much bigger opponents winning well in front of a large, vocal and supportive crowd. (Australia 42 d New Zealand 24)

The ASSRLC are grateful to Brian Waldron, CEO Melbourne Storm and Peter O'Sullivan, Football-Operations Manager and their staff for their support in hosting both the Australian Schoolboys and the Junior Kiwis in Melbourne. The players and officials of the Australian Schoolboys team were most grateful to Mr Geoff Carr (CEO ARL) and Mr David Gallop (CEO NRL) for making a special trip to Melbourne to support the ARL-Australian Schoolboys. Their presence and kind words in the change rooms



# AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS REPORT

after the game and at the post match function were appreciated by all.

The second Test in the Corporate Sports Australia International Series was conducted in Brisbane at the generous and supportive Wynnum-Manly Rugby League Club. On this occasion the Junior Kiwis were dominant, using their size to great advantage and convincingly leveling the Test series. (New Zealand 46 d Australia 8). Once again Arthur Lovell (Chairman), Stan Plath (Director) and the Board of Directors of the Wynnum-Manly Rugby League Club and their Development Officer, Roy Wyatt proved to be the perfect hosts in every way. The Wynnum-Manly Rugby League Club have hosted more Test Matches on behalf of the ASSRLC than any other group in Australia and we are forever grateful for their unerring support. Appreciation is extended to John Coates, Chief Operating Officer, ARL for his attendance and involvement in post match ceremonies.

The Officials accompanying the Australian Schoolboys Team deserve recognition for the manner in which their team conducted itself at all times both on and off the field. The team received compliments from accommodation managers, referees, event staff and their opposition. A team deserved of wearing the green and gold.

Corporate Sports Australia were the generous sponsors of this years and last years international series and their generosity enabled the ASSRL to reduce the team levies by a significant amount as well as present our team in a manner which befits its status. To Mr Paul Nash, Managing Director of Corporate Sports Australia, thank you for your generosity and genuine interest.

The Australian Affiliated States 18 Years Team conducted a development tour to Townsville where they were hosted by the North Queensland Cowboys. Here, under the guidance of the Coaching staff headed by Graham Murray and

the Cowboys Development staff, they simulated a weeks experience as an NRL player culminating in a game as a curtain raiser to the Cowboys versus Dragons at Dairy Farmers Stadium before a huge local crowd.

The Affiliated States Officials should be commended for this outstanding initiative in genuine development. Our gratitude is extended to the Board of the North Queensland Cowboys for their continued support of the programs of the ASSRLC.

The ASSRLC is dependent and grateful to its 'supporters' and sponsors in order to conduct its programs. The ASSRL is grateful to the ARL for its long term support of all of our programs and to the ARL Foundation for its support over the last three years. The long term sponsorship of Classic Sportswear is invaluable to the ASSRL programs.

In 2006 it is the intention of the Australian Schoolboys to tour England and France at the end of the year. The 15 Years Australian Championships will be hosted by the WA Rugby League in Perth and the 18 Years Championships will be hosted by NSW Combined High Schools at Port Macquarie.

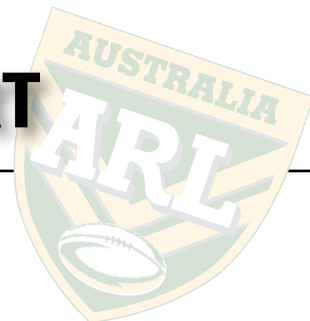
The synergy between NRL Clubs, senior league bodies, junior league bodies, development bodies and referees as supporters of the ASSRL programs is reflected in the quality of event which is able to be fostered in this air of cooperation. The ASSRLC look forward to another successful year in 2006 and pass on our gratitude to any individual or group who contributed in any way to this year's successes.

**Bruce Wallace**  
PRESIDENT.





# AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS REPORT



## Australian Secondary Schools Rugby League 18 Years Australian Team 2005

STATE NO.	NAME	SCHOOL
1. QLD 1	Darius Boyd	Palm Beach Currumbin SHS
2. NSWCHS 2	Mitchell Brown	Endeavour Sports High School
3. NSWCCC 3	Michael Jennings	St Dominics College Penrith
4. QLD 3	Daniel Isaac	Shailer Park State High School
5. NSWCHS 5	Aku Uate	Brisbane Waters Senior College
6. NSWCCC 6	Jarrod Mullen	St Francis Xavier Hamilton
7. NSWCCC 7	Mitchell Pearce	Marist College North Shore
8. QLD 20	David Taylor	St Brendans College Yeppoon
9. NSWCCC 9	Ray Nasso	Terra Sancta College Quakers Hill
10. NSWCCC 20	Edward Pettybourne	Marcellin College Randwick
11. NSWCCC 11	Mitchell Aubusson	Xavier College Ballina
12. ACT 13	Josh White	Daramalan College
13. QLD 13	Joel Moon	Morayfield State High School
14. NSWCHS 6	Kris Keating	Westfields Sports High School
15. NSWCHS 12	Martin Lewis	Farrer Memorial Ag. High School
16. NSWCCC 4	Matt Cooper	St Francis Xavier Hamilton
17. NSWCCC 12	Cory Paterson	St Francis Xavier Hamilton

<b>Coach:</b>	Simon Huntly	NSWCCC
<b>Team Manager:</b>	Andrew Peach	QSSRL
<b>Trainer:</b>	Craig Brennan	NSWCCC
<b>Physiotherapist:</b>	Scott Thornton	



## Australian 18 Years Championships

Eric Weissel Oval, Wagga Wagga, NSW

### Results

#### Pool A

NSWCCC	28	def	ACT	10
NSWCHS	18	def	QUEENSLAND	10
ACT	12	def	QUEENSLAND	4
NSWCCC	22	def	NSWCHS	6
QUEENSLAND	30	def	NSWCCC	28
NSWCHS	16	def	ACT	14

#### Pool B

NSWCIS	80	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	6
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	26	def	VICTORIA	16
NORTHERN TERRITORY	34	def	VICTORIA	2
NSWCIS	60	def	WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6	
NSWCIS	40	def	VICTORIA	28
NORTHERN TERRITORY	54	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	0
NORTHERN TERRITORY	26	def	WESTERN AUSTRALIA	0
VICTORIA	34	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	18
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	24	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	20
NSWCIS	22	def	NORTHERN TERRITORY	20

#### Championship Final:

NSWCCC	36	def	NSWCHS	0
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#### Australian Training Company "Player of the Final"

NSWCCC 3 Michael Jennings St Dominics College Penrith

#### Sam Davey Plate Final:

Northern Territory	20	def	NSWCIS	16
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# AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLBOYS REPORT

## Australian 15 Years Championships

Browne Park, Rockhampton, Queensland

### Results

#### Pool A

NSWCCC	32	def	ACT	12
NSWCHS	22	def	QUEENSLAND	16
QUEENSLAND	62	def	ACT	6
NSWCHS	28	def	NSWCCC	16
NSWCHS	36	def	ACT	4
QUEENSLAND	34	def	NSWCCC	10

#### Pool B

WEST AUSTRALIA	20	def	NORTHERN TERRITORY	14
VICTORIA	30	def	NSWCIS	12
WEST AUSTRALIA	42	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	0
NORTHERN TERRITORY	16	def	NSWCIS	14
VICTORIA	28	def	NORTHERN TERRITORY	20
NSWCIS	26	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	6
VICTORIA	38	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	10
NSWCIS	24	def	WESTERN AUSTRALIA	10
NORTHERN TERRITORY	44	def	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	0
VICTORIA	20	def	WEST AUSTRALIA	10

#### Cross Pool Games:

NSWCCC	46	def	Victoria	6
ACT	44	def	Northern Territory	0

#### Championship Final:

Queensland	24	def	NSWCHS	6
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John Allen Shield Winners: Victoria

#### SFX Player of the Championship

Ben Jones Qld 6 (Redcliffe State High School)

#### Player of the Affiliated States Championship

Mitchell Morgan NT 6 (Anzac Hill High School)







In the later half of 2004, a change was made to the selection policy for the AIS / ARL Program. This was largely to do with selections in Queensland but also impacted on the selections from the emerging States. The selection policy for the AIS / ARL Program now has us selecting from the entire State of Queensland as opposed to just areas outside of Brisbane. In Queensland the AIS/ARL Program now mainly selects from Qld U16 players so that they will be U17's in their year of scholarship. Such players are generally in Yr 12 at high school in their Scholarship year, however some will be in Year 11 and may be re-offered scholarships for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

As a result of this selection policy change we now have a commitment to Scholarship at least sixteen players from Queensland (from their U16's) as opposed to twelve in previous years. For 2005, this increased commitment to Queensland impacted on the number of Scholarships that we had left to offer other States, in particular the emerging States. This should no longer be a problem as the AIS has given approval for us to Scholarship a maximum of 36 players in any one Intake as opposed to the 30 we have previously been allowed.

In allowing these additional scholarships, the AIS however makes the point that all Scholarship holders need to be judged on their potential to be NRL players and that no State is guaranteed that one of its players will be offered a scholarship.

This year has been again a successful one for the AIS/ARL Program with AIS players providing significant numbers of players to Junior and School representative teams.

Notable representative selections include:

**CRL U18** - 6 selections - Harry Witt, Mitchell Aubusson, Daniel Greaves, Aiden Tolman, Alex Switzer and Joel Thompson, with the last 3 players all being U17

**QLD U17** - 9 selections - Daniel Isaac, Brady Payne, Joel Moon, David Taylor, Nathan Strudwick, Nathan Beckett, Simona Vavega, Cameron Heading, Jay Aston

**QLD Schools U18** - 7 selections - Daniel Isaac, Brady Payne, Joel Moon, David Taylor, Nathan Strudwick, , Cameron Heading, Jay Aston

**NSW CCC U18** - 2 selections - Mitchell Aubusson, Joel Thompson

**NSW CHS U18** - 2 selections - Martin Lewis, Zac Russ

**Australian Schoolboys:** - 5 selections: - Joel Moon, Marty Lewis, Mitchell Aubusson, David

Taylor, Danial Isaac (all other selections came from areas from which we can't select, except for Darius Boyd who although a Queenslander wasn't an U17 player and therefore not considered for selection in our Program

On top of these representations 6 former AIS scholarship holders played in the Queensland U19 State of Origin side (Brett Anderson, Daniel Backo, Colin Wilkie, Tyran Haynes, Anthony Perkins and Scott Anderson). In addition to this 2 other players Scott Bolton and Danny Williams have toured overseas with our Program.

Only one former AIS player (James Aubusson) played in the NSW U19 State of Origin. (It's probably no wonder therefore that Queensland gave NSW a hiding in that match.

The influence of the Program was also felt at Junior Kangaroos level with 4 former scholarship holders (Colin Wilkie, Scott Anderson, James Aubusson, and Ryan Shortland) gaining selection as





have been in the past. It is my intention to play 2 matches in each of these camps. Scholarship offers for 2006 have been sent out to the players involved, and much of the planning and paperwork for the December and January camps has been completed

AIS Camps for 2006 scholarship holders over the coming 12 months will be as follows:

6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Dec - camp at the AIS

17<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Jan – camp at the AIS

11<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> April – camp at the AIS

28<sup>th</sup> Sept – 8<sup>th</sup> Oct – camp and possible matches v England U17 (in Australia)



AUSTRALIAN  
INSTITUTE OF SPORT

**Brian Johnson**  
HEAD COACH  
AIS RUGBY LEAGUE PROGRAM

well as the 2 players (Scott Bolton and Danny Williams) who toured overseas with us. Another selection (Luke Douglas) had also attended several AIS camps. I have no doubt that except for injuries to two other former scholarship holders (Brett Anderson and Daniel Backo) we would have also seen their inclusion in the team

Interestingly, a former AIS 2003-2004 scholarship holder (Rod Griffin) played in the PNG side against the Junior Roos in Darwin and was named as man-of-the-match. Another (Greg Eastwood) was named in the program for New Zealand 'A' side but didn't play. Both these players were eligible for U18's football this year.

2005 also saw 2 former scholarship holders (Joel Reddy and Greg Eastwood) make their NRL debut,

bringing the number of former scholarship holders to have played in the Telstra premiership up to six. ( Tom Learoyd, Brett Anderson, Sam Perrett, Peter Taylor, Joel Reddy, Greg Eastwood). Two of these players have played NRL while still eligible for U18's football.

The 2005 Program will be completed with the upcoming 3 week tour (10<sup>th</sup> Nov -5<sup>th</sup> Dec) by 24 scholarship holders to France and England. The players involved are mostly U17's and will be playing matches against a French U18 selection, a French U19 selection, BARLA U 19, and two games against England U17.

For 2006, in order to provide better learning opportunities to our players we will make the January and April camps longer than they





# STATE of ORIGIN REPORT



The 2005 Harvey Norman State of Origin series marked 25 years since the introduction of the concept back in 1980. In that time, Origin football has grown in stature to represent the best of the best, pitting the elite players from the No 1 rugby league nation in the world against each other.

Without detracting from Test matches (as wearing the green and gold jersey remains the ultimate acknowledgement for any player) or the Telstra premiership, Origin football has created its own niche which generates its own passion and pride.

Queenslanders may have been the first to learn the lessons of Origin, but New South Welshmen have now embraced these matches with just as much partisanship as that found north of the Tweed River.

The Wizard Blues 2005 series victory, their third in succession, confirmed their recent ascendancy but it was only achieved after three fascinating contests that added to the lustre of Origin football.

The first match, played at Suncorp Stadium before a crowd of 52,484, was as action-packed and dramatic as any of its 72 predecessors. Two first half tries to the Maroons gave them a 13-0 advantage, which was extended almost immediately upon resumption by a further try to Michael Crocker.

However New South Wales, in an ominous burst, stormed home as the Queensland side relinquished control of the game. Tries to Luke Rooney and Mark Gasnier were followed by four pointers to Craig Fitzgibbon and Matt King to send the Blues ahead 20-19 and leave Queenslanders on an emotional precipice.

Johnathan Thurston's late field goal levelled the scores for the Maroons and sent the match into golden point extra time. Although NSW threatened in attack, Matt Bowen snared an intercept with his superbly-timed run and claimed the game for Queensland with his try making the final score 24-20.

NSW had their backs to the wall going into the second match, especially when

half Trent Barrett withdrew from the team due to injury. The inclusion of Andrew Johns, though, proved an inspirational master stroke for the Wizard Blues.

The redoubtable Johns proved the difference at Telstra Stadium in front of a crowd of 82,389 as NSW maintained their unbeaten record at the ground. The first 40 minutes saw Queensland edge in front, a runaway try to Billy Slater just before the interval propelling them to a 12-8 lead at the break.

After the resumption Johns took control, guiding NSW around the field, causing havoc for the Maroons defence with his passing and pinpoint kicking. He engineered tries for Anthony Minichiello, Steve Menzies and Matt Cooper to send NSW ahead 26-12 before Petero Civoniceva replied for Queensland to put them back in the match.

Any hopes of a Maroons fairytale were destroyed, though, when Johns sent Danny Buderus over for the final NSW try to ensure a Blues victory and set up a much-anticipated decider.

Played before another capacity crowd at Suncorp Stadium, the third match in the 2005 Harvey Norman State of Origin series saw NSW produce their best performance of the series.

After dominating the opening exchanges, Queensland had no answer to the relentless waves of attack launched at them by the Wizard Blues. Johns turned in another masterful performance but far from being a one-man show, this was a superb team effort by a committed and clinically efficient NSW side.

Braith Anasta scored the first try after 21 minutes, but further tries to Mark Gasnier and Matt King before half time allowed NSW to take an 18-0 advantage after the first 40 minutes.

Any hopes of a Maroons fightback were shattered when King scored again early in the second term and the Melbourne flanker went on to etch his name in Origin records when he crossed again to join the list of those who have scored three tries in an Origin match.

Two late tries made the final score 32-10

but did little to ease the Queenslanders' pain. Both teams, their staff and officials deserve congratulations for their efforts during the 2005 Harvey Norman State of Origin series.

In his debut as NSW coach Ricky Stuart added a new dimension to the Wizard Blues. Michael Hagan, who has indicated he will step down as coach of Queensland, also warrants acknowledgement for the manner in which he prepared his team and his contribution to Origin football as both a player and coach. NSW fullback Anthony Minichiello was a deserved winner of the Wally Lewis Medal for the best player in the 2005 Harvey Norman State of Origin series.

The success of the series is also a reflection on the efforts of our corporate partners, in particular Harvey Norman, Castlemaine Perkins, Wizard Finance, Carlton United Breweries, Sony Playstation, Canterbury Clothing and AAMI. We thank each of them for their ongoing support of rugby league.

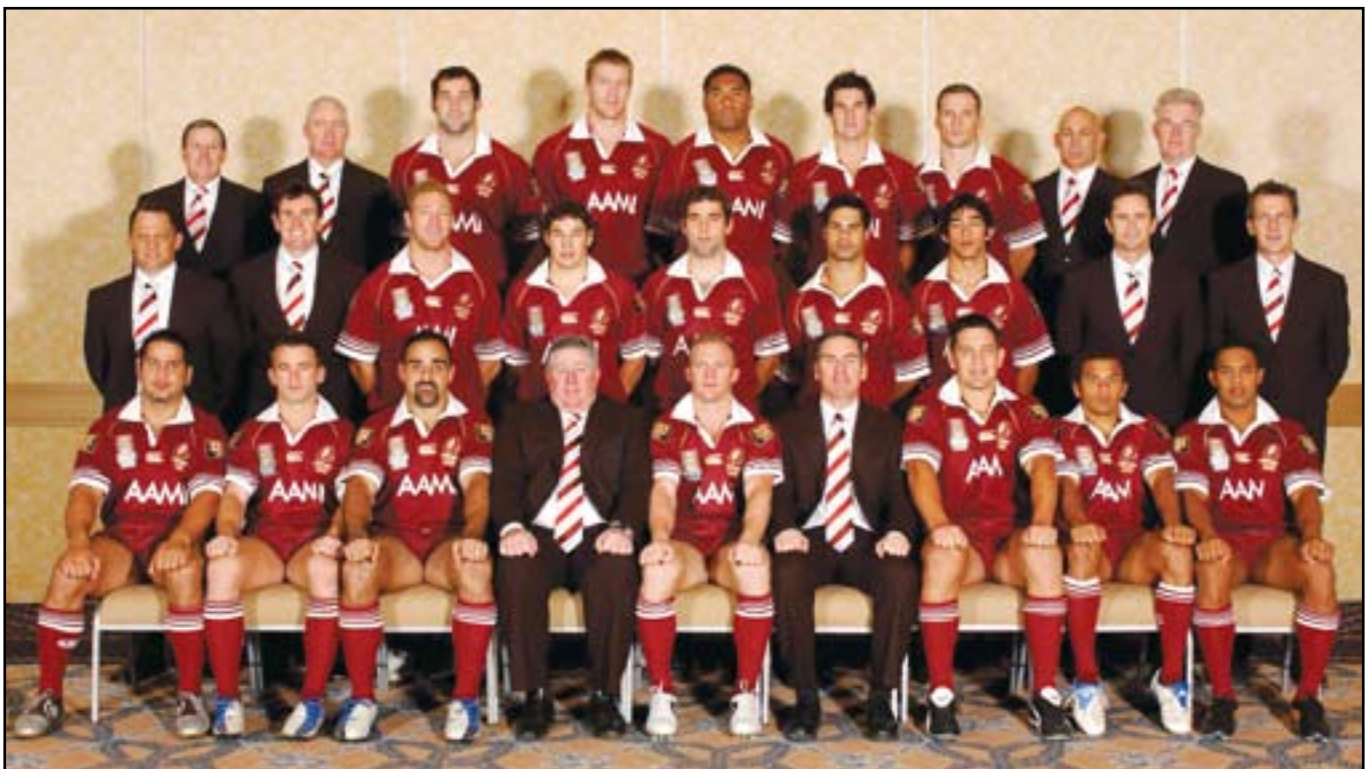
With the third match for 2006 scheduled for Melbourne, Origin football will spread its wings next year, and the sense of expectation has already begun. The appointment of Maroons' great Mal Meninga as coach of Queensland has also generated a great deal of interest and will ensure that the 2006 series will be as keenly contested as any in the first 25 years of State of Origin.



# STATE of ORIGIN REPORT



Back Row: Craig Walker (Trainer), Steve Simpson, Luke Rooney, Matt King, Jason Ryles, Craig Fitzgibbon, Ben Kennedy, Matt Cooper, John Orchard (Doctor)  
 Middle Row: John Cartwright (Assistant Coach), Ron Palmer (Trainer), Brett Kimmorley, Mark Gasnier, Trent Barrett, Luke Bailey, Craig Wing, Anthony Minichiello, Anthony Watmough, Paul Tape (Trainer), Liz Steet (Physio)  
 Front Row: John Coates (NSWRL Co-ordinator), Nathan Hindmarsh, Don Furner (Manager), Danny Buderus (Captain), Ricky Stuart (Coach), Andrew Ryan, Craig Young (Manager), Steve Menzies, Laurie Daley (Assistant Coach)



Back Row: Tony Spencer (Trainer), Dave Ryan (Trainer), Ben Ross, Brad Thorn, Petero Civoniceva, Chris Flannery, Paul Bowman, Billy Johnstone (Trainer), Roy Saunders (Doctor)  
 Middle Row: Steve Walters (Manager), Ben Ikin (Media Manager), Michael Crocker, Billy Slater, Cameron Smith, Matt Sing, Johnathan Thurston, Gary Belcher (Conditioner), Michael Dalgleish (Physio)  
 Front Row: Carl Webb, Shaun Berrigan, Tonie Carroll, Chris Close (Manager), Darren Lockyer (Captain), Michael Hagan (Coach), Steve Price, Matt Bowen, Ty Williams

Result: Qld 24 (M Bowen, M Crocker, T Williams tries C Smith 5 goals, D Lockyer, J Thurston field goals) defeated NSW 20 (M Gasnier, L Rooney, C Fitzgibbon, D Buderus tries C Fitzgibbon 2 goals)  
 Referee: P Simpkins Attendance: 52,484



# STATE of ORIGIN REPORT



Back Row: Ron Palmer (Trainer), Ben Kennedy, Craig Fitzgibbon, Mark Gasnier, Jason Ryles, Luke Rooney, Steve Simpson, Matt King, John Cartwright (Assistant Coach)  
 Middle Row: Paul Tape (Trainer), Dean Pay (Assistant Coach), Matt Cooper, Braith Anasta, Andrew Ryan, Steve Menzies, Nathan Hindmarsh, Paul Tape (Trainer), John Orchard (Doctor)  
 Front Row: Don Furner (Manager), Anthony Minichiello, Andrew Johns, Ricky Stuart (Coach), Danny Buderus (Captain), Craig Young (Manager), Luke Bailey, Craig Wing, Liz Steet (Physio)



Back Row: Roy Saunders (Doctor), Michael Crocker, Dane Carlaw, Ben Ross, Brad Thorn, Petero Civoniceva, Chris Flannery, Dave Ryan (Trainer)  
 Middle Row: Tony Spencer (Trainer), Michael Dalgleish (Physio), Paul Bowman, Casey McGuire, Ben Ikin (Media Manager), Cameron Smith, Carl Webb, Gary Belcher (Conditioner), Billy Johnstone (Trainer)  
 Front Row: Shaun Berrigan, Matt Sing, Johnathan Thurston, Steve Walters (Manager), Darren Lockyer (Captain), Michael Hagan (Coach), Matt Bowen, Ty Williams, Billy Slater

Result: NSW 32 (A Minichiello 2, M Cooper, S Menzies, D Buderus tries C Fitzgibbon 3, A Johns 3 goals) defeated Qld 22 (B Slater, P Civoniceva, B Thorn, M Bowen tries C Smith 3 goals)  
 Referee: S Clark Attendance: 82,389







Back Row: John Cartwright (Assistant Coach), Ben Kennedy, Craig Fitzgibbon, Jason Ryles, Steve Simpson, Steve Menzies, Mark Gasnier, Timana Tahu, John Orchard (Doctor)  
 Middle Row: Paul Tape (Trainer), Ron Palmer (Trainer), Anthony Minichiello, Andrew Ryan, Matt Cooper, Matt King, Luke Bailey, Craig Gower, Laurie Daley (Assistant Coach), Paul Tape (Trainer)  
 Front Row: Don Furner (Manager), Liz Steet (Physio), Nathan Hindmarsh, Danny Buderus (Captain), Ricky Stuart (Coach), Andrew Johns, Braith Anasta, Dean Pay (Assistant Coach), Craig Young (Manager),

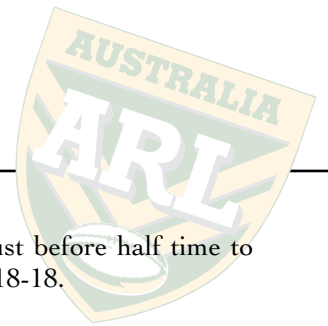


Back Row: Michael Dalgleish (Physio), Michael Crocker, Ashley Harrison, Ben Ross, Brad Thorn, Petero Civoniceva, Chris Flannery, Dave Ryan (Trainer)  
 Middle Row: Tony Spencer (Trainer), Billy Johnstone (Trainer), Ben Ikin (Media Manager), Corey Parker, Paul Bowman, Cameron Smith, Gary Belcher (Conditioner), Steve Walters (Manager), Roy Saunders (Doctor),  
 Front Row: Matt Sing, Ty Williams, Johnathan Thurston, Michael Hagan (Coach), Darren Lockyer (Captain), Chris Close (Manager) Danny Nutley, Matt Bowen, Shaun Berrigan,

Result: NSW 32 (M King 3, B Anasta, T Tahu, M Gasnier tries A Johns 3, C Fitzgibbon goals) defeated Qld 10 (M Bowen, J Thurston tries C Smith goal)  
 Referee: P Simpkins Attendance: 52,436



# KANGAROOS REPORT



The Australian Kangaroos have remained the measuring stick for excellence in international rugby league during 2005, but the resurgence of Test football has meant that they have had to play to the very best of their ability to maintain their proud record.

New Zealand played the traditional Test match against the Kangaroos in April, with Suncorp Stadium hosting the match in front of a crowd of over 40,000. Both teams are to be complimented on the quality of football this Test match produced. Luke Priddis was the only player making his Test debut for Australia, the 725th player to don the national colours.

First half tries to Matt Sing, Shaun Berrigan, Tonie Carroll and Darren Lockyer helped Australia establish a match winning 22-10 lead at the break. Willie Tonga and Anthony Minichiello added further tries after

the interval to suppress a brave Kiwi challenge and leave the final score 32-16 to Australia.

At the conclusion of the domestic season, the Kangaroos again competed in the Gillette Tri Nations tournament. There was a change this year with Australia and New Zealand playing their respective Tests against each other on home soil.

The first match in the tournament saw Australia meet New Zealand at Telstra Stadium, Sydney. New Zealand began strongly and led 18-0 before Australia played their way into the match. Brent Tate scored the Kangaroos' first try with a breath taking 80 metre solo run and he was followed across the line soon after by Andrew Johns.

When Mark Gasnier also scored after some delightful team play, the Kangaroos were back in the contest, a view they confirmed when Tate

scored again just before half time to level scores at 18-18.

Matt King continued Australia's momentum when he posted the first try of the second half, but hopes were dashed when the Kiwis replied with two converted tries and a penalty goal of their own to jump to a 32-22 lead. Gasnier reignited Australia's chances with his second try but New Zealand sealed their win when Clinton Toopi scored his third try of the night for the visitors.

The following week the teams met again at Ericsson Stadium, Auckland and turned on another memorable encounter. Australia opened the scoring with a try to Darren Lockyer before the Kiwis posted two quick tries to lead 8-4. A penalty goal extended their lead before Matt Cooper, playing his first Test, scored for the Kangaroos.

A further try to the Kiwis immediately



**Australian Kangaroos V New Zealand**  
Suncorp Stadium April 22, 2005

Back Row: Willie Tonga, Ben Kennedy, Petero Civoniceva, Luke Rooney, Jason Ryles, Nathan Hindmarsh  
Middle Row: Robbie Aubin (Trainer), Billy Johnstone (Trainer), Mark O'Meley, Matt Cooper, Craig Wing, Anthony Minichiello, Matt Sing, Tonie Carroll, Craig Bellamy (Skills Coach), Tony Spencer (Trainer)  
Front Row: Dr Hugh Hazard, Luke Priddis, Steve Walters (Manager), Steve Price, Wayne Bennett (Coach), Darren Lockyer (Captain), John Hayes (Manager), Brett Kimmorley, Tony Ayoub (Physio)





# KANGAROOS REPORT

before half time gave them a 16-8 lead but Australia came back strongly in the second half. A try to Mark Gasnier, was followed by another to Lockyer and a superb conversion by Fitzgibbon gave the Kangaroos the lead 18-16.

Cooper's second try pushed Australia further in front and Anthony Minichiello scored the last try of the match for the Kangaroos, who held on to win 28-26. The victory came at a cost, however, with Andrew Johns receiving an injury that ruled him out of the northern hemisphere section of the campaign. Timana Tahu had suffered the same fate the previous week.

Australia faced Great Britain in their next match, at Wigan's JJB Stadium. The Kangaroos had to battle hard to

overcome a stern British challenge and two tries in the final five minutes saw them win 20-6.

Matt Cooper again scored two of the Australian tries with Anthony Minichiello once more featuring on the list of tryscorers. The Kangaroos injury problems continued in this match with Darren Lockyer forced out of the remainder of the tour while Nathan Hindmarsh, who was added to the party for the northern leg of the tour, also succumbed to an injury at training.

Bolstered by additions Eric Grothe and Craig Wing, Australia then journeyed to Perpignan to play a one-off Test against France. The resurgence of Les Chanticleers was again evident as the Kangaroos had to be at their best to record a 44-12



victory. Craig Gower had the honour of captaining Australia for the first time in a Test in this match.

Danny Buderus took over the team captaincy for the second Test against Great Britain, played at Hull's KC Stadium. Australia had to win to ensure a place in the final against New Zealand and scored the first try through Matt Cooper before the British replied. A try right on half time to Mark O'Meley after some freakish juggling skills gave the Kangaroos a 14-8 lead after the first 40 minutes.

Brent Tate scored a try reminiscent of his effort in Sydney when he raced over 80 metres to inflate Australia's lead early in the second half, and Fitzgibbon's conversion was followed soon after by a penalty goal.

Mark Gasnier's try made the Kangaroos lead unassailable and a late try to the British made the final score 26-12, sending Australia into the tournament final. This match was still to be played at the time of writing but regardless of the result the Kangaroos have lived up to the proud traditions associated with the green and gold jersey.





# TEST MATCHES



## 2005 Test Results

### Australia v New Zealand Friday April 22, 2005 at Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane

**Australia:** 1 Anthony Minichiello, 2 Luke Rooney, 3 Shaun Berrigan, 4 Willie Tonga, 5 Matt Sing, 6 Darren Lockyer, (c), 7 Brett Kimmorley, 8 Steve Price, 9 Luke Priddis, 10 Petero Civoniceva, 11 Nathan Hindmarsh, 12 Craig Fitzgibbon, 13 Tonie Carroll Interchange: 14 Ben Kennedy, 15 Craig Wing, 16 Mark O'Meley, 18 Trent Waterhouse.

**New Zealand:** 1 Jerome Ropati, 2 Jamaal Lolesi, 3 Nigel Vagana, 4 Paul Whatu-ria, 5 Matthew Utai, 6 Benji Marshall, 7 Thomas Leuluai, 8 Paul Rauhihi, 9 Louis Anderson, 10 Ruben Wiki, (c), 11 Frank Pritchard, 12 Wairangi Koopu, 13 Sione Faumuina. Interchange: 14 Dene Halatua, 15 Jason Cayless, 16 Roy Asotasi, 17 David Kidwell

**Australia 32** (M Sing, S Berrigan, T Carroll, D Lockyer, W Tonga, A Minichiello tries C Fitzgibbon 4 goals) defeated **New Zealand 16** (J Ropati 2, M Utai tries J Lolesi 2 goals)

**Referee:** Russell Smith (England)

### Gillette Tri Nations

#### Game One

### Australia v New Zealand Saturday October 15, 2005 at Telstra Stadium, Sydney

**Australia:** 1 Anthony Minichiello, 2 Timana Tahu, 3 Brent Tate, 4 Mark Gasnier, 5 Matt King, 6 Darren Lockyer (c), 7 Andrew Johns (Newcastle Knights) 8 Petero Civoniceva, 9 Danny Buderus, 10 Steve Price, 11 Luke O'Donnell, 12 Craig Fitzgibbon, 13 Ben Kennedy Interchange 14 Jason Ryles, 15 Andrew Ryan, 16 Trent Waterhouse, 17 Craig Gower

**New Zealand:** 1 Brent Webb, 2 Jake Webster, 3 Paul Whatuira, 4 Clinton Toopi, 5 Manu Vatuvei, 6 Nigel Vagana, 7 Stacey Jones, 8 Paul Rauhihi, 9 Lance Hohaia, 10 Ruben Wiki (c), 11 David Kidwell, 12 Frank Pritchard, 13 Louis Anderson Interchange 14 David Faiumu, 15 Roy Asotasi, 16 Nathan Cayless, 17 David Solomon

**New Zealand 38** (C. Toopi 3, N. Cayless, N. Vagana, B. Webb tries; S. Jones 7 goals) defeat **Australia 28** (B. Tate 2, M. Gasnier 2, M. King, A. Johns tries; C. Fitzgibbon, A. Johns goals)

**Referee:** Steve Ganson (England)





# TEST MATCHES

## Game Two

**Australia v New Zealand**  
**Friday October 21, 2005**  
**at Ericsson Stadium, Auckland**

**Australia:** 1 Anthony Minichiello, 2 Brent Tate, 3 Matt Cooper, 4 Mark Gasnier, 5 Matt King, 6 Darren Lockyer (c), 7 Andrew Johns (Newcastle Knights), 8 Petero Civoniceva, 9 Danny Buderus, 10 Steve Price, 11 Luke O'Donnell, 12 Craig Fitzgibbon, 13 Ben Kennedy Interchange 14 Trent Barrett, 15 Jason Ryles, 16 Mark O'Meley, 17 Trent Waterhouse (Penrith Panthers)

**New Zealand:** 1 Brent Webb, 2 Jake Webster, 3 Paul Whatuira, 4 Shontayne Hape, 5 Manu Vatuvei, 6 Nigel Vagana, 7 Stacey Jones, 8 Paul Rauhihi, 9 Motu Tony, 10 Ruben Wiki (c), 11 David Kidwell, 12 David Solomona, 13 Louis Anderson Interchange 14 David Faiumu, 15 Roy Asotasi, 16 Iafeta Palea'aesina, 17 Tony Puletua

**Australia 28** (D. Lockyer 2, M. Cooper 2, M. Gasnier, A. Minichiello tries; C. Fitzgibbon 2 goals) defeated **New Zealand 26** (J. Webster 2, D. Faiumu, N. Vagana, M. Tony tries, S. Jones 3 goals)

## Game Three

**Australia v Great Britain**  
**Saturday November 5, 2005**  
**at JJB Stadium Wigan**

**Australia:** 1 Anthony Minichiello, 2 Matt King, 3 Mark Gasnier, 4 Matt Cooper, 5 Brent Tate, 6 Darren Lockyer (c), 7

Scott Prince, 8 Petero Civoniceva, 9 Danny Buderus, 10 Steve Price, 11 Luke O'Donnell, 12 Craig Fitzgibbon, 13 Ben Kennedy Interchange 14 Trent Barrett, 15 Jason Ryles, 16 Mark O'Meley, 17 Willie Mason

**Great Britain:** 1 Paul Wellens, Brian Carney, Martin Gleeson, Keith Senior, Leon Pryce, Iestyn Harris, Paul Deacon, Stuart Fielden, Keiron Cunningham, Adrian Morley, Paul Johnson, Jamie Peacock (c), Kevin Sinfield. Interchange 14 Mickey Higham, 15 Jamie Thackray, 16 Lee Gilmour, 17 Gareth Ellis

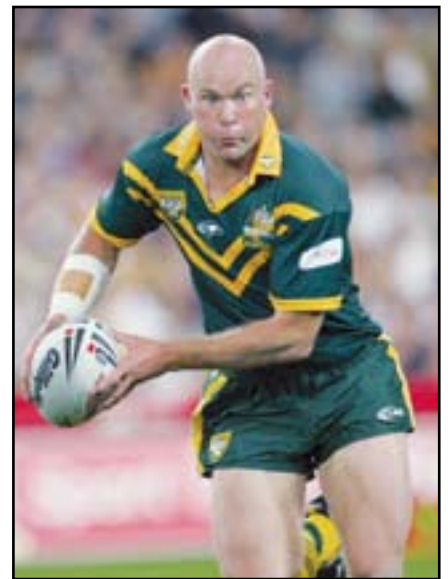
**Australia 20** (M. Cooper 2, A. Minichiello tries; C. Fitzgibbon 4 goals) defeated **Great Britain 6** (A. Morley try; K. Sinfield goal) at JJB Stadium, Wigan.  
**Referee:** Tim Mander (Australia)

## Game Four

**Australia v Great Britain**  
**Saturday November 19, 2005**  
**at KC Stadium Hull**

**Australia:** 1 Anthony Minichiello, 2 Matt King, 3 Matt Cooper, 4 Mark Gasnier, 5 Brent Tate, 6 Trent Barrett, 7 Craig Gower, 8 Petero Civoniceva, 9 Danny Buderus, 10 Jason Ryles, 11 Luke O'Donnell, 12 Craig Fitzgibbon, 13 Ben Kennedy Interchange 14 Scott Prince, 15 Mark O'Meley, 16 Willie Mason, 17 Trent Waterhouse, 18 Craig Wing

**Great Britain:** 1 Leon Pryce, 2 Brian Carney, 3 Martin Gleeson, 4 Keith Senior, 5 Gareth Raynor, 6 Iestyn Harris, 7 Richard Horne, 8 Stuart Fielden, 9 Keiron



Cunningham, 10 Adrian Morley, 11 Jamie Peacock, 12 Paul Johnson, 13 Kevin Sinfield Interchange 14 Mick Higham, 15 Lee Gilmour, 16 Jamie Thackray, 17 Gareth Ellis

**Australia 26** (M. Cooper, M. O'Meley, B. Tate, M. Gasnier tries; C. Fitzgibbon 5 goals) defeated **Great Britain 14** (B. Carney, R. Horne tries; I. Harris 3 goals) at KC Stadium, Hull.  
**Referee:** Steve Ganson (England)

**Australia v France**  
**Saturday November 12, 2005**  
**at Perpignan**

**Australia:** 1 Anthony Minichiello, 2 Eric Grothe, 3 Mark Gasnier, 4 Matt Cooper, 5 Brent Tate, 6 Scott Prince, 7 Craig Gower (c), 8 Jason Ryles, 9 Craig Wing, 10 Mark O'Meley, 11 Ben Creagh, 12 Willie Mason, 13 Trent Waterhouse Interchange 14 Steve Price, 15 Petero Civoniceva, 16 Andrew Ryan, 17 Matt King

**France:** 1 Renaud Guigue, 2 Frederic Zitter, 3 Christophe Moly, 4 Jerome Hermet, 5 Olivier Charles, 6 Laurent Frayssinous, 7 Julien Rinaldi, 8 David Ferriol, 9 David Berthezene, 10 Jerome Guisset, 11 Aurelien Cologni, 12 Jamal Fakir, 13 Gregory Mounis Interchange 14 Maxime Gresque, 15 Adel Fellous, 16 Jean Christophe Borlin, 17. Sebastien Raguin

**Australia 44** (A Minichiello 2, T Waterhouse 2, M Cooper, S Prince, C Gower, W Mason tries S Prince 6 goals) defeated **France 12** (L Frayssinous, M Gresque tries L Frayssinous 2 goals)  
**Referee:** A Klein (England)





# JUNIOR KANGAROOS REPORT



The 2005 Junior Kangaroos may have lost both encounters in which they featured, but in every other sense they enjoyed a successful campaign.

This was the third year in which the Junior Kangaroos have played a senior side representing Papua New Guinea, and, as always, this match was a tough and bruising encounter.

Played at Darwin's Richardson Park, the match attracted great local interest and drew a crowd of several thousand. Those fans were treated to a high quality match that showcased the skill and power of both teams.

Australia scored the first try through a Todd Carney chip for Michael Lett but the Kumuls responded to lead 12-6 at half time. Another try early in the second half gave Papua New Guinea an 18-6 lead before tries to Ryan Shortland and a spectacular team effort finished off by William Zillman narrowed the margin to 18-16.

The Australians had several chances to claim the match but a mixture of dropped balls and some fierce Kumuls defence denied them. Papua New Guinea ensured their win with a try in the final minute, making the final scoreline 24-16.

Although beaten, the visit of the Junior Kangaroos gave a tremendous boost to rugby league in the Northern Territory. Press and television coverage in the lead up to the match added to the great work being done by local authorities to further enhance the position of rugby league in Darwin.

The following week eleven members of the squad combined with the players rested from the senior Australian squad to form a Kangaroos Invitational XIII that played New Zealand A prior to the Test match in Sydney.

The presence of skipper Trent Barrett, Scott Prince, Matt Cooper, Willie Mason, Mark O'Meley and Ben Creagh added significantly to the strength of the side and provided a great learning experience for the young players.

The New Zealand A side boasted a decided advantage in terms of both size and experience and overpowered the Kangaroos Invitational XIII 40-16, but although the Australians showed their mettle with a strong second half they could not resist the Kiwis.

Brian Johnson, head of the rugby league program at the Australian Institute of Sport, was again coach of the Junior Kangaroos and performed his duties with his customary diligence and efficiency.

The other officials - Manager Bob Jones, Assistant Coach Terry Gillogley, trainers Peter Kuchler and Efran Bungaric, Dr Steve Macnamara, Media Manager Terry Williams and ARL Representative Dave Nissen - each worked tirelessly and also deserve congratulations for their efforts on behalf of the team.



## ARL Junior Kangaroos

William Zillman	Canberra Raiders
Leon Bott	Brisbane Broncos
Yileen Gordon	South Sydney
Michael Lett	Sydney Roosters
Steve Michaels	Brisbane Broncos
Jarrold Mullen	Newcastle
Todd Carney	Canberra Raiders
Luke Douglas	Cronulla Sharks
James Aubusson	Sydney Roosters
Danny Williams	Sydney Roosters
Mickey Paea	Sydney Roosters
Scott Bolton	Nth Qld Cowboys
Beau Champion	South Sydney
Col Wilkie	Norths Brisbane
Jeremy Latimore	Cronulla Sharks
Ryan Shortland	Norths Brisbane
Scott Anderson	Norths Brisbane

**Coach:** Brian Johnson (AIS)  
**Manager:** Bob Jones (NSWRL)  
**Trainer:** Peter Kuchler (QRL)  
**Media Manager:** Terry Williams  
**Tour Coordinator:** Wayne Portlock  
**Asst Coach:** Terry Gillogley (NSWRL)  
**Physio:** Efran Bungaric (NSWRL)  
**Doctor:** Steve McNamara





# PRIME MINISTERS XIII REPORT

For the first time the ARL selected a Prime Ministers XIII in 2005 to play a game against the Papua New Guinea Kumuls in September and assist in the celebration on 30 years Independence for Papua New Guinea.

Under the Guidance of Tour Manager John Chalk and Coaches Mal Meninga and Brad Fittler the touring party took part in a number of activities apart from the football. These included working with Australian and Papua New Guinean government staff regarding the delivery of message to increase awareness of HIV/Aids in PNG.

Given the status of Australian players in PNG, it was felt that they would be well placed to help reinforce the government campaigns being conducted around this pressing social issue while also marking the important milestone of the nation's independence.

The team also attended a PNGRL Charity Breakfast to assist with fundraising on the morning of the match before undertaking further public relations duties after the game.

This involved splitting into groups and travelling to a variety of centres to reinforce messages regarding the following issues: -



1. Awareness of HIV/Aids
2. Respect Women/ Anti domestic violence
3. Safe Sex

The match itself was a great spectacle that suitably marked the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Papua New Guinea's independence.

Led by retiring Sydney Roosters backrower Luke Ricketson the Prime Ministers XIII ran in six unanswered tries to outclass the Kumuls in front of a

crowd of over 10,000 at Lloyd Robson Oval, Port Moresby.

Ryan Cross and Kurt Gidley scored first half tries to give the Mal Meninga coached PM's XIII a 12-0 lead at the end of a rugged first 40 minutes.

The Kumuls attempted to get back in the match with some enterprising play straight after the break but were unable to crack the resolute Australian defence.

During the latter stages of the second half the fitness and class of the Prime Minister's XIII began to tell and further tries to Luke Priddis, Braith Anasta, Cross's second and Brett Finch gave Australia a win that was much more difficult than the final scoreline suggested.

There are many people who deserve to be thanked for their parts in making this historic venture a success. Principal among these are the management and staff of the team, who did much of the preparatory work before the tour and made whatever adjustments were necessary once in PNG.





# PRIME MINISTERS XIII REPORT



We are also indebted to the Australian government and in particular the office of the Prime Minister, as well as officials from Aus Aid and Australian diplomatic staff working in PNG, the Papua New Guinea government and the PNGRL for their efforts in promoting the match and the surrounding messages.

The support of the Australian Rugby League and NRL clubs for the tour was also central to its success, while the players deserve congratulations for their wholehearted participation in all aspects of the tour. It was most pleasing to have so many comment that they would like to return to PNG and assist the local community in some manner in the future for the good of that country as much as for rugby league.

**Australian Prime Ministers XIII 34**  
(R Cross 2, K Gidley, L Priddis, B Anasta, B Finch tries C Schifcofske 5 goals) defeated **Papua New Guinea Kumuls 0**

**Referee:** S Hayne

**Crowd:** Approx 10,000

**Man of the Match** Kurt Gidley



## Prime Ministers XIII Team

1. Clinton Schifcofske - Canberra Raiders
2. Amos Roberts - Sydney Roosters
3. Ryan Cross - Sydney Roosters
4. Reni Maitua - Bulldogs
5. Shannon Hegarty - South Sydney Rabbitohs
6. Braith Anasta - Bulldogs
7. Brett Finch - Sydney Roosters
8. Ben Ross - Penrith Panthers
9. Luke Priddis - Penrith Panthers
10. Steve Price - New Zealand Warriors
11. Luke Ricketson (c) - Sydney Roosters
12. Clint Newton - Newcastle Knights
13. Ashley Harrison - South Sydney
  
14. Kurt Gidley - Newcastle Knights
15. John Sutton - South Sydney
16. Chris Flannery - Sydney Roosters
17. Anthony Tupou - Sydney Roosters

**Coach:** Mal Meninga

**Assistant Coach:** Brad Fittler





# ARL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

At the end of December 2005 ARL Development will have completed its sixth year of field operations. During that brief span the sport has moved from a pervading sense of doom and gloom in the aftermath of the Super League "War" where most of the major health indices were trending down (like TV rating, merchandise sales, registration numbers, etc) to the current time of boom and growth. The ARL Development/Foundation has played its role in the turn around with the many other groups who invested people power, planning and finance to back their belief in and love for the game.

The sport has developed a tremendous synergistic relationship between the elite and grassroots ends of the spectrum. The positive influence of an increasingly popular and visible NRL on the growth of the sport a grassroots level cannot be overstated. Equally, the expanded familiarity with and enjoyment of the game amongst boys, girls, parents and teachers engendered by grassroots schools and clubs programs has broadened the consumer base of the sport and, in turn, raised the interest level in the NRL.

## A Six Year Look

At the completion of the sixth year of field operations, ARLD has attempted to measure the effect that it has had in the rugby league environment. There are a number of quantitative measures that can be examined but for this purpose we have looked at junior league registrations, primary school competition participation, Smaller Steps participation and blitz coverage.

There have been basically three significant expansion phases for ARLD. Initially, there were the original 23 PDOs (then) in 2000 plus 1 extra from Sth Sydney that came on midway through 2000. At the start of 2001 an additional 9 FDOs (then) were added and, finally, at the start of 2005 another 7 new NDO positions were initiated. Along the way 2 more NDOs were added to Melbourne and 5 additional NDOs who were primarily focused on high schools. We have further looked at areas covered by NDOs to look at the look term effects. It needs to be noted that in some areas the NDOs had support of other development personnel, either from the State Leagues or from clubs. For simplicity purposes these figures are broken down into six, five and one year programs. The growth, say, in a six year program reflects the figures in the year prior to the start of the program compared to the figure achieved in 2005.

In the areas covered by high school NDOs there has also been significant growth with Secondary Schools players growing from a base of 2357 ('03) to 4590 in 2005

(95% growth). The high schools' Smaller Steps program (League Sevens) was 785 participants in its first year ('03) and has grown to 9580 in 2005 (1120% growth).

## Kids to Kangaroos National Development Plan (06-09)

The "Kids to Kangaroos" National Development Plan (2006-09) builds on the efforts coordinated and implemented in Rugby League's first national development plan which operated from 2003-05. This initial plan saw an unprecedented investment in both human and financial resources by the game's stakeholders and ensured that not only did Rugby League maintain its position as one of Australia's premier sports but it expanded its prominence.

Interest and participation in the sport are now at historical highs and this next instalment of "Kids to Kangaroos" is aimed at continuing the forward momentum created by the initial Plan.

The planning process in developing "Kids to Kangaroos 06-09" involved reviewing the previous plan to ensure those elements of it that had continued relevance were maintained and, where appropriate, expanded. The second stage of the process was to develop new strategies/programs to address perceived weaknesses in current rugby league development as well as to drive further those areas of strength and new opportunities.

## Development Pillars of the Game

The planning process was undertaken by the ARL Development Council through the establishment of specialist sub-committees which addressed the seven designated "pillars" of rugby league development; being:

1. Club Football and Administration
2. Refereeing
3. Coaching, Strength/Conditioning
4. Schools
5. Targeted Programs
6. High Performance
7. Infrastructure Support

These specialist sub-committees will also be used in the on-going evaluation of the efficacy of the plan's strategies in their specific areas.

## New Directions

Some of the main new strategic platforms of "Kids to Kangaroos 06-09" will focus on:

1. Implementing programs aimed at providing additional resources and training to club administrators, rewarding volunteers and strengthening, in general, community based football.
2. Further expanding the game into Victoria
3. Increasing development resources in Western Sydney and Country NSW.
4. Growing indigenous participating and providing further elite development opportunities, particularly in Western NSW and the Cape area of Queensland.
5. On-going reviewing of the game laws and competitions for both juniors and seniors (recreational) to ensure the game meets the needs and expectations of the participants and supporters.
6. Localising and prioritising development strategies dependant on needs through consultation with ARLD, State Leagues and local leagues.
7. Creation of national programs for recruitment and retention of referees.

These new initiatives will work alongside initiatives that are already in place; such as:

1. National Recruitment Week, the Country Community Carnival Program

	2000	2005
Number of NDOs	24	47
JL Clubs in NDO areas	361	632
Schools in NDO areas	3824	6118
S. Steps Participants (annual)	0*	92616
Blitz participants (annual)	0**	134215
Participants in ARLD clinics (annual)	226952	593711

\* Smaller Steps Programs initiated in 2003  
\*\* Blitzez commenced in 2001

Percentage Growth in NDO Areas (03-05)			
	Junior League Registrations	Primary School Players	Smaller Steps Participants
6 Year Programs	25%	62%	95%
5 Year Programs	28%	129%	65%
1 Year Program	4%	48%	N/A





# ARL DEVELOPMENT REPORT



(formerly QuantasLink) and the [www.playrugbyleague.com.au](http://www.playrugbyleague.com.au) website.

2. Continued expansion and refinement of whole-of-game electronic communication system (LeagueNet) incorporating websites, competition and membership management and clearance/transfer system.

3. Improving the linkage between school and club rugby league through program such as Smaller Steps.

4. Expansion of the Active After Schools Community Program in conjunction with the Australian Sports Commission.

5. Introduction of new educational, training and risk management resources to raise all the sport's superstructural elements to best practice standards.

## Aims

These initiatives are reflective of the aims of the National Plan which include:

1. Increasing awareness of Rugby League and maximising the participation in the sport as a player, volunteer, coach or referee.

2. Increasing skills, competency and enjoyment through nationally accreditation programs in coaching, refereeing, administration, first aid and other infrastructure support.

3. Further developing and maintaining programs for talent identification and enrichment of junior elite players.

4. Increasing the fan and supporter base of the sport.

5. Coordinating the activities of all elements involved in the development of the sport to reduce redundancy and maximise efficiency.

## Evaluation

The on-going evaluation of the plan will be undertaken by regular meeting of the ARLD Development Council and meetings of the sub-committees as may be required. Evaluations will be based upon the Objectives and Key performance indicators as listed in the Plan as well as regional audits. Participation levels in schools and clubs will be recorded through the LeagueNet membership software and an annual audited acquittal will be required from all Leagues' programs receiving ARL/ARLD funding.

## Registrations

2005 was another bumper year for increased club registrations. Of the major Rugby League States, Queensland led the charge with a 13.2% increase in junior registrations, a 3.2% growth in seniors for a 10.3% growth overall. The CRL enjoyed a 3.9% increase in juniors and a 3% growth in seniors for an overall growth figure of 3.7%. NSWRL saw a very healthy growth in juniors of 8.4% but were let down in overall terms by small decreases in senior football which pulled down the overall growth figure to 3.1%. Interestingly, the Affiliated States saw their combined total registration grow from 4871 to 6253 or by 28%.

Nationally over the last two seasons junior numbers have jumped from 90,976 ('03) to 108,959 ('05) or by a whopping 19.8%. At a time most sports are struggling just to maintain their numbers, this is a terrific result and represents a historical high for rugby league junior registrations. Outside of

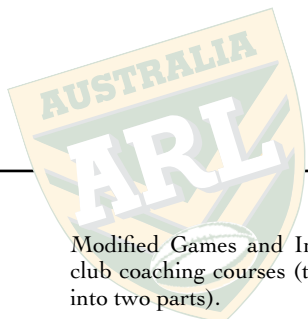
NSWRL, the senior football numbers were slightly up in QRL and CRL reversing a long established downward trend.

In gross numbers: QRL 49,217 (Juniors 35,311; Seniors 12,925; Others 981); CRL 47,989 (Juniors 37,548; Seniors 10,441); NSWRL 39,263 (J 32,165; S 5,124; Other 1,974); NTRL 2,297 (J 1,478; S 819); WARL 2,021 (J 1,126; S 529; Other 366); VRL 1,087 (J 677; S 365; Other 45); SARL 848 (J 654; S 174; Other 20); TRL 40 Seniors. Total of all registrations: 142,722 which is a 6.6% from last year and 14% growth since 2003. All the growth of the game is represented at the junior levels with the senior numbers essentially flat-lining (30,428 in '03 to 30,377 in '05).

School participation rates have experience another year of outstanding growth of 23% in both category A (regular competition 5 or more games) and B participants (less than 5 games). Over the last two years school total participation numbers have increased 58%-34% in Cat A and 100% in Cat B.

## Coaching and Referee Education

The Coaching and Refereeing Curriculum Committees headed by Peter Corcoran have worked hard in the last year to review the accreditation structure and to prepare the new course outlines and presentation materials for the next four year period. As of this writing the referees have completed their task and the coaches are in the process of finalising the Senior Club Coaching course (old Level 2) having finalised the



# ARL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Modified Games and International Games club coaching courses (the old Level 1 split into two parts).

New accreditation numbers to date in 2005 are:

Modified games Coach (newly started) 230; Club Coach 2800; Senior Club Coach 350; High Performance Coach 20.

Numbers of Referees accredited or re-accredited: Level 1 (1150); Level 2 (150); Level 3 (23); Level 4 (10); Level 5 (3).

## Primary Schools Programs

It's been a busy year for our 47 NDOs in the field. In 2005 the NDOs have involved 593,000 children in their school clinic and gala day programs, 92,000 children in the Smaller Steps programs and 134,000 in the regional blitz programs (in February and March). As a part of the Qantas Link program, an additional 35,000 children were involved and over 20 country sites in NSW Queensland, WA and Sth Australia visited. In addition, a number of NDOs were involved in the delivery of LeagueSafe, Coaching and Refereeing courses. Debbie Brewin does a terrific job in managing the field crew with the able back-up of Gabrielle Rose.

The ARLD had two national conferences, in Melbourne and Inverell (NSW), during which one day was spent in each area going out to schools and regional clinics and one evening working with local junior league coaches, referees, club administrators and first aid officers.

## LeagueNet

Almost all of Rugby league is now linked through LeagueNet. Between 2 and 2.5 million page requests per month are generated through the over 1200 websites linked through the LeagueNet portal. The ARLD LeagueNet team of three, under the direction of Paul Walker continues to provide every user of the system with both website and software assistance.

In February as a part of national registration week ARLD launched a new website [www.playrugbyleague.com.au](http://www.playrugbyleague.com.au) which provided registration information on all individual rugby league clubs throughout the country. In the peak registration months the site registered 134,347 and 82,184 page requests in February and March, respectively.

## Sponsorship Programs

Once again the ARLD sponsored a number of highly successful events: the Queensland state-wide ARLD Cup for primary schools; the Queensland state-wide ARLD Shield for U-15 clubs; The NSWRL All schools carnival; the High Schools Advocacy program; the School Boys and Primary

Schools Rugby League organisations; and for the first time sponsored a group of ten key primary and secondary school teachers (2 from each Affiliated State and 2 from country NSW) to an educational tour during Grand final week where they attended NRL training, an elite seminar at the NSWRL Academy, as well as a number of grand final functions and the game itself.

## ARLD Council

The ADRL Council and its retention sub-committee undertook a lot of work in 2005 and its cross-section representation was particularly handy in establishing and leading the specialist sub-committees that reviewed and upgraded the Kids to Kangaroos National Strategy plan. Also bubbling along are the review of mini/mod rules, examining the merit of extending the 5 meter rule beyond U-13s, recruitment and retention programs for grassroots referees, trialling weight for age football and other important projects for the future well being of the sport. It is particularly important to note that while junior numbers have soared, there has actually been a decrease in grassroots referee numbers which is a very pressing issue.

## Community Football Program

It was a busy year for the newly formed community football department under the management of Graham McNaney. A Club administration centre was established on the ARLD website which provides a feed back help line as well as a general download of documents in relation to the good management of clubs, including newly developed risk management, member protection policies and National codes of conduct (which was also made in hard copy and available to all RL clubs in Australia). Club Administration workshops were run in ten locations around the country. A national questionnaire was instituted to a selection of non-returning players to aid in the formation of retention policies. A National on-field policy document was developed by John O'Halloran and distributed by ARLD Community Football to ensure over the next two years that all people running on the field (like water runners) which have contact with players are at least LeagueSafe qualified.

The department has also taken over the oversight of the Affiliated States Programs and has been able to provide assistance to a number of State League with the help of Special Projects Officer, Peter Bevan.

## LeagueFun

Rugby League is the only National Sporting Organisation to be actively supporting the Federal Government's efforts to address the children obesity problem through the ASC's Active After Schools Community scheme. ARLD's Project Officer, Maria Arthur,

has worked closely with the ASC and has produced a Rugby League specific program "LeagueFun", under the provisions of the game sense philosophy required by the Commission. The Commission has agreed that all providers in the after schools program who wish to deliver Rugby League will need to be trained in the "LeagueFun" program and employ it in their school activities.

## Thanks

The list gets longer every year of the people ARLD should thank for support of its programs. A great deal of what we do is dependant on the on-going and growing investment of the NRL Partnership in ARLD and we offer them our thanks as we do Geoff Carr and Colin Love and Board of the ARL as well as David Gallop and his team at the NRL. We also note with great pleasure the continued improvement of the co-operation levels between all bodies involved in the development of the game. Development personnel at State Leagues and Clubs all make invaluable contributions towards the maintenance and growth of our game and their contributions are recognised. In this regard it is worthwhile to note the passing of the baton in Queensland where Dennis Ward has been a servant of the game for 17 years in his capacity as State Development Manager. We thank Dennis for all his contributions to the game over that period and wish the new Manager of Education and Development, Robert Moore, all the best.

We would like to note the special assistance of David Nissen and Andrew Smith from NSWRL/ARL in consolidating our financial control and reporting in-house. Also the support of the Australian Sports Commission with grants to our Smaller Steps program, general sports development and the AIS program should be recognised. Telstra as sponsors of the Kids to Kangaroos junior development program, Kombi for sponsorship of the ARLD livery and Macquarie Bank as a supporter of our Smaller Steps clinic program and Macquarie Bank Rugby League Super Clinics cannot be thanked enough. The ongoing provision of free offices for the ARLD by the NSW Leagues Club is also a great boon to our organisation.

Finally, a great thank you to the Board, under the Chairmanship of John Fahey, and the Staff of ARLD, under the oversight of ARLD Operations Manager Steve Palin. Without the support and leadership of the Board and the professionalism of the staff, ARLD couldn't possibly have become such a positive force for the game.

## Bill Palmer

ARLD GENERAL MANAGER



# ARL DEVELOPMENT REPORT



## National School Statistics 2005

State	Category A		Category B	
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
<b>NSW/ACT</b>	11556	12438	19596	12924
2004	8232	13214	21032	9614
<b>CRL</b>	14922	16092	12876	7104
2004	10314	11626	12081	5823
<b>Queensland</b>	24606	15588	7356	5976
2004	21384	12762	6124	7956
<b>Nothern Territory</b>	612	666	984	180
2004	522	378	288	168
<b>South Australia</b>	5994	2394	5880	84
2004	5202	2646	4428	228
<b>Western Australia</b>	3420	630	1224	780
2004	2484	504	1089	732
<b>Victoria</b>	1674	486	4608	732
2004	6012	1026	3552	360

State	Category A	Category B	TOTAL
NSW/ACT	23994	32520	56514
CRL	31014	19980	50994
Queensland	40194	13332	53526
NT	1278	1164	2442
SA	8388	5964	14352
WA	4150	2004	6154
Vic	2160	5340	7500
Total 2005	111178	80304	191482
Total 2004	90424	64848	155272
Total 2003	82687	40245	122932





# INDIGENOUS PROGRAM REPORT

## National Overview

The ARL has further developed partnerships with the NSW CRL, NSWRL, QRL and the other state bodies to again deliver Indigenous Sport Programs in 2004/05.

Additionally, the ARL continues to improve its working relations with a number of existing organisations such as the various State and Territory Department's of Tourism, Sport and Recreation, NSW Aboriginal Land Councils (both at a state and local level), the Department of Communication, Information, Technology and the Arts (DoCITA), as well as other stakeholders throughout the country.

## State Programs

### New South Wales

Focus for the Indigenous Sport's Program (ISP) rugby league development component in NSW was spread across the state. The success of the Interstate NSW vs QLD Indigenous Youth U/16's concept has generated tremendous support from within the Indigenous community and continues to attract interest from all quarters.

Maintenance and sustainability of Barwon Darling (Far West) Rugby League Competition, continues to have positive ramifications for the townships and surrounding communities of Bourke, Brewarrina, Goodooga, Lightning Ridge, Walgett, Collarenebri and Enngonia.

A steering committee has now been established (inclusive of key stakeholders representative of the competition) to assist the area in achieving its goal of attaining Country Rugby League (CRL) and eventual Group status.

The ARL maintains a solid working relationship with the ARL Development Officers (AFDO), CRL Development Officers, The NSW Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation's Western Region Office in support of further sustained development, in this region.

### Queensland

#### The Program

The ISP's focus for rugby league development in Queensland during the 2005 season centred on developing the game and assisting remote and isolated communities,



particularly those in the Central West and Gulf regions of Far-North Queensland.

Communities such as Bedourie, Boulia, Doomadgee, Mornington Island, Normanton, Croydon and Kowanyama received assistance from the QRL based project, that has created some great opportunities for people to access rugby league, at all levels.

Earlier this year, a group of 10 Indigenous Sport and Recreation Officers and rugby league identities from across Queensland visited Sydney recently to see firsthand what professional sport is all about. Their trip began with a visit to the Wests Tigers.

Regional sport and recreation coordinator Greg Appo of the Bundaberg and Region CDEP Aboriginal Corporation organised the recent Coaching and Management Tour of Sydney with 10 Murriss. On the agenda were visits to a number of NRL clubs and games.

The group attended Wests Tigers training as well as their home game. Against the Canberra Raiders at Campbelltown, meeting all the Tigers players as well as their coaching staff, including super coach Tim Sheens, who won several premierships with the Canberra Raiders during their best years in the early 1990s, and of course the 2005 NRL premiership coach with the Tigers.

Sheens spoke to the group at length about rugby league in general, his ideas on sport and his approach to any Indigenous players. He said the talents that Aboriginal players have cannot be coached into anybody.

A trip across town to the Parramatta Eels was next on the tour. The Group visited the Eels' training session and later their game against the Manly Sea Eagles.

Eels coach Brian Smith couldn't do enough for the group, taking them on a tour of the Eels home ground and training facilities. A surprise for the group came when they happened upon champion boxer Danny Green who was training in the Eels' gym.

Next up was the visit to end all visits, NSW State of Origin training. (And no, our spies didn't do Queensland any good.) Here, the group met most of the NSW Origin side and their team manager, former Canberra Raiders great and champion Indigenous footballer, Laurie Daley.

But the real highlight of the trip was the visits to the Wests Tigers. The club couldn't do enough for the group and they gained a valuable insight into how rugby league at the elite level operates.

The Australian Rugby League's (ARL) National Manager for Indigenous Rugby League and Indigenous former NSW Origin winger Ricky Walford was instrumental in setting these visits up.

And a special thanks to the current coach of the Australian Aboriginal team and NSWRL development officer, Steve Hall, and who is assigned to the West Tigers.

### Victoria

A change in management has seen Victoria's Indigenous Rugby League Development Program take a new strategic direction. Under the guidance of a new and enthusiastic





# INDIGENOUS PROGRAM REPORT



management team the VRL has targeted a number of communities across the state, for a series of coaching, skills and training development clinics. These activities will be delivered on a group network basis utilising the expertise of the VRL, ARL, ARLD and other key service providers.

## Northern Territory

The ISP Program has been implemented from September 2005 and will continue throughout the 2006 season.

### The Program

The ISP/ARL Indigenous Rugby League Development Program will continue to focus on further development through the NT School's system, as well as re-current visits to communities. The strengthening of partnerships with all key stakeholders will ensure the realisation of positive outcomes in targeted areas.

Planned Itinerary:

#### ARLDO – 1.

ARLD Visits	Clinics, Primary & Secondary
Mataranka	April – Regional Clinics for Aboriginal Communities
Katherine	February and April 2006 (plus monthly visits) Kids to Kangaroos
Tennant Creek	September 05, April 06
Barunga Community	February (Qantaslink cancellation)
Gove	Kids to Kangaroos September 06

Manunda Terrace PS Darwin – Years 4 and 5 specifically targeted at Indigenous Students participation.

Mataranka	April – Regional Clinics for Aboriginal Communities
Barunga Community	February (Qantaslink cancellation) Clinics, Leaguetag.
Katherine	– School Visits,

Under 15 and 17 High School Competition Targeted players from Aboriginal communities to participate in School Competition.(St Johns)

#### ARLDO – 2.

August 2006 - Tennant Creek – Gala Day League Tag Days alternative competition for isolated and rural communities.  
Mataranka September 04 - Coach Education Professional Development – General Principles + Game specific drills  
Alice Springs - Assessment/Provision of Coach Education Courses

## South Australia

Term 2 at Coober Pedy Area School has been a Rugby League term! As a follow up

of last year's popular coaching clinics Dave Cohen from Rugby League SA brought trainees A.J and Nick to the school to run more clinics, which were followed by Tag and Tackle games at the town oval.

Students from R – 11 were involved with senior school Physical Education students refereeing. To follow the success of the Rugby League Coaching clinics students Martin Grava, Jeremiah Marjanovic, Adam Napier, and Adam Rowston are running a lunchtime competition, which involves about 50 students in years 4 – 9. This is apart of their assessment, but students are putting in the extra effort to provide a physical activity to younger peers in which communication, leadership, sporting, and social skills are developed.

Dave Cohen also worked with the Open Rugby League team that travelled to Port Lincoln. To make it an even more worthwhile experience students from Mintabie Area School travelled to join our students and were able to make new friends. These students had a very positive experience and are now looking forward to joining us for more sporting events!

A very special thankyou goes to Dave Cohen, A.J and Nick from Rugby League SA Trevor McLeod and Tom Curnow from the Coober Pedy District Council and Emma Fiebig and her support staff from Mintabie Area School.

## Western Australia

The Western Australian Rugby League (WARL) Indigenous Program for 2005 has continued its focus on developing targeted areas within the Perth metropolitan and regional WA areas. To ensure this function

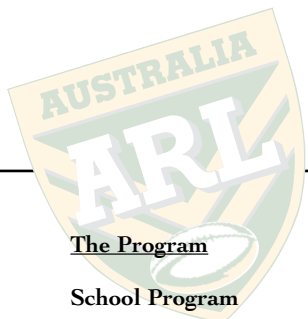


was properly administered, the appropriate mechanisms were put in place to produce the desired outcomes from all stakeholders.

AIMS and Achievements for 2005 are as follows:

- A significant increase in the amount of indigenous people playing sport, in particular rugby league, throughout Western Australia.
- To create opportunities for indigenous people to become involved in rugby league.
- To increase the profile of rugby league and the benefits of sport within the indigenous community.





# INDIGENOUS PROGRAM REPORT

## The Program

### School Program

The WARL Development team have continued to be very active within the primary school system during 2005, focussing on areas with a high Indigenous population. Rugby league skills clinics have been conducted in a number of schools in these areas as well as the provision of rugby league carnivals and gala days. (See Appendix A). Students are taught the skills of rugby league with a strong focus on participation, enjoyment and sportsmanship. The WARL is also a strong advocate of the 'Drug Free' initiative.

Rugby League was also accepted as a new sport within several new PSSA districts during 2005 as a result of the WARL'S primary school program. The Maguire district is one such area with 8 schools being involved in rugby league clinics and carnivals in 2005 (Appendix A) The Maguire district has a large indigenous population in suburbs such as Lockridge, Beechboro, Upper Swan, Midvale and Midland.

The Kwinana and Balga areas have also been identified as an area with high numbers of indigenous residents not involved in regular sport. Primary schools in these areas have been targeted for Term IV of this year in an effort to involve indigenous children in rugby league.

### Regional Program

The WARL currently provides services to four regional areas in WA - the Pilbara, the Goldfields, the Peel district and Albany. The Pilbara district has again been a targeted for rugby league development during 2005-06 with a particular focus on increasing involvement within the indigenous community.

Skills clinics were conducted in a number of schools throughout the Pilbara region during May, involving 1000 students ranging in age from seven to fifteen. Fifty children aged between six and thirteen were also involved in the ARL Foundation 'Kids to Kangaroos' program across the weekend of May 8 & 9. This program was run in conjunction with the South Hedland Junior Rugby League, the Pilbara Rugby League Association and the South Hedland Cougars Rugby League Club.

### Community Program

The ISP continues to support the growth and development of rugby league through community based programs, delivered in partnership with the Department of Sport



and Recreation. The 'Try a Sport' Program is an example of this in action and involved over 100 children, who were given the opportunity to try a variety of sports at the one venue, coordinated as a community service by the WA Department of Sport and Recreation.

### Traineeship Program

The WARL is currently looking to engage a Trainee Development Officer as part of the Indigenous Program for Rugby League.

### Program Outcomes

The WARL Indigenous Program has increased the profile of rugby league and the benefits of sport within areas of high indigenous population throughout WA in 2005. Although the outcomes of such programs are sometimes hard to identify in the short-term future, it is hoped that the benefits of participation in sport are realised over time. By providing children in these regions the opportunity to become involved in rugby league we hope to encourage a positive attitude toward sport and increase participation rates from within the indigenous population.

Over 5000 students will be involved in school clinics in 2006 through the WARL'S Indigenous Program and around 600 of these will continue there involvement in rugby league through participation in district carnivals. Almost 400 children have participated in community events involving the WARL within regions with high numbers of indigenous people.

This review underlines the great work being done across the country to provide opportunities for indigenous youth through participation in rugby league. The establishment of the ISP program has allowed rugby league to broaden its base while also bringing many benefits to the indigenous communities involved. It is hoped that the size and range of the programs can be extended further in the future. To do so will require more hard work from the many people who have helped thus far, and the continued co-operation of the various stakeholders in regional communities.

**Ricky Walford**  
INDIGENOUS PROGRAM MANAGER





# HALL of FAME



The Australian Rugby League Hall of Fame grew again in 2005, with another six former great players announced as the newest inductees.

In the past three seasons eighteen former players have been selected for inclusion in the ARL Hall of Fame, including some of the most famous names in rugby league history.

That process was undertaken again in 2005, with a further three players from before 1940 and three from the post World War II period selected as this year's inductees after a rigorous voting procedure.

The ARL Hall of Fame Voting College short listed ten players in each category, with over 100 members of the Voting College submitting responses in the first round of voting. Biographies on each of the ten players in the respective category were then distributed to provide reference material for members to make their final selections.

The Voting College comprises those already inducted into the Hall of Fame as well as a selection of former players and officials alongside current journalists, historians and coaches. There are over 100 members in total.

There is an indisputable range of knowledge, skills and experience across the breadth of the Voting College. This helps to ensure that only those with the most worthy credentials are selected for this honour, despite the many candidates that would not be out of place in the ARL Hall of Fame.

Perhaps the most exciting news of the 2005 season from an historical perspective has been the establishment of a Centenary Committee to co ordinate activities that will appropriately celebrate this landmark event in rugby league.

Former ARL Chairman Ken Arthurson has been appointed as

Chairman of the Centenary Committee, whose full list of members is:

Ken Arthurson AM	Chairman
Geoff Carr	NSWRL
Ross Livermore	QRL
The Hon John Fahey	Independent Advisor
Ron Coote	Independent Advisor
Geoff Armstrong	Historian
Ian Heads	Historian
Prof Max Howell	Historian
Denis Fitzgerald AM	Club Representative
Steve Noyce	Club Representative
John Brady	NRL
Paul Kind	NRL
Terry Williams	Secretary

Already the Centenary Committee has begun having meetings to explore a range of planned initiatives, including the possibility of establishing a permanent home for the ARL Hall of Fame. A number of centres have expressed interest in hosting such a facility and negotiations are ongoing. Such a facility was mooted some years ago, but the game is better placed now to be able to make a suitable home for the Hall of Fame where we can also display our memorabilia.

A Sub-Committee of league historians has also been established to make recommendations to the Centenary Committee in regard to identifying notable milestones around which the centenary celebrations can be built.

With preparations having already commenced for the game's centenary there is a palpable sense of anticipation surrounding the celebrations in 2007-08. Much work remains to be done, but the activities planned and people involved inspire confidence that the occasion will adequately honour our glorious past while also leaving tangible benefits for the future.





## Name: Chris McKivat

**Club:** Glebe 1910-14 45 games 24 t (72 pts)  
**State:** NSW 5 games 2 t (6 pts)  
**Australia:** 5 tests 4 t (12 pts)

### Summary

Chris McKivat was a household name before he ever played a game of rugby league.

Originally from Cumnock, the “hairy bloke” as he was affectionately known, was a natural leader who forged a brilliant reputation on the rugby field. He rose to win selection with the first Wallabies in 1908, and captained Australia to a gold medal at that year’s London Olympics and test wins over Wales and England.

McKivat switched over with the bulk of the Wallabies in 1909 and was a key figure in the great Glebe side of the years before the First World War.

Without his signature, it is doubtful that the other Wallabies would have joined league, and the addition of these players ensured league not only survived, but thrived.

In 1911 he was selected as captain of the second Kangaroo tourists, defying all predictions by returning home with the Ashes after going undefeated through the Tests against England.

His leadership, ability to ignite the attack and sterling defence were crucial factors in the success of the touring party.

McKivat later became a highly respected coach and was at the helm when North Sydney won their only two first grade premierships in 1921-22.

A revered figure in his time, McKivat passed away suddenly during 1941.

## Name: Jimmy Craig

**Club:** Balmain 1915-17 & 1919-21 56 games 22 t, 21g (108pts)  
University 1922 12 games 3 t, 7g (23 pts)  
Wests 1929-30 25 games 5 t, 70 g (155 pts)  
**State:** QLD 18 games 6 t, 29 g (76 pts)  
NSW 2 games 3g (6 pts)  
**Australia:** 7 tests 6 g (12 pts)

### Summary

There has never been a footballer as versatile as Jimmy Craig. He emerged through the Balmain juniors to take his place in the champion Tigers sides of 1915-16-17-19-20.

Although he began as a winger he had the versatility and brilliance to slot in at any backline position and do so with distinction. Craig even played one match as hooker on the 1919 tour of New Zealand, and won more than his share of possession from the scrums.

A 1921-22 Kangaroo tourist, he played a season with the Sydney University club in 1922. The following year he moved to Ipswich in 1923 and starred for Queensland for six seasons before returning to Sydney. It was no coincidence that his time up north coincided with the most dominant period Queensland ever enjoyed.

Craig was rewarded with the honour of captaining Australia against the 1924 Great Britain side when Great Britain narrowly retained the Ashes.

Back in Sydney he was captain-coach of Wests when they won their first title in 1930 and was coach of Canterbury when they stunned the league world by winning the 1938 premiership.

He passed away in 1959 at the age of 65.

## Name: Duncan Thompson

**Club:** North Sydney 1916 & 1920-23 58 games 10t, 47g (124 pts)  
**State:** QLD 11 games 1 t 18 g (39 pts)  
NSW 1 game (0 pts)  
**Australia:** 9 tests 2 t (6 pts)

### Summary

Not even being wounded by a bullet to the lung during the First World War could prevent Duncan Thompson from achieving stardom.

Thompson resumed playing in 1919 and graduated to the Queensland side almost immediately for the game against NSW that year. The following season he joined North Sydney, initiating the club’s golden era which brought them consecutive titles in 1921-22.

A controversial suspension ended his stint in Sydney club football, but he returned to his home state to lead a Toowoomba to unprecedented heights.

After WWII he built a new reputation as the father of modern coaching, with many of his theories still used today. He was responsible for the introduction of “contract football”, which emphasised skill, teamwork and fitness.

His theories were responsible for Toowoomba and Queensland enjoying unprecedented success in the 1920s and he again led them to a golden era in the 1950s.

Current Australian coach Wayne Bennett has also acknowledged the enduring value of Thompson’s ideas which have been successfully replicated in the modern era.

A Queensland representative in tennis and an accomplished cricketer, Thompson passed away in 1980.

## Name: Brian Carlson

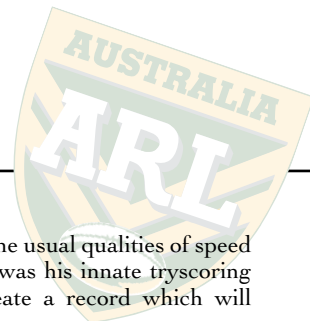
**Club:** North Sydney 1957-62 74 games, 31 t, 211 g (515 pts)  
**State:** NSW 10 games, 8 t, 13 g (50 pts)  
QLD 4 games 2 t 1 g (8 pts)  
**Australia:** 17 tests 5 t 6 g (27 pts)

### Summary

Even 50 years after he took the field it is still hard for journalists to find the right words to describe Brian Carlson’s play. “Mercurial” comes close, “brilliant” perhaps closer but the struggle shows the difficulty of capturing a player who had svelte-like skills that were year ahead of their time.



# HALL of FAME



If Carlson were a cricketer he would have been Mark Waugh, David Gower or Victor Trumper rather than Bradman, Border or Steve Waugh.

Carlson made his debut for North Newcastle in 1951 and graduated to state and international honours the next year. 1954 saw him move to Wollongong but a ruptured kidney suffered during a match there almost cost him his life.

In 1957 a contractual dispute saw him without a club but he was still selected in the Australian team for that year's World Cup.

A series of brilliant performances helped Australia secure the tournament undefeated and led to Carlson winning the Player of the Series award from fullback, although he was equally at home anywhere in the backline.

He then joined North Sydney for a successful six year stint, during which time he captained Australia against New Zealand in 1961.

Although he had a burly physique which gave some the impression of lack of condition, Carlson was a natural athlete who possessed speed and skills which belied his appearance and he is still rated as one of the most gifted and inventive backline players to ever grace the game.

He quit the game in Sydney in 1962 to return to his beloved Newcastle, and served as captain-coach of Newcastle. Carlson passed away in 1987

## **Name: Brian Bevan**

**Club:** Eastern Suburbs 1942 & 1946 8 games  
1g (2 pts)  
Warrington 1946-62  
Blackpool Borough 1962-64

### **Summary**

Balding, toothless and frail in appearance, Brian Bevan looked anything but a rugby league player.

That impression, however, belied one of the most lethal try scorers in the history of the game and ability that would place him alongside any of the great wingers before or since.

His appearances with Eastern Suburbs were restricted by war service and he trialled with Leeds immediately after the war before being signed by Warrington.

Bevan stayed in England for 18 seasons during which time he amassed a phenomenal 834 tries in 695 appearances.

Such staggering statistics speak on their own for his effectiveness but cannot begin to convey the magic he continually conjured on the field.

He did this at a time when British football was probably at its strongest, which only adds to the merit of his achievement.

Although he possessed an abundance of the usual qualities of speed and elusiveness expected in a winger, it was his innate try scoring skill that set him apart and helped create a record which will probably never be bettered.

Bevan was, quite simply, a freak who defied tactics, defence and physics to become one of the most popular players of his day, and earn the admiration and respect of all those who were lucky enough to witness his on-field wizardry.

In 1961 he returned to Australia briefly to play for Easts in a seven-a-side tournament for Keith Holman's testimonial before returning to England where he passed away in 1991.

## **Name: Ron Coote**

**Club:** South Sydney 1964-71 151 games, 48 t  
(144 pts)  
Eastern Suburbs 1972-78 108 games, 39 t  
(117 pts)

**State:** 13 games 6 t (18 pts)

**Australia:** 13 tests 7 t (21 pts)

### **Summary**

Ron Coote would have been rated one of the greats of the game even if he had never played in a Grand Final. Mind you, he became something of a Grand Final specialist playing in nine Grand Finals in eleven seasons for six premierships.

A classical lock, Coote was equally at home in traffic or out wide in attack while his cover defence is still recalled by anyone who ever witnessed him in action.

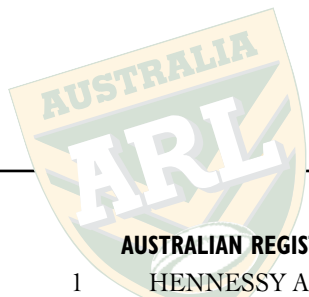
A superb athlete, he had the speed of a three-quarter, the stamina of a racehorse and superb skill in both attack and defence. Although many regarded Johnny Raper as having set standards in lock forward play, none disputed Coote's right to take over the mantle after Raper retired.

In club football he was graded in 1963 and went on to be an integral part of South Sydney's last great era. He won titles with the Rabbitohs in 1967-68-70-71 and was in their side which finished as runners up in 1965 and 1969.

After switching to the Roosters in 1972, he helped them to that year's Grand Final before being a major part of their premiership triumphs in 1974 and 1975.

On the representative scene Coote had many highlights but none greater than leading a depleted Australian side to the 1970 World Cup title. In all he played in 13 Tests and three successful World Cup campaigns before an arm injury eventually forced his retirement in 1978.

Since hanging up the boots Coote has served the NSWRL judiciary and as a Board member at the Roosters, but perhaps his greatest service to the game has been his work as part of the Men of League organisation, which he helped establish to look after the welfare of former players in need.



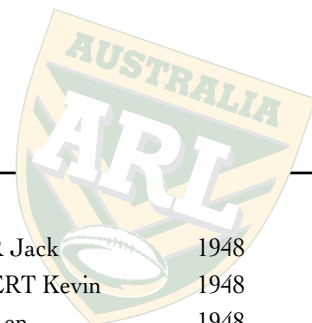
# AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS REGISTER

## AUSTRALIAN REGISTER NUMBERS

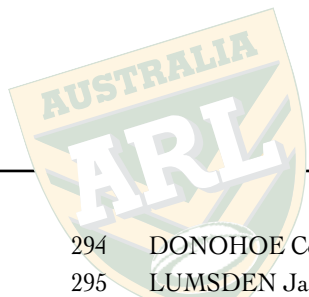
1	HENNESSY Arthur	1908	49	LEVESON Jack	1909	98	OXFORD Arthur	1919
2	CHEADLE Frank	1908	50	NEILL William 'Webby'	1909	99	PRENTICE Clarrie	1919
3	DAVIS James	1908	51	STUNTZ Johnno	1909	100	ROBINSON Jack	1919
4	DEVEREUX Jim	1908	52	BROWN Dave	1909	101	RYAN Felix	1919
5	DORE Mike	1908	53	CARPENTER Stan	1909	102	SWEENEY Tom	1919
6	GRAVES Bob	1908	54	BOLLARD Arthur	1909	103	PATEN Bill	1919
7	HEDLEY Charlie	1908	55	BRACKENREG Herb	1909	104	THOROGOOD Charlie	1919
8	LUTGE Dinny	1908	56	O'BRIEN Arthur	1909	105	SCHULTZ Bill	1919
9	McLEAN Doug	1908	57	PATFIELD Ernie	1909	106	THOMPSON Duncan	1919
10	MESSENGER Herbert 'Dally'	1908	58	HEIDKE Harold	1909	107	TOWNSEND Dick	1919
11	O'MALLEY Larry 'Jersey'	1908	59	ROSS C	1909	108	VEST Dick	1919
12	ROSENFELD Albert	1908	60	HARVEY Arch	1909	109	KERWICK John	1919
13	ROSEWELL John	1908	61	BUCKLEY Edward	1909	110	LATTA Reg	1919
14	TUBMAN Bob	1908	62	FENNELLY S J	1909	111	POTTER Norm	1919
15	BAIRD Edward	1908	63	BARNETT Jack	1910	112	BROADFOOT Neville	1920
16	HARDCASTLE Bill	1908	64	CRAIG Robert	1910	113	FEWIN Harry	1920
17	PEARCE Sid 'Sandy'	1908	65	FARNSWORTH Bill	1910	114	GRAY Bert	1920
18	WATSON George	1908	66	HICKEY Jack	1910	115	RICHARDS Bill	1920
19	ANDERSON Tommy	1908	67	McKIVAT Chris	1910	116	BLINKHORN Cecil	1921
20	CANN Bill	1908	68	RUSSELL Charlie 'Boxer'	1910	117	CAPLES Harry	1921
21	HALLOWAY Arthur 'Pony'	1908	69	SPENCE Bill	1910	118	CRAIG Jimmy	1921
22	JONES Lou	1908	70	SULLIVAN Con	1910	119	IVES Clarrie	1921
23	ANLEZARK Ernest	1908	71	BERECRY Tom	1911	120	LAING Bert	1921
24	BUTLER Arthur	1908	72	BURGE Peter	1911	121	NORMAN Rex	1921
25	FRAWLEY Dan	1908	73	DARMODY Steve	1911	122	PETERS Herman	1921
26	MORTON Andy	1908	74	FARNSWORTH Viv	1911	123	CARSTAIRS George	1921
27	ABERCROMBIE Jim	1908	75	FRANCIS Arthur	1911	124	McGRATH Eddie	1921
28	BOLEWSKI Mick	1908	76	FRASER Charles 'Chook'	1911	125	BROWN Edwin	1921
29	BURDON Alex	1908	77	GILBERT Herb	1911	126	AYNSLEY Cecil	1924
30	DEANE Sid	1908	78	GILLETT George	1911	127	BENNETT Jim	1924
31	HEIDKE Bill	1908	79	HALLETT Howard	1911	128	BLAIR Alf 'Smacker'	1924
32	CONLON Albert	1908	80	McCUE Paddy	1911	129	FRAUENFELDER Eric	1924
33	McCABE Tom	1908	81	McMURTRIE Charlie	1911	130	GORMAN Tom	1924
34	DOBBS Alf 'Bullock'	1908	82	MURRAY Joe	1911	131	O'CONNOR Alf	1924
35	WALSH Pat	1908	83	SAVORY, Charlie	1911	132	WATT Horrie	1924
36	BAILEY Bill	1908	84	STUART Bob	1911	133	ARMBRUSTER Vic	1924
37	COURTNEY Tedda	1908	85	WILLIAMS Robert	1911	134	HUNT Johnny	1924
38	MOIR Peter	1908	86	WOODWARD Frank	1911	135	DEMPSEY Dan	1928
39	NOBLE Bill	1908	87	BOLEWSKI Henry	1914	136	EDWARDS Arthur	1928
40	BROOMHAM Albert	1909	88	BURGE Frank	1914	137	FREESTONE Eric	1928
41	FRAWLEY Mick	1909	89	HORDER Harold	1914	138	HARDY Nelson	1928
42	WOOLLEY Fred	1909	90	KELLY Bill	1914	139	JUSTICE Arthur 'Snowy'	1928
43	ANDERSON Vic	1909	91	NORMAN Ray	1914	140	LAWS Fred	1928
44	DICKINS Harold	1909	92	WATKINS Jack 'Bluey'	1914	141	STEINOHRT Herb	1928
45	DUFFIN George	1909	93	MESSENGER Wally	1914	142	TREWEEKE George	1928
46	McGREGOR Dugald	1909	94	TIDYMAN Bob	1914	143	YORK Colin	1928
47	NICHOLSON Robert	1909	95	CUBITT Les	1919	144	BUSCH Joe 'Chimpy'	1928
48	WOODHEAD Charlie	1909	96	JOHNSTON Albert 'Ricketty'	1919	145	BYRNE Hugh	1928
			97	O'DONNELL Claude	1919	146	MAHER Pat	1928



# AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS REGISTER



147	WEISSEL Eric	1928	196	WARD Laurie	1935	245	RAYNER Jack	1948
148	KINGSTON Jack	1928	197	BICHEL Henry	1935	246	SCHUBERT Kevin	1948
149	PEARCE Cliff	1928	198	COLLINS Edward	1935	247	SMITH Len	1948
150	WEARING Benny	1928	199	GOODWIN Sid	1935	248	TYQUIN Bill	1948
151	BROGAN Bill	1929	200	LEWIS Eric	1935	249	CHURCHILL Clive	1948
152	FIFIELD Cec	1929	201	SHIELDS Mick	1935	250	HALL Duncan	1948
153	HENDERSON Arthur	1929	202	WHITTLE Gordon	1935	251	HAND Nevl	1948
154	McMILLAN Frank	1929	203	BEATON Jack	1936	252	HOLLAND Jack	1948
155	SPENCER Bill	1929	204	CRIPPIN Arch	1936	253	BENTON Henry	1948
156	BISHOP George	1929	205	HAZELTON Charlie	1937	254	BULGIN Vic	1948
157	FINCH Harry	1929	206	McLEAN Doug	1937	255	DIMOND Bobby	1948
158	HOLMES Jack	1929	207	NOLAN Fred	1937	256	GIBBS Alf	1948
159	MADSEN Peter 'Mick'	1929	208	WILLIAMS Percy	1937	257	HAWKE Johnny	1948
160	PRIGG Wally	1929	209	DAWSON Les	1937	258	HOPKINS Bruce	1948
161	ROOT Eddie	1929	210	GRIFFITHS Frank	1937	259	HORRIGAN Jack	1948
162	UPTON Jack	1929	211	McLENNAN Gordon	1937	260	LULHAM Bobby	1948
163	KADWELL Harry	1929	212	REARDON Jack	1937	261	McRITCHIE Doug	1948
164	RIDLEY Alan	1929	213	ROBISON Harry	1937	262	MAXWELL Col	1948
165	SHANKLAND Bill	1929	214	THOMPSON Roy	1937	263	COWIE Les	1948
166	SELLARS Les	1929	215	NORVAL Andy	1937	264	THOMPSON Bill	1948
167	GEE Hector	1932	216	PIERCE Harry	1937	265	JOHNSON Frank	1948
168	LITTLE Jack	1932	217	WILLIAMS Bert	1937	266	HANSEN Kevin	1949
169	NORMAN Ernie	1932	218	NARVO Herb	1937	267	JOHNSTON Ian	1949
170	PEARCE Sid 'Joe'	1932	219	BAILEY Ron	1946	268	McCOY Matt	1949
171	WILSON Joe	1932	220	CLUES Arthur	1946	269	ROBERTS Ron	1949
172	HEIDKE Les	1932	221	COOPER Lionel	1946	270	STANMORE Frank	1949
173	O'CONNOR Frank	1932	222	DEVERY Pat	1946	271	THOMPSON Alan	1949
174	CHRISTIE Bill	1932	223	FARRELL Frank 'Bumper'	1946	272	BULL Roy	1949
175	NEUMANN Fred	1932	224	GRICE John	1946	273	GRIFFITHS Ron	1949
176	BROWN Dave	1933	225	JORGENSEN Joe	1946	274	HOLMAN Keith	1950
177	DENNY Henry	1933	226	KAY Reg	1946	275	MIDDLETON Keith	1950
178	DOONAR Frank	1933	227	MULLIGAN Noel	1946	276	TROY Jack	1950
179	FOLWELL Arthur	1933	228	NEWHAM Edgar	1946	277	ANDREWS Ned	1950
180	STEHR Ray	1933	229	PARKINSON Dave	1946	278	CROCKER Harold 'Mick'	1950
181	THICKNESSE Viv	1933	230	WATT George	1946	279	FLANNERY Denis	1950
182	CURRAN Frank	1933	231	WESTAWAY Roy	1946	280	PURCELL Bernie	1950
183	DOYLE Joe	1933	232	HUTCHINSON Jack	1946	281	BLISS Johnny	1951
184	GIBBS Jimmy	1933	233	ARMSTRONG Jim	1946	282	DAVIES Brian	1951
185	HEY Vic	1933	234	EATHER Trevor	1946	283	DONOGHUE Denis	1951
186	MEAD Les	1933	235	KENNEDY Clem	1946	284	HAZZARD Noel	1951
187	SMITH Bill 'Circy'	1933	236	WHITE Noel	1946	285	WILLOUGHBY Gordon	1951
188	GARDNER Fred	1933	237	BROSNAN Eddie	1948	286	DREW Bernie	1951
189	WHY Jack	1933	238	DE BELIN Fred	1948	287	GEELAN Col	1951
190	GLASHEEN Melville	1933	239	FROOME Keith	1948	288	HAMMERTON Ernie	1951
191	GILBERT Fred	1933	240	GRAVES Johnny	1948	289	ASHTON Ferris	1952
192	FAIRALL Percy	1935	241	McMAHON Pat	1948	290	DUNCAN Rees	1952
193	HINES Ray	1935	242	O'CONNELL Wally	1948	291	GILL Charlie	1952
194	MAHON Bill	1935	243	PEGG Len	1948	292	PAUL Albert	1952
195	McKINNON Ross	1935	244	PIDDING Noel	1948	293	ROONEY Jack	1952

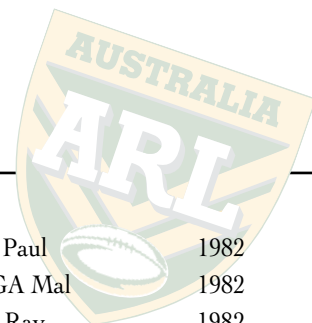


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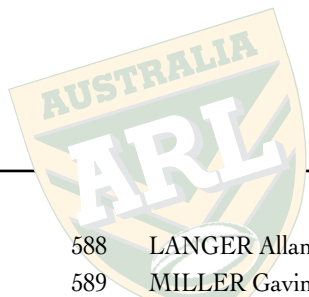
294	DONOHUE Col	1952	343	PATERSON Jim	1959	392	SMITH Billy	1964
295	LUMSDEN Jack	1952	344	RAPER John	1959	393	BEATH Barry	1965
296	McGOVERN Des	1952	345	WILSON Billy	1959	394	CAVANAGH Noel	1965
297	TYRRELL Tom	1952	346	LUMSDEN Eddie	1959	395	MORGAN John	1965
298	CARLSON Brian	1952	347	BODEN Ron	1959	396	WEIER Lloyd	1965
299	RYAN Tommy	1952	348	RASMUSSEN Elton	1959	397	WELLINGTON Gary	1965
300	COLLINSON Arthur	1952	349	RILEY John	1959	398	YAKICH Nick	1965
301	HAWICK Greg	1952	350	BUGDEN Bob	1959	399	BUMAN Allan	1965
302	KEARNEY Ken	1952	351	BURKE Peter	1959	400	PANNOWITZ Terry	1965
303	McCAFFERY Ken	1952	352	CHAPMAN Darrell	1959	401	BANKS Gary	1966
304	WELLS Harry	1952	353	DELAMERE Bill	1959	402	BRADSTREET Bill	1966
305	WILLEY Ron	1952	354	HAMBLY Brian	1959	403	CREMA Angelo	1966
306	BANKS Bob	1953	355	IRVINE Ken	1959	404	KING Johnny	1966
307	HORNERY Alan	1953	356	PARCELL Gary	1959	405	McDONALD John	1966
308	WATSON Alex	1953	357	WALSH Ian	1959	406	GREAVES Johnny	1966
309	O'SHEA Kel	1954	358	PARISH Don	1959	407	WITTENBERG John	1966
310	PROVAN Norm	1954	359	MORGAN Lionel	1960	408	BEETSON Arthur	1966
311	SULLIVAN Bob	1954	360	RAYNER Billy	1960	409	FITZSIMMONS Brian	1967
312	DIVERSI Peter	1954	361	BEAVAN Ray	1961	410	HANIGAN Les	1967
313	MOIR Ian	1954	362	CROWE Ron	1961	411	THOMSON Allan	1967
314	HENRY Darcy	1955	363	DAY Ken	1961	412	TUTTY Dennis	1967
315	HOLLOWAY Henry	1955	364	LYNCH Ron	1961	413	CONNELL Geoff	1967
316	KITE Ross	1955	365	SINCLAIR Jack	1961	414	MANTEIT Dennis	1967
317	LAIRD Graham	1955	366	DRAKE Frank	1961	415	GOLDSPINK Kevin	1967
318	POOLE Dick	1955	367	GEHRKE Bob	1961	416	BRANSON Tony	1967
319	ADAMS Don 'Bandy'	1956	368	GIL Alan	1961	417	COOTE Ron	1967
320	CONNELL Cyril	1956	369	OWEN Bill	1961	418	MOORE Brian	1967
321	DOYLE Ian 'Ripper'	1956	370	SUMMONS Arthur	1961	419	SATTLER John	1967
322	McCROHON Ken	1956	371	CLEARY Michael	1962	420	WALTERS Elwyn	1967
323	TYQUIN Tom	1956	372	HAGAN Bob	1962	421	GALLAGHER Noel	1967
324	CLIFFORD Gordon	1956	373	CARSON Bill	1962	422	JUNEE Kevin	1967
325	POPE Norm	1956	374	SMITH George	1962	423	SADDLER Ron	1967
326	O'BRIEN Kevin	1956	375	VEIVERS Mick	1962	424	JONES Fred	1968
327	ORROCK Bryan	1956	376	LISLE Jimmy	1962	425	RHODES Johnny	1968
328	FURNER Don	1956	377	GALLAGHER Peter	1963	426	SIMMS Eric	1968
329	MARSH Bill	1956	378	HARRISON Earl	1963	427	FULTON Bob	1968
330	PAYNE Tom	1956	379	LANGLANDS Graeme	1963	428	JAMES Brian	1968
331	BARNES Keith	1957	380	PROVAN Peter	1963	429	WILLIAMSON Lionel	1968
332	CLAY Brian	1957	381	THORNETT Ken	1963	430	COSTELLO Ron	1969
333	SCHOFIELD Don	1957	382	JOHNS Les	1963	431	DENMAN Jeff	1969
334	RITCHIE Ray	1957	383	THORNETT Dick	1963	432	HONAN Bob	1969
335	BROWN Tony	1958	384	QUINN Paul	1963	433	PITTARD Denis	1969
336	MOSSOP Rex	1958	385	RUSHWORTH Barry	1963	434	ROBSON Ian	1969
337	DIMOND Peter	1958	386	RYAN Kevin	1963	435	WARD Dennis	1969
338	BEATTIE Dud	1959	387	SMYTH Kevin	1963	436	WEISS Col	1969
339	GASNIER Reg	1959	388	STANTON Frank	1963	437	COOTES John	1969
340	KELLY Noel	1959	389	WILSON Graham	1963	438	LYE Graham	1969
341	McDONALD Trevor	1959	390	CLEARY John	1963	439	McCARTHY Bob	1969
342	MUIR Barry	1959	391	GLEESON John	1963	440	BRASS John	1970



# AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS REGISTER



441	HAWTHORNE Phil	1970	490	PIGGINS George	1975	539	VAUTIN Paul	1982
442	MORGAN Jim	1970	491	QUAYLE John	1975	540	MENINGA Mal	1982
443	LAIRD Ray	1970	492	SCHUBERT Ian	1975	541	BROWN Ray	1982
444	GRANT Bob	1970	493	VEIVERS Greg	1975	542	KENNY Brett	1982
445	McKEAN Allan	1970	494	McMAHON Allan	1975	543	MURRAY Mark	1982
446	BRANIGHAN Ray	1970	495	PORTER Jim	1975	544	CONESCU Greg	1982
447	TURNER Ron	1970	496	GEIGER Nick	1977	545	ELLA Steve	1982
448	HARRIS Mark	1970	497	REDDY Rod	1977	546	GROTHER Eric	1982
449	O'NEILL John	1970	498	THOMAS Mark	1977	547	McKINNON Don	1982
450	O'REILLY Bob	1970	499	MORRIS Rod	1977	548	MILES Gene	1982
451	SAIT Paul	1970	500	CREAR Steve	1977	549	PEARCE Wayne	1982
452	SULLIVAN Gary	1970	501	GARTNER Russel	1977	550	STERLING Peter	1982
453	McTAGGART Barry	1970	502	KOLC John	1977	551	BROWN Dave	1983
454	BROWN Johnny	1970	503	BOUSTEAD Kerry	1978	552	FULLERTON SMITH Wally	1983
455	BENNETT Wayne	1971	504	MORRIS Steve	1978	553	JARVIS Pat	1983
456	CAMPBELL Keith	1971	505	OLIPHANT Greg	1978	554	SCOTT Colin	1983
457	MURPHY Jim	1971	506	OLLING Graham	1978	555	TESSMANN Brad	1983
458	RAUDONIKIS Tom	1971	507	PEPONIS George	1978	556	CONLON Ross	1984
459	STARLING Geoff	1971	508	PRICE Ray	1978	557	DOWLING Greg	1984
460	AMBRUM George	1972	509	THOMSON Ian	1978	558	JACK Garry	1984
461	ELFORD John	1972	510	DORAHY John	1978	559	NIEBLING Bryan	1984
462	PICKUP Tim	1972	511	GLOVER Neville	1978	560	CLEAL Noel	1985
463	GOODWIN Ted	1972	512	PLATZ Greg	1978	561	FERGUSON John	1985
464	STEWART Wayne	1972	513	KRILICH Max	1978	562	ROACH Steve	1985
465	KNIGHT Stephen	1972	514	YOUNG Craig	1978	563	TUNKS Peter	1985
466	GRANT John	1972	515	BOYD Les	1978	564	WYNN Peter	1985
467	STEVENS Gary	1972	516	COROWA Larry	1978	565	ELIAS Ben	1985
468	RANDALL Terry	1973	517	WALKER Bruce	1978	566	HASLER Des	1985
469	CRONIN Michael	1973	518	GERARD Geoff	1978	567	O'CONNOR Michael	1985
470	EADIE Graham	1973	519	HILDITCH Ron	1978	568	FOLKES Steven	1986
471	HAMILTON Bill	1973	520	KNEEN Steve	1978	569	LAMB Terry	1986
472	LANG John	1973	521	MARTIN Steve	1978	570	SHEARER Dale	1986
473	MADDISON Ken	1973	522	THOMPSON Alan	1978	571	SIMMONS Royce	1986
474	ORR Warren	1973	523	GIBBS John	1978	572	KISS Les	1986
475	PIERCE Greg	1973	524	BRETNALL Greg	1980	573	DUNN Paul	1986
476	ROGERS Steve	1973	525	DOWLING Garry	1980	574	LINDNER Bob	1986
477	WAITE David	1973	526	CLOSE Chris	1980	575	MORTIMER Chris	1986
478	HIGGS Ray	1974	527	HANCOCK Rohan	1980	576	SIRONEN Paul	1986
479	RICHARDSON Geoff	1974	528	LEIS Jim	1980	577	DAVIDSON Les	1986
480	ANDERSON Chris	1975	529	QUINN Graham	1980	578	ALEXANDER Greg	1986
481	FAHEY Terry	1975	530	WYNN Graeme	1980	579	BELCHER Gary	1986
482	PLATZ Lew	1975	531	LEWIS Wally	1981	580	BELLA Martin	1986
483	STRUDWICK Ross	1975	532	MASTERMAN Jeff	1981	581	LANGMACK Paul	1986
484	WRIGHT David	1975	533	McCABE Paul	1981	582	DALEY Phil	1986
485	DONNELLY John	1975	534	MORTIMER Steve	1981	583	JOHNSTON Brian	1987
486	FITZGERALD Denis	1975	535	RIBOT John	1981	584	BACKO Sam	1988
487	MACKAY Ian	1975	536	SIGSWORTH Phil	1981	585	CURRIE Tony	1988
488	MAYES Johnny	1975	537	AYLIFFE Royce	1981	586	ETTINGSHAUSEN Andrew	1988
489	PEARD John	1975	538	MUGGLETON John	1982	587	JACKSON Peter	1988



# AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS REGISTER

588	LANGER Allan	1988	637	PAY Dean	1994	686	BARRETT Trent	2000
589	MILLER Gavin	1988	638	SMITH Jason	1994	687	HINDMARSH Nathan	2000
590	McGAW Mark	1988	639	BARTRIM Wayne	1995	688	KENNEDY Ben	2000
591	McINDOE, Alan	1988	640	COYNE Mark	1995	689	BUDERUS Danny	2001
592	FARRAR Andrew	1988	641	DALLAS Brett	1995	690	CARLAW Dane	2001
593	GILLESPIE David	1988	642	GILLMEISTER Trevor	1995	691	CIVONICEVA Petero	2001
594	HANCOCK Michael	1989	643	LARSON Gary	1995	692	MEYERS Brad	2001
595	McGUIRE Bruce	1989	644	MOORE Danny	1995	693	TUQIRI Lote	2001
596	STAINS Dan	1989	645	MUIR Adam	1995	694	ANASTA Braith	2001
597	TREWHELLA David	1989	646	O'DAVIS Robbie	1995	695	BLACKLOCK Nathan	2001
598	WALTERS Kerrod	1989	647	JOHNS Matthew	1995	696	GASNIER Mark	2001
599	CLYDE Bradley	1989	648	SING Matt	1995	697	LYON Jamie	2001
600	CARROLL Mark	1990	649	AINSCOUGH Jamie	1995	698	RYLES Jason	2001
601	DALEY Laurie	1990	650	DYMOCK Jim	1995	699	MASON Willie	2002
602	MACKAY Brad	1990	651	HOPOATE John	1995	700	SIMPSON Steve	2002
603	LAZARUS Glenn	1990	652	JOHNS Andrew	1995	701	TAHU Timana	2002
604	ROBERTS Ian	1990	653	KOSEF Nik	1995	702	TATE Brent	2002
605	CARTWRIGHT John	1990	654	MOORE Billy	1995	703	EL MASRI Hazem	2002
606	JOHNS Chris	1990	655	RAPER Aaron	1995	704	FITZGIBBON Craig	2002
607	FITTLER Brad	1990	656	BUETTNER Michael	1996	705	WING Craig	2002
608	GEYER Mark	1990	657	GARTNER Daniel	1996	706	BAILEY Luke	2003
609	LYONS Cliff	1990	658	WALKER Andrew	1996	707	HEGARTY Shannon	2003
610	SARGENT Mark	1990	659	SIMON John	1997	708	MINICHIELLO Anthony	2003
611	STUART Ricky	1990	660	HOWE Rodney	1998	709	RICKETSON Luke	2003
612	WALTERS Kevin	1990	661	LOCKYER Darren	1998	710	BAILEY Phil	2003
613	HAUFF Paul	1991	662	ROGERS Mat	1998	711	DE VERE Michael	2003
614	WALTERS Steve	1991	663	THORN Brad	1998	712	VILLASANTI Richard	2003
615	CARNE Willie	1991	664	BRITT Darren	1998	713	CLINTON Joel	2003
616	SALVATORI Craig	1991	665	IKIN Ben	1998	714	CROCKER Michael	2003
617	WISHART Rod	1991	666	KEARNS Robbie	1998	715	LEWIS Luke	2003
618	GOURLEY Scott	1991	667	PRICE Steve	1998	716	WATERHOUSE Trent	2003
619	TOOVEY Geoff	1991	668	SMITH Darren	1998	717	BERRIGAN, Shaun	2004
620	COYNE Gary	1991	669	TALLIS Gorden	1998	718	BOWEN, Matt	2004
621	GEE Andrew	1991	670	WEBCKE Shane	1998	719	CARROLL, Tony	2004
622	HARRAGON Paul	1992	671	HETHERINGTON Jason	1998	720	COOPER, Matt	2004
623	MACKAY Graham	1992	672	FLETCHER Bryan	1999	721	O'MELEY, Mark	2004
624	BRASHER Tim	1992	673	GIDLEY Matthew	1999	722	ROONEY, Luke	2004
625	GODDEN Brad	1992	674	GOWER Craig	1999	723	RYAN, Andrew	2004
626	RENOUF Steve	1992	675	KIMMORLEY Brett	1999	724	TONGA, Willie	2004
627	FAIRLEIGH David	1994	676	RICHARDSON Russell	1999	725	PRIDDIS, Luke	2005
628	HOHN Mark	1994	677	ROSS Robbie	1999	726	KING, Matt	2005
629	McGREGOR Paul	1994	678	STEVENS Jason	1999	727	O'DONNELL, Luke	2005
630	MULLINS Brett	1994	679	VELLA Michael	1999	728	CREAGH, Ben	2005
631	FLORIMO Greg	1994	680	GIRDLER Ryan	1999	729	PRINCE, Scott	2005
632	HILL Terry	1994	681	TIMMINS Shaun	1999	730	GROTHE, Eric	2005
633	MENZIES Steve	1994	682	HILL Scott	2000			
634	SAILOR Wendell	1994	683	McKENNA Chris	2000			
635	SERDARIS Jim	1994	684	CROKER Jason	2000			
636	FURNER David	1994	685	MacDOUGALL Adam	2000			