



W.P. RUGBY

REFEREES

ANNUAL REPORT | JAARVERSLAG 2012

WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY FOOTBALL REFEREES' SOCIETY
RUGBYVOETBALSKEIDSREGTERSVERENIGING VAN DIE
WESTELIKE PROVINSIE





WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY REFEREES' SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2012

Back row: Arthur Southgate (Vice Chairman), Ashley MacKay, Johan Pieterse, Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley
Front row: Alan Becker, Lindsay Booysen, Dan de Villiers (Chairman), Marianne van Wyngaardt, Ben Theron



Official sponsor of the WP Rugby Referees' Society

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2012



Dan de Villiers

Another vibrant year of rugby has come to a close, and we can look back with some satisfaction on the service our Society provided to players and fans at all levels of the game.

We often forget just how fortunate we are to have such a strong rugby culture in the province that permeates all levels, from primary schools to the professional level, and our members serve them all with distinction.

This executive is now halfway through its mandate and we're pleased to report that we're making good progress on our to-do list. One of our key deliverables

was the creation of Standard Operating Procedures for every portfolio, and this project is now complete. This means that any new members coming onto the executive in the future will be able to refer to a comprehensive manual detailing all their responsibilities. This will ensure that little time is lost 'learning the ropes' and improve service delivery to the members.

The work of the various portfolios is covered in more detail elsewhere in this report so we won't dwell on those in any great detail. We would like to comment, however, that we still feel the Monday-night sessions aren't used to their maximum and we determined that we turn these into must-attend events. These smaller groups are where the details of refereeing can be discussed and learned, and we looking to add more value to them in 2013.

As a Society we continue to grow: there were 196 referees on our grading list and 174 of them were active during the season. This is higher than last year's figures. Let's not rest on our laurels,

though, as we still need more referees and we all need to do our bit to bring new people into the society next year. We're hoping to use some of our senior referees in a mentoring capacity where their experience can guide some of the new and younger members.

On the youth front, Ben Theron and Joey Salmans continue to do great work and we now have 96 junior referees. This is one of the most successful programmes of its kind in South Africa, and is set to grow in the coming year. We really appreciate the support from our sponsor Albarit. The SA Rugby Referees' Association (SARRA) is looking to formalise the high-school refereeing structures – no-one may referee without first having completed some official training – and we can see the numbers in the youth ranks growing quickly in the near future.

One measure of success is the number of referees on the various panels and once again I'm proud to say we have excelled in that regard: Jonathan Kaplan is in the Super Group; Joey Salmans, Quinton



Immelman (who officiated in his first Premier Division Currie Cup game this season), Francois Groenewald, Cwengile Jadezweni, Matt Kemp and Marius van der Westhuizen are in the National Group; and Daniel Fortuin, Andrew Slater, Hein Gericke and Francois Pretorius are in the Contenders' Squad. Eugenia Daniels is on the Women's National Panel, although she's injured at the moment. Marc van Zyl is on the specialist AR Panel, JC Fortuin and Deon van Blommestein are on the TMO Panel, Dennis Immelman is a selector and Thuso Mngqibisa is a match reviewer. In addition Dougie Holwill, past chairman of this Society, serves as Deputy Chairman of SARRA.

In other milestones, Jonathan Kaplan refereed his thousandth first-class game this season and Marius van der Westhuizen has been appointed by the IRB to the international Sevens Circuit. Well done to both of them.

Special mention also goes to Paul Dobson, honorary life president of our Society, on his receipt of the IRB Referee Award for Distinguished Service, in recognition of his contribution to the game over several decades. Thank you, Paul, for your untiring service: your efforts have really made refereeing richer.

We're pleased to report that we had a good session with club coaches early in the season. This opportunity to sit down and chat through a range of refereeing-related matters has proven to be worthwhile and we hope that it continues in the future. In the same vein, many referees gave their time to assist clubs during practice time, and this is another initiative we encourage more referees to get involved in.

This year we saw a substantial reduction in the number of games abandoned and yellow cards issued, down to seven games abandoned, 93 red cards and 264



yellow cards. At first glance this may still seem high – even one abandoned game or red cards is one too many – but this has to be seen in context of the more than 3 200 fixtures during the season.

We once again hosted two members of the London Society of Rugby Football Union Referees and, judging by their feedback, they thoroughly enjoyed themselves both on and off the field. These exchanges are worthwhile, although the individual cost is high when going from South Africa to Europe.

Thanks largely to the excellent work done by Ben Theron, our fundraising activities went off very well. Funds raised at the Golf Day and Black-tie Dinner make a valuable contribution to the development of refereeing in the province.

We're investigating the introduction of on-field communications between the referee and two ARs in Super League games, and it's likely this initiative could be funded from these efforts.

Another important source of income for the Society is the host of sponsorships we're very fortunate to have. The local economy is tough and we're privileged to have such loyal supporters. We appreciate each and every contribution, and say a particular thank you to our

anchor sponsor Duraline, along with Falcon Tyres and Protea Hotels. We held a sponsors' appreciation evening for the first time this year and it was very beneficial to spend time with this important group of people. Thanks to our own fundraising efforts and the support of our generous sponsors, the Society is in a healthy financial position.

This year we bid farewell to a number of people. Theuns Roodman and Herman Abrahams retired from WP Rugby after 34 and 15 years of service respectively. They both gave unselfishly for the good of the game and were always supportive of referees and the challenges we encountered. We wish them well in the next phase of their lives. On a sad note, we also marked the passing of Herman Pretorius.

Any report on rugby in Western Province would be incomplete without passing praise on the achievements of the senior professional as well as age-group teams. With the odds stacked against them and not an 'expert' in sight calling for a WP win, the senior team bagged the 2012 Currie Cup in convincing fashion against a much more favoured Sharks outfit. Well done to all the team members, coaching and support staff. After an 11-year drought this was a most satisfying achievement.

The accolades do not end there, however, as the age-group teams also performed extremely well. Both the U19 and U21 teams made it through to the Finals of their respective competitions, with the U19s also lifting the Champions trophy. As mentioned previously, we are privileged to be part of such an active and world-class rugby culture here in Western Province. Again, congratulations to team members as well as the coaching and support staff.



We'd like to express our gratitude to a wide range of people who make valuable contributions to the efficient running of our Society. Lindsay Booyesen in the office has done a great job since joining us at the end of last year. Marianne van Wyngaard continues to be invaluable in ensuring that there are referees for every game, sometimes in the most trying and stressful of circumstances. Referee manager Ben Theron continues to do an excellent job and has proven to be a real maestro on the fundraising front. There are many others who contribute over and above their refereeing obligations: you know who you are, and please keep up the great work. Last, but certainly not least, to the executive: many thanks for the many hours you contribute. It has been a real pleasure working with you during the year, and we look forward to implementing all our goals in the last year of our term.



Another group of people who play an important role are the spouses, partners, significant others and family members of our referees. This sport is largely a lonely one and it's important that referees have a good support structure in their personal lives. Thanks to all who make that a reality.

This is an election year for office bearers at the WP Rugby Union. To those who are elected, we wish you well from the

Society. As stakeholders in this wonderful game in Western Province, we rely on your sound judgment and leadership to do us all proud in your deliberations and actions.

Special thanks also go out to the WP management and staff. They constantly have to deal with requests from our side of the game and they are always willing and able to assist when called upon.

Refereeing in Western Province is in good shape. Our Society is financially healthy, we have a well-functioning executive, and our referees are successful on the local and international stage. We must always look forward,

though, as continuous improvement isn't a place but an ongoing process that needs to be worked at all the time. I urge you to enjoy the off season, start to train early and be well prepared for an exciting 2013.

There's a saying that goes 'To whom much is given, much will be expected'. It's true: we have much to be grateful for, so let's use it to the benefit of the communities in which we live and serve.

Best rugby wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. de Villiers'.

Dan de Villiers | November 2012

VOORSITTER SE VERSLAG 2012

Nóg 'n opwindende rugbyjaar is verby en ons kan heel tevrede terugkyk op die diens wat ons Vereniging aan spelers en ondersteuners op alle vlakke van die spel gelewer het.

Ons vergeet dikwels presies hoe bevoorreg ons is om so 'n sterk rugbykultuur in die provinsie te hê – van laerskole tot die beroepsvlak. Ons lede dien almal met oorgawe.

Hierdie bestuur is nou halfpad met sy mandaat en dit is vir my aangenaam om verslag te doen dat ons goeie vordering met ons lys doelwitte maak. Een van ons belangrikste oogmerke was die skep van standaardbedryfsprosedures vir elke portefeulje, welke projek nou afgehandel is. Dít beteken dat enige nuwe lede wat voortaan by die bestuur aansluit, 'n omvattende handleiding oor hulle verantwoordelikhede sal kan raadpleeg. Sodoende verseker ons dat ons so min moontlik tyd aan 'oriëntering' afstaan en beter diens aan ons lede lewer.

Die verskillende portefeuljes se werk word in meer besonderhede elders in hierdie verslag bespreek, so ek sal nie hier uitvoerig daarop ingaan nie. Ons wil egter noem dat die Maandagaandsessies steeds nie na ons mening optimaal aangewend word nie, en ek is oortuig dat ons dit in verpligte geleenthede moet omskep. By hierdie kleiner groepe kan die besonderhede van skeidsregterswerk immers bespreek en aangeleer word, en dus sien ons daarna uit om in 2013 méér waarde daaraan toe te voeg.

As Vereniging groei ons steeds: Daar is 196 skeidsregters op ons graderingslys, van wie 174 aktief was gedurende die seisoen. Dit is hoër as verlede jaar se syfers. Laat ons egter nie op ons louere rus nie, aangesien ons steeds meer



skeidsregters nodig het en ons elkeen ons deel moet doen om nuwe mense volgende jaar aan die Vereniging bekend te stel. Ons hoop om van ons senior skeidsregters as mentors gebruik om deur hul kundigheid party van die nuwe en jonger lede te lei.

Aan die jeugfront doen Ben Theron en Joey Salmans steeds baie goeie werk en ons het tans 96 geregistreerde junior skeidsregters. Dit is een van die suksesvolste programme in sy soort

in Suid-Afrika, en sal na verwagting volgende jaar verder groei. Ons waardeer werklik die steun van ons borg, Albarit. Die Suid-Afrikaanse Rugbyskeidsregtersvereniging (SARSV) wil graag die hoërskoolskeidsregterstrukture formaliseer – sodat niemand wedstryde mag waarneem sonder om eers 'n mate van amptelike opleiding te ontvang nie – en ons voorsien dus dat die getalle in jeuggedere in die nabye toekoms vinnig sal toeneem.

Een maatstaf van sukses is die aantal skeidsregters in die verskillende panele, en weereens is ons trots om aan te kondig dat ons ook in hierdie verband presteer: Jonathan Kaplan is in die supergroep; Joey Salmans, Quinton Immelman (wat hierdie seisoen sy eerste premierwedstryd in die Curriebeker-kompetisie waargeneem het), Francois Groenewald, Cwengile Jadezweni, Matt Kemp en Marius van der Westhuizen dien in die nasionale groep, terwyl Daniel Fortuin, Andrew Slater, Hein Gericke en Francois Pretorius in die "Contenders-paneel" is. Eugenia Daniels dien in die nasionale vrouepaneel, hoewel sy tans beseer is. Marc van Zyl is in die AR-spesialispaneel; JC Fortuin en Deon van Blommestein dien in die TMO-paneel; Dennis Immelman is 'n keurder, en Thuso Mngqibisa is 'n wedstrydbeoordelaar. Daarbenewens dien Dougie Holwill, voormalige voorsitter van hierdie Vereniging, as ondervoorsitter van die SARSV.

In ander mylpale het Jonathan Kaplan hierdie seisoen sy duisendste eersterangse wedstryd waargeneem en het die Internasionale Rugbyraad (IRR) Marius van der Westhuizen in die internasionale Sewesreeks aangestel. Wel gedaan aan hulle albei.

Paul Dobson, lewenslange erevoorsitter van ons Vereniging, verdien ook spesiale vermelding vir sy ontvangs van die IRR-skeidsregtersprys vir uitsonderlike diens, ter erkenning van sy bydrae tot die spel oor etlike dekades. Dankie, Paul, vir jou onvermoeide diens: Skeidsregterswerk sou nie dieselfde gewees het sonder jou nie.

Ek doen graag verslag dat ons vroeër in die seisoen 'n goeie sessie met klubafrigters gehad het. Hierdie geleentheid om saam te sit en deur 'n verskeidenheid skeidsregtersverwante sake te werk, was oënskynlik die moeite werd en ek hoop dit word 'n gereelde

instelling in die toekoms. In dieselfde trant het heelwat skeidsregters hulle tyd opgeoffer om klubs gedurende oefentyd by te staan – nóg 'n inisiatief waarby ons graag méér skeidsregters betrokke sou wou hê.

Ons het vanjaar 'n beduidende afname beleef in die getal wedstryde wat vroeër beëindig is sowel as geel kaarte wat uitgereik is. Die syfers was naamlik sewe wedstryde vroeër beëindig 93 rooi kaarte en 264 geel kaarte. Op die oog af lyk dit dalk steeds hoog – selfs een van dié wedstryde of rooi kaart is een te veel – maar dit moet teen die agtergrond van die meer as 3 200 wedstryde gedurende die seisoen beskou word.

Ons het weereens twee lede van die Londense Vereniging vir Rugbyvoetbalunieskeidsregters ontvang. Na aanleiding van hul terugvoer het hulle klaarblyklik hul tyd hier – op én weg van die veld – terdeë geniet. Hierdie kontak is waardevol, hoewel die individuele reiskoste van Suid-Afrika na Europa hoog is.

Grootliks danksy die uitstekende werk van Ben Theron het ons geldinsamelingsbedrywighede baie goed verloop. Die geld wat met die gholfdag en formele dinee ingesamel is, het 'n waardevolle bydrae tot die ontwikkeling van skeidsregterswerk in die provinsie gelewer.

Ons stel tans ondersoek in na die bekendstelling van veldkommunikasie tussen die skeidsregter en twee hulpskeidsregters in superligawedstryde, en hierdie inisiatief sal waarskynlik deur voormelde pogings gefinansier word.

Nóg 'n belangrike bron van inkomste vir die Vereniging is die groot hoeveelheid borgskappe waaroor ons bevoorreg is om te beskik. Die plaaslike ekonomie is straf en ons is dus gelukkig om sulke lojale ondersteuners te hê. Ons waardeer

elke bydrae en sê veral dankie aan ons hoofborg, Duraline, sowel as Falconbande en Protea Hotel - Stellenbosch. Ons het vanjaar die eerste keer 'n "dankie sê" geleentheid vir ons borge aangebied en dit was baie goed om tyd met hierdie belangrike groep mense deur te bring. Danksy ons eie geldinsamelingspogings en die steun van ons ruimhartige borge, is die Vereniging se finansies gesond.

Vanjaar het ons ook 'n aantal mense gegroet. Theuns Roodman en Herman Abrahams het ná onderskeidelik 34 en 15 jaar diens aan WP Rugby uitgetree. Hulle het albei onbaatsugtig tot die bevordering van die spel bygedra en was deurentyd 'n bron van steun vir skeidsregters en die uitdagings waarvoor ons te staan kom. Ons beste wense vir hierdie volgende fase van hulle lewens. Ons was ook hartseer oor die heengaan van Herman Pretorius.

Geen verslag oor rugby in die Westelike Provinsie sal volledig wees sonder om die lof van die senior beroepspeleers sowel as ouderdomsgroepspanne te besing nie. Ondanks die oormag teen hulle en selfs nie 'n enkele 'kundige' wat dit voorsien het nie, het die senior WP-span die Curriebeker 2012 oortuigend weggeraap voor die veel meer begunstigde Haaie-span. Wel gedaan aan al die spanlede en afrigtings- en steunpersoneel. Ná 'n 11 jaar lange droogte was dit 'n besonder bevredigende oomblik.

Tog eindig die eerbetoon nie hier nie, want ook die ouderdomsgroepspanne het uitstekend presteer. Sowel die o.19- as o.21-spanne het tot die eindronde van hul onderskeie kompetisies deurgedring, en die o.19's het selfs die kampioenstrofee ingepalm. Soos ek heel aan die begin gesê het, is ons bevoorreg om deel te wees van so 'n aktiewe wêreldklasrugbykultuur hier in die Westelike Provinsie. Nogmaals geluk aan die spanlede sowel as die afrigtings- en steunpersoneel.

Ek bedank graag 'n wye verskeidenheid mense wat almal waardevolle bydraes tot die doeltreffende werksaamhede van ons Vereniging gelewer het. Lindsay Booyen in die kantoor het haar baie goed van haar taak gekwyt sedert sy laat verlede jaar by ons aangesluit het. Marianne van Wyngaard is steeds van onskatbare waarde om te verseker dat daar skeidsregters is vir elke wedstryd – soms in die mees veeleisende en stresvolle omstandighede. Ook skeidsregtersbestuurder Ben Theron is steeds 'n voorslag en het hom boonop as 'n ware meester aan die geldinsamelingsfront bewys. Baie ander het ook benewens hul skeidsregtersverpligtinge bygedra: Julle weet wie julle is – doen asseblief so voort. Laaste maar nie die minste nie, aan die bestuur: Baie dankie vir al die ure wat julle opoffer. Dit was 'n voorreg om die afgelope jaar met julle saam te werk en ek sien daarna uit om die res van ons doelwitte in die laaste jaar van ons termyn te bereik.

Nóg 'n groep mense wat 'n belangrike rol speel, is ons skeidsregters se huweliksmaats, lewensmaats, geliefdes en familielede. Hierdie sport is merendeels eensam, en dus is dit belangrik dat skeidsregters 'n goeie ondersteuningstruktuur in hul persoonlike lewens het. Dankie aan almal wat dit 'n werklikheid maak.

Vanjaar is 'n verkiesingsjaar vir ampsdraers by die WP Rugbyunie. Namens die Vereniging wens ek graag diegene wat verkies word alles van die beste toe. As belanghebbendes by hierdie wonderlike spel in die Westelike Provinsie, maak ons staat op julle gesonde oordeel en leierskap om in ons almal se belang op te tree.

Spesiale dank aan die WP-bestuur en -personeel. Hulle moet voortdurend versoeke vanuit ons hoek van die spel



hanteer en is altyd bereid en in staat om te help wanneer daar op hulle nommer gedruk word.

Skeidsregterswerk in die Westelike Provinsie sien goed daar uit. Ons Vereniging is finansiëel gesond, ons bestuur funksioneer goed, en ons skeidsregters is suksesvol op plaaslike én internasionale gebied. Ons moet egter altyd vorentoe kyk, want voortdurende verbetering is nie 'n plek nie, maar 'n voortgesette proses waaraan daar te alle tye hard gewerk moet word. Geniet die buiteseisoen, begin vroeg oefen en kom

goed voorbereid terug vir 'n opwindende 2013.

Die gesegde lui: “Van die wat baie ontvang, word baie van verwag”. Dit is waar. Ons het baie om voor dankbaar te wees, so laat ons dit gebruik tot voordeel van die gemeenskappe waarin ons woon, werk en bedien.

Vriendelike rugbygroete

Dan de Villiers | November 2012

TOURNAMENT APPOINTMENTS



U/18 Academy Week

Francois Pretorius	Referee
Daniel Fortuin	Referee
Andrew Slater	Referee
Cwengile Jadezweni	Referee

U/18 Coca Cola Craven Week

Hein Gericke	Referee
Cwengile Jadezweni	Referee

National Club Champs

Francois Pretorius	Referee
Cwengile Jadezweni	Referee

Wildeklaar Super Schools Week

Francois Pretorius	Referee
Hein Gericke	Referee

Pukke Skouspel

Hein Gericke	Referee
--------------	---------

Oakdale Tournament

Francois Pretorius	Referee
--------------------	---------

World Student Games – France

Marius van der Westhuizen	Referee
---------------------------	---------

Safaricom Sevens – Kenya

Marius van der Westhuizen	Referee
---------------------------	---------

Dubai Sevens – Dubai

Marius van der Westhuizen	Referee
---------------------------	---------

IRB Sevens – Port Elizabeth

Marius van der Westhuizen	Assistant Referee
---------------------------	-------------------



GOLF DAY



BLACK-TIE DINNER



2012 PRIZE WINNERS



Pierre Rogers
Regional Award Bellville



Willem Taylor
Regional Award Langa



Niel Bosman
Regional Award Stellenbosch



Wayne Kearns
Regional Award Wynberg



Daniel Fortuin
Regional Award Helderberg



Eduardo Tacaks
Regional Award Table View



Marius van der Westhuizen

Willem Brits Award – Referees Referee of the Year



Jannie Adams

Highest Examination Mark Award



Jonathan Kaplan

Referee of the Year



Jean Cloete

Most Improved Junior Referee



Carl Broodryk

Most Promising Junior Referee



Jean de Wet Junior Referee of the Year



Strand RFC Sportsmanship Award



Pieter le Roux Most Improved Referee



Craig Green Overall Merit Award



Marius van der Westhuizen
Referees Executive Award



Divan Uys
Most Promising Referee



Craig Green
Division One



Hennie Heydenrych
Division Two



Pieter le Roux
Division Three



Le-Eustace Beukes

Division Four



Wayne Kearns

Division Five



Willem Taylor

Division Six



Reinhard Koorts

Division Seven

AWARDS EVENING




**PROTEA HOTEL
STELLENBOSCH**





MATCH REVIEWING

Convenor:

Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley

Members: Tony Basson, Johan Willemse, Owen Kiewietz, Gielie Bester, Desmond Petersen, Eric Bernado and Alan Becker. Don Perry and Phillip Muller were appointed as additional members



Five meetings were convened during the course of the 2012 season and the committee initially concentrated on the lower divisions within the Society.

The reviews were conducted within the framework of the South African Rugby Referees' Association (SARRA) Levels. The committee submitted 585 Match Review reports for the year, a substantial increase over the previous season. This was because pre-season friendly matches were also covered.

The new grading structure that was implemented during the 2010 season is still a work in progress, and adjustments were again made towards the end of this year.

DVD match reviewing is still in its infancy. The Executive Committee made a decision that not every referee

would be entitled to be filmed during the 2012 season. Those who wished to be filmed had to forward their names for consideration. A condition of being filmed was that each referee would have to complete a self-assessment of his recorded match and submit that to the committee. Those failing to submit the self-assessment would be liable for the cost of producing the DVD. We are still currently experiencing problems with time delays between match day and the referee actually receiving the DVD. In total, 19 school games and 24 club matches were reviewed using this method.

Match Reviewers were allocated weekly to different venues. In addition, between one and three film crews were allocated to different venues to record referees in action. I feel this innovation will go a long way to helping in the number of reviews completed due to the limited personnel on this committee.

At each Match Reviewing Committee meeting, the entire grading list was analysed and evaluated with the object of promoting and, where appropriate, demoting referees according to the new Grading Structure and Criteria.

The Match Reviewing Committee wants to emphasise that referees must comply

with the Grading Criteria and new Structure in order to be promoted. This information is available on the website.

This year we saw the introduction of the Yo-Yo Fitness Test replacing the Bleep Test as a Grading Criteria, in accordance with SARRA requirements. Many referees have still not undertaken their annual fitness test and, as a result, will find themselves demoted during June 2013. Referees must remember that the test is mandatory in terms of the Grading Criteria, and the committee encourages all referees to undertake this fitness requirement at the start of next year.

Congratulations to all those referees who were promoted during the current season. To those aspiring to higher honours, we encourage you to persevere to reach your own personal goals.

On behalf of the committee I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed in any way, big or small, to our activities during 2012, and particularly to our additional members Don Perry and Phillip Muller. There were a number of First League referees who also assisted – thank you to those individuals. And a special word of thanks to Alan Becker, who also acted as Secretary of this committee.



APPOINTMENTS

Convenor: Ashley MacKay

Members: Dan de Villiers, Marianne van Wyngaard, Eddie Douglas and Ben Theron



This year, as in previous years, there were many hitches but it was not all doom and gloom. Late withdrawals and late South African Rugby Referees' Association (SARRA) appointments were two of the major stumbling blocks. We were always positive and will endeavour to improve the system of appointments in the future.

All appointments were done by the computer system. However, as in the past, the top 15 games were appointed manually after these games were prioritised by the Union's fixture department. This year these appointments caused Marianne and me great concern because of the appointed referees receiving late notification from SARRA. All appointments done by the computer were re-checked before being published on the Western Province (WP) Referees' website.

This year we were required by WP Rugby to appoint referees for 2 932 league games but were only able to appoint refs to 2 703 games. The shortfall of 229 was due to no teams, cancelled games or a shortage of referees. Where referees were not appointed, clubs had to supply a referee for the game. We always strive to appoint referees to all games in the WP league. We need club management to



advise us timeously of cancelled games so that referees can be rescheduled.

We also appointed referees to officiate in the Women's League. There were 56 league games scheduled and we appointed referees to all of them. Referees were appointed to 480 friendly matches during the season.

During the Super Rugby tournament and towards the end of the season, we asked those clubs with lighting facilities to play their games on Wednesday and Friday evenings. This enabled us to appoint referees to all the games that were played on Saturdays at clubs without lighting facilities.

The following guidelines were taken into account when doing appointments:

- To provide notice of appointments timeously, allocations were made two weeks in advance but had to change due to circumstances.
- No referee was given a fixture that involved the same team within a four-week period.
- We avoided appointing a referee to the same teams in the first and second rounds.
- Within the parameters set by members' grading, the type of game to which a referee was appointed varied as much as possible.
- Withdrawals on Fridays/Saturdays are sometimes inevitable.

- Certain changes had to be made outside the boundaries of the guidelines. All these changes carried the approval of the Executive Committee.

Some impacts on appointments were:

- Receiving SARRA appointments late.
- Withdrawal of referees due to work, family commitments, injuries and rescheduling because of a referee shortage in a particular grading.
- Referees not able to handle certain games because of transport constraints.

The school appointments were made by Marianne and Ben – we thank them for their efforts. This year WP School Rugby required us to appoint referees for 288 league games.

There were referees who rightfully queried their appointments but generally most referees accepted their appointments gracefully.

The WP Referee Society wishes to thank all members who carried out their duties so willingly and were committed week after week, often in trying conditions. Thanks to those members who were prepared to handle games at short notice. And a special thanks to the families of referees who participated during the week and on Saturday afternoons.

FINANCIAL

Convenor: Arthur Southgate



Financially speaking, 2012 has been a good year for the Society.

It must be stated that in a Society such as ours, success cannot be measured by the amount of money we have in the bank. Rather, it's about what we have done to develop our referees.

As fundraising events, the Golf Day and Black-Tie Dinner were relatively successful, but it is the efforts of sponsors that need to be hailed. This year, our sincere thanks and appreciation go to:

- Duraline (from whom we await a sum of R200 000 but we have confidence that it will be delivered, as Duraline's record in sponsoring the Society speaks for itself)
- Falcon Tyres: R120 000
- Protea Hotels: R60 000
- Albarit: R55 000 (specifically aimed at junior referees)

Our heartfelt thanks go to all the sponsors, a more complete list of which is included on the inside back page of this report. For the first time this year we had a special function to thank these sponsors for their support, and we also ask our members to support our sponsors whenever possible.

Much of the money we receive is spent on the purchase and subsidising of clothing for our members. A concern,

however, is the money spent on development. The Executive is challenged in this area to make the correct decisions. While a lot goes on the presentation of courses, we don't currently have a sustainable plan on the table. This must be sorted out with the coaches, the various regions and the executive members heading up training and coaching. In the meantime, we are close to finalising a list of names of referees who will be sent to the Stellenbosch Academy for specialised training.

Our main sponsor, Duraline, has asked to be relieved of their sponsorship. This obviously comes as a blow, but, given the economic climate, we understand the request and remain grateful to Duraline for their tremendous financial support over the years. We have discussed their request at executive level and we will try

everything we can to reach an amicable agreement.

We do now need to find a new main sponsor. If any member has anyone in mind, please speak to the chairperson or myself.

As our financial year ends on 31 December, please be mindful that it is difficult to quote figures at the moment. Audited financial statements will be made available as soon as they are received from the auditors. In the meantime, any member who has urgent questions may approach me, the chairperson or any other executive member.

Thanks again for all your support over the past year, and be assured that the administration of finances is in good hands.



PAYMENTS AND AWARDS

Convenor: Arthur Southgate

Members: Marianne van Wyngaard, Ronnie-Bourbon Leftley, Alan Becker

This is the second most important subcommittee in the Western Province Rugby Football Referee Society, behind the Match Review subcommittee. This committee, like all other committees, forms an integral part of the Western Province Rugby Referees Society, the work of which culminates in a glamorous event known as the annual prize giving.

The Payments and Awards subcommittee meets from time to time to discuss, among other things, the Referee Society constitution and its bylaws, and referee prize winners, and it recommends amounts for referee officials to be reimbursed the following year for their services.

During the year Marianne van Wyngaard keeps accurate and meticulous records of each individual referee's contribution to the Society where officiating is concerned, whether big or small. These records are of critical importance at the completion of the club rugby season here in the Western Province when it comes to, for example, the Referees Merit Award.

Within three days after the completion of the season, these records are submitted to the chairperson of the Match Review subcommittee, which recommends the two most prestigious refereeing awards in the Western Province: the Most Improved Referee and the Most Promising Referee. Within two days after the completion of the Match Review subcommittee meeting, the Payments and Awards subcommittee convenes. At this meeting, honorariums and allowances are recommended to the Executive Committee. (On the subject of referee allowances for 2013, a letter has been drafted to the Western Province Rugby Football Union and a response is awaited.) The discussion then moves to the various awards to be made to referees and members, for which appointments and withdrawals, attendance at meetings, running Yo-Yo tests and writing the annual referee examination are paramount.



The awards are for Long Service, Divisional Merit and Overall Merit, Referee of the Year, Highest Examination Mark, Regional Awards, Full and Half Disa Awards, Merit Ties, Merit Award Blazers, Life Members, Provincial Blazers and the Executive Award (introduced for the first time this year).

The names of referees nominated to receive the various awards are forwarded to the full Executive for ratification. This Executive meeting takes place within 10 days after the convening of the Payments and Awards subcommittee meeting.

A special word needs to be made of the tireless contribution of Marianne van Wyngaard: without her relentless

pursuit of perfection in the compilation of the various referee statistics, this subcommittee could not function. In addition, I thank Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley and Alan Becker for their unwavering and passionate interest in refereeing administration in the Western Province. The Referee Society is indebted to both of them.

To all referees attending this Annual General Meeting: if you have signed the attendance register this evening, you are already in contention for the Merit Award for 2013!

May everyone enjoy the off-season break, and come back refreshed with great enthusiasm next year.

TRAINING

Convenor: Johan Pieterse



The year kicked off in January with the 4&5s course being presented at Bellville. The course, designed, developed and presented by Johan Pieterse, was well received by all attendees. A special mention must be made of the contribution made by Matt Kemp, who attended the course and gave valuable inputs on the practical side of things. Matt, if you ever become tired of being a lawyer/attorney and refereeing, we can surely use you in the training environment!

The International Rugby Board (IRB) Level 1 and Introduction to Refereeing courses were also run throughout the year. Nine courses were presented by Johan Pieterse, Ben Theron, Ivan Solomons, Roderick Barry, Wimpie Annandale and Wendy de Kock. Without the support of these educators, the courses would not have been successful and the development of new referees would have suffered. Evaluations are completed after each course and all educators received excellent feedback.

The IRB Level 2 course was again presented at Goudini Spa; a great thank you to Ben Theron for all the

arrangements. We welcomed back Neville Heilbron after his stint with the Springboks as the trainer for the course. He was assisted by Joey Salmans and Wimpie Annandale. It was a resounding success and development of referees was again first and foremost.

The South African Rugby Referees' Association (SARRA) presented a tackle and scrum workshop in February, which was facilitated by Johan Pieterse. These workshops were presented on seven occasions at five venues and were well attended by referees. Clubs were also invited and the Paarl region must be congratulated on their attendance. Arthur Southgate also presented the AR Workshop on three separate occasions.

The Coaching of Match Officials course was presented during March 2012. All Division 1 referees were invited but only five attended. However, coaches and performance reviewers were well represented. The vision was that those who attended the course could submit reports on referees who are officiating in games prior to their own games. These reports would then also be considered for grading purposes. This initiative will be implemented again in 2013 and better support will mean more accredited reports for junior referees – a win-win for all.

A word of appreciation goes to Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley for supporting training initiatives that were envisioned for current and newly co-opted performance reviewers. Newly co-opted performance reviewers attended the IRB Level 1, Introduction to Officiating and Coaching of Match Official courses. Ronnie and other performance reviewers also attended the IRB Level 2 course. This drive will continue in 2013 and hopefully all current and newly appointed coaches and performance reviewers will attend these sessions with the view to improving refereeing in Western Province.

Joey Salmans is the educator and custodian of training for junior referees. Wendy de Kock, Riaan Tolken and

various other referees also assisted with the training during the camp in July. Tiekie Theart and Nathan Barry assisted with supervision during the tournaments



where junior referees were in action. The first group that came through this system joined the senior ranks this season and clearly showed that this programme, initiated by Ben Theron, is very successful. The Society will reap the rewards of this rejuvenation process in the long term.

The request from the regions to supply more visual material did not fall on deaf ears. The first trials were done in monthly meetings where short presentations took place with Law discussions following. This initiative will continue in 2013, and we hope to take it to the regions.

The first round of equipment was bought and distributed and this will continue.

Adherence to the training programme proved to be a challenge and getting the same message through at all regions also proved difficult. This matter will be addressed in 2013 as material was developed during 2012 and will be submitted for approval to the executive before the start of the 2013 season. Implementation will follow soon, with the same message and the same material being presented at the regions every week. You are urged to attend the Monday-evening sessions as this initiative is aimed at improving Law knowledge and the interpretation of the Law, which will lead to more accurate decision-making at the end of the day.

ADMINISTRATION

Convener: Alan Becker

Members: Lindsay Booyesen, Ben Theron, Marianne van Wyngaard and Liam Hamer-Nel.



During the year, no formal subcommittee meetings were convened. The necessary administrative work was completed via email.

The Western Province Rugby Football Referees Society website was constantly updated throughout the year by Liam Hamer-Nel. Members were informed of all notes/minutes of monthly meetings, match appointments, updated grading lists and any regulatory changes, along with general news.

I am pleased to report that the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) manual is now complete. As you can imagine, this was an enormous task and I thank those who contributed to the process. The SOP includes a job description for each portfolio within the Society, and aims to professionalise the functioning of each portfolio. The days of being nominated to the Executive Committee solely for the sake of seeking election are over, and future members wishing to put their names forward for any position on the Executive will have to stand for a particular portfolio and its applicable job description. Importantly, the responsibilities are now clearly defined for each portfolio.

The portfolios are:

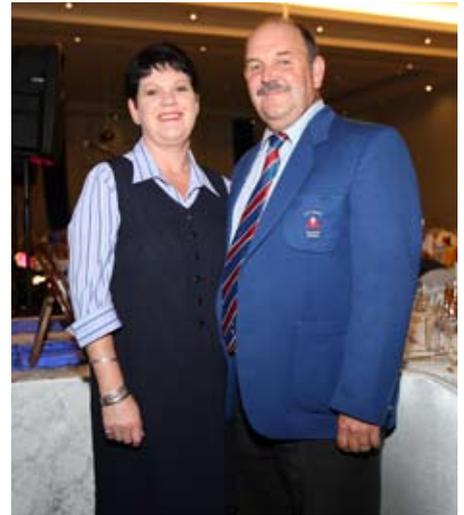
- Appointments / Club House / Club Relations / Referees Disciplinary
- Match Reviewing
- Finances
- Training
- Administration

In terms of the Society's constitution, members will be asked to adopt the SOP in the near future.

Agendas and minutes pertaining to the various Executive Committee and subcommittee meetings, together with Referee Monthly Meetings, were completed and distributed on a regular basis to the various personnel. Documentation that directly affected referees was placed on the Society's website.

Finally a big thank you to all committee members for their personal contributions during the year.

I would like to wish all members an enjoyable off-season and urge them to return refreshed and energised for the 2013 season.



WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY JUNIOR RUGBY REFEREES PROGRAMME

Convenor: Joey Klaaste-Salmans



This was our second full season of running this programme. Our work started early in the year as we hosted the first refresher/follow-up course in the March school holiday. Referees were once again put through their fitness paces and a Law exam was completed to establish whether the referees have applied themselves to broaden their Law knowledge during the long off-season. We held this course in conjunction with the practical assessment of the refereeing and touch-judging abilities of the Match Officials (MOs).

Referees were appointed to officiate at two tournaments during this period. Some MOs officiated at President High School. Others applied their skills at Laborie High School and Stellenbosch High. Every day at these tournaments ended with a self-reflection and review of the day's proceedings and officiating. There has been a big drive this year to teach the officials to assess themselves honestly and to give feedback to each other about their matches or duties on the day.

We had our first workshop for new recruits in March 2012. I was very pleased when I saw the numbers turning out for the Introduction to Refereeing workshop. About 40 boys and girls spent two days with us at our 'headquarters' at Jan Kriel School in Kuils River. Our programme was similar to the previous year's, with a small change: we started the course with a BokSmart information session. The recruits were also introduced to the new Yo-Yo fitness test.

Most of our recruits are still active players and used this course to enrich their rugby knowledge and try the hobby of rugby refereeing.

The new recruits were exposed to the 'real deal' when they had to assist at the Wynberg High School tournament which had teams of U14, U15 and U19. Here, they were put through their paces, from assistant refereeing to sub-controlling. The feedback from the coaches and players who participated at this event was overwhelmingly positive and this put pressure on the MOs to perform at an even higher level. The feedback sessions were very honest and a lot of learning took place in them. Our thanks to Rob Wagner and the WP management for allowing these young promising referees to sleep in the 'holy grounds' of Newlands. The senior Referees' Society allowed the use of their clubhouse for meetings, and this made things easier from a logistical point of view.

During the third term, many youngsters refereed at various primary schools in the province. We received feedback from schools about our junior referees and most had positive things to say. Where we received challenges or areas to improve, we sat down with the individuals and assisted them with these concerns.

Vuka Tournament

Western Province members of South African Rugby Legends Associations (SARLA) manage this tournament and granted us permission to use the tournament for 'in service' training. This year we allowed our referees to take the field without a senior member to assist, and even some of our newer recruits showed some real steel for first-timers. We were very proud of these achievements and challenged the junior referees to refine their refereeing and management of the game. We selected the two top referees at this tournament to be assistant referees in the Final which was held at Newlands, an experience players and junior referees won't forget.

Our sincere thanks to SARLA, especially Jessie Claasen and Dale Santon, for allowing this project to continue. It looks like there will be more



teams next year, allowing our juniors more exposure.

Top performers

The task of choosing our top performers this year was easy, as they really stood out and made the best of the opportunities provided to them. I congratulate the following boys for their commitment and great performances on the rugby fields this past season.

Most improved referee – Jean Cloete
Most promising referee – Carl Broodryk
Referee of the year – Jean De Wet

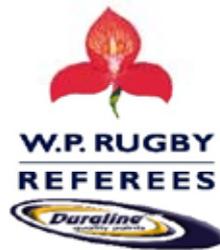
We hope that Carl (and all those matriculating this year) will join the senior society next season and prosper as senior referees.

I'd like to mention the four juniors who become seniors in 2012. Johandre Visser, Jason Barrish, Pieter le Roux and Dyllan Francke have all made positive contributions to refereeing in WP. On behalf of the junior referees, I congratulate Pieter le Roux on his award of Most Improved WP referee in 2012 – it's testament to the work done while he was a junior referee last year.

Lastly, allow me to thank all the sponsors who have been behind us with this project. My sincere appreciation to the Western Province Rugby Referees Executive, Ben Theron, Lindsay Booysen, Jenna Wright, Wendy de Kock, Riaan Tolken, Nathan Barry, Tiekie Theart and others who may have assisted us in one of the many tournaments or courses we had.

I look forward to 2013, when the focus will once again be on preparing young scholar referees to be the best they can be. We will also focus on recruiting more girls and assist WP and SARRA in their search for talented female referees.

Thank You for your continuous support



www.geneproductions.co.za
+2782 5484 677



Better in the short run...



WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY FOOTBALL REFEREES' SOCIETY
RUGBYVOETBALSKEIDREGTERSVERENIGING VAN DIE WESTELIKE PROVINSIE
P.O. Box 66, Newlands 7725 • Posbus 66, Nuweland 7725 • Tel: 021 659 4500 • Fax: 021 686 2336
Email: btheron@wprugby.co.za • Website: www.wprugbyrefs.co.za

we Inspire *Colour*



Turn
your
home
into a
Masterpiece



inspired by
nature



Tel: 021 853 0471 | Fax: 021 853 0599 | www.duraline.co.za | 50 Mynhardt Street | Gants Centre | Strand Industrial
See branch locator on www.duraline.co.za for a store near you