

2014

ANNUAL REPORT JAARVERSLAG

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




PROTEA HOTEL
STELLENBOSCH

W.P. RUGBY

REFEREES

FALKEN
High Performance Tyres

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2014



Western Province Rugby Football Referees' Society Executive Committee 2014

Back row: Alan Becker, Ben Theron (Manager), Hans Radyn, Charles Wyngaard, Don Perry, Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley.
Front row: Nangamso Dudumashe (Referees' Secretary), Dan de Villiers (Chairperson), Arthur Southgate,
Marianne van Wyngaard (Appointments Secretary).



Official sponsors of the WP Rugby Referees' Society

The 2014 season has gone off very well and credit must be given to WPRFU for their hard work at all levels of the game. The successes enjoyed by the age-group teams at the various Youth Weeks, the smooth running of club rugby, and the fact that all three of the professional teams contested home finals in the Currie Cup competition are proof of the depth and quality of rugby in this province. Congratulations to the U19s for winning their competition and to the seniors for bringing the Currie Cup back to Newlands.

The introduction of the President's Cup, with finals being played at DHL Newlands in front of a large crowd in October, provided an exciting and fitting end to the club season.

On the refereeing front we're also happy with the way things have gone. Once again, the Society made around 3 800 appointments during the season, covering all levels of the game. Unfortunately, we're still short of active referees. With only 176 whistle-blowers available, every week several games had to be officiated by club-appointed personnel.

Our high school referees' programme is progressing well, with about 110 youngsters in the system, but it's at the club level where we'd like to see more people joining up. We hope that the decision by two retired players – Egon Seconds and Aimee Barrett (both ex Springbok Sevens) – to join the refereeing ranks will ignite similar interest in others.

One of the stumbling blocks to recruiting new referees is the level of abuse directed at match officials. I'm extremely pleased to report on the strong stand that WPRFU

has taken against this sort of behaviour, and this has been shown in the decisive sentences meted out by the Disciplinary Committee.

At SARU level we've had good representation. Marius van der Westhuizen is on the Elite Panel and officiated at Super Rugby level as well as on the IRB Sevens circuit; Quinton Immelman has been promoted to the Elite Panel; Cwengile Jadezweni and Francois Pretorius are on the National Panel and are reserves to the Elite Panel; Newcomers Aimee Barrett and Egon Seconds are on the Women's Panel and Contenders' Squad respectively; Dennis Immelman and Deon van Blommestein are Selectors, and Deon is also on the TMO Panel; Thuso Mngqibisa is a Performance Reviewer; and Dougie Holwill is Deputy Chairperson of the SA Rugby Referees' Association.

We're extremely proud of those referees who've made it up the ladder but we must never forget about the valuable contribution that every member of the Society makes to rugby in Western Province. Referees are passionate about and committed to their sport; they put in training and game time, and often travel to far-flung venues with minimal financial compensation, all to serve the game. I ask that players and spectators respect their role and make them feel part of the rugby community when visiting their clubs. I would also like to acknowledge the referees' spouses and partners - the sport demands that your loved ones are away from you over important leisure time, and we thank you for the support you give them.



Dan de Villiers

On the administrative side, we've revised our constitution to bring it in line with that of WPRFU. Thanks to Matt Kemp for his assistance with that project.

One of the reasons we have such an active Society is that we have some great sponsors. There are a number of organisations that assist us but special mention must be made of Falken Tyres



and the Protea Hotel Stellenbosch. The activities of the Society rely on a number of people. I'd like to extend my thanks to the Executive comprising Arthur Southgate, Alan Becker, Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley, Don Perry, and newcomers Hans Radyn and Charles Wyngaard. Ben Theron, as always, is a workhorse who deals with many issues simultaneously – thanks, Ben. He's ably assisted by Dudu Dudum Ashe, who picked up where Lindsay left off and is fully part of the team. To all members of the Society, thanks for your contributions.

Marianne van Wyngaard is retiring this year after 17 years of service. She had one of the most difficult tasks in the entire Union: that of referee appointments. With around 170 appointments every week, and only 176 active referees (some of whom may be away on SARU duties and others unavailable for a variety of reasons), she's had to keep the games going. Thank you, Marianne, for your loyal and unwavering support; we wish you well in your retirement and may your phone never ring again on a Saturday morning with a referee withdrawal!

Thanks to Council representative Rueben Riffel. His tireless support of referees and insight have brought great value to our deliberations at Executive level. I'd like to also mention the support the Society has received from the President, Thelo Wakefield, and his entire Executive. We've had robust discussions but their support for referees has been outstanding and I look forward to our relationship growing stronger in 2015.

Here's wishing the entire Western Province rugby community a blessed (if short) off season and great preparations for 2015.

Dan de Villiers | Chairperson
Western Province Rugby Referees' Society





Seisoen 2014 het baie goed afgeloop. Alle eer aan die Westelike Provinsie Rugby- en Voetbalunie (WPRVU) vir hul harde werk op alle vlakke van die spel. Die suksesse van die ouderdomsgroepspanne in die verskillende jeugweke, die vlot verloop van klubrugby, en al drie beroepspanne se deelname aan tuisindstryde in die Curriebeker-kompetisie getuig van die diepte en gehalte van rugby in hierdie provinsie. Geluk aan die o.19's met hul oorwinning in hulle wedstryd, en aan die

seniors wat die Curriebeker teruggebring het Nuweland toe.

Die bekendstelling van die Presidentsbeker, met eindstryde op DHL Nuweland voor 'n groot skare in Oktober, was 'n opwindende en gepaste afsluiting van die klubseisoen.

Wat skeidsregterswerk betref, is ons ewe tevrede met hoe sake verloop het. Die Vereniging het gedurende die seisoen

weer sowat 3 800 aanstellings oor alle vlakke van die spel gedoen. Ongelukkig is daar steeds 'n tekort aan aktiewe skeidsregters. Met net 176 fluitjieblasers beskikbaar, moes verskeie kragmetings elke week deur klubaangestelde personeel behartig word.

Ons skeidsregtersprogram in hoërskole vorder fluks en daar is tans sowat 110 jongmense in die stelsel. Dit is egter op klubvlak waar ons graag meer betrokkenheid sou wou sien. Ons hoop Egon Seconds en Aimee Barrett – albei gewese Springbok-sewespelers – se besluit om hulle gewig by skeidsregterswerk in te gooi sal ook ander se belangstelling hierin aanwakker.

Een van die struikelblokke in die werwing van nuwe skeidsregters is die beledigings en geskel waaraan wedstrydbeamptes blootgestel word. Ek is egter baie ingenome om te kan verslag doen dat die WPRVU sterk standpunt ingeneem het teen hierdie soort gedrag, wat ook duidelik geblyk het uit die besliste uitsprake van die tugkomitee.

Op nasionale vlak was ons skeidsregters goed verteenwoordig. Marius van der Westhuizen dien in die elite-paneel en het op Superrugbyvlak sowel as in die IRR-sewestoernooiereeks geblaas; Quinton Immelman is tot die elite-paneel bevorder; Cwengile Jadezweni en Francois Pretorius is in die nasionale paneel en dien ook as reserwes vir die elite-paneel; nuwelings Aimee Barrett en Egon Seconds is deel van die vrouepaneel

en contenders' groep; Dennis Immelman en Deon van Blommestein is keurders, terwyl Deon ook in die TMO-paneel dien; Thuso Mngqibisa is 'n prestasiebeoordelaar, en Dougie Holwill is ondervoorsitter van die SA Rugbyskeidsregtersvereniging.

Ons is besonder trots op daardie skeidsregters wat die suksesleer geklim het. Tog moet ons nooit elke liewe lid van die Vereniging se waardevolle bydrae tot rugby in die Westelike Provinsie uit die oog verloor nie. Skeidsregters is geesdriftig oor en toegewy aan hulle sport; hulle staan hulle tyd aan afrigting en wedstryde af en reis dikwels sonder noemenswaardige finansiële vergoeding na verafgeleë plekke – alles ter wille van die spel. Ek vra dus dat spelers en toeskouers skeidsregters se rol sal respekteer en hulle deel sal laat voel van die rugbygemeenskap wanneer hulle klubs besoek. Ek dra ook graag ons dank oor aan skeidsregters se huweliks- en lewensmaats – die sport ontnem julle van belangrike vrye tyd saam met julle geliefdes, en ons sê daarom dankie vir julle ondersteuning.

Op administratiewe gebied het ons ons grondwet hersien om te verseker dat dit met die WPRVU s'n strook. Dankie aan Matt Kemp vir sy bystand met daardie projek.

Een van die redes waarom ons so 'n aktiewe Vereniging het, is ons fantastiese borge. Ons ontvang bystand van 'n hele aantal organisasies, maar die bandemaatskappy Falken en Protea Hotel Stellenbosch verdien spesiale vermelding.

Die bedrywigheide van die Vereniging maak staat op 'n hele paar individue. Ek bedank



graag die uitvoerende bestuur, wat bestaan uit Arthur Southgate, Alan Becker, Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley, Don Perry en die nuweling Hans Radyn en Charles Wyngaard. Ben Theron is oudergewoonte 'n werkesel, wat verskeie sake gelyktydig hanteer – dankie, Ben. Hy ontvang bekwame bystand van Dudu Dudumashe, wat by Lindsay oorgeneem het en volwaardig deel is van die span. Aan alle lede van die Vereniging, baie dankie vir julle bydraes.

Marianne van Wyngaard tree vanjaar na 16 diensjare af. Sy was verantwoordelik vir een van die moeilikste take in die ganse Unie, naamlik dié van skeidsregteraanstellings. Met sowat 170 aanstellings per week en slegs 176 aktiewe skeidsregters (van wie sommige dalk besig is met SARU-pligte en ander om verskillende redes nie beskikbaar is nie), moes sy letterlik en figuurlik die spel aan die gang hou. Dankie, Marianne, vir jou lojale en onwankelbare steun. Ons wens jou alles van die beste toe met jou aftrede, en ons hoop daardie Saterdagoggend-oproep van skeidsregters wat onttrek, is nou iets van die verlede!

Dankie aan die WPRVU raadsvertegenwoordiger Reuben Riffel. Sy voortgesette ondersteuning aan skeidsregters en sy insig het groot waarde toegevoeg aan ons beraadslagings op Bestuursvlak. Ek maak ook graag melding van die ondersteuning wat die President, Thelo Wakefield, en sy hele Bestuur aan die Vereniging verleen het. Ons



het robuuste gesprekke gevoer, maar hul ondersteuning aan skeidsregters is uitstaande en ek sien daarna uit om ons verhouding in 2015 selfs verder te versterk.

Ek wens graag die hele Westelike Provinsie-rugbygemeenskap 'n

geseënde (hoewel kort) buiteseisoen en voorspoedige voorbereidings vir 2015 toe.

Dan de Villiers | Voorsitter
Westelike Provinsie
Rugbyskeidsregtersvereniging

National Recruitment 20
 SA
 canterbury
 J KAPLAN
 1984 - 2013
 SA RUGBY. PROVINCIAL REFEREE
MARRIOTT
INCOME FOCUSED INVESTING

- * First game 1984- Wits vs Kempton Park 4ths
- * 145 First team club matches
- * 174 First team school matches
- * 71 7s matches- Hong Kong Final in 2002
- * 163 Currie Cup matches
- * 107 Super rugby matches
- * 425 First class matches
- * 70 Test matches- 4RWCs
- * Currie Cup finals- Lions 7 Bulls 31 2002, Bulls 25 Free State 29 2005, Free State 28 Bulls 28 2006, Sharks 14 Bulls 9 2008 Bulls 36 Free State 24 2009, WP 19 vs Sharks 33 2013,
- * Super Rugby finals - Crusaders 35 Warratahs 25 2005, Crusaders 19 Hurricanes 12 2006, Bulls 61 Chiefs 17 2009, Vodacom Cup Final Griquas 57 Lions 0 1998,
- * Most memorable match Bledisloe cup test Wellington on August 5 2000 Australia 24 New Zealand 23

COMMITTEE REPORTS



Convener: Alan Becker

Members: Lindsay Booyesen, Nangamso (Dudu) Dudumashe, Ben Theron, Marianne van Wyngaard, Liam Hamer-Nel

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

A big thank-you is extended to all committee members for their personal contributions, but two individuals require special thanks: Matt Kemp, for compiling and rewriting the Western Province Rugby Football Referee Society's Constitution and Bylaws; and Marianne van Wyngaard, whose input has been greatly appreciated over the years - may you enjoy countless happy hours and new endeavours in your retirement.

The Society's website was constantly updated throughout the year by Liam Hamer-Nel. This platform has become the ideal channel for members to be informed about notes and minutes of monthly meetings, match appointments, updates to the Grading List, and any regulatory changes.

This year the rewriting of the Western Province Rugby Football Referee Society's Constitution and Bylaws was completed, and approved on 11 September. Both updated documents were realigned with the Western Province Rugby Football Union's Constitution and Regulations.

This year saw the introduction of the WP written referee's examination. This exam would never have seen the light of

day without the contributions of Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley and Don Perry. It can be written in the member's designated region throughout the year, leaving no-one the excuse of not being able to write. Writing the exam is one of the key criteria for upgrading.

Agendas and minutes pertaining to the various Executive Committee and Subcommittee meetings, together with monthly meetings, were completed and distributed on a regular basis to the various personnel. Documentation that directly affected referees was placed on the website.

On behalf of the members of this committee, I wish all referees and members an enjoyable off season.

Attendance at strategic planning and executive meetings									
P = present, A = apology received									
	25 Jan	25 Feb	9 April	15 April	13 May	24 Jun	19 Aug	4 Sept	14 Oct
Dan de Villiers	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P
Arthur Southgate	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P
Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Alan Becker	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Don Perry	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Hans Radyn	P	P	A	P	A	P	P	P	P
Charles Wyngaard	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P
Ben Theron	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Jonathan Kaplan	A	P	A	A	A	A	A	A	P
Reuben Riffel	P	P	A	A	A	P	A	P	P
Marianne van Wyngaard	P								
Eddie Douglas	P								
Lindsay Booyesen	P								



Convener: Hans Radyn

Members: Marianne van Wyngaard (administration), Eddie Douglas (computer), Ben Theron (manager)

Perhaps it's my imagination but the process of appointments remains one of the most contentious topics in the Society, and probably takes up the most time of any of the portfolios. But I suppose when you consider there are 176 active referees and more than 3 800 appointments during the season, there are bound to be some problem areas.

One of the things I wanted to bring to this process was transparency and accountability. I think the starting point, therefore, is to explain the process of appointments. Here are the steps: The fixtures for the week are given to

us by WPRFU. They also rank the top 15 games, and expect that the best available referees are allocated. (The top 15 may not necessarily be in strict SLA, SLB and SLC order; games from SLB may rank higher than some in SLA.)

If there are SARU appointments that include WP members, they are excluded. The remaining top 15 referees are then allocated to the games in order of merit as per the WP grading list published on the website. Assuming that all WP referees are available, the top 10 refs will get the first 10 games of the top 15, and the remaining five games will be allocated to Division One referees, taking into account rotation (to avoid refereeing the same teams in quick succession) and to provide opportunities for up-and-coming refs within the Division.

The remaining 150 games are fed into the computer and allocated according to the matrix of predefined criteria and availability. Because of the shortage of active referees in the Society, some games have to be officiated by club appointments.

This process works well – but then there are the inevitable withdrawals and this throws the entire appointments balancing act into chaos. I can't emphasise this too much: If you're unavailable for certain dates, please communicate this timeously to the appointments person. It's incredibly difficult to keep the system equitable when there are last-minute withdrawals. It's not fair on the appointments committee members or the referees who must change their plans, and it shows disrespect for the game itself. Unfortunately, there are a number of repeat offenders in this regard.

Following some issues regarding appointments to certain tournaments,

I'm pleased to report that WPRFU and the Society are now committed to ensuring that all appointments for all club rugby go through the Society's committee. This protocol must be followed to ensure equal opportunity for all our referees.

Much progress has been made in streamlining the appointments process, and now that we have a clearly defined protocol in place, I believe this portfolio will run even more smoothly in the coming season.

GAMES	DESCRIPTION
2 720	Club league games
600	Friendlies, including Club 7s
310	Trial matches and Newlands appointments
180	School games

NUMBERS	CLASSIFICATION
176	Active referees
90	Junior referees
40	Resigned or retired

I'd like to extend my thanks and gratitude to fellow committee members Eddie Douglas, Ben Theron and especially Marianne van Wyngaard. Marianne has been a member of this portfolio for many years and her retirement is going to leave a gap that's going to be extremely hard to fill.



Convenor: Hans Radyn

Member: Charles Wyngaard

Referees serve the game through the 110 clubs affiliated to the WPRFU, so it makes sense that the Society makes a concerted effort to foster good relationships with these stakeholders.

During pre-season a number of referees and myself assisted clubs with their preparations and I commend them for this. The process of explaining Laws to club players and coaching staff is a great way for referees to prepare themselves for the season ahead. I encourage more referees to participate in this type of initiative.

On the formal front, there were four meetings held with up to 18 clubs. Mr Jerome Paarwater of Bellville South was particularly helpful in setting these up. Topics of discussion included Laws, referee application of Laws and problems occurring at club level. At all times the discussions were held in an amicable

manner and this bodes well for future cooperation between clubs and referees.

This year's winner of the Referees' Shield for Sportsmanship was Thistles, who received only one yellow card during the entire season.



Convenor: Hans Radyn

Member: Ashley Mackay

We're privileged to have a wonderful clubhouse at Newlands Stadium, one of the world's most iconic rugby venues. Unfortunately, it's not as supported by the entire membership as it could be. During Super Rugby we're busy, but during the Currie Cup season numbers drop considerably. In all fairness, though, most of our referees are involved in club games on those days so it's understandable to a large extent.

Refereeing can be a lonely pastime. Players have their teammates around them and a coaching and management team that fusses over their every need. Referees, in the main, are left on their own to fend for themselves. The clubhouse is a great place for colleagues to gather and build friendships. In most cases the match officials from the main game do pop in for a drink once they've completed their other obligations, so it's a good time to

chat to the guys who're either at the top or making their way there.

Many thanks to Ben Theron for making sure the bar is always stocked and to Flip von Tonder for his willing assistance behind the bar.

Here's a toast to seeing more of you next season.







Convener: Don Perry

Member: Joey Klaaste-Salmans

There have been many positives this year. By 24 June, 146 coaching reports had already been processed. Tournaments that had coaches were Tygerberg High (Tony Stoop), Wynberg Rugby Festival, Paarl Gim U16 week, Paarl Boys U15 week and Junior Referees Vuka Week.

A new initiative was that three referees from Division One were invited to attend a coaching session with Joey Klaaste-Salmans at the Kuils River vs Macassar friendly in the mid-season break.

Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley, the Performance Reviewers and Don Perry met in April to discuss refereeing tendencies. The following matters were sent to regional coaches for discussion and immediate remediation: scrum management, IFOK, offside in general play (loiterers), and tackle



(attacking team sealing off, and entries). On 15 April Joey Klaaste-Salmans attended a meeting hosted by Charles Wyngaard for beginner referees where we discussed the coaching process. Don Perry visited the Wynberg, Paarl, Bellville and Stellenbosch regions this year, and assisted the newly established Stellenbosch region with Daniel Fortuin as new coordinator. Individual referees were assisted with specific refereeing needs as per their requests.

53 referees attended the SARRA course in Stellenbosch in February conducted by Neville Heilbron. Don Perry attended coaching sessions with new beginner referees on two Saturday mornings together with Charles Wyngaard at Monument Park High School.

All regions received the 'Coach within Laws' DVD which was distributed by SARRA. Regional coaches have been instructed to go through the DVD at the various paces of the referees.

One matter for concern was poor attendance at regional meetings. A meeting was held on 17 July to discuss how we could improve this. The question of demarcation of areas will be discussed, as some areas have 60+ members of whom only about 20 attend. I suggest group emails with topics for discussions in advance so that referees are prepared for the discussions, and encourage concerns/queries to be dealt with via email instead of using meeting time for personal concerns.

We'd like to encourage the regional coaches to create an environment at their meeting that allows for referees to bring reports and perhaps discuss them with their peers. Issues that need addressing could be dealt with as a development tool within the region.

Another concern is the lack of commitment by referees in their own development (ie, no exam, no fitness, no attendance at meetings). Regional coaches will be encouraged to follow up with one-

on-one meetings or correspondence to ensure that more referees accept personal responsibility for their growth. Messrs Perry, Klaaste-Salmans and Pieterse will be meeting at the end of the season to set up a curriculum for regional coaching sessions for 2015.

Fast-tracking of referees hasn't been discussed with the coaches to secure a positive environment regarding talent identification and movement of referees from lower to higher divisions. While we're pleased with some fast-tracking of referees, the concern is that perhaps we're not informed well in advance about the identification of such members so that we can ensure that they receive the proper coaching, via their regions or perhaps someone from the coaching committee. The idea is to ensure a smoother transition from one division to the next, without the referee facing too many obstacles.

The issue of transformation also needs to be addressed. As a coaching committee we feel that we can assist with this. We'd like, with the assistance of the Executive and PRs, to identify the next group of referees who fall into this category. As soon as we have those names, we'll make contact with the referees and prepare a programme to assist with their development.

The junior referees' camp was held from 6 to 9 October at Jan Kriel (see more on this in the Junior Referees' Report on page xx). A camp for beginner referees (Division Eight) was held on 10 and 11 October at Jan Kriel and was attended by 30 referees. The aim of this camp was to



explain how the Society works, outline the rights and responsibilities of a member, discuss the career path of a referee, and outline the personal development plan. Delegates underwent a fitness test and also wrote a Law exam. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and a follow-up session will be held on 29 November. A final area of concern is downgrading because of fitness.

We also need to address unclassified grading as quickly as possible to slot members into divisions. A member shouldn't spend more than three months as an unclassified referee unless the criteria set by the Executive haven't been met. Should members not have complied with the criteria, we suggest that someone from the coaching committee address the concerns with the individual referee. It's interesting to note that at the last grading meeting of the year there were 30 referees whose on-field assessments were good enough to be promoted but they couldn't be promoted because they hadn't done the fitness test or the exam or both.

We need more coaches, but they must be singing off the same hymn sheet. We anticipate speaking to a number of the senior referees to get involved in this role.

We intend to schedule a meeting with SARRA coaching staff to establish the vision for South African referees.

Langa region – Thuso Mngqibisa

I'd like to thank our dedicated members who attended our weekly sessions and made our roles as facilitators very pleasant and fulfilling. We always look forward to coming to Langa Stadium!

Thanks also to the Langa Clubs (Langa RFC and Busy Bees RFC) for their practical sessions and the partnership we have with them, particularly the discussions of the Laws of the game.

It was very pleasing seeing the progression of our referees in their development to becoming better referees as they used the information and clips discussed at our sessions. As a result, a few of our members were promoted to higher divisions. Special

mention to Nkosinathi Joko, who was promoted; and Sinethemba Mrulwa, who was invited to two prestigious tournaments - the U15A Inter-schools and the Swartland tournament in Malmesbury.

We're proud to include Charles Wyngaard as a member of our region. He serves on the WPRRS Executive and is in charge of the Training and Development portfolio.

This year we welcomed a woman referee, Sibulele Lele Makeleni, who was invited to attend the camp held in Kuilsriver in October. We're very happy to have her in our refereeing family and wish her everything of the best in her refereeing career.

Milnerton region – Arthur Southgate

The Milnerton region was very active this past season, with discussions around matters of Law, game preparation and match reports. Fitness and the Bleep test also became regular components of our meetings.

Paarl region – Gielie Bester

This year we started in early January with fitness sessions. Attendance wasn't great in the beginning but grew quickly and we held our first Bleep test on 11 February. From April we were fortunate enough to host our meetings in the hall at HJS Paarl, and on some occasions there was hardly enough room for all of us!

The video clips from games proved to be extremely popular among all referees and I strongly urge that we continue and grow this aspect of coaching in the coming season.

I thank Dan de Villiers, Charles Wyngaard, Don Perry and Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley for attending our sessions during the season.

We closed off a busy season with a braai in mid-September, which was enjoyed by everyone.

Stellenbosch region – Daniel Fortuin

It was a very interesting season in the Stellenbosch region, with a group of electrifying young referees who were ready to take the refereeing world by storm. Their positive attitude and their willingness to participate created a wonderful learning platform. As a result, they made good progress and this is clearly visible on the grading list.

We were very thankful for great input from an experienced referee like Shaun



Veldsman, who's currently one of the top TMOs, on the topic of self-motivation and the availability of the AMS system to provide clarity on topical issues.

UCT/Wynberg region – Ashley MacKay

We once again had a very successful season in this region. All our sessions were split into practical and theory sections. Various people from different regions popped in from time to time.

We tried new methods of explaining the Laws. This was received well by the referees and this pattern continued through the year. We even had sessions where clips were shown and many questions were raised.

I look forward to improving these sessions with more new ideas in the new season.



Convenor: Hans Radyn

Member: Charles Wyngaard

Referees are involved in disciplinary matters from two sides: that of players and match officials not acting in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the relevant competition regulations; and where referees themselves are charged with misconduct.

I'm pleased to report that we had only two instances where our referees had to face charges from the Society. These matters are ongoing and will be resolved in due course.

This year referees issued 617 yellow cards and 91 red cards. A number of referees had to appear before the Union's Disciplinary Committee (DC), and I must thank Ashley Mackay for his attendance at these meetings to support the referee. It makes a big difference, especially for the younger referees, to have the moral

support of one of our wise elders when dealing with the accused's counter-arguments to what seemed a logical decision on the field a week or two previously.

The Union runs a very efficient and structured disciplinary process and, when push comes to shove, usually accept the referee's version of events. It must be noted that referees must be diligent and accurate in the way they complete the required forms after issuing cards - events can get quite hazy when a referee has to remember the details a couple of weeks later. Concise, accurate reports written with reference to the Law book will always be of assistance.

Referees, like players and match officials, are accountable for their actions. The Union is concerned about the number of games that are abandoned and blown early. This is a very serious action. Before a referee considers this sanction, he or she must be totally convinced that there are

no other options available. The Union has taken a strong stand against referee abuse and I'm pleased to highlight those instances from the DC where they acted against such cases.

I'd like to thank the DC for their hard work during the season in what is definitely one of the most difficult portfolios in the Union.



Case No.	Charge	Sentence
12/2014	Physically assaulted match official	Suspended for 5 years; eligible to play 1 August 2019
14/2014	Physically abused match official	Suspended till the end of 2014 season
18/2014	Threatened match official and allegedly caused match abandonment	Suspended for 6 months; eligible to play from 30 June 2015
19/2014	Threatened match official and allegedly caused match abandonment	Suspended till end of 2014 season
32/2014	Displayed unsportsmanlike behaviour	Suspended until 30 June 2015
39/2014	Lack of crowd control and members threatened match officials	Fined R500
42/2014	Verbally abused match official	Fined R250; prohibited from entering playing field for remainder of 2014 club rugby season
63/2014	Club/players/supporters abused match officials	Pending



Convenor: Arthur Southgate

The audit for 2013 was received fairly late but has been completed, tabled and accepted by members. Thanks so much and well done to all involved in the financial matters of the Society – the system we have, although not foolproof and operating as it ought to, is nevertheless transparent and we remain prudent. The 2013 financial statements form part of this report.

Not for lack of trying, but we've by and large been operating without a 'proper' budget. That said, 2015 will not be ushered in in terms of finances without the submission of budgets from the various portfolio holders. That includes the administrative office. I'm of the belief that it doesn't make for good administration if you operate without a

budget and it just makes my work so much more difficult.

A reflection/overview is exactly that, and again, a more accurate account will be reflected in the audited financial statements that will be available next year.

Some aspects of financial matters this year include:

- Our new major sponsor – Stellenbosch Protea Hotel – R250 000. In addition, they've agreed to sponsor 50 free meals at the Black Tie Dinner and end-of-year presentation.
- Our second sponsor – Falken Tyres – R145 000. They've also been superb in the manner in which they've supported the Society.
- The above two are major financial sponsors whose support goes a very long way in keeping the Society afloat. However, there are other sponsors as well (mentioned on the back page of this publication) that support the society in different ways. I want to make special mention of Brian-Snacks Mobile, who over the years has provided the soft drinks for our referees' bar and other functions. To Brian and others, we're indeed grateful to all of you. To the readers, if at all possible, please make a concerted effort to support our sponsors; contact the office for details.
- We had one fundraiser this year and the profit made could be in excess of R30 000 – thanks to Ben Theron and Dudu Dudumashe and the office for all their efforts.



- With changes in sponsorship come changes in clothing, but we got more than we bargained for - our clothing manufacturers also disappeared and we had to source a new one. Thanks to Ben Theron who was able to sort out and deal with that challenge. It must be pointed out to members that much of our financial resources are directed towards the 50% clothing subsidy.
- At one of our recent monthly meetings, the question was posed as to what we do for development. It's the first time in all my years of involvement in the Society that I can unashamedly say that the Executive, through the Training and Education portfolio, has a definite plan in place, and you have my assurance that although not foolproof, the money spent on development is worth every cent and perhaps, in a sense, guarantees the growth and sustainability of our referees and our Society.

- Another major expense undertaken by the Executive was the R30 allowance added to every referee's and match reviewer's fees. Although I can't at this stage give an accurate figure, it could amount to approximately R100 000 during the season.
- This year appointments for all tournaments and friendlies had to go via the Union. All monies for these events had to be paid to the Union, and the Society in turn invoiced them for our services. This was a long-winded process but was done at the request of the Union. All members must please take note that unless administration is up to scratch, there's no way we can put pressure on the Union to pay out the money. We're almost at their mercy once we've submitted the invoice. Further, please remember that match fees for Club matches will still only be paid out twice a year. Our office can't pay out monthly as at this stage they don't have the capacity.

- Other major expenses include: clothing (because of the subsidy as stated), printing and stationery, gifts, and 'unscheduled/unplanned coaching weekends', which in future will only be considered if the committee is convinced that it could not have been foreseen earlier in the year (at the time of the submission of budgets).
- The Executive is in the process of having the Society registered with SARS and at the same time exempted from having to pay tax. The holdup in the process was the preparation of the new constitution of the Society. This, as you know, is now complete and we hope the application can go through timeously.

Thank you for all your support. I trust that the off-season treats you well and you give your bodies the opportunity to recover and prepare for a great 2015.



JUNIOR REFEREES



Convenor: Joey Klaaste-Salmans

Members: Ben Theron, Namgamso Dudushe, Jaco Smith, Don Perry

An idea to keep children busy in the long school holidays in 2010 has turned into a fully fledged programme that encourages scholars to explore a different side of their rugby passion. Since 2010, the WP Junior Referees Programme has produced at least 25 of the 176 referees in the WP Referees Society. Our flag bearers have recently been promoted to Division Two on the Society's grading list. In our fourth year of this programme, we're proud of all that we've accomplished and that we're fulfilling the original objective of getting more competent referees into the senior society.

And we've continued to introduce many more youngsters to rugby refereeing. We had three very successful courses in the 2014 school holidays. The juniors who made it through the April course were invited to be part of our annual SA Rugby Legends Vuka weeks. It was a great experience for them, as they could rub shoulders with referees who're seen to be seniors in the programme as well as scholars who've gone on to become senior referees. Again, our junior referees didn't disappoint, and the compliments received from the organisers and coaches of the various teams bears testimony.

The first part of the rugby season provided many opportunities for the juniors to practise their skills. Many schools in the province have been supportive of our programme and have asked for these boys and girls to come to their schools to officiate in festivals and tournaments - we've become the go-to group for schools! There's nothing like watching a referee who's the same age as the players and conducting himself or herself in such

a professional way that parents watching give glowing reviews of the official. Our objective has always been to produce the most professional and competent referees.

Our break into the southern suburbs market has taken off with a bang. We can now boast junior referees in some of the top schools in Cape Town.

The courses held at Jan Kriel School in Kuils River – an institution that has become our accommodation partner – were very vibey. It's great to see the boys and girls grow over the few days they spend with us. They arrive as 'wise owls' and leave as humbled up-and-coming young officials. The willingness, after they've qualified, to officiate is overwhelming and definitely addresses the need for officials in our province. The boys and girls at our courses don't just learn about the life of refereeing and the Laws that go with it, but also about life in general. They learn to interact, respect each other, and diversify their thought processes.

The year 2014 was a special one as we celebrated the first schools referees' society. Wynberg Boys' High School are the torchbearers in this, with the first-ever Schools Referees' Association, run by the boys and three staff members. The boys, who're all part of our programme, service their own school and their junior school with referees. These boys have in the 2014 season refereed most of the WBHS home fixtures. We're very proud of what has transpired at WBHS and look forward to see how they grow and perhaps see other schools follow their idea.

Support provided to our junior referees this year included:

- Law exams
- Understanding the game
- Coaching of the referees at the various tournaments
- Performance reviewing of the officials
- Self-reviews of the referees performances

Our highlight of the year is definitely the SA Rugby Legends U15 and U18 Iqhawe Week, which was again held at City Park in Athlone. We invited the matrics of 2014 to be part of it, and appointed referees who came through this programme to officiate at the week.

We invited members of the Referees' Society Executive to address the matrics on what the expectations are of a senior referee. We were privileged to have a visit from Thelo Wakefield, the president of WPRU, on our rest day. In his chat to the boys and girls, he spoke about the importance of referees in the game and the challenges that go with the job. I believe that the motivational talks by Mr Thelo Wakefield and Dan de Villiers, chairmen of WPRFU and WPRRS respectively, put the youngsters on the right track for their refereeing careers. The challenges for 2015 will be to work harder on diversity and ensuring that our product reflects all the cultural groups in our country. We might have to appeal to our sponsors to help us in reaching out to all schools in the province.

Our appreciation goes out to all the sponsors who've been supporting the programme, as well as the many schools who've allowed us to be part of their



tournaments and festivals. We're also indebted to the WP Rugby Union and the Referees' Society, who've allowed us to exist under their banner and for their support.

My sincere thanks go to the following for all their assistance:

- Ben Theron
- Namgamso Dudumashe
- Jaco Smith and Don Perry.



Convener: Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley

Committee: Owen Kiewietz, Desmond Petersen, Don Perry, Phillip Muller, Alan Becker. **Additional members:** Eric Bernado, Gielie Bester, Johan Willemse, Alan Gould, Allan O'Connell

Five match-reviewing meetings were convened during the course of the 2014 season.

The match reviewers kept their reports within the framework of the South African Rugby Referee Association (SARRA). There were approximately 178 active referees and the committee submitted 646 reports



for the season. This was an increase compared with 2013.

Referees were lethargic in requesting to be filmed during 2014. Only nine DVDs were completed, versus 22 in 2013. Referees are asked to be more proactive in requesting DVDs in the coming year.

Match reviewers were allocated weekly to different venues.

At each meeting, the entire grading list was analysed and evaluated, with the object of promoting or demoting referees according to the new grading structure in conjunction with the new criteria set out on 19 August 2014. Referees must comply with the new criteria to get promoted and this information is located on the website.

The year 2014 saw the reintroduction of the Bleep Test as the fitness benchmark, in accordance with SARRA requirements. It's extremely problematic that many referees still don't undertake the annual fitness test nor the annual Referees' Examination, both of which are mandatory in terms of the grading criteria. As a result, many referees find themselves demoted during June and/or can't be promoted to higher divisions because of non-compliance. The Committee encourages all referees to undertake the

fitness test and write the exam during 2015. Referees who have SARRA aspirations must write the National Examination. However, this past season we introduced a WP version of the exam which can be written at regional level. Either of these two exams qualifies for WP purposes. All new members joining the Society during the year must undertake the WP exam in order to come into contention for promotion.

Congratulations to all referees who were promoted during the 2014 season. To those aspiring to higher honours, we encourage you to persevere in order that your own personal goals can be attained.

A special word of thanks is extended to the additional members, first league referees, coaches and executive members who assisted during the season. Your efforts and contributions are greatly appreciated. A special word of thanks goes to Alan Becker who acted as secretary for the committee.

Finally, to Marianne van Wyngaard: your services to this Committee will be sorely missed in years to come; the words 'thank you' do not come remotely close or do any justice to your efforts and contributions over all these years!



Convener: Arthur Southgate

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

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 committee meets from time to time to discuss, among other things, the Society's Constitution and Bylaws, referee prize winners and the amount match officials should be reimbursed the following year for their services, including honorariums and allowances.

During the year Marianne van Wyngaard keeps meticulous records of each individual referee's contribution, whether big or small. These records are of critical importance at the completion of the club rugby season when it comes to awarding honours.

Within three days after the completion of the season, the records are submitted to this committee to determine the various awards. The names of the nominated referees are forwarded to the full Executive for review and ratification. The

Match Review Committee recommends the Most Improved Referee and the Most Promising Referee.

The awards include: Long Service Awards (10 years/20 years), Divisional Merit Awards, Overall Merit Award, Referee of the Year, Highest Examination Mark, Regional Awards, Merit Ties, Blazers, Life Members, and the Executive Award (at the discretion of the Executive Committee).

There are no words to describe the tireless contribution of Marianne van Wyngaard. Marianne, there's no individual who can comprehend the tireless and relentless pursuit of perfection you undertake in order to achieve excellence in the compilation of these records and statistics. In this Committee alone, your sterling work ethic and contribution will be missed. Bon voyage and au revoir - until we meet again!

In addition, a word of thanks needs to be extended to Ronnie Bourbon-Leftley and Alan Becker for their unwavering, passionate interest in refereeing administration in Western Province. The Society is indebted to both of them. May everyone enjoy the off-season break and come back refreshed with great enthusiasm for 2015!







Convener: Charles Wyngaard

Members:

This was my first year in the Training and Education portfolio. The recruitment campaigns of both SARU and Western Province rugby referees have contributed to a good intake of referees. Many of the 76 people who attended the IRB Level One programme did so in the latter part of 2014. At least 30 referees have been added to the Society.

The most pleasing aspect of the 2014 intake was the passion of the beginner referees, who're all excited and very proud to be Western Province rugby referees. Five women joined our Society, which in itself is a very pleasing and promising development.



Two referees, Egon Seconds and Aimee Barrett, represented South Africa as players, and have joined the Society. Their membership is a great encouragement and advert to other players to become referees. We trust more players will become referees and that this trend will continue.

Arthur Southgate and Charles Wyngaard had their educator's licences renewed, and Wayne Kearns and Mornay Collville have been certified and are now members of the team.

Johan Pieterse and Arthur Southgate facilitated the IRB Level One and Refereeing in Practice programmes. One Sevens Rugby course was facilitated by Johan Pieterse and Mornay Collville. David Leonard and Gerrit Eiman supported the beginner referees in a coaching capacity.

A special mention to Joey Klaaste-Salmans, Don Perry and Arthur Southgate

for their help and facilitation at the beginner's referee camp 2014.

The following schools, club and sports organisers must be acknowledged for their support of the beginner referees' programme:

- Bellville HTS : Jacques Stander
- Primrose Club Youth : Zahir Isaacs
- Monument Park : Heinrich Veldsman

Two unique events occurred in 2014: an induction programme for beginner referees was held at Newlands, and a camp for beginner referees was held at Jan Kriel School. Both were held to facilitate referee development.

The Education and Training portfolio isn't a one-man show, and requires the help of many individuals, so it's with gratitude that I say thank you to all those who've contributed to the development of referees.



Convener: Jonathan Kaplan

are a happy bunch and, barring a few disagreements over minor issues, are comfortable with the general direction of the committee.

The few complaints I did receive were handled speedily and all respondents were given written replies to their emails.

While one could argue that the position is redundant given the lack of complaints, it could just as easily be argued that it's necessary to keep the committee on their toes and ensure that they're not only functional but acting in the best interests of the group they represent.

Furthermore, in order to add some creative value to this post, I'd like to suggest that in future it becomes a vehicle

for the referees to define their meetings, their environment and how best they can improve their position as on-field administrators. Traditionally, the monthly meetings have been set by the Executive, but active members should give input on what they want from the sessions. Are members happy how issues around clothing, safety and training are dealt with? This is the channel to raise and communicate those concerns directly to the Executive.

As a result of my work commitments and my inability to regularly attend meetings, I won't be making myself available for this or any other committee position. I wish the future incumbents much success in their capacity as members' representative on the Executive Committee.

I put myself up for this post as I felt there was some growing discontent with some of the perennial issues that crop up at every referees' society meeting. I felt there was a role for someone with my skill-set to effect change.

I wasn't able to attend some of the meetings due to continual work commitments. Nonetheless, my findings are that the committee members ARE dedicated, committed and hardworking individuals who're interested in the wellbeing of the group.

The group itself had very little to moan about when push came to shove. After it was decided at the very first meeting that all queries, issues and complaints were to be handled through email, I received a total of four throughout the year. This would strongly suggest that the members



FAREWELL TO MARIANNE VAN WYNGAARD

Story courtesy of Paul Dobson.



For 17 years, Marianne van Wyngaard did one of the hardest jobs in refereeing: referee appointments.

She joined the WPRRS in 1997, five years after unification, which had brought about an enormous increase in the number of clubs while at the same time refereeing numbers had begun to dwindle. Whereas prior to union, the then-secretary had the luxury of having twice as many referees as there were matches, by this year (2014), Marianne's job had become incredibly complicated, with 176 referees in the Western Province to appoint to clubs and the top two divisions of schools fixtures, women's matches and the Simonsberg League for farm sides, and many, many more WP appointments.

And simply dealing with referees became more complicated, too. To keep our province's club rugby functioning happily, Marianne had to be different things to different people – sometimes straight-talking, sometimes pleading, sometimes the mother, sometimes the agony aunt, sometimes the schoolmarm.

Back in the 1990s, when the referees were looking around for a match secretary, it was the late Willem Brits who came up with the suggestion of Marianne. They were both members of the NG Kerk up on the hill at Wynberg. Marianne and Miems, Willem's widow, did bible study together. Marianne - who at the time was only vaguely aware that there was a game called rugby - agreed to take the job.

The appointments were made on the Tuesday and Marianne posted them on a Thursday for two Saturdays ahead. Then, if any changes were needed, she had three committee members to help her get them right.

Computerisation revolutionised her job. Eddie Douglas, a refugee referee from Pretoria, designed, wrote and managed a program to cater for all refereeing variables - the gradings, the distance, the referees without transport (more than half of the present members), the dates unavailable and a record to avoid a referee reffing the same team more than once a month. For seven years Eddie and Marianne would meet at her fifth-floor flat in Muizenberg on a Tuesday to make appointments for two Saturdays later. It would take them two to three hours each time, even with the computer's help.

'I enjoyed the experience,' Eddie remembers. 'I'd take some time off work on a Tuesday and go to Marianne. It was always a pleasure as she was always warm and cheerful. And it gave me a chance to get to know referees and their calibre.'

Saturdays were crucial days. Marianne would sit at the telephone till the second XV matches had all started, and then go for a walk – but often she would return to a host of emails and phoned-in excuses.

'I quickly learnt not to take it personally when people withdrew or complained,' she says.

On only two occasions, referees failed to arrive for first-team matches. On both, the same clubs were involved - Villagers and Tygerberg; on both, the matches were postponed as Tygerberg didn't want a substitute. The refs in question, JC Fortuin and Jerome America, had been appointed to provincial matches elsewhere in the country, and the committee and Marianne didn't know about it. Despite it not being her fault, Marianne says she found it embarrassing. She and Ben Theron immediately worked out a system to prevent this happening again.

Withdrawals, especially late withdrawals, were a real bugbear. Marianne would generally handle them on her own, but if things got complicated, she would ask for Eddie's help. Some referees also went the extra mile to fill gaps: sometimes a ref who'd blown a match upcountry on a Friday would go straight from the airport to fill in for a late withdrawal; sometimes Marianne would contact a referee who was on his way to a match and get him to turn around and go to another match.

At the end of 17 years, as she prepared to move from Muizenberg to Somerset West, Marianne said with a lovely smile, 'I really enjoyed working with referees. The vast majority are helpful, cheerful and accommodating.'

And the Western Province Referees' Society knows that they have vastly benefited from somebody who managed to combine efficiency with her own cheerful brand of friendliness, somebody special: Marianne van Wyngaard.





**Referee of the year
Marius van der Westhuizen**



THYRON PIETERSEN
Paarl



ELIAS JACOBS (Collected by Frikkie van Wyk)
Bellville



PIETER LE ROUX
Stellenbosch



EDUARDO TAKACS (Collected by Arthur Southgate)
Table View



VIRGIL THORNTON
Helderberg



SINETHEMBA MRULWA (Collected by Thuso Mngqibisa)
Langa



CRAIG CAMPBELL
Wynberg /UCT



CHARLES VAN RENSBURG
Khayelitsha

DIVISION AWARDS



MATT KEMP | Division 1



CULLUM JOHNSTON | Division 2



ELIAS JACOBS | Division 3
(Collected by Frikkie van Wyk)



HENK HAGEN | Division 5



WAYNE KEARNS | Division 4



ASHLEY JACOBS | Division 6



REINHARD KOORTS | Division 7

PERFORMANCE AWARDS



CULLUM JOHNSTON
Overall Merit Award



CULLUM JOHNSTON
Highest Examination Mark Award -76%



LE-EUSTACE BEUKES *(Collected by Frikkie van Wyk)*
Most Promising Referee



DANIEL FORTUIN
Referees Executive Award



THISTLES RFC
Club of the Year



JEAN DE WET
Most Improved Referee



MARIUS VAN DER WESTHUIZEN
Willem Brits Award



AIMEE BARRETT
Chairman's Award



QUINTON GREEN
Junior referee of the year



ANDREA MAASS
Most improved junior referee of the year



JUAN DE BOD
Most promising junior referee of the year



SARA RAAL
Junior Ambassador of the year

**WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY FOOTBALL REFEREES SOCIETY
INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER**

	12 Months ended 31 Dec 2013	12 Months ended 31 Dec 2012
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INCOME	751 976	843 924
Donations and Grants	6 845	7 780
Entertainment & Clubhouse Surplus	9 219	17 428
Fund Raising	48 263	64 978
Garment Income	71 339	57 228
Distribution on Investments	64 682	47 750
South African Rugby Referee Association	89 520	156 976
Western Province Rugby Union	714 370	0
South African Rugby Union	152 920	240 731
Referee duty payments	-777 770	-83 755
Sponsorship	346 000	405 000
Subscriptions	25 210	20 535
Sundry Income	90 899	66 249

EXPENDITURE	522 282	438 256
Auditor's Remuneration	3 876	3 064
Bank Charges and Interest	9 738	6 731
Commission Paid		15 539
Coaching and Development	141 797	110 790
Depreciation	33 478	29 512
Donations	9 000	0
Honorarium	22 500	19 000
Insurance	4 800	3 300
Legal Cost	8 978	0
Printing, Postage and Stationery	26 451	18 643
Purchases - Garments	166 814	133 593
Repairs and Maintenance	8 557	6 578
Sundries and Gifts	86 293	88 033
Travel and Accommodation	0	3 473

NET SURPLUS TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS	229 695	405 668
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER

	31 Dec 2013	31 Dec 2012
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	1 754 501	1 524 806
Balance 1 January 2013	1 524 806	1 119 138
Net surplus	229 695	405 668
TOTAL FUNDS	1 754 501	1 524 806
REPRESENTED BY : FIXED ASSETS	116 322	126 138
CLUBHOUSE PREMISES	21 794	27 504
COACHING AND DEVELOPMENT EQUIPMENT	94 528	98 634
CURRENT ASSETS	1 701 628	1 433 037
INVESTMENTS	1 484 941	1 170 259
INVENTORIES	113 884	147 373
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	102 804	115 404
CURRENT LIABILITIES	63 449	34 369
ACCRUALS	63 449	34 369
	1 754 501	1 524 806



WESTERN PROVINCE RUGBY FOOTBALL REFEREES' SOCIETY
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AT HOME WITH NATURE AND WINE



Situated in the heart of the Winelands, in one of the most beautiful and heritage conscious towns, Protea Hotel Stellenbosch is located between two international golf courses and is a mere 35km from Cape Town International Airport. Strand Beach, where the mountains and ocean finally meet, is only a 10-minute drive away. Guests seeking the magnificent backdrop of mountain ranges, a scenic drive along the coast or a wine tasting at the many surrounding wine farms, will not be disappointed with the array of things to do in the area.

The Bellezza Health & Skincare Clinic provides relaxing massages, facials and manicures to pamper the most stressed and weary holidaymaker. Let executive chef Billy Ward tantalise your taste buds with either the themed seasonal dining options in the Cultivar Restaurant or a warm family grill option at Die Wingerd Restaurant and Lounge. The 180-bedroom hotel offers guests the most comfortable beds in the Winelands. The 88 well-appointed deluxe rooms each have a small kitchenette and lounge. All rooms have air conditioning, selected satellite TV channels, an electronic safe and tea- and coffee-making facilities. Friendly, efficient staff are at your service. If you need a quiet and tranquil getaway still close enough to all the action of the city, the **Protea Hotel Stellenbosch is the place to be!**

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