


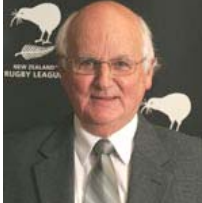




LeagueSmart 'Train the Trainers' course

April 2008

NZRL Appointments Panel named

As New Zealand Rugby League continues to work through the SPARC Report recommendations, the two rugby league representatives on the four-person Appointments Panel were confirmed at the NZRL AGM which was held on the 28th of March. NZRL Board member Peter Kerridge (West Coast) and Auckland Rugby League Chairman Cameron McGregor (Auckland) join SPARC's appointees Sir John Anderson and SPARC Chairman John Wells, who will also chair the panel.

<p>Sir John Anderson</p> 	<p>Peter Kerridge</p> 	<p>Cameron McGregor</p> 	<p>John Wells</p> 
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Taranaki Rugby League's busy Kids 2 Kiwis schedule

The Taranaki District was the last of the Districts taking part in the Kids 2 Kiwis campaign to receive the Rugby League World Cup trophy in support of their efforts to increase participation in Junior football in their District. With a schedule that took in 30 schools and educational facilities and a Junior Club competition, the Taranaki District was well covered!

Below left the trophy visits Stratford Primary School, in the centre is a photo of the trophy with a class from St. Joseph's Primary School in Waitara, while below right the trophy pays a visit to the Western Institute of Technology (WITT) Rugby League Academy.



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Mini and Mod rules standardised across the country

One of the outcomes of the independent review of rugby league in New Zealand was that it highlighted the fact that Mini and Mod Football was being played throughout the country under a number of different set of rules - approximately six different sets of rules in fact.

With an increasing number of players taking part in Mini and Mod Football, it was clear that there was no way to uphold NZRL's duty of care to our Junior players when there were so many variations of rules being played.

So before the 2009 season kicked off, all Districts were communicated with, to ensure every Junior player throughout New Zealand was playing to the same set of rules. The communication conveyed:


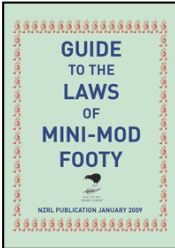



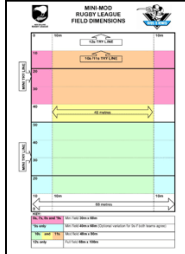
- the standardised national rules
- the collective and individual Duty of Care obligations/responsibilities to players
- the Health and Safety Regulations that all Districts need to comply to

Throughout the 2009 season, a comprehensive review of the rules for Mini and Mod rugby league will be conducted by the NZRL. This review will take into consideration international best practice and relevant research, and there will be consultation with key stakeholders in New Zealand.

Available Resources

There are a number of Mini and Mod resources available to coaches, managers, and parents.

If you would like copies of these resources, or are at all unsure of the rules for Mini and Mod rugby league, please contact NZRL National Coaching Director Dennis Ward in the first instance. Dennis can be contacted on dennis@nzrl.co.nz or on 09 525 5592. These resources are also available on the NZRL website www.nzrl.co.nz under the [Mini and Mod section](#) of Coaching and Development.

		
<p>Full Mini and Mod Rule Book</p>	<p>Guide to the Laws of Mini and Mod Footy</p>	<p>Code of Conduct</p>
		
<p>One page summary of the rules of Mini rugby league</p>	<p>One page summary of the rules of Mod rugby league</p>	<p>Mini and Mod Field Dimensions</p>

LeagueSmart Trainers get trained

LeagueSmart is a programme that encompasses player development, injury prevention and management, and a rules module specific to Mini and Modified rugby league teams. It has been developed to ensure all referees, coaches, managers, trainers, administrators, and parents are provided with the information, skills and resources to develop players, keep them as safe as possible, and help to grow rugby league across all levels and grades.



The first LeagueSmart 'Train the Trainers' course took place at Rugby League House in Auckland on 27 March, and was led by Dain Guttenbeil - Community Programmes Manager, and Dennis Ward - National Coaching Director. It was attended by people from seven Districts that have been running Mini and Mod competitions.

"To make sure we get as many people as possible through the LeagueSmart programme, as quickly as possible, and to a consistent standard, we will be upskilling people within our league communities so that they are able to take the LeagueSmart courses themselves, rather than relying solely on Dain and I to deliver LeagueSmart," said Dennis.

Armed with the knowledge and resources distributed on the day, these LeagueSmart deliverers are now back out in the league community setting up their own LeagueSmart workshops.

If you, or your Club, is interested in attending a LeagueSmart course, contact your District to see if and when they will have a LeagueSmart course running in your area. They are free to attend, take approximately two hours and the resources you will receive will be very useful to your involvement in rugby league, no matter what role you have.

The remaining eight Districts that were not involved in the first rollout of the 'Train the Trainer' modules have been offered support by Dain and Dennis to ensure that all Districts receive the same opportunity to upskill their people. **Please take advantage of this offer.** * *This course does not substitute NZRL accreditation courses.*



Left: Dennis Ward taking the Coaching component of the LeagueSmart Content Providers training course.

LeagueSmart Fact File

What is LeagueSmart? It is a programme developed by NZRL to aid players, coaches and trainers get the best performance possible from themselves and their team.

- **Player Profiles**
- **Warm Ups and Cool Downs**
- **Fitness and Training**
- **Technique**
- **Fair Play**
- **Protective Gear**
- **The Right Food and Drink**
- **Report All Injuries**
- **Check the Environment**
- **Getting Injuries Treated**

What does the LeagueSmart resource include? Information on:

Where can I go to get more information on LeagueSmart? Go to www.nzrl.co.nz then click on the 'LeagueSmart' tab on the left hand side of the page

Coaching and Development - Coach Accreditation summary for 2008

During 2008 14 Modified Games Courses (MGC), 13 International Games Courses (IGC) and one Senior Club Coach Course (SCC) were conducted. 239 candidates successfully completed the MGC and gained accreditation, while 217 candidates were awarded IGC accreditation.

The only Senior Club Course conducted in 2008 was run in Auckland, where 14 candidates attended the Course. To date, seven of those fourteen have received accreditation and the remaining candidates are awaiting Competency Based Assessment.

A total of 463 coaches were accredited in 2008 with a further seven pending.

District Breakdown

District	MGC		IGC		SCC		Total	
	Courses	Accred.	Courses	Accred.	Courses	Accred.	Courses	Candidates
Auckland	7	157	5	129	1	7*	13	293
Bay of Plenty	1	2	1	6	-	-	2	8
Canterbury	3	46	2	27	-	-	5	73
Coastline	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gisborne	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawkes Bay	-	-	1	4	-	-	1	4
Manawatu	-	-	1	13	-	-	1	13
Northland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Otago	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taranaki	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tasman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wellington	1	22	2	28	-	-	3	50
West Coast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waikato	2	12	1	10	-	-	3	22
	14	239	13	317	1	7	28	463

*7 awaiting assessment

In 2007 there were 35 courses conducted, including courses held in in Southland, Otago, West Coast, Taranaki and Northland. In 2008 there were 28.

The accreditation figure of 463 represents an increase of 98 successful candidates (approximately 27%) over the 2007 number of 365.

Coaching and Development is pinioned with low staff numbers. This shortage limits coach education at local levels. Clubs are encouraged, where possible, to appoint their own educators or club coaching coordinators.

Continued ...

Coaching and Development - Coach Accreditation summary for 2008 *continued*

Club coaching coordinators support and develop internal club programmes intended to upgrade club coaches in methods and information. This involves club coaching curriculum development, coach mentoring and club coaching up-dates. The club coaching director programme can extend to school contact / liaison, coaching sessions, information on club membership and the formation of club – school links.

New Zealand Rugby League wishes to sincerely thank it's coaching panel members, course presenters and volunteers for their work over the year and in particular for their efforts to enhance the image and profile of the game through good coaching practice.

Dennis Ward - Director, NZRL Coaching & Development

NZRL Injury Prevention Programme making inroads

Recent statistics released by ACC demonstrate the potential of the NZRL's Injury Prevention Programme to reduce injury rates within rugby league, with injury claims for the back end of 2008 and the first quarter of 2009 having decreased by 17% compared to the same period last year.

The top five injury claims made by rugby league players are:

- Knee
- Shoulder
- Ankle
- Hand and Fingers
- Neck and back

Dain Guttenbeil, Community Programmes Manager, said it was a positive sign that the NZRL programme was having an effect on the rugby league community.

But there is still much to be done in this area of our game.

"In a contact sport like rugby league, being aware of the risk of injury, and doing the right things to keep players on the field and off the injury list is hugely important.

"Programmes like LeagueSmart and our Trainer/First Aid Officer courses that are now being run within our rugby league community will help teams of every age and gender to lower their injury rates. These early statistics are an indication of how successful Injury Prevention programmes in rugby league can be," Dain said.

More information on the NZRL's Injury Prevention Programme can be found on the NZRL website www.nzrl.co.nz under the LeagueSmart section.

27th Rugby League Night, Addington Raceway, 22nd May 2009

The 27th annual running of *Rugby League Night* at Addington Raceway is scheduled for May 22nd 2009 when Canterbury clubs will have the opportunity to win a set of *Tsunami* football jerseys (donated by JW Sport), and other prizes on the night.

In 2008, the annual sprint race over 200m was won by Tyler Jarden (Halswell) for the second time, in 24.31 secs. It is hoped the 2009 event will draw a capacity field of top sprinters from clubs, with the winner receiving the Bill Whitehead Challenge Cup donated by Gary Clarke Plastics in honour of Bill who began the night back in 1982.

NZRL Chairman Ray Haffenden will be guest of honour, and the night will again be supported by Farringtons Tavern, New Zealand Breweries, Fred Arnesen Classic Engravers, Superleague magazine, with promotional assistance given by the Mad Butcher.

Runners MUST be a member of premier / senior teams or reserves, and must have played at least three games in their top team. All entrants will be vetted by Canterbury Rugby Football League. Please contact Canterbury Rugby League on (03) 338 4531 to place your entry.

Bill wishes to thank all who have assisted with this night since its inception in 1982, including Barry Johnson (since day one), Pam Nixon, Greg O'Connor, Richard Bromley, Tony Lye and Brian Rabbitt (Addington Raceway), and Rochelle and Carol from CRFL.

Get your Sonny Fai Wristbands and contribute to the fundraising efforts

If you have attended a recent Warriors home match you would have seen people wearing the brightly coloured Sonny Fai memorial wristbands. David Taylor is one of the men behind this fundraising initiative for the Fai family, and explains below the design of the wristband.

The orange and yellow design of the bands reflects a number of things, including Sonny's name, his love for bright colours, and the reassurance that after every sunset, a sunrise eventually follows. It gives us hope that the darkness of the night will pass and a new beginning will arise.

The wristband has three words that sum up Sonny Fai: Humility, Courage, Sacrifice. A wise man once said: "Greater love has no man than he who gives up his life for his friends". Sonny Fai exhibited this love.

On the back of the wristband is Sonny's motto for life: "Don't give up". This encourages us to remain hopeful, particularly in these current times, and gives us hope that our dreams can come true if we refuse to give in.

Wristbands are \$5 each, order 4 or more and get a 20% discount (\$4 each). Free postage nationwide. All proceeds go directly to the Sonny Fai Trust, which has been set up to take financial care of the Fai family. Over \$22,000 has been raised so far.

To purchase, contact me directly by email: faiwristband@gmail.com with your name, postal address, and quantity required. The bank details are: Bank: ASB Account; Name: SONNY FAI WRISTBANDS; Account Number: 12-3217-0111792-000. Once payment has been received, I'll send out the wristbands, free of charge.

*One last thing: As an additional gift to the Fai family, **we're compiling a photo album** of people wearing their wristbands. If you'd like to take part, send a photo of you and anyone else you know wearing the bands to: faiwristband@gmail.com*

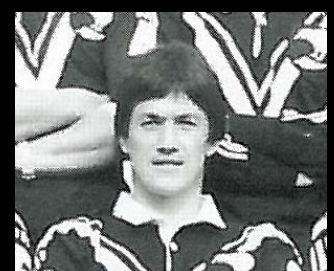


Left: A specially framed photo, showing Sonny playing in the victorious Junior Kiwis side that beat the Junior Kangaroos in October 2007 was presented to the Fai family by the NZRL. A signed Kiwis World Cup jersey was also donated to the fundraising efforts for the Fai family.



Howie Tamati inducted into NZRL Life Members

At the 2009 NZRL Annual General Meeting, Howie Tamati was elected into the NZRL Life Members. Howie's long involvement with rugby league in New Zealand includes being a Kiwi from 1979-85 and then Kiwi coach in 1992-93, and he is currently convener of selectors and Chairman of the New Zealand Maori Rugby League. Howie is also the CEO of Sport Taranaki.



Above: Howie Tamati in the 1980 Kiwis team that toured Britain and France

Rugby League World Cup trophy - a brief history

Below is a copy of an article (sent in by NZRL Board member Peter Kerridge) that ran in a 2000 edition of the *Rugby League World* magazine giving a brief history of the Rugby League World Cup trophy.

A sport to be proud of

WHAT better way to introduce Lincoln Financial Group's sponsorship of the Rugby league World Cup 2000, than to acknowledge some of the greatest players the sport has seen this century?

We are proud of our association with Rugby League and especially with our sponsorship of the Lincoln Financial Group Rugby League World Cup 2000. The competition - with 16 nations taking part - will not only be the greatest Rugby League event the world has ever seen, but promises to bring out the very best of the world's players too in terms of competitiveness, achievement and sportsmanship. It will be an unforgettable occasion.

How many players in next year's competition might be chosen in a similar quest to identify the legendary players of this coming century?

Already we have seen some exceptional games during the qualifying competitions in the south of France and in America during November, and this has given us a taste of what is to come in England, France, Wales, Ireland and Scotland during October and November this year.

What surprises will the competition bring? Who knows - but there are some very talented players emerging on the world stage so the cup is, in every sense of the word, wide open.

A cup to play for!

On 25 November 1999, a press conference was held at Old Trafford, venue for the World Cup final exactly one year later, to reveal the new World Cup logo, as well as the World Cup itself. And the story of this Cup too, is what legends are made of.

Weighing in at around four stones and some 30 inches high, the original 1954 World Cup is an impressive piece of silverware. It was first presented at Pare des Princes in Paris, venue for the '54 competition final, to Dave Valentine, skipper of the victorious Great Britain squad (and one of the players featured in this special supplement).

Australia won the 1957 tournament before Great Britain regained it in 1960, only to hand it back to Australia in 1968.

But the Australian captain that day, the legendary Johnny Raper, would be the last to hold

aloft the stunning cup. In November 1970, whilst on display at a Bradford hotel, the Cup vanished into thin air - and all the efforts of the Police failed to find any clue as to who stole it.

But, as with all the best legends, there is a happy ending. In 1990, the Cup was discovered in a ditch alongside a canal on the outskirts of Bradford. The finder, Stephen Uttley, spotted the partially exposed rim of the cup amongst rubbish in the ditch. Curiosity got the better of him, and seeing that the cup was clearly for a Rugby competition - as evidenced by the bas-relief images around the rim he set about trying to find out what competition the cup was for.

He approached Yorkshire TV to appeal to viewers but when no-one came forward it seemed the famous cup would find a new home at a local wrestling club!

But then Trevor Delaney, a Rugby League author and historian, saw a picture of the cup in his local newspaper and recognised it for what it was. In a severely damaged state, Lincoln has had the cup restored at a Sheffield jewellers to its former splendour. And Lincoln Financial Group will be proud to present the cup to the triumphant squad whichever country they represent.

Lincoln Financial Group has developed a warm working relationship with the Rugby League. The sport - which an American newspaper described as 'the toughest sport in the world' - is set to develop and grow, as is our company. We stand for the same ideals of sportsmanship, honesty and integrity as the game of Rugby League and identify closely with the countless families who 'love this game'. So we are delighted to pen this introduction to the masters of the past century who have helped to build the foundations for the future of Rugby League in the 21st Century.

BERNARD BROWN
Managing Director,
Lincoln Financial Group



New Zealand Womens Rugby League – Annual General Meeting

New Zealand Womens Rugby League (NZWRL) will be holding their Annual General Meeting from 9.30am to 11.30am on Saturday 16 May 2009 at the Te Mahurehure Marae, 73 Premier Avenue, Point Chevalier, Auckland.

NZWRL are calling for nominations for the NZWRL Executive Committee. If you would like to nominate anyone for the NZWRL Executive Committee, please contact the Secretary on (09) 256 0092 for a nomination form. All nominations must be with the Secretary by Sunday 10 May 2009.

Currently sitting :

Christine Panapa (Chairperson)
Karla Matua (Treasurer)
Raewyn Bhana (Secretary)

Rt Honourable Helen Clark (Patron)
Dame Georgina Kirby (President)
Mrs Yvonne Hiko (ice President)
MH & K (Auditors)



Masters International Tournament

The Masters of Rugby League was formed for semi-retired and non-competitive players and officials to showcase their skills & abilities on the field without the risk of serious injury. The objective is to enjoy the game but still be able to get out of bed the next morning and go to work.

The programme for the 2009 tournament in Auckland, New Zealand is as follows:

- Friday 09th October Team Managers Meeting 7.00pm
- Saturday 10th October 1st Round
- Monday 12th October 2nd Round
- Wednesday 14th October 3rd Round
- Friday 16th October International age group games, Prize giving, farewell function
- Saturday 17th October Homeward bound

Awards: Best Dressed Team; Best Karaoke; Medals for Player of the day; Charity Auction; Best & Fairest Player; Referees of the Tournament.

NB: All games are subject to ground availability



Peter Clark
Secretary
Masters of Rugby League New Zealand
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Auckland 1072
Fax: 64-(9)6252868 Email: peter.clark@mastersrugbyleague.com

Rep Grades (age)			
White Shorts	Black Shorts	Red Shorts	Gold Shorts
35 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60+



Womens Rugby League Pacific Cup 2009

When: Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 September
Venue: Mountfort Park, Manurewa

Register your interest to: Karla Matua, karlam@cmsport.co.nz, phone 029 437 0873 no later than July 2009

Please note: The Pacific Cup is in replacement of the Nationals Tournament

