

MEETING OF NEW ZEALAND FOOTBALL REFEREES' COMMITTEE (NZFRC)

Sunday 11th November 2007
Hotel Grand Chancellor, Mangere, Auckland

Present: NZFRC
Paul Smith, Stephen Budai, Trevor McCracken, Rod Pelosi, (Chairman), Dave Branton, Wayne Stapley, Linda Ritchie & Ken Wallace (NZF)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9:05 and welcomed everyone.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Nil.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 9TH JUNE 2007

The minutes of 9th June 2007 were confirmed.

Moved: L. Ritchie
Second: T. McCracken

Carried

3.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MINUTES

Nil.

4.0 FEDERATION REPORTS

Written reports on activity in all Federations had been distributed prior to the meeting. Representatives added brief comments.

Soccersouth

Linda Ritchie gave an update on an independent review in Soccersouth.

The Soccersouth Referees Committee was very disappointed by the outcome of the review and the way it was conducted by Ken Wallace

The NZFRC was delighted to see an increase in the RDO's hours and congratulated the CEO, Wilson James.

Mainland Football

Wayne Stapley added to his report, revised the Christchurch target for 2008 for new referees and advised that the Canterbury Referees Association was being wound up. The NZFRC was pleased to see the increase in referee numbers and the continued employment of part-time RDOs in Nelson and Marlborough by Mike Coggan.

Capital Soccer

Dave Branton noted that things were going well. The NZFRC congratulated Capital on the increase in referee numbers. He noted that the Recruitment Posters had been effective but that the A5 leaflets weren't. All referees had to be registered to receive appointments and be reimbursed.

Central Soccer

Rod Pelosi added to his report, gave more information on 2008 coaching, funding and courses and answered questions. He emphasized that referees are a part of football. He noted that the

NZF Business Plan had not been distributed to Federations and this made planning for some areas in 2008 extremely difficult.

Waikato Bay of Plenty Football

Trevor McCracken commented on matters in his report. There are two RDOs, one in the Bay of Plenty and the other in the Waikato; the NZFRC saw this as a positive development

Soccer 2

Steve Budai apologised for the delay in sending his report and spoke to it. He highlighted points and advised courses to be held later this year.

United Soccer 1

Paul Smith reported on the current discussions regarding the future of the Northern League. Candidates are charged \$100.00 for a Level 1 Course for Referees and receive apparel in addition to the course. He reported that he was unable to provide information requested by the NZFRC. The Committee was disappointed that he was not on the Referee Action Group.

5.0 RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Ken Wallace congratulated the NZFRC on the increase in referee numbers over the past 12 months and distributed the summary of 2007 courses and the 2007 survey. The number of active referees had increased by 100 over 6 Federations. The Committee reviewed the retention data distributed earlier. Members commented that the survey form was difficult to complete.

LEVEL 1 REFEREES COURSE

Federations 1 & 3 were short of their targets
Federations 2, 4, 6 & 7 had met their targets.
Federation 5 had exceeded their target.
Most Federations were short of their Level 2 targets.

As far as the Level 1 Inspectors Course was concerned most Federations had been active.

US1

- A significant decrease in the number of referees aged 31-40 and 41-50
- Decreases in the referees recruited in recent years
- 32 referees were recruited in 2007, yet the number of active referees dropped by 16
- Paul Smith noted that the number of referees didn't match the number of appointments in US1 and the emphasis on younger referees meant that that all referees weren't being developed

Soccer 2

- Retention data showed that referees recruited in the last 5 years had been maintained to 2006
- The mentor programme had proven to be very effective
- Significant increases in the number of referees in the past 2 years
- No data was available for 2007

Waikato/Bay of Plenty Football

- A significant decline in those recruited in 2003 (13) had left just 1 refereeing in the Federation in 2007
- Those recruited in 2005 had largely remained
- 10% increase in the number of referees achieved 2006-2007

Central Soccer

- Steady progress and sustained growth was evident in 4 of the regions

Capital Soccer

- Up and down results over the years in referee numbers
- Little information was available to measure the effectiveness of retention

Mainland Football

- After several stable years, the employment of an energetic RDO has shown benefits in the increased number of active referees

Soccersouth

- There were no referees registered in Southland and the Waitaki areas in 2007
- Dunedin had increased numbers and were back to 1998 figures but still down on 2002
- South Canterbury had significantly increased referee numbers this year

ACTION

1. ***The survey form will be revised by the NZFRC. Amendments to Ken Wallace by 29th February.***
2. ***The generic Registration Form developed by Wayne Stapley needs to be implemented in all Federations.***

6.0 2008 TARGETS

Steve Budai and Dave Branton advised their Federation's targets at the meeting. This leaves Fed. 1 outstanding. The targets are attached.

7.0 INSPECTOR RE-ACCREDITATION

Steve Budai reported that Soccer 2 had planned a course for February 2008. The NZFRC confirmed that the AP would only consider reports from accredited Inspectors and recommended that only accredited Inspectors have expenses reimbursed. The NZFRC was pleased at the quality of the Accreditation Courses conducted so far; feedback had been positive.

8.0 2008 CALENDAR

Proposed dates for 2008 were considered.

ACTION

1. ***Ken Wallace to email his calendar***

9.0 APPOINTMENT PANEL

Ken Wallace distributed the following:

- NYL nominations
- NZFC Fitness Test results
- NWL Fitness Test results

The Committee discussed the results of the tests and their disappointment at the results from the women officials.

They discussed the matters raised by the AP in respect of Level 2 Referee Accreditation and the level of football required to gain Level 2 Referee Accreditation as compared to the level in

Women's Internationals. Regulation 14 requires candidates to pass the second level of Federation football and third level of inter-Federation football.

The NZFRC decided to leave Regulation 14 as it is.

Women may officiate on women's games in national competitions on application to NZF to gain Level 2 Accreditation.

Moved: S. Budai
Second: L. Ritchie

Carried

In respect of a process for breaches of the Code of Conduct the NZFRC decided to investigate the matter further.

ACTION

- 1. Ken Wallace to provide electronic copies of the Fitness Tests results***
- 2. Paul Smith to investigate the NZF guidelines***

10.0 CODE OF CONDUCT

The NZFRC went into committee.

Moved: W. Stapley
Second: P. Smith

Carried

11.0 LEVEL 1 ASSISTANT REFEREE COURSE

Ken Wallace distributed two copies of the Level 1 Course for Assistant Referees (RDO and NZFRC), one copy of the Instructors Manual and the Resource Booklet and briefly demonstrated the operation of the DVD. These belong to the Federation and can be burnt as required by the Federation. The course is a participant based course consisting of 7 units to be taken over a morning. Certificates will be issued following advice from Federations.

The Level 2 Course is being developed. The first 3 units are nearly complete. The remainder of the course exists in sketch outline form only. Feedback on the Level 1 Course would be appreciated so that the Level 2 Course can be adapted if necessary.

ACTION

- 1. Ken Wallace to send Level 1 Course for Assistant Referees to Federations***

12.0 UNIT STANDARDS

Neil Haines and Glenda Pearce were introduced and explained Unit Standard 20674 "Applying Fundamental Sports Rules and Regulations." This unit has been moderated and so approved by the NZQA. Discussion and questions followed. Contact with the School Sports Co-ordinator was important to link between schools and football.

Those accredited with Unit Standard 20674 will be accredited as a NZF Level 1 Referee.

Moved: W. Stapley
Second: R. Pelosi

Carried

ACTION

- 1. Copies of advertising to be sent to NZF for forwarding to NZFRC***
- 2. Ken Wallace to supply contact details of RDOs to Neil Haines***
- 3. Haines to advise NZF contacts of schools that have purchased the resource.***
- 4. NZFRC to advise Federation contacts by 30 November***

13.0 REFEREE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY

RDA 2

Ken Wallace advised that the coaches who had accepted an invitation were (Federation in brackets):

Paul Smith (1), Lynn Fox (2), Campbell Howlett (3), David Lawrie (4), Chris Harrison (5), Wayne Stapley (6), Craig Borland (AP). Two coaches had been unable to get time off work.

The selected participants from Federation nominations were

Cory Mills, Simon Lount (1)

Katie Goulding, Ben Norman, Ben Fairweather (2)

Karl House, Michael White (3)

Anna Marie Keighley, Ethan Motion, Chas Gardner, Jordan Williams (4)

Helen Mallon, Peter Linney (5)

Hayden McCabe, Andrew Robertson, Oktay Ozturk (6)

One referee was selected but then withdrew because of injury. Another was nominated by one Federation, selected, then shifted to a second Federation. He will be supported by his original nomination.

The RDA can provide 40 appointments per day. Days 1 & 2 require 69 appointments, Days 3 & 4 84 appointments, Day 5, 54 appointments. Further referees will be needed, similar to 2006.

RDA 3

The 2008 Boys Secondary Schools Tournament is being expanded to 32 teams and will provide opportunities for a greater number of referees. Priority will be given to those who:

- Have not previously been to RDA 3
- Have attended RDA 2
- Have Level 2 Accreditation.

Those who have attended RDA 3 previously may be nominated.

The RC congratulated Paul Smith on the leadership of the last RDA 3. Smith commented on the desirability of having a full time administrator for such courses given the changes in grounds, venue and injuries.

14.0 2007-8 COMPETITIONS

Role AP / NZFRC. The AP is responsible for the selection of referees to national competitions. The NZFRC is responsible for the recruitment, development, accreditation, retention and welfare of referees. Federations should contact their AP member regarding candidates for national competitions.

Paul Smith questioned why names only were required by the AP. There were no phone calls or additional information requested from the NZFRC member or RDO in US1.

All nominations for national competitions shall come from the AP.

Moved: Smith

Second: Ritchie

Carried

ACTION

- 1. Wallace to copy NZFRC when requesting nominations.**

Beach Soccer The national tournament proposed for Mt Maunganui has been cancelled because of insufficient entries.

NZFC	4 pre-season courses were held with attendance by representatives from Otago, Canterbury and Wellington franchises. The NZFRC was very disappointed that the pre-season course with referees and coaches was not held
NWL	Travel for NWL referees had been approved. It was disappointing that 3 women referees had withdrawn or been unable to pass the fitness test. The NZFRC request that the AP review their policy on NWL attendance at weekly training
NYL	The 2008 NYL starts on 16 January and contains 10 teams - the 8 NZFC franchises with Auckland Manukau and NZ U16. The NZFRC request that Fitness Tests can be carried out outside the set period determined by the AP.

15.0 REFEREE AND ASSISTANT REFEREE OF THE YEAR

The NZFRC discussed the referee awards. The difficulty of determining the AR of the Year when they are only viewed in their referee centre with just one or perhaps 2 inspectors was raised as an issue. In future all AP and NZFRC shall be required to send in a return.

16.0 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Ken Wallace advised that an application had been made to SPARC under the Prime Ministers Scholarship to assist with the travel of a top UEFA Instructor to take courses and feature at a national conference next year.

Dave Branton discussed possible venues for the proposed national conference. He will make further enquiries. The NZFRC decided that the conference would proceed if they couldn't obtain a high profile speaker.

17.0 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Ken Wallace took the chair.

Rod Pelosi was nominated.

Moved *Branton*
Second *McCracken*

Carried

There were no further nominations.

18.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

- (i) Apparel NZF Competitions. - Wayne Stapley enquired about the availability of NZF logos being sewn on top their NZS logos. The NZFRC wasn't aware of this.
- (ii) Futsal Course. - Wayne Stapley asked why the course was cancelled. Ken Wallace advised that NZF received 2 nominations for the referee course.
- (iii) Academy funding – Wayne Stapley requested that 14 nominations to RDA 2 be funded by NZF because in some years some Federations have no nominations whereas there may be 4 in another year. Ken Wallace advised that NZF paid for 1 male and 1 female per Federation for RDA 2. The costs of all participants to RDA 3 were met by NZF.
- (iv) High Performance – Ken Wallace reported on the High Performance Programme. There had been 3 sessions so far with the fourth scheduled later in the month.

Fitness testing and training, musculo-skeletal screening, podiatry screening and discussions on match incidents and games had taken the bulk of the time so far.

- (v) Dave Branton asked about the Level 2 Course for Inspectors. Paul Dunham was nominated but would be retiring at December 31, 2007. Nominations closed today and must be approved by the AP. Ken Wallace reported that the course may not proceed as there were just 6 nominations. A final decision will be made by 15 November.
- (vi) Steve Budai nominated Chris Carter as Chairman of Examiners. He has met the criteria in Reg 14.

'Chris Carter be accepted as Chairman of Examiners'

Moved: S. Budai

Second P. Smith

Carried

- (vii) Steve Budai asked if Federations have separate appointees for senior and youth/junior football. Members responded.
- (viii) Wayne Stapley asked why the list of Chairman of Examiners included those non active. A number had given lengthy and valued service and it was felt inappropriate to write to them having removed them from the list.
- (ix) Wayne Stapley enquired about the provision of CBR shirts for 2008. The draft 2008 budget has provided for 50 per Federation.
- (x) Wayne Stapley asked why the NWL officials weren't provided with apparel. It was budgeted but moved off the budget due to lack of money. This meant NWL officials were wearing New Zealand Soccer branded apparel.
- (xi) Wayne Stapley requested that Federations be supplied with the NZFC coaching material.
- (xii) Linda Ritchie asked who was monitoring the mandatory stand down for NZFC officials. She advised that some had continued to referee. The current policy states that all officials must take a break before 31 July and they have to advise NZF and their AP member.
- (xiii) Paul Smith raised a concern expressed by some referees that the break was too long given the number of games that they will officiate. Those concerned should write to their AP member.
- (xiv) In response to a question about the position of a NZFC franchise the situation is as follows. An NZFC franchise is loosely affiliated to the Federation because their transfers go through the Federation, which holds the players' registration. However, it is a stand alone entity solely responsible for fielding a team in the NZFC and NYL and any other team so directed by NZF. It's important that all in the game work together for the good of the game.
- (xv) Ken Wallace advised that he will absent from 19-22 November; Rod Pelosi will be absent from 2-22 December attending a PGMOL seminar in England
- (xvi) The Chairman showed some of the DVD clips he had been sent from contacts in England and Scotland

ACTION

1. ***Ken Wallace to send NZFC coaching material to Federations***

19.0 **MEETING**

The Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 4:45.