



24 JULY 2021

COMMUNITY RUGBY LEAGUE MEMO

RE: Independent Review – Officiating
TO: All QRL Staff, All Club, Leagues, Associations and Regions
FOR: Immediate Distribution

This MEMO is to communicate a decision from the May meeting of the QRL Board where the Board discussed the governance of Referee Associations and the recruitment and retention of match officials across Queensland.

The identified need was expressed via all QRL Regions to specifically address the increased demand on officials and the concern over an ongoing decline in match official numbers across the State.

QRL Managing Director, Robert Moore has approved the engagement of Peter Phair from PEP Management and Health Services to lead the review.

Mr Phair has extensive experience working across the sports industry worldwide, including being engaged by Sport and Recreation QLD to conduct performance reviews of all State Sporting Organisations over a 10-year period.

Following the review, Mr Phair will provide a detailed discussion paper for consultation via a QRL led Project Team that will:

- Analyse and summarise the strengths and weaknesses of the QRL's current officiating programs across the state
- Critically review the current governance systems, structures, practices, policies and procedures and ensure they align with directions articulated in the QRL Strategic Plan (2018-2022).
- Recommend ways to increase the QRL's officiating talent pool by ensuring inclusiveness and accessibility for all. Provide options and suggestions to enhance the recruitment and retention of match officials.
- Recommend governance and operating models/options for officiating in Queensland.

Post consultation, a report will be prepared for the QRL Board to consider at the September meeting, with a view to commence implementing endorsed recommendations from October 2021. The review process will commence with immediate effect.

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Queensland Rugby League

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