

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.,
SYDNEY.

DEAR SIR,

THE Second Weekly Meeting, Season 1898, of the above was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday, May 17th.

Members present:—MESSRS. STOCKHAM (Chairman), SPEIGHT, R. ARMSTRONG, CORREY, CONNELL, LEVY, W. ARMSTRONG, A. C. JONES, HOLMES, SIMMONS, PURDY, HARRINGTON, R. P. BROWNE, HOLLAND, HUNTER, VAUGHAN AND R. KEAN.

Communications were read (1) from Queensland stating that they had decided to adopt the system of allowing the Player to place the ball in a scrummage; so as to be uniform with England, New Zealand and New South Wales.

N.B.—It has been the system in Queensland for the Referee to place the ball in the scrummage at all times.

(2)—From the Lancashire County Referees' Society, *re* discussion at their 61st Meeting, in March last, on the following points:—

Q. A Forward in the line-out continually knocks the ball on; it is caught by an opposing Half-Back, who smartly punts up the field, gaining much ground each time. Should the Referee allow these kicks?

A. The Referee should allow these in accordance with RULE 16. "Unless a fair catch has been made, etc., etc." Note.—In this case the advantage was to kick.

Q. A Three-Quarter in making a drop-kick, when running fast, throws the ball forward a couple of yards and then kicks it. Does this constitute a throw forward?

A. Yes.

Q. In a fading light, a Leading Team is dropping out; the ball drops in touch, and the opposite side order a re-kick; the ball is again dropped into touch, and again a third time. Perceiving that there is a wilful intention to waste time, what course should the Referee adopt other than allowing extra time? See SECTION K, RULE 2., PAGE 42. "Should a Referee award a free kick to the opposite side, and, if so, from what point should the kick be taken, etc." The L. R. S., after discussion, referred the question to the English R. U. for decision. The Members of the N. S. W. R. A. decided that the opposing Captain had his remedy under RULE 12, SEC. (a), (b) and (c).

(3)—Metropolitan Branch, N. S. W. R. F. U., requesting Referees to promptly report any infraction of competition, RULE 3, PAGE 73, see also SECTION (b.)

Members were requested to note that the English ruling, as printed on PAGE 43, *re* Try at Goal, has been rejected by the N. S. W. R. F. U., and they have decided that the practice, as heretofore, of allowing the Kicker to place the ball on the ground in instructing the placer should be adhered to.

MR. PURDY submitted the following question at the previous meeting.

Q. A player in the scrummage raises the ball between his knees, an opposing player seeing this wilfully jumps into the pack, with the evident intention of breaking the scrummage, should he be penalised for rough play?

A. Yes.

The Next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25th, at 8 p.m. sharp.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

New South Wales Referees' Association.

BOX 1542, G.P.O.

Dear Sir,

The 3rd Weekly Meeting (Season 1898) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Wednesday, May 25th. Members present:—The President, Mr. McManemey (chairman), Stockham, Simmons, Lounde, R. Armstrong, Vaughan, W. Armstrong, R. P. Browne, Holmes, A. Brown, Holland, Harrington, A. E. Jones, and R. Kean. Mr. Bode of Sydney Grammar School was also present.

The following questions were submitted, and after discussion answered as stated:—

Nowra Branch Referees Association; Q. When the ball is kicked into touch can the opposing side have the ball scrummaged, as in SEC. C., LAW 12, instead of following the usual practice of a throw in?

A. Yes!

Q. An offside player in the act of intercepting a pass, being within 10 yards of an opponent waiting for the ball. Must the Referee blow his whistle before the ball is passed? Can a Free Kick be awarded, provided the Referee has blown his whistle previous to the offside player receiving the ball, although the ball has been passed?

A. No! The Referee must blow his whistle before the ball is passed.

Q. By Mr. A. E. Jones. A player in grounding the ball for a try, an opponent places both his hands on the ball (not holding it, merely placing his hands on it), should a try be awarded?

A. Yes! There must, in the opinion of the Referee, have been force used to ground the ball or get possession of it, before it can be considered fairly held,

Q. By Mr. Bode, S.G.S. If a ball when thrown in does not alight at right angles, ought the Referee to Stop the Game, on the ground that it has not been in play?

A. No! The ball is in play, and if the opposing side gain an advantage, he should allow the game to proceed.

Q. Mr. R. Armstrong asked, what constitutes a fair catch? After discussion it was resolved that members act strictly on the English ruling, that the ball must be taken clean at the first attempt

Q. By Mr. Holland. A free kick awarded behind the goal line, the ball is kicked over the line but is carried back into "in goal"; an opponent secures the ball and touches down, should a try be awarded?

A. Yes!

Referees are requested that in the event of the Dead-ball Lines not being marked, to make some arrangement with the Captains with respect to same.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 31st, at 8 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN.

New South Wales Referees' Association.

BOX 1542, G.P.O.

Dear Sir,

The 3rd Weekly Meeting (Season 1898) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Wednesday, May 25th. Members present:—The President, Mr. McManemey (chairman), Stockham, Simmons, Lounde, R. Armstrong, Vaughan, W. Armstrong, R. P. Browne, Holmes, A. Brown, Holland, Harrington, A. E. Jones, and R. Kean. Mr. Bode of Sydney Grammar School was also present.

The following questions were submitted, and after discussion answered as stated:—

Nowra Branch Referees Association; Q. When the ball is kicked into touch can the opposing side have the ball scrummaged, as in SEC. C., LAW 12, instead of following the usual practice of a throw in?

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Q. By Mr. Bode, S.G.S. If a ball when thrown in does not alight at right angles, ought the Referee to Stop the Game, on the ground that it has not been in play?

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A. Yes!

Referees are requested that in the event of the Dead-ball Lines not being marked, to make some arrangement with the Captains with respect to same.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 31st, at 8 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN.

New South Wales Referees' Association.

BOX 1452, G.P.O.

SYDNEY.

Dear Sir,

The 4th Weekly Meeting (Season 1898) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday, May 31st. Members present:—Messrs. Stockham in the Chair, W. Armstrong, W. Purdy, A. C. Jones, Symes, Vaughan, R. P. Browne, Simmons, J. Harrington, A. Brown, R. Armstrong, Speight, B. Holland, and R. Kean, Hon. Sec.

The following questions were submitted, and answered as stated:—

- Q. A Full-back catches the ball from an opponent and makes his mark over his own goal line, does RULE 10 apply to "in goal?"
- A. LAW 10 must decide this, the opponents therefore can line up to the mark.
- Q. In the event of a player making a mark in his own "in goal"—say a yard from the dead ball line—and his opponents line up to the mark and charge the kick down over the dead ball line, what should the decision be? "Dead ball" or another kick.
- A. The ball becomes dead!
- Q. Or supposing the charger catches the ball and touches down claiming a try; is this a try or should another kick be allowed?
- A. A try should be scored!
The attention of Referees is called to the fact that under no circumstances should they allow a player not in possession of the ball to shove another player with his hands.
- Q. A player kicks over full backs head, and, in act of regaining ball, knocks on in his opponents "in goal" and claims a try?
- A. No try, touch down, or dead ball, that is a drop out!
- Q. *Re* an offside player. The President, Mr. P. F. McManamey, submitted the following question at the previous meeting:—Q. An offside player is within 10 yards of an opponent waiting to receive the ball; but has not approached within 10 yards while offside. Can a free kick be given?
- A. No! Unless the Referee decides that the offside player is intentionally and actively obstructing, or interfering, or until the player has the ball, when a free kick can be given for passively obstructing.

Referees are again reminded that teams playing in other than Club Colors must be reported to the Union. See COMPETITION RULE 3.

UNFINANCIAL MEMBERS are requested to forward their Subscriptions on or before Tuesday, June 7th next, otherwise their names will be erased from the roll without further notice.

The next meeting will be held at the Rooms, on Tuesday evening, June 7th, at 8 o'clock.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN.

HON. SEC.

New South Wales Referees' Association.

BOX 1452, G.P.O.

SYDNEY.

Dear Sir,

The 5th Weekly Meeting (Season 1898) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday last, June 7th. Members present:—Messrs. W. Purdy, in the Chair, A. Prown, Harrington, Buddle, Holmes, Simmons, J. Kean, Rose, Symes, W. Armstrong, R. Armstrong, R. P. Browne, and the Hon. Sec. R. Kean.

The following communications were read, and action taken as stated:—

- 1.—The Metropolitan Branch requesting Members to forward result of matches not later than Monday, in each week. Referees to note.
- 2.—Mr. A. FAULKNER, President of the Queensland Referees' Association. "We give the ball to the side not committing the breach, that is: 'A' side knocks on, we call out 'B's' ball; this is according to all laws of the game." It was decided that the members of the N. S. W. R. A. adopt the same ruling.
- 3.—BROTHER EDWIN, of St. Joseph's College, Hunter's Hill, asking the following question:—"A Union Referee gave a free kick against us on account of our Wing-Forward bustling the other Wing-Forward, that is: trying to keep him on side."
 - A. The Referee was quite right, as he decided it was illegal tackling.
 - Q. Please give a correct definition of "held ball;" must the tackler have one or both hands on the ball.
 - A. The ball must be fairly held; that is to say: the player having the ball must use force to free the ball from the grasp of his opponent.
 - Q. May a player struggle on after being tackled, provided the tackler has not his hand or hands on the ball.
 - A. The player may struggle on, provided the ball has not been held as in previous answer.
 - Q. If the tackler brings his opponent to a dead halt, even though the former should not have his hand or hands on the ball, is this "held ball".
 - A. No.
 - Q. A player obtains a mark, and instead of drawing back in a line parallel to the touch-line, but kicked the ball from the place where he had obtained the mark, but kicked in such a manner that its flight was not parallel to the touch-line, is not this allowed. A scrum was given against us.
 - A. It was pointed out that the ball could not be kicked from the mark for the reason that the opposing forwards would be lined up to the mark; flight of the ball after the kick matters nothing, the kick must be taken at a spot behind the mark, in a line parallel to the touch-line, and must be in the direction of the opponent's goal line.

The next meeting will be held at the Rooms, on Tuesday evening next, June 14th, at 8.30 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN.

HON. SEC.

New South Wales Referees' Association

BOX 1452, G.P.O.

SYDNEY.

Dear Sir,

The 6th Weekly Meeting (Season 1898) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday evening last, June 21st. The following Members were present:—Mr. W. Speight, in the Chair, and Messrs. W. Armstrong, R. Armstrong, Holmes, Simmons, Symes, Purdy, R. P. Browne, A. Brown, Corcoran, Holland, Harrington, and R. Kean Hon. Sec.

The following questions were submitted and answered as stated:—

1.—Gundagai Football Club.—

Q. A player crossed the goal line and claimed a try, the Referee awarded "a 5 yards scrum" for a player being offside, the two Captains held a consultation, and the defending side agreed to a "try" being awarded in opposition to the Referee's decision; can Captains decide a question in this matter, thus over-riding the Referee's decision?

A. No! Although the Referee was wrong in awarding a 5 yards scrum, Captains have no right to decide "matters of fact," the Referee being sole Judge.

2.—Mr. Best, Lismore.—

Q. A ball goes into touch, must the player bringing it into play by means of a "throw in" have one foot on the touch line, or can he stand altogether out of the field of play?

A. Yes! he can stand out of the field of play.

Q. In the case of a free kick, must the kicker kick over his mark; or can he kick in any direction towards his opponents goal?

A. He can kick in any direction towards his opponents goal, provided the kick has been taken at a spot behind the mark in a line parallel to the touch line!

3.—Waverley Football Club.—

Q. Can a Referee allow another kick on the plea that owing to interference of players he could not see the ball kicked in the first instance?

A. Yes!

4.—Q. Can a player pick the ball up in the scrum between his knees?

A. Yes! provided the Referee is satisfied that the player did not fall down in the scrummage.

5.—Q. When the whistle is blown for a knock on, is it required that a scrum be formed?

A. No! the ball must be brought back to the spot and there put down.

6.—Mr. R. Armstrong—

Q. Wing forward having the ball for the purpose of putting same in the scrummage calls out with the intention of deceiving the scrum players, "ball is in," and such not being the case, he again calls out "feet off the Ground Umpire," What action should the Referee take?

A. Free kick against the wing forward, under LAW 4, RULE 11, SECTION J. "wilfully prevents the ball being fairly put into a scrummage?"

The next meeting will be held at the Rooms, on Tuesday evening next, June 28th, at 8 p.m.

The latest books on the Game of Rugby are now to hand, and members may peruse same at the Weekly Meeting, on application to the Hon. Sec.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN.

HON. SEC.

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.

Sydney.

Dear Sir,

The 1st Weekly Meeting (Season 1899) of the above was held at the Rooms 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday, May 2. Members Present :—Messrs J. F. McManamey, President, in the Chair, A. E. Sefton, Vice-Pres., Speight, Holland, Corr, Stockham, Purdy, W. Armstrong, R. Armstrong, Miller, H. Atkin, Levy, Simmons, Symes, Harrington, Holmes, Hunter, Rose, Mathews, Lounde, C. Kean, and the Hon. Sec.

The following points were discussed, and action taken as stated :—

Mr. W. G. Garrard, Hon. Sec. Canterbury Referees' Assn., N.Z., wrote stating " re Knocks &c." They rule— that after the whistle is blown, the ball must be brought back, put down, and then any player may pick it up and play on.

It was decided to adopt the same ruling, with the addition of the words—"unless a scrum has been formed."

Mr. Corr, [Kings School] requested a ruling as to what action would constitute " putting the ball down."

It was decided that the ball shall be considered to have been " put down" when it has been made motionless, and no hand is on it.

NOTE.—These decisions govern Law 16.—" KNOCK-ON, THROW-FORWARD," which reads—" In case of a throw-forward or knock-on, the ball shall be at once brought back to where such infringement took place, and there *put down*, unless a fair catch has been made and claimed, or unless the opposite side gain an advantage. If the ball or a player running with the ball touch the Referee, it shall there be put down."

Mr. Levy—

- Q. Suppose a player in back row of scrum has the ball between his legs, can an opposing player take the ball from its position ?
A. No ! Not while said player remains part of the scrum.

Discussion on Lancashire R. S. circulars containing rulings acted on during last season in England, was postponed until next meeting.

The following gentlemen were nominated as new members :—Messrs A. Faulkner, (Q), W. G. Garrard, (N.Z.), A. C. Pilkington, Brooks, Parkinson, G. Hudson, and Barncastle.

It was decided to form an Ambulance Class : intending members are requested to hand in their names to the Hon. Sec.

NOTE.—Captains and Secretaries of Clubs affiliated to the N.S.W.R.F.U., and Metropolitan Branch are cordially invited to attend the Weekly Meetings of the Association, to take part in the discussions, and submit points on the "Laws of the Game." The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9, at 8 sharp, at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, Sydney.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN,

Hon. Secretary.

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.,
SYDNEY.

DEAR SIR,

THE Second Weekly Meeting of the above (Season 1899), was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday May 9th.

Members present :—MESSRS. J. F. McMANAMEY (President in the Chair), A. E. SEFTON (Vice-President), CORR, SPEIGHT, STOCKHAM, A. BROWN, HAZELL, HOLMES, HOLLAND, HUNTER, HARRINGTON, MILLER, ATKIN, SYMES, W. ARMSTRONG, CORREY, SIMMONS, COCORAN, McBEATH, H. D. WOOD (Capt. 'Varsity), McLEAN and WALPOLE (Permanent Artillery), GRAY, HENSON, LANGLEY, and FURNISS (Pioneer), BRIDGE (Wallaroo), HOURIGAN and HEMMELL (East Sydney), and WEYMARK (Botany), Football Clubs, and Messrs. PILKINGTON, WATSON (Moss Vale), HUDSON and EVERITT.

The following points were submitted, and action taken as stated:—

Q. Mr. Lounde. The ball is thrown in from in-touch, but not straight, by side A., the opposing side gain an advantage, should the ball be brought back?

A. No! play should proceed.

Q. Mr. W. S. Corr (King School). Should the ball be kicked off from centre of ground and over the bar through the goal posts?

A. No goal to be counted and ball still in play!

Q. And should it cross the dead ball line?

A. Touch-down; kick out at 25.

Q. Attacking player crosses the goal line and throws the ball forward?

A. A touch-down and kick out at 25.

Q. Mr. H. D. Wood (University Football Club). A scrum is ordered; side A immediately pack; but B's side retain the ball until their forwards gather round leisurely; what should Referee do?

A. Such incident should be punished as provided by LAW 11 (eleven) SECTION J.

Q. Mr. Hunter. Should a player continually "knock on" or "throw forward" has the Referee a remedy?

A. Yes; award a Free Kick, under LAW 11 (eleven), SECTION K.

Q. Mr. Furniss (Pioneer Football Club). Can a Referee order a player off the field for using the words "You are a nice Referee"?

A. Yes! he has the power.

Referees to note "that under no consideration must a player be allowed to resume play after being ordered off for misconduct."

Q. Mr. Corr (Kings School). A scrum is formed near the line, ball is heeled out by A side, and taken by back player, who is hustled by B's side, and kicks back into his own, in-touch in goal (not wilfully), what should Referee decide?

A. Provided Referee is satisfied that the kick was not wilful, kick out from 25, *i.e.* touch down.

Q. Mr. Henson (Pioneer Football Club). Can a Referee over-rule decisions of Touch-Judges?

A. Yes; he being the sole judge on matters of fact.

Q. Mr. Corr (Kings School). Should a player, having kicked the ball when behind his colleagues, call out "all on side" before such is the case what should the Referee do?

A. Award a free kick at the spot where such player was when he called out.

Messrs. W. G. Garrard (N.Z.) and A. Faulkner (Q.) were elected as members.

Messrs. A. Martin, G. J. Watson, Walpole, and Nicholson, were nominated as members.

Referees are requested to forward results of matches to the Hon. Sec. Metropolitan Branch (Mr. C. M. Drew) as early as possible after matches.

Members who are unable to act this season are requested to notify the Hon. Sec. at once.

NOTE.—Captains and Secretaries of Clubs affiliated to the N.S.W.R.F.U. and Metropolitan Branch are cordially invited to attend the weekly meetings of the Association, to take part in the discussions, and submit points on the "Laws of the Game."

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16th, 8 p.m. sharp, at the rooms, 109 Pitt-St., Sydney.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.,
SYDNEY.

DEAR SIR,

THE Third Weekly Meeting (Season 1899) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday May 16th.

Members present :—MESSRS. HOLLAND (in the Chair), SPEIGHT, MILLER, PURDY, C. KEAN, STOCKHAM, SIMMONS, A. C. JONES, CORR, SEFTON (V.P.), A. BROWN, SYMES, HAZELL, HUNTER, COCORAN, LEVY, HOLMES, LOUNDE, MATHEWS, McBEATH, ATKIN, CHAPMAN, HARRINGTON, W. ARMSTRONG, and MESSRS. PILKINGTON, BROOKS, MACNAMARA (Pirate), HUDSON and HEMMELL (East Sydney), and WEYMARK (Botany), Football Clubs, and the Hon. Sec.

The following points were submitted, and action taken as stated :—

- Q. Queensland Referee' Association. A player throwing a ball in from in-touch steps with one foot on or over the touch line into the field of play ; what should a Referee do?
A. Allow play to proceed, no penalty being incurred.

Mr. W. Corr submitted the following with his decision thereon :—

- Q. A player kicked the ball into his opponents in-goal the defending player bounces the ball ; not placing his hand on the ball on the ground as required by law governing definition of a touch-down.
A. He decided that the ball was still in play ; decision approved of and adopted.
Q. Mr. Sefton. A player brought the ball over the line into the field of play, and threw forward to a colleague. What penalty would be incurred?
A. A scrummage.
Q. A player throws the ball forward from in-goal to a colleague in the field of play. What penalty would be incurred?
A. 5 Yards scrummage.

NOTE :—The above two questions follow on the play mentioned by Mr. Corr, that is the actions were not intentional

The following were taken from the Lancashire Referee Society's Circular (Mr. H. Williamson, Hon. Sec.)—

- Q. A player with his arms fully outstretched parallel to the touch line, running at full speed and receiving a pass, draws the ball with his left hand to his right, clear over his head, without leaving his left hand, is this an irregularity?
A. No !
Q. When a half back is in the act of picking up the ball to pass out, the opposing three quarter commences to run to the opposite centre and actually takes the man the instant he catches the ball from the half back.
A. This is offside play and should be penalized.

The above decisions were adopted by the N.S.W.R.A.

The Council of the N.S.W. Rugby Union, have approved of decisions as set out in Circulars 1st and 2nd of this Season.

NOTE :—No notice will be taken of questions submitted with reference to any *particular match* by representatives of clubs present ; questions must be asked on "The Laws of the Game," and not on "matters of fact," of which the Referee is Sole Judge.

Referees are requested to forward results of matches to the Hon. Sec. Metropolitan Branch (Mr. C. M. Drew) as early as possible after matches, and report accidents, if any.

An urgent appeal is made to Members who are unable to act this season to notify the Hon. Sec. at once.

NOTE.—Captains and Secretaries of Clubs affiliated to the N.S.W.R.F.U. and Metropolitan Branch are cordially invited to attend the weekly meetings of the Association, to take part in the discussions, and submit points on the "Laws of the Game."

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23rd, 8 p.m. sharp, at the rooms, 109 Pitt-St., Sydney.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.,
SYDNEY.

DEAR SIR,

THE Fifth Weekly Meeting (Season 1899) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 109 Pitt Street, on Tuesday May 30th.

Members present :—MESSRS. McMANAMEY President (in the Chair), STOCKHAM, SPEIGHT, HAZELL, HOWE, HOLMES, SIMMONS, MARTIN, HARRINGTON, A. BROWN, ATKIN, PURDY, MILLER, W. ARMSTRONG, R. ARMSTRONG, and Messrs. Wood (University), McLEAN and CARRODICE (Permanent Artillery) Football Clubs.

The following points were submitted, and action taken as stated:—

- Q. Mr. Purdy. Can the opposing side have a scrum in lieu of "Throw-in" when ball has gone into in-touch?
- A. Yes; the side to whom the ball belongs may bring it into play by a "Throw-in" or Scrummaging between 5 and 15 yards!
- Q. Canterbury Referees' Association. Mr. W. G. Garrard, Hon Sec. The ball kicked into in-touch, near B's in-goal; A throws-in, all B's side lined out, but A's players were not there, consequently the player waited for his comrades to get into position therefore breaking RULE 11 (eleven), SEC. K. Where was the Referee to give the Free?
- A. At a point just in the field of play, opposite to the spot where ball went into in-touch and parallel to the touch line.
- Q. Mr. R. Armstrong. A Free is awarded, and the ball in its flight is touched by an opponent before crossing the bar, a Touch-Judge for that reason declines to hold his flag up; is he within his rights?
- A. Yes! it is a Touch-Judge's duty to assist the Referee as much as possible.
- Q. Mr. H. D. Wood, University Football Club. Can a player who throws in the ball from in-touch and which alights at right angles; kick or punt it himself?
- A. Yes! even though he is not himself in the field of play.
- Q. Under the same circumstances can he catch it himself?
- A. Yes! if he is in the field of play.
- Q. If when a player drops down on the ball an opponent lifts him off; should there be a penalty inflicted for illegal tackling?
- A. No! but if the Referee is satisfied that there has been rough or foul play, he may caution or order off the opponent; and he will of course also give a free kick against the player who dropped on the ball unless he immediately gets up.

The N.S.W.R.F.U. has approved of the 1st and 2nd decisions as set out on the 3rd weekly circular and also the 1st as taken from the Lancashire R.S. Circular; the 2nd has been referred to the Lancashire Society for further explanation. The 3rd and 4th questions have been approved of as per alterations set out hereunder:—

- Q. Mr. Sefton. A *defending* player *thereafter* brought the ball over the line into the field of play, and threw forward to a colleague, what penalty would be incurred?
- A. A scrummage.
- Q. *The same* player throws the ball forward from in-goal to a colleague in the field of play, what penalty would be incurred?
- A. 5 Yards scrummage.

NOTE.—The words in *Italic* are the alterations made by the Council.

NOTE.—Captains and Secretaries of Clubs affiliated to the N.S.W.R.F.U. and Metropolitan Branch are cordially invited to attend the weekly meetings of the Association, to take part in the discussions, and submit points on the "Laws of the Game."

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6th, 8 p.m. sharp, at the rooms, 109 Pitt-St., Sydney.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.,
SYDNEY.

DEAR SIR,

THE Third Weekly Meeting (Season 1900) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 2 Hunter Street, on Monday, May 28th.

Members present:—Messrs. B. HOLLAND (in the Chair), R. P. BROWNE, J. F. McMANAMEY (President), J. KEAN, LOUND, BROOKS, HUNTER, HUDSON, HARRINGTON, A. BROWN, STOCKHAM, CHAPMAN, McBEATH, MARTIN, ATKIN, A. C. JONES, R. ARMSTRONG, and the HON. SEC. (R. KEAN). Messrs. H. D. WOOD, University; DENT and GILHAM, South Sydney Football Clubs.

The following questions were submitted, and the decisions as shown adopted:—

- (1). By MR. WOOD, U. F. C. Q.—“A scrum is ordered; A's side form up quickly, but a player of B's side having the ball, delays putting it into the scrum until his forwards form up in their places.” What should be done?
A. B's side should be penalised under the following: LAW XI, SECTION (M).—“Free kicks by way of penalty shall be awarded if any player *wilfully or systematically* cause unnecessary loss of time.” Members attention is particularly called to this decision.
- (2). By MR. LOUND. Q.—“Should a player be allowed to punt the ball when dropping out from the 25 yards' line.”
A. No; the ball must be drop-kicked, and the game can only be re-started by such kick, unless the Referee is satisfied that the side punting is wasting time.
- (3). By MR. S. D. TOZER, U. F. C. Q.—“X's side has scored a try and, A., one of their players is placing the ball for a kick at goal; the players of B's side, thinking that the ball is placed, rush it; but A. is allowed by the Referee to replace it; X's side, meanwhile, appeal for 'no charge,' but the Referee still allows a charge.” Is it discretionary with the Referee to allow a charge under those circumstances?
A. Yes.

Referees are again urgently requested to post results immediately upon conclusion of matches.

Players of all grades are cordially invited to attend the Weekly Meetings, and take part in the discussions.

Referees are requested to appoint as Touch-Judges members of the Association as often as practicable, this can be done at the Meetings (which are held on Monday evenings). Cards of admission to the grounds will be issued to Touch-Judges so appointed.

The next Meeting will be held on Monday next, June 4th, at 2 Hunter Street, Sydney, at 8 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

THE

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.,
SYDNEY.

DEAR SIR,

THE Fifth Weekly Meeting (Season 1900) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 2 Hunter Street, on Monday evening last, June 11th.

Members present:—Messrs. W. PURDY (in the Chair), R. P. BROWNE, STOCKHAM, HARRINGTON, A. BROWN, HOLLAND, MARTIN, CHAPMAN, McBEATH, W. ATKINS, MORGAN, A. JONES, LOUND, SEABROOK, NICHOLS, R. ARMSTRONG, HUNTER, HUDSON, BROOKS, WATSON, TREANOR, C. KEAN, and the HON. SEC. (R. KEAN). Messrs. J. R. HENDERSON, N. Sydney F.C., CANTOR, W. M. ARNOLD, and WEYMOUTH, were also present.

The following rulings are taken from the Lancashire Referees' Society and have been adopted by this Association:—

Q.—A three-quarter was tackled with the ball, and the forwards quickly formed round him. The Referee saw he was injured, and blew his whistle to let him out. He crept out without breaking up the scrummage. The ball was again put in and played on, one side securing a try. The other side appealed against it claiming that the scrummage should have been reformed.

A.—A try.

Q.—A player attempting to make a fair catch, jumps high in the air, catches the ball and, letting on both heels, claims a mark.

A.—A mark.

Q.—A player makes a catch, marking with his heel clearly defined, in the field of play, but so near the touch-line that part of his foot was over it. Is this a fair mark?

A.—Yes.

Q.—A half back dropped at goal. The ball was touched in flight by an opponent and then rolled dead. Attackers claimed a five yards scrummage, defenders a kick out at 25.

A.—Kick out at 25. The action being passive.

Q.—A three-quarter, after making a fine run and going over the line for a try, is held up in goal by a defender. In the compact of the tackle the ball was thrown forward over defender's shoulder on to his back. It then rolled forward a yard or so (towards the dead ball line) and was pounced upon by a member of his side for a try.

A.—This is no try, being thrown forward, but ranks as a dead ball, and should be kicked off at 25.

Q.—Now supposing this man stretches his arms over the defender's shoulder and drops the ball on to the tackler's back. It then rolls forward as above. Is *this* a throw forward?

A.—No.

Q.—Try is made and brought out in usual way for kick at goal. Charge is disallowed. May the ball be taken for a new place, out of the parallel line to the touch-line, from a straight line from where the try was scored?

A.—No. A new place may be taken, up or down this line, but not away from it.

Q.—How can any player come up to a scrummage and hook the ball out with his foot without obstructing his opponent's half-back, and how should a Referee proceed should an appeal be made?

A.—The "hooker-out" must be *behind the ball* (i.e., on-side). He can follow the ball, and attempt to hook it out in any position, so long as his other foot is behind the ball. In this way there is no illegal obstruction of the half-back.

Q.—If a three-quarter back gets off-side in front of a scrummage, and is penalized, where must the kick be taken from, where the scrummage was held, or where the three-quarter was off-side?

A.—Penalty from where the three-quarter is off-side, i.e., where the infringement takes place.

The N.S.W.R.F.U. having decided to adopt the English ruling *re* Kick at Goal, members will please note: "That henceforth the kicker cannot place the ball on the ground in instructing the placer, nor touch it after the placer has put it down, if he does the kick at goal is forfeited."

MESSRS. J. TREANOR and G. SEABROOK having passed the examination were duly elected as members.

Please Note.—That the next meeting only will be held at the Forbes Hotel, York and King Streets, on Monday evening, June 18th, at 8 p.m.

Referees are again urgently requested to post results immediately upon conclusion of matches.

Players of all grades are cordially invited to attend the Weekly Meetings, and take part in the discussions.

Referees are requested to appoint as Touch-Judges members of the Association as often as practicable, this can be done at the Meetings (which are held on Monday evenings). Cards of admission to the grounds will be issued to Touch-Judges so appointed.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

THE

New South Wales Referees' Association.

Box 1452, G.P.O.,
SYDNEY.

DEAR SIR,

THE Seventh Weekly Meeting (Season 1900) of the above, was held at the Rooms, 2 Hunter Street, on Monday evening, June 25th.

Members present:—Messrs. J. T. CHAPMAN, (in the Chair), A. BROWN, PAULING, R. ARMSTRONG, W. ARMSTRONG, NICHOLS, HUNTER, ATKINS, MCEVOY, McBEATH, SEABROOK, KATTIE, STOCKHAM, HARRINGTON, R. P. BROWNE, LOUND, CANTOR, MARTIN, HUDSON, and (R. KEAN). HON. SEC.

The following decisions of the Association have been approved of by the Council of the N. S. W. R. U. The decisions therefore published on the 3rd and 5th weekly circular letters are cancelled:—

Q.—Should a player be allowed to punt the ball when dropping out from the 25 yards line.

A.—No; the ball must be drop-kicked, and the game can only be re-started by such kick.

Q.—X's side has scored a try and A., one of their players, is placing the ball for kick at goal; the players of B's side, thinking that the ball is placed, rush it; but A. is allowed by the Referee to replace it; X's side, meanwhile, appeal for no charge. Is it discretionary with the Referee to allow a charge under those circumstances.

A.—Yes.

Q.—A three-quarter was tackled with the ball, and the forwards quickly formed round him. The Referee saw he was injured, and blew his whistle to let him out. He crept out without breaking up the scrummage. The ball was again put in and played on, one side securing a try. The other side appealed against it claiming that the scrummage should have been reformed.

A.—A try.

Q.—A player attempting to make a fair catch, jumps high in the air, catches the ball and, lighting on both heels, claims a fair catch.

A.—A mark.

Q.—A half back dropped at goal. The ball was touched in flight by an opponent and then rolled dead. Attackers claimed a five yards scrummage, defenders a kick out at 25.

A.—Kick out at 25. The action being passive.

Q.—A three-quarter, after making a fine run and going over the line for a try, is held up in goal by a defender. In the compact of the tackle the ball was thrown forward over defender's shoulder on to his back. It then rolled forward a yard or so (towards the dead ball line) and was pounced upon by a member of his side for a try.

A.—This is no try, being thrown forward, but ranks as a dead ball, and should be kicked off at 25.

Q.—Now supposing this man stretches his arms over the defender's shoulder and drops the ball on to the tackler's back. It then rolls forward as above. Is *this* a throw forward?

A.—No.

Q.—Try is made and brought out in usual way for kick at goal. Charge is disallowed. May the ball be taken for a new place, out of the parallel line to the touch-line, from a straight line from where the try was scored?

A.—No. A new place may be taken, up or down this line, but not away from it.

Q.—How can any player come up to a scrum and hook the ball out with his foot without obstructing his opponent's half-back, and how should a Referee proceed should an appeal be made?

A.—The "hooker-out" must be *behind the ball* (i.e., on-side). He can follow the ball, and attempt to hook it out in any position, so long as his other foot is behind the ball. In this way there is no illegal obstruction of the half-back.

Q.—If a three-quarter back gets off-side in front of a scrum, and is penalized, where must the kick be taken from, where the scrum was held, or where the three-quarter was off-side?

A.—Penalty from where the three-quarter is off-side, i.e., where the infringement takes place.

The N.S.W.R.F.U. having decided to adopt the English ruling *re* Kick at Goal, members will please note: "That henceforth the kicker cannot place the ball on the ground in instructing the placer, nor touch it after the placer has put it down, if he does the kick at goal is forfeited" Referees are requested when ordering players off for misconduct etc., to obtain such players names from the captain of the team, should he decline to give the desired information, the Referee must report him for misconduct. The Metropolitan Rugby Union Committee desire Referees to forward any reports they may have to make not later than 4 p.m. on Tuesdays.

At the next meeting of the Association to be held at the Room 2 Hunter Street on Monday next July 2nd. at 8 p.m. the question of Referees expenses will be discussed and it is desirable that members should attend in full force.

Referees are again urgently requested to post results immediately upon conclusion of matches.

Players of all grades are cordially invited to attend the Weekly Meetings, and take part in the discussions.

Referees are requested to appoint as Touch-Judges members of the Association as often as practicable, this can be done at the Meetings (which are held on Monday evenings). Cards of admission to the grounds will be issued to Touch-Judges so appointed.

Yours faithfully,

ROLAND KEAN, *Hon. Sec.*

