THROUGH INITIATIVES SUCH AS TRYRUGBY AND EDRUGBY. THE BROAD APPEAL OUR SPORT **ENJOYS IN THE COMMUNITY KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES**



GEOFF SHAW, GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY RUGBY

2003 has been a fantastic year for all members of the Rugby community. Not only have we had a chance to enjoy a number of Test matches, and put on our Australian colours to cheer the Wallabies, but the awareness of Rugby around the country is at a level never before seen, providing the perfect platform for the growth of the game in 2004.

The instigation of the volunteer recognition program has made sure that the most important people in our game received the thanks they deserve. The See Australia Rugby True Colours Tour took the atmosphere and excitement of the Rugby World Cup to all parts of Australia, and the EdRugby program has been able to bring Rugby into the school classroom.

In 2003 the ARU in consultation with the State Unions identified three strategic intents within the Community Rugby division:

- continual substantial sustainable growth;
- development of participation management and support infrastructure;
- contribute to professional Rugby.

To achieve growth in our game, a number of programs have been developed and already existing programs have been expanded. including Coach and Match Official Education, the EdRugby program, TryRugby, the player pathway and the RugbyRig.

Coach and Match Official Education, including the SmartRugby program have helped raise the standard of best practice and the awareness of risk management in all levels of Rugby, and the continual enhancement of RugbyNet in late 2003 has provided administrators with the tools to manage clubs efficiently.

The continued development of the U16 National Championships and the Australian Rugby Shield, as well as the increased standard in play, coaching and refereeing, has ensured that the entry level to High Performance Rugby for players, coaches and match officials is maintained at a level that can only assist the professional side of the game in the future.

003 HIGHLIGHTS

EDRUGBY

COACH EDUCATION

MATCH OFFICIAL EDUCATION

QUALITY ASSURANCE

PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT

CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE SEE AUSTRALIA RUGBY TRUE COLOURS TOUR

EDRUGBY

EdRugby, the ARU's National Education Program for Schools was launched in each State in March/April 2003 with the aim to stimulate the academic learning experience of young people, whilst promoting their interest in Rugby Union, with the overall objective of growing youth participation.

John Eales, former Wallaby Captain, became the official ambassador for EdRugby in March 2003 and has provided enormous support in endorsing the program.

EdRugby consists of two main components — Club EdRugby, a tiered membership for schools - and EdRugby Online, a cross curriculum teaching resource for primary and secondary schools (see www.rugby.com.au/edrugby for details).

Over 1,000 primary and secondary schools joined Club EdRugby in the first six months. Two thirds of these schools regard themselves as non-Rugby or irregular Rugby playing schools with an equal split of primary and secondary schools. It is estimated that over 150,000 students were involved in some way with Club EdRugby in 2003.

Club EdRugby provided schools with unique opportunities including tickets to RWC 2003 matches, entry into competitions, a Wallaby E-Pal, merchandise, school promotion on the EdRugby website and monthly e-newsletters. Over 13,000 tickets to RWC 2003 were sold to EdRugby schools, across all venues. Over a third of Club EdRugby schools applied for tickets to RWC matches.

EdRugby Online was developed in consultation with education and curriculum advisors in all States and Territories. Consisting of 63 lesson plans (20 primary, 16 secondary and 27 overlapping primary and secondary), EdRugby Online meets learning outcomes across the curriculum areas of English, Studies of Society and the Environment, Health and Physical Education, The Arts, Technology, Mathematics and Science. In addition to the curriculum material for teachers, 11 student interactives have also been developed to compliment the lesson plans and engage students in fun activities.

Promotion and marketing of EdRugby to schools, teachers and the community was an important element for 2003. Key activities included:

 promotional partnership with News Ltd to increase awareness of the program, highlighting winners of the competitions, the launch of EdRugby Online and the ongoing development of EdRugby in schools. Ben Tune, one of the EdRugby Wallaby E-Pals, agreed to become a fortnightly

columnist, producing articles of interest to students in NIE (Newspapers in Education) and Junior Sports Stars segments of News Ltd newspapers nationally. The partnership has been a successful way of promoting EdRugby to the broader community;

• the See Australia Rugby True Colours Tour provided an opportunity for EdRugby to inservice teachers on EdRugby Online and discuss the future development of EdRugby post 2003, 450 teachers attended the 32 workshops around Australia:

 in addition to the Rugby tour, EdRugby staff delivered over 40 presentations at teacher conferences in 2003. The estimated number of delegates that were present at the conferences is 1,000.

EdRugby employs four full time staff – a manager, two co-ordinators and an administrator. 20 volunteer staff assist EdRugby deliver the programs, in particular the Wallaby E-Pals program.

TRYRUGBY

The mission of the all inclusive TryRugby package is to provide the highest quality and highest value sport participation activity in Australia by delivering the Rugby experience to children and parents in an accessible, welcoming, fun and convenient environment. TryRugby is one of the Australian Sports Commissions targeted sports growth programs and 2003 was the second year of funding with 42 TryRugby centres run throughout the breadth of the country.

All States and Territories have now been involved in the program, with North Queensland, Alice springs, Launceston and Country



ARU Managing Director John O'Neill, former Wallaby captain John Eales and NSW Minister for Education and Training John Watkins launch EdRugby with two students from Daceyville Public School.

NSW areas new to the program in 2003. As was the case in 2002, the program included three stages, February, May and October. The bulk of centres were run in October during the RWC to maximise the potential interest generated in the game, with the See Australia Rugby True Colours Tour enabling the TryRugby message to be taken around the country.

The six week TryRugby program once again proved very successful in attracting new participants to our game. The exposure in the surrounding primary schools of the Invasion games program and subsequent post TryRugby transition and/or Junior Pathway competitions enabled a better strategic sequencing of these participation/recruitment products. Whilst significant advances have been made in this area, there is scope for all stakeholders to maximise the potential for the participants through the TryRugby experience.

2004 will see the final year of the Australian Sports Commissions' involvement and will be marked by some 50 or more TryRugby centres spread across the country, with new markets to focus on. Focus on club-based TryRugby programs running independent of the ARU, will be concentrated upon as we explore the continued expansion and future sustainability of the program.



150,000 people playing Rugby in Australia.

COACH EDUCATION

2003 has been a very busy year with a number of projects completed and a number currently under review.

There were a number of developments to coaching resources during 2003 including the production of a new Level I Coaching Manual, which has been re-registered with the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) for another four years, and will be available on the web in 2004. A video/DVD "Rugby Explained" is a long overdue resource, which has been developed for new players and parents, providing an armchair's guide to the playing of the game. The Level II Coaching Course has also been resubmitted to the ASC and the Sports Science Manual is currently being rewritten, ready for the 2004 season.

The ARU Coach Education Manager, along with Wallaby coaching staff and experienced coaches, continue to provide assistance to developing coaches. In the early parts of 2003 Wallaby Coaching staff visited developing Unions and along with skilled coaches attended Australian Rugby Shield matches to mentor coaches, referees and players.

Education sessions for coaches were organised around the National U16s, Schools and Women's Tournaments as well as specialised Selector's in-services for a number of affiliates.

The major initiatives for 2004 will include the development of online coaching education; further resource development, Union affiliate staff in-servicing and the relaunch of the MyRugby Coach

MATCH OFFICIAL EDUCATION

The Federal Government, through the ASC, launched 2003 as the Year of the Official with the major objective being to recognise the valuable contribution made by match officials and to address the issue of abuse of officials. The ARU was an active participant in this program with a number of initiatives being implemented during the year, including participation in a pilot officials scholarship program and the production of promotional material to highlight the valuable contribution made by officials and to assist in addressing the abuse of officials issue.

The development program for match officials involved in the ARS was further enhanced in 2003 through the appointment of Level III Referee Coaches to all matches, and a comprehensive in-service for all referees and referee coaches prior to the commencement of this Tournament. These two initiatives saw a marked improvement in the standard of officiating compared to previous years and assisted in the presentation of a very competitive series of matches. Similarly, support through education programs at national championships assisted in the development of these officials.

Support of State-based referee development staff was again a major priority with ongoing education programs as well as a structured program of State visits. A number of changes in personnel required a higher than normal level of support to assist in the integration and professional development of these individuals. The concentrated effort during the year has developed a sound base for future development in all States.

A rewrite of the accreditation courses for touch judges and presenters has been competed and the new courses will be submitted to the ASC for re-accreditation in early 2004. During next year, other accreditation courses will be reviewed and updated in line with the requirement for them to be re-accredited by the ASC in February 2005.

The Level III Referee and Referee Coach programs continued in 2003 with five referees and three referee coaches completing the program. These programs provide a solid base for the continued development of officiating in all States with one of the major aims of the referee coach program to provide high level coaches in all States over the coming years. The 2004 programs commence in October 2003 with five participants in each program.

Major initiatives for 2004 include the development of online education facilities in parallel with redevelopment of accreditation courses, further resource development and the relaunch of the MyRugby match official.



QUALITY ASSURANCE

SmartRugby

The SmartRugby program is designed to inform coaches of best practice techniques, to minimise the risk of injury to players and increase the level of confidence that participants and families can gain from their association with the game. In its second year, the program objective is to create consistency in risk management across Australia and raise the bar for groups that are not familiar with current coaching standards. All Australian clubs and schools were required to review their coaching, and safety practices, and make a commitment to the program.

In 2003, 21 Level 3 accredited coaches were selected as ARU SmartRugby Presenters with the program being delivered much the same as in 2002, in a "train the trainer" format, with the SmartRugby Co-ordinator and a core group of coaches from each club and school attending one session. In its inaugural year, 2002, 146 SmartRugby sessions were conducted with 1,500 participants attending. In 2003, 136 SmartRugby sessions were conducted with over 2,000 participants attending a session in all States and Territories throughout the country.

The SmartRugby Club of the Year Award was introduced in 2003 and given to one club who had embraced and complied with the SmartRugby program throughout the season. The 2003 Club of the Year Award was awarded to Caboolture Rugby Union. Caboolture RUC had 21 coaches attend a SmartRugby session, were one of the first clubs to nominate a SmartRugby co-ordinator and had notified the ARU immediately after they had in-serviced their players in the SmartRugby program.

SmartRugby will again be delivered in season 2004, utilising 30 Level 3 accredited coaches based in every State and Territory Union within Australia.

Injury Surveillance Study

The ongoing injury surveillance study is conducted by the University of NSW and is a major Australian initiative in injury prevention, co-funded during 2000-2002 by the ARU and the NSW Sporting Injuries Committee. The support from the ARU demonstrates a strong commitment to the reduction of injuries in Rugby. The study is the first supported by a major Australian sporting organisation that has focused on examining injury risks across the range of participants as part of an injury risk management program. The 2003 results of the study reinforces the need for initiatives such as SmartRugby program in reducing injuries resulting from the tackle and other contact events, such as the scrum.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The ARU launched a unique program in 2003 to reward and recognise the efforts of volunteers who devote countless hours week in, week out, year after year, to provide a safe and enjoyable environment at the grass roots of the game. The program recognised a selection of volunteers in each State and Territory from the 13,000-community Rugby volunteers throughout Australia and anointed one volunteer as the national "Volunteer of the Decade".

The Volunteer Recognition Program was open to any person currently associated with community Rugby in Australia in a non-paid capacity at a club, school, sub/zone-union, or ARU affiliate. Nominees were judged on their contribution to Rugby, innovation and leadership, demonstration of community Rugby participation and their ability to meet a Rugby need at a community, regional, State or national level.

Nominated volunteers who met set criteria were recognised for their efforts by being hosted in a corporate box at a Wallabies Test match. In its inaugural year, 87 volunteers were selected within the Volunteer Recognition Program for their significant contribution to the game.

2003 Volunteer Recognition Program winners:

Australian Capital Territory Rugby Union - Mike Dowsett, Allan Casey, Craig Tozer, Gordon Scott, Jack McGrath, John McGrath, Peter McCann, Ian Wells, Paul Francis, Martin Gray, Wendy Leggoe

New South Wales Rugby Union – Chris Roach, Larry Thomson, Tony Rudd, David Sloane, Brian Tomalin, Peter McFadyen, Paul Gavin, Greg Carew, Stephen Rowntree, Jennifer Slyney, Philip Connell, Laurie McMartin, Ian Frame, Matthew Waddington, Stephen Johnson, David Rodgie, Ian Kellaway, Jefferey Leonard, Chistopher Salakas, Diane Long, Hugh Thompson, Peter Ryan, Bonnie West, Les Church, Brad Bishop, Steve Grace, Robert Stenberg, Robert Short

Northern Territory Rugby Union – Chris Howard, Colin Snowden

Queensland Rugby Union - Ian Coombe, Des Drice, Tiki Tuapou, Peter Gofton, Lisa Rapira, Michael McLean, Chris Heath. Kerry O'Carroll, Geoff Makim, Trevor Luff, Tom Wooller, Bevan Whip

South Australian Rugby Union - Graeme Burrows, Jan Turner

Tasmanian Rugby Union - Colin Debnam, lan Dare



Victorian Rugby Union – Steve Curnow, Leo Lornie, Tilly Laumea, Leanne Carter, Kaye Tuddenham, Brian Batchelar, Peter Hone, John Woodhouse

Western Australian Rugby Union – Chris Nash, Rick Wolters, Edna Rovira, John Schlafrig, Andrew Ayling, Kenneth Coombes, Gavin Wetton, Jack Cotter, Kevin Hays, Brian French, Terrence Bradbury, Rick de Franck, Denise Gittings, Adrian Blacker, Ray Goodall, Jim Curtis, Greg Hunt, Peter Kane, Michael Parker, Ralph Blackman

In 2003, Australian Rugby's biggest year due to the RWC, 24 State/Territory volunteers were awarded the "Volunteer of the Decade" medal and received a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend the Final match of the RWC at Telstra Stadium, Sydney with a quest. All 24 Volunteer of the Decade winners were then eligible to be in the running as the national Volunteer of the Decade recipient, with a final eight State and Territory Finalists (underlined below) being selected for the national award.

Volunteer of the Decade Medal winners:

Australian Capital Territory Rugby Union – Robert Donnelly, Peter Bradley, Graham Blewitt

New South Wales Rugby Union – Margaret Myhill, John Brewer, Brian Willoughby, Bevan Gay, Brian Cox, Timothy Booth, John Hinton, Russell Mackie

Northern Territory Rugby Union – Dan Panapa

Queensland Rugby Union – Geoff Pegg, John Brew, Bob Spillane, Karen Keach, Julie Ryan

South Australian Rugby Union – George Doughty

Tasmanian Rugby Union – Greg Sawyer

Victorian Rugby Union – John Brentnall, John Harrison

Western Australian Rugby Union — Richard Trend, David McKnight, Steve Fink

National Volunteer of the Decade recipient, Margaret Myhill, was selected as the national Volunteer of the Decade winner for her

extensive contribution to the development of junior Rugby in New South Wales and her ongoing association with the Dundas Valley Junior Rugby Club for well over 30 years.

Australian Rugby, in conjunction with all State and Territory Unions, would like to congratulate all Volunteer Recognition and Volunteer of the Decade winners for their contribution to Rugby in Australia, with the Volunteer Recognition Program continuing in season 2004.

Volunteer Research

Funding from the Australian Research Council was granted in 2003 for a joint research collaboration between the ARU and a group of Australia's leading researchers with extensive track records in the area of volunteer management from Griffith University (Brisbane) and the University of Technology (Sydney). The three-year research project, commencing in 2004, will focus on the efficacy of a human resource management (HRM) approach in increasing the commitment, satisfaction and retention of volunteers in community Rugby.

PARTICIPATION

Pathway

The national Junior Player Pathway has been the focus of much debate since its introduction in 2002.

This has generally been very constructive and all parties are in agreement upon the modifications made to laws to produce the games of Walla, Mini and Midi. The issue of the age at which these games are to be played is still open to differing opinions between the respective stakeholders, and it is hoped that 2004 will see a resolution to this matter. Not only is this important to attract and cater for new junior participants, but also in terms of standardising resources produced.

We must be collectively taking a similar approach to the game in the Junior Player Pathway as numbers continue to increase. A large part of this is down to the efforts of all those volunteers that work at the "coal face" week in, week out, well done! PS: keep it up.

DEVELOPMENT

Universities Rugby

The Australian Universities Rugby Team played Australian Combined Services Rugby Team as the curtain raiser to Fiji vs Queensland at Ballymore on Sunday 29 June. In a thrilling encounter, Universities defeated a gallant Services 54-34 after leading 24-17 at the break. Head Coach, Nick Leah (ACT) and Assistant Coach, Rod Cutler (WA), were satisfied with the result and applauded Services for their scrummaging and defence.

Australian University Sport, in conjunction with the ARU, staged the Australian University Games Rugby competition in Newcastle during the first week of October. The men's and women's divisions were held at Lakeside Sports Complex, Raymond Terrace with the final days' play staged at EnergyAustralia Stadium, Broadmeadow. Twenty-one teams in total participated over three days with northern, southern, eastern and western tertiary zones of Australia all represented. Sydney University won the men's seven-a-side competition and Newcastle University retained the women's 10-a-side title.

Deaf Rugby

Australian Deaf Rugby enjoyed a season of consolidation in 2003 following last year's inaugural Deaf Rugby World Cup in New Zealand, Both New South Wales and Queensland State training squads met monthly under the tutelage of Anthony Bignold (NSW) and George Twohill (Qld).

The ARU organised two development camps for each State squad in June and October, utilising sports facilities at the Narrabeen Academy of Sport and Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre on the Gold Coast. These camps provided an opportunity for early education and training in preparation for the Australian Deaf Rugby Team's participation at the 2005 Deaf Rugby World Cup in Wales. Cochlear Ltd again supported ADRU's efforts in 2003 despite no fixtures being played.

Indigenous Rugby

The ARU expanded the Indigenous Sports Program into three States in 2003. The Northern Territory Rugby Union, Queensland Rugby Union and New South Wales Rugby Union hosted a total of five programs in conjunction with the Australian Sports Commission's Indigenous Sports Program, the Lloyd McDermott Rugby Development Team Inc and supportive community organisations.

In total, 164 new and existing indigenous participants were provided with expert tuition and an opportunity to showcase their talents in a locally organised Tournament.

The Lloyd McDermott Team Inc again brought together the National Indigenous U16 and U18 teams to compete at the National U16 Championships and the Australian Division II Schools Championships. Both teams secured third place in their respective divisions and the U16 team followed their Tournament with a successful tour of New Zealand, playing three fixtures against Maori representative teams and winning two.

The Lloyd McDermott Team Inc also provided a schoolgirl selection team to play NSWCHS and a men's team to compete at the Central Coast 7s Tournament.



Development grants were issued to State and Territory Unions to assist in the promotion of women's Rugby.

Women's Ruaby

The ARU hosted the Australian Women's Invitational Tournament at Narrabeen Academy of Sport, Sydney from the 24-27 July. Nine senior State and Territory teams participated in the 15-a-side competition including teams from ACT, Combined Services, NSW Country, NT, Sydney x 2, Tasmania, Victoria and WA. Teams provided developmental squads and participated in six shortened games using Australian U19 law variations. The Tournament proved a resounding success with Sydney Gold winning the title narrowly from Victoria and NSW Country.

Development grants were issued to State and Territory Unions to assist in the promotion of the women's game at a local level. These grants helped to support successful initiatives such as ACTRU's Women's College Program, which provided coaching skills clinics and a 10-a-side-tournament to six targeted colleges within ACT and Queanbeyan.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

National U16s Championships 2003

The annual National U16s Championships were held at St Ignatius' College, Riverview from Sunday 28 September to Friday 3 October, with matches played on Monday 30, Wednesday 1, and Friday 3. The Division 1 knock-out comprised of three teams from NSW (NSW Juniors, NSW Development and NSW Schools), two from Queensland (Queensland Red and Queensland White), and one team each from ACT, Western Australia and Victoria. The Division 2 round-robin comprised of teams from South Australia, Northern Territory, Tasmania and the Llovd McDermott XV.

On top of hosting 18 games of Rugby, the National U16s Championships also provided an excellent opportunity for professional development education for all players, coaches, managers and team physiotherapists through a series of practical and theory-based workshops with ARU, State Union and external professionals such as the Australian Sports Drug Agency (ASDA).

The Championships also provided an opportunity to complete much needed research into elite adolescent athletes including presentations and interventions workshops on nutrition, hydration, sports psychology and data collection on body size and mass, injuries, lactates, as well as, participation surveys. The ARU High Performance Unit (HPU) and State Union Academy Managers were also in attendance for every game and testing was conducted in collaboration with the AIS to collect vital data on this age division.

Results and Awards

Division 1:

Rod Macqueen Shield - NSW Juniors (3) defeated Queensland Red (0)

Nick Farr-Jones Shield - Queensland White (13) defeated **Victoria (7)** in repechage final (5th place)

Division 2:

John Eales Shield – South Australia completing a clean sweep to claim the title

Best Team Man:

Bob Dwyer Plaque – Jack Lam (ACT), Shane Peckham (Lloyd McDermott XV), Bryan Watt (Tasmania), Stuart Longworth (QLD White), Ben McCormack (QLD Red), Leo Afeaki (NSW Schools), Charlie Caban (NSW Development), Kai Ikeuchi (NSW Juniors), Patrick Cherrington (Western Australia), Tom Tusitala (Victoria), Elijah Peart (Northern Territory) and Leighton Calvert (South Australia).

Team Manager's Award:

Nigel Jerome Stiff Memorial Trophy - John Farren (South Australia)

Best Referee:

Tony Lacarze Award – Alistair Mould

Australian Rugby Shield

The Australian Rugby Shield (ARS) in 2003 provided one of the closest competitions in the history of the ARS with the standard of the smaller States increasing considerably. Perth Gold were worthy champions ending the season undefeated with a decisive victory in the final over Qld Country 41-14.

The ARS again provided an excellent opportunity to assist players, coaches, managers, and referees in their professional development thus providing a valuable opportunity in achieving a representative pathway for all involved in the ARS. This included relevant in-services in coaching, selecting and refereeing by ARU staff and consultants. The ARU Talent Identification Manager also attended matches.

As in previous years, the ARS remains an important steppingstone in the development of Rugby nationally with the matches in 2003 being staged in Adelaide, Darwin, Perth, Melbourne, Gunnedah, Rockhampton, Moree, Gold Coast, Bundaberg, Port Macquarie, and Kalgoorlie. The Semi Finals were held in Perth and Dubbo, and the Final in Perth.

THE SEE AUSTRALIA RUGBY TRUE COLOURS TOUR

In the lead up to the RWC 2003, the Australian Rugby Union toured a Rugby Exhibition around Australia for three months commencing on 3 July 2003. Travelling to 24 primary Tour venues and 20 satellite venues, it concluded on 10 October 2003 at the Overseas Passenger Terminal, Circular Quay, Sydney on the eve of the Opening Game and Opening Ceremony of the RWC 2003.

The See Australia Rugby True Colours Tour aim was to increase the Australian communities' interest in Rugby and leave a legacy by linking to new and existing recruitment, accreditation, safety and administration programs, in order to increase participation in the sport with immediate impact for the 2004 season and beyond 2005, as well as creating a heightened awareness, excitement and pride about the RWC Tournament from within the Australian community.

The See Australia Rugby True Colours Tour remained at each venue from one to four days depending on the venue size and location and spent time at both city centre and ovals / fields where over 100,000 public and 8,000 school children visited the Tour.

Each club and Rugby playing school throughout Australia had the opportunity to donate and present one of their club or school's jerseys, which was incorporated into the official Opening Ceremony of the RWC 2003.

The See Australia Rugby True Colours Tour comprised the Australian Rugby Promotions Truck ("The Rig"), three Rugby interactives (Scrum, Line-Out and Pass), Scene-to-Believe Wallaby Team Photo Promotion, guest Wallaby, Classic Wallaby and Super 12 Rugby Ambassadors, RWC 2003 team jersey signing banners, Community Rugby functions, Schools (TryRugby) and Supporter Days, EdRugby Teacher In-Service Seminars, Australian Rugby merchandise and in some instances. Rotarian BBQ.

SEE AUSTRALIA RUGBY TRUE COLOURS TOUR STATISTICS **COMMUNITIES VISITED: 44 AMBASSADORS APPEARED: 159** JERSEYS COLLECTED: 390 SCHOOL TEACHERS ATTENDING EDRUGBY SESSIONS: 450 **WALLABY TEAM PHOTOS TAKEN: 5,580** SCHOOL STUDENTS VISITING TOUR: 8,000 **KILOMETRES TRAVELLED: 20,000** PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED: 240,000 VISITORS TO DATE: MORE THAN 100,000

PARTICIPATION RATES

ACT					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	1,180	1,620	1,892	1,778	1,745
JUNIORS	2,400	2,604	2,682	3,510	3,077
SCH00LS (1) *	1,340	1,915	1,903	2,211	2,037
SCH00LS (2) **					600
WOMEN	120	100	100	100	115
GOLDEN OLDIES					
TOTALS	5,040	6,239	6,577	7,599	7,574

QRU					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	5,620	7,386	7,564	8,714	8,169
JUNIORS	7,121	7,747	8,630	10,228	10,285
SCH00LS (1) *	16,620	13,749	15,228	18,530	20,489
SCH00LS (2) **		860	1,005	812	640
WOMEN	360	400	350	240	200
GOLDEN OLDIES					
TOTALS	23,029	29,721	30,142	32,777	38,524

VRU					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	1,618	1,742	1,535	1,850	1,981
JUNIORS	336	618	913	1,046	992
SCH00LS (1) *	860	860	1,362	878	1,149
SCH00LS (2) **				610	480
WOMEN		105	150	80	88
GOLDEN OLDIES	162				
TOTALS	3,058	2,976	3,325	3,960	4,464

TRU					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	462	611	567	551	358
JUNIORS	201	263	255	273	251
SCH00LS (1) *	180	180			0
SCH00LS (2) **					163
WOMEN	18	19	62	57	47
GOLDEN OLDIES					
TOTALS	861	1,073	884	881	819

NATIONAL					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	28,829	33,648	33,767	37,541	36,946
JUNIORS	24,787	27,111	28,945	33,225	32,817
SCH00LS (1)*	45,424	36,270	39,159	43,769	46,079
SCH00LS (2)**		12,630	15,524	15,004	15,966
WOMEN	1,123	1,572	1,866	1,321	1,427
GOLDEN OLDIES	4,743	16,570	16,690	17,890	17,000
TOTALS	104,906	127,801	135,951	148,750	150,235

NSWRU					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	15,578	17,577	17,665	20,172	20,456
JUNIORS	11,847	12,603	13,257	15,299	15,461
SCH00LS (1) *	24,234	17,425	18,395	19,738	20,150
SCH00LS (2) **		11,770	13,425	13,190	13,500
WOMEN	313	570	849	575	715
GOLDEN OLDIES	3,996				
TOTALS	55,968	59,945	63,591	68,974	70,282

WARU					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	2,396	2,504	2,626	2,427	2,433
JUNIORS	1,619	1,943	2,105	1,925	1,904
SCH00LS (1)*	1,440	1,531	1,935	2,031	1,990
SCH00LS (2) **			824	367	239
WOMEN	126	131	142	145	104
GOLDEN OLDIES	190				
TOTALS	5,771	6,109	7,632	6,895	6,670

NT					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	1,159	1,339	1,083	953	846
JUNIORS	734	816	614	449	345
SCH00LS (1) *	250	386	92	100	50
SCH00LS (2) **					344
WOMEN	121	160	128	80	60
GOLDEN OLDIES	260				
TOTALS	2,456	2,524	2,701	1,917	1,582

SARU					
YEAR	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
SENIORS	816	869	835	1,096	958
JUNIORS	529	517	489	495	502
SCH00LS (1) *	500	224	244	224	214
SCH00LS (2) **			270	25	0
WOMEN	65	87	85	101	98
GOLDEN OLDIES	135				
TOTALS	2045	1,697	1,923	1,941	1,772

- Schools 1 = schools who played more than five games and were in a regular competition.
- ** Schools 2 = schools who competed in Knockout comps, gala days etc. Did not play in a regular competition.