



I will be forever grateful to the NRL and veteran sports for creating this program. Even though it is in its early stages I feel it has made a huge impact already with veterans both current and ex. With time it will only get greater. I have started getting back into contact with mates I served with (a lot who said are keen to do it). I don't believe I would have done so without my new-found confidence I have found through doing the Battlefields to Footy Fields program.

Thanks again, you'll never understand my gratefulness.



Regards,

Pte. Troy Burgess.
Retired



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**Veteran Sport
Australia**



BATTLEFIELDS TO FOOTYFIELDS

Brett Suttor
Physical Training Instructor
RAAF

Veteran Sport Australia



MAKE THE CALL BE A REF

The National Rugby League and Veteran Sport Australia are partnering in the delivery of a ground-breaking program called Battlefields to Footy Fields.

Many veterans face an uphill battle when they transition from the defence force back into everyday society.

Battlefields to Footy Fields is a program that provides veterans the opportunity to integrate into their communities through officiating.

The program provides veterans the opportunity to:

- › Undertake a National Rugby League Officiating Course with built in Vocational Education & Training components
- › Initially referee rugby league matches in their local community while also providing pathways to the upper levels of officiating, including the professional ranks
- › Participate in coaching and/or mentoring to undertake accreditation courses to fulfil these roles
- › Become a valued team member
- › Earn additional income
- › Be supported through the journey by well-established officiating structures

Veteran Sport Australia



In serving in the defence force, and in officiating, there's the common bond of being a member of a team. Battlefields to Footy Fields provides veterans with an opportunity to hone their newfound officiating skills and participate in something that gives them a renewed sense of belonging along with the ability to earn some extra income.

As part of the program, the NRL will provide:

- › Uniforms
- › Insurance and association fees
- › Equipment
- › A mentor who will train and follow the referee as they move up the officiating ranks

Referees feel joy when stepping out onto the field. With it comes a great sense of value and accomplishment.

The NRL places strong emphasis on providing all participants in its Officiating programs with technical, educational and personal development.

Officiating also provides skill development opportunities for participants, enhancing communication, team work, leadership and management skills.

**For more information please contact
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