

WORKING IN SPORT AND RECREATION



Name

Andy Melrose

Job Title

Referee Training & Education Officer

Organisation

Rugby Football Union

What are your main responsibilities?

The development of our award structure and provision of training resources for rugby union referees in England.

Do you work alone or in a team?

Mostly alone but with considerable interaction with members of the team via e mail and phone. We meet regularly as a team plus various ad hoc meetings over specific issues.

What would a typical day contain for you?

To be honest there is no such thing – a typical week might be easier. I normally spend two days at home working on e mails and documents, one day at home editing/working on DVD's and two days in meetings. Even then things vary a lot.

How many members of the public do you meet on a day to day basis?

It varies a great deal between phone, e mail and personal contact. I would say around ten.

Why did you choose a career in this industry?

The opportunity and challenge were too much to resist. At the time we were doing things for the first time ever. I have always enjoyed playing and refereeing the game so the chance to work in it full time was too much to resist.

What is your educational background?

Degree level and I was a teacher for 20 or so years.

How did you find out about your current job?

The department was expanding and we had been looking for a while to see if we could create this role. Training and education are key elements in improving refereeing and thus the game itself.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Devising new courses and training products.

What do you like least?

Implementation and logistics.

What skills are important in your job?

An eye for detail, some originality, consultation and collaboration, being able to use ideas from other people/sports/disciplines and the ability to see what the market needs rather than wants.

What training have you received whilst in your job?

More than enough to meet my needs - presentation skills, training design and delivery, editing DVD's and so on. I have also completed a number of IRB (International Rugby Board) courses.

Is there anything else you wish you had a chance to learn, develop or practice?

My editing of DVD's and filming could still be better although they've improved a lot through the training. I am also interested in business and life coaching.

What could people expect to earn in a job like yours?

Depends upon their age and experience but starts at £30k upwards.

How satisfied are you with your job security?

Very happy. The RFU is a good company to work for.

What are your career aspirations?

Enjoyment!

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