

Fired-up Dragons chief should pull his head in



KISS OF DEATH

Ashley Robinson

DRAGONS chief executive Peter Doust is acting like a spoilt child over the bad call by officials on the last play-the-ball in the game against the Storm on Monday.

Instead of carrying on, they should be asking themselves how they managed to let the Storm back into the game in the last 10 minutes.

The club also should be supporting the NRL and setting an example for its players in realising that life can sometimes be unfair but, hey, get on with it, not cry foul.

Imagine if the NRL gave them the points – I think the Cowboys might want a couple of results reversed as well, plus Parra could ask for its finals loss to Manly back in the 1970s when referee Greg Hartley gave the Silvertails seven tackles and hit Parra with a stack of penalties.

It just isn't gonna happen. ■ THE headgear debate in junior rugby league is getting some attention and although experts can't really say whether it will be beneficial to make it compulsory, in my view it can't

really hurt so I support it.

Of course there is the outcry about extra cost – probably about \$70 – but to me it's a bit like when they

brought in compulsory bike helmets. There was the same outcry, but eventually it worked itself out.

If you look at amateur boxing, they have worn headgear for as long as I can remember, so it must do some good.

■ LAST week when I wrote a bit about the national lifesaving championships in Perth, I should have mentioned Grant Kenny winning the 50-54 years ironman.

It was amazing and apart from a torn calf, he seemed to have turned back the clock.

He looked and competed like he did 20 years ago.

■ IT IS great to see the Henzells Pelican Waters Foundation is continuing its sponsorship of the historic Pa and Ma Bendall Memorial Surfing Contest, which this year celebrates its 40th anniversary at Moffat Beach, Caloundra.

The action started yesterday and is on all weekend.

Henzells, in its third year, has tipped in \$5000.

The competition has showcased some of surfing's biggest names, including WCT star Joel Parkinson, Hawaiian style-master Gerry Lopez and Australian surfing legends Michael Peterson and Rabbit Bartholomew.

Divisions include open

men, open women, under-18s, under-16s, senior categories and kneeboarders, catering for young grommets up to the over 50s.

The surfing starts at 6.30am daily and the finals are scheduled for tomorrow.

Since launching in 2010,

the Henzells Pelican Waters Foundation (formerly the Henzells Caloundra RSL Foundation) has hosted major golf days and gala balls, directing funds to various worthy causes such as the Pa and Ma Bendall contest, rebuilding the fire-damaged Caloundra AFL club, assisting lifesaving groups, helping the Riding For the Disabled Association and the Pelican Waters Caloundra Swimming Club, and more.

As a kid growing up on the Coast, I can remember seeing Pa Bendall surfing at Moffat and Noosa. He certainly was a character who liked his own way in the surf.

It is fantastic to see the event celebrating its 40th year. I am sure he and Ma would have been chuffed.