

RINGWOOD DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING.

All Boundaries Abolished. An Open Go.

The president, Mr F. Clota, presided over a large attendance of delegates at the annual meeting held in the Town Hall, Ringwood, on Tuesday. Clubs represented were: Bayswater, Boronia, Croydon, Heathmont, Ringwood, Ringwood East, Montrose, Mooroolbark, North Bayswater, North Ringwood, C.Y.M.S., South Warrandyte, Scoresby, Tunstall, Valley, Wantirna, Warrandyte, Wonga Park, Croydon North. Kilsyth club forwarded an apology.

Catering for Outsiders.

The meeting was one of the most momentous in the history of the association, for after being in existence since 1920 as a local district association, providing local sport for local players the delegates in their wisdom(?), after a lengthy debate, threw open the boundaries, discarded all residential qualifications, and players now will be able to play in the Ringwood District irrespective of where they reside. The vote on the question was close, 19 being for the alteration and 18 against. This far reaching and momentous decision was carried on the vote of two boys representing North Bayswater, and who afterwards confessed that they didn't know what they were voting for. The motion was sponsored by Bayswater and Mooroolbark clubs, and the surprising feature was that two vice-presidents, Messrs E. H. Pegler and P. V. Edie, were strong supporters. Of the 19 clubs present, 10 clubs favored the open boundary and nine opposed it.

What the outcome of this drastic step will be is hard to foresee, but already there are rumours of a new

step will be taken to increase, but already there are rumours of a new association being formed to cater for local cricketers.

Entries.

Twenty club entries were received, with the probability of 32 teams operating in three grades.

Election of Officers.

President, Mr F. Clota; patrons, Crs A. T. Miles, J.P., H. F. Pearson, J.P., J. K. McCaskill, J.P., Hon G. L. Chandler, M.L.C., Dr W. L. Colquhoun, Messrs F. Clota and H. Donahoo; vice-presidents, Messrs P. V. Edie, E. Pegler, J. Goodall, A. Chandler and R. Stoney; executive, Messrs J. Goodall, L. Salvana, P. V. Edie R. Stoney and E. Pegler; selection committee, Messrs J. Goodall, W. Baldwin and E. Pegler; hon. secretary, C. E. Sleeman; hon. treasurer and registration secretary, Mr H. McAlpin; auditor, L. Blood; life member, Mr R. Stoney.

The time for lodging entries was extended to September 17, and the opening match of the season was fixed for 1st October.

Rule Amendments.

It was decided to allot two points for a tie, and no grace allowed for late starting.

The rule relating to transfer of A Grade players to a lower grade was referred back to the clubs for consideration.

The delegate to the V.J.C.U. was instructed to oppose a proposed amendment to the permit rule relating to transfer of players from one association to another.

Umpires.

Owing to a number of clubs not having held their annual meetings, the matter of the appointment of professional umpires was deferred. A majority of A Grade clubs and some of the B Grade intimated their desire for professional umpires.

pires.

It was decided to adjourn the meeting till Tuesday, 20th September.

Playing the Game.

Before closing the meeting the chairman said that if delegates and players paid more attention to cricket and less to rules, it would be better for the association and the game. Too often club interests were paramount, and association matters were subservient to petty sectional club affairs. He appealed to the delegates to not place so much importance on winning the game. The strong determination to win leads to much trouble. Let us this season have more cricket and less rules. We must in view of the falling off of the standard of play, foster the junior ranks, and some system of training the school boys should be arrived at. (Hear, hear.)