



# VETERANS COMPETITION REPORT

Season 2006/2007 saw the Veterans Competition (both Masters and Legends) continue with the same format as in prior seasons although the Masters Competition was reduced to 3 Divisions of 8 teams each compared with 4 Divisions of 6 teams in the previous season.

There were no new Clubs fielding Veterans teams this season. However Clubs such as Wonga Park entered a second Masters Team and Bayswater Park entered a side in the Legends Competition.

Unfortunately after Round one, Research were forced to withdraw from the Legends and at the same time Warrandyte (Masters 3) informed the Executive that they could not field a side on the same Sunday as Masters 1. This hiccup was overcome by Warrandyte Masters 3 transferring to the Legends Competition to replace Research leaving the Masters 3 Competition with a field of 7 sides thus necessitating a bye for each Club.

After this adjustment the Three Masters' Divisions and the Legend's Division were made up by the following teams for the remainder of the 2006/07 season:

Masters - Division 1	Masters - Division 2	Masters - Division 3	Legends
Ainslie Park	Bayswater Park	Ainslie Park	Ainslie Park
Boronia	Chirnside Park	Bayswater Park	Bayswater Park
Croydon	Lilydale	Boronia	Croydon
Croydon Ranges	Montrose	Mt Evelyn	Croydon Ranges
North Ringwood	South Croydon	North Ringwood	Mt Evelyn
South Warrandyte	Wantirna	Templeton	North Ringwood
Warranwood	Warrandyte	Warranwood	South Warrandyte
Wonga Park	Wonga Park		Warrandyte

The season commenced in fine sunny conditions on 15<sup>th</sup> October with the first round of the Master's Competition. The Legends followed suit on 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

As in previous seasons, all Divisions in the Masters' were keenly contested and final ladder positions, particularly positions 3, 4, 5 & 6 were not settled until completion of the final home and away round.

This season no rounds were lost due to inclement weather (heat or rain) although some games in the Legends were curtailed due to rain.

The Master's semi finals were played on 25<sup>th</sup> February with the major surprise being Division 1, where the previously undefeated top side, Wonga Park, was defeated by Ainslie Park (4<sup>th</sup>). In all other divisions, the top team after the preliminary rounds made it through to the Grand Final.

**Masters Grand Final Results played 4<sup>th</sup> March 2007.**

**Division 1 – Bill Dean Trophy – played at Croydon Oval**

**Croydon 8/184 defeated Ainslie Park 10/109**

**Division 2 – Ken Johnston Trophy – played at Cheong Park**

**South Croydon 6/143 defeated Lilydale 10/141**

**Division 3 – Marg & Bill Stafford Trophy played at Nth Ringwood Reserve**

**Warranwood 7/185 defeated North Ringwood 7/182**

**At the conclusion of each Grand Final, pennants were presented to the winning teams with the actual trophy presentations being made on the night of the Annual Dinner**

**Legends “Grand Finale” scheduled for 18th February 2007**

**Although there are no “finals” for the Legends Competition, as in the previous year there was to be a Grand Finale play off between teams one and two for the title of Premier with the winner receiving the Brian Gobbi Trophy and a premiership pennant.**

**Unfortunately, due to excessive heat, the Grand Finale was not played between the top 2 sides Croydon and Bayswater Park.**

**As Croydon finished on top of the ladder after the preliminary rounds, they were deemed the Premiers and Brian Gobbi Trophy winners.**

**Inter-association Games**

**As in previous years four inter association games were scheduled to be played against the Ferntree Gully Cricket Association and the Box Hill Reporter Association. In addition another Rep Game was played against the Crusaders**

**Box Hill Reporter Cricket Association played 10th December 2006**

**Masters Played at Kew**

**RDCA 8/178 defeated Box Hill Reporter 6/177**

**Bowling            C Perrett 3/13  
Batting            A Smith 41 retired, C Grierson 38**

**Unfortunately the Legends match had to be cancelled due to excessive heat.**

## Ferntree Gully Cricket Association played 26<sup>th</sup> January 2007

**Masters Played at Tormore Reserve**

**RDCA 5/202 defeated Ferntree Gully 8/176**

**Bowling** B Williams 2/21

**Batting** B Guan 43 retired, K Newman 40 retired, D Goldsmith 41 retired

**Legends played at Chandler Park Boronia**

**RDCA 7/137 defeated Ferntree Gully 9/130**

**Bowling** C McKenzie 2/23, G Leonard 2/22

**Batting** R Ruffle 37, P Rogers 26

## Crusaders Match played at Croydon Oval 17<sup>th</sup> December 2006

**Crusaders 5/147 defeated RDCA 10/146**

**Bowling** P Hickleton 2/19

**Batting** N Mitchell 43, C Allan 27

In addition to these scheduled Representative games a game was also played between the RDCA Possums (our overseas touring squad) and the Australian Cricket Society on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2006. This game was dedicated to the memory of Marg Simkin , one of the stalwarts of the Possums touring parties over the years who sadly passed away in September 2006. It is anticipated that this game will become an annual event in the future.

Congratulations go to those players who gave up their time to represent the RDCA in all these representative games. As usual, all players thoroughly enjoyed the honour of playing representative cricket for the RDCA.

Special thanks should also go to the Selectors (Ken Johnston, Jim Dean, Nat Young and Chris Allan) and team coordinators for ensuring that the RDCA fielded competitive sides in all games. Thanks also to Ray Dean & Harry Sandford for their scoring contributions at all games.

## Veterans Annual Dinner Night 7<sup>th</sup> March 2007

The Annual Dinner/Presentation Night was held at Bramleigh Receptions. Approximately 110 attended this evening, which was a similar number to the previous year's attendance. It is still disappointing to the Executive that not all Clubs are represented at this one and only function for the year.

The people who did attend had a great evening, not only catching up with their own Club members and partners, but also the friends they have made over the many years of the Veterans competition.

Club's who chose not to attend were billed by the Association for the cost of 2 tickets per Club.

Again, many thanks to Marg Stafford for her organisation of the Annual Dinner Night, in conjunction with Carl Duncan.

## Executive Committee Efforts

Finally, it would be remiss of me not to thank our hardworking committee for all their efforts and commitment throughout the year:

Darryl Stephens (President), Ken Johnston (Patron), Bill Stafford, Jim Dean, Carl Duncan, Nat Young, Marg Stafford and Chris Allan (who joined the Executive for the first time in 2006/07)

Once again, particular thanks should go to Jim Dean for the continued enormous effort during the year in keeping the results & ladders up to date. The 2006/07 year was another improvement over the previous year as far as Clubs submitting their results on time and in a complete format. There is still room for improvement, but slowly but surely, we are making headway.

The Veterans Executive looks forward with great anticipation that all Veterans cricket continues to be played in a friendly and positive spirit, with the renewing of many old friendships made in our previous cricketing lives.

Season 2007/08 will represent our 20th year of Competition and it is the Committee's hope that for the first time, we will have a Veterans side from all senior RDCA Clubs. Currently there are 10 Clubs that do not field a team in the Veterans Competition and these Clubs have all been contacted to invite them to join our competition.

In closing, I would like to say good luck to all Clubs and players for the forthcoming 2007/08 season

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*RDCA Veterans Motto:*  
*Strive to do our best, never give up,*  
*and treat people with respect*