

Veterans Report 2017-18

The Committee in season 2017/18 comprised:

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| President | Daryl Stephens |
| Secretary | Peter Chamings |
| Treasurer and Representative on RDCA Board | Chris Allan, |
| Results and MyCricket Manager | Ian Leach |
| VOSCA (O'60's) Representative | Chris Hartrup |
| Veterans Rep RDCA Board | David Sherlock |
| Committee Members | Murray Keen |

The Veteran's Committee is now only responsible for an Over 40's competition since the Victorian Veterans Cricket Association hosts the Over 50's, Over 60's and Over 70's competitions. There are 9 teams that play in the V.V.C.A. that originated in the RDCA veterans competition; the RDCA fields a team in the Over 60's, as do Mt Evelyn and Warrandyte.

The Over 50's comp has 23 teams in 3 divisions with 6 of those teams originating from the RDCA. In the third division both Warrandyte and Yarra Valley made the semis, Croydon Ranges and Nth Ringwood play in the second division and Ranges made it to the semis and in first division both Wonga Park and East Ringwood made it to the finals with East Ringwood (220cc) winning a very tightly contested game against Koonung Heights (213) in the 34th over. Congratulations to East Ringwood for winning the inaugural Saxon Sports Shield.

The Over 50's had their first Australian Carnival at Orange over Easter and there were 10 RDCA players who participated. Victoria had four teams. Their first team was captained by Eastfield CC's Nick Bole Brown and he led that team to defeat Qld in the first national championship. Congratulations Nick. "Victoria" is inscribed on the trophy and you were the captain. The 3 other teams all performed admirably finishing 2nd, 3rd and 5th in the second division. Congratulations to all those who nominated and got to wear a cap with the big V.

Returning to RDCA Over 40's competition; there were 15 teams, representing 12 RDCA clubs, split into two divisions and playing 7 home and away games. In the First Division, Ainslie Park, Warranwood, Wonga Park and South Warrandyte Hawks finished in the final four. Ainslie Park and Wonga Park played a grand final that from the first to last ball had changing fortunes. Ainslie Park 7/221 cc def. Wonga Park 8/217.

In Division 2, Sth Croydon and Warrandyte finished 1&2 and in the semis accounted for Wonga Park 2 and Wantirna to then play off for the premiership. Batting first Warrandyte's made 8/139 cc and Sth Croydon seemed to have the chase under control until they went from 5/115 (including one retired) to 8/137 and after some (very) anxious moments managed to score 8/140 at the end of the 35th over. Both these games were great

spectacles and appreciated by the good size crowd. Ainslie Park and Sth Croydon players are to be congratulated because both teams had gone back to back premiers.

In December 2017, we again played a knockout round in the inter comp. games against FTGCA, BHRDCA and NMDCA. Both our over 40's and 50's team won their first round and in both cases were to play off against FTG. In the finals in both games we batted first and in a 25 over innings the Over 40's posted 8/185 cc (the best score ever in the 3 years of the competition). The Over 50's innings started well being 1/72 after 10 overs but losing momentum to finish 131cc. In reply FTGCA started slowly and were 1/68 from 15 overs and things were looking good, however at the end of their innings in the 34th over they had 2 retired batsmen, they had lost 2 wickets and there were 2 not out batsmen and their score at the end of the 24th over was 133. In a complete turnaround, their middle order had made 65 runs from the last 9 overs to win the game. Back at the Over 40's, the FTGCA bats were 81 from 10 overs and 154 from 20 and with wickets in hand they passed our score in the 24th over. (Our record score didn't last long!) In the first year of these games, BHRDCA won both age groups, the next year RDCA won both games and this year FTGCA had done the same. Congratulations to FTGCA and members of their two teams and to our own players for taking the game on and playing lots of entertaining cricket.

Off the ground, our season started in August 2017 at our AGM which was attended by most clubs and there was a positive response to our plea for some new members. Peter Chamings (Sth Warr) accepted the Secretary position, Murray Keen (W.P.) offered to assist with communication and Dave Sherlock (W/wood) accepted the role of Veteran's Delegate to the RDCA Board. Ian Leach continued in his role of MyCricket, draw, rules and registration officer, Chris Hartrup as Over 60's rep, and Chris Alan and Ian Coutts as general committee. Both I and Ian Leach have expressed our need to be replaced after 13 years on the committee. It is time for clubs and individuals to seriously consider taking more responsibility for the management of the Veterans. (As mentioned earlier in this report, there are 12 clubs with teams playing and only 3 represented on the committee)

In concluding this report I wish to thank the RDCA Board for their assistance and support and particularly thank Peter Chamings for his contribution as Secretary. My appreciation also goes to all committee members, inter comp captains, club delegates, team captains and the Umpires Association members who have all contributed to our enjoyment throughout the 2017-18 season.

Daryl Stephens,

RDCA Veteran's President