



VETERANS COMPETITION REPORT

Another milestone was achieved this season in veteran's cricket with Wonga Park winning all three Masters divisions and North Ringwood successful in Legends.

This season saw the introduction of both Masters and Legends playing on the same Sunday.

A number of grounds were renovated with summer grasses and not available for play until November or later and this resulted in many senior Saturday games being played on Sundays.

Due to team numbers, Masters 3 and Legends had a bye in their fixture so a 'friendly' game was available between the teams on the day of the bye. Only one round was played.

The Masters and Legends divisions all played 7 games + 2 finals.

Masters 1 – Bill Dean Trophy

Wonga Park (3/255) defeated Croydon (5/252), played at Wonga Park.

Masters 2 – Ken Johnson Trophy

Wonga Park (8/168) defeated Templeton (9/148), played at Silcock Reserve (Nth).

Masters 3

Wonga Park (2/163) defeated Bayswater Park (6/161), played at Silcock Reserve (Sth).

Legends

North Ringwood (1/157) defeated Warranwood (9/153), played at Quambee Reserve No.1.

Inter-association matches were again played against Box Hill and Ferntree Gully.

Due to wet weather on 14 December 2008, the matches against Box Hill Reporter were rescheduled for 11 January 2009 and hosted by Box Hill at Kew Cricket ground. This year the results were not in favor of the RDCA and Box Hill regained the trophies in both Masters and Legends.

On 25 January 2009, games were played against Ferntree Gully, with the Legends at Cheong Park and Masters at Fred Geale oval and subsequent presentations Cheong Park. Unfortunately, Ferntree Gully was too strong for the RDCA and successfully defended their trophies in both games.

The veterans newsletter in its colorful format, continued to be well received and the accessibility on the RDCA website allowed for a greater readership.

Thanks to Chris Allan and Bill Stafford for co-ordinating and editing this publication and to all the club coordinators and players who contributed a rundown after each game. Your efforts were greatly appreciated.

The Annual Presentation Night Dinner was held at the Ringwood Bowling Club on Wednesday 11 March with entertainment provided by 'Rick the Magician'. Thanks to Margaret Stafford for her efforts in organizing this event and to all those who attended.

During the season, 30 clubs participated in the RDCA competition from which 17 contributed 31 Veterans teams and it is the hope of the committee that more clubs will nominate teams for the coming season. In theory, as the population ages the veteran's age bracket should be increasing.

For the statistically inclined, 4 clubs had three teams, 6 clubs had two teams and 7 clubs had one team in the veterans competition. Norwood and Olinda were new teams to the competition in Masters 2 and Masters 3 respectively.

The committee met 6 times during the season and comprised:

Ken Johnson (Patron) ex officio

Daryl Stephens (Chairman), Bill Stafford (Treasurer), Gregor Mason (Secretary), Marg Stafford, Ian Leach, Garry Walles, Nat Young, Chris Hartrup and Chris Allan.

On behalf of all Veterans our thanks to the RDCA Senior Executive for their continued support through the provision of pennants, representative player shirts, balls for finals and caps plus financial support in the hosting of the inter-association games.

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