



I.R. (Ian) Dench - 2014/2015

As is the case with most Executive positions, Ian was tapped on the shoulder in 2005 and was asked to stand for President of the Association. Fortunately, he accepted and in occupying that role for 9 years he became the 4th longest-serving President of the RDCA to that time. In a departure from previous President appointments, Ian was elected to the position without previously having served on any Association Executive or committee.

The following is part of an article, penned by the then RDCA Administration Manager Ian Spencer, that appeared in the 2013/14 RDCA Annual Report:

"Some of the initiatives that Ian oversaw at RDCA level, and drove in a lot of instances, during his tenure were, in no particular order:

- Introduction of a new logo and registering it as the RDCA Trademark
- Revision of Strategic Plan in 2007/08 and kick-starting further revision
- Improved relationship with Ringwood Cricket Club
- Introduction of 20/20 competition
- Revamp of Executive structure in 2009/10
- Acquisition of tenancy and set up of RDCA headquarters at Jubilee Park complex
- Improved liaison and relationship with CV, culminating in the receipt of a grant towards the cost of "review"
- The naming of grades after Life Members
- Formation of and heading up the GARP (Growth and Retention of Participants) sub-committee group which proposed initiatives that have been implemented by Senior and Junior sections and been taken up by other associations. E.g. 'split innings' matches
- Implementation of an extensive "Cricket Review" by an external consultant.

In addition to his RDCA service, Ian has had a long and continuing involvement at South Croydon, commencing back in the '80s, where he has served in numerous roles including as President for 5 years and for which he was rewarded with Life Membership in 1996/97 season.

Since vacating the RDCA President post, Ian has continued to research and write up the backgrounds of all Life Members for posting on the website (ongoing). Thanks to the consent of Phil McCallum, the text of Paddocks to Parks has been posted on the website. Ian has volunteered to carry on from Phil's work and, in due course, add details for the ensuing years.

Ian has made a strong contribution to this point in time, he has been an outstanding administrator and is a thoroughly deserved recipient of Life Membership of the RDCA."

Ian has served the RDCA as a Tribunal member (senior and junior) and as the Member Protection Officer. Ian played a significant role, along with many others, in organising the RDCA Centenary and Hall of Fame function held in March 2021 and which he compered on behalf of the Executive.

He has since accepted the position of Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee