

## VETERANS COMPETITION REPORT

Season 1988/89 saw the introduction of the Veterans (over 40) competition.

At its inception, it was the desire of the Veterans Committee, Don Smith, Steve Pascoe and myself, that these matches be played on the best grounds, in the best conditions and in the best interests of cricket.

These 36 over per team matches were played on designated Sundays commencing on November 6th and culminating in a final on February 19th thus ensuring the best of weather and ground conditions with no inconvenience to the R.D.C.A. Finals.

Although we only had four teams in our

inaugural year it was interesting to note that 70 players were used, which is an average in excess of 17 players per team or *the equivalent of six plus teams.*

The oldest player was from Ainslie Park 65 year old opening batsman, Les Gardner, closely followed by Croydon North Captain, Neville Asquith, at 62 years.

In summary of this the first season of R.D.C.A. Veterans Cricket, I must say that it has been a highly successful venture and one that augurs well for the future of Veterans Cricket in this Association.

Congratulations to Croydon North as Foundation Year Premiers. However, I believe the big winner with this

competition has been cricket with the promise of many more additional teams in 1989/90.

On behalf of all Veteran Cricketers, my thanks to the R.D.C.A Patron, Mr Bill Dean, for his donation of a Perpetual Trophy which the R.D.C.A. Executive have named the "BILL DEAN SHIELD".

In conclusion, my thanks to Don and Steve for helping me get the competition off the ground, to Bowens Timber and Hardware for their publicity sponsorship and to the Club co-ordinators for their assistance during the season.

**Ken Johnston**  
Chairman/Secretary