

**RDCA Inc. VETERANS CRICKET ASSOCIATION
1999 / 2000**



ANNUAL REPORT 1999 / 2000

Veterans Cricket in the RDCA continues to grow in popularity and strength. Two new Clubs in Research and Boronia joined the Association, bringing the total of number of Clubs to 26. Eight Clubs fielded two sides, which enabled us to make Division 4 consist solely of second sides.

A snippet of statistical information from our Registration Secretary, was that **approximately 550 players participated across the seven home and away rounds for all four divisions.**

Weather was a factor at the beginning of the season, with Round 2 only achieving 3 or 4 results prior to interruption. However the later part of the season and for the finals, we were blessed with perfect weather. The competition was very keen and even throughout the season, with positions 3 and 4 in most divisions, being decided by the last round - percentages determining fourth position in Divisions 1, 2 & 3. The Grand Finals were keenly played and most games went down to the last or second last over to determine a result. Pennants and trophies were presented to the winning sides immediately following the grand final, by our patron Bill Dean and other Executive members. The premiers for 1999 / 2000 were:

Division 4 Premiers Max Brown Trophy
South Warrandyte beat North Ringwood by 3 runs, in a very exciting nail biting finish.

Division 3 Premiers
Kilsyth, following being runners-up the previous season, defeated Research by 74 runs.

Division 2 Premiers Ken Johnston Trophy
Mt. Evelyn with 4/178 defeated Chirnside Park by 13 runs, in another exciting nail biting finish, right down to the last over.

Division 1 Premiers Bill Dean Trophy
Norwood were able to attain the 145 runs set by Croydon Ranges in 35 over, but not without some worries and concerns in their chase.

All Clubs are providing after match hospitality, and this provides an excellent way of renewing and building friendships amongst players and partners/supporters. All clubs are encouraged to maintain this facet of Veterans cricket.

Inter-Association Games: On a perfect day for cricket, we finally got to play these games on turf at Bayswater after previous two years matches had to be rescheduled to synthetic wickets. In addition to the two games against Ferntree Gully Association, we also had our initial game against a veteran's side from the Box Hill Reporter Association. RDCA sides were successful in two of the three matches, with the RDCA over 50s side going down to Ferntree Gully for the first time for a few years.

All players really look forward to the honour of representing the RDCA and comment on much they enjoy playing in these games. Thanks must go to team managers and selectors for their efforts – Jim Dean, Brian Gobbi, Mick Gavin, David Stickels and Jeff Luscombe.

RDCA Inc. VETERANS CRICKET ASSOCIATION
1999 / 2000



VCA Cricket Grant: The RDCA must be thanked for putting in a proposal to the VCA Masters Cricket Grants Scheme for the ongoing development of Veterans cricket in the area. The grant of \$1250.00 will be put to very good use.

Veterans Dinner Dance: This year our Dinner Dance returned to a previous popular venue in Bramleigh Receptions of Croydon.

This was pre finals this season with approximately 150 attending. All had an enjoyable night, dancing & catching up with friends. A number of couples were reminiscing on their weddings, or being involved in wedding parties, at this venue some years earlier.

The organising committee of Vair Gobbi, Marg Stafford and Graeme Seymour did an excellent job again, along with Daryl Stephens for his MC role.

Our raffles at this night, has enabled us to improve our bank balance. This will allow us to continue our ongoing financial support of RDCA junior cricket development through sponsorship towards Coaching accreditation program, as well as to assist cricketers that represent our Veterans Association either at interstate or overseas carnivals.

New Zealand Touring Party - RDCA Veterans - "Ringwood Possums"

On the Tuesday, following our Grand Final, a party of 22 (12 players and their partners) flew off to New Zealand for a fortnight of cricket and touring. A number of the party are permanent tourists, with trips to England and Zimbabwe over previous years. From all reports it was a most enjoyable trip, with 3 wins from the 3 games in the "Golden Oldies" international carnival against 2 NZ sides, plus one from Hollywood – USA.

Over 50s competition: A survey of many Clubs' playing personnel indicates possibly more than 50% are 50 years or over. A proposal to form an over 50s competition / division was discussed at our AGM pre season. This was deferred on the basis that commencement of this competition on the same weekend as the normal veterans competition, could have a decimating effect on a number of Clubs; with their over 40s side disappearing and these players dropping out of Veterans cricket.

A further draft proposal, with varying playing conditions and playing schedule is to be canvassed amongst all Clubs, in an endeavour to get this competition started, possibly in season 2000/2001.

E-Mail Technology: The Executive Committee this year has embraced the use of E-mail as a tool to despatch newsletter information to the bulk of our 26 Club Co-ordinators and Executive Committee members. This has proved very successful in getting not only newsletters, but also immediate communiqués to the Clubs in a quick and efficient manner.

We must take the opportunity to thank the RDCA and Tim Court for incorporating the Veterans as a section of the RDCA web site. Comments have been very favourable for not only the Club contact details, but also for checking on fixtures, results and ladders. I am sure this web site can only benefit Veterans Cricket through interest by potential players for future years. We have had contact from the UK through this web site and our E-mail contact details.

RDCA Inc. VETERANS CRICKET ASSOCIATION
1999 / 2000



Executive Committee Efforts: Finally it would be remiss of me not to thank our hardworking committee for their efforts and commitment throughout the year. Ken Johnston (Chairman), Jeff Luscombe (Registration), Bill Stafford (Treasurer), Brian Gobbi, Jim Dean, David Stickels, Graeme Seymour, Allan Duffus, as well as Marg Stafford and Vair Gobbi on sub-committees. Additionally Bill Dean, our Patron, for his support and availability of advice and assistance.

The Veterans Executive continues to look 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.

Mick Gavin
 Secretary

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