



P.J. (Phil) McCallum oAM – 1976/1977

Phil McCallum was born in Hamilton, Victoria and was educated to Matriculation (year 12) level at Hamilton High School. He later enlisted in the Air Force for war service as a signals/teleprinter operator in New Guinea and Borneo.

Phil was involved in many organisations for many years as a dedicated volunteer and contributor to community activities and in 1993, he was awarded the prestigious Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in recognition of his services to the Community.

Sport always played a part in Phil's activities. His cricket career began at Camberwell Methodists C.C. before he moved to East Ringwood United Churches C.C. This club merged with Croydon West C.C. with the new club known as Ainslie Park Cricket Club. Phil was the Foundation President of the new club and he 'plied his trade' as an opening batsman and wicket-keeper whilst he guided the club in consolidating its position in the Association.

Phil found time to become involved with the Association's Executive where he served for many years. The 1983/84 Annual Report mentions that he was retiring from the Executive after 16 years of service. During that period, Phil variously served as Chairman of the Pinks Reserve Turf Wicket Committee, Manager of the Kilsyth Indoor Cricket Centre, Tribunal member, Records and Results Secretary and as the delegate for 4 years to the Cricket Union of Victoria (CUOV). Such was his impact there Phil served as Chairman of the CUOV Executive for 3 years. Phil McCallum was awarded Life Membership of the Association in 1976/77 and as further recognition of his service to the Association the Senior Club Championship Trophy is named the "Phil McCallum Club Championship Award".

Phil is also the author of the book "from Paddocks to Parks", which is "A History of the Development of Cricket in the Lilydale, Croydon, Ringwood and Ferntree Gully Districts and of the Ringwood and District Cricket Association". This magnificent publication has provided significant information in compiling these Life Member 'summaries' and can be found on the RDCA website.

Phil passed away peacefully in July 2021.