



VETERANS

The Veterans competition expanded to 23 teams this season, and more teams have expressed interest for next season. 390 Players competed in 1993/94. The weather was kind this season after last years difficulties and all games were completed.

One of the pleasing aspects of veterans cricket is the sportsmanship that continues to apply. It is our strongest wish that this healthy attitude displayed by our senior cricketers is not reserved for veterans games. We believe all cricketers playing in this competition have responsibility to cricket to use their experience and get the message through to all cricketers in their respective clubs that, disputing decisions, sledging and unsociable behaviour is not acceptable. It is a major reason cricket is being hurt by other sports, and hinders its growth with young people.

While results do not play a huge part in the enjoyment of our game, two new sides won premierships in their first year. In Division 3, Heathmont were successful from South Croydon and in Division 2, South Warrandyte beat Templeton in a thrilling one run win.

Division 1, saw the powerful Croydon Hockeyers compete in their fourth successive Grand Final. They recorded their third win against the Sub-District Vets Croydon. This year two of the finals were played on turf which proved a most successful format.

We had a successful veterans dinner when 170 people attended with Pat Arbuckle as M.C. His efforts plus those of Bill Dean & Ken Johnston in organising the function were greatly appreciated. Bowens Timber donated many prizes for the night.

Our thanks go to Bill Stafford in organising over 40's and over 50's inter association games against the Ferntree Gully Association. The games were played on adjacent grounds at The Basin which provided a carnival atmosphere for hundreds of spectators. RDCA won both games and our captains, Ron Blain from Norwood and Pat Arbuckle, Croydon North accepted perpetual trophies donated by Topline Sports.

In August this year Ted Griffett from Mt. Evelyn will lead a team of cricketers and their wives to Birmingham England, via Ireland for another Golden Oldies festival of cricket. This will be a trip of a lifetime for many, and they will thank Ted for his efforts. A happy journey is conveyed to all who will represent the RDCA. Max Brown Real Estate will assist the tourists.

Finally, thanks to Jeff Luscombe for his work as Reg. Sec., and on the committee.

The veterans competition can look forward to continue to form an important part in the structure of our clubs, and providing an enjoyable "safe haven" for our members and their families.

BRIAN GOBBI