



VETERANS COMPETITION REPORT

In my first season as Secretary of the Veterans committee I would like to thank the club coordinators and my fellow committee members for helping me get through another successful season for Veterans Cricket.

With the decision not to have a formal presentation night, the Grand Finals were spread across two weekends with the Masters 1 & 2 being played at Silcock Reserve and then Masters 3 & Legends played the following Sunday at Kimberley Reserve. Presentation of premiership trophies and pennants were done at the conclusion of all games.

Grand Final results were:

Masters 1 – Bill Dean Trophy

Wonga Park (8/141) defeated Croydon (10/126)

Masters 2 – Ken Johnston Trophy

Kilsyth (4/112) defeated Montrose (10/110)

Masters 3 – Bill and Margaret Stafford trophy

Yarra Junction (7/126) defeated Mooroolbark (9/124)

Legends

Croydon Ranges (5/172) defeated Ainslie Park (10/133)

On 11 December 2011, inter-association games against Box Hill Reporter were scheduled to be played at Quambee Reserve and Yarra Valley Grammar school (turf). Due to wet weather making the Quambee back oval unplayable, the Over 60's game was moved to the synthetic ground at Yarra Valley Grammar. The over 50's played on Quambee's main oval as scheduled. Presentations were held at Quambee Reserve and thanks to Warranwood CC for helping to host these games.

RDCA won all 3 Games – (40's) 10/122 v 10/78, (50's) 9/180 v 10/111, (60's) 4/147 v 5/140

On 29 January 2012 Ferntree Gully hosted the Masters and Legends matches at Bayswater Oval.

In the over 40's (Masters) match, the FTG skipper won the toss and invited RDCA to bat.

After the first 12 overs, the score was 4/50 with David Werner (21) and Adam Luckman (11) both batting well but there was a need for a couple of good partnerships to reach a target score of 150. The FTG spinners made scoring difficult and the RDCA innings was then anchored by Dave Raggett (23) and later by Michael Bellizia (18) which at the end of the 36 overs saw the score to 9/116.

Opening bowlers, Mick Bellizia and Tim Rule bowled very well to put a stranglehold on scoring which contributed to a run out and after 8 overs FTG were 2/16. Rob Hill (2/8) then bowled an excellent line to get his 2 wickets (both LBW). FTG then had a good partnership for next 14 overs to take the score to 89 before Rod Knee, who had grassed a hot return catch the ball before, enticed the same shot and made amends to dismiss one of the danger men. Retirement at 40 saw the end of the other but more importantly it left new batsmen to score the last 20 runs. Anthony Crowe and Tim Rule had been withheld to bowl the final 4 overs. Rule took two wickets in his first over and, when it came to him bowling the last over, RDCA needed one wicket and FTG needed 5 runs. Two runs from the third ball was followed by a sharp return catch from the next. Tim Rule was later awarded RDCA Man of the Match for his 4/9 off 5.4 overs.

Over 50's (Legends)

This game was played on the Bayswater No2 Oval and unfortunately the turf pitch had been inadvertently watered after the previous day's game and was very soft early.

Fortunately, RDCA captain Steve Teakel won the toss and elected to bowl. Peter Clark and Dave Keenan opened the bowling and, after 6 overs each, Clark had the incredible figures of 0/1 and Keenan 1/12. As the game progressed, the pitch improved and the FTG batsmen found scoring easier which resulted in a respectable total of 121. Other wicket takers were Warren Knee 1/25, Barry Williams 1/8 (off 6), Geoff Chamberlain 3/16, Gregor Mason 1/45 and Steve Teakel 2/1 (off 3 balls)

RDCA openers Kevin Lewis and Pete Rogers set about the run chase with purpose and after the 6th over the score was 1/44. Dale Goldsmith (27) joined Rogers whose swashbuckling innings of 37 came to an end off only 22 balls when the score was 60. Goldsmith and his Wonga team mate, Chamberlain, then put on a partnership of 57 in ten overs to see RDCA pass the opposition score.

Thanks to all the players, umpires, managers and off field supporters who contributed to the success of these matches.

Also, thanks to Chris Allan and Bill Stafford for coordinating and editing the newsletter plus all the club coordinators and players who contributed after each game, your efforts were greatly appreciated.

Season 2011/12 saw 16 clubs participating in the RDCA Veterans competition.

The committee met 4 times during the season and comprised:

Daryl Stephens (CRO) (Chairman), Bill Stafford (CRR) (Treasurer), Liz McLelland (WWD) (Secretary), Marg Stafford (CRR), Ian Leach (CRO), Chris Hartrup (SWT) and Chris Allan (APK).

On behalf of all Veterans, our thanks to the RDCA Senior Executive for their continued support through the provision of pennants, representative player shirts, balls for finals and caps plus financial support in the hosting of the inter-association games.

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