



J. (Josh) Browne - 2009/2010

Josh's first contact with cricket was in 1949 at the tender age of 4. He went to his first, first-class match in 1951 and with two older brothers, his interest was maintained with many games of backyard cricket. Josh had travelled to all of Australia's main cricket grounds as well as Lords and The Oval. As there was no junior cricket at the time, Josh's first competitive game was at age 16 and was for St. Paul's College in the Brocklesby District Cricket Association. After leaving school he went to Sydney before moving later to Melbourne, Ballarat, Kilsyth and Lilydale.

Josh started as a bowler before becoming more proficient as a batsman and in the RDCA he opened the batting and bowling for Lilydale in the Chandler 3 competition. Two premierships, one in Sydney and one in the RDCA Vets were highlights. Josh maintained his greatest involvement in cricket was simply a strong love of the game. When his two sons wanted to play he started coaching, something he did for 22 years at Lilydale. He was Junior Administrator for 12 years at Lilydale, President for 2 years, Grounds Committee President for 15 years and he undertook numerous other committee tasks over many years. Josh was rewarded for his service to Lilydale Cricket Club by being awarded Life Membership of the club after 9 years. In 2010 he returned to join the club committee.

The extent of Josh's service to the game of cricket is extensive. Besides his commitment to Lilydale Cricket Club, he was instrumental in many developments that took place in junior cricket. Service to the IAJCC and VMCU covered a period of 27 years. Josh has been honoured by having one of the inter-association representative competitions at the Under 12 level named after him - truly well deserved. Having the IAJCC/VMCU junior carnival recognised by Cricket Victoria as part of the Pathway scheme is something that Josh described as a highlight. His passion and determination for making the game available to juniors, both boys and girls, was evident for many years.

Josh served on the RDCA Junior Executive for nearly 20 years, three of which were as President and as the Junior competition representative on the Association's Board of Management. In recognition of his dedicated service to the RDCA, Josh was awarded Life Membership of the Association during the 2009/10 season.

Josh sadly passed away in January 2019.