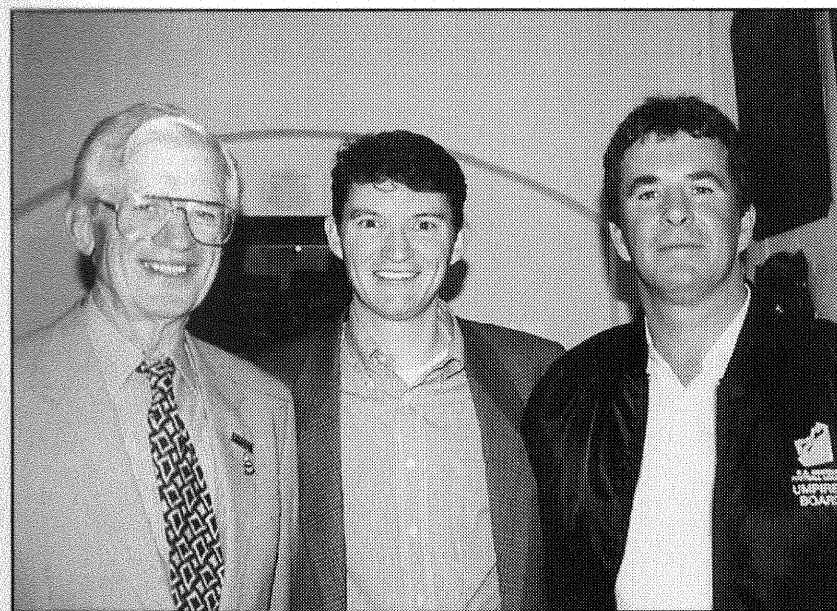


TAYLOR WOODINGS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL
FOOTBALL LEAGUE UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
(INC.)

YEARBOOK 1998



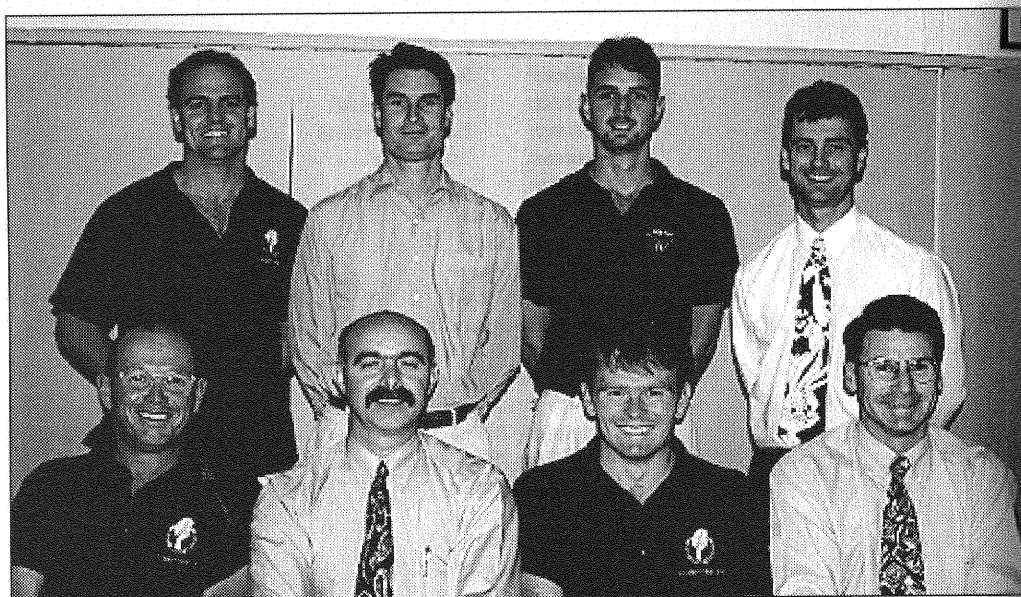
TAYLOR WOODINGS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



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WANFL Umpires Association Management Committee



Back L to R: Bernard Roberts, Adam Binks, David Panagopoulos, Trevor Garrett

Front L to R: Paul Smith, John Marrapodi, Simon Gill, Dave Shawcross

Absent: Craig Hendrie, Nathan Jessup

Management Committee Meeting Attendances

	Meetings Attended	Apologies	Possible
Greg Scroop	3	-	3
Simon Gill	12	-	12
Paul Smith	9	3	12
David Shawcross	9	3	12
Nathan Jessup	9	3	12
Trevor Garrett	10	2	12
Adam Binks	10	2	12
Craig Hendrie	7	2	12
John Marrapodi	10	1	12
Bernard Roberts	8	3	12
Peter Jeffers	3	3	6
David Panagopoulos	6	1	9

Association Office Bearers

Year	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Assistant/Social Secretary
1953	J. Ferguson	C. McMahon	C. McMahon	
1954	L. Hurley	A. Glendinning	A. Glendinning	
1955	H. Clair	L. Nathan	L. Nathan	
1956	H. Clair	L. Nathan	L. Nathan	
1957	H. Clair	L. Nathan	W. Carter	
1958	E. Crisp	L. Nathan	W. Carter	
1959	E. Crisp	L. Nathan	W. Carter	
1960	E. Crisp	L. Nathan	W. Carter	
1961	E. Crisp	L. Nathan	D. Kemp	
1962	E. Crisp	L. Nathan	D. Kemp	
1963	E. Crisp	L. Nathan	B. Moore	
1964	B. Rigg	L. Nathan	B. Moore	
1965	B. Rigg	L. Nathan	B. Moore	
1966	B. Rigg	G. McComish	B. Moore	W. Brown
1967	B. Rigg	G. McComish	E. Martino	W. Brown
1968	C. Hills	G. McComish	E. Martino	W. Brown
1969	J. Dolling	G. McComish	P. Pustkuchen	K. Cox
1970	R. Whitfield	P. Pustkuchen	B. Bidstrup	K. Cox
1971	R. Whitfield	P. Pustkuchen	B. Williams	R. Stubberfield
1972	R. Whitfield	P. Pustkuchen	B. Williams	R. Stubberfield
1973	R. Whitfield	P. Pustkuchen	B. Williams	R. Stubberfield
1974	R. Capes	P. Pustkuchen	B. Collett	R. Stubberfield
1975	R. Capes	P. Pustkuchen	B. Collett	R. Stubberfield
1976	R. Capes	P. Pustkuchen	B. Collett	D. Wakenshaw
1977	R. Capes	P. Pustkuchen	D. Aslett	D. Wakenshaw
1978	R. Capes	P. Pustkuchen	D. Aslett	T. Cant
1979	R. Capes	P. Pustkuchen	D. Aslett	T. Cant
1980	J. Devine	P. Pustkuchen	K. Holland	A. Mirabella
1981	J. Devine	D. McComish	K. Holland	A. Mirabella
1982	J. Devine	D. McComish	K. O'Driscoll	A. Mirabella
1983	J. Morris	D. McComish	R. Hendrie	K. O'Driscoll
1984	J. Morris	B. Appleby	R. Hendrie	D. Green
1985	R. Buckey	R. Graffin	R. Hendrie	B. Grimmond
1986	R. Buckey	R. Graffin	R. Hendrie	G. Palmer
1987	R. Buckey	L. Cooper	M. Power	C. Shimmon
1988	R. Buckey	L. Cooper	P. Smith	L. Putland
1989	M. Ball	R. Poole	P. Smith	Mrs. E. Ball
1990	M. Ball	D. White	P. Smith	B. Hadjimihalakis
1991	D. Johnson	D. White	P. Smith	M. Ball
1992	D. Johnson	P. Frusher	P. Smith	J. Hauswirth
1993	G. Vernon	P. Frusher	P. Smith	J. Hauswirth
1994	T. Garrett	D. Starcevich	P. Smith	N. Tilley
1995	G. Scroop	D. Starcevich	G. Gilbee	D. Cole
1996	G. Scroop	D. Starcevich	S. Kronja	J. Hauswirth

Association Office Bearers – continued

Year	President	Secretary	Treasurer	Assistant/Social Secretary
1997	G. Scroop	D. Starceвич	G. Pampacos	N. Jessup
1998	S. Gill	D. Shawcross	P. Smith	N. Jessup
1999	S. Gill	D. Shawcross	P. Smith	R. Lampard



Active Members 1998

Field Umpires

BINKS Adam
 COLE Duane
 CORCORAN David
 EDWICK Dale
 FARMER Luke
 FRENCH Wayne
 FRIEND James
 FUSSELL Mark
 GARRETT Trevor
 GILL Simon
 HAYES Matt
 HENDRIE Craig
 HOWIE Glen
 LONG Jamie
 MARGETT Dean
 MARSH Brendan
 NICHOLSON Nathan
 O'DEA Murray
 PANAGOPOLOUS David
 PETRIE Jeff
 PETRIE Tony
 RAPANARO Damian
 REPPER Peter
 ROBERTS Adam
 ROSEBURY Brett
 SCROOP Greg
 SHEPHERDSON Andrew
 ST QUENTIN Paul
 STARCEVICH Darren
 STATHAM Gavin
 TREW Tim
 VERNON Grant
 WORTHINGTON Ryan

Boundary Umpires

ARBUCKLE Todd
 BOULODAS Paul
 BROWN Ben
 FAIRFOUL Sean
 FISHER Andrew
 FRAWLEY Ben
 *FRUSHER Peter
 GILBEE greg
 GILES Jamie
 GOOCH Daniel
 GOOCH Tony
 GOOCH Tim
 HARTNETT Craig
 HEALES Paul
 HEARNE Mike
 JESSUP Nathan
 JONES Matt
 LAMPARD Raymond
 PAMPACOS George
 POOLEY Peter
 PORTEOUS John
 ROBERTS Bernard
 SMITH Greg
 THORNETT Craig
 WHITING Nathan

Goal Umpires

ARBUARY Gary
 BOOTH Doug
 CROUCHER Michael
 CROWE Jason
 CURTIS Andrew
 *DAVIS Bob
 DE-FRANCESCH Glen
 EVANS Malcolm
 GARLETT Reuben
 GRZINIC Dorry
 GUNN Justin
 HART Ray
 *HAUSWIRTH John
 *HENDRIE Rob
 HENDRIE Wayne
 JEFFERS Peter
 KAAKS Berend
 MARRAPODI John
 MARTINO Cos
 PAYNE Rick
 PESCUO Trevor
 SHAWCROSS Colin
 SHAWCROSS David
 *SMITH Paul
 WILKINS Mike

* Denotes Life Member

League Games by Members 1998

The following are the number of official Senior games at which our current members have officiated (includes AFL games which are shown in brackets).

	Year of entry	No. of seasons	League games in 1998	Total league games	
Field Umpires					
BINKS Adam	1987	10	26	110	
COLE Duane	1988	10	23	68	
CORCORAN David	1996	2	16	16	
FRENCH Wayne	1989	10	21	132	
FUSSELL Mark	1994	5	17	48	
GARRETT Trevor	1984	16	14	260	(50)
GILL Simon	1989	10	22	122	
HENDRIE Craig	1995	4	22	57	
NICHOLSON Nathan	1996	3	6	12	
O'DEA Murray	1992	7	3	33	
PETRIE Jeff	1995	4	17	24	
REPPER Peter	1987	12	24	197	(2)
ROSEBURY Brett	1997	2	9	9	
SCROOP Greg	1987	12	21	234	(111)
STARCEVICH Darren	1989	10	24	111	
STATHAM Gavin	1996	3	20	20	
VERNON Grant	1985	14	21	313	(203)
Boundary Umpires					
ARBUCKLE Todd	1996	3	0	9	
BROWN Ben	1995	4	25	68	
FRUSHER Peter	1986	13	19	238	(24)
GILES Jamie	1995	4	25	32	
GOOCH Anthony	1995	4	19	47	
GOOCH Daniel	1992	7	23	141	(103)
GOOCH Tim	1992	7	7	97	(65)
HARTNETT Craig	1994	5	1	1	
JESSUP Nathan	1992	7	23	117	(53)
JONES Matt	1996	3	24	45	
PAMPACOS George	1994	5	25	82	
POOLEY Peter	1993	6	13	103	
PORTEOUS John	1989	9	3	62	
ROBERTS Bernard	1986	12	22	142	(30)
SMITH Greg	1994	5	22	107	(47)
THORNETT Craig	1996	3	10	12	
Goal Umpires					
ARBUARY Gary	1996	3	21	22	
CROWE Jason	1997	2	1	1	
CURTIS Andrew	1994	5	11	76	(18)
DAVIS Bob	1974	23	0	69	
DEFRANCESCH Glen	1996	3	4	4	
EVANS Mal	1993	6	16	53	
HAUSWIRTH John	1979	14	23	177	
HENDRIE Rob	1979	20	18	218	(99)
HENDRIE Wayne	1992	5	23	25	
JEFFERS Peter	1989	10	7	134	(41)
MARRAPODI John	1992	7	25	75	
MARTINO Cos	1993	6	23	94	(3)
SHAWCROSS Colin	1978	16	18	73	
SHAWCROSS David	1993	6	21	74	(3)
SMITH Paul	1976	22	23	297	(100)

WESTAR League Finals Umpires 1998

	Field	Boundary	Goal
First Semi Final:	Peter Repper	George Pampacos	Andrew Curtis
Subiaco v East Perth	Adam Binks	Peter Frusher	David Shawcross
	Simon Gill	Matt Jones	
Second Semi Final:	Wayne French	Jamie Giles	John Marrapodi
East Frem v West Perth	Darren Starcevich	Ben Brown	John Hauswirth
	Duane Cole	Craig Thornett	
Preliminary Final:	Simon Gill	Nathan Jessup	Cos Martino
West Perth v Subiaco	Wayne French	Matt Jones	Wayne Hendrie
	Adam Binks	Tony Gooch	

First League Games in 1998

Field:	David Corcoran Brett Rosebury Gavin Statham Brendan Marsh
Boundary:	Craig Hartnett
Goal:	Glen De Francesch Jason Crowe

AFL Milestones 1998

100 Games:	Greg Scroop Dan Gooch Paul Smith
200 Games:	Grant Vernon

First AFL Games in 1998

Goal:	Cos Martino Dave Shawcross
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President's Report

This season has seen some significant changes occur and a long standing umpiring record broken within the Association. From a personal perspective, I was originally viewing 1998 as an opportunity to serve the Association as Vice President and working with Greg Scroop, using this role as an opportunity to be involved with the committee again after a break of two years. However, from a special general meeting held in February, the President's position became available.

With the past behind us and upon my commencement as President of the Association, the committee and my sole focus was using 1998 as a year of consolidation, in addition to building a good working relationship with our employers, the WAFC.

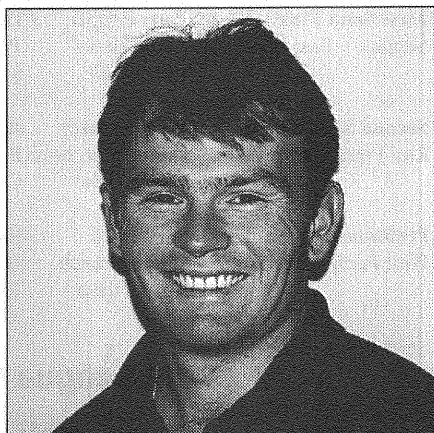
The finances of the Association are of prime importance and our treasurer, Paul Smith has put in a tremendous amount of work in collection of subscriptions, payments and funds from social events as well as cutting any unnecessary expenditure.

Subscriptions are our primary source of fund raising and it is through the diligent collection of fees by Paul Smith and Adam Binks that the Association benefits. All members know they are required to pay subscriptions and I urge all members to remember this obligation and ensure that they are paid by the due date.

Many people probably don't realise the amount of work that Paul does, not only as treasurer, but also as a life member of the Association, and I thank him for all his work, not only from myself but also on behalf of all members.

This season will be remembered as the year Ray Montgomery's longstanding record for number of games by a league field umpire, was surpassed by Grant Vernon. A well attended function was held at the Ernest Johnson Bar and Social Room to recognise Grant's magnificent achievement.

1998 will be also be remembered as the year that we finally obtained our formal liquor license for the bar and social rooms. David Shawcross, Greg Scroop and the previous committee have spent considerable time working on this project and the result has been a fantastic benefit to all members and guests alike. The appointment of Peter Frusher as Bar Manager



has resulted in the smooth operation of the bar and its emergence as an Association fund raising tool. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peter for his contribution as bar manager and for his work in erecting pictures and honour boards around the bar and clubrooms. The complimentary remarks from visitors and guests on the presentation of our facility are largely due to Peter's work in the professional presentation of our Association history.

The extensions and additions of the new lecture rooms at Ernest Johnson Oval are a significant step in the professional development of umpires in WA. The Association is proud to have been involved in part of the funding of this new facility in our contribution of funds towards the painting of this new facility. The Association has already benefited from this new facility and with plans to acquire video equipment etc. it can only assist in umpiring improving.

There has been numerous Association highlights for the year. Some of these were:

Participation as Triathlon Marshall's for Triathlon WA during our pre season. Thank you to all members who assisted as the Association raised just under \$1,000 from this involvement.

Pre Season Governor's Cup. All umpires were involved in this pre season competition and as payment for our services, the Association received a share in the sponsorship funds from the WAFC.

Walk For the Cure. We had approximately

50 umpires, family and friends attend this community event and enjoy an easy 7 kilometre walk and a BBQ to raise money towards finding a cure for Diabetes and to help promote our major Sponsor, AMPOL. Thank you to all the umpires who contributed to this event and walked on the day.

Social events are an extremely important part of the WANFLUA and Nathan Jessup has worked tirelessly in arranging our functions during 1998. There were numerous functions held and a highlight was the Mouse Racing night which everyone who attended enjoyed immensely and we look forward to a bigger and better event in 1999. As mentioned, social functions are an important part of being involved with the Association and it is in all members best interests to attend as many as possible, bringing family and friends as guests, as the saying goes, the more the merrier!

It is also members responsibility to honour commitments when responding to functions organised. It is somewhat disappointing to have numerous members commit themselves to attend, but don't show up. please if you do put your name down, pay the relevant cost required by the due date and attend.

I have had many people provide me with assistance during the year and I would like to thank a few in particular:

Nathan Jessup - Social Secretary

Nathan, as mentioned above, is the social secretary and has organised all of our social

events this year His commitment to this task has been unquestionable. He has undertaken the role with drive and enthusiasm and for those members who attended the functions this year, most will agree that Nathan has done an excellent job. David Shawcross, John Marrapodi and the Committee

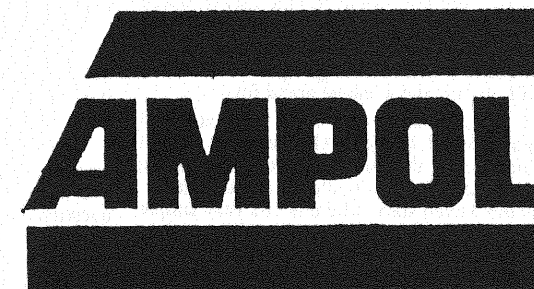
Thankyou for your support and contribution to the Association during the 1998 season. I look forward to working with you again in 1999.

David Johnson - General Manager Umpiring

David, as well as General Manager of Umpiring is a Life Member of the WANFLUA and this has ensured that the Association has been able to work with the WAFC to ensure the well being of all umpires. This is evident in the WAFC providing additional funding towards the new lecture rooms and the new light towers which are being installed ready for the 1999 season.

The 1999 season promises to be an exciting year for the Association. There will be a change in some of the executive and committee members, new umpires, new social secretary, pre season camp and a change in some of the Association events. Thankyou to all members for your support during 1998 and I look forward to an even better 1999. Have a safe and happy Christmas and a good pre-season!

SIMON GILL
PRESIDENT



Secretary's Report

The last 12 months seem to have come and gone with the blink of an eye, yet an awful lot has happened in that time. For that matter the last 6 years have passed by pretty quickly. They say that time always flies when you're having fun. Umpiring and fun...some may argue that the two are mutually exclusive. Sure some days you would rather be anywhere but on the football field. After all having every decision you make dissected by those well qualified armchair umpires, who have the luxury of slow motion replays from numerous angles, is not always that pleasant.

It seems that football is the only sport in the world where umpiring decisions are placed under the microscope and operated on with the surgical dexterity of Mike Tyson. Ah there's a thought, some of our mates in the media going toe to toe, or is that mouth to ear, with Mike.

I shouldn't be too harsh on our wonderful friends in the media as they did give me some wonderful, although unexpected, attention after my first AFL game. It was refreshing to see this side of the media. Moments like that are pretty rare for an umpire and it is one that I won't forget.

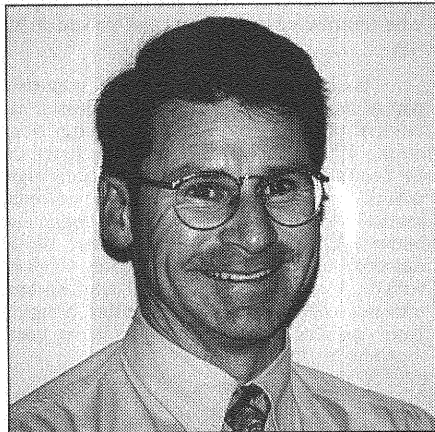
Well I suppose you are wondering what all this has to do with the secretary's report. The truth is, absolutely nothing. But it does have a lot to do with why I decided to take on the job of secretary. Unlike most of you I never actually made a conscious decision to take up umpiring. In 1993 I found myself at a bit of a loose end and my brother Colin suggested that I come down to EJ with him to train with the goal umpires.

Next thing I knew it was the end of February and the coach, Neville Lewis, asked me if I would I give it a go. To cut a long story short 6 years later I am still umpiring. In that time I have umpired 74 league games, including 3 AFL games and a league grand final.

When I said yes to Neville the thoughts of league football, let alone AFL, were not even in my mind. So without any aspirations of umpiring at the highest level why did I continue? In fact why did I even start? There is one very simple answer to these questions. All the other umpires and members who are the WANFLUA.

It has been through the help, guidance, support and friendship of the people I have met over the past 6 years which has given me the opportunity to umpire at the highest level in this country's greatest game.

It is because of the opportunities that the



WANFLUA has provided for me that I decided to take on the job as secretary and give something back to the association.

In my 6 years as a member I have seen the WANFLUA grow into a magnificent club. The Clubrooms, Hall of Fame, Grand Final Umpires Club and the Grand Final Lunch are just a few of the things that have helped transform the WANFLUA from just an association into a club. They are a testament to the decisions taken by previous committees and I commend them for their efforts.

The job of the current committee, and for that matter future committees, is to build on this good work and ensure that the association continues to grow and become the most professional association of its kind in the country. I believe that the more professional we become off the field the easier it is to perform professionally on the field. While it is imperative that we continue to do all the things we have done in the past, we cannot afford to remain internally focused.

We need to ensure that our sponsors are rewarded for their decision to support umpiring and in particular our association. There is no question that our association would not be in the position it is today if it wasn't for the magnificent support we have had from Ampol over the last 21 years. Each year they provide us with our on-field uniforms and trophies for our presentation night.

Since 1995 we have had the support of Taylor Woodings Financial Services, who not only provide cash incentives but also our training

uniforms. And more recently they introduced the Rising Star Award, now in its second year.

By getting involved in charitable activities like The Walk For The Cure, not only do we support a worthwhile cause, but we are able to show umpiring in a positive way and more importantly, promote our sponsors. Congratulations to Simon Gill for this wonderful initiative.

The support shown by our younger umpires for this activity was great and is a good sign for the future of the WANFLUA. Well done to all those who turned up on the day. While on the topic of our younger umpires it is good to see that a number of them have put their hands up to serve on the committee in 1999. I am sure that David Panagopoulos, Luke Farmer and Ray Lampard will benefit from the experience.

So what about 1998? As I mentioned at the start, a lot has happened. On the field, records were broken, milestones reached and there were also a number of retirements. Off the field there was a change of president, a new pay and conditions agreement, a new seminar facility, the log book, new trainers, mouse racing, movie nights and at long last, a liquor licence.

In February 1998 there was a change of president with Simon Gill stepping up to take on the job. In what has been a tough year Simon can be proud of the job he has done. I would like to thank Simon and all the other committee members for their work, help and support during 1998. I'm sure that we will all be better off for the experience in 1999.

At the start of 1998 we signed our second 3 year pay and conditions agreement with the WAFC. This agreement resulted in a change in fee structure with the introduction of a senior fee for those who have umpired 100 league games. Finals payments were reduced in an effort to give

more to those umpiring during the year.

The agreement also includes a financial commitment from the WAFC for a pre-season camp, which will happen in 1999.

We saw the construction and opening of the new seminar facility, which no doubt is the envy of other associations. We are looking to upgrade this facility with audio visual training and educational equipment. None of this would be possible if it weren't for the tireless efforts of David Johnson and his staff at the WAFC, thanks Johnno.

In April 1998 we were finally granted a liquor licence, with Peter Frusher as the Manager. Thanks Peter for taking on this job and for your wonderful work behind the bar and around the clubrooms. Thanks also to Aaron Capes for all his work with submitting the application.

1998 also saw the appointment of a new head trainer in Sharon Williams. I congratulate Sharon and her team for their efforts both at training and on match days. Hopefully the novelty of female trainers will have worn off by next year and there will be fewer injuries.

Special thanks to Nathan Jessup, a worthy recipient of the Life Members' Trophy, for his magnificent work as Social Secretary. Who will forget the mouse racing night. I wish Nathan well with his new business venture and hope he enjoys his break from football.

Finally I would like to thank all those people, too numerous to mention, who have contributed to the ongoing success of our club in 1998. I hope you have a relaxing break and look forward to seeing you all in 1999.

DAVID SHAWCROSS
SECRETARY

Treasurer's Report

My first duty as Treasurer was to examine the accounts of the Association to answer questions that had been asked at successive AGMs and that were not answered to the satisfaction of those AGMs.

I reported my findings at a Special General Meeting, held for that purpose. From this meeting you accepted my view of the previous years accounts. You also expressed concerns about how we could allow such a thing to happen.

The Management Committee have addressed your concerns in that we have produced duty statements for each of the Executive Committee so that future officers of this Association will be well aware of their responsibilities when they volunteer their time to serve on the Committee.

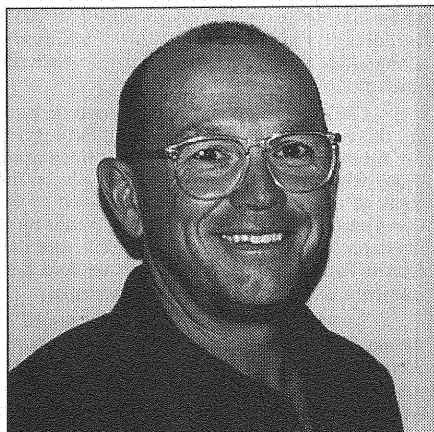
We have also looked at the amount of time that your Executive put into the Association, and to encourage a better commitment from those who volunteer for these positions in the future we will be seeking your approval at the AGM to support the reintroduction of Honoraria, to be paid to the Secretary, Social Secretary, Bar Manager and Treasurer.

It is very important that we run the affairs of the Association in a professional manner and even moreso since we have finally obtained a Club Restricted Liquor Licence.

So on to the accounts for this financial year. We were asked at the SGM to enlist another Auditor for this year. It was not an easy task, and not being able to find one from within the Association, it was decided that we would pay for the services of an Auditor for this year. This decision was made after I had closed off the books for the year and so the payment does not appear in the accounts that follow.

It has been a busy year, the bar is in full flight (at last) and we have finally seen the extensions to the building. This means that we have to now vary the Liquor Licence to incorporate the changes to the area now covered by the licence.

We also paid for the painting of the extensions in a deal with the WAFC, which shows up as prepaid rent in the assets of the Association. This will be expensed over the next couple of years.



We made an attempt to run down the bar stock completely, but just fell short. You will have to do better on AGM night, everything must go so that fresh stock can be ordered for the first day of training next year.

While on the subject of the bar trading, we made a conscious effort to supply at cost or just below, and all functions at EJ were represented in the bar trading account. For instance, the mouse racing night represents the money made from the gambling, entrance fees, raffles and the like. The alcohol sales stayed in the bar trade.

We also got a tax refund this year. We had been paying tax on our investment account, but being a non-profit institution, should have been exempt. After filling in many forms in triplicate, the ATO finally returned our money.

The item "commission" relates to the monies paid by the WA Triathlon Association to the Association for the work our members did as course marshalls for two triathlons they ran. Thank you to those that gave up their time to act as marshalls. We hope they will offer the same deal to us next season so be ready for the "call-up".

The planned training camp for this year was finally cancelled when an eleventh hour bid by the WAFC paid off and the Governor's Challenge Pre-Seson competition got off the ground. It clashed with our proposed training camp and since we had already paid a non-refundable deposits for the venue, the WAFC

met this cost. That is why there is revenue and expenditure for the training camp that never went ahead. The training camp makes a return next year and will be at the Ern Halliday Camp, the scene of many of our previous camps. More information will be provided at the AGM.

We provided Harry's Night as a free event this year to get a bigger turnout than we have had for the past two years. There were many who failed to attend, despite putting their names on the board, so as usual, the event was over catered with many attendees taking home plenty of extra food for Sunday lunch.

It makes the Social Secretary's job very difficult when members are not prepared to turn up to events. Despite all this, Nathan has done a good job as your Social Secretary, well done Nathan.

In previous years, your annual subscription fees included an "administration" component and a "social" component. After examining our expenditure patterns over the past couple of years, we have noticed that it costs around \$55 per head to run the Association. So there is a notional "surplus" on your subscriptions of around \$65 that is available for subsidising social events.

I propose that the fees do not rise in the coming year, but that some of the subs be allocated towards social functions which should

have a two-fold benefit, namely keeping the costs of functions down for our members and improving attendances at functions.

One other requirement of the Liquor Licensing Act is that all non-members of this Association must be signed into the Visitor's Book. This includes partners at social functions held on the premises. Many have not been signed in, so to overcome this anomaly, \$10 from your annual subs will be allocated to Social Membership of the Association for your "nominated partner". At the start of the year you will nominate your partner (wife, girlfriend, boyfriend, whatever) so that their names can be recorded on the board as Social Members and so will meet the requirements of the Liquor Licensing Act. Any other friend that you bring to any function at the premises must be signed into the book.

Well that just about wraps this lot up. No doubt there will be many questions you will want answered at the AGM and I hope that I can answer them all to your satisfaction.

I have decided to stand as Treasurer for another year, so I will be after your money again next year. Have a good break and we look forward to your presence at all our functions next year.

PAUL SMITH
TREASURER



1997-98 Financial Year Operating Statement

Account	Revenue	Expenditure	Surplus(Deficit)
Subscriptions	9 330	120	9 210
Interest	199	-	199
Merchandise Sales	1 872	1 416	456
Commission	900	-	900
Training Camp	540	540	-
Panel Night	1 395	1 050	345
Movie Night	2 544	1 768	776
Grand Final Dinner Dance	4 970	6 065	(1 095)
Hall of Fame	520	612	(92)
Mouse Racing Night	1 182	362	820
Affiliation Fees	500	-	500
Harry's Night	-	402	(402)
Grand Final Luncheon	4 835	5 057	(222)
Grand Final Umpires Club	1 290	1 405	(115)
Tax Refund	396	-	396
Fines	60	-	60
Sponsorship	1 460	106	1 354
Raffles	337	238	99
Bar Trading	11 475	8 446	3 029
Alcohol	4 571	2 724	
Soft Drink	3 760	2 279	
Food	3 144	3 443	
Bank Charges	-	86	(86)
Postage & Telephone	-	223	(223)
Printing & Stationery	-	262	(262)
Yearbook Expenses	-	1 700	(1 700)
Legal & Accounting	-	20	(20)
Liquor Licence Fees	-	180	(180)
Insurance	-	531	(531)
Repairs & Maintenance	60	124	(64)
Travel & Entertainment	-	139	(139)
Trophies	1 935	3 249	(1 314)
Donations	190	490	(300)
Social Room Expense	-	68	(68)
Training Expenses	-	18	(18)
Tax Paid	16	16	-
Sundry	15	270	(255)
Depreciation Charge for the Year	-	1 239	(1 239)
Total	46 020	36 200	9 819

Statement of Financial Position

	1996-97	1997-98
Assets		
Cheque Account	7 560	12 070
Investment Account	6 036	6 268
Accounts Receivable	959	2 032
Plant & Equipment	11 715	11 151
Equipment (Original Cost)	18 218	18 893
Accumulated depreciation	6 504	7 743
Deposits Paid	200	450
Prepaid Rent	-	2 000
Stocks of Merchandise	819	721
Bar Stock	854	355
Total Assets	28 142	35 047
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	6 901	3 986
Net Assets	21 241	31 061

Accumulated Funds

Balance at 15 October 1997	21 241
Plus Surplus(Deficit)	9 819
Balance at 15 October 1998	31 061

Auditor's Report

I have examined the records and vouchers of the Western Australian National Football League Umpires Association (Inc.). The records are in order and any explanations that have been required were provided by the Association Treasurer.

In my opinion the financial accounts are drawn up to give a true and fair view of the Associations affairs for the period 16 October 1997 and 15 October 1998.

MARK POWER
C.A.
16 November 1998

Social Secretary's Report

Having spent 1997 finding my feet, so to speak, this year I was determined to explore some new social avenues while continuing to consolidate and improve those events that have always proven to be popular and well attended.

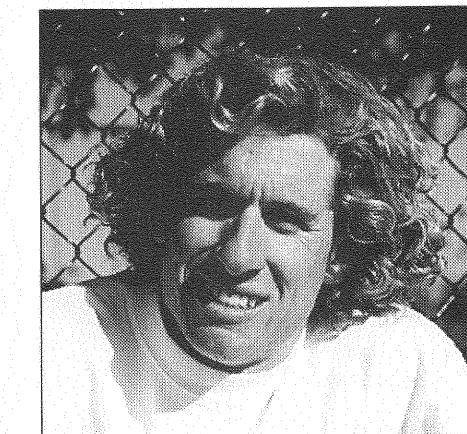
The year began with another successful movie night at ACE Cinemas in Subiaco. Over 150 people turned up to watch an excellent movie in Good Will Hunting. The same venue was used later in the year for our second movie night where a slightly smaller crowd watched the Australian movie Crackers.

This year's Panel Night saw a change of venue and format with the nearby bowling club being booked for a Tuesday night after training. An excellent roast dinner was served by Dove Catering to a full house of umpires, coaches and life members.

Our rapidly expanding Hall Of Fame was added to in May this year with three more than worthy inductees. This night again proved to be a popular and well attended with a variety of umpires, family members and friends enjoying a superb meal and a few drinks.

Perhaps this year's most successful function was the inaugural Men In White Cup (Mouse Racing Night). Over 60 umpires and family members formed tables and purchased tickets for this much publicised and anticipated event. With names like Reppa's Rat, Fat Boys Fancy, Bigger Than Bish, Might and Pooley and Pork Chop Bazza, the form guide became a much sought after souvenir. Feverish betting and barracking became the trend of the night with the Bink's table walking away with a significant chunk of the prize money. A big thank you to all of our sponsors on the night, my able assistants and all of those in attendance. Hopefully this event can become an annual event.

An impromptu social event evolved out of Grant Vernon breaking Ray Montgomery's long standing record for the most games umpired by a West Australian. Almost 100 people turned up to the EJ clubrooms to acknowledge Grant's amazing achievement. A large meal preceded a number of often humorous accounts of Grant's career by people including Dennis Rich who flew from Melbourne to be present at the night. Congratulations Grant, not only on a great achievement, but for your entertaining response and offer to Pick up the bar tab at the end of the night!!



Attempts to organise a Booze Cruise unfortunately fell through with a busy time of the year attracting only a small amount of interest. In order to satisfy some of the members thirst for a night out with the boys and a few pints of amber fluid Rosie O'Grady's on Canning Highway was booked for a Saturday night in late August. For those who attended it proved to be a great night with a sardine can ride in Brett Rosebury's car seeing us finish at the Burswood.

The final's series saw a busy social schedule with Harry's Night again proving a popular event. I would like to express my appreciation to May Jardine and her band of assistants for the excellent job they did in catering for the night. The final two functions were held over the Grand Final weekend and with everyone in high spirits they were a great culmination to a memorable season from a social perspective. The Presentation Dinner was held at Lenox and although a little squashed it was an excellent venue for perhaps our most important night of the year. Now in its fourth year, the Grand Final luncheon continued to attract umpires, family and friends from as far away as Mandurah.

As I vacate the Social Secretary position at the end of this year I would like, to sincerely thank both the current committee and the members for the support I have received over the past two years. I have gained a tremendous amount of enjoyment out of the job and only hope that the next Social Secretary is able experience a similar level of gratification.

NATHAN JESSUP
SOCIAL SECRETARY



THE CELTIC CLUB (INC) WEST PERTH'S PREMIER BUSINESS CLUB

FACILITIES AND SERVICES OFFERED

- Downstairs Dining Room and Bar.
- Upstairs Snack Bar and Function Room.
- Upstairs Billiard Room.
- Upstairs Office (with balcony available for snacks and drinks).
- Ladies and Gents Bathrooms have shower facilities.
- Fully Licensed/over bar and take away facility.
- Club over bar prices. 10% below front bar prices.
- Special prices offered to members on carton wine purchases.
- Private functions such as Weddings, Dinner Parties, 21st Birthdays, Wedding Anniversary, Christenings, Seminars, Workshops arranged at very competitive rates.
- Upstairs Function Room capacity: 100 for weddings etc. 150 stand up functions - sundowners etc. 120 theatre style seating.
- Room can be sub divided for smaller groups.
- Downstairs capacity: 60/70 for weddings. 120 stand up functions.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TRADING HOURS:

Dining Room Monday to Friday
12.00 to 2.00pm

Snack Bar Monday to Friday
12.00 to 2.00pm

Bar Monday to Thursday
12.00 to 7.30pm

Friday 12.00 to 10.00pm

Club opens Monday to Friday 9.00am

Breakfasts by arrangement

Reciprocal arrangements with other clubs in Australia.



FEES AND PRICE STRUCTURES

Current nomination fee \$150.00

Current annual subscription fee
\$140.00

Dining Room meals: 3 course choice
menu \$19.00

Snack Bar meal: \$5.00 to \$9.00 choices

COFFEE AVAILABLE ALL DAY

Proudly supporting the WANFL Umpires Association

48 ORD STREET, WEST PERTH

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TELEPHONE: 322 2299 FAX: 322 2899

General Manager's Report

Having held this position for six years, I have elected to offer a report that reflects the work done thus far, followed by where I see we are presently situated as a group, and finally a personal view of what challenges lay ahead.

In 1993 we were a group of umpires looking for a place to call our own. In previous years we had made the decision to leave the comfort of the WACA and take more responsibility for our own future. The average age of our Panels were; Field (25), Boundary (26) and our Goalies (40).

There was no accreditation for Boundary and Goal Umpires and Level 4 for Field Umpires was introduced for the first time.

We serviced ten country Leagues/Associations and amassed 467 County appointments for the year. There was no television or video equipment for use in coaching and we advertised each January for new recruits and crossed our fingers hoping to unearth another Capes or Ball.

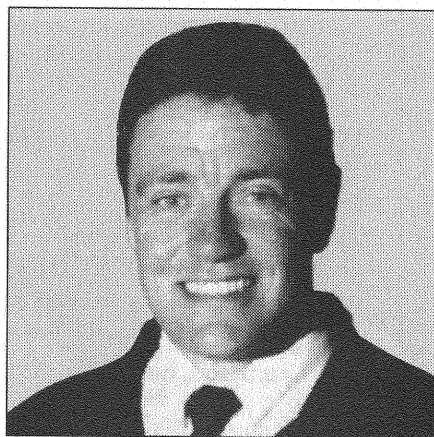
Ampol were still with us after 16 consecutive years and Umpires receiving the Umpires of the Year Award received Fuel Vouchers with the Field umpire receiving a portable TV.

Of the 35 Field Umpires on the 1993 list only 9 are currently umpiring with Westar and of the Boundary's we only have 7 of the 28 and 9 Goalies from the list of 27.

Of course there was the 2 Umpire System and moderate success at the National Level.

Today, the home for umpires is Ernest Johnson in South Perth, a facility admired across the country as being able to service your needs and aid in your preparation to achieve your goals.

Ampol are still with us and our uniforms today reflect the corporate colours of our terrific partner in football. Twenty-one years is truly a remarkable record and one we wish will continue for many years to come. The West Australian Academy of Umpiring acts as a filter for future Westar and AFL umpires and has seen a steady flow of trained umpires onto the lists. In 1998, three Country Leagues used Perth umpires for a total of only 90 appointments. The three part-time Regional Umpire Managers (RUMs) have certainly made an impact in rural WA in developing their own umpiring panels. The video



examples used in coaching sessions each Thursday along with the vision gained with our own equipment, ensures Westar umpires are kept up-to-date with the latest trends in football courtesy of Rick Hart. Umpire ratings are part and parcel of the weekly selection process now and that allows umpires to know where they "stand" in the group, week to week, a question umpires have been asking for years. Performance indicators are built in to ensure we continue to identify trends and to remedy any shortcomings that may exist.

The National Accreditation Scheme extends to four levels of Field Umpiring and 2 levels of Boundary and Goal umpiring. Western Australia is second only to Victoria in the number of participants.

Public perception today has us at an 86% approval rating or in excess of three-quarters of the public rate our performances each week as good or better. \$573,000 was expended on WA umpiring during 1998 which represents a 245% increase on the 1993 total.

From an Association point of view. The Hall of Fame, Wall of Fame, the Grand Final Luncheon and Grand Final Umpires Club are initiatives that clearly indicate how far you've advanced. Added to this is the second 3-year Wage and Conditions deal that offers security and direction to both the umpires and the WAFC.

So where to now? Why is there talk of us

having gone backward? Is the real measure of success as a group truly based on how many umpires we have on the National Panel? Is will we not be considered successful until a West Australian umpires an AFL Grand Final? How do you rate Dan Gooch's back to back performances? Or doesn't that count?

Here lies the challenge of the future!

With every successful tale or building lies a solid foundation, something to build on that will not give way in testing times. As I've just listed, here in WA we have built a very solid foundation that requires you to finish the project.

The sport of officiating is one that is always going to be basically an individuals pursuit. Let's face it, no one can help you make "that decision" on match day, we can however, work together as a group to bring about further success. Mutual respect is the key. Respect and pride of yourselves and your personal efforts and sacrifices. Respect for those that travelled before you knocking down the so-called barriers. Respect for those who offer advice, good or bad, and for the time they sacrifice to assist in your development.

And finally, mutual respect for your fellow umpires in their respective disciplines. WA needs Field, Boundary and Goal umpires working

together, for a strong and vibrant group will attract success far more easily than any individual effort.

The current group of people we have in WA umpiring has the capacity to serve football better than ever before and for a considerable length of time. A very dedicated and able committee manages your Association, and your President has led by example. The group needs to be fitter, more committed to providing a professional service and it needs to work together with various groups and coaches, having learnt from the past. No one should be criticised for having a go, for from these actions, we make adjustments and further progress.

I congratulate Simon Gill on a terrific year leading the Association along with congratulating the Coaches and Assistants for their efforts over a season that appears to be getting longer and longer.

In closing, I truly believe we are on the verge of great success and wish all members and staff continued success, good health and a happy and injury free festive season.

Enjoy your break.

DAVID JOHNSON
GENERAL MANAGER-UMPIRING 1998



Field Umpires Coach Report

From a coaching point of view the season has held some very satisfying achievements and was made somewhat easier by the fact that a large proportion of the squad were now in at least their second year with Western Rules.

Like 1997 the squad was kept to a minimum and finally only 32 umpires were listed including two AFL representatives in Greg Scroop and Grant Vernon. Unfortunately during the season we lost Mark Warren due to work commitments and Chris Slocombe but gained the services of Murray O'Dea.

Twenty umpires officiated in League matches and four made debuts at this level. Gavin Statham, David Corcoran, Brett Rosebury and Brendon Marsh all umpired extremely well in their debut seasons and have been able in the main to retain their positions due to their good form. Six umpires umpired 20 or more league games.

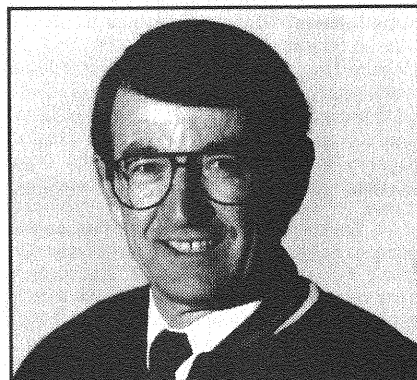
Western Australian umpires appointed to under-age championship and the State match in Adelaide performed at very high levels drawing the highest praise from observers and officials alike. Gavin Statham and Jeff Petrie were ranked very highly in the U/18 Championships with both umpiring finals, Brett Rosebury was clearly the best umpire in the U/16 Championship and Adam Binks' performance in the State game was outstanding.

Six new umpires were introduced to the squad from the Academy and other sources and all performed reasonably, with the outstanding recruit being Dean Margetts. He umpired at Colt's level initially but quickly moved to Reserves where he performed to a high level.

With the Academy now fully operational, I have high hopes that several well trained recruits will make their way into Western Rules in 1999 and continue the standard of umpiring being displayed by recruits from earlier years.

It was very disappointing to lose the services of Trevor Garrett due to injury after round 15, however, he provided advice and assistance to younger umpires at training sessions when he could not participate.

I was extremely pleased with the overall results achieved in 1998 and the goals that were set early in the season were basically achieved with decisional accuracy being maintained and some improvements in skills and match



management. Overall all umpires performed at a high level, however, there is always room for improvement and this season the fitness of some umpires was not up to standard, a situation that must be addressed by those individuals. Those umpires who achieved at the highest levels were rewarded with the major trophy winners being:

Umpire of the Year	Adam Binks
Most Improved Umpire	Gavin Statham
Taylor Woodings Rising Western Umpire	Luke Farmer

Adam has had another outstanding season umpiring 22 league games only missing one game due to commitments for the State game in Adelaide. His total approach to his umpiring has enabled him to rank very highly all season and his consistency is first rate. I would hope that he is offered a chance at the next level in 1999.

Gavin has also had a remarkable season. He umpired in 20 league games making his debut in round one. His only misses were due to a medical procedure and umpiring at the U/18 Championship. His overall improvement is testament to his willingness to arrive for pre-season fit and his ability to learn and develop as the season progressed. He nominated and was accepted to umpire in the Northern Territory League during the summer.

Luke has matured during 1998 where he umpired in a majority of Reserves games and was appointed to umpire the Colts 1st Semi Final. He has displayed a great feel for the game and

shows in his umpiring an ability to umpire at the highest levels.

Since the end of the season Darren Starcevic and Grant Vernon have announced their retirements and will be a great loss to Western Rules and umpiring. I hope that both will consider providing the benefits of their experience to younger umpires in the future.

I would finally like to thank Kevin Castensen, Max Osborn, Robert Butler and David Johnson for their support and assistance during 1998.

Congratulations to those field umpires who

were selected to participate in Grand Finals in 1998:

League	Adam Binks Warren French Simon Gill
Reserves	Duane Cole David Corcoran Gavin Statham
Colts	Brett Rosebury Brendon Marsh

JOHN NICHOLAS
FIELD UMPIRES COACH

City Physiotherapy Clinic



1st Floor, Wesley Centre,
93 William St., Perth W.A. 6000

Phone 9 322 3363
Fax: 9 321 1774

Tony Chamberlain

B.App.Sc. (Physio), M.A.P.A.

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

MANUAL THERAPY SPORTS PHYSIOTHERAPY EXERCISE THERAPY
OCCUPATIONAL REHABILITATION THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

Country Umpiring Report

Regional Umpiring Managers' Program

The Regional Umpiring Managers' (RUM) Program, which services 16 country leagues within three regions of the State, is now in its fourth year of operation.

Inaugural RUM, Noel Morgan (Central Region) was reappointed for a fourth term and has continued to provide tremendous assistance to his respective Regions.

Darryl Sinclair completed his second term in the Southern Region and his experience has been an asset to the program.

Murray Stevens who replaced Kevin Waycott in the Northern Region has made a fine contribution in his first year.

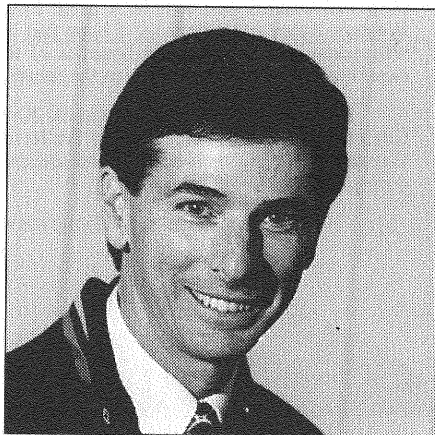
The Regional Umpiring Managers' Program continues to enhance the development of umpiring in our Country Regions and it was through this forum that a Standard Order-Off Rule for Community Football was trialled for the first time across the State in 1998. The concept involves the use of a Red and Yellow Card system to assist umpires in controlling misdemeanours of Players or Officials. An evaluation is currently being assessed and it is envisaged that 1999 will see a re-modelled Standard Order-Off Rule that will apply to all affiliated Community Football Bodies throughout the State.

Country Panel

Only 11 Westar umpires participated in the three country leagues of Upper Great Southern, Central Midlands Coastal and Lower South West which was made up 90 umpiring appointments in 1998.

The Country Panel was well served by David Corcoran, Dean Margetts, Nathan Nicholson, Tony Petrie, Jeff Petrie, Brett Rosebury, Ryan Worthington, Gavin Statham, Brendan Marsh, Luke Farmer and Robert Butler.

The Central Midlands Coastal Football League requested our umpires on only 4 occasions throughout the season and we saw Nathan Nicholson and Gavin Statham take control their Grand Final with distinction. The Lower South West again used their panel umpires to officiate their Grand Final and the Upper Great Southern League utilised their panel umpires to control their Grand Final for the first time. Match payments were increased over the



previous year from \$110 to \$125 (under 250km) and from \$125 to \$165 (over 250km) with corresponding Finals fees of \$140 and \$180 and Grand Final fees of \$195 and \$230. The travel allowance remained at \$0.40 per kilometre. Congratulations to all Country Panel members on your co-operation and encouragement to fellow country umpires. Your commitment has been instrumental in raising an awareness of the standards required to develop their game.

The social football competition, Mercantile Football Association again requested our services on a fortnightly basis. Payments this year were \$80 per game (one umpire system) and \$100 for the Grand Final (two-umpire system). A travel allowance was paid to games played at Dwellingup (\$80) and Yanchep (\$40).

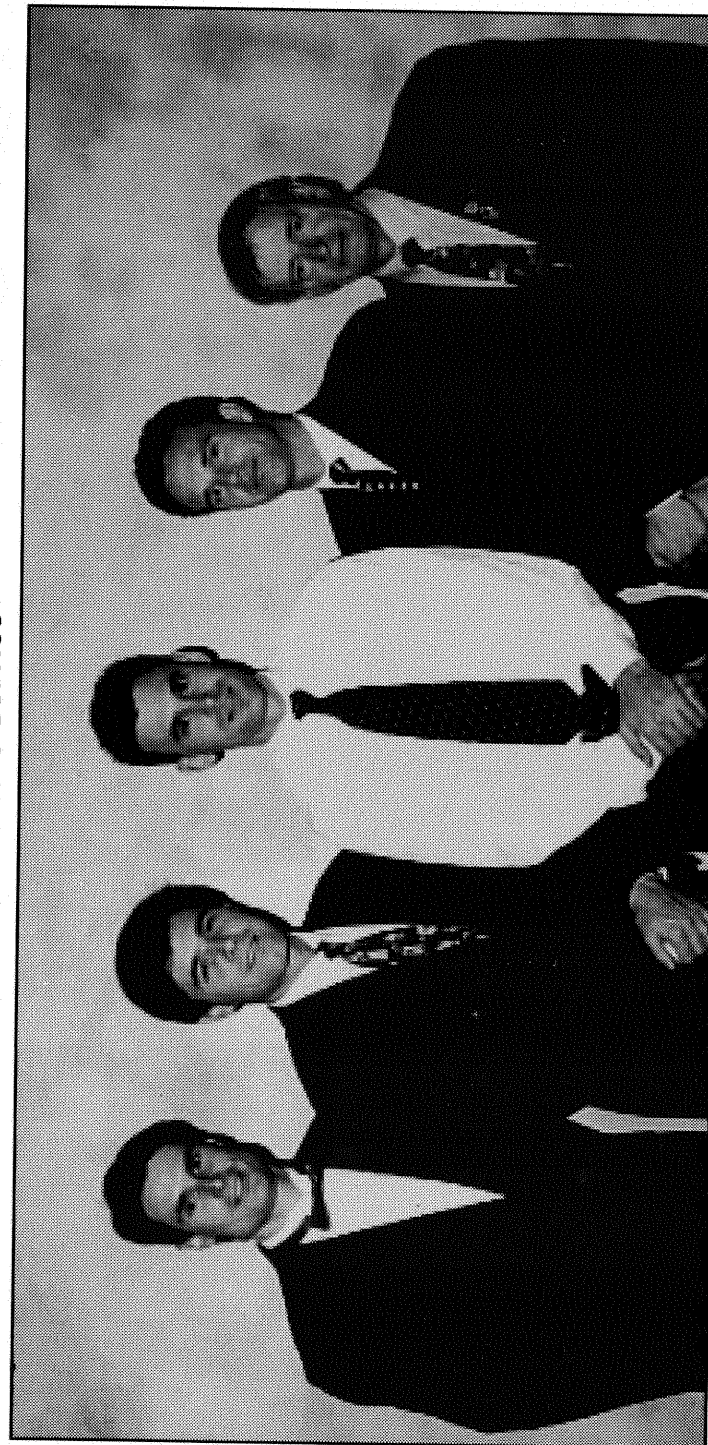
Chris Slocombe, Doug Cornish and Slavko Mutavdzic serviced the Mercantile panel.

Congratulations to Doug and Slavko on their appointment to the Grand Final.

On behalf of the Country Football Leagues, the Mercantile Football Association and the West Australian Football Commission, I would like to express my appreciation for your willing assistance throughout the year.

PETER TROODE
UMPIRING DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

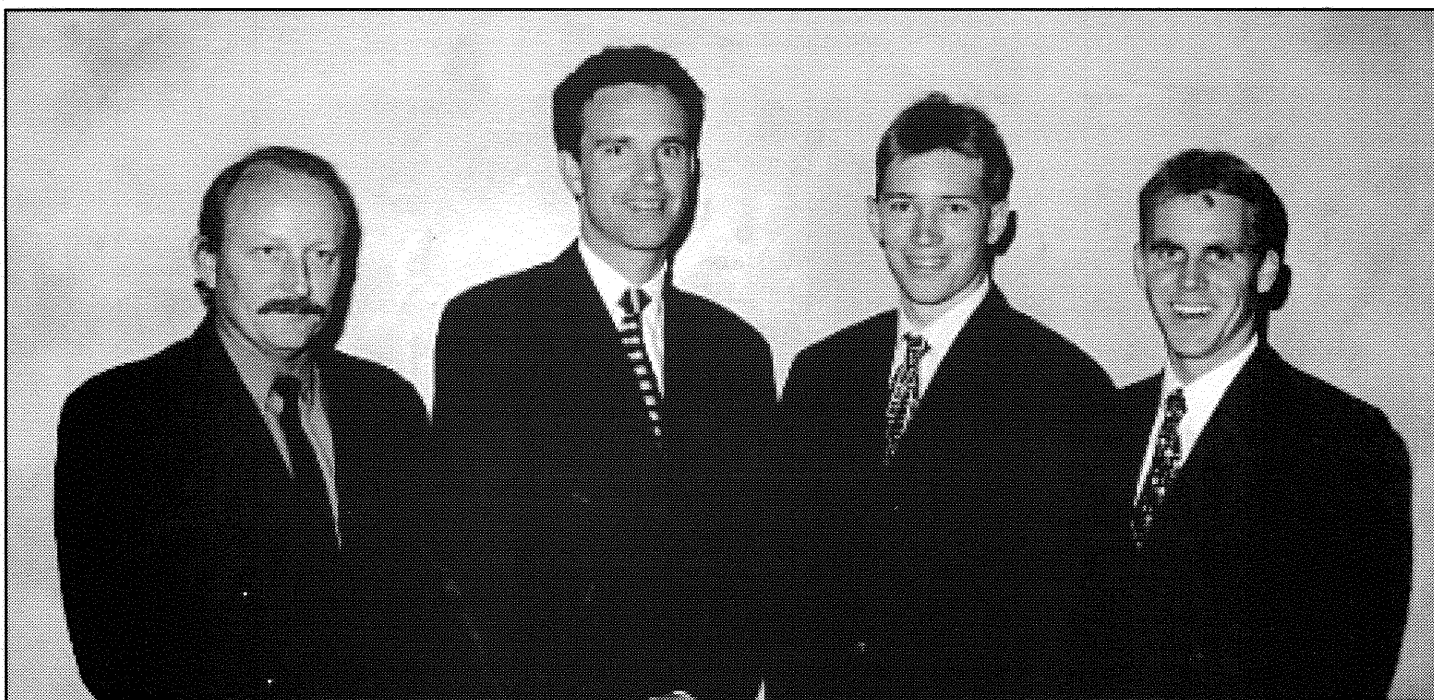
10 Years Service



Adam Binks, Wayne French, Darren Starcevich, Duane Cole and Trevor Pescud

L to R:

50 League Games



L to R:

Mal Evans, Duane Cole, Ben Brown, Craig Hendrie

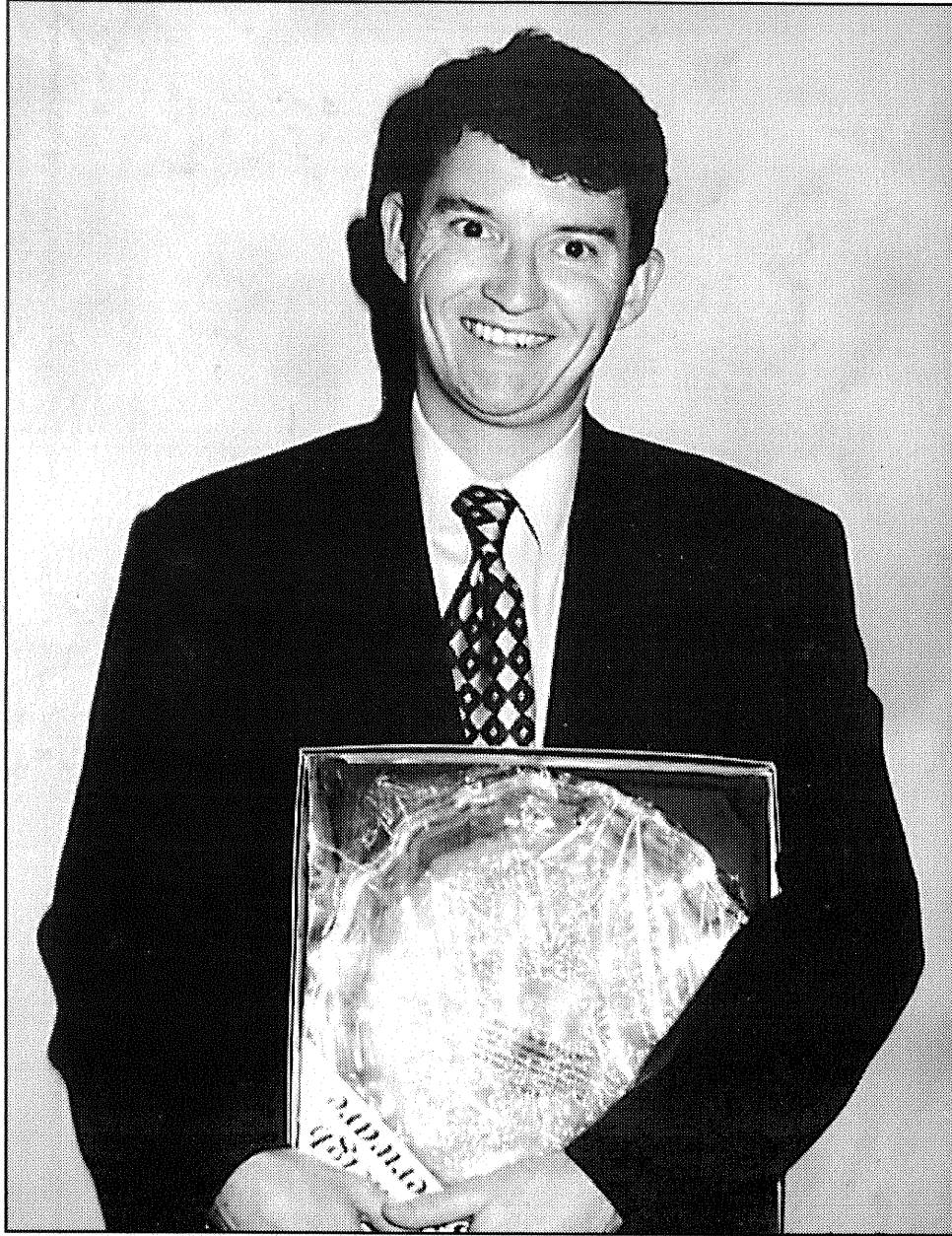
100 League Games



L to R:

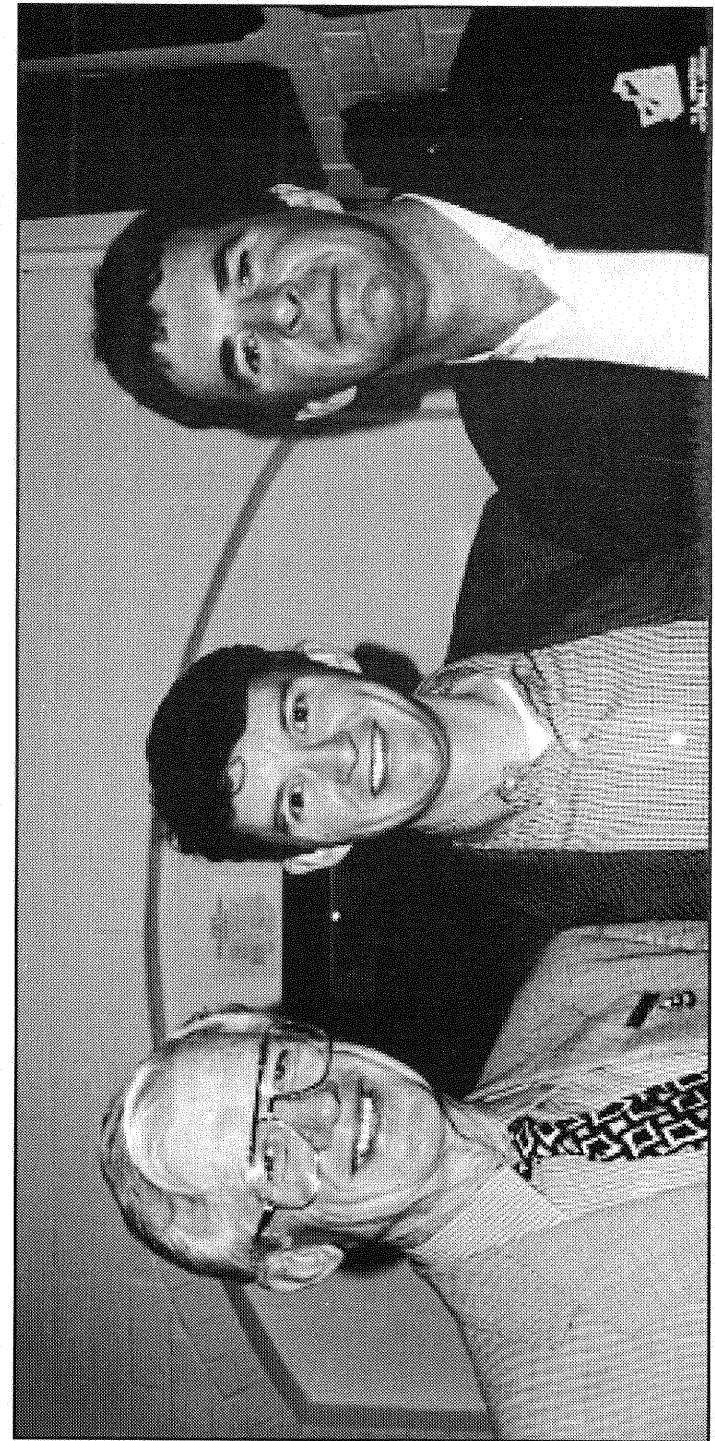
Greg Smith, Nathan Jessup, Darren Starcevich, Peter Pooley and Adam Binks

300 League Games



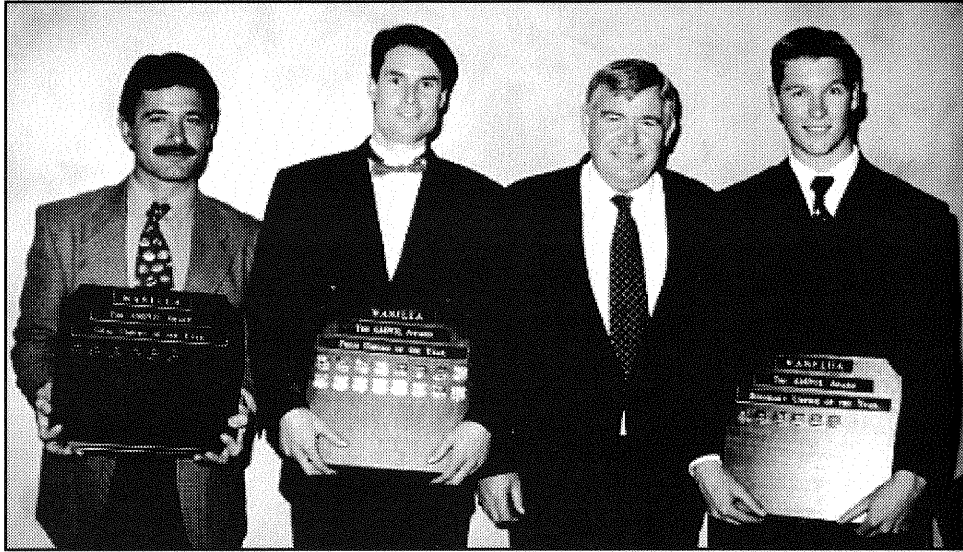
Grant Vernon with his trophy for reaching this milestone

The "300 Club"



Ray Montgomery (the first to get there), Grant Vernon (the new kid on the block) and Mike Ball
Our only members to reach the 300 game milestone

AMPOL Umpires of the Year



Cos Martino (Goal), Adam Binks (Field), Ross Benzie of AMPOL and
Jamie Giles (Boundary)

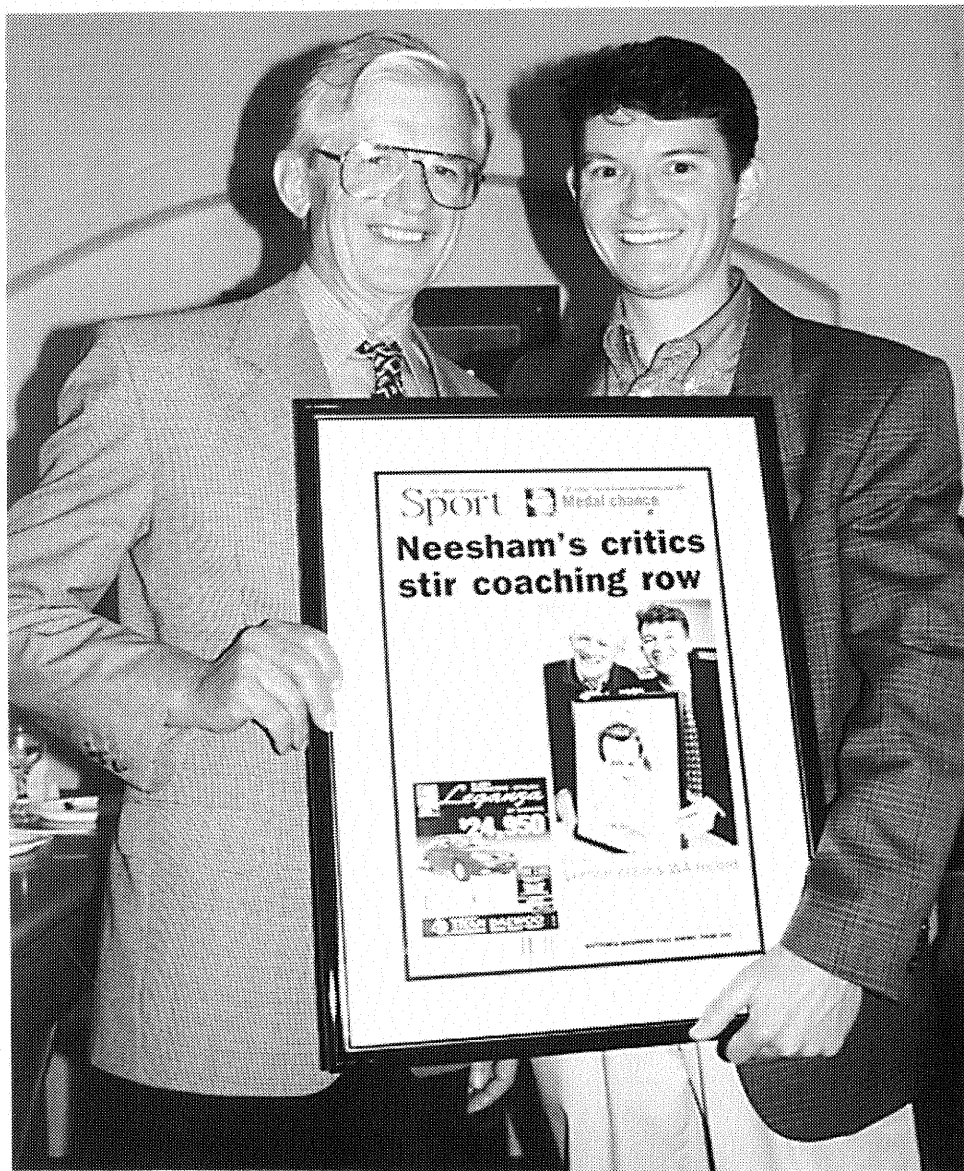
AMPOL

The Most Improved Awards



Glen De Francesch (Goals) – Exclusive Trophies Award, Gavin Statham (Field) – Kevin Cox Memorial Award
and Paul Heales (Boundary) – The Eric Hood Award

Record Breaker



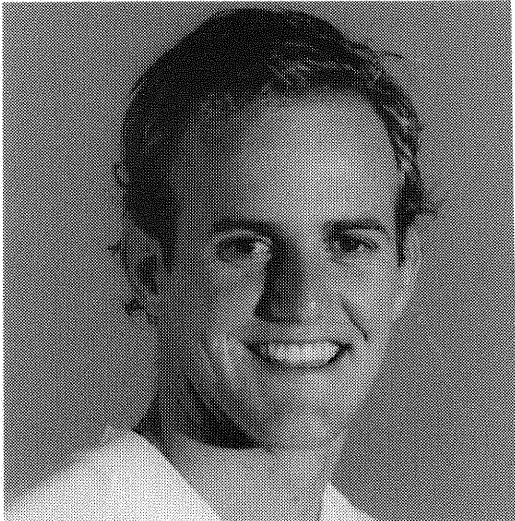
The record of games umpired goes from Ray Montgomery (308) to Grant Vernon (313) in a function at Ernest Johnson Reserve.
Well done Grant!

Life Members Trophy

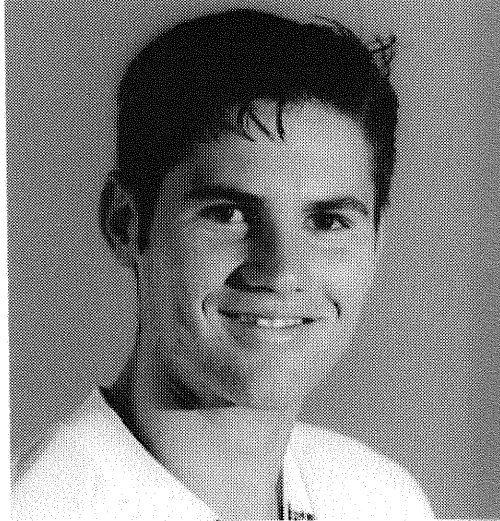


Nathan Jessup with Ray Montgomery's coveted sculpture

Australian U/18 Football Championships

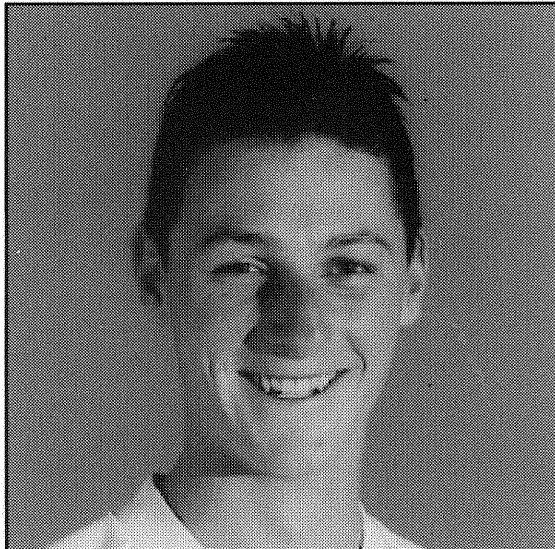


Gavin Statham



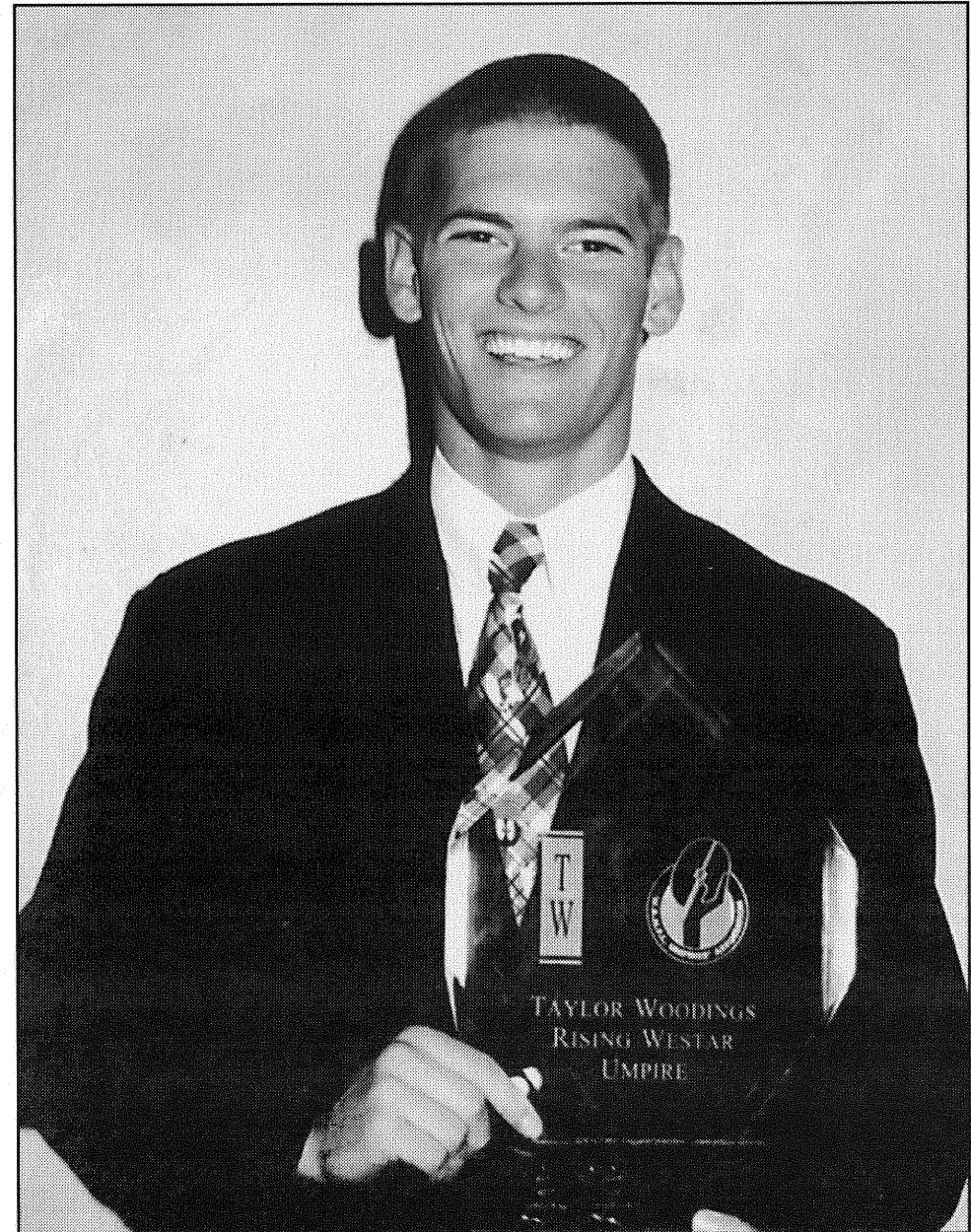
Jeff Petrie

State Schoolboys Representative



Brett Rosebury

Taylor Woodings 'Rising Westar' Umpire



Luke Farmer



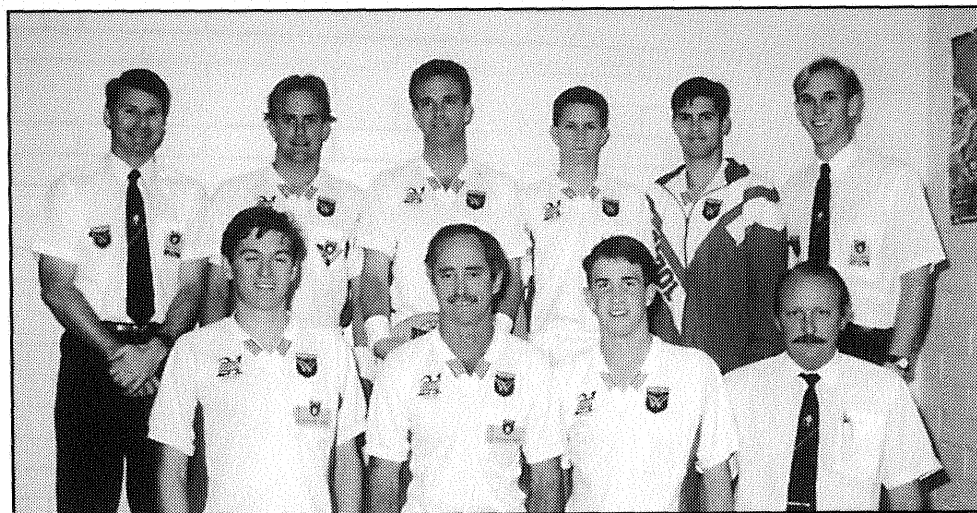
Back L to R: John Marrapodi, Wayne French, Adam Binks

Front L to R: Jamie Giles, George Pampacos

Simon Gill, Cos Martino, Darren Starceвич (Emergency Field)

,Ben Brown and Colin Shawcross (Third Scorer)

Reserves Grand Final



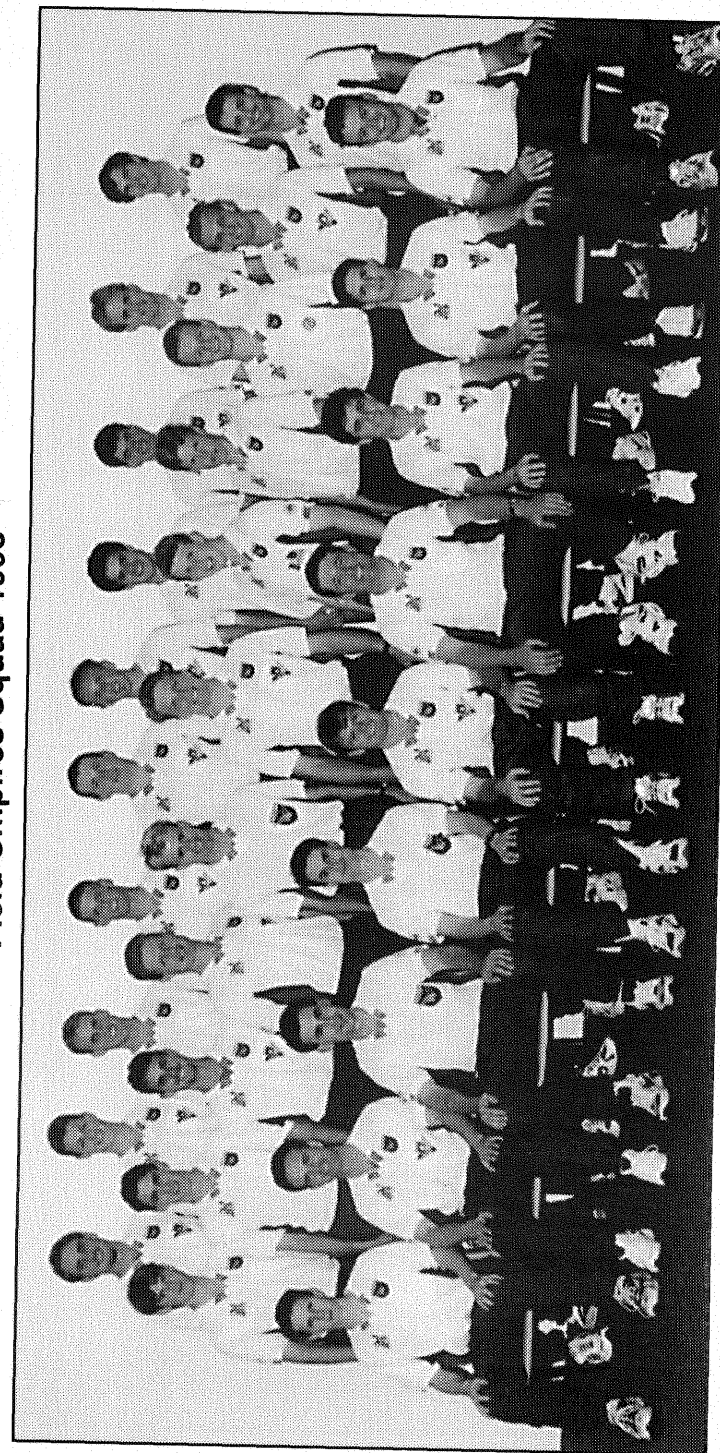
Back L to R: David Shawcross, Gavin Statham, Duane Cole, David Corcoran
Jeff Petrie (Emergency Field) and Wayne Hendrie
Front L to R: Matt Jones, Peter Frusher, Todd Arbuckle and Mal Evans (Third Scorer)

Colts Grand Final



L to R: Bob Davis (Third Scorer), Jason Crowe, Paul Heales (Emergency Boundary),
Craig Hartnett, Brendan Marsh, Brett Rosebury, Mike Hearne,
Luke Farmer (Emergency Field) and Glen De Francesch.

Field Umpires Squad 1998



Back L to R: A. Shepherdson, B. Rosebury, C. Hendrie, L. Farmer, N. Nicholson, D. Ainslie, P. St Quentin, A. Roberts, G. Statham, D. Rapanaro
Middle L to R: R. Worthington, P. Pitchers, D. Panagopoulos, G. Howie, D. Margetts, M. Hayes, B. Marsh, A. Petrie, D. Edwick, M. Fussell, T. Garrett
Front L to R: D. Corcoran, D. Cole, D. Starcevich, A. Binks, S. Gill, P. Repper, W. French, J. Petrie, M. O'Dea

Boundary Umpire Squad 1998



Back L to R:

P. Pooley, C. Thornett, T. Arbuckle, N. Jessup, G. Gillbee, A. Fisher, R. Lampard

Middle L to R:

B. Frawley, M. Hearne, B. Brown, J. Giles, M. Jones, P. Heales, C. Hartnett, P. Frusher, J. Porteous, G. Pampacos

Front L to R:

B. Roberts, A. Gooch, D. Gooch, T. Gooch, G. Smith

Goal Umpire Squad 1998



Back L to R:

M. Evans, J. Marrapodi, G. De Francesch, R. Hart, G. Arbuary, R. Payne

Middle L to R:

D. Booth, D. Grzinic, R. Davis, J. Hauswirth, B. Kaaks, R. Garlett, W. Hendrie, J. Gunn

Front L to R:

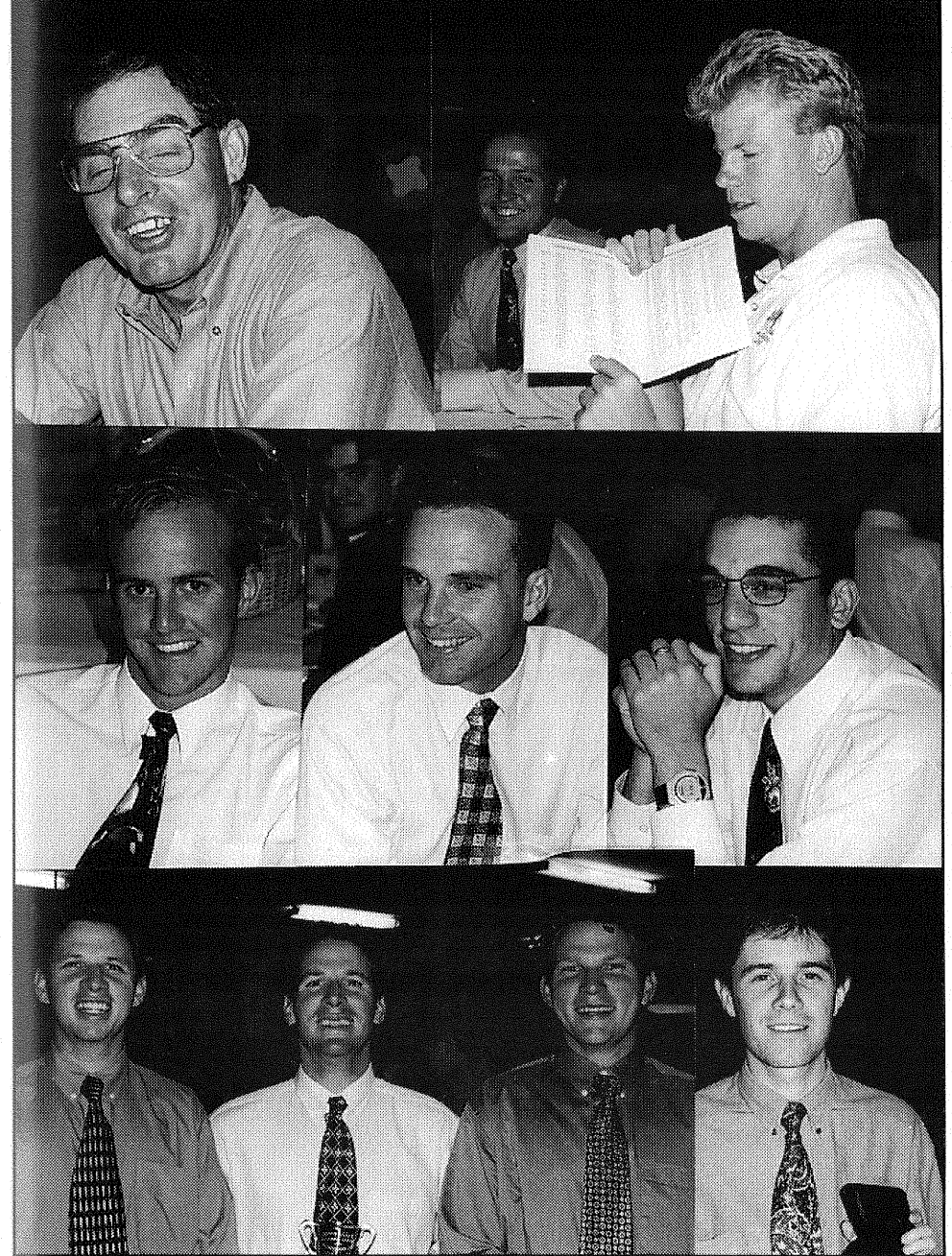
P. Smith, C. Martino, R. Hendrie, A. Curtis, D. Shawcross

Umpires Coaches 1998

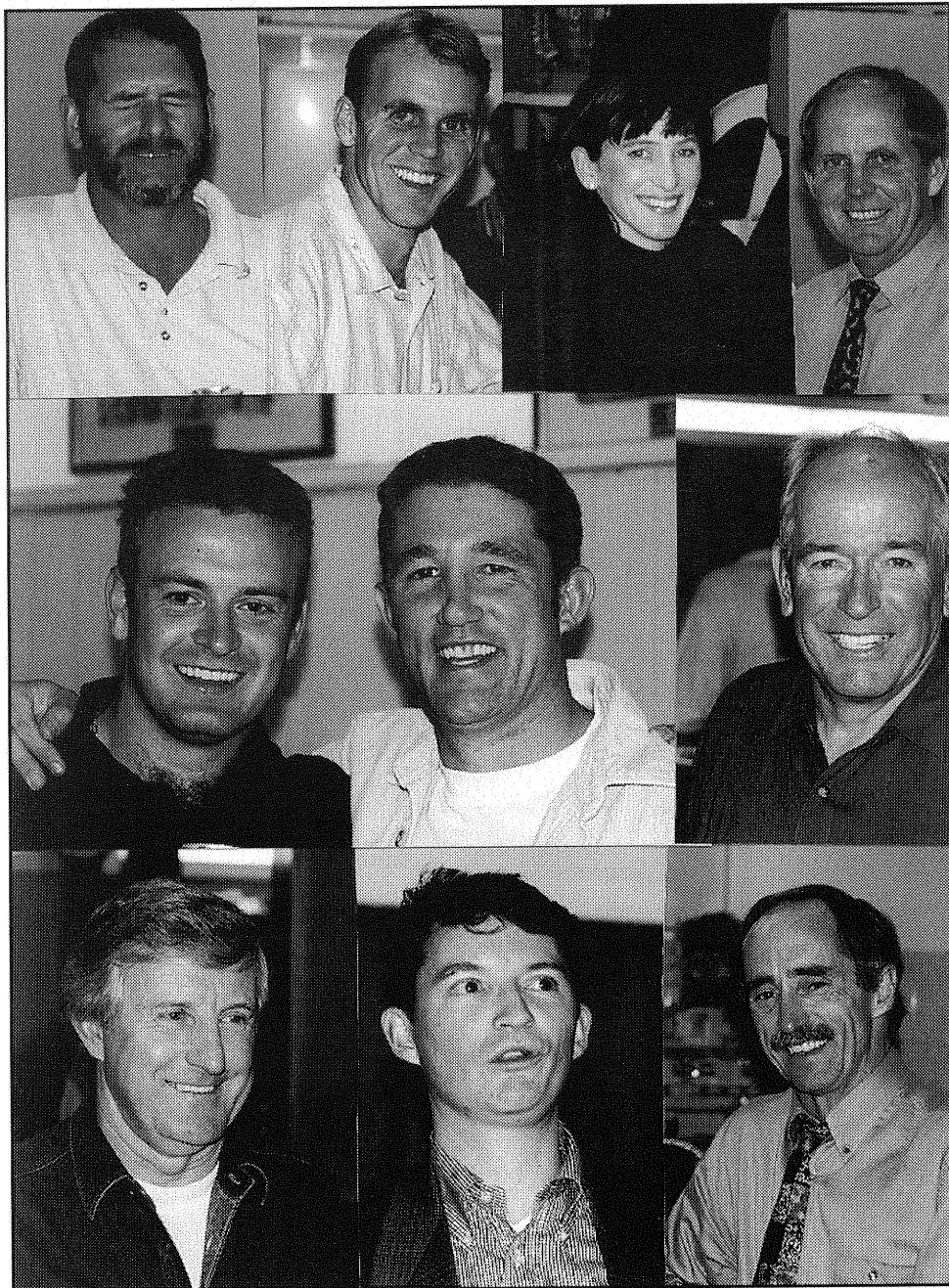


L to R: D. Pavlinovich, R. Butler, T. Pescud, P. Neuzerling, M. Potter, J. Nicholas, K. Castensen, S. Williams, D. Johnson, D. Davis, G. Bishop

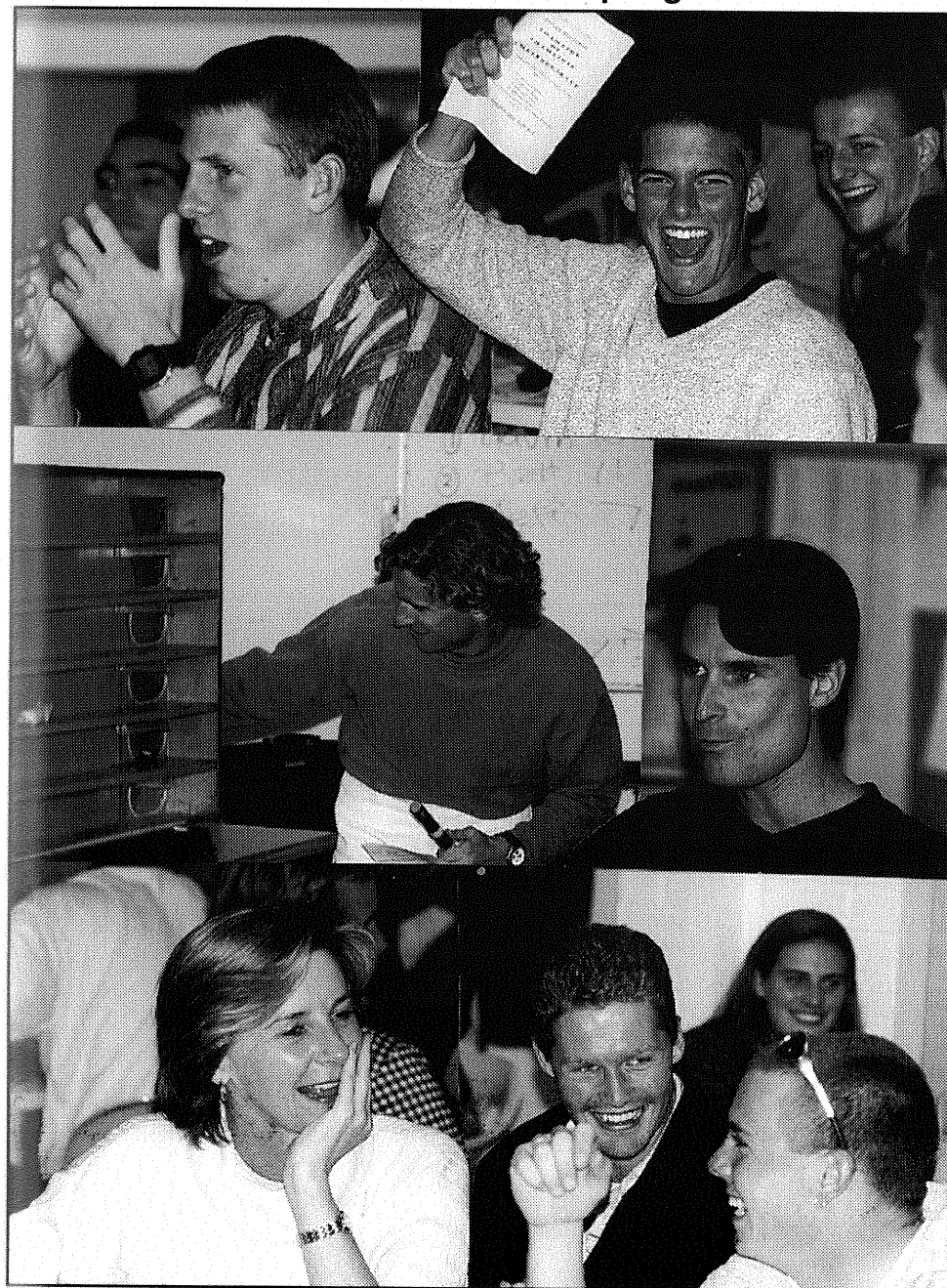
Panel Night



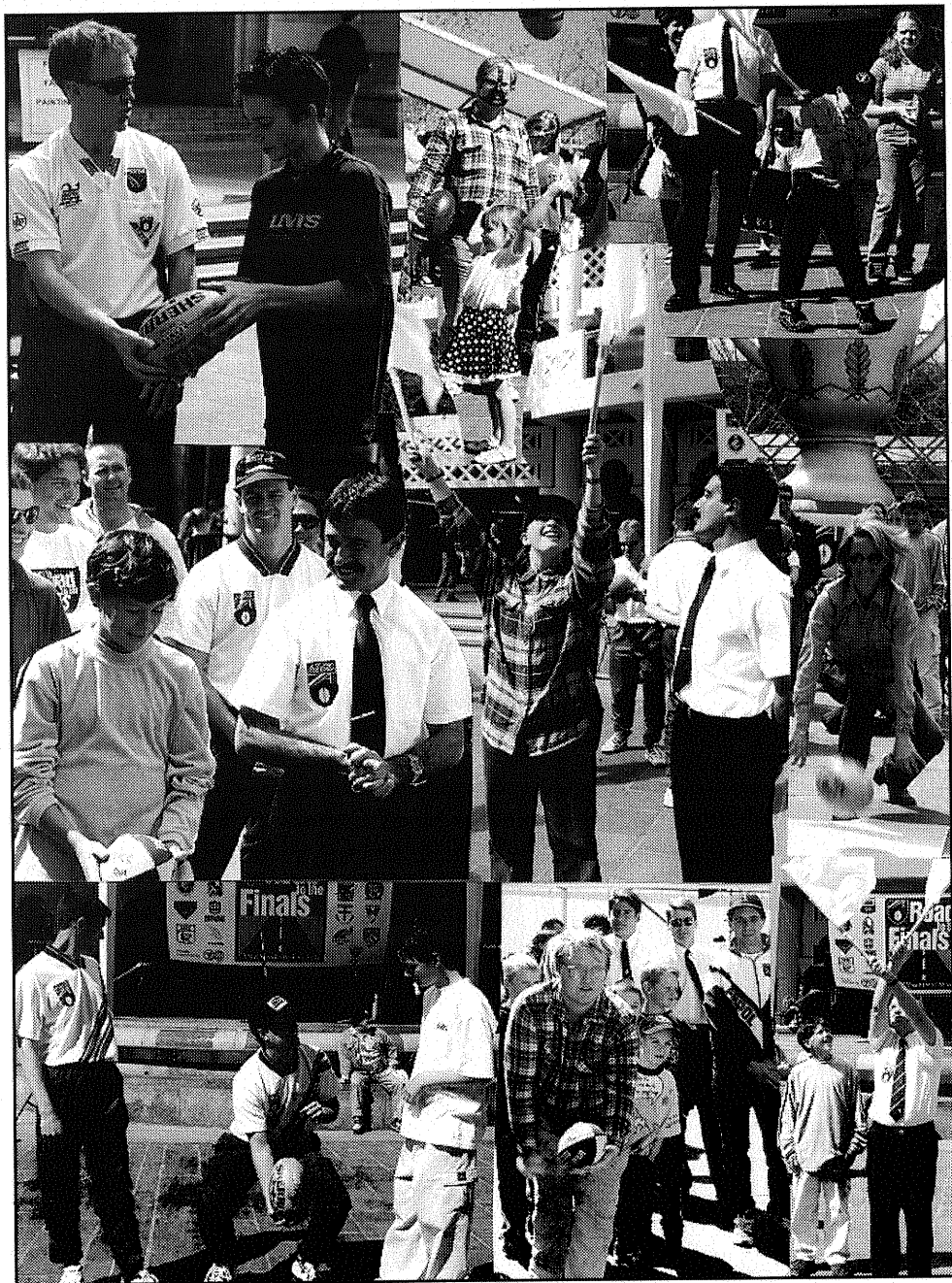
Hall of Fame Night



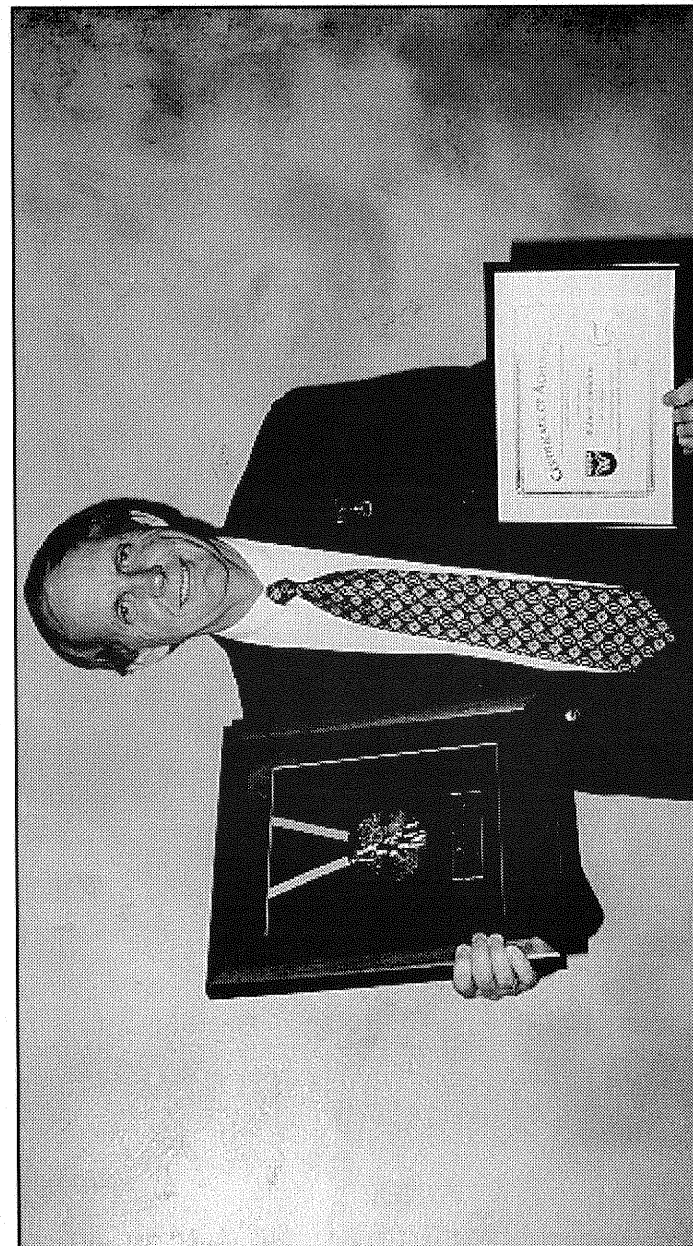
Men-In-White Cup Night



AFL Road to the Finals Day

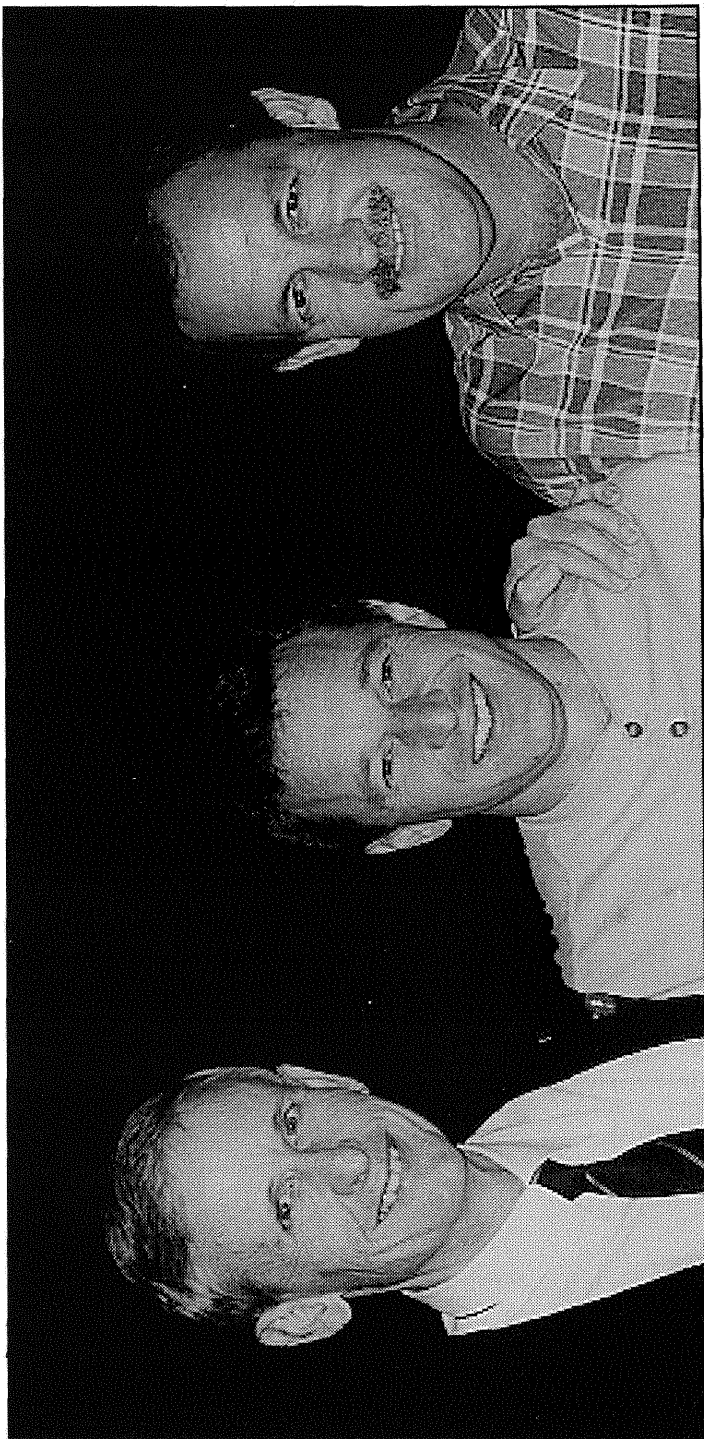


20 Years Service and Retirement



Rob Hendrie announces his retirement after 20 Years distinguished service.

Hall of Fame 1998



Robin Dalby (Goal)

Clay Shimson (Boundary)

Phil O'Reilly (Field)



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Boundary Umpires Coach Report

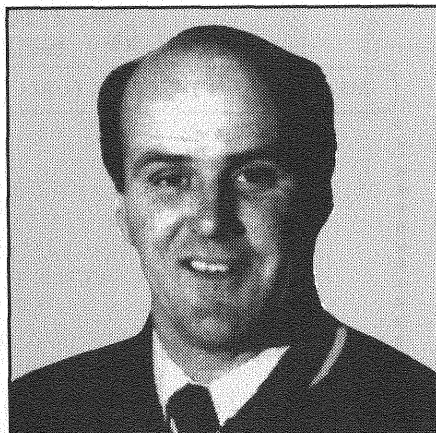
1998 has been a particularly good year for boundary umpiring in WA. In our second year under the new Westar name, umpires had, for the first time, a written appraisal of their games performance in the form of an umpires logbook. Whilst in its first year of use, it has been widely accepted and with continuous improvement will develop into a significant tool for umpires feedback.

1998 saw the start of the season with a small deficit in numbers, with the retirement of several umpires from 1997. After a short advertising campaign we were fortunate to have several quality athletes respond and in some instances they have developed into fine prospects for the future.

The number of Peel Association umpires increased this year with seven umpires used during the season. Of these Kevin Johnston and Rui Franco umpired 13 & 17 games in reserves and should, with good preparation through the summer, be pushing for a league spot next season. I wish them and all the Peel umpires the very best for the future and look forward to seeing them back next year.

1998 saw an expansion to our AFL squad with the addition of Bernard Roberts back in after a short absence, and also Ben Brown. Unfortunately, Ben didn't umpire at the highest level, however he is now mindful of the commitment required to be made to achieve this. Bernard, however, had a fine season, umpiring 17 consecutive AFL games, a job well done and well deserved. Dan Gooch and Greg Smith continue to set the standard for our AFL representation and look set to continue this in the future.

Injuries hamper most umpires at some stage during their careers, and Tim Gooch was struck down this season. We hope the summer months prove worthwhile in his recovery and we see him back in action next season. Nathan Jessup had a solid Westar season, however his AFL season was indifferent by his own standards. I'm sure Nathan will bounce back to se-



cure a regular AFL spot and I wish him and his fellow AFL umpires the best for the future.

During 1998 some important milestones were achieved:

- Greg Smith 100 senior games
 - Nathan Jessup 100 senior games
 - Peter Pooley 100 senior games
 - Ben Brown 50 senior games
 - Craig Hartnett umpired his first senior game
- to all these umpires my congratulations.

The 1998 interstate game between Victoria and the Allies was played at the Gabba ground in Brisbane. Dan Gooch once again was selected for State duties and performed very well. congratulations Dan.

The 1998 Westar season saw 40 umpires used across the 3 levels and although this appears a large number, on various occasions we struggled to fill the games. With injuries and work commitments, scheduling games became quite difficult. However, a job done well, week in week out by Peter Neuzerling.

Accreditation at levels 1 & 2 continued this season with all boundary umpires having completed at least level 1. The theory side of our

knowledge of the laws has been enhanced with the completion of the lecture room at Ernest Johnson. This new facility, opened during the season, is one I'm sure members of the Association will enjoy for many years.

As was the case in 1997 the finals series allowed us the opportunity to run 3 umpires in reserves and league levels. I believe our job is to put the best umpires out there each week and feel our representation throughout the finals was a job well done by all concerned.

Congratulations to the grand final umpires this year. the league umpires umpiring back to back grand finals, George Pampacos and Ben Brown and to Jamie Giles who has capped off a very good season umpiring his first grand final, well done to you all.

The reserves umpires, Peter Frusher Mathew Jones and Todd Arbuckle well done on a very good season. All three were injured during the season. However, they all made it back for the business end of the season. well done.

To Craig Hartnett and Mike Hearne this years colts grand final umpires my congratulations on a very good season. Umpiring finals is what we strive for and hopefully all of you have got the taste for bigger things in the future.

Although emergency postings don't get to do a lot, they are none the less appointed, and Paul Heales in his first season, was worthy of experiencing grand final day. go one better Paul next year and be out there umpiring.

To all the other umpiring staff and trainers, my thanks for your support throughout the year.

In my second year in the position, I think the job was a little easier and more organised and certainly made more so by the efforts of Peter Neuzerling many thanks Peter and hopefully you'll be back next year,

I would like to wish all umpires and their families a very merry and safe festive season and look forward to seeing you all next year.

DENNIS DAVIS
BOUNDARY UMPIRES COACH

AMPOL

Goal Umpires Coach Report

This year has seen the retirement of one of our best goal umpires in Western Australia in Rob Hendrie. His excellent service to umpiring has seen him achieve 119 League games and 5 Grand Finals in Westar; along with 99 AFL games, 3 State games, 4 finals and the 1994 Exhibition game in London.

Rob has set a high standard throughout his time in umpiring which new umpires could learn from. His service to the Association has seen him receive Life Membership and the respect of all his peers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rob for all the assistance he has given me over the years. It has been sincerely appreciated and I wish him and his family all the best for the future.

From one great umpire to another in Paul Smith, who has this year broken Trevor Cant's 284 game record for the most number of games umpired in goals. Congratulations on achieving this milestone. With 300 games just around the corner Paul could set a record that could stand for a long time and I wish him all the best on achieving that goal.

Congratulations to all the umpires who officiated on Grand Final day.

The goal umpires were represented by:

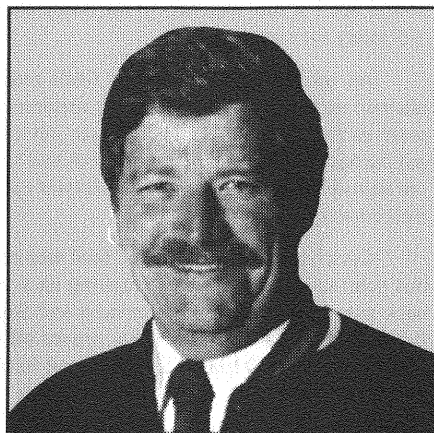
Cos Martino and John Marrapodi in League with Colin Shawcross as Emergency.

Dave Shawcross and Wayne Hendrie in Reserves with Mal Evans as Emergency. Glenn De Francesch and Jason Crowe in Colts with Bob Davis as Emergency.

For John, Wayne, Glenn and Jason this was their first Grand Final in the respective grades. These umpires have had an outstanding season and their appointment reflects the hard work and dedication that is required to accomplish this level.

New umpires

Welcome to the new umpires this year.



Doug Booth joined us from the boundary. Michael Croucher, Reuben Garlett and Justin Gunn, attended the first "Introduction to Goal Umpiring" course run last summer. Steve Thomas from the Sunday League. Ken Wiseman from the Peel Association. They have worked hard this year to gain the skills necessary towards achieving the next level.

MILESTONES

50 games; Well done to Mal Evans.

First League Games; Congratulations Glenn De Francesch and Jason Crowe.

AMPOL AWARDS

Umpire of the Year - Cos Martino

Cos' work ethic has continued on from last year which has seen him officiate at 19 League home and away games, the Preliminary Final and 3 AFL games. Topping off the season with his third Grand Final in a row. What an achievement! Well done.

Most Improved Goal Umpire - Glenn De Francesch

Glenn has shown continual improvement this season in all aspects of his game, that has enabled him to progress from the Reserves to

League. He officiated at four League games during the year and achieved his first Colts Grand Final. Well done.

AFL Report

Cos Martino and Dave Shawcross were given the opportunity to officiate at AFL level this year. They performed extremely well in these games and have shown they have the ability to cement their place on the AFL panel.

The rest of the AFL panel Paul Smith, Rob Hendrie, Andrew Curtis, and Peter Jeffers have maintained the high standard set by them, with Rob Hendrie and Paul Smith being appointed to finals matches in Melbourne. Congratulations to all AFL umpires on a very good year.

I would like to take this opportunity to

thank David Johnson for his assistance throughout the year. My thanks also goes to the boundary staff Dennis and Peter and the field coaching and observing staff John, Kevin and the new boy on the block, Rob Butler for the very enjoyable Saturdays. Special thanks to the oldest observer, Max Osborne; who is pulling the pin after what seems like 50 years of help and guidance. He has given much to many umpires and he will be sadly missed.

Also thank you to Trevor Pescud, who assisted me for most of the year. His help throughout that time has made my job a little easier. I am very grateful for the time and effort he has put in on accreditation, training, observing and keeping up the fellows' morale.

GIL BISHOP
GOAL UMPIRES COACH

AMPOL

AFL Report

The season of '98 began with promising prospects for many umpires on the verge of selection (or extinction). With contracts no longer the flavour of the month, opportunities were soon to be grasped by past fringe dwellers. More competition from within could only be healthy for weekly performances. With some discrepancy between contracted and uncontracted pay and conditions, the season started with a cloud over it. These disputes were finally resolved at season's end producing some delighted umpires. It was great to see that with the easing of the constricting contracts a lot more guys were able to show their wares and enjoy the excitement of AFL footy.

This year's squad consisted of:

Field: Grant Vernon, Greg Scroop
Boundary: Dan Gooch, Greg Smith, Bernie Roberts, Nathan Jessup, Tim Gooch
Goal: Rob Hendrie, Paul Smith, Cos Martino, Dave Shawcross, Andrew Curtis

Looking firstly at the "fieldies", Grant Vernon had a season he won't forget, clocking up 200 AFL games and surpassing Ray Montgomery's 308 league games record. A knee injury early in the season curtailed Grant's normally rigorous training regime and so he started the season at the back of the pack. A good season by Grant, but not up to his usual self-imposed high standards. Unfortunately we see Grant retire before he realised his dream of an AFL Grand Final, but with umpiring credentials like his, he won't be complaining.

Greg Scroop impressed but carrying a few niggles took the shine off some of his performances. Still Greg managed to pass 100 AFL games which is a credit to his determination.

The boundary boys had Dan Gooch once again showing the way with a berth in the Victoria versus Allis State of Origin match, putting Dan at number 2 in Australia. Dan went on to perform very well in two finals but incomprehensibly he missed out on the top 6 in Australia and hence a berth in a hatrick of GF's. With 100 AFL games being completed this sounds like a dream year for any aspiring AFL umpire, but we know that Dan was very disappointed about being overlooked and will be back at top pace next year, endeavouring to return to the MCG for that day in October.

Bernie Roberts made a resurrection of his AFL career of which Lazarus would have been proud. After a world tour in '95, he was off the list and looking like he was bound for Westar duties. However, after some 4 years between games (and nearing extinction) he ran out the last 17 games straight to finish a polished season. There should be no year gaps between games from now on.

Greg Smith again performed consistently throughout the year and is nearing the 50 game mark. Tim Gooch finished the season early with stress fractures but he'll always remember '98 for the West Coast v St. Kilda game in 30C heat and a 25 goal second half - anyone's legs would have given way after that! Nathan Jessup showed his speed and stamina with excellent running displays and with some fine tuning of his throw ins he will be back amongst the competition for a weekly run.

The goalies must begin at the end, that is, Rob Hendrie retiring on 99 games not out. What a tremendous career Rob has had. A knee injury early slowed him down but never disheartened his enthusiasm and hunger for the big time crowds. A final at the end of the season was a fitting farewell to a great guy.

Dave Shawcross emerged as a goalie of the future and will always remember his debut - the first 19 goals waved by himself, with Rob Hendrie snoozing down the other end for over half of the game. Dave shared his debut season with Cos (the Cappuccino Kid) Martino who showed style and grace behind the goals. Cos completed a memorable year with a hatrick of Westar Grand Finals and will be craving more success in season '99.

Paul Smith, the consummate veteran, once again had a solid year finishing with a final over east. Paul is creeping up on the 300 league game mark which is an amazing performance in itself.

Andrew Curtis made a quick return to AFL ranks as his work had previously moved him north. With a few injuries in the goalies ranks early on he couldn't wait to revive his career by making an immediate impression on the selectors.

Well, that was the year of '98 and we are all aware that there are many umpires keen to have the honour of performing in front of an AFL crowd. Good luck next year to all umpires on the list and especially to all umpires aspiring to be there. Remember to set your goal, be truthful to yourself and we will see you out there.

AFL Games by Members

The following are the number of official Expanded VFL/AFL games at which our members have officiated since 1987.

Field:	Grant Vernon	203
	Greg Scroop	111
	Trevor Garrett	50
	Mike Ball	45
	David Johnson	20
	Phil O'Reilly	6
	Peter Repper	2
Boundary:	Daniel Gooch	103
	Tim Gooch	65
	Nathan Jessup	53
	Greg Smith	47
	Tony Franchina	41
	Bernard Roberts	30
	Phil Nolan	30
	Peter Frusher	24
	Stewart Tempest	21
	Tig Bergersen	16
	Andrew Neale	15
	Clay Shimmon	10
	Grahame Daniel	6
	Craig Curtis	3
Goal:	Steve Walker	3
	Dominic White	2
	Trevor Henderson	1
	Paul Smith	100
	Rob Hendrie	99
	Peter Jeffers	41
	Robin Dalby	30
	Andrew Curtis	18
	Trevor Cant	17
	Ron Poole	14
	Trevor Pescud	13
	Frank Cetinich	10
	Dean Berry	7
	Dick Stubberfield	7
	Lester Cox	6
	Terry Tomlinson	4
	Cos Martino	3
	David Shawcross	3

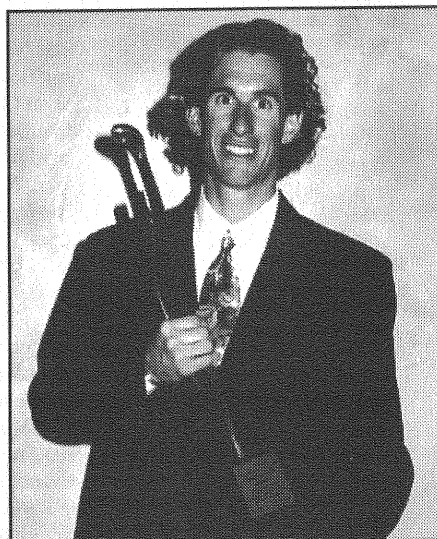
Life Members Trophy

The Life Members Award selected by the Management Committee is an annual presentation to a member of our Association who contributes to the Association far above and beyond their normal umpiring duties.

This years recipient has been a tireless worker throughout in his capacity of Social Secretary. Nathan Jessup epitomises the quality of a member that is required to run the Association.

Nathan's efforts in organising social events was second to none and with great events such as the Grand Final Dinner Dance, Grand Final Luncheon and the hugely successful mouse racing night, Nathan ensured all of us enjoyed each others company socially. This along with organising many other social events, namely movie nights etc., we thank and congratulate Nathan on his efforts.

Nathan has given unselfishly of his time and is a worthy recipient of the Life Members Trophy for 1998.

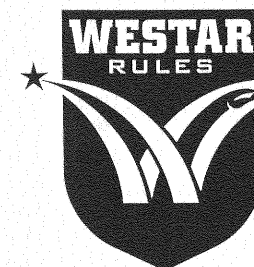


Life Members Trophy Recipients

1977	Ross Capes	1988	Bob Davis
1978	Lindsay Baguley	1989	Paul Smith
1979	Barry Davies	1990	Trevor Cant
1980	David Rowe	1991	Leith Putland
1981	Gil Bishop	1992	David Johnson
1982	Barry Johnson	1993	Warren South
1983	Les Leicester	1994	Trevor Cant
1984	Damian Green	1995	Greg Scroop
1985	Don McComish	1996	Tim Priest
1986	Ron Buckey	1997	Darren Starceovich
1987	Mrs. Liz Ball	1998	Nathan Jessup

WANFLUA Life Members

1957	A. Chapman (dec.)	1978	R. Capes
1958	J. Ferguson		B. Collett
1960	L. Hurley	1979	H. Symons
	A. Gibb (dec.)	1980	J. Devine
	H. Clair	1981	D. Aslett
1962	L. Nathan (dec.)		J. McKay
	E. Crisp		R. Becker
1963	R. Montgomery		D. Wakenshaw
	C. Fitzpatrick	1982	R. Powell
1964	D. Cumming (dec.)		M. Hale
	E. Brunton	1983	W. Brown
1965	L. McComish (dec.)	1984	G. Bishop
	J. Campbell	1985	B. Grimmond
1966	J. Smith-Gander	1986	L. Leicester
	N. Shepherd	1987	R. Buckey
1967	B. Moore		H. Jardine (dec.)
	F. Woods (dec.)	1989	T. Cant
1968	B. Rigg		R. Hendrie
1970	G. McComish		A. Mirabella
	J. Dolling	1990	M. Ball
1971	R. Whitfield	1991	R. Davis
	W. Carter (dec.)	1993	D. Johnson
1972	C. Hills		P. O'Reilly
	P. Pustkuchen		P. Smith
1973	R. Stubberfield	1995	W. South
	C. Pratt		N. Lewis
1974	E. Martino	1996	P. Frusher
	G. Meiers		J. Hauswirth
1976	T. Neilson		L. Putland
1977	B. McKenzie		
	R. Scott		



Eric Hood Award

The 1998 Eric Hood award for the most improved boundary umpire has been won by

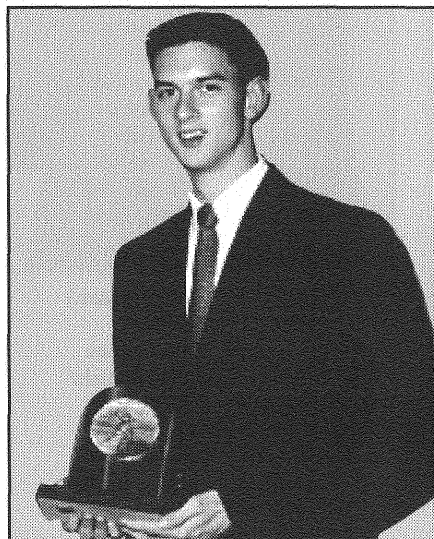
Paul Heales. Paul joined the panel this year having responded to an advertisement for new umpires at the beginning of the season. Paul, in his first season, umpired 5 reserves and 17 colts games. Paul umpired the colts first semi final and rounded his season off as the emergency umpire for the colts grand final.

Paul's achievements are more impressive given he had not umpired prior to this season. Such is Paul's commitment to umpiring, that he

commenced the season in an introductory umpires clinic, run by the academy, and continued on to make the Westar panel and commence his umpiring career.

Paul commenced his level 1 accreditation and completed this with pleasing results. He will move onto level 2 next year. His personality and appetite for hard work will, I'm sure, hold him in good stead for the future and league football is surely within reach.

Congratulations, Paul.



Eric Hood Award Recipients

1981 Stewart Tempest
1982 Mark Power
& Darryl White
1983 Dominic White
1984 Steve Timmings
1985 Dave Metcalfe
1986 Bernard Roberts
& Greg Taylor
1987 Tig Bergersen
1988 Dave Roberts
& Richard Hooker

1989 Andrew Neale
1990 Tony Franchina
1991 Michael Thomas
1992 Matt Reed
1993 Nathan Jessup
1994 George Pampacos
1995 Ben Brown
1996 Tony Gooch
1997 Matt Jones
1998 Paul Heales

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WANFLUA 200 Club

Field:

Grant Vernon	313
Ray Montgomery	308
Mike Ball	301
Ross Capes	275
Trevor Garrett	260
Ron Buckey	238
Ray Whitfield	*235 (Includes 57 Boundary)
Greg Scroop	234
David Johnson	218
Bob Phillips	213
Phil O'Reilly	207
Ron Powell	201

Boundary:

John Devine	247
Peter Frusher	238
Charlie Pratt	236
Greg McDonald	216
Dave Aslett	203

Goal:

Paul Smith	297
Trevor Cant	284
Max Hale	274
Robin Dalby	*267 (Includes 89 Boundary)
Rob Hendrie	218
Bill Carter (dec.)	212
Gil Bishop	*205 (Includes 125 Boundary)
John McKay	203
Roy Becker	203
Don Gardner (dec.)	201

Hall of Fame

The 1998 year saw a further three umpires inducted into the prestigious Western Australian Football League Umpires Association - "Hall of Fame".

To select the candidates, John Marrapodi (Chair), Adam Binks and Peter Jeffers were given the task to research the achievements of retired umpires and then recommend to the Management Committee one umpire from each of the three disciplines.

The 1998 Inductees were Phil O'Reilly (Field), Clay Shimon (Boundary) and Robin Dalby (Goal). These new recipients of the Hall

Of Fame award have certainly met the criteria of both being retired from umpiring and without doubt have demonstrated outstanding achievements in their respective disciplines throughout their careers.

As part of being inducted into the Hall Of Fame, the inductees were each presented with a personal caricature which will hang in the clubrooms at Ernest Johnson Reserve. The caricature will be a testimonial to their excellence in umpiring.

The WANFLUA congratulates Phil, Clay and Robin – Hall Of Fame 1998.

Hall of Fame Inductees

1995	R. Montgomery	1997	D. Johnson
	R. Capes		G. McDonald
	J. Devine		J. McKay
	D. Wakenshaw		
	M. Hale	1998	P. O'Reilly
	T. Cant		C. Shimon
			R. Dalby
1996	M. Ball		
	D. Aslett		
	R. Becker		

Grand Final Umpires Since 1953

Year	Field	Boundary	Goal
1953	F. (Smokey) Woods	W. Edgar	J. Duckwood
1954	F. (Smokey) Woods	T. Reeves	E. Crisp
1955	J. Green	R. Colby	J. Clayton
1956	L. Gardner	W. Shortill	H. Clair
1957	C. Fitzpatrick	J. Dolling	M. Rose
1958	L. Gardner	F. Pimm	W. Carter
1959	R. Montgomery	R. Colby	M. Rose
1960	L. Gardner	W. Shortill	W. Carter
1961	L. Gardner	R. Hall	M. Rose
1962	B. Feld	R. Whitfield	W. Carter
1963	R. Scott	R. Hall	M. Rose
1964	R. Montgomery	R. Whitfield	W. Carter
1965	F. Woods	R. Hall	M. Rose
1966	R. Montgomery	D. Skipworth	W. Carter
1967	R. Scott	R. Hall	M. Rose
1968	R. Scott	D. Skipworth	W. Carter
1969	R. Montgomery	D. de Gruchy	M. Rose
1970	R. Montgomery	B. Bidstrup	W. Carter
1971	L. Johnston	D. de Gruchy	M. Rose
1972	J. Fuhrmann	B. Bidstrup	W. Carter
1973	R. Capes	F. Naylor	M. Rose
1974	R. Capes	B. Carbon	W. Carter
1975	R. Capes	K. Hart	M. Rose
1976	R. Capes	D. Hansen	W. Carter
	R. Powell	T. Lewis	R. Parkhouse
		K. Hart	P. Pustkuchen
		D. de Gruchy	R. Parkhouse
		A. Hocking	P. Pustkuchen
		P. Snow	P. Pustkuchen
		J. Devine	J. Dolling
		P. Bruce	R. (Dick) Montgomery
		P. Bruce	J. Dolling
		J. Devine	L. Bromley
		D. Clair	W. Carter
		C. Feutrill	G. Hall
		P. Bruce	R. Hartland
		J. Devine	B. Collett
		P. Bruce	D. Allen
		J. Devine	M. Hale
		D. Wakenshaw	J. McKay
		G. Tipping	R. Hartland
		J. Devine	B. Collett
		G. Tipping	B. Haigh
		D. Wakenshaw	J. McKay
		P. Cunningham	B. Collett
		D. Wakenshaw	J. McKay
		D. Aslett	J. McKay

Grand Final Umpires Since 1953 (cont.)

Year	Field	Boundary	Goal
1977	R. Capes	D. Wakenshaw	R. Becker
1978	R. Powell	D. Aslett	J. McKay
1979	R. Buckey	R. Dalby	R. Becker
1980	R. Capes	D. Aslett	B. Haigh
1981	R. Capes	J. Devine	B. Haigh
1982	J. Morris	G. McDonald	R. Lee
1983	J. Morris	J. Devine	R. Becker
1984	R. Phillips	G. Daniel	M. Hale
1985	R. Capes	J. Devine	T. Cant
1986	R. Powell	D. Aslett	C. Raynor
1987	R. Phillips	G. Woodhouse	R. Becker
1988	D. Gillies	D. Davis	L. Leicester
1989	M. Ball	D. Ross	M. Hale
1990	D. Rowe	G. McDonald	L. Leicester
1991	D. Johnson	G. McDonald	R. Dalby
1992	M. Ball	C. Shimmer	N. Lewis
1993	D. Johnson	C. Shimmer	R. Dalby
1994	P. O'Reilly	G. McDonald	R. Becker
1995	M. Ball	C. Shimmer	T. Cant
1996	K. O'Driscoll	S. Tempest	L. Cox
1997	P. O'Reilly	C. Shimmer	R. Dalby
1998	G. Vernon	P. Nolan	P. Smith
1999	P. O'Reilly	P. Nolan	R. Stubberfield
2000	D. Johnson	S. Tempest	R. Poole
2001	M. Ball	G. Daniel	R. Hendrie
2002	D. Johnson	P. Frusher	R. Poole
2003	P. O'Reilly	P. Frusher	R. Hendrie
2004	G. Vernon	P. Nolan	R. Dalby
2005	G. Vernon	P. Frusher	P. Smith
2006	T. Garrett	G. Bergersen	R. Hendrie
2007	G. Scroop	A. Neale	P. Smith
2008	T. Garrett	T. Franchina	R. Hendrie
2009	S. Kronja	T. Franchina	G. Bishop
2010	G. Scroop	D. Gooch	J. Hauswirth
2011	G. Scroop	B. Roberts	T. Pescud
2012	S. Kronja	D. Gooch	P. Smith
2013	T. Garrett	T. Gooch	R. Hendrie
2014	S. Kronja	N. Jessup	P. Jeffers
2015	D. Starcevich		
2016	S. Kronja	B. Roberts	A. Curtis
2017	W. French	G. Smith	C. Martino
2018	A. Binks		
2019	A. Binks	G. Pampacos	C. Martino
2020	T. Garrett	B. Brown	D. Shawcross
2021	W. French	P. Pooley	
2022	A. Binks	B. Brown	C. Martino
2023	W. French	J. Giles	J. Marapodi
2024	S. Gill	G. Pampacos	

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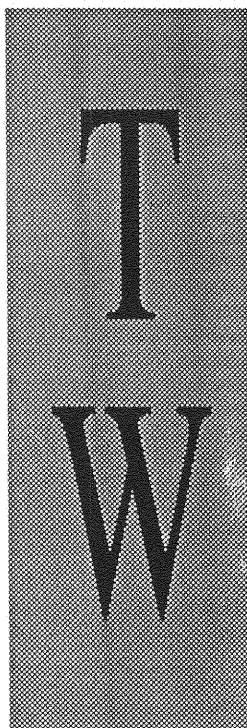
Taylor Woodings Financial Services are a significant contributor to the Association and I would like to thank John Deakin for their continued sponsorship. This is the fourth year we have had Taylor Woodings on board and the shirts, singlets and caps that were provided this year are worn by all umpires at training and this gear enhances the professionalism and teamwork environment that we have created.

In addition to the provision of this training gear, the Taylor Woodings Rising Westar Award is another area which their contribution is greatly appreciated. The award is designed to recognise an emerging umpire, in their first or second

season who has potential to achieve league football and hopefully progress to AFL..

This prestigious award has a monetary value of \$300 and this year the award was presented to Luke Farmer, a very promising young field umpire and one of the Association's "young guns" who with further hard work and commitment is sure to achieve league football in the very near future. Congratulations Luke. The committee urges all umpires, life members, family, friends or associates to contact John Deakin at Taylor Woodings Financial Services for all their financial planning requirements.

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CHARLIE Pratt and his enthusiastic band of footballers.

CHARLIE PRATT'S A FOOTBALL HERO

CHARLIE Pratt—the name in the football world conjures up visions of the most controversial boundary umpire in WA and a man who has reported more players than any other umpire in league football.

But if some of our top footballers have had reason to frown on Charlie, out Attadale way there are hundreds of youngsters who look on the evergreen Pratt as a hero—and for many good reasons.

Ever since Pratt moved into Attadale to live 11 years ago he has been actively associated in coaching junior football teams. For eight years it was the under 12s, for two years the under 10s and this season it's the under 11s.

His nine-year-old son Lail—who has been playing junior football for two years—is in the under 11 team which today will play Andros in the East Fremantle Junior Council grand final at East Fremantle Oval at 9 am.

Captain of the team is Brett Fanner and vice-captain Jim Watson—both aged

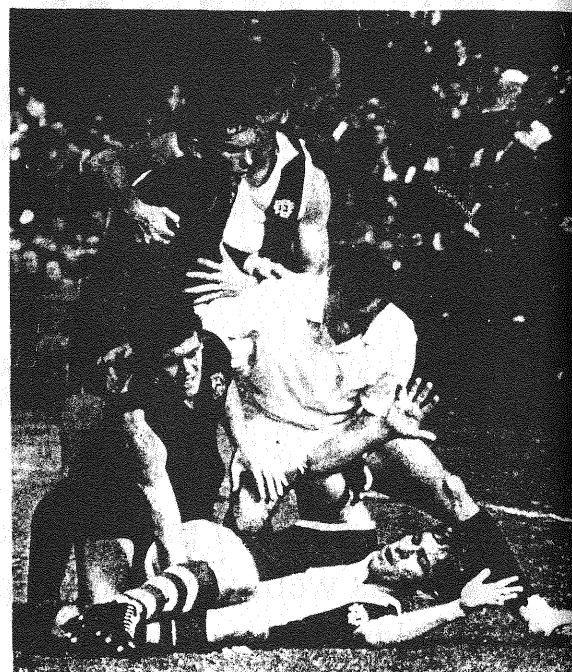
10—who also took part in yesterday's Little League grand final at Subiaco Oval. Brett is also captain of the State Little League team and the South of the River Little League.

But back to Charlie, who has been the boundary umpire for some 400 games, including 210 in league football. You would think that record would begin to dim his enthusiasm for football, but junior coaching seems to keep him as young as ever.

He coaches the under 11s on Monday and Wednesday, trains with the league umpires on Tuesdays and Thursdays, attends his under 11 game on Saturday morning, umpires in the afternoon, has a light training run on Sunday morning and watches the under 11 reserves in the afternoon.

Now that's real love of football for you.

The Independent, July 6, 1969—



SCUFFLE: Boundary umpire Charlie Pratt weighs in to separate players involved in a scuffle at Perth Oval yesterday. East Fremantle's Keith Shortill is on the ground beneath Ray Michalczyk and Mark O'Donoghue of East Perth.

Charlie Pratt to record 200th game

By Ross Nicholas

WA's most controversial boundary umpire Charlie Pratt runs onto Lathlain Oval tomorrow for his 200th league appearance.

Had the rotating system been scrapped long before this season, Pratt, who refuses to give his age, would have had more than 300 senior games to his credit.

His league boundary umpire career started 19 seasons ago in 1955 . . . and since that day Pratt has figured in some spectacular incidents.

However, nobody has ever questioned his ability in the unspectacular

role as a boundary umpire. His enthusiasm and efficient manner make him a good example for any aspiring junior umpire to study.

"I like running and enjoy the feeling of being fit," said Pratt.

"I love the game of football and through this side of my life I have made many good friends. As each season approaches I weigh up the possibilities of continuing and at this stage see no reason for retiring."

Before Charlie Pratt, Bill Shorthill, who ran the boundary between 1949 and 1962, held the record for most league games . . . 152.

"It was a thrill at the time when I broke Bill's record but for a boundary umpire the greatest satisfaction is being appointed to a state or final round match," said Pratt.

Well done Pratt! Footnote: Pratt's son Shane will run the boundary in the colts game at Lathlain tomorrow.

Obituary – Charlie Pratt

Charlie Pratt passed away in April this year. He died while running, something he always enjoyed and continued to do.

He attended this year's Panel Night at the Civic Centre Bowling Club where the 1998 umpiring panel was selected.

Charlie was a Boundary Umpire with 20 years service to this Association and 236 League games service to West Australian Football.

During those 20 years of running the boundary, many friendships were born and some unsavoury, as he realised quickly he could not control every aspect of his boundary umpiring career.

Charlie thoroughly enjoyed the traditional training routines and always spoke of a healthy competitiveness on the track with long-term friend, Phil Cunningham. Then there was Ray Montgomery, Barry McKenzie, Len Hurley and the list goes on of true friends he associated with while in the Association.

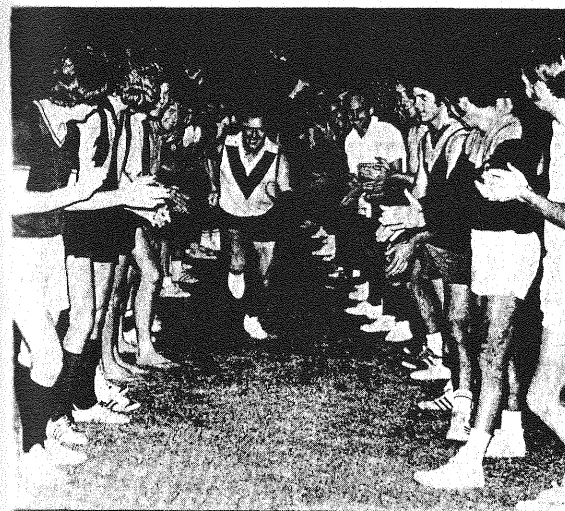
Umpiring was Charlie's life and his personal qualities reflected in his performances on the football field and on the training track.

His basic umpiring beliefs of honesty and "you only get out of it what you put into it" was unsurpassed.

All those associated with him in those early "heady" days will remember how intense the WA football public was, eating up football in anticipation week after week.

A newer model of umpire will emerge as every year passes and we hope he or she will hold boundary umpiring in the highest regard as Charlie once did.

Vale Charlie, it has been our pleasure to have known you.



Boundary umpire Charlie Pratt, who will officiate in his 200th game over a period of 19 years, runs through a clapping line of league umpires after training last night.—Picture by ROD LOCKE.

Acknowledgements

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Edited and produced by DAVE SHAWCROSS, PAUL SMITH, BERNIE ROBERTS