



GILLETT ELECTED AS VICE PRESIDENT



Former NSW AFL Commissioner, Dr Rod Gillett has been elected as the Vice President of the Football History Society.

Attendance at the March Annual General Meeting was pretty much the norm however there were some changes to the Executive.

Gillett came in as Vice President, while Paul Macpherson has taken over the Secretary's role from incumbent, Heather White who picked up a seat on the committee.

The new committee looks like this:

President: Ian Granland OAM

Vice President: Dr Rodney Gillett

Secretary: Paul Macpherson

Treasurer: John Addison

Committeepersons:

Heather White, Jenny Hancock, Mandy Keevil, Ian Wright and Tom Mahon.

For the past dozen or so years, Gillett has been swanning around the world working in Academic positions but has decided to hang up his quill and mortar board and return to Sydney. In doing so his inclusion on the committee complements an already strong team.

ALF SNOW'S BLAZERS

Some might remember Alf Snow. He was the NSW AFL treasurer in the 1930s and president in the 1950s. His family have donated two very well kept blazers, one with a NSW pocket and the other is a Aust Nat. Football Council blazer worn as delegate.

TREASURER DECLARES A PROFIT - WITH CONDITIONS

Although Society treasurer, John Addison declared a small operating profit of \$391.00 for the 2018 year, he prefaced his submission stating that most of the \$14,000 the Society has in the bank as earmarked for other projects.

One of these is the proposed extension to the Society rooms at the Magpie Sports Club to facilitate the storage of the ever-growing collection. He said that the Society is working with the club in the hope that venture will go ahead.

"Then there will be storage racks and the very expensive archival storage containers to purchase" Addison said, "so while it looks good, it will be spent."

MATERIAL DONATED BY FAMILY OF NORM FERGUSON

Norm Ferguson was tied up with the NSW Football League after the war. He was on the executive of the Eastern Suburbs Club for a number of years and secretary in 1951. Norm was also team manger of several state sides. His family have donated a number of football related items including badges that Norm had acquired over the years. Those badges that do not relate to NSW will be donated to the MCC Museum at the MCG.

RIVERINA FOOTBALL RECORDS SET TO BE ADDED TO SOCIETY'S COLLECTION



Later this month the Society will get delivery of Football Records published for the Riverina Football League, which also includes the Farrer and Central Riverina Football Leagues.

These are being made available by AFL Riverina which has been given copies of all the Records from 1982-2018. Society Officials will scan these publications which number over 750 issues and then return them. The digitised copies will then be made available for all through our website.

Incidentally, the Society already has in excess of 120 Football Records from the Riverina, dating back to 1956 which you can view on our website. To access these, go to www.nswfootballhistory.com.au and seek out 'Football Records' under Historical Archives on the front page and go from there.

BEQUESTS

One of our members has set up a bequest in his will to leave the Society some funds from his estate.

Leaving a bequest is a very personal decision and even if you feel your estate is a simple one, if you were to consider following a similar course of action it would advisable to seek professional legal advice, in regard to setting this up.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS VARY

We never like to lose members but sometimes people forget to renew and despite us sending out reminders they fail to continue with the Society. That's a pity and we all know that at times we unwittingly let various renewals to organisations slide. There is an option with our online membership form to allow subscriptions to be automatically be deducted annually from a members account. This is there to assist members continue their association with the Society unimpeded without compromising their status.

PODCAST LIST GROWING

We recently added an interview with former umpire, Jim McSweeney to the podcast list on our website. There is now over a dozen interviews there which you can listen to (these 'podcasts' are oral interviews on the internet which you can download).

FOUNDATIONS MEMBERS: Jeanette and Ron Jackson – you too can upgrade your membership level



New Computer Programme

Over the years we have uploaded nearly 8000 items including images, documents and copies of football records etc. to our website.

When we do this we give each item an 'accession number' that we have attributed to it from our online filing system. Unfortunately some items have been given incorrect numbers and we need to reassign some of these to correctly reflect their (hard copy) filed description & location.

Surprisingly we found we could change this online index data direct using another programme so we spent \$130 on the purchase of this new piece of software. Did you get all that? *(I know I am confusing you already)*

SYDNEY FOOTBALL RECORDS for 2000, 2001 and other adjacent years will be added to our website shortly.

WE WANT more material and data from other parts of the state. Because we are based in Sydney, we tend to concentrate on Sydney Footy but would love to get more stuff we can maintain in our storage system and online display.

HAD A CALL from the Collingwood Football Club history group about a player who turned out with Narrandera and Newtown in the 1920s. They helped us with info and we were able to provide them with his photo. Our aim is to regularly connect with similar footy groups throughout Australia.

★ ★ ★ GREATEST NSW TEAM EVER ★ ★ ★

Ever thought about how many NSW players have played VFL/AFL football?

The number is well over 500 and they were identified in a painstaking exercise over some time; some played one game others, hundreds, but of all those who made the grade, *who were the best?*

Over the past few months we have been working in collaboration with some highly prominent national football experts to select the **Greatest NSW Team Ever** from that list. Yes, there is a certain criteria based on the following guidelines:

- Must have played their first senior game in NSW;
- Must have been born in or moved to NSW 17 years and under;
- Must have played over 100 VFL/AFL/SANFL/WAFL games;
- Must have been recognized and dominant in their respective club/position;

We have also selected the **10 Best NSW Locals**; NSW being a big state which boasts several primary football areas including the Riverina, Albury & District, Broken Hill and Sydney. This of course is not to discount other parts of the state where some great players have emanated, but the majority of the best players have come from the areas we mentioned. Interestingly enough, of those on the list, and these are rough numbers, 84 have come from the Albury Border area, 45 from Wagga, 49 from the Murray league, 43 from the area surrounding Wagga, 41 from Broken Hill and 68 from Sydney. It might be noted that we have not included in the latter numbers, players from outlying areas, ie Wentworth, Parkes etc.

A team of twenty-five will be selected in positions, including interchange and emergencies. Selection has been based on this defined process and guided by a player's personal data and achievements, observation, evidence from newspaper reports and other various publications.

Over the next few weeks this exercise will certainly gain plenty of media exposure and this early notice of it to you is to ensure you are abreast of the announcement.

The official declaration of the team will take place at the annual **CARBINE CLUB AFL FUNCTION** on Thursday 9 May at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 161 Sussex Street Sydney, adjacent to Darling Harbour and commencing at 12 midday. Richard Colless has been the backbone of this exercise.

This is a **NSW Australian Football History Society** supported event and if you live locally, we would encourage you to attend to show support for the Society. So have a chat to your friends and make a day of it. Tickets are \$195 each *(you can't take it with you!!)* and you can book here: <https://www.carbineclubnsw.com.au/Events> Let us know if you are attending and we will arrange tables for our group. We do need as much support for this event as possible, so why not get along?