



Bert receiving Life Membership of the Football Club in 2022.

VALE Bert Richards.

Supporter and Member of the Taylors Lakes Cricket, Football and Tennis Clubs

Again a very sad day for the Sporting Club when another of our longest serving members passes from us. Bert Richards became involved in the club in its very early days, I believe around 1988 or maybe earlier, with his family; wife Dianne (Dec.), and sons Chris and Anthony.

Initially involved in the Tennis Club, Bert played tennis for a lot of years, possibly over 20. Involved in the early days of the Tennis club from the asphalt courts at the Taylors Lakes Shopping Centre to the facility at its current Lionheart location. Bert played night competition always ending with a social gathering of players in the rooms after the evenings play was concluded.

Bert was passionate about his sport and the club, becoming involved with the Football Club from its inception. He was involved in the Committee for at least 6 years, becoming Football Club President in 1998 and 1999. His Presidency was right between other stalwarts of the club we have recently lost, Dennis Ferns President in 1997 and Glenn Potter President in 2000/2001. What a great trio for the club and how sad it is that we have lost all three in such a short space of time.

Bert was a major sponsor of the Football Club via his association with the company Fianalyze for over 10 years. He also organised and ran the original "Bay 13" fund raising coterie, raising funds for the cool room, tables and chairs and other needed items. Bert was still a strong supporter of the Football Club to the current day, attending home and away games whenever he could.

Bert was involved in the Cricket Club and was a Committee member of the club for 2 years. He played Cricket for the Taylors Lakes VETS (Jurassics) for a number of years, celebrating their seasons as only the Jurassics knew how in Ray McMullin's shed. In all, Bert played over 150 games for the VETS cricket. His interest in cricket continued and he was a regular attendee on Saturday afternoons to watch the Lakes play, sitting in a favoured spot behind the balcony glass wall with his favoured glass of wine.

Between 1996 and 2001, Bert served as a Committee member on the RecClub Inc. Committee (now the Sporting Club) helping steer the organisation towards what we have now.

Bert supported every raffle and fundraiser he could. A member of nearly every social trip, golf, fishing etc, organised by the club during the 90's and into the 2010's. A consistent regular in the supporter's groups on Friday nights until only weeks ago and at other club functions until his health started to dictate what he could and could not do.

Our condolences to Anthony and Chris.

Thank you Bert.