

1986/1987 Spartan Chronicle:

1986/87 see the Spartans Club move to a whole new era as the John Connell Reserve takes shape as the club headquarters. The oval itself was rated the third best in the Association last season and as this was the first season in which cricket was played on the ground this was quite an achievement.

By the 1980s there will be few clubs in Western Australia with a better playing arena. The clubroom complex is superb and the function room is sure to provide a marvellous setting for many happy and relaxing hours for club members and their families.

On the playing side, we are slowly emerging from the slump that has haunted us since the 1980-81 season. The committee has worked hard interviewing the type of player that is needed to reconstruct the clubs playing strength and we are delighted that two very fine players in Noel Savage and Roy Spencer have decided to join us. We also have many players with over forty games experience coming through the ranks and we will be looking to these people to make a greater contribution on the field. We have also gained a dozen or so new men we hope that they will find their form before the new season is too far advanced. The committee is not expecting miracles but we are confident that the club is gaining in strength and that we will see a marked improvement in the win/loss ratio in the fourteen games that each side will play for the next six months.

For the new comer

Spartans have had a First Grade side since 1918 and in the same time some 68 seasons the side has made the four on 31 occasions. The second grade side have competed for 26 seasons with 16 in the four. There was a third grade side between 1973/84 which made the finals on 5 occasions (twice as Premiers). The fourths have played 9 seasons for 4 times in the four (also two Premierships) and the fifths have made the finals once in their five seasons and the sixth side was entered for the first time in 1985/86.

Club Committee 1986-87:

President:	B.M. Waterer
Senior Vice President:	D.J. Blight
Junior Vice President:	E.J.B. Preedy
Secretary:	G.S. Mazzini
Treasurer:	P.A. Read
Committee:	J.P. Read, P.R. Hegarty, J. Niven, P.G. Van Helden, W.L. Farmer
Club Coach:	D.M.P. Deering
Assist Coaches:	T.J. Hegarty, S.A. Carter

Welcome

At the time of publication the following players had been welcomed to the club.

Tim Allan (ex Willetton C.C.), Colin Ashcroft (ex Windsor C.C.), David Bell, Tony Bright (ex Mandurah C.C.), Peter Coles (ex Willetton C.C.), Ross Lyall, Stephen Preedy (ex Gosnells C.C.), Chris Reid, Peer Rynski (ex Dingup C.C.), Darryl Sales, Noel Savage (ex CBC C.C.), John Spencer (ex Home of Peace), Roy Spencer (ex Fremantle C.C.), Chek Tan, Russell Turton (from retirement), Peter Wise, Ron Addison.

The Three Wise Men:

The committee were a little concerned with the problems and at all times the ill feelings felt at most team selections nights last year so a new approach has been devised for 1986-87. The selection board will be a three man body comprising the official coaching staff of Des Deering, Tom Hegarty and Steve Carter. We wish them every success in this most difficult job in any sport.

Des, the club coach is a left hand bat and a fine wicketkeeper. He joined us in 84-85 after a distinguished career with the Postals Club and in his 8 games with Spartans he has scored 402 runs, taken 52 catches and 6 stumpings. Des is a very vocal bloke – in fact he makes an incredible amount of noise for a non-drinker. He has worked hard pre-season in an attempt to develop playing techniques and many players are showing the benefit of this.

The second noisiest bloke in the club is Tom Hegarty. Tom as a magnificent playing career with our old rivals CBC for whom he took hundreds of wickets and thousands of runs. He joined us as assistant coach in 1985-86 and did a great deal of work in developing juniors. He also helped out in sixth grade where he took 24 wickets. Tom is also the secretary of the Association.

Steve Carter joined the club in 1973-74 from the now defunct Palmyra club. A very aggressive left hand bat and right hand fast bowler he scored 1261 runs and took 180 wickets and 40 catches in an 88 game career that was terminated by knee problems. He was captain coach of the club in 1977-78. A very tenacious competitor he is sure to be looking for similar attributes in the present crop of players.

As you can see they are an experienced and well qualified who will not play favourites nor except lame excuses.

Captains Courageous:

With worries of selection lifted from their shoulders it is hoped that the captains of the lower grades will be able to concentrate on developing the players under their control.

Des Deering is leading the firsts. The Seconds boss is Peter Van Helden who is a very determined cricketer with the right sporting background to develop into a good captain. In 72 games for the club he has scored 1386 runs, taken 6 wickets and 35 catches as well as 3 stumpings. This is his first Captains position.

As was the case last season the Fours will be led by Rob McNeill – Rob no doubt learned a great deal about the job in his initial year and he has the experience to avoid the pitfalls that can trip up unwary captain of lower grade sides. Rob has played 46 games for 659 runs, 53 wickets and 22 catches.

It was hoped to place younger men in the top jobs in fifths and sixths but at this stage all the likely people will be needed in the higher grades so the committee decided to go for experience.

Veteran medium pacer John Eddington will lead the Fives, and although John has only been with us for a few years he has a great deal of experience as captain in other clubs. With us he has played 18 games and taken 37 wickets. The Sixes are under the tutelage of the Panther – Brian Waterer and he is about experienced as you can get – 304 games, 5758 runs, 92 wickets, 108 catches. As captain, he has notched up four Premierships and runner up twice. He has won 101 of his 154 games as captain.

We wish them and the teams they lead every success and trust they will enjoy the companionship and the sportsmanship that are traditional with Spartans sides.

Milestones:

One of the features that makes cricket such a fascinating pastime is that it is always throwing up milestones for players to reach. Here are a few milestones we would like people to reach this season. Players present figures are in brackets after their names:

250 games – only one other player has achieved this – Bevan James (244), Morrie Pietroniro (200)

150 games – reached by five players – George Mazzini (143),

100 games – Russell Turton (90)

50 games – Lee Donovan (49), Brian Raine (46), Rob McNeill (46), Brian Cordes (46), Ross Hegarty (46), Rob Ten Van Holt (44), Des Barratt (42), Ron Copley (42), Graeme Holroyd (42).

100 catches – achieved by seven players – Graeme Ashley (96)

5000 runs – achieved by seven players – John Spencer (4763)

4000 runs – achieved by five players – Bevan James (3901)

3000 runs – Barry Preedy (2783)

1000 runs – Brian Cordes (922), Ross Hegarty (889), Ken Cooper (773)

Snippets From History:

- The Club was founded in 1918 by the Reverend W.R.Hibbert
- The club lost its first competition game to East Fremantle by 7 runs – 90 to 83.
- The Club joined the Fremantle Mercantile Association in 1929.
 - The first game in this competition was won by 108 runs to 69 against Wesley.
- 1933/34 is the only season in which the club never won a game!!
- The highlight of the 1936/37 season was a tenth wicket partnership of 108 between Alan Ebbs and Claude Steenholdt.
- Several WAFL players have played cricket for Spartans.
 - Ron Doig (South Fremantle), Aub Jarvis (East Fremantle) George Prince (East Fremantle), Joe Mackay (South Fremantle).
- Bob Kirk scored the first century for the club during the 1929-30 season.
- John Spencer, with eight centuries is the leader of the centuries club.
- The Club has won the following premierships:
 - 1922-23 First Grade
 - 1925-26 First Grade
 - 1956-57 Second Grade
 - 1960-61 Under 16s
 - 1969-70 First Grade
 - 1972-73 First Grade
 - 1973-74 Second Grade
 - 1975-76 Third Grade
 - 1976-77 Third Grade
 - 1976-77 Colts
 - 1978-79 Fourth Grade
 - 1979-80 Fourth Grade

The Editor