

V.C.V.C. Secretary's Report 1978 - 79.

The previous 12 months has been a fairly quiet period for the VCVC, whether this is due to the Country Associations being reasonably satisfied, or general apathy, I am unsure, probably a mixture of both.

Two divisions of Country Championships took place during 1979.

The U17 Country Championships at Wangaratta.

The Girls division was won by Bendigo, defeating Latrobe Valley in straight sets. Latrobe Valley boys inflicted a similar result to Bendigo.

The organisational problems associated with these Championships, caused by late withdrawal of teams, etc. , instigated the Council to raise the forfeiture bond at Country Championships to \$50.00 per team.

Latrobe Valley Association was critical of the type of individual trophy awarded to the winning team members and suggested that a gold medallion rather than a pair of socks would be more appropriate and I concur with this criticism.

The Open Country Championships conducted at Shepparton saw Latrobe Valley break the stranglehold Geelong and Bendigo have held at previous Championships.

Latrobe Valley Men and Women defeated Bendigo Men and Women.

Plaques were presented to Geelong Men (2), Geelong Women and Bendigo Women to commemorate victories at 3 successive Country Championships backdated to the inception of these events.

An innovation at the Country Championships this year was the selection of players competing at the Championships to form the respective VCVC squads. To this time no matches have been conducted which would allow these squads to compete. However, a definite proposal for challenge matches against the S.A.CVC Senior teams has been instigated and taken up by both States and will be played at Hamilton in Dec.

On behalf of the VCVC Executive I congratulate the Country Champion teams for 1979 and also those players fortunate enough to have been selected in the VCVC squads.

The proposed U20 Country Championships set down for Warrnambool did not take place due to Warrnambool hosting the U17 National Championships.

Many enquiries were received in regard to affiliation with the VCVC during the year, the only positive gain made since the Seymour Association was accepted as a full member is the acceptance of Hamilton as an Associate member of the Council.

Player affiliation fees to the VAVA and AVF have been restructured by the VAVA and a different method of payment adopted. This has brought about an overall reduction in the total cost to each Association, and with 2 payment dates instead of 1 , should have resulted in a much prompter response of payment.

Unfortunately, some Associations have chosen to ignore the repeated requests and by so doing have held up payment of fees to the VAVA. I urge each and every Association to take a more responsible attitude towards the financial embarrassment incurred by the VCVC for your omissions.

Retirement of Bob Kenter from the position of President after holding this office since its inauguration left a vacancy on the Executive Committee since May of this year.

It is my duty to inform the Council, that with the exception of the Treasurer/Records Secretary, very little interest has been shown by the other members of the Executive, to the extent that only 1 Meeting was held during the year and just barely conformed to the dictates of the Constitution.

This attitude behoves me to add that when electing office bearers for 1979 - 80 then only those people who are willing to share the workload and not just remain figureheads on the Council should be considered for the positions.

In conclusion I would like to thank Murray Mansfield for his usual invaluable assistance during the year, and to offer my personal best wishes to the incoming Executive for the future of the VCVC.

Tom Stevens
Secretary.