



**UNSW
CRICKET CLUB**

University of NSW Cricket Club Life Member Profiles.

John Beard

Roles and Honours

Honorary Secretary	1956-58

Individual Profile

The Club's first Life Member. Awarded in 1961/2 season.

Unfortunately, the project to compile the Life Member Profiles was started in 2021 and it has proved impossible to find John or any of his family to help expand this Profile. Also, it has proved to be almost impossible to contact anyone who played with John on a regular basis. This profile, therefore, has been compiled mainly from information from the Club's Annual Reports with a few recollections from Club stalwart Rob Lucas who played some games with John as Rob started his career as John was finishing his.

The figures show John was a very good all round cricketer.

In 1955/56 B Shires was the top team the Club fielded. The Annual Report noted John was "the most outstanding player of the season". He topped the batting averages with 246 runs at an average of 20.5 and was the best bowler taking the most wickets 46, at the best average 14.03. The Report notes this was despite games being missed due to rain. In 1956/57 when the Club fielded an 'A' Shires team John again topped the bowling with 30 wickets at 28.2.

Rob Lucas recalls wicket keeping to John late in the 1957/8 season and says he moved the ball both ways and that his in-swingers were often prodigious. This made for an interesting afternoon for an inexperienced Rob, who ended up standing outside the line of leg stump when keeping to John. The 'A' Shires report notes that John's bowling efforts were often overlooked as his opening bowling partner took the accolades but said the Club, "have in this pair the best opening attack in the competition". John took 28 wickets at 21.36.

John was also dedicated to the Club off the field.

He worked hard to help establish and build the Club. The 'A' Shires Report quoted above notes in another aside that his great value to the Club as an administrator was "often overlooked". It seems John left the Club to go to Queensland during the 1958/9 season and at that time the Committee made a presentation to him for his services as Club Secretary. That is a clear indication of his dedication to, and work off the field for, the Club that lead to him receiving the first Life Membership the Club awarded.

Playing Record

John Beard								
Years Played			Grade			N/A		
			Shires			1955-1959		
BATTING								
Grade	Games	Inn.	NO	Total	Ave.	Highest	Caught	
A Shires	45	40	13	135	5.0	24	Unavail.	
B Shires	31	26	9	310	18.2	42	Unavail.	
Totals	76	66	22	445	10.1	42		
BOWLING								
Grade	Games	Overs	Maidens	Wickets	Runs	Average	5WI	Best
A Shires	45	334	34	62	1512	24.4	Unavail.	Unavail.
B Shires	31	221	28	62	942	15.2	Unavail.	Unavail.
Totals	76	555	62	124	2454	19.8		