

Steve Broughton Rouse – Life Membership Nomination

In 2001 Beecroft Rugby Club (BRC) sat in the 3rd division of NSW Suburban Rugby Competition. It was at this time the nominated life member joined BRC 2001. Steve brought with him a nucleus of very good young players and was appointed, coach of the 3rd Grade team in round 4 of that year. The original 3rd Grade team had lost the first three (3) games of the season prior to this appointment but with a new look coach at the helm and a new group of very young players the 3rd Grade team then went on to win the 2001 Grand Final in defeating CBOB's, only suffering one more loss that season. These guaranteed Club Championship points each week were of great assistance to the club in eventually winning the 3rd Division Club Championships in 2001. In Steve's initial year with BRC the club was promoted to 2nd Division principally on the back of the 3rd Grade teams outstanding results.

In 2002 the nominated life member was elevated to 1st Grade coach along with many players from the successful 2001, 3rd Grade team. After finishing in 4th position during the season Steve then lead the 1st Grade team on to win the Barraclough Cup in 2002 against Waverly 16-15 in what was Waverly's only loss that season.

In 2003 the nominated life member retained his 1st Grade position and was also rewarded with the position of Club Coach. 1st Grade lost the Grand Final to Newport that year but the Club won the 2nd Division Club Championships with the 1st Grade team not suffering a loss in the final 15 rounds of the competition. These results secured Beecroft elevation into the NSW Suburban Rugby Unions, 1st Division Competition. Again the nominated life member was at the helm.

In 2004 the nominated life member continued to lead the 1st Grade team and as Club Coach. The initial season of BRC in 1st Division proved a most difficult task indeed with only 4 wins in 1st Grade but the highlight was no doubt the defeat of St Pats which we have not since replicated. 2004 saw BRC fall as quickly as it rose and the club was relegated to 2nd Division for the 2005 season.

In 2005 the nominated life member took a year away from coaching.

In 2006 the nominated life member returned to BRC to take up the helm as 1st Grade coach. In this year although being previously defeated by Barker Old Boys on three separate occasions throughout the year, including the semi-final, BRC defeated Barker Old Boys in the Grand Final of the Barraclough Cup by 35-3. The nominated life member also led BRC as Coach of the inaugural Under 85kg team which defeated Mosman in the Grand Final of that competition.

In 2007 the nominated life member again went onto lead as 1st Grade coach and Club Coach. 2007 saw 1st Grade go undefeated for all 18 rounds and continue that form in the finals series to be Premiers, winning the 1st Grade Barraclough Cup against Newport. This 1st Grade success coupled with strong lower grade performances saw BRC win the 2nd Division Club Championships and the elevation of the club back into 1st Division. Again the club fielded an Under 85kg team which although being minor premiers was defeated in the Grand Final by Mosman 3-0.

In 2008 with Beecroft back in 1st Division the nominated life member lead 1st Grade to blitz all other teams with one of the best for and against records this Club has ever seen at the elite level of 1st Division. The 1st Grade team was highly successful and was narrowly defeated by the undefeated Drummoyne in the Grand Final of the Kentwell Cup competition.

There is no doubt that following this seasons' results Beecroft was now on the map of 1st Division Rugby and earned its respect for all the right reasons; spirit, team work, comrardery, sportsmanship and heart. This is the legacy that the nominated life member has instilled in this Club. The nominated life member has also instilled a winning culture as Beecroft Under 85kg team went through undefeated to again beat Mosman.

In 2009, again at the helm, the nominated life member and the 1st Grade team started with a wonderful nine (9) straight victories including victories over the eventual Grand Final winners, Knox and being the first team to defeat Drummoyne in nearly (3) seasons. Regrettably the 1st Grade team eventually finished in fifth position after losing a number of matches in the second half of the season. Although not reaching the finals series in 1st Grade the Club was buoyed by the knowledge that it had defeated both grand finalists and the fact that finishing a very credible 4th in the 1st Division Club Championship was built on the platform set by all the other grades. It had finally shown that the success was not built on the back of one team it was built on the back of the entire Club. In 2009 the nominated life member also led Beecroft Rugby Club in its first internationally recognised match against a touring New Zealand Barbarians team.

In 2010 the nominated life member commenced the year again as 1st Grade and Club Coach. The first order of business in this year was with a pre-season tour of New Zealand to take on an Under 85kg Development Squad and the re-match against the New Zealand Barbarians on the most hallowed turf; Eden Park in Auckland.

Life membership nominations are about the creation of a legacy or instilling change that benefits all. Behaviour and culture are a very hard thing to change and it can only be done through years of hard work, dedication, passion and commitment. The nominated life member has certainly shown this over his tenure at the proud Beecroft Rugby Club. Putting the Beecroft Rugby Club in front of his job and making the club an extension of his family he has set the bench mark for all who follow, and this is why Mr Steve Broughton-Rouse has met and exceeded the requirements of this Life membership nomination.

It is therefore, with great pride and pleasure that I nominate Steve Broughton-Rouse for Life Membership of the Beecroft Rugby Club Inc.

Howard Baynie
Proposer

Gregg Levett
Seconder