



SENIOR LIFE MEMBERS

NAME	YEAR INDUCTED	REGION	CAPACITY	BIO
Harry J Hedger MBE	1905	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	Started his football career with the Williamstown Juniors in 1873. In 1886 he played for Nth Melbourne, at the time being the youngest senior footballer in Melbourne. In 1878 Harry came to Sydney and played Rugby for the Waratah Club. Upon the introduction of AFL he switched codes and in 1880 was chosen to represent NSW against VIC. In 1887 he vice captained the NSW team against the Victorians. In addition he represented NSW against S.A, QLD, TAS, where he was Captain, and New Zealand (Maoris). Some of his Achievements were Winning award at Sydney Club for Excellent Play, Best All Rounder, and Club best, Best all rounder at City Club (twice), and East Sydney Best all rounder (four times), as well as the Horden's Trophy for Flanagan Cup. Harry was instrumental in arranging for Fitzroy and Collingwood to play a competition match in Sydney in 1903. He played for the YMCA at age 45 in an effort to "make up numbers", and still managed to "put up a good game" He played for Sydney - 1881-84, City 1885 - 87, East Sydney 1888 -90 & 1893-94, West Sydney 1891 - 92 and YMCA 1903 -04. He represented NSW on 13 Occasions and Sydney twice.
Archie A Laird	1907	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	
Otto W Ballhausen	1907	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Albert E Nash	1908	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Louis A Ballhausen	1909	NSW Australian Football Association		
John J O'Meara	1914	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	
Len Alexander	1916	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	
E (Ted) W Butler	1919	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	

Dave W Bullas	1920	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	
Syd J Hodgson	1922	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Herb A Ryall	1924	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	
Jim Phelan	1924	Australian National Football Council	Player/Official	<p>Jim Phelan gave 47 years of service to the game most of them in Sydney. A Victorian by birth, Jim learnt his football around Ballarat and moved to Sydney in the 1880's, where he played for the waratah Club, and then West Sydney Club, until the games' demise following the 1894 season. When the code was resurrected in Sydney 10 years later he became the inaugural treasurer then secretary of the Newtown Club until the outbreak of WWI. It was during this time that Jim wrote on a casual basis for one of the many Sydney Sporting Publications, the Arrow which was published weekly. But for Jim the game would have ceased in Sydney in 1915, due to an ambitious ground purchase and development, when he took up the secretaryship of the League. He was one of 6 who assumed responsibility to keep the game going in Sydney and as a league secretary proved a very capable administrator. He remained in this position until 1925, but by that time the game was well back on its feet. He was bestowed life membership of the ANFC in 1924 as a consequence of his long term affiliation as a state delegate for NSW after the end of WWI. He was also made a life member of both NSWAFI and the Newtown FC. He later became an alderman on the Erskineville Municipal Council, where he is seen as mainly responsible for Australian football's long tenure (almost 100 years) with Erskineville Oval. When the Oval was rebuilt in a slightly different location so as to provide public housing during the late 1930's, it was almost solely through his efforts. He consulted on and monitored it's construction as a ground dedicated to AFL. He never gave up his affiliation with the game, and was still attending matches in the season preceding his death, writing for various publications and was present at several meetings of the league, before his passing in 1939 aged 79. The First grade best and fairest medal in Sydney was retitled to bear his name during the 1930's.</p>
J F Mc Neil	1925	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
S H Donnelly	1929	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
George H Sanders	1930	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	

Rupert P Browne	1932	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	Rupert Browne was a school teacher in Sydney. He did not have a background in Australian Football. He started teaching in 1903 and by about 1911 or so was transferred to the Gardeners Road School, Mascot (or Rosebery). The school catered for primary and also became a technical high school. He remained there as a teacher and sports master until 1951. He encouraged and supported Australian Football being played in the school and from 1916 was either manager, coach or selector of NSW Schools State and Sydney representative teams that played all over Australia during his time. He was secretary of the Public Schools Amateur Athletics Assn and also became involved with the NSW Football League of which he was a vice president over a number of years. He was president of the South Sydney Football Club for at least two years and also president of the South Sydney Junior Football Assn when it operated from about 1933-38. He was made a life member of the NSW AFL in 1935. Following his death, ex students of his school erected memorial gates at the school on the corner of Botany and Gardeners Road, which carry his name. He nurtured many players into our game who went on to play senior football for different clubs, many of whom represented the state.
Aub D S Provan	1934	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	President of the NSW Australia national Football League 1926 -32. Originally, in 1931, the Best and Fairest award in Premier division was donated and named "Provan Trophy"
T J Hayes	1935	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Nom P Joseph	1938	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Leo E Harry	1940	NSW Australian Football Association	Umpire/Official	In 1918, Leo Harry then hon. Secretary of the Melbourne District Junior Football Association, disbanded on account of WWI, visited Sydney. He moved there soon after and began umpiring in 1919. He was also involved as, NSW AFL Vice President 1935 -44, Umpires Appointment Board 1930 - 42, 56, NSW State selector 1936 - 43, 47 -48 & 58, NSW State team manager 1946, Football Record Editor 1939, 40,43, Finance Committee 1935 -37, 43, 44, 48, 50, 51, 55, Permit & match C=committee 1936 -38,42 -44 & 59, Tribunal 1938 & 55, Central Umpire 1919-29, Schools & Juniors - 1956 -57, ANFC NSW Advisory Board 1958 -60, Life member 1940, and with the NSW Aust Football Association - Founder & Secretary - Treasurer 1920 -29, Life member 1929
Ken G Ferguson	1941	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	<p>After a couple of years of playing junior football for the Rosebery FC in the then Metropolitan Football Assn. (Second Div), he then landed a publicity job with the South Sydney Club. His ability and Zeal was noticed by the NSW AFL League officials and after 3 seasons with Sth Sydney he was persuaded to stand for office on the League. He was elected as assistant Secretary in 1934, and then secretary in 1936, a position which he held until 1959 (25 years).</p> <p>After he retired from work with the Railways he was appointed the vacant fulltime position of League secretary 1967-69. He managed State sides, negotiated on behalf of the league,</p>

				travelled interstate, representing NSW at meetings, and for a long time was the heart and soul of football in Sydney. Ken was elected life member of the League in 1941. In 1955 he was awarded ANFC (now AFL) Merit Award for his services to the game. He has twice had premiership trophies named after him, in the early 1950's it was the K.G. Ferguson Shield for reserve grade premiers, and in the late 1980's the first grade trophy was named in his honour. Sadly both of these awards have faded from the awards presented within the league. In 1970 when he finally retired from his administration positions a testimonial dinner was held in his honour.
Alf J Snow	1947	NSW Australian Football Association		Sydney Club football committee 1931 -40. Sydney Football treasurer 1935-37. NSW AFL Treasurer 1938 -52. NSW AFL President 1956 -59. NSW Delegate to ANFC 1946 -62. NSW State Team manager 1937 & 1946
H G Shepherd	1950	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Les J Taylor	1953	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Jim Curry	1955	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Jim Kealy	1956	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Ernie McFarlane	1960	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	
Alby J Young	1962	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
William (Bill) H Hart BEM (dcd)	1964	NSW Australian Football Association	Player/Official	Born in Sydney in 1926, he first signed on with the St George Club in 1946 /47 after playing AFL while in the force during WWII. He moved club upon the establishment of the Western Suburbs Club in 1948, and joined their committee as secretary in 1954, a position he held until 1965. During this time he was a prime mover in the establishment of the Western Suburbs Licenced Club and later as a board member of the NSW AFL arranged funding of the league to assist in the purchase of its own premises at 64 Regent St. Chippendale. He became President of the league in 1966, helping to reignite the organisation with football in the Riverina whilst at the same time gave tacit encouragement to new leagues which were forming in non -Australian football areas in the state. In the late 1970's when the VFL was attempting to gain support for games to be played in Sydney and telecast Australia wide, he was not a great supporter as he saw this as local football having to take a second place in the system. As a result he was unceremoniously voted out of the League presidents' position in a well orchestrated campaign to oust him in Dec 1978. In the same year he received the Order of the British Empire for his services to sport. He continued his involvement with the Western Suburbs Licenced Club and was elected into the Presidents' position for a number of years. Bill had a Sydney competition Best and Fairest medal named after him.
Roy J Hayes	1966	NSW Australian Football Association		Played 1943-64. Came to Sydney during World War II from Perth and played more than 300 games with Eastern Suburbs over 20 years, including 22 games for NSW. He is widely

				recognised as one of the best players in Sydney in the 1950s. Hayes also coached Easts' senior team, passing on his knowledge and skills to hundreds of junior players. Roy was the engine room of the Eastern Suburbs' premiership teams of 1953-59. Roy was Mr Eastern Suburbs.
Jack Armstrong	1967	NSW Australian Football Association		Moved to Sydney after World War II. Played in excess of 300 senior matches. South Sydney (45-50), Newtown (50-55, 60), Liverpool (56-59). Took up umpiring aged 37 for five years (61-65), including umpires coach in (64-65). Returned to South Sydney, aged 44, midway through 67 as captain coach and played for another 3 seasons. Won at least 3 club best and fairest. Represented NSW on five occasions. Life member of AFL (NSW/ACT)
Syd C Felstead	1967	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	Born in 1919, Syd's involvement in Sydney football began in 1938 when he arrived at St George AFC where he went on to play 128 senior games. However his most significant contribution to Australian Rules Football was off the field with St George. At St George Syd was Club president for an amazing 20 year period from 1955 to 1974. His contribution to the development of local junior Aussie Rules cannot be underestimated and he was instrumental in the acquisition of Olds Park as an AFL venue, the ground which the Dragons still play at.
Arthur H Bridgewater	1969	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Jack W Hammond	1971	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Wilf J Holmes	1973	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Bob Mc Connell	1977	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Rod A Gillet	1989	NSW Australian Football Association	Official Armidale/Riverina /Sydney	
Ian H Granland OAM	1990	NSW Australian Football Association	Official Sydney/Central Coast	
Ted Ray	1993	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
John Yates	1998	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Craig S Davis	2000	NSW Australian Football Association	Official	
Peter Physick	2012	Sydney AFL		
Ian Wright	2014	Sydney AFL		Ian was introduced to AFL when he watched the 1966 Grand Final between St. George and Western Suburbs at Trumper Park. From there he was hooked and has had a continuous relationship with the game ever since. He played junior football with Ermington United

				under 15's, who played in the Balmain junior competition. In 1975 he began his involvement with Macquarie university first as a player and then a committee member for 39 years. he played 101 games between 1975 and 92 with most games in division 2. Ian has held many administrative positions, including time keeper for home games, at the club except President. he also time keeps at AFL Sydney Finals and Representative football. He was a founding member of the NSW Australian Football History Society, involved with the NSW AFL Umpires Association as a goal umpires for 4 years and as Assistant Secretary for 2 years and Secretary for 1.
Barbara Dicken	2015	Sydney AFL	Official	Barbara began her time in AFL Sydney with Western Suburbs over 30 years ago, when her son began playing. She was awarded Volunteer of the year in 2013, and has for many years volunteered to be time keeper for AFL Sydney Finals as well as Representative matched every year. While her son has long since retired Barbara has remained a constant at Wests since and gives her time freely and selflessly to time keep for the club at all home games and away matches.
Frank Kalayzich	2015	Sydney AFL	Umpire/Official	Frank began umpiring in 1978 in the North Shore Junior Football competition and has umpired every year since, bar 2001. In 1983 he umpired his first senior match, presiding over his first top-level Sydney fixture three years later. In a career flush with highlights, Kalayzich has umpired 11 First Grade Grand Finals, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1997, 1999, 2006, 2009, 2014 and including this year's 2015 Premier Division decider at 52 years of age. Despite his formidable frame, Frankie K is an elite runner, beginning his career in the days where only two field umpires were permitted, where he estimates he'd clock "close to 20 - 25 kilometres" over four quarters. He umpired 514 AFL Sydney First Grade games, a number which will unlikely ever be beaten. An almost permanent fixture in Sydney umpiring circles, Kalayzich also officiated in 50 VFL/AFL reserves games, a couple of years in rural Queensland and five years of junior umpiring. Frank retired at the conclusion of the 2015 season however, continued in a coaching role.
Ian Parker	2016	Sydney AFL		Ian's involvement in Sydney AFL spans more than 26 years, including 8 at Westbrook Juniors, and 18 at Pennant Hills AFC. Ian has taken on most roles at Pennant Hills FC. Ian has assisted the league as timekeeper, and has been a recipient of the AFL's prestigious Merit Award, is a life member of Pennant Hills FC.
Colin Huggins	2021	AFL Sydney		
Robert Mannion	2022	AFL Sydney	Player/Official	
Ken Ray	2022	AFL Sydney	Umpire	
Anton Lewis	2022	AFL Sydney	Umpire	
Geoff Pridgeon	2023	AFL Sydney		
Anthony Brawn	2024	AFL Sydney		
Brian Langton	2025	AFL Sydney	Official	
Brendan Donohue	2025	AFL Sydney	Official	