

Mark Jones (East Burwood; Bennettswood) – 1976 to current

Provided by Peter White with the assistance of Mark Jones

After starting his BHRDCA career in 1976, Mark Jones continues to churn out the overs for East Burwood and is recognized as one of the most decorated players in recent times. He is a three times recipient of the Len Toogood Medal and has won the McIntosh Grade bowling award on four occasions.

Mark started his playing career at Highbury Road Church of Christ Cricket Club playing in the under 14's and winning his first premiership in 1972.

In 1973 he moved to the Camberwell Cricket Club playing in the under 16's and won the flag in both junior years. Mark was captain in the second year and played in the 3rd eleven in the afternoon. He played his first year of seniors in the 2nd eleven the following season before deciding to return to his local area to continue his cricket.

Mark played the first of his 172 games at Bennettswood cricket club in 1976-77 having great success winning the 'B Grade' premiership in 1980/81 and then was Captain/Coach of the 'A1 Grade' in 1984-85. The success continued for the club winning its first 'McIntosh Shield Grade' flag in 1988-89 and then again in 1990-91.

In 1993-94 the club merged with East Burwood to form the East Burwood - Bennettswood cricket club and Mark was the inaugural playing coach for the first two seasons.

During that time he has amassed over 400 games and is still playing first eleven shield crickets where he is enjoying playing and bowling in tandem with his eldest son Chris while keeping an eye on his youngest son Andrew's cricket progress who also plays at the club. In late January 2015, Mark took his 1000th McIntosh Shield wicket, the first bowler to have achieved this feat.

Mark has been the recipient of the Len Toogood Medal (Shield 1 most valuable player award) in 1986-87, 2001-02 and 2009-10 as well as winning the McIntosh Shield bowling award in 1994-95, 1995-96, 2008-09 and 2012-13. He was also the winner of the inaugural Frank Horne medal.

Mark is a Life Member of both his club and the BHRDCA which he rates as two of his highest honors alongside each of his premierships.

With 15 club championships, and 1000 Shield wickets Mark has not only been successful at the highest level but he has enjoyed the people who he has met and played with and against over his time in the association. The Bennettswood; East Burwood - Bennettswood and now East Burwood Cricket Clubs as it is now known have been Mark's cricketing home for over 35 years.