

Vale: Allan Connolly

7th November 1950 – 29th July 2019

The Campbelltown Camden District Cricket is much poorer today with the passing of Life Member Allan Connolly. Allan passed away this morning at his home in Campbelltown having battled cancer for the past two years.

Since the early 1980s, Allan Connolly had been passionately committed to the development of cricket in the Macarthur region. As a player and administrator at Campbelltown City Cricket Club, he devoted countless summer weekends to coaching junior players, umpiring junior matches, and preparing grounds for play.



Allan was also a Life Member of the Campbelltown City Junior Cricket Club, Campbelltown City Senior Cricket Club and the Campbelltown Camden District Cricket Club (CCDCC).

Allan has served the 'Ghosts' with complete dedication since 1998/99 when he joined the club as a member. In this time, he fulfilled the roles of:

- CCDCC's longest-serving President 2000 – 08 (8 Seasons)
- Club Committeeman 1999/2000 to present (20 Years)
- CCDCC SCA Delegate 1999/2000 – current (20 Years)
- SCA Management Committee 2001/02 – 2012 (10 Years)
- CCDCC Raby Match Day Operations 26 years
- Wests Sports Council Delegate 15 years
- Macarthur Cricket Council Delegate MCC Chairman (6 years)
- Chairman Raby Sports Complex Project Committee (15 years)
- CCDCC Sponsorship Committee (21 years)
- CCDCC Member 1997/98 (27 years)

Allan's mark on the CCDCC club history will show him as a progressive leader and dedicated member.

During his tenure as President from 2000 to 2009, he initiated a major project to dramatically improve the facilities offered by the Raby Sports Complex, the Ghosts home ground. His plan was to raise funds with his committee to construct new buildings that would make the complex a first-class sporting facility, the first of its kind in the Macarthur Region or for that matter... Sydney / NSW / Australia. The facility would also set a new benchmark for junior and senior cricket in New South Wales.

Campbelltown Camden District Cricket Club

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Campbelltown Camden District Cricket Club

CELEBRATING 34 SEASONS

"Feel the Spirit"



Allan lobbied the NSW State Government, Cricket NSW and Campbelltown City Council to fund the project.

A project that would include:

- The club room that we share today
- New dressing rooms for Raby #1
- New Raby #3 dressing rooms
- An indoor training facility

Allan worked tirelessly to convince Bruce Collins QC, the Chairman of Cricket NSW's Board Facilities Sub Committee to invest in a project that would guarantee the future of cricket in the Macarthur Region and after 5 years of lobbying secured a \$500,000 grant from Cricket NSW. By this stage Campbelltown Council had also come on board with a grant of \$250,000.

Allan continued to lobby the government for the next 18 months before Campbelltown local member Graham West, in his role as the NSW Minister of Sport, offered \$500,000 from the Sport and Recreation funds. Allan and the CCDCC had now raised \$1.25 million, which would be used to construct the buildings.

This new facility would serve as a central point of growth and development of the CCDCC and its culture.

He got the job done.

Not resting on his laurels, after stepping down as President but remaining on the Ghosts committee, he was at it again. A new synthetic training surface and fencing had to be built ... and then in 2016 he worked closely with Campbelltown City Council in planning the Raby # 2 Pavilion and worked alongside the Campbelltown Council to achieve this.

This new Pavilion has been the envy of every visitor to Raby in recent times and apart from providing comfort to players, it has streamlined our club matchday operations as well as providing the team of Council employees who curate the complex with better working conditions.

This building is named in his honour - 'The Allan Connolly Pavilion'.

Allan's passion and dedication to the Ghosts (and the cricketing community) will be sorely missed. From building modern facilities to walking the back blocks of the local district in order to identify areas for cricket pitches... Allan's love of the sport was evident to all that knew him.

He leaves behind a magnificent legacy for many future generations of cricketers.

The Campbelltown Camden District Cricket Club send their sincere sympathy to Allan's wife Olga, his son's Byron and Nicholas and grandchildren Jesse, Eva, and James.

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