



Bill Gobbart (Vic) * **Softball Australia Board Member**

Bill Gobbart's involvement with softball commenced in 1974 with the Waverley North Softball Club. He served on their committee from 1976-86 and as President from 1980-85 and was made a Life Member in 1986. He was a leading instigator in the amalgamation of the Waverley North and Ashwood softball clubs becoming Northwood Falcons – now one of the biggest clubs in the Waverley Softball Association (WSA).



Bill was elected to the WSA Executive in 1980 where he undertook the role of Treasurer for 10 years. He was an active member of the umpiring panel, the match committee and the grounds committee. He was responsible for compiling the WSA draws for 216 teams and initiated a computer program for this purpose. Bill also acted as the liaison with the Waverley City Council when the grounds were undergoing major re-development. He was made a Life Member of the WSA in 1994.

In 1989 Bill was elected President of the Victorian Softball Association (VSA) and served in this role for 10 years. His calm and balanced approach greatly helped resolve a difficult period for the VSA. He helped to re-organise the administration and devoted an enormous amount of time and effort to the everyday running of the VSA and all of its sub-committees, in particular their interview panel and State League competition. Bill was awarded VSA Life Membership in 2004.

In 1991 Bill was elected to the Board of Softball Australia where he served until 2005. He served as an Executive member from 1994 – 2003 and acted as Chair of the Finance Committee and was also heavily involved in managing the rules and regulations of the organisation. Representing Softball Australia he attended the ISF Congress in 1995 – Puerto Rico, 1997 – Long Beach and 1999 in Seoul.

Bill was a dedicated contributor to all levels of softball over 30 years and even though no longer serving in an official capacity, he still maintains a strong interest in the sport and attends many local, state and national events. Bill is highly regarding in the softball community and the Victorian Softball Association.

AWARDS

2006 Softball Australia Life Member

*deceased