

Indooroopilly Heritage

Secretary / Managers



A former teacher at Brisbane Grammar School and later the founder and headmaster of Toowoomba Grammar Preparatory School, Ernest Gill was a talented all-round sportsman, representing Queensland in tennis, country cricket and golf. He won the Australian Amateur Golf Championship in 1906, making him the only Queensland golfer to capture a national title until 1946 when Norman von Nida won the Australian PGA Championship.

Ernest Gill became Indooroopilly's first full-time Secretary in 1927.

His son Budge caddied at the club before becoming a junior member in 1931, going on to become Club Champion five times as well as Captain, President and life member.

In December 1937 the club was stunned to hear news of the sudden death of their dedicated Secretary. The weekend competition was immediately cancelled. The following November the Governor, Sir Leslie Wilson, unveiled a special fountain memorial to Mr Gill and said it was "a great personal loss as well, as Ernie Gill usually partnered me in events at the club".



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JOHN A ARMSTRONG 1937 - 1942 & 1944 - 1957:

John Armstrong took over as Secretary and apart from three years' war service as an Army captain, was to steer the club through two important decades. In 1953 he became the club's first Secretary-Manager with widened responsibilities. After his death a half-way house at St Lucia was subsequently dedicated as a memorial to him.

ALBY WILLETT 1958 - 1982:

In 1957 Alby Willett, a former captain, president and life member of Victoria Park Golf Club, became the next Secretary-Manager.

A fine 2 marker in his heyday, it was ironic that Alby had cost Indooroopilly a pennant title in 1954 when playing in the final for Victoria Park, defeating Bill Bowler from Indooroopilly in the deciding match on the 19th.

During his term at Indooroopilly Alby was the sole handicapper – he supported the theory that a correct handicap was something one could play to once every three to five rounds and was loath to let any new transferees to Indooroopilly from possibly less disciplined clubs get under his handicap guard and win an honour board event in their first few months at IGC. Alby retired after 25 years at the helm. He died in 1995.



Alby Willett at his desk



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PHIL BEATON 1983 - 1986:

In 1983 Phil Beaton took over from Alby Willett, having been Assistant Secretary for the previous six years. A former Irish Schoolboys rugby representative, he played A grade rugby with Brisbane Wests.



JIM PHIPPS 1987 - 1991:

Jim Phipps had been General Manager of Pymble Golf Club for 13 years and it was he who had initiated the exchange visits between the clubs back in 1979. A former Wallaby three-quarter, he represented Australia for seven years before a broken leg and a severe bout of hepatitis on a British Isles Tour ended his playing career in 1958. After four and a half years service Jim resigned to oversee the development of a major golf resort in Thailand.

TONY KENT 1992 - 1999:

Tony Kent was Secretary/Manager for eight years from 1992. Tony was a qualified accountant and club member since the early 1980s. He had represented the club in pennants and in 1983 he was defeated in the club championship final by 60 year old George Gunderson.



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ROBIN MILLS 2000 - 2001:

Robin Mills had held senior management positions at Royal Melbourne Golf Club before becoming General Manager at Indooroopilly in 2000.



ADRIAN EDGAR 2002 - 2003:

Adrian Edgar had been General Manager of our reciprocal club, Glenelg Golf Club in South Australia, before coming to Indooroopilly as CEO.

NEIL WARD 2004 - 2005:

Neil Ward had been General Manager of Killara Golf Club in Sydney for ten years before his appointment as CEO at Indooroopilly.



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DALE DURANT 2006-2011

Dale started work at Indooroopilly in 1994 in a part-time capacity whilst studying at University. He completed his marketing degree in 1997 and travelled extensively overseas before returning to employment at Indooroopilly in 1999.

He held various positions at the club including Functions Supervisor, House Manager and Marketing Manager and was appointed CEO in 2006.

NOTE: The basis of the information provided has been extracted from the booklet "A Half Century of Golf 1926-1976 at Indooroopilly Golf Club" by Jack Lunn and the later update by Ian Arnold (unpublished manuscript).

