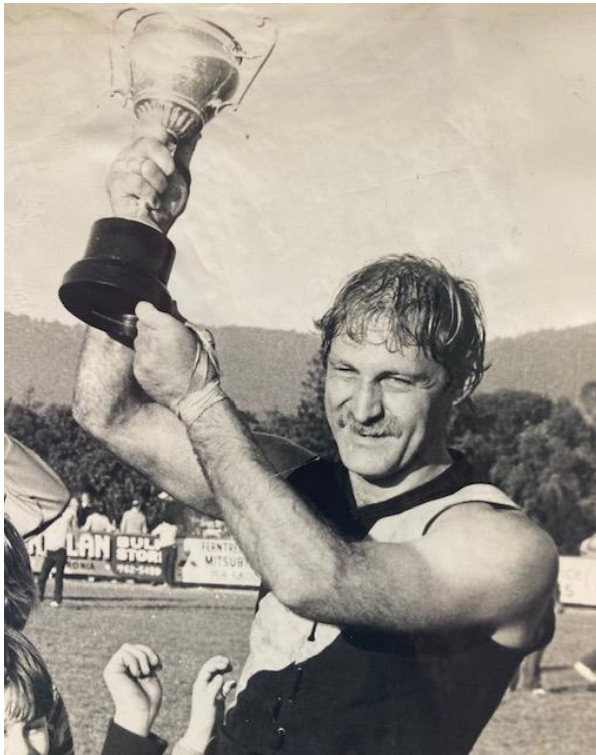


MITCHAM FOOTBALL CLUB – ‘HALL OF FAME MEMBER’ (#6)

Ron Thomas

(1948 –)



Ron Thomas in 1980 with the Premiership Cup

Ron is a Mitcham local boy, born in 1948. Whilst Ron was not at the Club as long as some other Mitcham ‘greats’, the intensive impact Ron had was immense and like no other. Ron was an inspirational leader and apart from his outstanding playing and coaching smarts, his extensive knowledge ‘of all things’ football certainly benefitted the MFC.



Always innovative, on and off the field, Ron’s off field input ranged from club management, marketing, sponsorship, fundraising, social events, to club promotion. Ron was the ‘leader of the pack’ and most of all encouraged loyalty to team-mates and the Club.

It is ‘little wonder’ Ron went on to coach South Melbourne Reserves (1982) and to progress to Sydney Swans General Manager (1986), just five years after leaving Mitcham at the end of 1981, as a Triple Premiership Captain Coach.



Ron coaching at Walker Park in 1980

Awards & Achievements:

Captain Coach:	5 years (1973-74, 1979-81)
3 Premierships:	1979, 1980, 1981
EDFL Capt Coach	1980-81
MFC Team of the Century	Captain Coach
League Best & Fairest:	Chandler Medalist 1974 (& 1977)
Life Membership	1981
Hall of Fame	2010, Foundation Member

Football Journey:

Ron commenced his long football career with Mitcham Primary, Mitcham High School and Mitcham FC Under 16’s in the early 1960’s. It did not take long to elevate Ron’s obvious talents to playing in Mitcham Seniors.

MFC:	Total 237 Games, 165 Seniors, & 72 Junior games
1960 – 1965	MFC Juniors
1966 – 1968	MFC Seniors (First stint)
1969 – 1970	Richmond FC
1971	Melbourne FC
1972	Prahran FC
1973 – 1974	Mitcham FC Captain / Coach (Second Stint)
1975	Acacia Ridge & Morningside (QLD)
1976 – 1978	East Ringwood FC Captain Coach
1979 – 1981	Mitcham FC 3 Years Captain Coach, 3 Consecutive Premierships
1982	South Melbourne Reserves Coach, NSW Coaching Director 1983-1985
1986 – 1988	General Manager, Sydney Swans FC
1990 – 1991	Paramatta FC Coach
1992 –1997	Western Suburbs FC Coach
2005 –	Current Essendon FC Recruitment Officer
2005 – 2006	Melton FC Coach
2005 – 2011	Victorian Country Rep Team Coach, 6 years



Ron meeting HRH Queen Elizabeth 1970 at the MCG