

Patron's Message

Delivered at the BNJCA Cap Presentation Night-9th November 2010



I sincerely apologise for my absence tonight and regret I cannot be with you. Unfortunately I have had an accident that left me with a broken hip which at present has greatly affected my mobility.

Young promising cricketers, the like of whom are here tonight, are in great need of encouragement and advice as they advance up the ladder of success and it is obvious from tonight's proceedings they are getting that vital support from so many people. Congratulations to all those in their immediate and extended support network, especially those in attendance here.

Most importantly, my congratulations go to all the young people who are to be recognised this evening. You are here because you have demonstrated ability and potential. I have no doubt some of you have enough talent to go all the way to the top, however, the extent of that success will depend a great deal on your desire to achieve at a higher level and this does not come easily.

Nothing worthwhile in life is ever accomplished without a tremendous amount of hard work and sacrifice. An outstanding effort in cricket is no different. Nothing is impossible, but you must have the right attitude to back your natural skills.

Never ever believe there is any such thing as a free ride to achieve these goals. Hard work, a burning ambition to continually learn and improve, dedication and an ability to absorb and recover from the hard knocks will all be needed. At the same time, never underestimate the enjoyment and satisfaction you will receive from the successes you have along the way.

If you approach this great game with determination and persistence, it causes you to develop an approach to both cricket and to life that will long outlast the statistics on your scoresheet.

This association, the Brisbane North Junior Cricket Association continues to make a tremendous contribution to Junior Cricket. It is a leader in this field. This is only possible through the quality of your administrators. Under the astute leadership of Ian Reeves, your Executive is doing a magnificent job to field 230 plus teams every Saturday.

My compliments also to all the people at club level who make the games run smoothly; the coaches, the managers and the wonderfully supportive parents and family members. Without them it would be impossible for Junior Cricket to function successfully.

My advice to the young players here tonight is if you are to be the future of this game, then you will need to extend yourself beyond your comfort zone and face many challenges head on. You will grow, not only in terms of your skills, but in the strength of your character and resolve.

Finally I am honoured that I can continue to be your Patron and am very grateful to all those who made this possible for me.

Have a great 2010-2011 season.

Errold La Frantz M.B.E.