

Barry Margin 1933 – 1996

Life Member CCSA 1974



Barry Margin was a pillar of the Central Coast community and everything, to which he chose to attach himself.

Born 1933 and raised in Gosford, Barry was the Managing Director of Margins Soft Drinks at Erina. He is best known for his generosity and support as a community leader and sportsman. Eric Todhunter, one of the major pioneers in the establishment of the CCSA wrote an appropriate paragraph back in 1988 “Everybody knows the saying “*Deep pockets, short arms*”. Well, Barry can stand up straight and still find the remotest corners of his pockets to help out any needy cause. He is a man, who demands respect, perfection and gives of the same”.

Barry’s love of sport was highlighted through his children as they grew up. He was a keen golfer and tennis player, and was involved with swimming, soccer and rugby league.

He was a Director of the Central Coast Leagues Club, a life member of the Gosford Swimming Club, Central Coast

Soccer Association (1974) and Gosford Apex Club, a Director of the Gosford Racing Club, Deputy Chairman of the Central Coast Area Health Service, and Patron and member of many other local organisations.

Barry’s contact with soccer on the Central Coast evolved firstly at the East Gosford Club where his three sons all played at different levels. Peter, Mark and Brett all donned the green and white colours and went on to play Representative soccer for the CCSA in the NNSW State Titles over the June Long Weekend. Only Brett maintained an interest in the game and is still involved with the East Gosford Club as First Grade coach in 2012.

Both Barry and wife Judy were very supportive of the family’s involvement in the sport.

Barry’s interest was twofold. He had a product at Margins Drinks in which the growing number of Clubs and participants needed to sell from their canteens. On a win/win arrangement Barry and the CCSA reached agreement for generously priced drinks to the Clubs coupled with sponsorship of Major competition, Central Coast 1st Grade teams playing in the NSW State league and other events.

The agreements were sustained over several decades even after Margins were taken over by Schweppes and Pepsi Drink Company.

He was however not always a man in the back room, he was involved with sorting out the June Long weekend Rep teams from 1974 to 1976, took on an administrative role with the Northern NSW Amateurs body. His major pride and joy was the eventual development of Plum Park. He, along with several equally involved mates, were fully involved in the investigation and final decision to buy land for a soccer complex at Lisarow and ensured it reached fruition which provided a headquarters of Central Coast soccer. Barry, also played an important role in the subsequent upgrades of the complex and was honoured with the main grandstand being named after him. He was a member of the Plum Park Management Committee from 1985 until 1996.

Also, because of his long and continued service to the game on the Central Coast, an end of season tournament, which was played over the October long weekend, was named after him...the Margin Cup. The Cup was a huge success and ran from 1987 to 1998 attracting up to 56 teams and 800 players from across the State. Barry Margin was also a Patron of the CCSA for over two decades from 1974 to 1996. Barry passed away in 1996 after a five year battle with cancer.

Words cannot describe the influence and drive of a man who was on a mission, with the only thing to gain, was the betterment of the code.