

THE BRIARS FOUNDATION LIMITED

The Briars Foundation Limited was formed in 1994, by a group of generous members headed by Chris Walker who realised the benefit to the club of building cash reserves for the future development of the club, and to foster the growth of amateur sports in the Burwood / Concord districts.

The objectives of the Briars Foundation are to:

1. *Raise money and provide financial support for amateur sport.*
2. *Invest such money as the Foundation, in its absolute discretion, sees fit; and*
3. *Apply such money for the support and encouragement of amateur sport in such manner as the Foundation, in its absolute discretion sees fit.*

In its ability to provide financial support for this multi-faceted club of ours, The Foundation has never been more relevant than it is today.

In 2017, the Briars Foundation completed their greatest ever achievement when The Ted Stockdale Pavilion at Rothwell Park was officially opened in July 2017. Years of hard work went into the Ted Stockdale Pavilion and the Foundation are very proud of what we have achieved. When I took over the Presidents role 8 years ago the late Col Dennis said this project would be an incredible legacy for the Foundation. We now have a first-class facility for both Rugby and Cricket teams to enjoy for years to come. The project was funded by The Briars Foundation who contributed \$220,000 towards the \$1.78m project, the Federal Government (through the Federal member for Reid, Craig Laundy), the State Government (through John Sidoti) and the City of Canada Bay Council who contributed the balance of funds required. A huge thank you to John Price who did an amazing job working with the various government bodies in tirelessly organising the funding and planning for this project.

Ten years ago, negotiations were finalised with the Australian Sports Foundation which created an opportunity for donations to be tax deductible. This outcome has been responsible for the significant increase in membership and donations and a number of existing members have taken the opportunity to upgrade their membership status through additional donations. Members have continued to be very creative in the way they have pledged their support. Some have pledged a monthly amount, others an annual donation, a few one-off payments and some bequests.

As well as the \$220,000 for the Ted Stockdale Pavilion, over the past 9-10 years the Foundation has donated over \$12,000 to Hockey for a new electronic scoreboard and security cover at their home ground and over \$23,000 to the club for the extremely impressive memorabilia cabinet at the clubs' premises. Additionally, we donated \$3,800 towards the scanning of all The Briars past reports/records which allows every member to easily access their past and present administrative and sporting achievements online. More recently we donated \$2,255 to Rugby for goal post pads and we committed \$35,000 towards the new cricket nets which have been built next to the club and are used by the clubs 12 senior and 36 junior teams. The Foundation, in the past, has also been responsible for a number of Squash initiatives, the floodlights for Rugby to train and the gym which is also utilised by Rugby. Since formation The Briars Foundation has been responsible for an incredible \$3.3m in projects for the various sports within the Briars club.

The Briars Foundation will continue to work with the sports on suitable projects which will assist their future growth and development.

Paul Price - Briars Foundation President