

Bar Wins Soccer Cup

In the Bar Association's 1987 annual report stated forlornly that "The Bar has been indolent since the last issue and has either played no sport of note or has been too busy to write it up for posterity".

Could it be then that the Bar, which once participated in a range of team events each year, is becoming a race of Norms? Not so if you play that game of real football - soccer.

Once more the Bar turned out to play its annual game against the Solicitors XI for the Challenge Cup. Once more the Bar won. The score 2-1.

The game was played in the usual friendly spirit against an overall younger and fitter side which was altogether unlucky not to have succeeded, having created many more chances and shots on goal, denied on several occasions by the Bar's goalie, John Harris (Wardell) who won the Best and Fairest Player trophy for the match.

The game was played on Sunday 9 October last on the University of N.S.W.'s soccer ground at Little Bay, in warm but pleasant conditions and on an excellent full international-size field.

Things began badly for the Bar. Within the first three minutes after kick-off, the Solicitors had worked the ball into the Bar's goal area and created a scramble in front of goal which ended with the goalie sprawled on the ground and losing the ball, leaving the Solicitors to slot home a simple first goal.

Things just did not look good for the Bar after that. Most of the first half was played in the Bar's half of the field with the Solicitors passing the ball about in effective build-ups and repeated raids into the Bar's goal area. Only tenacious defence kept the ball out, allowing the teams to go in at half time with the Solicitors in front by 1-nil.

The second half began with much the same pattern of play, but with the Bar now floating the occasional long pass forward into the Solicitor's half with varied attacks on goal. Then with fourteen minutes to go, Dennis Flaherty (Chalfont) was denied by the woodwork as a high cross from the left bounced off the Solicitors' goal post and was cleared away.

With seven minutes to go, and with the Solicitors looking for a second goal to seal the match, the Bar quickly cleared the ball from its goal area, ran it behind the Solicitors' defence, short-passed it back from Nick Tiffen (Selborne) around the goalie to Dennis Flaherty who this time found the back of the net.

With the score now 1-1 the Bar's Team suddenly found new legs. Then, with just two minutes to go and in a see-sawing finish which found the Solicitors missing several great chances against the solid defence of players like Alan Goldsworthy (University) and Billy Purves (Chalfont), a long-passed ball was taken down the right flank and floated over the keeper by Mark Waine and into the Solicitors' net. The Bar then managed to hang on grimly for a 2-1 victory and to retain the Challenge Cup which they had last won in 1986 (there being no match last year).

Nick Tiffen, as usual, organised the Bar's Team (whose names appear below) and Aaron Mucsnik (of Snelgrove Mucsnik & O'Brien) again organised the Solicitors' Team. John de Meyrick (Edmund Barton) was the man in the middle

with the whistle, but denies all allegations of favouring either team (nor is it true that he was promised several briefs before the match, or if true, is denied same by reason of the result).

The Bar's Team comprised: Paul Boulwood (Selborne), Mario Di Lizio (Wardell), Dennis Flaherty (Chalfont), Peter Gray (Wardell), John Harris (Wardell), Alan Goldsworthy (University), Billy Purves (Chalfont), Michael Read (Selborne), Nick Tiffen (Selborne), Mark Waine (A.G.S.), David Williams (Windeyer). □



Golf - Victory over Solicitors

The Sir Leslie Herron Trophy for annual competition between the Bench and Bar versus the Solicitors' Golfing Society is now in the custody of the Registrar following a great win of twelve matches to nine when this event was held in January at Elanora Country Club.

Close inspection by Judge Sinclair on presentation of the trophy revealed that the Bench and Bar had not won since 1976 and complacency by the Attorneys had led to their failure to inscribe the result for the last three years. This has now been remedied (see photograph below) with a bill for engraving to be sent under cover of a letter requiring payment before next year's re-match otherwise a lien will be claimed irrespective of the outcome of future competitions.

The Bench and Bar's performance would seem to have been due to better overall consistency (possibly because of previous experience on the course which has been the venue for the annual match against the Services for the last two years). The best card of the day with 47 points went to the Solicitors who also took out the best first nine and best second nine. Paul Menary and Allan Hughes were the best pair for the Bench and Bar with 44 points on a countback. Nor did the Bench and Bar figure in the nearest to pin to competition although John Steele took out the long drive, a prodigious hit which the Master of Ceremonies sought to explain together with Steele's absence from the prize giving ceremony by some reference to "early feeding time at the Zoo".

The next event was the internal match between the Bench and Senior Bar versus Junior Bar held at Pymble Golf Course on Easter Tuesday 28th March 1989 which was won by the Junior Bar. See next Bar News for details.. □