Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE2270

Mitchell, Ann

(1945 -)

Born	19450405, Sydney New South Wales Australia
Occupation	Cricketer, Sports administrator, Sportswoman

Summary

Ann Mitchell has been associated with women's cricket as a player (state and national level), manager, coach, journalist, and administrator for nearly fifty years. She contributes regularly to cricket journals and has provided commentary for Sydney radio and ABC television.

She has also had a long association with women's university sport, once again as a player and administrator. Most recently, as Executive Director of Sydney University Women's Sport and Deputy Director Sydney University Sport, Mitchell has made a significant contribution to the status of women in sport, particularly by promoting gender equity in university sport. Over her lengthy career as a volunteer and employee in the sport industry, she has been instrumental in developing opportunities for women in university sports as well as non-playing roles including administration, coaching and sports medicine.

Through her representation on numerous sports boards including Women's Cricket Australia, International Women's Cricket Council and Australian University Sport, Ms Mitchell has raised the profile of women's sport in the community.

In April 2010, Mitchell was made an Honorary Fellow of Sydney University in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, in recognition of her 'extraordinary contribution to the University, to cricket and to Australian women's sport for nearly five decades.'

Details

Ann Mitchell first played cricket with the Sydney University club in 1962. After working as manager of the New South Wales junior and senior cricket sides, she became manager of the Australian team in 1977. Mitchell has served on the board of Australian University Sport and was president of the International Women's Cricket Council for six years. She served as president of the Australian Women's Cricket Council from 1988, and is a now life member of Women's Cricket Australia.

In 2005, Mitchell was awarded the Margaret Pewtress Memorial category of the 2005 Ausport Awards for developing and promoting opportunities for women in sport. She was praised for having 'made a significant contribution to the status of women in sport, particularly by promoting gender equity in university sport'. In August 2006, as Co-ordinator of the Women in Sport Media Group, Mitchell played an active role in the Inquiry into women in sport and recreation in Australia. Today, Sydney University offers the Ann Mitchell award for Most Outstanding Performance at Australian University Games or Australian University Championships. Mitchell was awarded the OAM in 1990.

She was executive director of Sydney University Women's Sport Association in 2002 when members agreed to combine with the men at the Sydney University Sports Union to create a new body called Sydney University Sport. About this move, she said, 'some members may have had regrets [about the decision] but combining resources was seen as the best way forward.'

Published resources

Resource Section
Women's Sport: Underpaid, underrated and under the radar, O'Regan, Mick, 2006,
http://www.abc.net.au/rn/sportsfactor/stories/2006

Article
Women deserve sporting chance: Ellis, Magnay, Jacquelin, 2006,
http://www.smh.com.au/news/sport

Site Exhibition
She's Game: Women Making Australian Sporting History, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2007,
http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/sg/sport-home.html

Edited Book
The Oxford Companion to Australian Sport, Vamplew, Vray; Moore, Katharine; O'Hara, John; Cashman, Richard; Jobling, Ian, 1997

Resource
Honorary awards Honorary Awards: Helen Ann Mitchell OAM, University of Sydney, 2010,
http://sydney.edu.au/senate/HonMitchellH.shtml

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection
Ann Mitchell interviewed by Nikki Henningham for the Sport oral history project [sound recording]

Author Details
Nikki Henningham

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