



UMPIRE PROFILE

Leo Collins



Leo Collins's 200th game milestone as a VSDCA Umpire was on Saturday 9th January 2021.

Leo played cricket as a junior and gave it away to become a "Summer Hero" rowing surf boats!

Many years later, his son Pat was playing junior cricket. As a cricketing dad, like most cricketing dads, Leo did many volunteer roles such as the team scorer, manager, and umpire.

Leo's passion for cricket was back, so he decided to umpire in the Diamond Valley Cricket Association in the 1990s.

Two years later, Leo met Bill O'Neill (former Premier and Subbies Umpires) at a school working bee. Bill talked Leo into applying to join the Premier panel as he was already doing the winter classes. Leo passed the course and joined the Premier ranks, and umpired the 4th Eleven grand final in his first season. All up, Leo spent ten years in Premier Cricket, completing 155 games with second eleven his highest level.

In 2005, Leo moved across to Subbies, doing mostly first eleven matches and multiple finals.

**When asked why do you like umpiring cricket?
"Because I'm in the best position to watch really-good cricket. I have enjoyed meeting people along the way and stand with, in games. I like an up-tempo game that moves along, and I umpire cricket for fun because I love and enjoy the game. "**

In day-to-day life, Leo is a solicitor working in a local firm. He does property, wills, powers of attorney, and deceased estates. Leo is a people person, and this has enabled him to handle the odd difficult moment in matches well, "come on

you have had your go, let's move on with the match."

Outside of cricket, Leo has had 50 years of association with Old Paradian's Football Club, including time as President. "I like to support my local community. "

Leo comes from a large family of 9 children, and his mum is 101 years old. His family is the most important thing in his life.

Congratulations on your 200th game in Subbies; we love having you as part of the umpiring team.