



Sturt Bowling Club at Unley Oval

JH ("Jack") Petchell

The members at the 2019 annual general meeting of the Sturt Bowling Club, 11 May 2019, unanimously upheld the nomination of Jack Petchell for Life Membership, awarded posthumously.

JH Petchell (14 December 1904 – 10 August 1968)

- Member 1936-1968
- Committee – 14 years between 1940-1958
- President 1946
- Vice President 1950
- Australian Singles Champion 1947
- State Singles Champion 1955 1956 1960 1965
- State Singles Champion of Champions 1952 1953 1960
- Club Singles Champion – 9 times

The Sturt Bowling Club Clubhouse was named in his honour on 11 October 1968 as the "Jack Petchell Memorial Clubhouse".

The catalyst to the nomination and subsequent endorsement of JH Petchell was a review undertaken into the Sturt Bowling Club Life Membership list, presented to the Board on 4 April 2019. Click [here](#) for more information.

Some background to why JH Petchell was not awarded life membership whilst living reveals that in the years leading up to his death it is definite that the quota of five living Life Members (six in 1966) had been reached. Whilst records for 1967 and 1968 have not been discovered, it is probable that this quota had also been reached. In the 1960s, therefore, it is apparent that the Board had no capacity to admit JH Petchell as a Life Member. While it is history now that the Board chose not to nominate JH Petchell in the early to mid-1950s when they had opportunity to do so and perhaps later when his nomination was gaining traction his untimely passing may have been seen as that opportunity denied.