



### **LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION MICHAEL RIZZI**

Michael Rizzi is proposed for Life Membership of the Cheltenham Baseball Club in recognition of his exceptional commitment to the Club both as a player and a coach in for over 20 years.

Throughout his career and across all levels Michael has provided outstanding service as a true utility player, capable of handling and performing well in any position he has been asked to fill. He has played predominately on the left side of the diamond, third base and leftfield but also as a catcher and a part time pitcher.

From the time Michael started as a Tee Baller, his commitment to play hard and help his team is unquestioned. An often told anecdote records Michael telling his doctor after he had been taken to the hospital on a Friday. "I have to go home tonight I'm playing T-Ball tomorrow morning."

Michael's better than average bat and reputation as a tough out at the plate when the game was on the line to be won has seen him selected in the First Nine on many occasions. Michel won the Reserves Batting Awards in 2011-12 (.390) and 2017-18 (.439).

Baseball has always been a team sport and Michel could always be relied upon to compete hard and make major contributions consistently on the field. A fierce competitor he left no doubt that he was there to help the team win. Michael's value and consistency were recognised with MVP Awards for the Reserves in 2011-12 and 2017-18





Michael managed the Reserves in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons and has a successful record as the manager of our Junior State teams and he has played a key role as a role model and mentor for many players, particularly as they moved from the junior to senior ranks.

A Cheltenham person in the very best traditions, Michael has never hesitated to talk on a role that the Club needed to be filled or to express his honest opinion as to what needed to be done to improve our performance. Our Club's success has been built on people like Michael and all members and committees are urges to strongly support this proposal.

**Moved: Matt Gourlay**  
**Life Member**

**Seconded: Connie Upfill**  
**Life member**

The Rustlers logo is a stylized, cursive script in blue with a white outline and a drop shadow effect. The word 'Rustlers' is written in a flowing, handwritten style.