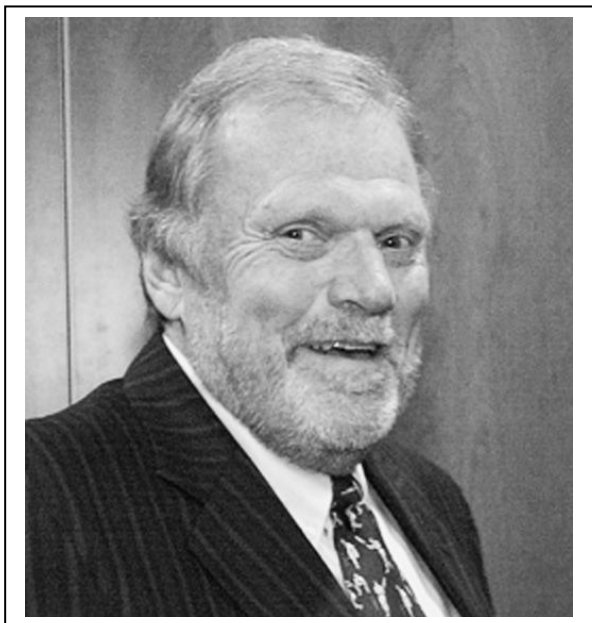


Hall of Fame

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



R.A. (Tony) FRITH

Tadcaster C.C. – 1968 – 1989

York Senior League

Committee – 1979 – 2006

Assistant Secretary – 1983 – 1984

Chairman – 1985 – 2000

President – 2001 – 2003

Past President – 2004 – 2006

Life Member

Yorkshire Cricket Association

Vice Chairman

Life Member

Yorkshire Inter-League K.O. – Chairman

Tony Frith has the distinction of being the League's longest ever serving Chairman, having held this important post for a period of 16 years between 1985 and 2000, during which time he was instrumental in elevating the York Senior League into the elite top eight leagues in the county. Within our own domain, he forged a strong working relationship with the League Secretary that enabled them to modernise and strengthen the League's management structure and procedures, which eventually enabled us to create our premier division and build the league into its present highly regarded status.

Whilst Tony played a pivotal internal role within the League, possibly his greatest achievement was his promotion of the League within county circles where he was a trail blazer who became the first person from our league to make a significant contribution to The Yorkshire Cricket Association. His commitment to the promotion of cricket at all levels, subsequently earned him an Honorary Life Membership of the YCA. He was also committed to Joe Lumb cricket and served for many years as Chairman of the Yorkshire Inter-League K.O. Competition, a post he has regrettably had to relinquish in the past few days due to ill-health.

Tony's cricketering career started in 1948 when he joined Spilsby Town Cricket Club in Lincolnshire and his leadership qualities were soon recognised when he was appointed vice-captain in 1950. He next played for Skegness C.C for seven years from 1954 to 1960 before enjoying a six years spell at Ruston Bucyrus C.C. in the Lincolnshire League. His association with Tadcaster Cricket Club started in 1968 and continued until 1989 during which time he had two terms as Captain, firstly from 1969 to 1971 and then re-instated for a two year period in 1976 when he led his side back into the first division as second division champions. His commitment to junior development was evident during his captaincy days as he firmly believed that any younger players selected for the team should be given the opportunity to either bat or bowl and not just be there to 'make up the numbers'. His contemporaries describe him as a good and fair captain who was well respected by his team and expected them to conduct themselves in a proper manner on the field of play. This strong belief in good behavioural standards was to stand him in good stead during his years as Chairman of the League's Disciplinary Committee.

He was Chairman of Tadcaster Cricket Club for two years and held the same post within the Tadcaster Sports Club, which covered all the sports played at the Queen's Gardens ground, for seven years – being described as a fantastic chairman. This experience was extremely valuable when he became League Chairman in 1985 having earlier been elected to the league committee in 1979. He had initially served as Assistant Secretary, with responsibilities for running the League's representative IX in inter-league competitions before taking over as Chairman from Bill Bragg.

As has already been stated, Tony's lengthy period as league Chairman saw the League making dramatic progress in every respect as it became accepted as the top league covering the North and East of the county. This attracted a flood of applications to join the league when the idea of a premier division was floated and resulted in an influx of new clubs and teams. The League has continued to receive applications from clubs who wish to become members of our highly respected league. Whilst the introduction of the premier division and the defining of the geographical footprint provided one of the high spots of

Tony's period in charge, there were more trying times from which, thanks to his integrity, tenacity and general strong leadership, the League emerged not only unscathed, but even stronger.

When, after exceeding the previous longest chairman term by some seven years, Tony decided to step down as Chairman at the end of the 2000 season he was the obvious and unanimous choice for President in succession to Denzil Webster who had just completed his three year term of office. Tony took up his new role with the same amount of enthusiasm and commitment as before and continued this when he moved into the post of Immediate Past President three years later. Regrettably, ill health has curtailed his involvement during the past year and his active participation is now limited. However he was made an Honorary Life Vice-President of the League in 2001 and this ensures that he remains within the York Senior League's 'Family'

Tony has been fortunate in the support he has received from his family in his cricket activities and can be proud that his son Paul followed him as a player at Tadcaster before going on to play top league cricket elsewhere in the country. Both his wife, Wynne, and daughter Debra helped produce Tadcaster's excellent teas whilst second daughter Sue occupied the score-box.

YORK SENIOR LEAGUE RECORDS HELD

- Longest serving League Chairman – 16 years (1985 – 2000)
- First League delegate to serve on Yorkshire Cricket Board