

DES BUCHAN

Des first came to the Club in 1988, playing in the Over 30s. Just over ten years later he started refereeing. In 2003 he began working with Damian Adams, appointing referees for the Eltham tournament. That is a huge task, firstly tracking down enough referees for the largest junior basketball tournament in the world, then, the frantic ten to thirteen days before the tournament, allocating them to venues and times, then just before and during the tournament, the last-minute withdrawals. 2022 meant twenty years on that task. Shortly after, taking on that task, Des also took over the mid-week referee appointments and then Friday and Saturday appointments. His attention to all the details of referee compatibilities with other commitments, training of referee requirements and game suitability has been outstanding. He also added quite a lot of venue supervision. In 2014 Des won Basketball Victoria's Administrator of the Year Award, and that was also the year he was awarded Life Membership at Eltham.