



2018

*Australia Day Awards*

## *- Sports person of the Year -*

We now move to this evening's next Award, the **2018 SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR.**

Our Sports person of the Year is a former Jerilderie Football Club player and a long term Committee member (and when I say long term, I mean long term...approximately 40 years!!). In fact, his association with the Club is in excess of 50 years, and still continues.

His playing achievements include:

- Team member throughout the 1970's;
- Runner up Club Best and Fairest in 1976; and
- Member of the Team of the Century

However, where our Awardee truly comes into his own, is his commitment to the Football Club through his generous and absolute support of the Club.

He has coached all level of teams, from seniors through to juniors (4ths), and been a mentor to many players over many years.

His role as a team selector has seen him present at training 2 nights a week, which equates to a number in excess of 3000 attendances.

His voluntary duties extend to being a:

- General all-round helper;
- A worker at Game Day and Sunday clean ups; and
- General maintenance at Monash Park, including weed spraying.

His popularity at the Club has seen him awarded Club-Person of the Year on several occasions.

He has received the highest tribute a Club can bestow, the honour of Life Membership for his contribution to the Jerilderie Football Club.

Community wise, he assists many sporting and school groups, and has been active in the Jerilderie Cricket Club.

Our 2018 Sportsperson of the Year is a committed family man with a strong love of this community.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have pleasure in presenting to you the **2018 Sportsperson of the Year...**

*- John Purcell -*