



1992 Perth Thundersticks – Robert “Clem” Clement



**2002 UWA First Grade Premiers
Clem (coach) standing fourth from left**

IT'S NOT JUST A CLUB IT'S A LIFESTYLE!

By Rob (Clem) Clement who joined in 1988 from Westside Wolves formally Cricketers

My fondest memories would have to include the three premierships that I was apart of in 1992, 1993 & 1995, from about 1991 to 1995 the team was fantastic, the determination to win and destroy other sides was ruthless, we were the first classic league side to hit 100 goals in a season in 1994 and our goal each game was to score three by half time and five for the match, our theory was if they could score six they could have the game.

During my early days at the club, administrators and members such as Hayden Smith, Justin Whitely, Matthew Jones, Peter Churack and Peter (Gweedo) Wright were very prominent either on the floor or at the bar. Many times training on Thursday would end in singing and drinking long into the night followed by the odd grand prix race circuit where the turf now sits. David Albrecht, Bruce (Saus) Jones and Angela (Ang) Kelly also came in to prominence and put on a wonderful Intervarsity as well as sat on boards for many a year.

Players of note through my playing days have been Michael Nobbs, Todd Williams, Steven Davies, Damon Diletti, Mark Hager, Michael York and in later years Mathew Wells and Tristram Woodhouse and being a left side player two personal favourites are David Viner and Craig McKenzie both had enormous endeavour and gave everything for the team and the club. Of all the representative players we have had, Mark Hager and Michael Nobbs were inspirational and true leaders, they formed the back bone of a fantastic period in our history and I will be forever indebted to those two for the skills and support they provided to me during my playing days.

The most memorable events for me would have to be a combination of preseason top squad trips to Geraldton and Busselton, R&I Cup matches in the bush such as Woodanilling and the Bunbury Carnival in July which included guys from all grades and all walks of life, the trips included nude indoor hockey, Chinese restaurants, the Nude Olympics and many a bus trip.

In terms of shows, nothing should ever beat the freshers show, the boat races and table slides of days of old were more than memorable and finally the Intervarsity hosted by UWA was the last of the real form of IV which included just hockey players and the desire to punish themselves such as the iron man event.

The main changes to the game for me in my time was the move to synthetic fields from the grass surfaces of days gone by, the university bank used to be full in front of the old clubrooms and songs were sung all game, the culture was strong and there was a real sense of belonging to something special and bigger than the individual.