

Journal Surveys

I. Australian Sport

I-1 Sharp, M. P. "Australian Football in Sydney before 1914," *Sporting Traditions*, 4, no. 1 (November 1987), 27-45.

Sharp examines the failure of Australian rules football to establish itself as a viable code in Sydney between 1870-1914. Australian football competed unsuccessfully against Rugby Union and, after 1908, Rugby League. Besides problems associated with obtaining appropriate enclosed grounds and the best players interested in the rugby codes, Sharp argues that the amateur Australian rules "leagues" lacked able and effective administrators and promoters. Some details on early games are provided. Based mainly on secondary sources; 47 footnotes.

—Braham Dabscheck

I-2 Lane, David G., and Jobling, Ian F. "For Honour and Trophies: Amateur Rowing in Australia, 1888-1912," *Sporting Traditions*, 4, no. 1 (November 1987), 2-26.

This paper provides a fairly detailed examination of debates between Victoria and New South Wales, in particular, and other colonies/states, to a lesser degree, concerning the definition of amateur in rowing (eights) in the period 1888 to 1912. For example, should a laborer be regarded as a professional? These debates are interpreted against the background of states rights associated with Australian federation in 1901, Australian nationalism, and class distinctions and snobbery. Based mainly on primary sources; 96 footnotes.

—Braham Dabscheck

I-3 Borland, Jeff. "The Demand for Australian Rules Football," *The Economic Record*, No. 182 (1987), 220-230.

Borland explains the decline in attendance of Australian rules football matches organized by the Victorian Football League in the 1980s. On the basis of an econometric analysis of data for the period 1950 to 1986, he concludes attendance is a function of real admission price, real income, lagged attendance (i.e., enjoyment derived from previous attendance), and uncertainty of the outcomes of competition. Based on primary and secondary works; 18 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck

I-4 Woodman, L. "The Development of Coach Education in Australia," *Sporting Traditions*, 5, no. 2 (May 1989), 204-224.

Examines the growth and development of coach education in Australia in the period 1939 to 1988. Coach education is linked to changes in government policy and funding.

The different stances of Liberal and Labor governments are outlined. Primary and secondary sources: 46 footnotes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- I-5 Moore, K. "One Voice In the Wilderness: Richard Coombes and the Promotion of the Pan-Britannic Festival Concept in Australia 1891-1911," *Sporting Traditions*, 5, no. 2 (May 1989), 188-203.

Richard Coombes migrated from England to Australia in 1886 becoming a prominent administrator in amateur athletics and editor of the *Referee*. He supported the idea of Pan-Britannic games to strengthen links within the British Empire. Inter-Empire games occurred in London in 1911 between Australasia, Canada and the United Kingdom in a small number of sports. Athletics, with cricket, is seen as a unifying theme in enhancing Australian federation (in 1901) and nationalism. Mainly primary sources: 42 footnotes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- I-6 Fotheringham, R. "Early Sporting Diplomacy: The Case of R. A. W. Green," *Sporting Traditions*, 5, no. 2 (May 1989), 173-186.

Article examines the exploits of sculler Richard Green, who was probably Australia's first international sporting hero. His major claim to fame was his defeat by Robert Chambers on the Thames in 1863 for 'The Championship Of The World.' It is suggested that his loss was brought about by foul play (drugs). Green's sculling achievements are linked to emerging notions of Australian nationhood. Mainly primary sources: 27 footnotes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- I-7 Moore, A. "The Curse of the Kalahari: The North Sydney Bears and the Ghosts of 1921-1922," *Sporting Traditions*, 5, no. 2 (May 1989), 148-172.

Moore seeks to explain why the North Sydney club has performed so badly in the New South Wales Rugby League since its back to back premierships in 1921 and 1922. His answer is linked to a notion of working class community sport which sustains rugby league. North Sydney has been progressively dismantled geographically, given the need to provide bridges to link the north and south sides of Sydney Harbour, which has resulted in yuppification and diminished any sense of community identity. Primary and mainly secondary sources: 56 footnotes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- I-8 Sharp, M. P. "Moral Metaphor, Economic Reality and Public Perceptions: The Control of Cricket and Rugby in Sydney, 1890-1912," *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 5, no. 3 (December 1988), 331-342.

Examines the relationship between players and officials in cricket and rugby union in Sydney between 1890 and 1912. Officials of both organisations saw sport as character building for later life (and warfare), whereas players required compensation for playing. Analysis of cricket focuses on how officials wrested control of international

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tours from players. Examines emergence of professional rugby league in 1908 and compares its spectator appeal with rugby union. Mainly primary sources; 37 footnotes.
—Braham Dabscheck