

BOB MCDONALD — MANDURAH FOOTBALL IDENTITY

Statement by Member for Mandurah

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [12.56 pm]: I wish to acknowledge Mandurah resident Bob McDonald for his contribution to Australian Rules football in Western Australia. Mr McDonald has recently retired after a 63-year career in the sport, having played more than 300 West Australian Football League and amateur league games, and umpiring more than 2 000 WAFL and Peel Football League games. He played for West Perth and Subiaco in the WAFL, and then for Wembley and Bayswater in the amateur league, the latter of which he was a premiership captain and coach. During his time as a player for Wembley, he played in the first direct televised football game that was seen by Western Australian viewers, in 1959. He has also umpired seven state and interstate games and 50 grand final games, including the 2007 Peel League grand final, which he umpired at the age of 77 years. His dedication to football has led to him receiving a West Australian Football Commission appreciation award for services to umpiring, Peel Football's Umpires Association Clyde Smith award, an induction into the hall of fame of champions, and life membership with both the Bayswater Football Club and the Peel Football Umpires Association. Mr McDonald's career in football, one that started in 1953 and ended last month, is something that needs to be recognised as an amazing achievement, and I wish him all the best in his retirement. I thank him for his contribution to football in Western Australia.