

# BATTALION SPORT

By MAJOR M. J. ROE

## Inter Company Sport

At the close of 1980, two problems rose to the surface, which were having a detrimental effect on sport in the unit. The first problem was that sport on a Thursday afternoon was seriously interfering with the standard Monday to Friday training programme, resulting in many matches programmed for a Thursday afternoon being postponed. This resulted in an enormous backlog of sporting fixtures being crammed into one final hectic month - November.

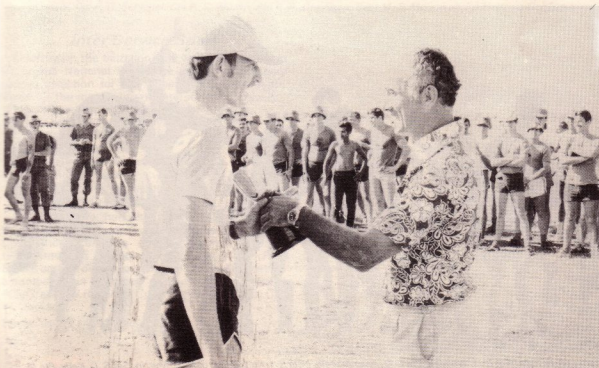
The second problem was that approximately twenty odd superstars in each company were switching from sport to sport and representing their company in everything. This had the effect of preventing many aspiring athletes and sportsmen from competing, and to sit on the sidelines instead.

The solution - change sport to Friday and introduce a new rule to restrict each individual to play only one summer and one winter sport. Although some company's had problems in providing a Rugby, Aussie Rules, Soccer and Hockey team simultaneously, the end result was a very broad-based, maximum participation, sporting competition.

Although slight difficulties remain, it has been a most fruitful year and soldiers at all levels have indicated greater interest and enjoyment.

The results of sporting competitions at time of going to print are as follows:

	A	B	C	D	SPT	ADMIN
	COY	COY	COY	COY	COY	COY
Water Polo					Not Completed	
Tennis					Not Completed	
Cricket					Not Completed	
Softball	1	6	3	4	2	4
Volley Ball	4	6	3	5	1	2
Basketball					Not Completed	
Rugby	3	5	2	1	4	6
Aust. Rules	5	2	4	3	1	6
Soccer	2	1	6	3	4	5
Hockey	3	5	1	2	4	6
Squash					Not Completed	
Orienteering	3	5	3	1	2	6
Swimming	1	3	5	4	2	6
Athletics	1	3	4	5	2	6
Cross Country	5	1	2	4	3	6
Rifle Shooting					Not Completed	
Golf	5	3	4	1	2	6
Tug-O-War (A)	4	3	4	2	1	6
Tug-O-War (B)	4	3	4	2	1	6



Cpl M. J. Honer receiving the Inter Company Athletics Trophy on behalf of A Company from the Commanding Officer.

As can be seen the glamour events were evenly distributed across most companies. Alpha winning the Swimming and Athletics, Bravo taking the Cross Country Championship, Delta taking off the Rugby, and Support coming up trumps in Aussie Rules.

Although as we go to print the last remaining matches are yet to be played it looks as though Support has an unbeatable lead giving them the SLCHYDER SHIELD for the second year in succession.

### ***Inter Unit Sport***

Not satisfied with a high standard in inter-company, 2/4 RAR has steamrolled through the NQ inter-unit sporting competition, winning every major event. Traditional rivals, 1 RAR, have been completely humbled by the mighty "1/2 Battalion".

The Battalion Rugby Team found a few new faces for 1981 and they proved equal to the task of maintaining our superiority. Our team romped through the season undefeated, the only hard match being the Grand Final versus 1 RAR at the Hugh Street Oval. The "First" put a spirited fight but went down to the red and black machine, 13 - 3.

After running second to 1 RAR in Aussie Rules for many years, 1981 saw our game lifted to come out NQ inter unit champions. The season started slowly

with the normal hassles of military training interfering with sport causing poor teamwork preparation and some cancelled matches. An early season defeat by 1RAR was a low point, however, with coach, Cpl. Eddie Schlegel, and players of the calibre of "Jacko", "Can" and "Robbo", the team steadily improved to become the undisputed champions and running out winners by a comfortable margin in the Grand Final, again, against 1RAR.

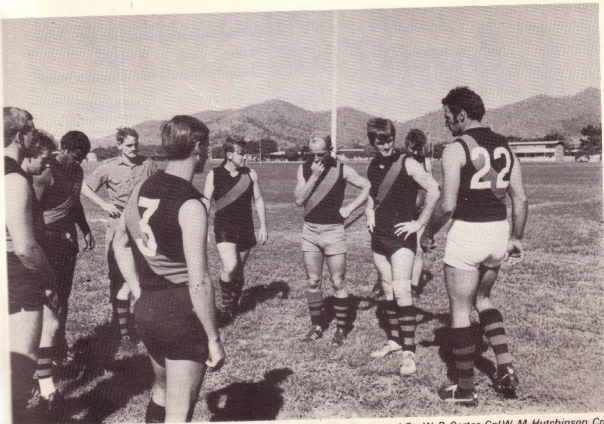
In swimming 1981 style, the Battalion remained victorious for the second year in succession. The team pulled together well on the night with strong support from the balance of the unit. The "old and bold" from yesteryear were more than adequately improved by the young blood of the "new turks", such as Pte. Dave Leahy, and Cpl. Andy Edmonds.

The 2nd/4th also dominated the NQ Cross Country on a "new improved" course used by thousands (all at once). The very high level of unit fitness was required with all available members of each unit participating and our battalion trouncing the field. We took out five of the first ten placings and totally dominated the first two hundred. For the fifth year in succession we have been victorious - it is definitely becoming a "custom of the NQ Army" that 2/4 RAR take this trophy.

In addition to those mentioned, the battalion achieved premiership in Cricket and runners-up in Soccer, Hockey, Squash, and Shooting.



*From Left to right: Sgt D. J. Waddell, Pte L. D. Arambewela, LCpl R. I. Kariatiana, Lt M. J. Martin, Sgt S. C. Kelly, Pte M. L. Crequer, Pte M. K. Rainey — Packing down against 1RAR at Hugh Street.*



*From Left to Right: LCpl P. M. Haynes, Pte H. S. Oosterhuis, LCpl F. L. Smallwood, Pte W. R. Carter, Cpl W. M. Hutchinson, Cpl R. J. Akatow, Cpl F. G. Schlegel, Cpl P. S. Wilson, Pte P. A. Dennison, Capt M. S. McGowan. "A Halftime Get Together."*

### **Inter Service Sport**

Once again the battalion was well represented at State and National level. The following members gained selection for the Queensland Army Rugby Team for the interstate and interservice carnivals:

- Lt. Dave Harper (also played for ASRU)
- Lt. Tim Simkin (also played for ASRU)
- Lt. "Pudge" Martin
- Lt. Wayne Bowen
- Cpl. "Binaway" Frazer
- Cpl. Mick Sullivan
- LCpl. Mick Williams, and
- Pte. "Kiwi" Crequer

In Hockey we had Pte. Bob Huston travel to Brisbane to participate (even though he arrived late). Cpl. Andy Edmonds and Pte. Peter James represented us in interservice Soccer, Pte. Paul Brown carried our honours in Golf. Aussie Rules saw a number of our "Kazalies" go south, namely Privates N.T. Graetz, W.R. Carter, Cpl. R.B. Robinson and LCpl. W. Jackson.

Summary: "2/4 RAR done good"