



Speech by

DESLEY BOYLE

MEMBER FOR CAIRNS

Hansard 30 November 1999

MR J. MOORE

Ms BOYLE (Cairns—ALP) (1.15 a.m.): At the recent annual general meeting of Cairns District Rugby League, President John Moore gave his last annual report to members. After 12 years John declined to stand again for president.

While those of us close to Cairns District Rugby League had been given some indications that this might happen, it was nonetheless big news—news both important and sad to all the Rugby League members, players and fans in the far north.

Honourable members should know that John Moore has done pretty much everything that there is to do in promoting the game of Rugby League in Cairns. He played Aussie Rules and Rugby Union as a schoolboy and a young man. He played in the commercial league in Brisbane for BP. He won BP player of the year in 1959 and was captain of the premierships team. He represented Central West in 1962. He played A Grade for Brothers Rockhampton for three years, though they missed the premiership in 1963.

He returned to Brisbane and rejoined BP and captained the team in the final in 1968. He was transferred by BP to Cairns in 1968. This was to the good fortune of Cairns and Cairns District Rugby League. He coached Cairns Junior Rugby League for two years. He refereed juniors for three years and seniors for six years in the 1970s. He was secretary/treasurer of the CDRL Referees Association for three years.

In promotion, he has also done an excellent job. He was a member of Radio 4CA's Rugby League panel show for six years and also did the ABC Radio show with Dick Chant for 14 years. He was a committee member of Cairns Brothers Club and was president of the club for six years. He was a Cairns Foley Shield selector for two years.

He was executive officer of the Cairns Cyclones for four years and is still a board member of the Cairns Cyclones. He was a foundation board member of the North Queensland Cowboys and president of CDRL for 12 years.

This is an amazing record—a tremendous contribution given to Rugby League in the far north, a contribution underlined by John Moore's continuing no-matter-the-trouble love of the game. Nonetheless, we accepted John's decision that it was time to move on. So we welcome Nigel Tillett, an experienced executive committee member, as the new president of CDRL. This week, we were extremely pleased to hear that John Moore has been named Chairman of QRL Northern Division. This is the first time that a Cairns delegate has held the position. Quite rightly, tributes have been flowing to Ben Wall for his 14 years in the position as division chairman.

Already John Moore has made it clear that it is the future that will occupy him. These events and John's history in various administrative positions are themselves much like a good game of football—ups and downs, sudden changes, excitement right up to the final whistle. However, the final whistle has not been blown for John Moore. His service to the game of Rugby League is not yet over. As patron of the CDRL, I for one am pleased about that. I have worked well with John Moore and learned much from him. I have proudly supported Rugby League in Cairns and expect to continue to do so and hope that I will do so as well with the new president, Nigel Tillett.

To all others in Cairns who have worked hard for Rugby League—to all the players, all the coaches, all the referees—I am sure that they are with me tonight in congratulating and thanking John Moore on his excellent service in the far north and wish him well in his new position.
