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For immediate release

HART BECOMES A TIGER IMMORTAL

Former champion centre half-forward and four-time premierships hero, Royce Hart, was elevated to the status of Richmond Football Club 'Immortal' at tonight's 2008 Hall of Fame function and season launch.

Hart joins Jack Dyer, Kevin Bartlett, Tommy Hafey and Francis Bourke in receiving Tigerland's highest individual honour.

For a decade (1967-77), Hart thrilled Richmond supporters with his exquisite football talents. His supremacy in the vital centre half-forward post was a major factor in the Tigers' greatest era.

Hart played 187 games, kicked 369 goals, won two Best and Fairests (1969, 1972) and was a dual premierships captain (1973, 1974).

He consistently lifted the Richmond team with an inspirational piece of brilliance, just when it was needed, and his match-winning exploits, from the outset of his career at Punt Road, ignited the Tigers.

In other highlights on the night, dual premierships backman Kevin O'Neill and 1980 premierships pair Geoff Raines and Jim Jess were inducted into Richmond's Hall of Fame.

Royce Hart fact file

Recruited from: Clarence (TAS)

Guernsey number: No. 4

On-field position: Centre half-forward

Games (1967-77): 187

Goals: 369

Premierships: 1967, 1969, 1973, 1974

Captain: 1972-75

Best and Fairest: 1969, 1972

Club's Leading Goalkicker award: 1967 (55), 1971 (59)

Victorian State representative 11 times

All-Australian representative in 1969

AFL Team of the Century member

Australian Football inaugural Hall of Fame inductee

Richmond Team of the Century member

Richmond Hall of Fame inaugural inductee

Kevin O'Neill fact file

Recruited from: Echuca

Guernsey number: No. 16
On-field position: Back pocket
Games (1930-41): 208
Goals: 12
Premierships: 1932, 1934
Victorian State representative 10 times

Geoff Raines fact file

Recruited from: Swan Hill
Guernsey number: No. 40 & No. 4
On-field position: Centre
Games (1976-82): 134
Goals: 55
Premiership: 1980
Best and Fairests: 1978, 1980, 1981
Victorian State representative seven times
All-Australian representative in 1980
Member of Richmond's Team of the Century

Jim Jess fact file

Recruited from: St Arnaud
Guernsey number: No. 20
On-field position: Centre half-back
Games (1976-88): 223
Goals: 161
Premiership: 1980
Victorian State representative three times
All-Australian representative in 1980

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