

# Sandy salute for Barker

VFL

TWENTY-five years after coaching Sandringham to a premiership for the second time, Trevor Barker has been inducted to the Zebras' hall of fame.

The former St Kilda champion, who died of cancer in 1986, aged 39, is one of 10 new inductees.

Taking over from Darryl Nisbet, Barker coached Sandy from 1992-94, with the club winning the '92 and '94 grand finals.

Famously, the Zebras came from four goals down at Victoria Park to charge past Box Hill and win by five points in 1994.

That year they achieved the triple of seniors, reserves and Under 19 premierships, in the last grand finals played under the VFA banner.

It's the third significant honour for him at Sandringham: after his death the Beach Rd ground was renamed the Trevor Barker Beach Oval, and he was selected as coach of the team of the century.

"Trevor brought a new level of professionalism to the club," former Zebras general manager John Mennie said.

"If rain was forecast he'd put covers over the cricket wicket just to make sure there were good conditions for the players. He did things like that, and the players loved him.

"He was very passionate about football and, being a local boy, he became very passionate about Sandringham Football Club.

"I think it's fair to say he set the pattern for our future success, the premierships that followed in 1997, 2000, 2004, 2005 and 2006."

Barker left Sandringham to coach St Kilda's reserve grade



Anthony Allen and Trevor Barker raise the 1992 premiership cup.

team. Mennie said he believed Barker was destined to coach a senior AFL team.

"I think he had all the traits and skills necessary to coach at the highest level," he said.

Sandringham's hall of fame recognises "those who have given outstanding service to the club and to permanently honour those outstanding individuals, being a player or an official."

Robert Harvey and Simon O'Donnell when the Sandy ground was renamed the Trevor Barker Beach Oval in 1998.

The 2018 inductees are Barker, former star players Justin Crough,

Darren Mitchelson, Joe Rugolo, Marty Lyons, Frank Rugolo and Shane Foley, and long serving officials Dennis Galimberti, Gerry Ryan and Ed Hattam.

Mitchelson, Foley, Crough, and the Rugolo brothers played in premierships under Barker, as did Mark Williams, who extended the Barker lineage by steering Sandy to the 2005-06-06 flags.

The latest induction coincides with the club's 90th year.

The hall of fame function will be held on Saturday, June 8, at Sandy by the Bay, Wilson Storage Trevor Barker Beach Oval, Beach Rd, Sandringham. Tickets are \$125.