

## **Jack Rochford**

First started playing softball in the early to mid-fifties. After a couple of years playing, Jack became engaged in coaching, both at club and provincial level. He coached the Canterbury Women's team, taking them to 3 inter-provincial tournaments. About 1958-59 Jack took on full-time umpiring. He received his NZ Badge at the 1960-61 Women's Tournament, under John Reid who was acting as Deputy Chief Umpire.

In the late fifties, the Canterbury Umpires Association was formed by Jack, Jim Gibson and Morrie Jackson. Alan Lazarus, a NZ Badge holder on transfer from Wellington was also involved, at that time he would be the only NZ Badge holder in Canterbury.

Jack continued umpiring until 1980, attending at least two tournaments each season. A career that had its highs and lows, but always very rewarding and enjoyable. Particular enjoyment was working under Ray Weaver, on the Rules Committee, and also officiating as Deputy Chief to Ray at many tournaments.