



CLIF BARKER – 2009/10

Having played rugby union at Wigan Grammar School and Manchester University, Clif (*shortened from Clifton, not Clifford*) joined his home town Club, Wigan, in 1964 on completion of his legal studies.

Thereafter, he played in the back row for the Club until 1978.

He played his last game for Wigan on the Club's inaugural overseas tour to Holland in May 1978.

Administratively, he has served the Wigan Club in a number of capacities, including Membership Secretary, Chairman of Rugby, Chairman of the Executive Committee and President.

He was made an Honorary Member of the Club in 1984.

In the early 1970s, Clif became Wigan's representative on the Lancashire County General Committee and served in that capacity for a number of years.

He became an ardent campaigner for the introduction of leagues and was Secretary to the Northern Division Sub-Committee on Leagues, whose Report to the RFU in February 1984 finally achieved the RFU's approval to the introduction of leagues in Cheshire, Cumbria and Lancashire.

The success of these leagues, which started as the Girobank Leagues in the season 1985/86, was undoubtedly an inspiration for the national league system as we know it today, subsequently introduced by the RFU.

Clif has just completed his 13th year as Chairman of the County's Disciplinary Committee, a position which he also intends to hold during his year of office as President.

He also chairs and sits on RFU Disciplinary Panels and, as such, deals with disciplinary cases arising from games in the Premiership and National Divisions.

