

2007 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE COACH AWARDS DINNER

The SANFL conducted its 12th Annual Coach Awards Dinner at AAMI Stadium's Magarey Room on Friday 2nd November, 2007.

Eight League Clubs and the SANFL development staff invited 391 people to another great celebration of coaching throughout South Australia with the first ever League Coach of the Year Award being presented to Central District Coach, Roy Laird, who again coached the Central District Football Club to its 6th premiership in 8 years. The award was supported by the Good Guys who presented a Plasma TV to Roy, having received the award following voting during the minor round by each of the League Club's senior coaches.

However, as has become the rule, it was the awards for service to people who have coached for many years that stole the show - this year it was Reg Skinner and the late Richard Newman. Reg has been, and still is, a loyal servant of the Game for well in excess of 40 years and Richard, who so sadly died this year, for more than 30 years. Both men have been outstanding citizens as well as coaches.

Also this year the SANFL has acknowledged the female input into coaching as the 'girls' are starting to feel more confident to 'have a go' at the sport they have for so long supported in a multitude of roles, but rarely at the 'coal face' as coaches. Sue Garvin and Sandy Cramp have headed the field through their skills that have put many to shame, particularly their ability to share the game amongst the younger players and not get overawed by the 'must win at all costs' syndrome.

Eighteen coaches from 9 SANFL League Club metropolitan and country zones were presented with awards, along with school coaches from State and Independent Schools, and coaches from the Talent programs of the Youth and Youth Development Squads of the SANFL Clubs. (We are able to reflect about some of our proud history through the award for the Youth Development Squad coach of the year having been named after the late Robert F Kite, Norwood League player and one of the key starters of the modified rules games in the early 70s. How interesting it is to reflect when one sees such modified games being carried out by AFL coaches as they prepare their players for the 'cream' of competition, the Toyota AFL Premiership season. Many senior coaches in the 70s were very critical of such an approach to training. It is a very significant example of how slow education is in effecting change – we discuss, argue, criticize and whatever but along the way some of the original thinking of people such as Bob Kite have such a great impact on the game.)

The night was further highlighted by the presentation by AFL Foundation CEO, Derek Linsell, who made a measured and well constructed address about role modeling, which has been in the forefront of discussion in the past year. The empathy of Derek with people was obvious and the SANFL is indebted to him for his time and effort to be at the Coach Awards Dinner.



Derek Linsell (left) speaks with
SANFL President Rod Payze



2007

SANFL/AFL Level 2 Accreditation Graduates

Gavin Appleton, Stephen Baulderstone, Ray Billing, David Block, Michael Borholm, Stuart Burns, Gary Cameron, Tim Cook, Damien Cross, Graham Cummings, Shane Dickson, Tony Eckermann, David Evans, Peter Forrest, Joel Hampton, Steven Harris, Ben Hart, George Hassouros, Damian Hicks, David Higgins, Craig Hiskins, Darren Hunt, Les Khabbaz, Chris Ladhams, Anthony Lamond, Steve Lubcke, Stephen Magor, Scott McGregor, Matthew Millard, Peter Milsom, Shane Mohor, Eric Prelc, Jason Roe, Steve Shippey, Craig Sickerdick, Chad Simmons, Michael Stanbury, Steven Symonds, Todd Thorne, Mark Tylor, Paul Whaley, Jeff Wray, John Zantvoort



SANFL/AFL Level 3 Accreditation Graduates

Anthony Goodrich, Brenton Phillips, Trevor Potts,



CENTRAL DISTRICT COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Shaun O'Neil - Nuriootpa Football Club Under 15

Shaun was a senior player and then runner selector at Nuriootpa during the period when the 'A' Grade won 5 out of 6 successive Grand Finals.

He has transferred a lot of that experience to the U15's this year and the team has displayed some great running football.

GLENELG COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Todd Butler - Keith Football Club A Grade

Todd coached Keith to the A Grade Premiership in the Kowree Naracoorte Tatiara FL in 2007 and was awarded the Coach of the Year for the South East Coaches Network Region at their Dinner last weekend. The team was favourite last year but seemed to lack defensive skill and was beaten in the Final.

In his second year as coach Todd has worked with the team in that area and with new recruit, Tony Modra, they won the flag.

Todd has developed a great rapport with the club and its success has been enhanced by the respect he has developed between all members of the team.

NORTH ADELAIDE COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Craig Blinman - West Augusta Football Club B Grade

Craig's coaching has exemplified good fun through variety at training, careful planning for matches and his great ability to be organized prior to the start of the season. He has been a great teacher of technical and game skills for the players.

NORWOOD COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Michael Stanbury - Lobethal Football Club Under 14

Michael's coaching led the team into the finals for the first time in many years and he has developed the skills of the players through sound organization and a thirst to improve his knowledge so that he can provide the best possible environment for players.

PORT ADELAIDE MAGPIES COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Corey McLennon - SA Country/ Eyre Peninsula Zone

Corey has graduated from representing SA Country in 1996 to Thevenard senior coach from 2001 – 2003 including the Far West Football Team in the Mortlock Shield to Eyre Peninsula coach from 2004 – culminating as SA Country Coach in 2007 against Vic Country at Stawell. He has been an outstanding leader particularly this year.

SOUTH ADELAIDE COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Barry Pilmore - Willunga Football Club A Grade

Barry has coached the Willunga A Grade team to its 4th successive premiership in the Great Southern Football League in 2007 defeating undefeated Langhorne Creek in the final. Barry is an outstanding example of a conscientious contributor to community football and sport.

STURT COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Ray Billing - Under 19 Sturt Football Club Youth Squad Assistant Coach and Development Coach River Murray Football League

Ray has driven the player pathway program in the River Murray for the Sturt Football Club as the coach of River Murray Football League U17 side, Sturt Shield Squad, and Judd Leinert Shield. An outstanding year and contribution to the River Murray Football League and the Sturt Football Club.

STURT COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Mark Brown - Mypolonga Football Club Under 17

Mark has coached for his whole career at the Mypolonga FC and for the past two years has coached the Under 17s who won the premiership in 2007.

WEST ADELAIDE COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Rod Hankin - Cobdogla Football Club A Grade

Not only has Rod coached the Cobdogla A Grade but also the Berri Under 11's. One of the great features of his coaching has been his ability to extend the simple training drills at Under 11's to more complex drills for his A Grade team. He has not forgotten the need to continue to train the technical skills of the juniors with his senior players and then build those skills into the game situation.

WOODVILLE WEST TORRENS COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Mark Thomson - Blyth/Snowtown Football Club A Grade

Mark's coaching is highlighted by a great sense of club, he works closely with the Club management to maintain financial viability and shows great loyalty to his players through the manner in which he educates them to ensure the Blyth/Snowtown Football Club is held in high regard in their minds. A very quiet mannered person.

WOODVILLE WEST TORRENS COUNTRY COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Keith Earl - Mallala Football Club A Grade

Keith is a true Mallala person, he has stabilized the football club in the past couple of years and his willingness to attend workshops to improve has been appreciated and the success that has been enjoyed this year has been truly a great credit to his enthusiasm and coaching skills.

CENTRAL DISTRICT METROPOLITAN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Gary Howden - Salisbury North Football Club Under 14

Gary has had some great success at the Salisbury North FC and is at present the coach of the CDFC U15 Development Squad where his enthusiasm and organisation is seeing the development of the young players moving into the Youth Squad.

GLENELG METROPOLITAN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Michael Godden - Glenelg Football Club Reserves

Michael has been an exceptional developer of young players in terms of their ability to fit into senior football at the Glenelg Football Club. The reserves team consisted of at least half Under 19 players who Michael has encouraged and hence a wonderful year has resulted for them. Michael is selfless person – a characteristic not often found in football.

NORTH ADELAIDE METROPOLITAN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Darren Mead - Gaza Football Club A Grade

Darren has been able to transfer some of the knowledge he has accrued from his playing career with the Port Adelaide Magpies, the Power and as a Development Manager at South Adelaide FC to a group of players who were not as highly rated as many others in Amateur League A1 division. The players paid him great respect and performed accordingly.

NORWOOD METROPOLITAN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Shane Harris - Tea Tree Gully Football Club Under 16

Shane has contributed to the game in a much broader sense than in his role as State Umpiring Manager. His ongoing efforts with the young men at the Tea Tree Gully Football Club at the under 14 and under 16 level who have not been able to make the top team has been outstanding. The SANFL has great pleasure to award Shane this recognition for his time, effort and understanding of the needs of all people to have an opportunity to play our great game.

PORT ADELAIDE MAGPIES METROPOLITAN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



**Mark Tylor
Port Adelaide Magpies Football Club
Under 19**

Mark has again coached the Port Adelaide Magpies Under 19 team to a premiership which has been a testament to his ongoing care and enthusiasm to the young men. To handle Under 19 players over the past few years as Mark has is a feat of the highest order, particularly at this age group.

SOUTH ADELAIDE METROPOLITAN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Dale Wilson - Morphett Vale Football Club Under 18

Dale spent 5 years as Assistant A grade coach at Flagstaff Hill FC and this was his 3rd yr coaching Morphett Vale U18 culminating in the 2007 premiership. He also gives time & enthusiasm at Association level having spent 2 yrs as Assistant and the last 2 as coach of Southern FL U17 team. Dale's knowledge, rapport, & communication skills allow him to make an outstanding contribution to Junior Football in the South.

WOODVILLE WEST TORRENS METROPOLITAN COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Charles Drew - Henley Football Club Under 14

Charles has enjoyed the game as a player at West Adelaide and at Flinders Park and Henley. He has been a committeeman at Henley FC and coached the Henley U14s to the premiership this year.

**COUNTRY
AFL AUSKICK COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD**



Paul Dack - Berri Football Club

Paul has had approximately 80 participants at Berri for the past 2 years. His attention to detail with planning to allow for extension in activities and parent involvement has been excellent. The kids have loved the encouragement certificates and weekly awards to recognize their progression. Congratulations for being chosen as NAB Country AFL Auskick Coordinator of the Year!

**METROPOLITAN
AFL AUSKICK COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD**



Colin White - Reynella Primary School

Colin's forte has been his efforts with the 'off-field' activities (eg, canteen, BBQ and special events) to raise funds to invest back into the equipment and trophies for the kids. Colin continually tries to make the program better in its delivery for the 90 youngsters he has attending through the aforementioned and the use of the school communication channels to distribute information. Congratulations for your selection as NAB Metropolitan AFL Auskick Coordinator of the Year.

SASFA PRIMARY COACH OF THE YEAR



Rod Campbell - Our Lady of Grace School Year 4/5

Rod has been very well organized both prior to and during the season. He is mindful of giving opportunity to all players through rotation both on and off the ground and in many positions on the field. His workshop at the Glenelg Football Club was greatly appreciated by all who attended and the SANFL. Rod has thoroughly deserved and acclamation in 2007.

SANFL/ISSA COACH OF THE YEAR AWARDS JUNIOR COACH OF THE YEAR



George Gregory - Trinity College

George has made an outstanding contribution to not only the players but to the coach education at Trinity College, his enthusiasm and ongoing support for the game is of the highest order.

SANFL/ISSA COACH OF THE YEAR AWARDS SENIOR COACH OF THE YEAR



Anthony Goodrich - Sacred Heart College

Anthony continues the great tradition of football at Sacred Heart College he has attended the Level 3 High Performance Course conducted by the AFL in Canberra and we thank him for his ongoing quality coaching program.

SANFL FEMALE COACH OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Sandy Cramp - Morphett Vale East Primary School Year 4/5

Sandy is passionate about the players and is learning the game very quickly. She has worked in collaboration with a 'some what aggressive male coach' who she has been able to calm and hence provide a much more user friendly environment for all players. Sandy has allowed a variety of team placements to give everyone a fair go all over the ground rather than playing just to win. Her influence has been profound!

Sue Garvin - Walkerville Football Club Under 8

Sue has just begun her coaching career and has been very receptive of best practice in junior football. She has provided a great opportunity for all the youngsters to have a game by constantly interchanging them on the field and on and off the interchange. Her presentation in all facets is exemplary.



Sue Garvin



SANFL TALENT COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD SANFL YOUTH SQUAD



Craig Brooks - North Adelaide Football Club Under 17

Craig has continued a successful development program at the under 17 level at the North Adelaide Football Club, his attitude to the game's development is not only directed at the players but also at coaching and the SANFL acknowledges that his premiership is just reward for his efforts.



SANFL/R F KITE MEMORIAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SQUAD COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Don Miranda - Glenelg Football Club Under 13

Don coached the Glenelg Football Club U13 Youth Development Squads in 2007 with great passion, innovation, and use of available human resources. Parental feedback was high for Don's actions to enable young players to appreciate some of the requirements to achieve a higher performance than was necessary in their school team. (he coached Year 4/5 as well as Year 6/7 Interzone SASFA teams in 2007).



SANFL LEAGUE COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD



Roy Laird - Central District Football Club

Roy has been a great servant of the CDFC having

- began with the U19s in 1988
- played 87 League games and 83 Reserves games as a dour half back flanker with a long raking left foot kick
- retired in 1998 as a player

Roy progressed quickly after retirement into coaching and he has an outstanding record –

- 1999: Senior Weights Coach and League Runner
- 2000: Assistant Coach

Reserves Coach for 2 years: 2001 (Grand Finalist) and 2002 (Premiers)

League Coach 2003 to 2007 (5 years for 4 Premierships and 1 Runner – Up)

Roy was a strong unrelenting half back flanker who sustained knee and shoulder injuries that restricted his playing in his 10 year playing career from 1989 to 1998.

He has been strong in his demands of the players with regard to discipline for the team and club, and the Central District FC is greatly appreciative of this quality of leadership.

However, it is his tactical nous that he has developed through many hours of preparation for training and matches that has really stamped his coaching prowess.

The SANFL congratulates Roy and, through the great generosity of the Good Guys, would like him to accept a Plasma TV to acknowledge his great contribution to Coaching in 2007.



David Brooks (left) from the Good Guys and League Coach Of the Year, Roy Laird

SANFL SERVICE TO COACHING AWARD



Reg Skinner

In the early 1970's The Athelstone Football Club (AFC) organised with the Athelstone Primary School for 2 teams to be formed and play football in the Norwood school competition. Reg was one of the 2 inaugural coaches.

In 1973 Reg assisted the then Thorndon High School to form an U15 team and acted as coach for several years, Reg encouraged these players to join the AFC U16 squad.

Early 1980 When the Norwood FC started its modified rules competition at the old Norwood Velodrome the AFC under Reg and Hartley Ey recruited players from the local schools and fielded 3 teams, again Reg was one of the coaches.

Reg's involvement lasted till 1993 when he retired from coaching. His parting gesture to the U17 players that year was to raise sufficient funds to send the entire team to Melbourne for the Crows Preliminary Final game.

Through out these years Reg continued to support the players even though his health was not always good.

In 2003 Reg came out of retirement and became the skills development Coach across all the AFC Junior teams and worked in close cooperation with all coaches. Since 2003 Reg has assisted juniors at all levels U8 to U16 on a regular basis up to 3 nights per week and attending 2 or 3 games each Sunday to see how the boys he helped had progressed and what still needed work on.

From 2003 to 2007 Reg assisted the club with its Auskick program on Saturday mornings taking drill stations and focusing up the enjoyment of football and the basic skills which he believes will become the foundation for their future football careers.

Reg is focused upon skills development and gains significant pleasure from seeing the players he helps grow and develop.

Some of the Parents, both Club & Auskick, used to play under Reg and many commented on how great a coach Reg was and the influence he had on their football.



Reg Skinner (left and SANFL President Rod Payze

Richard Newman

Richard has made an outstanding contribution to coaching in excess of 30 years.

He taught in Primary Schools as a Physical Education Specialist with a passion for football that continued to his untimely passing earlier this year.

He has acted as coach and manager of many State Primary School teams, Managed the first Senior Primary Schools Sports Camp with SANFL Development Officer, Darren Chandler, and continued from then on.

His latest involvement was as a coach of Rostrevor College, where his son attended, and at the Walkerville FC U14s.

When the little body came through the SANFL office the smile on his face that emanated from beneath the little black moustache told it all about his great sense of humour, and his caring and considerate persona just followed on as you spoke with him and watched him work.

Richard has been a true ambassador for the game and fitted the description of 'Role Model' as aptly as anyone could possibly expect.

He will be missed and we thank him for his outstanding service to coaching.



Rod Payze with Richard Newman's son, Sam, who attended the Dinner with Richard's wife, Geraldine to accept the award on behalf of Richard.