

SANFLUA PUBLICATION

# BALL UP

ISSUE 1, 2018



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- 2018 Committee
- Presidential Address
- New SANFL Life Members
- Rounds 1 to 5 Milestones
- Field Marshall, Boundary Bolter & Galloping Goalie
- ....and Much More

## YOUR 2018 COMMITTEE



### 2018 SANFLUA DATES

Saturday April 14th:  
After Match Catch Up at The  
Gilbert Street Hotel

Saturday May 26th:  
Movie - Dinner Night at Café  
Brunelli & Palace Nova Eastend  
Cinemas (Rundle Street)

Saturday June 9th:  
Ten Pin Bowling Night at  
Kingpin Norwood

Saturday June 23rd:  
After Match Catch Up at The  
Gilbert Street Hotel

Sunday June 24th:  
Life Members Luncheon at  
Seven 22 (Port Road)

Saturday July 21st:  
Quiz Night at Walkerville  
Bowling Club

Saturday August 18th:  
After Match Catch Up at The  
Gilbert Street Hotel

Thursday August 23rd:  
Annual Dinner at Adelaide Oval

Sunday September 23rd:  
SANFL Grand Final After Party  
at The Gilbert Street Hotel

Saturday October 13th (TBC):  
Presidents Lunch at The Gilbert  
Street Hotel

**“Your support is vital to ensure SANFLUA remains a viable entity that can support its Umpires, and also provide them with opportunities to socialise with Umpires they might not get a chance to. We’re here to look after the needs of all our Umpires and with a strong member database; we’re better equipped to achieve this.”**  
SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins

### AFTER MATCH CATCH UP

Saturday April 14th was the first After Match Catch Up at The Gilbert Street Hotel. 40 members and partners turned up to enjoy the night and the first round courtesy of the President. It was terrific to see some new faces and a few Life Members come and enjoy our After Match Catch Up. These are a great way for Members to get to know each other. The SANFLUA hopes to see a few more people and some fresh faces at the SANFLUA Movie/Dinner Night on Saturday 26th May.





## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS - MATTHEW CUMMINS

It is with pride that I welcome you to the first edition of Ball Up for 2018: My first as President of your SANFLUA.

I want to first thank all our members for their patience as we went through a little holding pattern from late 2017 until early this year. With the departure of our President for the past 2 years, and my great mate, Matthew Norton, who moved interstate due to work commitments, it left a little gap that needed filling. We couldn't fill this until our AGM. The rest of the committee were still working hard in the background to ensure we hit the ground running for season 2018.

The AGM was once again well attended. We welcomed back Tom Sharpe to the committee and newcomer Terence Carter joins us for the first time. The year promises to be another successful one, as we continue to build on the foundations set from recent committees.

My wish is to continue to strengthen our profile through our Social Media Platforms, ensuring our members can be rewarded for their efforts and achievements. Milestones, Appointments, Social Events and Sponsors will all be prevalent on our channels.

I'm excited to bring a Social Calendar that caters for all our members given the variance in age. Everyone is welcome to our After Match Catch Up's especially family. So to our younger members, bring your family along and have them mingle with your mates. We'll have a Ten Pin Bowling Night which is always popular, and our Movie/Dinner Night. Keep a look out our Social Events Calendar and be sure to lock the dates into your calendar.

The response we received to our Members BBQ was outstanding and I want to thank all those who stayed after training, enjoyed a sausage or 3 and joined SANFLUA for 2018. Your support is vital to ensure SANFLUA remains a viable entity that can support its Umpires, and also provide them with opportunities to socialise with Umpires they might not get a chance to. We're here to look after the needs of all our Umpires and with a strong member database; we're better equipped to achieve this.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all our Interstate Members, who despite moving, continue to support SANFLUA. We're working behind the scenes to provide benefits for you all to reward your loyalty and give you value for money from your membership. We'll keep you posted.

Lastly, to our Life Members I'd love to see more and more of you at our events in 2018. Last year saw a handful of you come to our After Match Catch Ups and other events, and I know the Committee loves seeing you there. You're always welcome.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on any Association or Umpiring issue. I can be contacted at [president@sanflua.com.au](mailto:president@sanflua.com.au)

I want to wish every single Umpire the best for season 2018. Most importantly, enjoy it.

### Matthew Cummins

President



Newly elected SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins in action during the 2017 season at Prospect Oval

### GETTING TO KNOW: MATTHEW CUMMINS

**Discipline:** Goal Umpire

**Games Umpired:** 217

**1st SANFL League Game:**  
2006, North v West @ Prospect Oval

**Commenced Umpiring Career With:** SAAFL (2004)

**Honours in Umpiring:** 2007-08, 2011-13, 2016 League Grand Finals, 2007-08, 2012 and 2016 Golden Flag Award, 2017 SANFLUA Most Dedicated Goal Umpire, 2012 & 2013 State League Games & 3 AFL Games.

**Why did you become an Umpire:** I love footy so it was a way to stay involved. My dad Goal Umpired with the SAAFL and I used to go to all his games and developed a love for umpiring, and goal umpiring specifically.

**Before a game I always:**  
Have a coffee and listen to my iPod on the way to the game.

**Occupation:** Branch Manager (Fielders Steel Roofing)

**Favourite Food:** Can't go past a perfectly cooked Steak; Chocolate is definitely a weakness.

**Favourite Movie:** Star Wars (any of them), Bad Boys 1 and 2, Harry Potter. There's plenty.

**Favourite Music Artist/Band:** Foo Fighters, P!NK – I have a wide and varied taste in music. Pop is definitely my go to.

**3 People you'd like to have dinner with:** Kylie Minogue, Prince Harry and Barack Obama

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** USA and Gold Coast

**Most admired sportsperson and why:** In his day – Lleyton Hewett. He never gave up. He might have annoyed some people with his antics, but you had to respect his endeavor and will to always give 100%.

## NEW PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR SEASON 2018

This years AGM saw the election of Goal Umpire and 2017 SANFLUA Committee Member Matt Cummins as our new President for a term of 2 years. Matt brings with him a wealth of experience amongst SANFL Umpiring ranks, having started his career in 2006. Matt came on board the Committee for the first time last year, taking on the Social Media Portfolio.

Two new faces were also elected to the Committee for Season 2018. Goal Umpire Tom Sharpe jumps back on board after a short stint away from the Committee. We welcome a first timer to the Committee in Boundary Umpire Terence Carter. Terence will tackle the Social Secretary portfolio. Welcome aboard guys.

We had 3 Committee members, Secretary Andrew Crosby, Treasurer Sean Burton and long-time Committee Member Abdul Alpaslan all re-elected for further 2 year terms.



Outgoing SANFLUA President Matthew Norton in action during the 2017 SANFL League Grand Final

SANFLUA and its Members and Life Members would like to thank outgoing President Matthew Norton for his fantastic contribution to our Association. He certainly steered SANFLUA back into positive territory. His tireless work will be a great springboard for the Committee moving forward. Good luck with your future adventures.

Chris Cook departs the Committee after many years of hard work. Chris took charge of the Social Secretary Portfolio and performed admirably during his tenure. We thank Chris for his efforts and wish you all the best for the future.

We'd like to thank all Members and Life Members who attended this years AGM at The Gilbert Street Hotel. We look forward to seeing you all throughout the coming season.

*By SANFLUA Committee*

## GETTING TO KNOW: TERENCE CARTER

**Discipline:** Boundary Umpire

**Games Umpired:** 121

**1<sup>st</sup> SANFL League Game:** Round 1 2011,  
Glenelg v Sturt at Glenelg Oval.

**Commenced Umpiring Career With:** Port  
Pirie SGL.

**Honours in Umpiring:** U18 GF 2010,  
Reserves GF 2012, Most Improved Boundary  
2012, Most Dedicated Boundary 2017 & 100th  
League Game 2017.

**Why did you become an Umpire:** Knew I  
would never become good enough as a player to  
make AFL.

**Before a game I always:** Eat Spaghetti  
Napolitana the night before.

**Occupation:** Adelaide Nut - Central Markets.

**Favourite Food:** Spaghetti Napolitana.

**Favourite Movie:** Happy Gilmore.

**Favourite Music Artist/Band:** HIM

**3 People you'd like to have dinner with:**  
Bam Margera, Kristaps Porzingis and Vanessa  
Hudgens.

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** New York.

**Most admired sportsperson and why:**  
Difficult to cut it down to 1 person but probably  
Allen Iverson for his mentality in the game to  
win no matter what the cost and his toughness  
to play through multiple injuries. Faced  
adversity his whole life; also his off court  
persona of not caring what other people thought  
and not changing his clothes and style etc. to  
suit what people thought he should dress/act  
like. Garry Ablett Snr who I grew up watching.  
Could do anything he wanted on the field  
absolute freak and probably the best Cats player  
ever. Bit of an unknown mystic off the field too  
which is intriguing.



Terence Carter in action during the 2017 season  
at Prospect Oval



## GETTING TO KNOW: THOMAS SHARPE

**Discipline:** Goal Umpire

**Games Umpired:** 101

**1st SANFL League Game:** Round 11 2010, Port v Eagles at Alberton Oval.

**Commenced Umpiring Career With:** Independent Schools.

**Honours in Umpiring:** 2 x U/18s Champs 2008-09, 2008 Best Academy Umpire, 1 x U/16s Grand Final held on AFL Grand Final Day before the AFL GF, U/17s GF 2007, U/19s GF 2008, U/18s GF 2009, Reserves GF 2010, 2011 & 2013, SANFL ANZAC DAY Game 2013-15, State Game WAFL V SANFL 2015, League GF 2015 & 2017 and Golden Flags 2015.

**Why did you become an Umpire:** I loved footy and a mate roped me in one day and I never looked back. Getting paid to umpire from the best seat in the house, can't get much better.

**Before a game I always:** Sleep in, and get to the game early, buy a budget and watch a half of the Reserves. I always wait until 20 minutes before walk to get changed.

**Occupation:** Sport Development Co-ordinator at Adelaide University.

**Favourite Food:** Indian or Burgers; Hard to split.

**Favourite Movie:** Donnie Darko or Catch Me If You Can.

**Favourite Music Artist/Band:** Radiohead, The Strokes or Two Door Cinema Club.

**3 People you'd like to have dinner with:** Bill Murray, Leonardo Di Caprio & Andrew McLeod.

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** New Zealand or Greece.

**Most admired sportsperson and why:** Andrew McLeod. My hero growing up, luckily enough got to work with him for several years. One of the nicest people I have ever met, and a great ambassador for the Indigenous community.



Thomas Sharpe in action during 2017 at Woodville Oval

## SANFL UMPIRE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FEES

### First Year Academy

- X Annual Dinner (drinks + 3 course meal provided)
- ✓ Subsidised social events
- ✓ Discounts and special offers from our sponsors
- ✓ Discounted umpiring equipment (eg. whistles & score cards)

**\$25 annually \***

### Associate & Trainer

- X Annual Dinner (drinks + 3 course meal provided)
- ✓ Subsidised social events
- ✓ Discounts and special offers from our sponsors
- ✓ Discounted umpiring equipment (eg. whistles & score cards)

**\$35 annually \***

### Academy (U16 & U18)

- ✓ Annual Dinner (drinks + 3 course meal provide)
- ✓ Subsidised social events
- ✓ Discounts and special offers from our sponsors
- ✓ Discounted umpiring equipment (eg. whistles & score cards)

**\$100 annually**

### Full (League & Reserves)

- ✓ Annual Dinner (drinks + 3 course meal provide)
- ✓ Subsidised social events
- ✓ Discounts and special offers from our sponsors
- ✓ Discounted umpiring equipment (e.g.. whistles & score cards)

**\$165 annually**

\*denotes that the Annual Dinner is not included in this Membership category.

## 2018 MEMBERSHIP BBQ PROVES A HIT

A popular event on our yearly social calendar, this year's Members BBQ at Pulteney Grammar School proved a great success. A reward for the dedication of our Members who sign up in strong numbers year in year out, the BBQ provides an opportunity for our Umpires to mingle across all disciplines and sign up to their Association for the coming season.

The Committee this year decided to reward our members further, placing every person that signed up at the BBQ, or before it, in a draw to win 2 x Movie Tickets thanks to Hoyts Cinema at Norwood. Due to the overwhelming response on the night, we extended that reward further, providing 2 tickets per discipline. Stay tuned to our Social Media platforms for details on the winners of those tickets, once the draw has taken place.



Eager Umpires lining up to join the SANFLUA in 2018

On behalf of the committee, we thank Bakers Delight Central Markets for their generous donation of the entire bread supply on the night and to Austral Meat at Gepps Cross, who provided great rates for us in the supply of the sausages and onions. Nights like our Members BBQ are almost impossible to continue, without great support from such fantastic businesses.

It was great to see SANFLUA Life Members Leo Corrieri, John Rogers, Craig Glennon and Amin Chehade on hand to cook the BBQ whilst our Umpires trained beforehand.

The Committee thanks all its Umpires who joined on the night. It's great to have you on board. You can still sign up as a member for this year. It's never too late. Head over to our Sign Up Now page and get on board.

<http://www.sanflua.com.au/join-sign-up-now/>

By signing up as a member via the **Online Membership Portal** you will create a personal SANFLUA membership account. A membership account provides access to your own personal dashboard where you can view and update your details plus renew your annual membership

To our first time Members, welcome. We look forward to seeing you all at our Social Events this year.

*By SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins*



Sampling the fantastic products from Bakers Delight Central Markets and Austral Meats



## BIGGER & BETTER THINGS: MATTHEW NORTON

At age 12 Matthew Norton began his umpiring career with the Spencer Gulf Football League in his home town of Port Pirie. He had played football in his junior years but the theatre and showmanship that comes with Goal Umpiring was definitely at Matthew's beckoning call.

Fast forward to now and Matthew's 116 SANFL League game career has had many highlights including Grand Finals, the Mark Posa Most Promising New Talent Award, Most Improved Goal Umpire Award and twice he has been awarded the prestigious Golden Flags. After many years of persistence which included a five year and 47 game stint on the AFL panel Matthew was finally able to add a second SANFL League Grand Final to his resume in 2017.

In 2016 Matthew was elected as SANFLUA President. Under his leadership the SANFLUA was brought back to being a fantastic institute as it brought the three disciplines back towards unity. At the end of 2017 Matthew's time in South Australia was temporarily put on hold as he accepted a new role at work which would take him to New South Wales.

We will miss Norte but we know he will grace us again with his presence in the near future.

### Commenced Umpiring Career With?

Port Pirie Football League Umpiring Association (Spencer Gulf Football League) 1998 – Started as a Boundary Umpire (believe it or not!)

### Why did you take up umpiring?

For those that have seen me during many skills sessions, I couldn't play football to save my life. Was playing juniors and copped a knocked one day and went off crying to mum and said I didn't want to play anymore, so took up umpiring and as they say – the rest is history!

### How many SANFL League Games?

116

### Grand Finals in which years (inc Reserves/Under Age Grades).

2008 Reserves Grand Final

2010 League Grand Final

2017 League Grand Final

### SANFL awards (year and title)?

2004 Mark Posa Most Promising New Talent Award

2009 Most Improved Goal Umpire

2010 Golden Flags

2017 Golden Flags

### What is your favourite SANFL ground to umpire on and why?

Unley Oval – The Spiritual home of the Double Blues. Its design lends to a great atmosphere. The home of football in the Suburbs.

### Was there a day/ground/experience umpiring that was your least favourite?

Hmmmm ... probably my second to last ever AFL match and having to Annul a score with about 10 second to go in the game. Paddy Dangerfield kicking from 50m out on the members side, right on the boundary. He couldn't hardly walk so I thought he was going to get it nowhere near the line. He launches it and drops it right on the line. I gave it a snag, and after a silent review before the next bounce found that the ball was minutely still on the line and was dragged into the post, resulting in a behind. Ask me about it after a Gin or two.

### If you could give someone in their first year in the SANFL, what advice would you give?

Always remember the people that helped you on the way up the umpiring ladder, because they will be the people that will help you on the way down, especially if you reach the top level (AFL).

### What is the best city in Australia and Why?

Port Pirie – There is no place like home. It's the best city, because if there was a nuclear war, we'd be the last ones left on earth with the cockroaches because we'd be lead lined.

### Comparing Sydney and Adelaide what are some pros/cons/ similarities/ differences?

I like Sydney for its Arts and Culture.

Dislikes are Traffic and Tolls – absolute Rip Off.

People really undervalue Adelaide. I appreciate it much more now I am interstate. Very relaxed and easy to get around and much more friendly.

Unfortunately Aussie Rules is not as popular in NSW as it is in SA, so its exposure is less and get very little on Television – thank heavens for the digital pass.

### Name someone who has had the most influence on you within the SANFL?

There are many, but no one more than the one and only Mostyn Rutter. His resume speaks for itself – he was the ultimate professional and a great coach.

### What is your favourite food?

Greek.

### For umpires you umpired with in SA:

#### Who is the funniest?

Robert Tainsh – The reasons are endless – “forget to wave a point, Robert?”

#### Who has the most annoying behaviour/habit and why?

Simon Bolmeyer – He just didn't say anything

#### Who do you think has the most talent?

Michael Button – a natural talent. Takes everything in his stride. He will go places and I hope to see him do AFL one day.

By Mathew Wilson (SANFL Goal Umpire & SANFLUA Publications)



Outgoing SANFLUA President Matthew Norton in action during the 2017 SANFL League Grand Final



## SANFL UMPIRE LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD DETAILS

‘An umpire who has been appointed to not less than 200 League matches in total, whether as a Field, Boundary or Goal Umpire, in not less than ten seasons.’

2017 SANFL Life Membership Recipient

### Matthew Cummins (Goal Umpire)

1st League Match: Round 10 2006, North Adelaide v West Adelaide at Prospect Oval

200th League Match: Round 3 2017, Sturt v Eagles at Unley Oval

## SANFL LIFE MEMBERSHIP: MATTHEW CUMMINS

It goes without saying that being awarded SANFL Life Membership is an achievement that I'm extremely proud to receive. I see it as a reward for effort put in over many years. It's something that I will always be proud of. I can say, for the rest of my life, that I am an SANFL Life Member.

I would not have gotten close to the achievement if it wasn't for the assistance and guidance of many people. Like sports people, officials can't achieve the ultimate success on their own. My guidance starts right at the beginning with my first coaches at SAAFL Level (Bruce Amos and Jack Thompson) and extends to today's Goal Umpire Coaches. My first coach at SANFL Level was Mostyn Rutter. He demanded your respect and he got it in spades from me. He is someone I still look up to and always speak with pride about.

I've never umpired because I wanted extra money. Yes, it's a bonus. But I umpire because of two reasons – I love footy and I love the mateship of the group I get to be surrounded by three times a week. I don't think I'll fully appreciate the opportunity to be around so many great people until I've retired. To the many goal umpires and umpires in general, thank you for being the people you are.

My SANFL Life Membership would not be possible without amazing support from my wife Peta. Having someone who is just as crazy about footy and sport in general helps, but she is always there for a chat if I've ever needed it. She's been to plenty of my umpiring games from the start. Being away from the family home for a good chunk of the week can leave a big hole – but Peta has never complained, she works around it and always shows genuine interest in my umpiring career. I cannot thank her enough for her support and if I did, it still wouldn't be enough.

I want to thank the SANFL for the recognition. It's fantastic that they acknowledge all disciplines of umpiring. My SANFL Life Membership will be something that will always be on top of the list of my achievements from my Umpiring career.

By Matt Cummins



Matthew Cummins in action during his 200<sup>th</sup> League Match at Unley Oval



Goal Umpire and SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins being presented his SANFL Life Membership by SANFL CEO Mr Jake Parkinson

## SANFL LIFE MEMBERSHIP: ANDREW CROSBY

### SANFL UMPIRE LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD DETAILS

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2017 SANFL Life Membership Recipient

**Andrew Crosby (Field Umpire)**

1st League Match: Round 13 2007, West Adelaide v North Adelaide at Richmond Oval

200th League Match: Round 8 2017, Sturt v Norwood at Unley Oval

When I first saw an advertisement for a ‘Basic Umpires Course’ in the Sunday Mail one morning in early 2002, there is no way I could even fathom that I would umpire 1 League game, let alone 200. In fact, after the initial course at Football Park, my intention was to be a boundary umpire for school football. I find it funny looking back at that moment, as I am the one who is now running these Basic Umpires Courses at Football Park, and loving the challenge of recruiting people in to our great game.

After arriving for my first umpire training, somehow I ended up finding the Field Umpires instead of the Boundaries, so decided to join them, and it was one of the best things that could have happened to me. It’s hard to describe to the non-converted about what makes umpiring football so special and so rewarding. Is it the challenge of interpreting the rule book to ensure a fair and even contest? The thrill of being in control of the best and most exciting game in the world? The pursuit of being selected to umpire at the highest possible level? The lifelong friendships you can make on and off the field? For me, it’s a combination of all four, and I have no doubt that there are many more reasons why we all chose to be an umpire.

Fast forward to Saturday June 2nd 2017, Norwood versus Sturt at Unley Oval; a day that I will never forget. A day where I got to umpire my 200th game alongside two of my best mates in Theron Philp and Michael Schramm. So many messages of congratulations, and people making a fuss. I couldn’t tell you much about the game itself, but I will forever look back on that day with pride, happiness and an even greater awareness about what tremendous people there are in the umpiring circles.

Umpiring 200 State League games comes with it some nice rewards; 2 x SANFL tickets, and 2 x Adelaide Oval tickets...for the rest of your life! It’s a pretty big carrot to dangle in front of those who get close, and I am humbled to be in the company of the other umpires who are in the ‘SANFL Umpire Life Membership’ group. It felt like such a long time since my 200<sup>th</sup> in June 2017, but at the SANFL AGM on March 13, 2018, I was inducted in to this group alongside fellow umpires Sean Burton and Matthew Cummins. It was great to be able to share this special occasion with my fellow SANFLUA committee members.

Over the past 200+ games, umpiring SANFL football has provided me with some amazing experiences and memories, and receiving Life Membership at the SANFL AGM on March 13<sup>th</sup> was certainly one I will take with me long into retirement, whenever that may be.

By Andrew Crosby



Field Umpire and SANFLUA Secretary Andrew Crosby being presented his SANFL Life Membership by SANFL CEO Mr Jake Parkinson



Andrew Crosby (C) enjoying a post match beverage with his colleagues from his 200<sup>th</sup> League Match in Michael Schramm (L) & Theron Philp (R)



## SANFL LIFE MEMBERSHIP: SEAN BURTON

Round 8 2017 saw me reach my 200<sup>th</sup> game with the SANFL; a game I will never forget as this entitled me to qualify for SANFL life membership.

It has been a long journey reaching 200 SANFL league games with my first league game being in 2006. There have been many highs and lows over this period but the SANFL has always been there for me. The strong culture and work ethic of the umpiring group as a whole teaches many important life skills and allows you to build strong relationships within the group which helps you deal with the success umpiring provides and also the hard times and low points of umpiring.

I took up umpiring at the age of 14 after getting injured too many times from playing club football. I still wanted to be involved in the game but not be injured every second week. Umpiring is great as I now get the best seat in the house every game; I'm still involved in the game and have made some great mates along the way which makes it easier to come back year after year to keep adding to the tally of league games.

I don't think I would've reached 200 SANFL league games without the knowledge and guidance of my first coaches being Frank McHugh and Terry Barry. These individuals taught me the about the respect that umpiring deserves and that you only get out of umpiring what you put into it. There has been a lot of hard work that has gone into my umpiring over the years and both Frank and Terry were there in the early years to help me develop my umpiring skills and running ability to get through games.

It is an absolute privilege to be recognised for life membership by the SANFL for umpiring 200<sup>th</sup> league games. I would like to thank the SANFL and the SANFL Football Commission for this and recognising all umpires that reach 200 SANFL league games.

This recognition is one of the greatest highlights of my umpiring career to date. I look forward to adding more games to this tally in the near future.

By Sean Burton



Sean Burton (C) with the umpiring team from his 200<sup>th</sup> League Match at Woodville Oval



Boundary Umpire and SANFLUA Treasurer Sean Burton being presented his SANFL Life Membership by SANFL CEO Mr Jake Parkinson

### SANFL UMPIRE LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD DETAILS

‘An umpire who has been appointed to not less than 200 League matches in total, whether as a Field, Boundary or Goal Umpire, in not less than ten seasons.’

2017 SANFL Life Membership Recipient

**Sean Burton (Boundary Umpire)**

1st League Match: Round 10 2006, Sturt v Central Districts at Unley Oval

200th League Match: Round 8 2017, Eagles v North Adelaide at Woodville Oval

## ROUND 1 MILESTONE: 1ST LEAGUE MATCH

### TOM TACKLES LEAGUE FOOTY

Tom Bryce commenced his Umpiring with Glenelg/West Adelaide SASFA in 2011 aged 15. He spent three years at junior level before it was recommended he move to the Centre of Excellence at SANFL Umpiring where he has continued to grow just not as umpire, but a person as well.

Tom has had a steady rise through the ranks within the SANFL, through commitment to all facets of umpiring. He has always demonstrated the athletic ability and I have seen the development in his skills, knowledge and the ability to work at 100% grow to another level. Through his short travels in umpired he was a member of the first AFLW Umpiring panel, which saw him last season be selected as the Field Umpire in the first AFLW Grand Final between Brisbane v Adelaide in Brisbane. Just a fantastic achievement.

While under the guidance of Garry (Wyld) Tom became a real leader within the Centre of Excellence and with a mixture of reserve's and U/18 football saw Tom officiate in the 2015 U/18 Grand Final. That season saw Tom put his hand up to be elevated to the Senior Squad.

At the commencement of the 2016 season through continued dedication and focus on improvement saw Tom be elevated to the High Performance Academy, which is a part of the SANFL Senior Squad. During the 2016 and 2017 season, Tom has developed the on field skills, match management, composure, assertiveness and most important decision making that is consistently within our team rules.

His consistent performances at reserves level has seen Tom put his hand up and be rewarded for senior selection, in round one of this season which was the local SANFL Showdown at Alberton between Port Adelaide and Adelaide.

With continued focus on improvement this is no doubt a step to many more senior matches and hopefully just a step closer to the ultimate, AFL.

We wish Tom all the best in the senior ranks and hopefully a longer career on the National stage.

*By Shane Harris (SANFL State Umpiring Manager)*

I caught up with Tom to ask him about his first SANFL League match and his career so far. This is what he had to say.

"On Monday afternoon, I found out I would be umpiring in my first SANFL League game with Port Adelaide and Adelaide set to play at Alberton Oval. Saturday came around and it was a perfect day for it. Walking out onto the ground for the first time was a great feeling. Although feeling fairly nervous, I tried to enjoy the experience and was just excited to start the season off.

After an edgy first bounce, it was just another game of footy and I loved being a part of it. The highlight of the day was getting to run around with a great mate in Jamie Broadbent and an umpire who I have immense respect for in Corey Bowen. Umpiring league footy was a massive privilege and something I am proud of achieving, mainly because the people who have umpired at this level I highly respect and look up to.

Finally, I would just like to thank everyone who wished me the best, sent me a message or came along Saturday to watch. It makes you realise how high quality the umpiring group is and I really appreciated it."



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Tom Bryce with his 1<sup>st</sup> League Match Certificate



# ROUND 1 MILESTONE: 100TH LEAGUE MATCH

## A ROCKY ROAD WORTH THE REWARD

When I think of someone who is passionate and dedicated to their umpiring both on and off the field, the first person that comes to mind is Mathew Wilson.

“Willow” as he is better known to his fellow umpires, recently umpired his 100<sup>th</sup> SANFL League match on Easter Monday between Norwood and Sturt at the Parade with long time mate and SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins - a most deserving reward for someone who has received some unsettling setbacks that could have made someone who was not so strong, give the game away.

Mat’s umpiring journey started back in 2000 with the North Adelaide Junior Football Association alongside some other well-known SA umpiring identities Chris Bull, Tim Bryant and Corey Bowen. “I started umpiring because I was no good at footy but like most wanted to stay involved in the game. I was a Boundary Umpire for two years but Goal Umpiring was definitely the right fit”. His passion for umpiring continued to grow and then progressed to Independent Schools in 2002 and then joining the SANFL in 2003. In only his second year with the SANFL he umpired the U’17 Grand Final in 2004, the Reserves Grand Final in 2006 and made his League debut in 2007.

In 2009, Willow was dropped from the Senior Squad back to the Academy Squad, which he describes as a turning point in the early days of his career. “I came back for that pre-season fat so being dropped definitely set a fire under my bum to get fit and get back to Umpiring League footy”. The following season in 2010 he was once again elevated to the Senior Squad and was rewarded with being appointed to his first SANFL League Grand Final between Norwood and Central District. In the same season he was awarded “Most Improved Goal Umpire” at the Golden Whistle Awards, and was also promoted to the AFL Umpires list for 2011.

His AFL career spanned five years and 47 games. Being delisted at the end of 2015 was undoubtedly the lowest moment of his umpiring journey. “I almost walked away from umpiring altogether. It is a cliché in Umpiring and footy terms but ‘you get what you deserve’; and I can honestly look back and say the right decision was made. I wasn’t elite enough and you need to be to elite to Umpire AFL”.

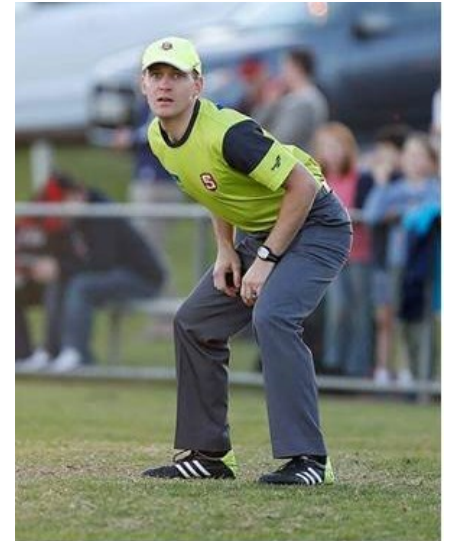
Returning to full time SANFL duties and the resurrection of his desire to continue umpiring he attributes to long time Goal Umpires coach Adrian Forster; “He has been there since the beginning and has always believed in me; even when I didn’t. We have clashed heads many times, but I respect that man immensely.”

In our catch up for this article he reflected on some highs in his career. “Umpiring the SANFL Grand Final 2010 alongside you Matthew Norton is definitely my most treasured moment. Umpiring AFL had its moments but I have always loved SANFL footy. Racking up 100 SANFL games is definitely a proud moment too.

“Not so much a highlight but more a memorable moment was Norty’s last AFL Game - Port v GWS. The look on his face with all the little surprises we had organised across the day but mostly having a hug in the middle of Adelaide Oval at three quarter time. In that moment it stripped away all the crap and it was two great mates celebrating your AFL career and enjoying what we both love - Umpiring footy”.

It would be safe to say that Willow wears his heart on his sleeve, so we asked him what the best part of Umpiring was. “The camaraderie and the friendships. It took me a while to learn that there is more to Umpiring than games, awards and accolades. It is the personal achievements and celebrations like birthdays, weddings, coming outs, watching each other’s children grow and sharing a few drinks together that are dearer to me than all the Umpiring specific stuff”.

A man who is very grateful for what he has been able to achieve in his career, did not believe when he set out that he would achieve what he has. “If someone had told me back when I started, I would have laughed at them. I have enjoyed the journey despite the highs and lows. Umpiring has taught me some great life skills especially resilience and for that I am very grateful.”



Mathew Wilson in action during the 2017 season at Noarlunga Oval



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Mathew Wilson with his 100<sup>th</sup> League Match Certificate

And does he have another 100 league matches in him? “I hope so. Since racking up 100 I’ve stated that once I hit 200 that will be my final season. I will hold true to my word and once I get to 200 then it will be curtains on my career. However, I might even step into the dark side and become a coach”.

His commitment to Umpiring is not just displayed by his performance on the field, but off field as well. An example of his off field commitment was displayed when he joined the SANFLUA committee for this first time in 2017 and took hold of the Publications Portfolio with the reintroduction of the Ball Up Magazine. “It gave me the spark to ensure I give back to Umpiring beyond just training and match day.” I believe our umpiring community has benefited by Willows efforts in producing an informative and fun product each edition; and I sure hope it continues.

In closing, if he could improve the game, how would he do it? “Reduced congestion around stoppages with a 10m exclusion zone around stoppages where only four players (1 ruck and 3 others) from each team can nominate and be involved in that stoppage”.

Willow – Well done and Congratulations on reaching this milestone. We all look forward to being part of the next 100.

*By Matthew Norton (Former SANFLUA President)*

## ROUND 4 MILESTONE: 100TH LEAGUE MATCH

### DAMO RINGS THE BELL ON 100

“Resilience” and “Dedication” are two words that those who know him well will say best summarise Damian “Damo” Robinson (Pryer).

For those not familiar with Damo, he came into boundary umpiring a lot later than most, having a quite a lot of success as a junior across 1500m 3000m and as a national junior medallist in the 3000m steeplechase while back in his native NSW.

In 2002 Damian made the big move to Adelaide and continued his track aspirations with Flinders Athletic Club under the expert tutelage of Flinders Athletic Club Legend Toby Schrier. The solid umpiring group that called Flinders home in the early 2000’s eventually convinced Damian to come out and giving umpiring a go. This wasn’t before he dabbled in a couple of ultra marathons for good measure. To this day Damo still admits he only came out so he could stay in good nick for summer track season (dedication).

2011 and the early part of 2012 was where Damo cut his teeth in umpiring circles. Having already proved himself as a solid runner he soon realised he had quite a bit to learn if he was going to cut it with the best SANFL umpires.

Round 21, 2012 between West Adelaide and Norwood was where Damo was given the opportunity to impress. Damo recalls the speed of the game, big kicks and the even bigger crowd as a highlight of what was to be, Damo’s first, with many more to come.

As the next few years progressed, Damo continually sought feedback from coaches and other senior umpires, in attempts to hone his craft and get the most out of his footy. However it remained clear that Damo’s passion still lay firm with the track, and his summer was now full of amateur track and pro running competitions. Injuries and the resulting poor form in footy started to take a toll, and it soon became apparent that a hard season umpiring and a harder summer of racing was not going to pay the dividends he was looking for in his umpiring career.

A few major setbacks both on and off the field, seizures, a recalled throw in during a semi final and knee surgery during the following preseason would have quite easily broken those around him, however it is during these times of adversity where Damo showed incredible resilience and determination, and swung his focus away from the track and towards the footy field.

As Damo puts it “game day and mateship” are what keeps him turning up each week but I am sure we can all not only congratulate him on 100 SANFL League matches but see this as being the start of bigger and better things to come. We wish you all the best not only in your 100<sup>th</sup> Senior Match, but for the rest of your career.

*By Tim Bryant (SANFL Boundary Umpire)*



Damian Robinson about to complete a throw in during the 2017 season



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Damian Robinson with his 100<sup>th</sup> League Match Certificate



## ROUND 4 MILESTONE: 50TH LEAGUE MATCH

### HERRMANN WITH A HALF TON

It was during the 2015 AFL U18 championships at AAMI Stadium that I umpired my first game with Matty Herrmann and noticed the talent I had often heard about.

Although Matt is still quite young in terms of age he already boasts an impressive CV including an AFL U18 championships and Reserves Grand Final in 2015 along with two SANFL League Grand Finals in 2016 and 2017 respectively. Matt made his SANFL league debut in late 2015 & has been a model of consistency racking up 50 games in just over two seasons.

Matty or 'The Future' as some of the AFL boys like to call him is a great lad to have out on the track and is never one to shy away from participating in some group banter (usually at Isaac Fishlock's expense). The longer Aerobic preseason running typically isn't Matty's favourite, often voicing his displeasure at the length/speed of the warm down jogs led by PJ or Damo. However come the second half of the season his speed over the short distances is hard to beat; often taking it up to Matt Konetschka or Scotty Hargreaves at training and posting a PB in the 3km time trial most years (9:36 last year I believe).

Matty is perhaps best known for his prestigious throwing ability, his rocket arm has earned him leadership of the (self-created) 'Bomb Squad', an exclusive group of the biggest throwers in the SANFL which includes members such as Matt Zacher, Aaron O'Malley & Sam Royans. On game day Matt's professionalism and calm demeanour is a positive influence on his peers and his work rate is second to none. After the game while others might be stretching or dissecting their GPS stats, Matt is usually straight to the showers preparing for a big Saturday night on the town at Reds or BlackBull where he reportedly gets 'lit' (although I'm not quite sure what that means) you could ask the man himself - I don't speak Jive.

Big congrats on bringing up the half ton Matty, no doubt there are many great things to come.

*By Tom Kelly (SANFL Boundary Umpire)*



Matt Herrman in action during the 2017 SANFL League Grand Final



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Matt Herrmann with his 50<sup>th</sup> League Match Certificate

## ROUND 4 MILESTONE: 100TH LEAGUE MATCH

### CENTURY UP FOR SHARPE

No umpire would deny that Thomas enjoys a bit of banter. Ask him about any topic; Thomas (or Sharpie as he is known in the umpiring fraternity) is sure to have an opinion.

His goal umpiring career began in 2003 like so many others. A good mate of his was goal umpiring at the Independent Schools level and sold it to Sharpie that it was a good way to make some pocket money. As Sharpie admits, his playing career was beginning to take a dive and goal umpiring would be a great way to stay involved in the game that he very much loves.

Sharpie announced himself to the goal umpiring group when he was promoted to the SANFL Academy list in 2006. He brought youth, energy and a self-confident attitude that was going to bring him ribbing from the group. However in typical Sharpie style, as hard as he received it he threw it back giving him respect amongst the group.

He umpired very well in the SANFL Academy and was appointed to the 2007 Under 17's Grand Final, 2008 Under 19's Grand Final and the 2009 Under 18's Grand Final. His umpiring was so impressive during his time in the Academy that he was awarded the 2008 Best Academy Umpire. Also during this time, he was the South Australian Goal Umpire representative at the AFL Under 18's State championships in Melbourne in 2008 and 2009. He umpired so well in the 2009 championships that he was appointed to umpire in the curtain-raiser to the AFL Grand Final of that same year. However as luck would have it, the weather forecast on Grand Final day predicted rain. Unfortunately this meant that the curtain-raiser was moved from the MCG to Princes Park. His one time to umpire on the mecca of football that is the MCG was taken away from him.

Sharpie had impressed and achieved everything at the junior level. He was elevated to the league squad in 2010 and umpired in the Reserves Grand Final in 2010, 2011 and 2013. He umpired his first league game in Round 11 2010 and nearly 8 long years later he umpired his 100th league match at Unley Oval on ANZAC Day Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup> 2018. Due to a strong and competitive league squad and some bad luck like breaking his foot after Round 1 of the 2016 season, Sharpie has had to do the hard yards to become a regular league umpire.

Sharpie's states that his greatest achievement to date was winning the 2015 Golden Flags. This was after umpiring magnificently all season which included the State Game in Perth and topping it off with the 2015 SANFL Grand Final. He states that his main highlight was the 2017 SANFL Grand Final where the final margin was one point and played in front of 40,000 supporters who were raucous, particularly in the final few minutes of the game.



Tom Sharpe in action during the 2017 SANFL League Grand Final



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Tom Sharpe with his 100<sup>th</sup> League Match Certificate

Does Sharpie have another 100 SANFL League games left in himself? Based on his injury history, this may be a struggle. However, with the will and commitment to goal umpiring that Sharpie has, I am sure he will push himself to the magic 200 number. And when he does reach that goal, I am sure he will be the first to tell everyone about it.

*By Peter Challen (SANFL & AFL Goal Umpire)*

## MILESTONES: ROUNDS 1 - 5

The SANFLUA would also like to congratulate the following Umpires on their milestones.

- Round 1 SANFL

^Dylan Speck (Boundary Umpire) on his Round 1 SANFL League debut West Adelaide v Adelaide at Richmond Oval on Friday 30th March.

- Round 4 AFL

^Daniel Hoskin (Goal Umpire) on his Round 4 100th AFL match Adelaide v Collingwood at Adelaide Oval on Friday 13th April.

*^Denotes not a member of the SANFLUA*



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Dylan Speck with his 1<sup>st</sup> League Match Certificate



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Daniel Hoskin with his 100<sup>th</sup> AFL Match Certificate

### APPROACHING LEAGUE MILESTONES (ROUNDS 6 - 10)

Steven Murphy - 300 (295)

Matthew Williams - 100 (96)

^Daniel Hoskin - 150 (147)

Thomas Burke - 50 (46)

^Denotes not a member of the SANFLUA



## AROUND THE DISCIPLINES

What a competitive start to the SANFL season we're seeing amongst the footy clubs. And it's certainly no different in the Umpiring ranks. All disciplines have had a solid pre-season, settling into our new home at Pulteney.

We've begun the year with a few Milestones. The Field Umpires have seen debutant Tom Bryce umpire his first League Match in Round 1 and has looked comfortable with each performance. The Boundary Umpires have had a couple of Milestones as well with Dylan Speck making his debut at SANFL League Level in Round 1 whilst Damian Robinson umpired his 100<sup>th</sup> League Match and Matt Herrmann officiated in his 50<sup>th</sup> League Match. In the goals, Mathew Wilson and Tom Sharpe have both racked up 100 League Matches whilst the ever-different Daniel Hoskin took his AFL Games tally to 100.

The Boundary Umpires are a touch short on numbers after a few retirements and a couple of injuries to start the season. Round 4 saw a couple of umpires doubling up – which was possible due to the round being spread over 5 days thanks to ANZAC Round.

It's fantastic to see a few new faces from the Boundary ranks join up as members of SANFLUA for season 2018. Your support is appreciated and certainly allows us to build a solid membership base. Our always in control Field Umpires have made an impressive start to the year. So much so, that Tom Burke tried his hand at Goal Umpiring in Round 1. After Tom Fahey felt ill in the Reserves at Elizabeth Oval, Tom Burke happily donned the Goalies Uniform for half a quarter before one of the League Goal Umpires took over. The Goal Umpires Observer was impressed with Tom's short, but sweet debut between the sticks.

It's also great to see our SA Ex-pats make solid starts to the AFL Season in the field with Curtis DeBoy, Craig Fleer, Sam Hay and Leigh Haussen have all been regular runners in the opening rounds. As well as Goal Umpire Brodie Kenny-Bell. We're always watching and supporting back here in SA. Our goal umpires have made a great start to season 2018. They've added 3 umpires to the senior ranks this year in Michael Bruno, Liam McDonald and Trent O'Driscoll. More regular senior footy will hopefully see some League Debut's.

Goal Umpire Braden Ford was forced to withdraw from Round 1 after becoming seriously ill. Braden ended up coming down with a case of salmonella (food poisoning). It wasn't an ideal situation for Braden as rumour has it he lost 6kg. It's great to see him back in the goals.

Trainer Alexander Gill enjoyed a couple of weeks involved in the Commonwealth Games up on the Gold Coast. If his Instagram is anything to go by, it looks like he had a great time. Our umpires are happy to have him back.

For those that were watching the Port/Geelong clash at Adelaide Oval in AFL Round 5, you would have noticed another of our Trainers, Mayley Harris make an appearance on the coverage. Being front and centre for 'that' Lindsay Thomas bump, her reaction certainly showed what she thought of it. Ouch!

It's great to have footy back. For all the latest news and information on SANFLUA and its umpires, follow us on our social media platforms or check us out on our website.

*By SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins*



Damian Robinson warming up before his 100th SANFL League Match



Tom Burke doing what he finds more comfortable than Goal Umpiring



Allanah Bruno and Liam McDonald during a Reserves Match



Trainers Nicole Noble and Alexander Gill

## #SANFLUASELFIE RETURNS IN 2018

After its success in 2017 the SANFLUA has brought back the [#sanfluaselfie](#) with Bakery on O'Connell recommitting to sponsoring the segment for a second straight year.

Remember to simply snap a footy related selfie or picture, tag @SANFLUA and use [#sanfluaselfie](#) on Instagram and you could win a \$25 Bakery on O'Connell Voucher. The winning selfie or picture will be announced on our social pages each month.

So get snapping, tag @SANFLUA and use [#sanfluaselfie](#)

Congratulations to our two winners for March and April in Brad Hammer & James Gwydir.

Additionally, please support Bakery on O'Connell by purchasing all of your pre and post match food and beverages. They are supporting the SANFLUA, so let's support Bakery on O'Connell.



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins presenting Brad Hammer with his \$25 Bakery on O'Connell voucher for his [#sanfluaselfie](#)



Instagram post interface showing icons for heart, comment, share, and bookmark. The caption includes the text: [#Anzacgame](#) [#SANFL](#) [#sanflselfie](#) [#sanfluaselfie](#) followed by five colored circles (yellow, black, white, blue, red).

Congratulations to SANFLUA Associate member James Gwydir for winning the \$25 Bakery on O'Connell voucher for April with this [#sanfluaselfie](#)





# SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

## 2018 Social Calendar



**After Match Catch Up**  
Gilbert Street Hotel | Saturday 14 April



**Movie - Dinner Night**  
Brunelli Rundle Street | Saturday 26 May



**Ten Pin Bowling Night**  
Kingpin Norwood | Saturday 9 June



**After Match Catch Up**  
Gilbert Street Hotel | Saturday 23 June



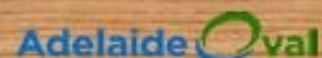
**Quiz Night**  
Walkerville Bowling Club | Saturday 21 July



**After Match Catch Up**  
Gilbert Street Hotel | Saturday 18 August



**Annual Dinner**  
Adelaide Oval | Thursday 23 August



**Grand Final After Party**  
Gilbert Street Hotel | Sunday 23 September



**President's Lunch**  
Gilbert Street Hotel | Saturday 13 October



[www.sanflua.com.au](http://www.sanflua.com.au)

[info@sanflua.com.au](mailto:info@sanflua.com.au)

# SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION



## FIELD MARSHALL

The 2018 season has begun with all field umpires returning to pre season training with great enthusiasm. We have all settled in at our new training facility at Pulteney Grammar. On our first night back at training the importance of using the footbridge to cross South Terrace was stressed to everyone. All umpires have taken that advice on board, in particular one umpire (who is known for riding his bike) often seen pedalling his bike across the bridge.

Fast footy was our first taste of umpiring matches for the year. The new concept proved to be a popular innovation, not only with the players but with supporters too. Even some long standing traditional supporters were impressed, in particular with how the format engaged with the fans. As a result, *Fast Knitting* will be trialed next year to see which long standing loyal supporter can crochet a blanket in their team's colours in the quickest time.

Congratulations to Tom Bryce who made his league debut in Round 1. Tom is a popular field umpire and it was great to see him officiate in his first match at Alberton. The day before, it was Tom Burke who made his debut as a goal umpire! A sudden illness at half time to Tom Fahey meant a replacement was needed. Tom (who had just arrived at Elizabeth in preparation for his league game) put his hand up to help out as a goal umpire for part of the reserves match. Tom did quite well, in particular when adding up the scores at the end of the quarter. As a lawyer, Tom is accustomed to charging clients in 6 minute intervals. Tom's extensive knowledge of his 6 times tables ensured that he was the perfect candidate to help out on the day.

Theron has commenced his 29<sup>th</sup> season of umpiring with SANFL. The evergreen veteran continues to perform at a very high level which inspires and amazes his fellow umpires. The contribution that Theron has made to umpiring is incredible and it does make everyone think how much footy has changed over those many years. In the year that Theron was born, SANFL was played at Adelaide Oval, AAMI Stadium (or Football Park) was a construction site and Richmond won the Premiership. Hasn't a lot changed over the years?

Some younger members of the Umpiring panel continue to impress both on and off the track. Sam Morgan continued where he left off last year setting a very high standard. Sam was moving so well at the start of the year that he won the annual Andrew Vickers memorial race at Camden. Sam also made history by being the first winner to have his ID checked by the organisers before they presented him with a bottle of wine as part of his prize. Another young umpire, Jamie Broadbent, has continued to perform with some very good umpiring, resulting in his promotion to the AFL rookie list. Jamie has also been performing on TV, with a recent appearance on game show, *Family Feud*. Jamie was quite chuffed as he got to meet Curtis Deboy's doppelganger, Grant Denyer.

Speaking of Curtis, Congratulations on umpiring the recent ANZAC Day match at the MCG. Our South Australian contingent continues to do us proud in Melbourne and we wish Sam, Craig, Curtis, Leigh and El all the best for the season in 2018.

Until next time, that's all from Field Marshall.

## BOUNDARY BOLTER

Season 2018 is here and another preseason is in the books. The change of location has made finding carparks fun and not getting hit by oncoming traffic on the long 'warm down' runs a challenge for some (junior Hermy). Some news from the offseason is that we welcome back Moorey from Victoria back onto the SA AFL panel and I've also heard Matty Herrmann has put on a few kg's after coming back from his Bali trip. A critical part of preseason is the 5km time trial with some good times run again this year lead by Scotty scorching the track this year. Checks announced that a system error had occurred with the skinnies this year because he didn't believe that Isaac and Tommy weighed in a 90kg and raised the bat for the 100, I'd say the stats don't lie and the boys were just in a good paddock this offseason.

Low numbers again in 2018 for the boundary boys took and added hit with Timbo out indefinitely with an old man calf injury, Lachy twinging a hammy early into the season and Spratty leaving us to pursue those 'females' up in Roxby he talks about. We can look forward to plenty of two's this year or how Thommo calls it 'real umpiring'.

Congratulations to those celebrating early milestones for this year. We've had Dylan Speck running in his 1<sup>st</sup> league game (Round 1); congrats mate plenty more to come. Damo notching up his 100<sup>th</sup> league game (Round 4) a massive effort, keep it up legend and Matty Herrmann running in his 50<sup>th</sup> league match (Round 4) well done to the boy PJ has named 'the future'. Perhaps the biggest milestone so far this year though is the Damo signing up with SANFLUA after all these years. No excuses anymore boundaries get on board.

So far the weather this year has been interesting to say the least; with 30°C weekends followed by wet and windy conditions the next. BB has heard whispers that some of the boys didn't fair to well in the trying conditions, with reports on the hotter days of some boys going down with cramp then on the wet and windy weekend the dreaded recall may have got a couple of us.

Never the less a great start to season boys, keep up the hard work on the track and try to keep up with Scotty out there!

Boundary Bolter

## GALLOPING GOALIE

Welcome to another season fam! Let's get the formalities out of the way before we get stuck in! The Goalies have a few new members to its senior ranks, we welcome Michael Bruno, Liam McDonald and Trent O'Driscoll to the panel. You have all worked extremely hard, and we hope to see you at League level soon, but until then enjoy a poke or two from yours truly.

We have had a couple of Milestones to date, congrats to Mat Wilson and Tom Sharpe who have brought up their 100th League appearances and Dan Hoskin on his 100th AFL appearance. It shows great determination to reach the triple digits and you deserve the plaudits that have come your way. That being said, the three seemed to time their runs strangely well, with Willow getting the Easter Monday fixture in front of a bumper Norwood Oval crowd, Hosk umpiring the Friday Night clash between the Crows and Collingwood and Sharpie being appointed to the ANZAC Day match which is a rematch of the Grand Final from last year. GG needs to make sure that the next couple of milestones fall on mediocre weeks, maybe the North v West rematch from Round 2.

With the Prez moving away over the summer, the Three Amigos were a member short. Without having to promote the position on Seek, they found their new member during the Goalies End of Season Trip. Mat Wilson has stepped up as the new man of the Three Amigos and has fitted in seamlessly. Well done, Mat, you have made my job extremely easy for the rest of the year.

Steve Murphy has been said to have been discussing appointments again with the brother in law, over lunch. Steve was apparently very upset that 5 of Brad Hammer's first 6 league games to date have been with him, and unfortunately majority at Noarlunga. Murph has taken Sledge under his wing, and from all reports, Sledge has taken being tight to a new level and Murph is extremely proud. That being said, GG believes that Steve may not be cited down that side of town for the rest of the year after the lunch time convo with Daz. Sorry Brad.

New 'Senior Squad' member, Trent O'Driscoll almost didn't make the panel after turning up to training in some of the most horrific outfits you will ever see (rivalling Mitch Howland and Matt Fallon for worst dressed of all time). What made it worse was he posed for a photo and later made it is Facebook Display Picture and polling people if he should wear it to school the next day.... He has also been sited hand in hand with best mate Brad Jenkins shooting hoops before and after training, thinking they are LeBron and Durant... They are not.

Another new member to the panel, Liam McDonald, has wasted no time in making a flog of himself. Liam has been seen with 'DUX' written on his hand, as he is of the belief he will be Dux for his year 12 group. For those who are unsure, Dux is awarded to the best ATAR for the year at the school. If anyone knows Liam, they know he will be struggling to passing year 12 let alone win Dux... He has also turned up to training with a new water bottle, not much wrong with that you say? Well, it has his year 12 photo on it.... Enough said.

Braden Ford was recently missing from training. For those who don't know, the poor guy had a bout of gastro... Already weighing in around 32 kilos, Braden dropped around 10kgs through the ordeal. To be safe, the Goalies have made sure to pour cement in his shoes as he is at risk of being blown away. He has been asked to face the goalies at all times as if he turns to his side, we can't see him.

Lastly the GG would love to hone in on James Georgiadis. James has returned for another season (unsure why), in his best shape to date. For those with him on Snapchat, would have seen him almost every day having a hit at Glenelg Golf Club with a stubby or four in hand. He has been playing so much, he has tanned up to a new level. Just like storing some fat for the winter to keep him warm, he has assured that in the winter he will be the envy of those more pale than he (Steven Murphy).

Anyway, I think that is enough from me for one edition. Keep your eyes out, as GG is always on the lookout for a story or two.

GG



## SANFLUA

Founded in 1947, the South Australian National Football League Umpires Association (SANFLUA) is a not for profit organisation representing the needs and interests of umpires officiating at South Australian National Football League (SANFL) and Australian Football League (AFL) level.

The aim of the association is to provide a supportive and team-oriented umpiring environment and unite members across all umpiring disciplines. The association has a primary role in organising social events throughout the year and in maintaining its Life Members network.

## SPONSORS

The SANFLUA thanks all of our major sponsors for 2018.

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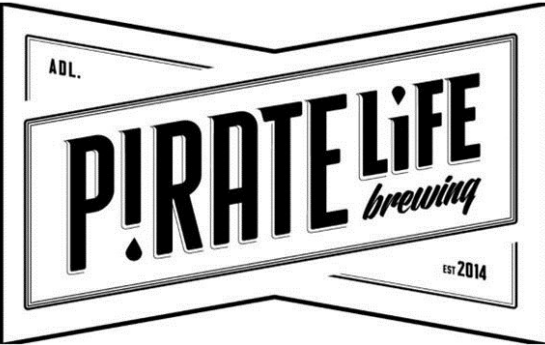
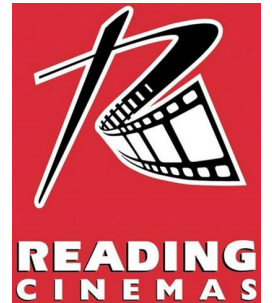
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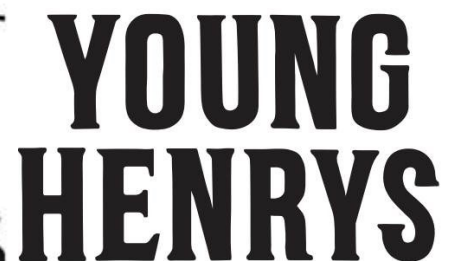
EST 1843  
**SUSSEX**  
— Hotel —



**WP**  
WILLOW POINT



**X**  
**XBLADES**



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HENRYS**