

SANFLUA PUBLICATION

# BALL UP

ISSUE 5, 2018



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## YOUR 2018 COMMITTEE



**“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**

### 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  
Kingspin 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 Cathedral Hotel

### 2018 AFL FINALS UMPIRES

Congratulations to all of our SANFLUA Members and Life Member who participated in the 2018 AFL Finals series.

**Field Umpires: Curtis Deboy (VIC)**

**Boundary Umpires: Chris Bull (SA), Matthew Konetschka (SA) and Mark Thomson (SA)**



### EJ WHITTEN LEGENDS GAME

Congratulations to all of our SANFLUA Life Members who participated in the 2018 EJ Whitten Legends game at Adelaide Oval on Friday 31st August.

**Field Umpires: Richard Williams & Michael Avon**

**Goal Umpires: Steven Murphy & Leo Corrieri**



## PRESIDENTS PEN - MATTHEW CUMMINS

It's hard to believe that the season has come to an end. It always feels like footy season takes forever to come around, and then suddenly, Grand Finals have been run and won.

Congratulations to all our umpires who officiated in the U16s, U18s, Reserves and League Grand Finals this year. Umpiring a Grand Final, no matter the level of football, is always a great achievement. They aren't easy to get, so cherish and be proud of your appointment.

To our SANFL League Grand Final Umpires – how about that hey? Big crowd and an entertaining high scoring game of footy. Well done on your appointments, especially to Mitch Harris, Damian Robinson and Aaron O'Malley who officiated their First League Grand Finals.

To all the award winners from the 2018 Golden Whistle Awards Dinner – well done on a great season. To be rewarded with such prestigious awards is a great honour and one you should all be proud of. To Rhys Negerman (Golden Flags), Sam Royans (Silver Whistle) and Corey Bowen (Golden Whistle) in particular – congratulations on an outstanding season of umpiring.

Season 2018 certainly had its challenges for all of us. Again, I want to thank every single one of our members who stood firm during the season, put their head down and got on with the tasks set for us. To have high quality performances amongst each of our disciplines given the facilities we were dealt with is a testament to us as a group. With movement in place to rectify a lot of the issues, here's hoping 2019 presents a much more professional training environment for us all.

It's SANFLUA's desire to hit the ground running in 2019, with plans to hold our AGM much earlier than previous years. Late January is our target, and all going well, I see no reason why that can't be achieved. Having our AGM earlier will allow us to have our Members Drive BBQ earlier, and we may be able to sneak in an extra Social Event before we start the serious footy in Round 1.

For now – enjoy your off season. Have as much down time as possible to recharge your batteries ready for another big season of SANFL Footy in 2019. Now is our time to enjoy the company of our friends and family and do the things we don't always get a chance to do during footy season.

Don't be afraid to contact any of your SANFLUA Committee should you see the need. We're always here to assist when required.

Have a great and restful break.

Enjoy.

Matt Cummins  
**President**



SANFLUA President Matthew Cummins signalling the first goal of the 2018 SANFL Grand Final



## 200 CLUB LUNCHEON

I was nervous. All morning I'd avoided thinking about the afternoon ahead through various means of distraction. Making coffees, watching TV, reading the newspaper etc. All things that I indulge in when I'm preparing for a big game. I can't think about what will happen in the afternoon ahead. If let my mind wander to what's in store that's when the jolts of nerves hit me. Always the same emotions whenever I'm faced with a big game, excitement but also worry and doubt.

I shouldn't worry, I should by now have the confidence in my ability and experience that whatever the scenario, whatever the decision, I will be able to handle what is thrown at me, but even after umpiring 199 games, there's doubt.

I arrived at the game early. I like to soak up these big occasions. The stage was set for a memorable day. Sturt V Norwood at Unley Oval. Games like these are always special and being able to take charge of a contest like this for game number 200 was as good as it could get.

The game lived up to expectation. Norwood kicking an unforgettable 11 goals to 0 in the final quarter to come from behind and win by a considerable margin. I walked slowly, always slowly on these occasions, towards the grandstand happy that I could now call myself a 200 game SANFL umpire. With this comes a fantastic reward, and something I'd never really set out to achieve, life membership to the SANFL.

Held at the William Magarey Room at Adelaide Oval Friday 31st August the SANFL 200 club past players and officials luncheon was going to be something special. Today was the day I would be formally recognised for the first time as a 200 game Umpire.

Throughout my umpiring career I've been fortunate enough to attend many functions, lunches and dinners, but this occasion felt different. I was the person being inducted along with 2 current players Kyle Jenner and Trent Goodrem. It felt different as I was sharing the stage with 2 players, a stage that we as Umpires don't usually get to share.

When it came time for the new inductions I was first cab off the rank. I couldn't believe it when a highlight package of some of my big umpiring moments was shown on the big screen, some footage I hadn't even seen before. It never gets old watching my first bounce of the 2014 SANFL Grand Final!

After the inductions South Adelaide's Mark Naley and North Adelaide's Tony Antrobus who won the League's best-and-fairest award in 1991 and 1983 respectively were interviewed on stage and gave some fantastic insights into their SANFL careers. It was a privilege to be in the same room, celebrating these achievement with many greats and past greats of the SANFL competition.

As the day wound up the realisation set in about what I had achieved. I looked around the room at faces I've idolised and admired. I beamed with pride. My achievement of umpiring 200 SANFL games meant that I also belonged here, I had joined the 200 club.

*By Toby Medlin*



Toby Medlin with his 200 Club Certificate



# CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS (PART #1)



## STAN WICKHAM MEMORIAL SHIELD (FIELD UMPIRE): ALEX REARDON

"He has a great attitude and enthusiasm for his umpiring, constantly seeking out feedback and I see this feedback converted to actions in his performances. His commitment is unquestionable, reflected in his fitness and time trial times. A terrific academic & sporting background, with cricket being his major focus until recent times, with state and national representation seen at under age levels. This season in umpiring has seen him establish himself at the top of the field umpiring group with a very strong pre-season setting him up well and taking the opportunities earned through the year. Commenced with SANFL in 2016, umpiring 1 match that season followed by 5 matches in 2017. In 2018 we have seen cricket take somewhat of a back seat to umpiring. 2018's game tally is 2 U/16 which were 1 Semi & Grand Final, 5 U/18, 3 Finals, running in the Preliminary Final & the Grand Final as well as 9 Reserves matches."

By Garry Wyld

## STAN WICKHAM MEMORIAL SHIELD (BOUNDARY UMPIRE): MATTHEW MIELCZAREK

"This year's recipient started his Boundary Umpire journey with the SA Amateur League in 2014. After learning his craft for 2 years he joined the SANFL Academy in 2016. In his first year he immediately made an impact Umpiring 20 U/18 matches. He has a strong work ethic and at trainings can be seen pushing himself running with faster groups and working hard on his throw-ins. His communication with the coaches is exceptional and he continues to use feedback to continue his growth as an umpire. From 2017 he has continued to grow as a boundary umpire and worked hard at trainings to develop his umpiring skills on the field. He has taken opportunities to umpire senior football with seeing him umpire 13 Reserves games over the past two years. He has umpired state junior matches and umpired 3 finals games in his three years with the SANFL Academy. Performs above the expectations of the coaching staff in the following areas; Attention to both on and off field matters – exceeds coaches' expectations, Attention to learning, Excellent attitude to all facets of umpiring, Dedicated to training & Commitment to self-improvement."

By Neil Muggleton

## STAN WICKHAM MEMORIAL SHIELD (GOAL UMPIRE): LUKE BRAY

"The 2018 winner started goal umpiring started with the Amateur League in 2014. He then joined the SANFL in 2015 demonstrating commitment, persistence to learn and improve on his goal umpiring. The following year he again showed his potential with further Improvement and subsequently was appointed to the under 16 Grand Final. In 2017 he decided to take the year off from goal umpiring and played soccer where his achievements saw him win the best and fairest award. In 2018 he decided to come back to goal umpiring and he immediately set about showing that he was fully focused and determined to show that he had the attitude and willingness to again learn and show continued improvement in his games and also at training. He has now umpired 21 U/16 games, 1 U/17 game, 46 U/18 games & 4 Reserve games. He ticks all right the boxes and is a deserving winner of the Stan Wickham Award."

By John  
Hutchinson

### AWARD DETAILS

#### Stan Wickham Memorial Shield

Awarded annually to an Academy Umpire within each discipline who provides his/her peers with a 'Role Model'.

#### Field Umpire

2018 Award Winner

**Alex Reardon**

#### Boundary Umpire

2018 Award Winner

**Matthew Mielczarek**

#### Goal Umpire

2018 Award Winner

**Luke Bray**



Alex Reardon

Matthew Mielczarek

Luke Bray



# 2018 UNDER 18'S GRAND FINAL

Congratulations to all of our Under 18's Grand Final Umpires.

Field Umpires: Jack Millar, Jackson Nokes, Alex Reardon & Thomas Carey (Emergency).

Boundary Umpires: Bradley Applebee, Owen Catanzariti, Steven Evanson & Benjamin Williams.

Goal Umpires: Emilie Hill, Bradley Jenkins & Georgia Henderson (Emergency).



Photographs captured by SANFLUA Publications with equipment from Total Photographic Supplies (Kent Town, SA)



# 2018 RESERVES GRAND FINAL

Congratulations to all of our Reserves Grand Final Umpires.

Field Umpires: Tom Bryce, Sam Morgan, Luke Wittenberg & Aaron Bennett (Emergency).

Boundary Umpires: Isaac Fishlock, Cory Herrmann, Elliott Raymond & Dylan Speck.

Goal Umpires: Michael Button, Brad Hammer & Allanah Bruno (Emergency).



Photographs captured by SANFLUA Publications with equipment from Total Photographic Supplies (Kent Town, SA)



# 2018 LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

Congratulations to all of our League Grand Final Umpires.

Field Umpires: Corey Bowen, Mitch Harris, Toby Medlin & Jamie Broadbent (Emergency).

Boundary Umpires: Aaron O'Malley, Matthew Herrmann, Damian Robinson & Sam Royans.

Goal Umpires: Matthew Cummins, Rhys Negerman & Mathew Wilson (Emergency).



Photographs captured by SANFLUA Member Braden Ford with equipment from Total Photographic Supplies (Kent Town, SA)



# WHAT IS IT LIKE UMPIRING YOUR 1ST LEAGUE GRAND FINAL?

## ROBBO TAKES US INSIDE THE INNER SANCTUM - - PART #1

***"A dream written down with a date becomes a goal. A goal broken down into steps becomes a plan. A plan backed by action makes your dreams come true" Greg S. Reid***

8 seasons, 120 league games, 480 quarters and 14,400 minutes of footy is what it has taken to turn a dream in to a reality.

Coming in to the season as one of the veterans of the boundary umpiring group, I had unfinished business with numerous frustrating finals campaigns contributing to making season 2018 a make or break season. From recalls in finals to major illness the week before a finals campaign, knee surgery that made 24 months a right off, 2018 was set up as the year that I had to nail. The only goal that was put on the season was to umpire my 1<sup>st</sup> SANFL League Grand Final.

A solid pre-season with not a training session missed, feeling the fittest and most focused I had in years contributed to a solid start to my season. My 100<sup>th</sup> League Game milestone in Round 4 was quickly followed by the appointment to my 1<sup>st</sup> SANFL State Game at Adelaide Oval (SANFL vs WAFL). To say this was unexpected was an understatement, but reward for my strong commitment to pre-season and the solid start to my season. The honour was not and is not lost upon me. To finish the minor round with 21 League Games to my name for the season highlighted the consistency of my season.

Coming into the finals campaign with a panel of 11 umpires of high quality the determination to reach the ultimate goal was palpable. I knew the job was only half done and I had to nail every opportunity that I was to be given to ensure this season didn't turn out like past seasons.

Week 1 Finals resting, the nerves and excitement building until I got my crack in week 2.

Week 2 Semi-Final Sturt vs North Adelaide. I was jumping out of my skin after having the previous weekend off. A solid game, excellent feedback and then the wait begun to find out if I'd get another opportunity.

Week 3 Preliminary Final North Adelaide vs Eagles. The nerves around the group in Preliminary Final Week is always high. It is the last opportunity for Umpires hoping to umpire a Grand Final to impress and often is the best game of the year on the field. This years Preliminary Final was no different with North Adelaide staging a miraculous comeback from 40 odd points down midway through the third quarter to get the chocolates. A slight amount of controversy was to come out of the game (some may have heard of the 19<sup>th</sup> man fiasco). This was one of the highest standard games I had umpired but came through unscathed (only 1 throw for the day and confident I had done everything in my power to put myself into contention for the big dance.)

And then the wait begins.....

Post Preliminary Final (Sunday Night): With the coaching deliberations beginning immediately post the Preliminary Final finishing there was no sight of the coaches for our post Preliminary Final debrief. This added to the tension. In past seasons the Boundary Umpire Head Coach has notified those running and those missing out with a phone call on Sunday night. I had been on the end of a few of the bad phone calls in the past and as always was uncertain of how the conversation would go. To distract myself I had planned to go out for dinner with friends and family. To say that I was tense as I nibbled on my meal was an understatement.

(Damien's article continues on the next page)





## WHAT IS IT LIKE UMPIRING YOUR 1ST LEAGUE GRAND FINAL? ROBBO TAKES US INSIDE THE INNER SANCTUM - PART #2

And then the phone call comes through... as I nervously answer the phone (you could cut the tension on my end with a blunt knife) the question from Quentin comes "So how did you think you went today..?" "Well..." I replied nervously. He agreed and proceeded to inform me (almost offer me) the opportunity to realise my dream "How would you like to umpire your 1<sup>st</sup> SANFL League Grand Final?", to which I replied "You are kidding right?" as the shock began to sink in. A bit of small talk followed as I came to grips with the fact that I would be realising my dream (still in disbelief that I had finally got the opportunity I thought I never would achieve). The overwhelming emotion was relief, with the feelings of excitement and anticipation taking a while to sink in. I was proud that after all the setbacks, the challenges that I had faced in my personal life and the cards that I had been dealt that I was able to achieve the ultimate goal. The pride I had in telling my 3 kids that "Dad was doing a Grand Final" is a moment that I will cherish forever.

As Monday set in the reality that I was going to be umpiring my 1<sup>st</sup> SANFL Grand Final suddenly hit. Sitting at work, my mind wandering as to what the week will entail, trying to organise travel arrangements so that friends and family could attend the game. The lunch time recovery run around the River Torrens had increased significance as I jogged (albeit very slowly as was very sore from umpiring the day before) past the Adelaide Oval where my dream would turn into reality in a few days' time. The messages of support and congratulations from umpiring colleagues, work friends, family and my 3 little heroes was overwhelming with a few tears shed over dinner with the kids that night.

Tuesday on my usual Tuesday afternoon run loop the mind began to wonder again as I started to count down how many runs it would be until the big day (3 for those playing on at home). The 1<sup>st</sup> of many dinner commitments for the week was Tuesday night where the honour of getting my Grand Final umpiring shirt at the annual SANFL Team Dinner at Adelaide Oval was overwhelming. I could have slept in it that night I was that excited to receive it. I must admit I took a few minutes post leaving the dinner to soak up an empty Adelaide Oval and envisage what it would be like in 5 days' time.

Then it was Wednesday the last official umpires training night for the season. As I was in my taper, training consisted of a warm up, a few strides and an extended warm down, with a visit to the trainer's rooms to get out the residue soreness that I still have left over from the Preliminary Final. Again the support from my coaches and umpiring colleagues was overwhelming. The nerves at this point were well under control with the banter from the lads helping me stay relaxed. The past Grand Final Boundary Umpires Dinner followed which was an amazing night to be in the company of some of the best Boundary Umpires that we have seen come through the state.

Thursday and Friday consisted of a couple of recovery runs with the dreaded 20 mins in the ocean (felt like the water was ice) as always completing my physical preparation Friday afternoon. I always make an effort to familiarise myself with who is playing for each side and it must have been a site for anyone on the beach this bloke reading the footy budget familiarising myself with the teams walking through the freezing water at Henley.

Saturday as always the day before the game was a rest day, with the traditional West Beach Pizza (Half Chicken/Half West Beach Special no anchovies) the night before game dinner hitting the spot. I was pleased that I was still able to stay extremely relaxed and the body felt good as I jumped on the foam roller and spikey ball to iron out any last minute hot spots.

Waking up on Grand Final day is a moment that I still remember vividly. Cool morning, sun out, no wind (perfect umping conditions) greeted me as I was awoken by my children at the lovely hour of 6am. To see them so excited about what the day was going to entail made me proud. With friends and family coming from far and wide we all went out for breakfast with my traditional game day coffee hitting the spot. Very little was eaten at this stage as the nerves and reality of what the day was going to entail sunk in.

(Damien's article continues on the next page)



## WHAT IS IT LIKE UMPIRING YOUR 1ST LEAGUE GRAND FINAL? ROBBO TAKES US INSIDE THE INNER SANCTUM - PART #3

I tried to keep my game day routine as normal as possible; pack my bag, organise food (typically have a banana and sandwich with a Powerade to wash it down approx. 2 hours prior to walk) and get to the game at half-time of the reserves game (although my desire to get to the game may have ensured that I was there slightly earlier, 10 minutes into the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the Reserves).

The feedback from colleagues who have umpired Grand Finals in the past is to make sure you take it all in and soak up the atmosphere of the day. Half time of the Reserves was my key to get out on the ground and begin to get into game mode and start to soak up the atmosphere.

The rest of the pre-game is somewhat of a blur as I was so focused on the job at hand and eager to get out on the ground. A pre-game foam roll and spikey ball roll out, a quick jog and a massage had me ready to go. Then it was time to walk. Seeing my kids on the way up the race was a memory that will stay with me for a long time.

The game itself flew by. I remember saying to the boys at ¾ time that it felt like the game had been going for about 5 minutes. The intensity of the game, the atmosphere generated by the crowd and the skills on display all contributed to the overall excitement of the game. Many people later remarked that it was one of the best SANFL Grand Finals that had been played in recent memory. To later reflect that I played some small part in this was satisfying.

Post-game the overwhelming emotion was one of relief and satisfaction. The taxing nature of the game and the high number of goals meant that I felt physically fatigued post-game. Noting this, my post-game routine remained pretty similar, as it has during the year, and consisted of a stretch, food and rehydration. The feeling in the rooms was one of elation and everyone was upbeat ready to celebrate both their individual and team efforts, with coaches, family and friends, at the Grand Final after party.

Once home, I could take the opportunity to reflect on the realisation that I had finally achieved every umpires dream of officiating a Grand Final. It took me a while to finally switch off and I began to think about what I will need to do to hopefully achieve the same goal next year.

Lastly, to those umpires who haven't as yet achieved your ultimate goal remember - "Don't decrease the goal. Increase the effort."

*By Damian Robinson (2018 SANFL League Grand Final Boundary Umpire)*



### APPROACHING LEAGUE MILESTONES (2019)

Theron Philp - 250 (247)	Matthew Konetschka - 150 AFL (146)	Braden Ford - 50 (47)
Rowan Hundertmark - 150 (149)	Craig Flear - 100 AFL (98)	Mitch Scott - 50 (45*)
^Daniel Hoskin - 150 (148)	Rhys Negerman - 100 (97)	

^Denotes not a member of the SANFLUA

\*Denotes Game Tally is to be confirmed



# SANFLUA GRAND FINAL AFTER PARTY





# **TOYOTA**

## GRAND FINAL 2018

Congratulations to SANFLUA Members Michael Button & Tom Bryce as well as SANFLUA Life Member Mark Thomson who all made appearances on the MCG for the last Saturday in September.

Michael and Tom officiated the NAB AFL Under 17's All Stars 'Futures' match; a curtain raiser to the AFL Grand Final.

Mark officiated in his sixth AFL Grand Final. His previous Grand Final appearances were in 2009, 2010, 2010 replay, 2011 & 2014. Additionally, Mark becomes the most experienced Boundary Umpire appointed to an AFL Grand Final with 380 matches. A record previously held by former SA AFL Boundary Umpire Darren Wilson (268 matches).

Well done men, a terrific achievement in representing SA Umpiring.



Field Umpire Tom Bryce & Goal Umpire Michael Button on the MCG before the NAB AFL U17 'Futures' Match

Top: 2018 AFL Grand Final Umpires  
Bottom: Mark Thomson about to throw the ball in during the 2018 AFL Grand Final



## DAVID ELLIOTT AWARD: GREY DOREY

### AWARD DETAILS

#### David Elliott Award

Awarded annually to an Individual for 'Outstanding Service to Umpiring'.

2018 Award Winners

**Greg Dorey**

#### Mark J Posa Award

Awarded annually to an Umpire who is an 'Outstanding New Talent'.

2018 Award Winner

**Brad Hammer**

#### Andrew Vickers Medallion

Awarded annually to an Umpire who is a 'Role Model' to their peers.

2018 Award Winner

**Matthew Oxford**

"It is a great honour to have received an award that acknowledges the commitment one makes to SANFL umpiring over an extended period of time. It has always been my number one focus to give back to the sport I have loved being a part of. If I have helped in any way to make young aspiring umpires to improve and hone their craft, then I feel I have achieved something special.

Being an active part of the umpiring scene has helped me grow as a person and to appreciate the many people who have supported me along the way. Most importantly, with the ongoing support of my family, I have been able to enjoy the role I have played in contributing to the development of our great game and being passionate about helping make umpiring even better as we go forward."



## MARK J POSA AWARD: BRAD HAMMER



"It was pretty surprising to be named the winner of the 2018 Mark J Posa Award. It's a huge honour to win this award and truly humbling. I will never forget standing up there, after a few cold ones and delivering my speech, which was a lot better than last year's speech. 2018 has been a massive year, starting with AFLW, which gave me a great starting point for the SANFL season.

I will like to thank all the coaches for trying their best, in a challenging year and to all the umpires, especially the goalies. We are like one big family and the bonds we have are strong. Thanks again."

## ANDREW VICKERS MEDALLION: MATTHEW OXFORD

"Wow. What a surprise. To receive the 'Andrew Vickers Medallion', which recognized attributes and qualities of excellent character that Andrew Vickers had will leave an lasting impression and makes me proud to join the Honour Roll. To the Goal umpire coaches Darren, Adrian, Shannon, Peter, Abdul and in my early years through the Academy John Hutchinson. All encouraging, supportive, supplying the motivation and inspirational in their roles. Thank you.

To all the running goal umpires that provide the environment ensuring training and game day experience can be satisfying and fun. In particular the 3 x AFL goal umpires Steve, Dan and Peter who with their commitments and work load bring a sense of professionalism, character and positiveness to the group. Thank you. With all this in mind reinforces that I am enjoying what I do.

Finally, to acknowledge the input from Shane Harris and Matthew Cummins is greatly appreciated. Thank you."



## AWARD DETAILS

**Most Improved:** This award is given to an umpire in each discipline, who has shown the most improvement in their umpiring at senior level.

**2018 Award Winners**

**Most Improved Field:**

**Jamie Broadbent**

**Most Improved Boundary:**

**Isaac Fishlock**

**Most Improved Goal:**

**Allanah Bruno**

## MOST IMPROVED FIELD UMPIRE: JAMIE BROADBENT

"Winning the most improved this year came as a shock, I wasn't expecting it at all! Coming off the back of a solid season that started back in late January with the AFLW and progressing through to sitting for the SANFL GF, it was a long year but none like any other I won't forget for years to come.

There wasn't a break in training after the 2017 season as I was informed the AFLW season was just around the corner, which brought hot 35\* weather in Brisbane and sticky conditions in Darwin. I can tell you the body will be looking forward to having a couple of weeks off training now.

Special thanks to all the coaching, high performance and training team for their services and challenging me to get the best out of myself. I'm looking forward to progressing further in 2019. Also to my family, who tirelessly come out to watch and support me at every game; thank you so much."



## MOST IMPROVED BOUNDARY UMPIRE: ISAAC FISHLOCK



Quentin Brewer accepting the award on behalf of Isaac Fishlock

"Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Golden Whistle this year but am greatly honoured to receive such an award. It was quite the surprise when I found out, and I was not expecting it at all. With this year there were so many Boundary umpires who made a massive improvement hence all the first game debuts and the 2 League grand final debuts; Which shows how much as a group we are constantly improving and becoming better umpires. So to receive this award gives me great pride and shows the effort being put in is paying off.

I'd like to thank a couple people who have helped along the way this season, Checks has been one of the major roles in helping me improve as an athlete which I'm extremely grateful for, Quentin for being both supportive and harsh when I haven't had the best of games, but always gave me things to work on.

To my running crew at Flinders Athletics, everyone there has helped my running come a long way in the last year which has paid off dividends. Lastly, to my peers and family without the support I couldn't of had the year I did."

## MOST IMPROVED GOAL UMPIRE: ALLANAH BRUNO

"Winning the 2018 Most Improved Goal Umpire award was a massive honour. I set goals and persisted in order to achieve my best. My heart and mind drives my performance and umpiring is now a massive part of my life.

I would like to thank the entire coaching staff for the time, effort and belief they have in my umpiring. I would also like to thank all the other umpires and my family for the ongoing support."





## GOLDEN WHISTLE: COREY BOWEN

### AWARD DETAILS

Golden Whistle: Awarded annually to the best SANFL Field Umpire.

Silver Whistle: Awarded annually to the best SANFL Boundary Umpire.

Golden Flags: Awarded annually to the best SANFL Goal Umpire.

2018 Award Winners

Golden Whistle:

**Corey Bowen**

Silver Whistle:

**Samuel Royans**

Golden Flags:

**Rhys Negerman**

"It was a great surprise the other morning to hear the news that I had received the honour of winning my 1<sup>st</sup> Golden whistle. Currently away in the USA I'm slightly disappointed that I wasn't there in person to receive the award and enjoy the experience on the night. But in saying that I was absolutely excited when I heard the news and for it to come from my parents who were invited along to accept the award made the news even more special hearing how proud they both were as they have been my biggest supporters since I took up umpiring when I was 14.

I also can't forget my Wife Monika and 3 boys who allow me the time away from family duties to be involved in the game I love. We all know how much time and commitment umpiring takes. Without Monika by my side I doubt I would have been able to get to this level as she's always been there to keep me focused when times are tough as we all know umpiring has its ups and downs. There have been so many people that have helped me achieve this award. Starting back from my junior days to my current coaching staff, they all have an influence on helping me improve and without their support over the journey I wouldn't have got to where I am today.

To the umpiring group I also need to thank you all as we all commit and dedicate ourselves so that we can improve and perform at the highest level. We all take our umpiring seriously and that's what makes the group special that we all want to achieve the same goals. In finishing I must say it's still hard to believe that I've received this prestigious award. To have my name etch on the hour board with some of this state's umpiring greats it's unbelievable and something that I'm extremely proud of. It is such an honour. Thank you."



Pauline Bowen (Corey's Mum) accepting the award on his behalf

## SILVER WHISTLE: SAM ROYANS



"What a year again! Very honoured to have been named again. Any number of guys could have been giving a speech that night. It was a very competitive year featuring some great new comers. The next few years are going to be fierce! Thank you to the big family we are all a part of. We do this because we love it and it makes it so much easier having blokes by your side for banter and laughs.

To top the year off with the GF with your best mate (Damo) and two stellar fellas (Lever and Hermie) I could not have been happier. Until next year when we do it all again! Enjoy your summer!"

## AWARD DETAILS

Golden Whistle: Awarded annually to the best SANFL Field Umpire.

Silver Whistle: Awarded annually to the best SANFL Boundary Umpire.

Golden Flags: Awarded annually to the best SANFL Goal Umpire.

2018 Award Winners

Golden Whistle:  
**Corey Bowen**

Silver Whistle:  
**Samuel Royans**

Golden Flags:  
**Rhys Negerman**

## GOLDEN FLAGS: RHYS NEGERMAN

"After my disappointing end to the season last year I had one goal in mind to get back to umpiring the Grand Final. My preseason started off really slowly and had a minor setback injuring my back and couldn't umpire for a short time so my belief in achieving that goal faded away. But as the season went on the belief came back and was lucky enough to be selected to umpire my first State Game...further on into the season I knew that I was umpiring well and when I received the phone call to say I'd be umpiring the Grand Final my goal had been achieved. To win this award is a huge honour and it really tops of an amazing year. I never thought that by the end of the season I would be named goal umpire of the year. I hope that this brings bigger things for my career in the near future.

I'd like to firstly thank the coaches for their support throughout the season and having the belief in me that I can achieve my goals.

Secondly I'd like to thank my family and especially to my Mum Latisha, she has been my biggest supporter throughout my career and her continuous messages after my games asking how I went have helped and encouraged me along this journey and wouldn't have been able to be awarded this title without her.

And lastly I'd like to thank my best mate Matthew Cummins, I've been lucky enough to umpire both my Grand Finals with him and he has been a huge support and mentor to me over the past few years. We've built an awesome friendship over that time and I definitely wouldn't be the Umpire or person I am today without him.

Hope everyone enjoys their off season and see you all next year."





## FIELD MARSHALL

Congratulations to everyone who umpired across the 2018 season. From our first preseason training session (that began back in January) to the end of September, it was a season that flew by.

In one of the most entertaining Grand Finals that we have seen for many years, North Adelaide was victorious against Norwood at Adelaide Oval. Congratulations to Corey, Mitch and Toby who did an outstanding job in front of 40,000 people. Earlier that day we saw, Sam, Tom and Luke represent the group in the Reserves Grand Final. The week before, we saw, Alex, Jack and Jackson umpire the Under 18 Grand Final. All Umpires (across the 3 grades) did a fantastic job.

After the match, many SANFLUA members went across the road to the SANFLUA Grand Final party. We wish to thank the Cathedral Hotel who hosted our event. We would also like to thank Red Bull, who provided music for the night courtesy of the Red Bull DJ. It was an enjoyable night for all of those who attended. As the night grew longer and the music played, many decided to let their hair down and sing along to the classics like, Eagle Rock and Sweet Caroline. The dance moves that accompanied the singing were not of the highest order. It was like watching one of our monthly games nights when we play soccer; legs swinging everywhere and people falling over.

A few weeks after the season ended, our attention turned to the Golden Whistle. The Golden Whistle was held a week later than usual due to *Monster Jam* taking place at Adelaide Oval. While having Monster Trucks hurtling through the air may have provided an interesting backdrop as we ate our entrée, it was a wise decision to hold our final event of the season a week later than usual.

Congratulations to Jamie Broadbent who was the recipient of the Most Improved Field Umpire for 2018. Jamie had an outstanding season which resulted in him being named Emergency Umpire for the Grand Final. The award was a fitting acknowledgement for all of Jamie's hard work throughout 2018 and we look forward to Jamie's umpiring continuing to grow in 2019.

Congratulations to Corey Bowen, who after umpiring his 4<sup>th</sup> SANFL Grand Final, was bestowed with the honour of the Golden Whistle. A career at both SANFL and AFL level, the Golden Whistle was a well deserved acknowledgement for Corey's season. Corey was unable to attend the evening as he was on a family holiday that had been booked earlier in the year. It was a highlight for everyone who was present to see Corey's mother accept the award on his behalf.

As our SANFL season concluded, I also wish to congratulate our South Australians on the AFL list in Melbourne. I would like to acknowledge; Sam, Craig, Curtis, Leigh and El, who continue to perform at a high level and represent us with pride. Well done to Curtis, who participated in the AFL finals.

In a year that presented us with some challenges, we can all feel proud as a group in the way that we performed. We all look forward to next year with great enthusiasm and in hope that our soccer skills will improve just a little bit for the last Wednesday of every month.

Until 2019, that's all from Field Marshall.



## BOUNDARY BOLTER

And just like that another year is done and dusted. 2018 has been another great year full of banter, plenty of young guys debuting, memorable milestones and quality umpiring along the way. First off well done to all of those who umpired in September throughout the final series and a massive congratulations to the select few who were fortunate enough to umpire in a Grand Final. In particular our 2018 Grand Final League umpires; Sam Royans, Matt Herrmann, Damien Pryer and Aaron O'Malley! Damo and Aaron what an effort it was from these two! After each being around for so long to keep pushing themselves to try and reach the last game of the year and to finally get it just shows how much hard work, dedication and perseverance it takes, awesome work legends! A massive congratulations is in order for one of our greatest in Mark Thomson who notched up AFL Grand Final number 6 if you don't mind!

Also congrats to all the award winners at the Golden Whistle! What a night it was again this year. Another awesome year for Sammy resulted in back to back Silver Whistles and after debuting early into 2018 and being appointed the Reserves Grand Final, Isaac Fishlock took out the Most Improved. Unfortunately Fish didn't attend the dinner, come to think of it he didn't attend the Grand Final after party either, many thinking Fish is too cheap for a free dinner now. Speaking of the Grand Final After Party, that turned out to be a night to remember too. The Carter brothers are normally pretty hard to beat for best off ground performance that night but I think one of our guys may have pipped them. The night started off with great promise after Matty Herrmann claimed he had got the Woolshed open for the night, only for the group of 15 who made the trek from the cathedral to hindley to be left disappointed when we arrived to find not even 10% was open. It was then off to Zhivagos which is where the guys went last year from memory with the two Herrmann brothers going toe to toe; however BOG had to be PJ, whom if he had to work Monday would have struggled bigtime!

Congrats on everyone on an awesome 2018! Looking forward to hearing about some offseason stories at the start of next year! Hope everyone enjoys a small break and is ready to start getting back into some running if you haven't already.

BB



## GALLOPING GOALIE

The season has come to a close, and GG is ready to get some much needed rest.

Before I get underway, a quick shout out to our Grand Final umpires. Well done to the 'Three Amigos' Matt Cummins and Rhys with Mat Wilson warming the pine of the League Grand Final. Congratulations must also go to Michael Button, Brad Hammer on their Reserves Grand Final appointment, Emilie Hill and Brad Jenkins on their Under 18s Grand Final Appointment with Allanah Bruno and Georgia Henderson as emergencies in their respective games. A great way to end the season for you all.

The dust has hardly settled after a long year on the track, and the cricket whites have come out. A few Goalies have taken to the field, some locally and others centrally. Dan Hoskin has started the season off well with some sneaky runs and a few wickets, whilst Trent O'Driscoll made his B's debut for Southern District. It wasn't a successful debut for Trent, after inviting the senior squad to the game, the team were dismissed for 75 and it only took 13 overs for Glenelg to make the runs at the loss of no wickets. At least it was quick.

A big Happy birthday to Liam McDonald who turned 18 recently. We are still waiting on an invite to your party, that being said, if you take at all after your brother, we may not want to see how your night ends.

In recent times, Brad Hammer has emerged as the new tight ass of the group. Who would have thought Steven Murphy would ever hand over the title! It has been made known that Brad's family actually have a holiday house and a boat! 2019 post season trip is now being organised at his family's residence, which GG is sure they will try and charge us for... It just goes to show, the wealthier you are you the tighter you are. You are on notice Sledge.

It was a big night for the Goalies at the Golden Whistle. Well done to Rhys Negerman on winning his first Golden Flags as well as Allanah Bruno on taking out the Most Improved. Well done to both. On top of that GG sends their best to Ox on winning the Andrew Vickers Medallion. Ox is a very popular winner and thoroughly deserves his recognition; he was very graceful on accepting. Congrats also goes to Sledge for taking out the Mark Posa Award for Outstanding New Talent. With a ripping opening line, he continued on his award winning night by also snagging someone else's date at the end of the night. Well done Sledge, great night/morning GG hears.

Lastly, Braden Ford has been on his off season for little over 3 weeks now, and has started to morph into a Red Tin. James Georgiadis has also been hitting it hard, but that isn't any different than during season.

Have a great off season,

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.

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The logo for Ozito, featuring the word "Ozito" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letter "i" has a red triangle above its dot. The text is set against a black background that is shaped like a house with the roof cut off.

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