

SANFLUA PUBLICATION

BALL UP

ISSUE 4, 2023



INSIDE:

2023 League Grand Final

Rounds 15 - 18 Milestones

2023 SANFL Golden Whistle

...And Much More

SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2023 SANFLUA DATES

SATURDAY 6TH MAY @ 6 PM

POST GAME CATCH UP #1 AT THE ASTOR HOTEL

SUNDAY 21ST MAY FROM 12:15PM

LIFE MEMBERS LUNCHION BRITANNIA HOTEL

SATURDAY 27TH MAY @ 6:15 PM

TEN PIN BOWLING AT KINGPIN NORWOOD

SATURDAY 24TH JUNE @ 6 PM

POST GAME CATCH UP #2 AT THE ASTOR HOTEL

SUNDAY 9TH JULY @ 12:30PM

LAWN BOWLS AT TORRENSVILLE

SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST @ 6PM

POST GAME CATCH UP #3 AT THE ASTOR HOTEL

THURSDAY 31ST AUGUST @ 6:30PM

75TH ANNUAL DINNER AT THE NATIONAL WINE CENTRE OF AUSTRALIA

SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Well, after a big 3rd edition of Ball Up, it's time for the final one of the year. It has been great to hear all the positive feedback from many people this year about Ball Up. I did not realise just how many hours are needed to create a complete edition but it has been very enjoyable. Thank you to all that have helped me this year to create each edition! I still have a lot to learn in regard to making a good edition of Ball Up and I have some new ideas next year, that I hope will be well received. As Golden Whistle was later this year, this edition will be a smaller one due to time constraints and will not include Craig's Q n A but this will definitely return next year. Also, please refer to this year's Annual Report for a message from our President. It might be time for me to buy a new laptop, so I can pump out each edition next year at a quicker pace.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Ball Up!

By Brad Hammer.

SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

SANFL LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

The 2023 SANFL Grand Final was played out in front of over 33 thousand people on the 24th of September. Glenelg ran out as eventual winners over the Double Blues in a hard-fought contest. All the umpires appointed represented themselves, the SANFL and the SANFLUA to very high standards and they all should be incredibly proud of their efforts on the day and during the year.

Field umpires:

Corey Bowen

Mitchell Scott

Sam Morgan

Michael Sboro (E)

Boundary Umpires:

Brayden Theil

Martin Elsegood

Ben Williams

Dylan Speck

Goal Umpires:

Matthew Cummins

Braden Ford

Mathew Wilson (E)



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

SANFL RESERVERS, U18'S AND U16'S GRAND FINAL

The SANFLUA would like to congratulate the following umpires on being appointed to the U16's, U18's and Reserves SANFL Grand Finals.

U16 SANFL GRAND FINAL

Field umpires:

James Brittan
Joshua Edwards
Spencer Davis
Lachlan Pedersen (E)

Boundary Umpires:

Paul De Lisio
Jude Heeps
Halli Finnsson
Matthew Beer

Goal Umpires:

Isabelle Rawsthorne
David Cunningham
Brody Hancock (E)

U18 SANFL GRAND FINAL

Field Umpires:

Kylan Beech
Zack Brittan
Daniel Rogers
Jake Bateman (E)

Boundary Umpires:

James Haskard
Ben Van Raalte
Archer Wilson
Joshua Thunig

Goal Umpires:

Leo Condo
Daniel Daminato
Patrick Backshall (E)

RESERVES SANFL GRAND FINAL

Field umpires:

Daniel Whittlesea
Zac Packard
Henry Klemm
Luke Wittenberg (E)

Boundary Umpires:

Tobin Dolman
Brad Applebee
Jake Creasey
Jayden Dunning

Goal Umpires:

Tom Kelly
Justin Thai
Thomas Oxford (E)



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2023 SANFL GOLDEN WHISTLE

The 2023 Golden Whistle was held on the 10th of November at the Adelaide Oval. As usual, it was a brilliant night and the SANFLUA thanks the SANFL for their continued support of this event. Congratulations to all the award winners, we hope you enjoyed recognition with all the hard work you do. We would also like to extend our appreciation to all the partners and friends/family members that were invited along, you all provide so much support to our umpires.

Most Improved Awards

Field Umpire – Ben Williams

The SANFLUA would like to congratulate Ben Williams on an outstanding year and being awarded the 2023 Most Improved Field Umpire. Ben has had a very consistent year at League level, umpiring 19 games, which brings his tally to 31 overall. Ben was also awarded this year with his first League final, which occurred in Semi Final week. There is no doubt that Ben has had an amazing year and his career will only continue to progress over the coming seasons. Well done Ben!

Boundary Umpire – Nathan Becker

2023 was a year that saw Nathan debut at League level and umpire in both the first and second weeks of the Reserves finals. Nathan continues to strive in making himself a better umpire each game and has a big future ahead of himself. In the past, Nathan has umpired the SANFLW Grand Final and the Under 18's Grand Final, which has provided him with a great foundation for continuing his League career. We cannot wait to see what the future has in store for Nathan.

Goal Umpire – Tom Mayo

Tom has had a year that he will not forget umpiring wise. 2023 saw Tom bring his League career tally to 22, after umpiring a total of 16 League games this year. This year also saw Tom umpire his first SANFL League final in Semi Final week and finishing with a Preliminary Final. Tom continues to better himself each week and there is no doubt that this attitude has helped him along his journey. Tom has a bright future and we cannot wait to see where his umpiring takes him!

By SANFLUA Committee.

MOST IMPROVED AWARDS

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



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2023 SANFL GOLDEN WHISTLE

David Elliott Award - Adam Cleary

Adam started umpiring with the SANFL in 1999, all the way through to 2013. In this time, he umpired a total of 174 SANFL matches, which includes 41 League games. Since 2013, Adam moved into coaching and started as an Academy boundary umpire coach. In 2015, he moved into a senior role as a Seniors boundary umpire mentor. Adam is clearly a worthy winner of the David Elliott Award (having given over 20 years of service to SANFL umpiring). Well done on this achievement Adam and we hope you continue to stay on as a boundary umpire coach in years to come.

Mark J Posa Award – Zac Packard

2023 saw Zac make his debut in League and finish on a total of 7 League games overall. Zac has made a big impression this year and is a very deserving winner of this award. He is an integral part of the umpiring group and watching him continue to umpire League and hopefully one day in the AFL, is something that we are all looking forward too. Zac is the type of umpire and person that gets the job done without complaining, he is very dedicated to his craft and has a very bright future ahead of him.

Andrew Vickers Medallion – Matthew Williams

One of the most consistent and dedicated goal umpires out there, Matthew Williams shows all the traits of what the Andrew Vickers Medallion represents. There would have been many times where Matthew 'Big Willy' Williams thought about 'spitting the dummy' (like many of us actually do) but he takes everything that comes to him in his stride. He always listens to the coaches to better himself and improve with each game and applies himself well on the track. 'Big Willy' is approaching 200 League Games and has been very close to a League Grand Final debut at times – we hope he can get there! Matthew is an all-round great guy and he thoroughly deserves this award.

By SANFLUA Committee.

DAVID ELLIOTT AWARD

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

MARK J POSA AWARD

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

ANDREW VICKERS MEDALLION

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



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2023 SANFL GOLDEN WHISTLE

GOLDEN WHISTLE – MITCH SCOTT

One of the louder members of the umpiring group, Mitch has had a stella year and claimed his first Golden Whistle. We all know Mitch loves some good banter and he always tries to keep the energy high in the changerooms. Mitch has now umpired 2 SANFL League Grand Finals and has many more in front of him too! Mitch has shown great commitment to his umpiring and has challenged himself in all aspects of his umpiring. He has now clocked 145 League Games, as well as 2 State Games, since joining the SANFL in 2012.

SILVER WHISTLE – BRAYDEN THEIL

Unfortunately for Brayden, he wasn't able to physically attend this year's Golden Whistle thanks to Covid but modern technology allowed us to have him live stream his acceptance speech. Brayden has continued to excel in his umpiring career, notching up 5 League Grand Final appearances! He continues to go about his craft with minimal fuss and is a very well-liked member of the umpiring group. Brayden has consistently displayed commitment to his umpiring and he has always ensured to maintain a high level of professionalism and performance. Brayden joined the SANFL in 2011 and has now umpired 164 League games.

GOLDEN FLAGS – MATTHEW CUMMINS

Matthew 'Cummo' Cummins continues to be at the top of the mountain and has now claimed 6 Golden Flags! There is no doubt that Cummo is a legend of goal umpiring and makes every other goalie in the squad lift their performances. You would think after winning 6 Golden Flags and numerous League Grand Finals that Cummo would be very cocky but this is not true. Cummo is incredibly down to Earth and is always up for a chat about umpiring or life and is a great mentor to all the younger umpires. He shows no sign of slowing down and has now clocked over 300 League games, which is another feather in his already full cap! We are sure that he will one day look fondly back on all of his achievements post umpiring but for now, he will continue to look forward and aim for more Grand Finals and Golden Flags.

By SANFLUA Committee.

GOLDEN WHISTLE

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

SILVER WHISTLE

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

GOLDEN FLAGS

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



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

APY LANDS TRIP

In early September, we saw some of our umpires travel up to the APY Lands to umpire the Preliminary Final. Veteran goal umpires Mathew Wilson and Steven Murphy waved the flags, while we had Alex Reardon and Ryan Webster in the middle. The SANFLUA heard that it was a fantastic experience had by all and well worth the long drive.

As usual, we are sure Murph claimed everything he could on tax, whilst up there and there definitely would have been some 'hard chats' in the car with Willow (with some S Club 7 playing on the playlist). Judging from a photo below, Murph definitely had a blast with some amazing oversell (Peter Honeyman would not be happy). There was also a photo of Willow umpiring but for the sake of our readers, we have decided not to publish it in here as it does not leave much to the imagination!

As for the field umpires, we are not too sure what songs they had on their car ride down but we did hear that their umpiring was very much well received by all the spectators. There is no doubt that this annual trip is one to remember, so please put your name down to go in 2024!

By SANFLUA Committee.



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

HILL AND HENDERSON AFLW GRAND FINAL PLUS ALL AUSTRALIAN FOR HILL

The SANFLUA would like to congratulate both Emilie Hill and Georgia Henderson on umpiring the 2023 AFLW Grand Final. It was a historic first, with both goal umpires being female for the ultimate decider and both South Australians! Emilie and Georgia have both excelled in their umpiring careers so far and have big futures ahead.

The game itself turned out to be a fantastic one to watch and umpire, with both teams locked in a close battle, in front of a sell out crowd at Ikon Park. Both Emilie and Georgia should be incredibly proud of their achievements and umpiring an AFLW Grand Final is something they'll never forget.

The SANFLUA would also like to congratulate Emilie on being named the 2023 AFLW All Australian goal umpire. To say grand final week was a big one for Emilie is a huge understatement.

Emilie started her journey in the SANFL in 2016 and has steadily rose through the ranks since. She has now umpired 30 SANFL League games and over 20 AFLW games. Once again, the SANFLUA would like to congratulate both Emilie and Georgia on their achievements, their futures in umpiring are very bright!

By SANFLUA Committee.



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

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BLAYDE'S A CUT ABOVE THE REST

In round 18 of the 2023 season, Blayde Harten made his League Debut umpiring the Eagles vs West Adelaide game.

Blayde made his first SANFL appearance in 2020 where he joined through the SANFLW squad after umpiring out at Adelaide Footy League for a few years prior. In 2021, Blayde was given the opportunity to umpire the SANFLW Grand Final. Later in that same season, Blayde made his Under 16 and 18 debut where his on and off field dedication and strong performance resulted in being selected to umpire the Under 18 Grand Final at Adelaide Oval in the same year. During the 2022 season, Blayde was given the opportunity to umpire at reserves level, but unfortunately his season came to an end early tearing ligaments in his ankle. In 2023, Blayde was promoted to the Senior Squad where he continued to grow and develop in his running abilities. After a strong season at reserves level, Blayde was given the opportunity to umpire League Football in the last round of the season.

As someone who has been on a very similar umpiring journey, joining the SANFL at the same time, umpiring the same SANFLW and Under 18 Grand Finals and making our League Debuts in the same season, I have been very proud in the improvements that Blayde has made.

By Nathan Becker.

STATISTICS

Joined SANFL in 2020

Reserves: 19

League: 1

SANFLW League: 19

Grand Finals: SANFLW – 2021
and U18 – 2021

NAB U18 Championship – 2022



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

JT's EXCEPTIONAL DEBUT

We all hear about Grand Final haircuts..... what about getting one at a SANFL Super Match for free then getting a call up for your League Debut? It doesn't matter how they come – and even after getting asked if running one quarter counts – yes it does.

After running Reserves in the second last round at Richmond, Justin Thai took the opportunity to hang around and watch the League game, which little did he know would become something else.

Unfortunately, due to Tom Sharpe injuring his ankle in the third quarter of the League game, and with Justin still at the ground, he got the call up, the quick change back into costume, and was around the Boundary to look after the Final Quarter of the West Norwood League game.

It was a special, odd day for several reasons, including a debut at the other end for Tom Kelly in the Goals, Sharpie having to come off due to injury, and Field Umpire Daniel Whittlesea in his own League Debut having to Goal Umpire for 2 minutes. Watching the final quarter, Justin put in a very good performance in what I'm sure he wasn't expecting by the end of the day.

Justin came to SANFL after umpiring in the Adelaide Footy League, making his way through to SANFLW with SANFL in 2020, having originally umpired SANFLW in 2018, from there being a part of the Academy and then Senior Squad from 2022. Justin has umpired 116 SANFL matches, none bigger than what came at the end of the season, selected to umpire in the Reserves Grand Final.

Justin works hard on and off the field, is always up for talking footy, and if you ever need a Simpsons quote, Justin's your guy.

The future is bright, and we know it won't be long before Justin gets the selection for a full 4 quarter League game in the not-too-distant future. Keep up the great work JT and on behalf of all the Umpires and SANFLUA, congratulations on your Debut League Game.....Quarter.

By Steven Paunovic.

STATISTICS

Joined SANFL in 2020

From Adelaide Footy League
(started 2017)

Total SANFL games: 116

U16 Grand Final: 2021

Reserves Grand Final: 2023



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

SON OF A GUN

Being the son of a gun, Daniel from a young age had footy in his blood and this was noticed early-on with him joining the SANFL from the Combined Southern League Football Umpires Panel in 2016. Daniel, who outside of footy, works for Nestle and has a degree in Sport, Health and Physical Activity. Joined the Senior Squad ranks in 2020.

Prior to season 2023, Daniel has built a very strong football resume with the SANFL making him sit in high regard with a lot of coaches and fellow umpiring colleagues. Some of these included an Under 16's, 18s and SANFL Womens Grand Final. To add to this if it wasn't already enough a proud winner of the Stan Wickhim award for best academy field umpire in 2019.

Season 2023, Daniel knew it would be a make-or-break year for himself. But he stood up in a big way. With him in career best form heading into the second half of the 2023 Season after having gained a great level of experience and skills throughout the AFL Under 18's Championships.

In round 17, Daniel was rewarded with the opportunity to make his League Debut. A game that really had everything. From him spending 30 seconds as a goal umpire early in the 4th Quarter to the match ending in a draw. None of this disturbed him during the game and was able to make himself look at home in league level from the first bounce which I must say was one of his best given the amount of games I umpired with him in the 2023 Season.

I look forward to seeing what Daniel can do at League level in Season 2024 and wish him all the best for the next season.

By Jake Cumming.

STATISTICS

Joined SANFL in 2016

Total SANFL games: 167

Reserves: 94

U18 Grand Final: 2019

Reserves Grand Final: 2023

Stan Wickham Memorial Award:
2019

NAB U18 Championships - 2023



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

KELLY'S DOUBLE DEBUT

Well, who would have thought someone in our umpiring generation would umpire League football in two different disciplines? I'm sure you're now in a very exclusive club, Mr Kelly. Something more impressive than being a bidisciplinarian is how quickly Tom (not short for Thomas) was able to adapt to goal umpiring. In his second season of goal umpiring, he did the U18s Grand final and in the following year debuted in league footy and topped off the season by doing his first reserves grand final as a goal umpire (he has approximately four in total or something now - this was not fact checked).

I respect Tom's umpiring career, as he has overcome many obstacles and had a lot to deal with throughout: A persistent hip injury, one of the biggest grand final snubs of all time and being friends with Fish for the entirety of his career. Tom had to make the difficult decision to cease running the boundary due to injury, and it shows a lot of character that he decided to refocus his energy into another discipline instead of just throwing in the towel. Or as Tom said, "I just want 200 games so I can get my life membership". Poetic.

It is great that Tom is still heavily involved with the boundary umpire group, and by that, I mean he paid some fines that contributed to our end of season trip. Sorry you couldn't come, mate; your money was well spent. I often ask Tom what it's like being out between the sticks compared with his time on the outer edge of the oval. He said to me recently, "we don't run as much" and "I'm getting fat... well, I'm bulking - let's just say I'm not lean". So, do with that information what you will.

Congratulations on a fantastic achievement, Tom. As I said, you're in very rare company and you should be proud of the hard work and focus you have shown to umpire at such a high level in two different disciplines. I hope the label of bidisciplinarian sticks, I think you should own it, well done!

By Dylan Whan.

STATISTICS

Joined SANFL in 2015

Boundary Umpire from 2015 – 2020

Goal Umpire from 2020 – present

League: 56

League finals in 2018 and 2020

Reserves Grand Finals: 2016, 17, 20 and 23

Mark J Posa Award in 2016



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

WILLOW REACHES LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Well Mat, you made it. I think Mat's been talking about his 200th since the first conversation I ever had with him probably knowing the exact amount of games he had left and probably even worked out which game he was doing years in advance. I was honoured to have been asked to do the game with him all be it me forcing him to choose me because he couldn't decide himself.

Having become closer to Mat over the past few years has been a blessing. I've learnt that he will tell you what he really thinks most of the time and that is something I really cherish about him. That's because most of the time it's what you need to hear. Not only has he helped me become a better umpire but a better person.

You are a role model to me and lots of other young umpires. I'm looking forward (and also a little bit scared) to have you as a coach over the coming seasons. Thanks for being a great mate and mentor.

By Braden Ford.

STATISTICS

Joined SANFL in 2002

Finished on 203 League games

Total SANFL games: 406

League finals panel: 9

League Grand Finals: 2010, 19 and 20. Emergency in 2018, 22, 23

State Games: 2016, 19

Golden Flags: 2019, 20

Most Improved: 2010

SANFLUA Most Dedicated: 2019, 21, 22

AFL panel: 2011 – 15 (47 games)

SANFL Life Member in 2023 – 58th umpire to do so (19th Goal Umpire)



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

Vale David Partington

31.05.1934 – 30.05.2023

It is with great sadness that the SANFL Umpires Association advise of the passing of Life Member David Partington.

David passed away on the 30th of May 2023, aged 88 years.

David was inducted as a SANFLUA Life Member in 1966. The SANFL Umpires Association, it's Members and Life Members pass on our condolences to wife Daphne, sons Graeme and James, granddaughters Elise and Vanessa and the extended Partington family.

Braden Ford

SANFLUA President

SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2024 VOUCHERS

Was 2023 a season to forget for yourself? Well, the SANFLUA has a get out of jail free card for season 2024! Present the following vouchers to your coach post-game for a perfect review.

FIELD UMPIRE MISSED REPORT

Missed a report in a game?

Sun in your eyes?

Forgot the player's number?

Don't worry. Cut out this voucher and hand it to your game day observer for a perfect game review.

Offer only valid once.

SANFL
UMPIRES
ASSOCIATION

Not a real voucher

GOAL UMPIRES ERROR IN SCORE

Forgot your 6 times tables?

Didn't really see the ball and guessed it was a goal?

Maybe you're just not a very good umpire?

Don't worry. Cut out this voucher and hand it to your game day observer for a perfect game review.

Offer only valid once.

SANFL
UMPIRES
ASSOCIATION

Not a real voucher

BOUNDARY UMPIRE THROW IN RECALL

Ball slip out of your hands when throwing the ball in?

Was it really windy?

Maybe the field umpire has a vendetta against you?

Don't worry. Cut out this voucher and hand it to your game day observer for a perfect game review.

Offer only valid once.

SANFL
UMPIRES
ASSOCIATION

Not a real voucher

SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

MANFRED'S MONDAY

The SANFLUA would like to thank our official photographer Manfred for his work over the years and for this season too. Manfred is dedicated to his work and attends as many SANFL matches he can to take photos of our umpires in action. His home ground is Prospect Oval, so keep an eye out for him and his camera during the year! On our social's you would have noticed that Monday is all about Manfred and his 'shot of the week.'

By SANFLUA Committee.



SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

STEVE'S STATS

The SANFLUA would like to thank our official statistician and good friend Steven Paunovic. 'Paun' has been an integral part of the association for many years and we would be lost without his stats! Wednesday is the day to find Steve's Stats on our socials, which provides everyone that follows SANFLUA with interesting stats each round. Paun also records stats for every umpire in the SANFLUA, which is an amazing feat. On behalf of the association, thank you very much Paun.

By Brad Hammer.

Steve's Stats - Finals Week 1



MILESTONES

League

LEAGUE FINALS DEBUTS

Field - Harrison Hughes, Tom Burke
Boundary - Jaxon Williams

Reserves

RESERVES FINALS DEBUTS

Field - Paul Ventura, Ryan Webster
Boundary - Oakley Nilsen, Jayden Dunning,
Blayde Harten, Gianni Scoleri, Nathan Becker
Goal - Justin Thal, Tom Oxford

Under 18

50 - Daniel Rogers (F), South v Central

U18 FINALS DEBUTS

Field - Ben Thiel, Jayden Ridge, Josh Edwards,
Spencer Davis
Boundary - Daniel Charles, Joshua Read, Ben Van Raalte,
James Haskard, Archer Wilson, Joshua Thunig
Goal - Daniel Daminato, Patrick Backshall

Under 16

U16 FINALS DEBUTS

Field - Dylan Howarth, Cooper Williams, Peter Orr
Boundary - Andrew Nunn, Paul DeLisio, Matthew Beer,
Aden MacPherson, Halli Finnsson, Jude Heeps,
Emma Jones, Hugo Measday
Goal - David Cunningham, Ben Holds, Obelia Williams

Overall (All Grade Total):

400 - Sam Royans (Boundary), Centrals v Port - League

FIRST EVER FINAL IN SANFL

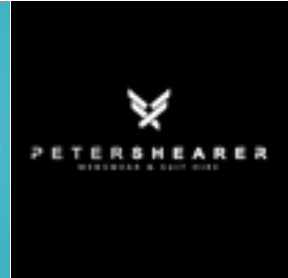
Field - Ryan Webster, Ben Thiel, Dylan Howarth
Boundary - Ben Van Raalte, James Haskard, Archer Wilson, Andrew
Nunn, Paul DeLisio, Matthew Beer, Aden MacPherson, Hugo Measday
Goal - Ben Holds, Obelia Williams

FUN FACTS

- In the first weekend of the Finals, we congratulate Sam Royans on the triple-treat of milestones from Sunday at Adelaide Oval. It was Sam's 40th League Final, his 50th Final across all grades, AND it was also his 400th SANFL match overall. Sam started Umpiring with SANFL in 2006, quickly rising to be a Reserves regular in 2007 and 2008 on the Senior Panel, debuting in League in 2007, and becoming a regular at the top level from 2009. Sam's first final was back in 2006, in the Under 17 2nd Semi Final, running that day with Ben Sieben and Bryce Watkins. His first League final was in 2009, 2nd Semi at Football Park, Centrals vs. Glenelg. To hit 40 League finals is a massive feat and a testament to Sam's love of Umpiring and resilience in his 18th season of SANFL Football.
- Field Umpire Daniel Rogers Umpired his 50th Under 18s game in the 2nd Semi Final clash between South and Centrals. Dan began umpiring with SANFL in 2020, quickly working his way to Under 18's Football in the same season, and Reserves in 2022. Daniel has umpired 66 SANFL games overall, and 4 Finals across the U16 and U18 competitions. Most of his 66 games have been run with good mate Kyran Beech (11 games together). Well done Dan!
- Archer Wilson - umpired his first Noarlunga game on Saturday, and has now officiated at all 8 U16/U18 grounds in 16 SANFL matches.
- Daniel Daminato - across 2 stints, umpired his 5th Eagles vs. Sturt match-up (most).
- Josh Thunig - umpired his 6th South vs. Centrals clash (most).
- Patrick Backshall - ran with Josh Edwards in Field, and Lochie O'Brien on Boundary for the 10th game each (most).
- Matthew Rohrlach - ran his 12th SANFL match with Nick Mallia (most).
- Halli Finnsson - umpired his 13th SANFL match at Richmond (most).
- Jude Heeps - umpired West Adelaide for the 8th time, and 4 of those have been against North Adelaide (most match-ups).
- Ben Holds - a massive effort to run in his first Final after beginning in 2023, and the First Semi Final on the weekend was just his 10th SANFL match.
- Dylan Speck - umpired with Sam Morgan in the Field for the 25th time in League games (most).
- Damian Robinson - not many would be able to say it; Damian umpired his 26th League game at Adelaide Oval, the most of any ground in his career to date.

SANFL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

2023 SPONSORS



SANFLUA

SANFLUA was 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.