

CRACKERS CHRONICLES – CLUB COACHES TWO THOUSAND & TENS (2012 – 2020)

Welcome back to this week's edition of "**Crackers Chronicles**".

Each week in this column we will trace some of the history of the *Old Scotch Football Club* by recounting the contributions made by some of our great club coaches.

This week we focus on our club coaches of the Two Thousand and Tens ...

**D. R. Dean Anderson 2012 - 2014**

Due to the increasing complexity of coaching a Premier section club, in 2012 the club decided to appoint joint-coaches to take over the coaching of our Seniors team from Peter Banfield. Dean Anderson, an old Caulfield Grammarian and AFL premiership player with the *Hawthorn Football Club* was appointed joint-coach with Stuart Powell. Dean had played 83 games with *Hawthorn* from 1988 – 1992, playing in their 1989 & 1991 premiership teams. In 1993, he transferred to the *St Kilda Football Club* and played a further 67 games with *St Kilda* from 1993 – 1996.

During his three seasons with our club, he and Stuey coached our Seniors to 4<sup>th</sup> position in Premier Section in 2012 losing the first semi final to *De La Salle* by 20 points, 4<sup>th</sup> position in 2013 losing the first semi final to *University Blacks* by 19 points and 4<sup>th</sup> position again in 2014 losing the first semi final to *Collegians* by 14 points.

**S. J. Stuart Powell 2012 - 2014**

Due to the increasing complexity of coaching a premier section club, in 2012 the club decided to appoint joint-coaches to take over the coaching of our Seniors team from Peter Banfield. Stuart Powell, an old boy of St Kevin's College was appointed joint-coach with Dean Anderson. In 1998, Stuey had played A Section football with *St Kevin's Old Boys*. From 2007 – 2008, he coached *Ajax* and from 2009 – 2011 he coached *St Kevin's Old Boys*. Stuey was employed at St Kevin's College. In 2013, he was appointed Director of Sport at Scotch College, taking over from Barry Price.

During his three seasons with our club, he and Deano coached our Seniors to 4<sup>th</sup> position in Premier Section in 2012 losing the first semi final to *De La Salle* by 20 points, 4<sup>th</sup> position in 2013 losing the first semi final to *University Blacks* by 19 points and 4<sup>th</sup> position again in 2014 losing the first semi final to *Collegians* by 14 points.

**M. R. Mark Passador 2015 - 2016**

In 2015, Dean Anderson advised the club that due to the increased pressures of his employment, he would no longer be able to coach. The club sought a replacement coach and appointed our 2014 co-captain Mark Passador as non-playing coach. However, Mark indicated that he wanted to coach solely, so Stuart Powell was not re-appointed as co-coach.

Mark, an *Old Trinity Grammar* player, started his professional playing career with *Springvale*, playing in their 1999 premiership team before being drafted to *Carlton* in 2000. He played 21 Reserves games with *Carlton* before returning to *Springvale* in 2001. The following year, 2002, he moved to *Box Hill* before transferring to *Woodville West Torrens* in the SANFL. There he played seven seasons from 2003 - 2009, playing 113 games and kicking 312 goals, including playing in their 2006 premiership team. From 2010 – 2014, Mark played 54 games with the *Old Scotch Football Club* kicking 152 goals, including co-captaining our club in 2014.

During his two seasons as coach of our club, Mark coached our Seniors team to 9<sup>th</sup> position in Premier Section in 2015, being relegated to Premier B Section in 2016, and to 3<sup>rd</sup> position in Premier B Section in 2016, losing the preliminary final to *Beaumaris* by 34 points.

**D. W. Dale Bower 2017 - 2019**

In 2017, Dale Bower was appointed to coach our Seniors team taking over from Mark Passador. Dale came to our club with a wealth of playing, coaching and mentoring experience. He played in a number of competitions, including the Bendigo, North Central, Diamond Valley, Mornington Peninsula Nepean and Northern Territory Football Leagues, and was selected in inter-league teams.

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He was playing coach with *Harcourt* in the Maryborough Castlemaine District Football League and with *Kinglake* in the Diamond Valley Football League. He had development, coaching, recruiting and other appointments with clubs *Box Hill Hawks*, *Western Bulldogs* & *Williamstown*, and with *Western Bulldogs* in the AFL. He was senior coach at *Scoresby* and later at *East Ringwood* in the Eastern Football League.

In the VAFA, Dale had been Reserves/Senior assistant coach at *Old Trinity Grammarians* and senior coach at *Parkdale Vultures*. During the 2015 season, he was coaching consultant and mentor at *Old Trinity Grammarians*.

In his first season 2017, he coached our Seniors team to be runners up in Premiers B Section to *Old Brighton Grammarians*, losing the grand final by 36 points but earning promotion back to Premier Section in 2018. In his second season 2018, he coached our Seniors team to 9<sup>th</sup> position in Premier Section to be relegated back to Premier B Section in 2019. However, in 2019 after Round 6 with the team on 5 wins and only one loss, he resigned and was replaced by his assistant coach Barry Mitchell.

**B. Barry Mitchell 2019 –**

In 2019, after Round 6, Barry Mitchell was appointed to coach our Seniors taking over from Dale Bower who had resigned. Barry has played 170 games with the *Sydney Swans* from 1984 – 1992, 13 games with *Collingwood* in 1993 and 38 games with *Carlton* from 1994 – 1996. An ex-Mulgrave player, Barry became one of the League's top rovers. His best season was 1991 when he won the *Swans'* best & fairest and was selected in the AFL All Australian team. After retiring from *Carlton* in 1996, he kept involved with the club by becoming their runner. He was promoted by the *Blues* to assistant coach in 2003, but left to join *Hawthorn*, again as an assistant, and was part of the premiership team of 2008. He left the *Hawks* at the end of the premiership winning season to join *Fremantle* as an assistant coach. At the end of the 2011 season, he left *Fremantle* to return to Melbourne after his son Tom Mitchell was drafted by the *Sydney Swans* under the father-son rule.

Well, that brings us up to date on club coaches ...

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