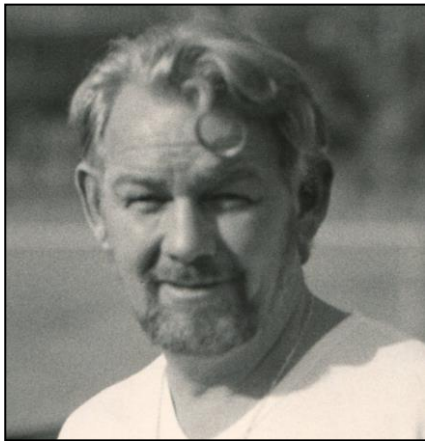


Roger Smith

Life Member CCSA 1978



Roger is a life member of the Central Coast Football Association and East Gosford Football Club and has been involved in football for 61 years and is still going strong. Roger is a past president of the Central Coast Football Association (1974, 1975 and 1978).

Born 1941 and bred in Gosford, Roger first played for an under 8's team with The Entrance in 1950 in a Hunter District competition. He stayed at The Entrance until his senior player days, then tried his luck in Sydney with a few seasons with Western Suburbs (where he played against Bill Vrolyks who was playing with Sydney Austral) and then with Penrith. The rest of his career (early 1960s) was played with The Entrance, which in

those days played in a Newcastle 2nd and 3rd Division competition.

Roger's coaching career commenced with East Gosford where he coached both junior and senior teams for thirteen years sometimes coaching two or three teams each year and winning several League Championships and Grand Finals. He started coaching Central Coast Representative teams in 1973 in the NNSW State Titles and continued to coach various Rep. Teams in the Sydney Youth League until 1992. He contributed to the promotion of the Code by becoming the Central Coast voice of football with his weekly broadcasts on Radio 2GO.

In 1976 he was appointed as a Northern N.S.W. State coach of an U13 team which finished fourth in the Australian national titles. His highlight as a coach of a Northern N.S.W. State team happened in 1978 when his U15 team won the Australian national titles staged on the Central Coast; the first time ever that a team from Northern N.S.W. had won the title. During his time with Northern N.S.W. as a coach, Roger also became the Junior Vice-President of Northern N.S.W. Football.

In 1979 Roger coached the Central Coast U16 rep. team in the Sydney Youth League and the U13 Northern N.S.W. team at the National Titles in Bundaberg Qld. Somehow he also found the time and energy to tour the United States of America (east to west) with the Northern N.S.W. U16 Australian national champions which travelled as the full Australian National under 16 team.

Between 1980 and 1987 Roger coached several Central Coast Combined High School teams which competed in the Commonwealth Bank Cup, as well as Central Coast Representative teams. Also Northern N.S.W. teams which competed in the National titles, and in addition found time to coach a couple of local Premier League teams.

In 1988 Roger became the goalkeeper coach for Kuringai Youth League, and an advisor to the Youth League coaches. In 1989 he became the Director of Coaching for Kuringai Representative Club and the local clubs. During the 1990's Roger continued his coaching services with Central Coast Representative teams until 1993 when he returned to Kuringai District to become the Director of Coaching for two seasons. 1996 and 1997 saw Roger as Head Coach of the Kanwal- Warnervale Soccer Club as well as coaching a junior Wyoming Soccer Club team (1994-1997). In 1998 and 1999 and 2000 Roger returned to Sydney where he was Director of Coaching for the Forest-Killarney Club which competed in the Sydney Premier League. The year 2000 saw Roger return once again to Wyoming Soccer Club where he coached both junior and U18 teams (2000-2005) and in 2004 was voted to be the under 18 Coach of the Year after his under 18A team were undefeated in the League Championship.

In 2006 Roger turned full circle in so far as his coaching career is concerned when he returned to coach at East Gosford Soccer Club where he remains to this day coaching a number of teams.

Roger's contribution to the game of football on the Central Coast and elsewhere is an amazing achievement. His passion for the game is infectious and it is evident that it rubbed onto his chargers and gave them the confidence for the task at hand.

Roger sadly passed away on 20th November 2018.

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