

**COLIN GADD****“a true gentleman and an inspiration to all”****Playing Career**

**1960 - 1963** Armidale High School – the school team played in Armidale District Competition **Captain in 1963.**

**1963** Awarded first Armidale High School Sports Blue for Soccer.

**1963** Captain of Armidale Representative Under 18 team.

**1964 and 1965** Armidale Teachers College First XI. Represented Armidale in Senior Regional competitions (Acropolis and Browning Cup).

**1968** Inverell - represented New England

**1969** Knights Soccer Club, Armidale

**1970 and 1971** St David's Hurstville Grove in the Sydney Protestant Churches Competition

**1972 and 1973** Connells Point Rovers in the St George District Soccer Association. Most goals scored in season (23).

**1974 - 1976** Demon Knights in the Armidale District Competition. Captain Coach in 1976.

**Refereeing Career**

**1964 and 1965** Began refereeing junior games (unqualified) on Saturday mornings as part of College sports

**1972** Qualified as Class 3 Referee in the St George Soccer Association. Refereed juniors on Saturday mornings and then played in the afternoons.

**1973** Class 3 Referee in NSW Soccer Federation on Sundays (Colin played on Saturdays).

**1974 - 1976** Joined Armidale Soccer Referees Association. Refereed games when not playing. Secretary and Appointments Officer.

**1976** Refereed Northern NSW State Amateur Cup Final in Lismore between Richmond Rovers and Tamworth RSL; Rovers won.

**1977 and 1978** Colin lived away from Armidale but travelled to referee First Grade in Armidale every three weeks or so.

**Refereed Tamworth Soccer Association First Division Grand Final at their invitation in 1978.**

**1979 - 1983** Refereed senior and junior games in Armidale District Soccer Association including Senior and Junior representative games and First Grade Grand Finals 1980 to 1983.

**Refereed State League** games played in Armidale.

Conducted Referees Courses in Guyra and in Armidale. Qualified as Class Two Referee in 1982.

**1984 - 1987** Moved to Emmaville and travelled to Armidale to referee senior games one day each weekend. Refereed in the Premier League in Armidale in 1984 and 1985. Conducted one Referees Course a year in Glen Innes for Glen Innes Soccer Association.

**1988 - 1994.** Moved to Ashford and joined Inverell Soccer Referees Association. Refereed Inverell home games in the Armidale District Soccer Association and travelled to Armidale to referee on other weekends. Conducted one referees course a year for the Inverell Soccer Association. Passed Class One Referees Theory Examination in 1992.

**1995 to present.** Refereeing Senior and Junior games in Armidale District Football Association. Regularly refereed Premier League until 2007. Then refereed junior and local senior games. Refereed my last Premier League game in 2017. Conducted one or two referee's courses each year from 1995 until the present for the New England District Football Referees Association.

- Life Member of New England District Football Referees Association 1996
- Regional Soccer Referees Coach for New England and Northern Inland Zone from 1995 – 2009.
- Member of executive of New England Football Referees Association since 1995 – mainly Secretary and Vice President; and Branch Coach. Now President and Branch Coach.

My proudest claim is that of all the senior referees now officiating in the Northern Inland Premier league and the Armidale District competition only Russell Prowse and Tim Lloyd and Cornelia Lloyd were not trained by Colin. The others have developed from courses Colin conducted – notably Michael Welbourn, Peter McClenaghan, Nick Shiels (who got his start from Bob Vidler in Guyra – Colin trained Bob), Bob Jex, Steve Griffith to mention a few.

Member of Northern NSW Soccer Referees Standing Committee representing Northern Inland Zone at State level. Returned as a member in 2018.

- Chairman of Northern Inland Zone Referees Standing Committee for six years.
- 1995 Qualified as Referees Inspector.
- 2019 Qualified again as Level 3 Assessor and Instructor

**Total: 39 Years as a qualified official**

Colin started coaching referees in 1980 and was still mentoring and sharing his knowledge of the world game – about 40 years. That’s at least 40 courses - probably 50 as Colin completed 2 in some years.

## Coaching

**1970 -1973** Hurstville Primary School. Coached two teams each year in Botany Bay PSSA.

**1972** - Coached Connells Point Rovers Under 10’s

**1971, 1972 and 1973** Coached St George Regional PSSA team at NSW PSSA Championships.

**1974, 1975 and 1976** Coached Demon Knights, Armidale, Under 12’s (two teams)

**1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978** Coached North West PSSA team, at NSW PSSA Championships

**1979, 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983** Coached Guyra junior teams in the Armidale District Competition.

**1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987** coached Emmaville teams in the Glen Innes Junior competition. Coached Glen Innes Junior Representative teams as well.

**1988 to 1994** Coached Ashford teams in the Inverell District Soccer Association. Also coached Inverell representative teams. Also ran the Intensive Skills Coaching programme in Inverell for the New England Association.

Also coached Ashford Central School teams in Bill Turner Cup

Qualified as State Level One and then State Level Two (Part One) coach.

**1997** Coached Demon Knights Under 14A team in the Armidale Competition

**1997, 1998 and 1999** coached North West PSSA team at NSW PSSA Championships

**1995** Coached New England Under 16 representative team

**1998** Coached New England Under 13’s at Northern NSW State Championships.

Colin decided to pursue the Refereeing path because there always seemed to be a coach available, but referees were always a bit scarce. As long as juniors played in the mornings and seniors in the afternoons there were no clashes.

Coached PSSA teams; St George (now Metropolitan East) and North West, at State PSSA Championship Level on 11 occasions.

## Administration

Colin held a number of positions on many committees and attended hundreds of meetings:

- 1976 and 1977 President Demon Knights Armidale
- 1977 President Armidale District Association
- 1983 Vice President Glen Innes Soccer Association
- 1993 Awarded Trophy for “Services to Soccer” by the Inverell District Soccer Association
- Member of the Board of Directors of the New England District (and then Northern Inland) Soccer Association 1992 - 2009. Secretary New England in 1998. Northern Inland Football Board Member 2016 to 2018.
- Been on the Management Committee of Armidale District Association for a number of years - usually publicity.
- President Armidale District PSSA in 1981, 82 and 83.
- Wrote Sports column “Man in the Middle” in Armidale Express (voluntary contributor) from 1995 to 2010 – plenty of soccer news. Also wrote it from 1980 to 1983.
- Represented Soccer Association on Armidale District Sports Council for four years –
- Colin represented the Armidale Dumaresq Council for 8 years.
- Foundation Chair, an of Armidale Regional Council Sports Council in 2016.

## Awards

- Awarded Life Membership of the Armidale District Football Association in 2001.
- Awarded Life Membership of New England District Football Referees Association 1996
- Awarded Bill Turner Trophy for Services to Junior Football by Northern NSW Football in 2010.
- Awarded Life Membership of Northern Inland Football 2019
- Awarded Colin Gadd Contribution to Football Trophy by Northern Inland Football in 2018 (initial award of this trophy)
- Awarded Australian Sports Medal (Australian Government Award) for Services to Football and Cricket in the New England Region in 2000.
- Colin continued to train and mentor the referee’s in the zone, every Saturday during the season he could be found watching the young referee’s and giving them advice, Colin provided training and support to all referee’s in the zone as well as running courses for those who wish to become a referee. Colin continued to provide support and advice to clubs, coaches and players till the end.