

The Mid West Football League is proud to honour an outstanding servant of football, having devoted his whole life as a player, administrator, official and volunteer at club, league, and zone levels. One of the first at football and many times one of the last to leave. This recognition focuses on the outstanding service to our league which has extended well beyond local level and we further acknowledge the significant impact that he has had on football across Eyre Peninsula.

Service to Mid West includes:

Mortlock Shield Trainer – Mid West	2000 to 2018 inclusive (19 years)
This is additionally recognised with the Mortlock Shield Life Membership, inducted in 2015	
Port Adelaide Cup Trainer – Mid West	1998 to 2018 inclusive (21 years)
This is also recognised at Zone level having been awarded Western Zone Junior Football Life Membership	
Eyre Peninsula Trainer	2004 to 2018 inclusive (15 years)

Already a highly skilled trainer at Central Eyre, Craig is a passionate supporter of representative football at all levels and strong advocate for the development of trainers in our league and region. He has been able to forge strong relationships with training staff across the region and active in assisting others at all clubs develop the skills, expertise and confidence that he has worked so hard to gain over his own extended involvement. He is at the forefront of latest techniques and principals, and is readily approachable to help others. Training at higher levels has provided challenges, including time away from the farm and family, but Craig's commitment and professionalism have been appreciated by everyone.

Mortlock Shields, Eyre Peninsula matches are lengthy stays away, and he put many hours in in the evenings before matches and then in the aftermath recovery period to get players cared for before their next match. Trainers operate in a high pressure environment needing to make decisions on the welfare of others in serious injury situations. Craig's ability to rationally work through medical emergency and duty of care situation is beyond reproach, many players who have received this assistance from basic recovery up to emergency evacuation will attest this far better than in can be put into words here. This goes well beyond the particular team that he is training for, always ready to go that extra yard to get a good outcome whoever is in need. Craig is well organised and communicates with those around him, so when Carnivals are being planned and run, he is the first one to ask what needs to happen.

Mid West is grateful for the support of his wife Jenny, and Matthew, Jared and Asher over many years of service to or league, and absence from the home front.

Mid West Football League is honoured to bestow Life Membership upon Craig Sampson as due recognition of many years of distinguished service.