



# The Hon Graham Annesley MP

Minister for Sport and Recreation

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Saturday 15th October 2011

### NSW FOOTBALL'S FINEST HONOURED

Minister for Sport and Recreation, Graham Annesley, acknowledged the hard work and effort of the thousands of football players, administrators, coaches, and referees volunteers at Football NSW's Gala State Dinner held at the Sebel Grand Ballroom, Parramatta on Saturday evening.

"It's an honour and privilege to be representing the NSW Premier, Barry O'Farrell, to acknowledge the spirit, passion and dedication of football participants both on and off the field throughout NSW," Mr Annesley said.

"The State Dinner is Football NSW's premier event to celebrate the season and recognise the substantial contributions made by all involved in this great sport.

More than two hundred special guests attended the State Dinner including national team players, representatives from FFA and the NSW Sports Federation and Association Presidents.

Highlights of the evening were the presentation of Football NSW State Awards for:

- long service to football;
- the most outstanding display of fair play; and
- The George Churchward Medal for the most outstanding contribution to football.

Football NSW has more than 240,000 football players, 800 football clubs, 37 associations across the state and 40,000 community volunteers.

"Volunteers are the lifeblood of football and sport, who undertake a lot of work, often under pressure, to keep football running well in NSW," Mr Annesley added.

In 2010-11, the NSW Government invested more than \$1.7 million in football programs, projects and facilities across the State.

"I congratulate all of the nominees and winners on their achievements this past season and trust support for arguably NSW's number one participation sport continues for many years to come," Mr Annesley said.



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**Winner's names are strictly embargoed to 16 October 2011**

### **Football NSW State Awards for long service to soccer football in NSW:**

Wayne Fraser	Albury Association
Mark Ruhnau	Bankstown Association
Bob Williamson	Blacktown Association
Ann Williamson	Blacktown Association
Charles Tama	Canterbury Association
Bruce Drake	Canterbury Association
Darrell Hines	Dubbo Association
Judy Shoemith	Eurobodalla Association
Susan Kinsey	Eurobodalla Association
Danielle Foster	Football South Coast
Adrian Serafin	Griffith Association
Steve Goodwin	Macarthur Association
David Broughton	Manly Association
Richard Schotanus	Nepean Association
Buck Findlay	North West Sydney Women's Football Association
Roberta Stone	Lachlan Association
Malcolm Stone	Lachlan Association
Debbie Barling	Shoalhaven Association
Gary Poile	Southern Tablelands Association
Noel Shipley	Southern Districts Association
Giulio di Stefano	Sutherland Association
Andrew Mason	Wagga Wagga Association

### **Fair Play Award Winner 2011:**

Pendle Hill Football Club U13 Division 1 team – Granville Association

### **George Churchward Medal Winner 2011:**

Mrs Joan Robertson – Southern Branch NSW