

Coach of the year

The Coach of the Year Award, sponsored by Copyworld - will be an individual who has made a significant contribution to the success of a person/s or team that they have coached or been the major cause for an increased standard of coaching in the sport with which they have been associated. The Coach of the Year award recognises outstanding performance by a South Australian Coach based on their results for athletes they coach and excellence in coaching practices at any level. The Award finalists are:

Tony Bamford

Organisation: SANFL

Tony was appointed as Coach and Academy Manager, State U18's, Male Programs in May 2017 and this year took on the role of head coach for the 2018 SA U18 Men's state program. He's worked fulltime in football in South Australia, in development, talent and coaching roles for more than 18 years. This year, the SA U18 state team was undefeated at the national championships, which says something for his coaching, his well-planned training sessions, his relationships with and amongst the players and the development plans he created for them and for his assist coaches. His operating environment is high performance and so are his teams. Six of his players were recognised with All-Australian honours and a number are expected to be draft picks for the national competition next month.