



Albury/Wodonga Soccer Referee's Association

Rookie of the Year Award (Andrew Wuksta Memorial Award)

The Award is given in honour of Andrew Wuksta, the inaugural AWSRA Rookie of the Year.

It is an encouragement award and as such the recipient is not necessarily the Association's best or even a young referee. Simply a relative new comer to refereeing

It is awarded to a referee who has a relaxed, friendly, positive outlook, a referee who is willing to accept advice and always does their best. A member who wishes to contribute and represents the game, the AWSRA and themselves in the best possible manner.

Andrew was a good, but not outstanding, referee who he had a great love of refereeing and cherished his involvement with AWSRA.

Nothing was too much trouble, he was the first to volunteer for any task, he always attended monthly meetings, education seminars, not only because it was the right thing to do, but because it was an opportunity to contribute and if he got to find fun somewhere in the depths of Law 12 then that was a bonus.

Andrew had the brightest outgoing personality, always had a smile on his face and had an infectious ability to put a smile on the face of everyone with whom he came into contact.

While he was a teenager, he treated everybody as a friend and equal, he had the rare ability to be able to mix easily with anyone and everyone.

His ease at communicating with older people, and his ability to gently prick their egos, made him a joy.

A short time after receiving the inaugural Rookie of the Year trophy, Andrew was tragically killed in a car accident.

In 2001, in recognition of an unforgettable young man, the Rookie of the Year Award was renamed the Andrew Wuksta Memorial Award.

We present this Award in his honour.

Criteria:

- In early stages of refereeing
- Has a genuine love for refereeing and the game in general relaxed, friendly, positive outlook willing to accept advice and always does their best

- contribute and represents the game, the AWSRA and themselves in the best possible manner
- Makes an effort to attend General Meetings and education seminars. however that would need to be tempered and they should not be disadvantaged by consideration such as:
 - o geographic location (living outside the cities of Albury Wodonga etc)
 - o work/study commitments (night/shift work etc)
 - o family commitments (illness/special circumstances)

Determination:

The award will be decided by the Executive based on a recommendation from the Technical Committee.