

NL COACHING HEROES

Malcolm McPherson

Head Coach: "The gaffer"

Like many coaches Malcolm started his football life as a player. He enjoyed a professional football career in England throughout the 1990's, starting at Yeovil Town before moving for a record deal (for Yeovil) to Premiership side, West Ham Utd. He then went on to play for Brentford FC.

When Malcolm finished playing football, he took a different career path by becoming a Managing Director of a Sales and Marketing Company overseeing over 50 staff in two locations in London and Bristol. In a lifestyle change he then moved to New Zealand in 2002, where he focused on coaching.

Malcolm is a shrewd recruiter – with an eye for quality players he picks his squads based on talent, but he puts equal importance on a player's ability to fit in with the team culture, their attitude and commitment. Malcolm strives for a harmonious yet focused team culture.

Chris Ruffell (Eastern Suburbs chairman) recent comments summarise Malcolm's qualities that were instrumental in Malcolm getting their National League coaching role:

"Malcolm's technical knowledge and ability to galvanise and harness the skills of the individual players into a cohesive team force are exemplary".

"Malcolm embraces our club's ambitions – he's hungry to see Suburbs at the highest level of club football in this country."

Martin Bullock:

Assistant coach

Martin enjoyed playing to a high standard of football in the UK. As a midfielder, Martin made 452 league appearances, and played for Barnsley in the EPL, Martin includes a cap for the England under-21 side in 1996 amongst his 'football trophies'.

He began his career at non-league Eastwood Town, before earning a move to Barnsley in 1993. In an eight-year association with the Club he played almost 200 league games for Barnsley, helping them to the Premier League at the end of the 1996–97 season. Then in 2001 Martin transferred to Blackpool, where he enjoyed a highly successful four years which included lifting the Football League Trophy in 2002 and 2004. He then played for Macclesfield Town between 2005 and 2007, before ending his professional career with Wycombe Wanderers in 2008.

Martin then moved to New Zealand and played for Waitakere United where he helped them to three Premiership titles.

Since retiring from playing, Martin has turned his knowledge and skills to coaching. Malcolm McPherson (Suburbs head coach) was keen to have Martin as his right hand man not only to compliment his own coaching abilities, but he knows Martin has the knowledge and strength to 'push' and challenge him as head coach, and indeed the team, where and when necessary.

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