



SHAUN McRAE

Class of 1977

Shaun McRae was a member of the successful CHS Davidson Shield Team at Sydney Technical High School in 1977, having played three years in the 1st XI, and moved from there to the St George District Cricket Club, where he represented as highly as 2nd Grade. He received a STHS Blue in both Cricket and Rugby League in his final year of school.

His real passion was rugby league, where he began his career as a player at St George and in 1980 signed a contract to play for the Canberra Raiders. A serious knee injury prevented him from fulfilling his contract and he was invited to take on the role of Strength and Conditioning Coach, which he accepted. In 1989 Shaun became the first fulltime Strength and Conditioning Coach in the history of the game of Rugby League. Shaun was an Assistant Coach to the Canberra Raiders from 1982-1996, winning Premierships in 1989, 1990 and 1994.

Shaun's first Head Coaching role was in England where he led St Helens RLFC to the Challenge Cup and Super League double in his inaugural season in 1996, followed again in 1997 by another Challenge Cup success. He remained in the UK for another six years coaching Hull FC.

Shaun returned to Australia in 1994 to take up the Head Coaching role with the South Sydney Rabbitohs, after which he moved into a Director of Coaching role in 2007, until returning in 2008 to coach the Salford City Reds in Manchester for five years, and then being appointed Director of Coaching of Hull FC. In 2014, he returned to Australia and was appointed CEO to the Tweed Heads Seagulls RLFC where he enjoyed a three-year tenure.

Shaun was a Head Coach for 450 first grade games in his career both in Australia and the United Kingdom. He was an Assistant Coach to NSW State of Origin in 1991, Assistant Coach to the Australian Kangaroos from 1990-1994, and an Assistant Coach with the New Zealand Kiwis in the 1995 World Cup. He was also appointed Co Coach of the Great Britain Lions in 1997 and Head Coach of Scotland at the 2000 World Cup. From 1996-2013, Shaun worked for SKY Sports as an expert commentator.