

MARK HAINES



A HEAD START AT SCHOOL. PROFILE No 11



Course: **Certificate II in Sport and Recreation**
GTO: **AFL SportsReady, SA**
Host Employer: **Underdale High School**

Mark how long since you left school and made your career choice?

I made a career choice midway through 2006. I was doing my Certificate II in Sport and Recreation as a School-based trainee. I wanted to continue working in a school.

What took you into sport and recreation?

I've played every sport imaginable. I play lawn bowls and soccer now. Teaching kids and just trying to get kids to the highest level they possibly can drove me to follow any sport leads I could.

You're obviously passionate about sport. What opportunities are there for you in the future?

For me there are different fields of sport and recreation. You can do coaching and administration and marketing and stuff like that, there's not just the one alley straight through sport and rec. Also, probably to be a Sports Development Officer for the Federation of Soccer in South Australia. I can take school clinics and get kids into the game and teach them how to play. Just the basic skills, which would be quite good.

Group Training appears to be quite unique. There's an opportunity to move around. Have you utilised that?

Not really. I've really stuck with sport and rec in the school environment. I haven't really ventured off into the business or administration side of it.

How important is it for you to go out and earn an income and balance that with a lifestyle?

You're earning money while you're still learning. When you go to Uni you're paying to learn. If you do one of these traineeships you're getting paid to teach what you feel passionate about. You can earn a lot of money in the long run.

What have been some of your major achievements? Are you saving money? Have you made lots of friends?

I've made a lot of friends. The young kids that look up to you at school say, how'd you get into that and how can I do it. You feel like you're doing something to help younger kids, it's good.

What's your one piece of advice to a young person who looks to the future, but doesn't quite know where they're going?

No matter what anyone says you can always get there. You might not be the smartest or brightest person but if you have a passion for a particular subject you'll always do well no matter what anyone says. It's not all about hanging with your friends and just doing what they're doing. You can do PE, you can do whatever you want to do, not what your friends are forcing you to do.

Thank you Mark for being so enthusiastic.

Mark commenced a School-based traineeship at Underdale High School working with the PE department in coaching, sports organization, administration and communication with teachers, students and parents. He has developed and implemented a junior soccer program for a local club and regularly volunteers to run school activities such as World Cup lunchtime soccer. His dedication and leadership have been rewarded in receiving the David Hookes medal two years in a row and in being awarded the 2007 Group Training School-based trainee of the Year. Mark has represented both South Australia and Australia in soccer and lawn bowls and is committed to achieving academic excellence.

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