

MEET THE COACHES

Name: Robert McQuillan

Nickname: None

Age group you coach: First team

Football team you support: Everton

Footballing idol growing up: Diego Maradona and Neville Southall

First football match you ever attended:

All of my Dads games when I was really young, but my first proper game was Rep of Ireland V Liverpool in Cork just after Jack Charlton took over in 1986.

Best football memories:

So many to choose from but winning the PFAI Cup with Drogheda Utd U17s in 2015 was very special, we also won the league title a few weeks later to complete a remarkable double, definitely one of my Managerial highlights.

Why/how did you become a coach and what do you enjoy most about coaching:

I have always been immersed in the game, my Dad was a founding member of our Local club, Albion Rovers just outside Drogheda, so football was ever present in my life. I finished playing in my early 20s and got involved again when my son started playing a few years later with Ardee Celtic. I coached my son's team from U9s up to U16s and after a very successful final season winning a Dundalk league and Cup, I was appointed youth team manager with Drogheda Utd. Football has always been in my blood and I enjoy every minute, the highs and the lows and everything in between, however the most enjoyable part for me is watching young players develop and push on to the next level, I have been lucky to work with quite a few talented players to have pushed on to First team football and excel at League of Ireland clubs.

What's the best thing about being a coach at Warrenpoint Town FC:

The point is a great club, full of amazing people and characters, it has a unique environment with a real charm to it, the people behind the scenes do a fantastic job and their love and passion for the club is inspiring. From a football perspective I love the learning environment from the youth set up into the first team, I have gained a wealth of knowledge since coming back to the club last July, its also remarkable to see so many young players get their chance to train and play with the first team too, not many clubs will give youth a chance and I have to commend everyone involved in the first team for well they have looked after the young lads this year.

What advice or tips would you offer young footballers:

Hard work is key, ability is only the start but without a top work ethic and desire to succeed you won't reach you full potential. Work hard but be patient and always keep an open mind, never stop learning.