

*AN INTRODUCTION TO*

***THE ART OF***

***GOALKEEPING***



An informative guide for all  
Junior Soccer Coaches and Goalkeepers

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**ART~CARTOGRAPHICS**



### ***Foreword***

*"Having read this publication it reminds me of the serious lack of attention coaching manuals give to arguably the most important player in a soccer team. I have watched Rocco coaching the kids in goalkeeping fundamentals and his enthusiasm and energy demonstrated on the soccer field transcend into the pages of this book. It is a very useful addition to any aspiring coach's resource library".*

**Danny Wright**

(Ex Chelsea, Brisbane Lions & Brisbane Strikers Player, and South Melbourne NSL Coach 2003)

### **Authors Note**

This manual is dedicated to my wife Anna and my son Thomas.

Without Anna's constant encouragement it would have just remained a collection of notes on my computer and ideas in my head.

Thomas enthusiasm and commitment at the tender age of 6 encouraged me to become involved with playing and coaching this great game once again.

Thomas was also my goalkeeper for most of the photos in this manual.

Special thanks go to Danny Wright for his technical advice.

“Goalkeeping is the greatest performing art, a fact seldom reflected by supposedly more legitimate forms, like theatre. The goalkeeper is the one true individualist, the one player who knows the exhilaration of daring to be different, but also the dangers of being so in such a rigidly conformist society. Often, he is a martyr; his imagery is rich in modern day sporting iconography”



(a) Dino Zoff (Italy)



(b) Peter Schmeichel (Denmark)



(c) Gordon Banks (England)

The late Lev Yashin, the legendary Soviet goalkeeper, was the first goalkeeper immortalised forever. An imposing bronze statue was erected outside Moscow's Dinamo Stadium to commemorate his outstanding achievements and contribution to “THE ART”.

***"Jesus may save", "but Goalkeepers Win Matches"***

## **Forget your Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games or any other International Sporting Event.**

The World Cup IS **THE GREATEST SPORTING SHOW ON EARTH**. More people watch this football smorgasbord whether live or on television than any other event in the world. There are 205 countries affiliated with FIFA at present, most compete for the privilege of representing their country in the finals every four years. Rankings as of June 2005 had Brazil at Number 1 with American Samoa coming in at Number 205.

It must be every young goalkeepers dream to see a World cup live, and their ultimate ambition to play and help win the Cup for his country, there have been only 17 World cups held since its inception. The great Brazilian Gilmar is the only goalkeeper to have claimed this prize twice.

**In the History of Soccer only 16 goalkeepers have truly earned the right to sing these famous lyrics by Queen.**

1930	Uruguay	Ballesteros	
1934	Italy	Combi	<b>WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS</b>
1938	Italy	Olivieri	
1950	Uruguay	Maspoli	I've taken my bows
1954	West Germany	Turek	And my curtain calls
1958	Brazil	Gilmar	You've bought me fame and fortune
1962	Brazil	Gilmar	And everything that goes with it, I thank you all
1966	England	Banks	But it's been no bed of roses, no pleasure cruise
1970	Brazil	Felix	I consider it a challenge before the whole human race
1974	West Germany	Maier	And I ain't gonna lose
1978	Argentina	Fillol	
1982	Italy	Zoff	We are the champions - my friend
1986	Argentina	Pumpido	And we'll keep on fighting till the end
1990	West Germany	Illgner	We are the champions
1994	Brazil	Taffarel	We are the champions
1998	France	Barthez	No time for losers
2002	Brazil	M.R. Silva	'Cause we are the champions of the world