



FOOTBALL COACH

John McDermott

John McDermott is a highly experienced and successful football coach and former professional player with over 25 years of experience in the game. He is currently the Director of Football at Ackworth School Football Academy, which is linked to Harrogate Town FC.

He is an UEFA A licence holder, the highest practical coaching qualification offered by the football association.



CAREER

As a player, he was a right-back from 1986 to 2007, spending his entire 21-year playing career at Grimsby Town. He holds the club's all-time appearance record, having played 754 games overall for the Mariners. He is one of only 17 players in the history of English football to play more than 600 Football League matches for a single club.

Upon retiring from playing in 2007, John transitioned into coaching. He began as the Football Academy Head Coach at Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education. In 2010, he was appointed assistant manager at Harrogate Town FC.

He has since had spells as Director of Football at Cleethorpes Town FC in 2017, manager of Alfreton Town FC in 2017, and academy coach at Scunthorpe United from 2018. He also served as assistant manager at Boston United for the 2020-2021 season and as assistant manager at Buxton FC in 2023.

AWARDS

In 2009, McDermott was awarded the annual PFA Merit Award in recognition of his record-breaking career at Grimsby Town. This award places him among an elite group of footballers, including Sir Bobby Charlton, Pelé, Sir Alex Ferguson, David Beckham, Steven Gerrard, Frank Lampard, Marcus Rashford, and Ian Wright.

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