

MEDIA RELEASE
14 DECEMBER, 2011

KELMSCOTT ROOS JOIN AWARD-WINNING EQUAL FOOTINGBALL LEAGUE

Kelmscott Roos Soccer Club recently signed up to try Football West's Equal Footingball League (EFL); a football (soccer) competition that ensures people with disabilities have similar opportunities and access to football for fun, social participation and elite development compared to mainstream fully able-bodied players.

The Equal Footingball League recently won in the Commitment to Participation category at the bi-annual WA Sport and Recreation Industry Awards.

If the Open Day at Kelmscott Roos in April next year gets good support from the local community, then the club will be in a position to enter a team into the proper competition for 2012.

EFL was initiated in 2011 as a new frontier for the world game, bringing a different and exciting smaller pitch format of the game to young people aged 11 to 18 with disabilities.

Football West is pleased to be working in the second year with clubs like Kelmscott Roos joining the confirmed list of Cockburn City Soccer Club, Tuart Hill Junior Soccer Club and Western Knights Soccer Club.

By starting an EFL team, Kelmscott Roos will open their doors to young people with disabilities; mixing boys and girls with all kinds of personal situations into a mainstream club environment and introduce a number of young players to a sport previously thought to be difficult to play.

Facilitating these young people will develop a sense of teamwork, as well as creating new friendships and a new passion for their team as a member of a sports club.

Gordon Duus, Football West Inclusive Development Officer said: "Amazingly in 2011 most players joining this league were referred through word of mouth, we hope this time around that the Open Days at the prospective new clubs will propel the teams and the competition to a new level immediately.

"Of the 21 players who tried the format out during the year, 16 went on to become team members playing regularly. None of these players participated in the sport in the years previous which shows that clubs like Kelmscott Roos have a great opportunity to make a big impact for families."

The Kelmscott Roos Equal Footingball Open Day will be at Frye Park on Connell Avenue on Sunday 1 April 2012. Games and matches in most cases will take place on Sunday mornings with occasional Saturday opportunities as well during the winter sports season.

-ENDS-



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