

**MEDIA RELEASE
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FOOTBALL WEST TO LEAD THE WAY IN REFEREE EDUCATION

Football West is delighted to launch Australia's first interactive match official website, as the peak football body in WA continues to lead the way in technological innovation.

The website has been over nine months in the making from planning and conceptualisation through to implementation.

The aim of the website is to provide easy, interactive access to the FIFA Laws of the Game by way of video demonstrations, pictures and a workbook suitable for aspiring referees, players, officials, volunteers, parents or supporters of the game.

Those wishing to commence their career as a referee are able to complete an online examination which provides them with a referee certificate and the chance to complete the Level 4 Referee Course.

Football West Referee Development Manager Edward M. Lennie says:

"I am very happy that we have taken this forward step in the further education and development of match officials.

"The team has worked very hard to get this project to fruition and I am sure this will serve not only as a valuable source of information for all participants in the game, it will also serve as a recruiting tool to bring more referees into our sport.

"Football West continues to support referee development in this State and plans to introduce further initiatives in the future."

Football West wishes to acknowledge the Department of Sport and Recreation, Bankwest, and Football Federation Australia for their support of the project.

View the website at <http://www.laws.footballwest.com.au>

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