

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**22 JULY, 2011**

## **THIRD WEST AUSSIE JOINS YOUNG SOCCEROOS SQUAD**

Former Cockburn City goalkeeper Nick Feely has been rushed into the Qantas Young Socceroos squad for the upcoming FIFA U-20 World Cup in Colombia.

The 19-year-old was raised in Perth after being born in Hong Kong and currently plies his trade with Scottish giants Celtic, who recently completed a pre-season tour of Australia.

Coach Jan Versleijen today announced Feely as the replacement for Lawrence Thomas, who has suffered a thigh injury.

Feely is now the third West Australian in the 21-man squad, joining fellow goalkeeper Mark Birighitti (Perth) and Central Coast Mariner Trent Sainsbury (Armadale).

Although it was a difficult decision to make, Versleijen knew that it was in the best interest of the team.

“Lawrence received a knock at training which resulted in a strain to his left thigh,” said Versleijen.

“The team medical staff assessed his injury and determined that it would be at least 2-3 weeks before he would be fit to resume normal training.

“For a World Cup we need to have all our players fully fit and ready, so unfortunately we had to take the decision to withdraw Lawrence now and replace him with another goalkeeper, Nick Feely.

“It is sad to see a player having to leave the camp due to injury so close to the World Cup, but we wish Lawrence a speedy recovery and hope to see him back on the field soon,” concluded Versleijen.

Feely will join his teammates in Denver, Colorado tomorrow evening.

The Qantas Young Socceroos will play their final friendly training match against fellow FIFA U-20 World Cup finalists England tomorrow (22 July) in Denver and will then travel early next week to the Colombian city of Manizales, situated 2,180m above sea-level, where they will be based the first phase of the tournament.

The Qantas Young Socceroos will play their first match of the tournament against Ecuador on Sunday 31 July, and then face Costa Rica on Wednesday 3 August before their final group match against Spain on Saturday 6 August.

The top two teams from each of the groups and the four third placed teams with the highest number of points will then progress to the round of 16 (9 & 10 August). The Quarter-Finals will be played on 13 & 14 August, Semi-Finals on 17 August with the Final and 3rd/4th place play-off on Saturday 20 August.

The Qantas Young Socceroos qualified for the FIFA U-20 World Cup having made the final of the AFC U19 Youth Championships in Zibo, China last year.



footballwest.com.au  
footballwest.tv  
beyond90.com.au



PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



MEDIA



**Football West Limited**

ABN 25 109 919 324  
Gibbney Reserve, Ferguson St  
Maylands WA 6051  
PO Box 214  
Maylands WA 6931  
T | (08) 9422 6900  
F | (08) 9271 7299  
E | info@footballwest.com.au

The Qantas Young Socceroos matches and the Semi-Finals and Final of the FIFA U-20 World Cup Colombia 2011 will be broadcast live on SBS TV.

-ENDS-

**Qantas Young Socceroos Squad for FIFA U-20 World Cup Colombia 2011**

**\*WA players in bold**

Name	Club, Country	Date of Birth
Matthew ACTON (gk)	Brisbane Roar	3/6/1992
Mustafa AMINI	Central Coast Mariners	20/4/1993
Terry ANTONIS	Sydney FC	15/11/1993
Jake BARKER-DAISH	Gold Coast United	7/5/1993
<b>Mark BIRIGHITTI (gk)</b>	<b>Adelaide United</b>	<b>17/4/1991</b>
Kerem BULUT	Mlada Boleslav, Czech Republic	2/3/1992
Kofi DANNING	Brisbane Roar	2/3/1991
<b>Nick FEELY(gk)</b>	<b>Celtic FC, Scotland</b>	<b>9/5/1992</b>
Matthew FLETCHER	Uncontracted	1/6/1992
Petar FRANJIC	Melbourne Victory	7/4/1992
Sam GALLAGHER	Central Coast Mariners	5/5/1991
Rhyan GRANT	Sydney FC	26/2/1991
Brendan HAMILL	Melbourne Heart	18/9/1992
Bernie IBINI-ISEI	Central Coast Mariners	12/9/1992
Ben KANTAROVSKI	Newcastle Jets	20/1/1992
Mathew LECKIE	Borussia Monchengladbach, Germany	4/2/1991
Dylan McGOWAN	Gold Coast United	6/8/1991
Tommy OAR	FC Utrecht, Netherlands	10/12/1991
Dimitrios PETRATOS	Sydney FC	10/11/1992
<b>Trent SAINSBURY</b>	<b>Central Coast Mariners</b>	<b>5/1/1992</b>
Marc WARREN	Sheffield United, UK	11/2/1992