

MEDIA RELEASE
23 SEPTEMBER, 2011

SEVEN NEW CLUBS JOIN ALL FLAGS STATE LEAGUE

Football West's exhaustive State League Review reached a critical milestone on Tuesday when the Board of Football West approved the entry of seven new clubs into the All Flags State League for the 2012 season.

After an extensive review of the applications – including venue visits and facility inspections to all 12 applicant clubs - the seven successful clubs were last night informed of the decision and their inclusion, as well as being told of their obligations for competing at the State League level.

The clubs which will form the new All Flags State League Division Two in 2012 are: Fremantle United, Olympic Kingsway, UWA-Nedlands, Subiaco AFC, Melville City, Quinns FC and Joondalup City.

Football West Chief Executive Peter Hugg said: "We were pleasantly surprised with the level of interest expressed by clubs wishing to progress into Saturday football, having received applications from 12 clubs.

"Prior to making a decision, and at the request of the State League Standing Committee, we canvassed the idea of whether a conference structure – such as north and south - could be established as a transitional arrangement for one year to streamline the process of integrating the new clubs.

"This was overwhelmingly rejected by the clubs and we are genuinely happy with the end result.

"Whilst a seven team division may be considered not ideal, 2012 will be a transitional year and the following season will see an evening up of the divisions both through the promotion and relegation system as well as the possibility of new applicant clubs coming in.

"Whilst keen to see the State League grow, it is important for us to maintain a certain standard across all components, including the quality of their home ground, success on the park and financial sustainability, as well as ensuring players in growth areas of Perth are catered for at our highest level of the game in WA."

Football West has written to the five unsuccessful clubs to thank them for their interest and commitment to the game as well as encouraging them to continue improving their club for possible future inclusion for when the next round of applicants are sought.

At the same time as approving the seven new clubs for Division Two, the Board reaffirmed that Mandurah City Soccer Club and Cockburn City Soccer will be relegated from the All Flags State League Premier Division and Division One Champions, Bunbury Forum Force, will be promoted.

Football West is currently working with the Bunbury City Council with respect to ensuring Premier Division venue requirements are met by the club.



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Football West is also working with the Amateurs, Masters and Social League Standing Committee to ensure any disruptions caused by the move of the seven clubs to Saturday to the Sunday League are minimised.

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