

MEDIA RELEASE
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CRIS OLA APPOINTED TECHNICAL DIRECTOR FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Football West is pleased to advise that Cris Ola has been appointed to the position of Technical Director.

Cris is one of the State's most well credentialed coaches having gained both his UEFA and AFC A Licences. Locally he is well known amongst the football community for the many coaching courses that he runs for clubs and the general public.

Originally from Romania where he played professionally for 12 years - eight of which were in the top first division - he has also coached internationally and interstate within Australia. Locally he has been involved with South Perth United and Floreat Athena before taking up a position with Football West as Coach Education Coordinator and Development Officer.

The appointment was made following a recent selection process involving the FFA's National Technical Director, Han Berger.

On hearing of the appointment, Ola stated: "Obviously I am very honoured and pleased to be chosen for this important role. One of the key tasks that I am excited about is the need to ensure a strong and consistent coach education program and pathway so the quality of technical instruction to all players improves. This will mean placing a strong emphasis on providing additional services to the WA clubs and their technical staff and the football community."

Football West Chief Executive Peter Hugg added: "This is an important appointment and a major objective will be to get out amongst the clubs and work with them to ensure that their needs in this area are being adequately met. To their credit, clubs have worked with Football West in implementing some nationally driven programs such as the NTC and Skills Acquisition Program, and now it is up to us, to repay them for their efforts through greater support."

One of Cris' first roles in his new position will be to attend both the NTC Challenge in Canberra in December and the FFA's Technical Seminar shortly thereafter. Cris will also look to complete his Pro Diploma course – the highest coaching award possible – in 2013.

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