

MEDIA RELEASE
9 AUGUST, 2011

STAN LAZARIDIS MEDAL ANNOUNCED FOR DONATE BLOOD CUP FINAL

Football West is thrilled to announce that the player judged best afield in this year's Donate Blood Cup Final will be awarded the inaugural Stan Lazaridis Medal.

Lazaridis is no stranger to playing on the big stage; scoring for Birmingham City in the penalty shootout loss to Liverpool in the 2001 Football League Cup Final.

Former Socceroo winger Lazaridis is one of Western Australia's finest football exports, playing locally with Olympic Kingsway and Floreat Athena before moving to South Australia.

It was there, where he was scouted by then West Ham Manager Harry Redknapp, signing for the Hammers and then making his name at Birmingham City.

He then finished his playing career back home, joining A-League side Perth Glory.

Lazaridis is thrilled to be recognised by the sport's peak body in WA.

"I'm absolutely flattered, you don't expect anything like this at all," he said.

"To be acknowledged like this is something special and I am honoured that Football West have done this.

"I made it in England as just a kid with a dream, and that's what any young footballer wants to do and I was lucky enough to do it.

"The (Donate Blood) Cup Final will be a perfect opportunity for any young players out there to stand up and do well as Perth Glory and Ian Ferguson may be watching.

"The game is a chance to advertise yourself and put yourself in the shop window."

The WA football legend is predicting Perth SC to walk away with their second piece of silverware this season, after claiming the Charity Shield.

"I'll probably say Perth, but Sorrento historically can cause an upset on the day - they were like that even when I was playing," he said.

"I just love watching the local leagues and try to get around to as many games as I can, as well as being a keen follower of the A-League and the Glory.

"I think there will be a few goals in it, but I'm tipping Perth just."

The Donate Blood Cup Final will take place on Saturday 20 August at Macedonia Park, Balcatta.

-ENDS-

State League Cup Finals
Saturday 20 August



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PLATINUM



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MEDIA



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Macedonia Park, 273 Albert Street, Balcatta

State League Under 18's Cup Final

10.00am: Bayswater City v Floreat Athena

State League Reserves Cup Final

12.30pm: ECU Joondalup v Shamrock Rovers

Donate Blood Cup Final

3.00pm: Perth SC v Sorrento