



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

COUNTRY WEEK

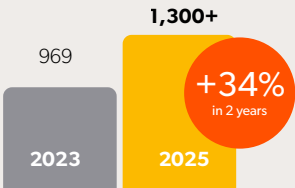
50
YEARS

COUNTRY
WEEK 2025
1975-2025

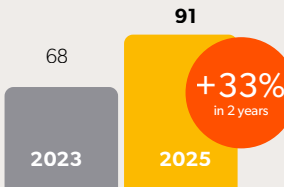


Country Week at a Glance

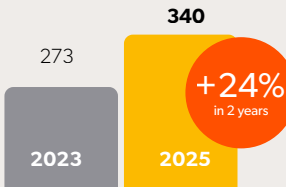
Players



Teams



Matches



14

Regional
Associations



12

Divisions

10

Pitches



7

Match Days



50+

Match Officials



We'd love to hear about your Country Week experience! Please take a few minutes to complete our survey and share your feedback — your input helps us make next year even better.



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The State Government through the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport (formerly the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries) and Lotterywest is a major supporter of Football West.

A Message from Football West CEO

Welcome to the 2025 Country Week.

This much-loved festival of regional football has even more reason to celebrate this year as we mark its Golden Anniversary.

It is exciting to look back on the past 50 years and reflect on how Country Week has evolved, a tribute to the growth of football in regional WA.

Inside this program, local football historian Brett Klucznik, with the assistance of the WA Football Hall of Fame, recalls how Country Week got off the ground with just four U10 teams playing a round-robin tournament. To think there are now more than 1,300 players and almost 100 teams.

Regional growth and development are a cornerstone of Football West's success, with a quarter of all player registrations coming from outside the metro area.

Also this year, Football West and Football Futures Foundation appointed a community engagement and development coordinator for the Kimberley, giving us regional community participation officers around the state.



Jamie Harnwell
Football West CEO

The work of the CPOs is invaluable and they are key to making Country Week the success it is, along with the local associations and the players, coaches, parents and volunteers whose tireless commitment and expertise should never be taken for granted.

Also, thanks to Football West partners Healthway and the WA Government, as well as the City of Wanneroo, and our host venues at Curtin University, Sam Kerr Football Centre, Olympic Kingsway and Wanneroo City.

I finish by wishing all teams the best of luck as we look forward to the next 50 years of fun, friendship and football.

1975

THE FIRST COUNTRY WEEK

Country Week is one of the most popular events on the local football calendar. This year, we'll see over 1,300 players head to Perth for a week-long celebration of regional football.

It will be a far cry from the first Country Week of 1975, when four Under-10 teams met in a round-robin format in Inglewood.

That inaugural tournament came about due to the sheer determination of two men, Frank Kettell and Frank Holcroft, who set about bringing together the State's junior regional footballers.

"To think Country Week is still going 50 years later and there are now over 1,000 kids involved is brilliant," said Kettell, who served on the Junior Soccer Association of WA committee for 14 years from 1973.

"There was a lot of work that went into the first Country Week. There were no mobile phones or internet back then, but somehow we managed to get it all to come together."

The earliest records of organised junior football in WA reach back to 1900, a five-team, school-based league. The following year saw the formation of the Junior British Football Association of WA, which administered the game until the formation of the Soccer Federation of WA in 1965.

A new junior association followed in 1972 and that sparked a real growth in the junior game, with 44 clubs and almost 200 teams across 22 leagues, from U8 to U17s.

The interest was spreading and soon the association took U10 and U11 representative teams from Perth to the Pilbara town of Mount Newman, where a junior club had recently been formed.

This momentum carried over into 1974. The State U16s lost narrowly to England U15s in a Schoolboys international at a rain-drenched Velodrome in July, while an eight-school junior carnival took place on Belmont Oval in August. Two months later, WA claimed a first national title when the U13s won the tournament on home soil.

It was on the back of those successes that Country Week was born.

"The association board had been discussing ways to promote junior football outside of Perth," said Kettell. "We knew they were playing in Newman and down in Bunbury and Albany, and we thought there might be other areas too. So I suggested we contact the different country areas and find out."

"Thankfully, Frank Holcroft, who was the Treasurer, offered to give me a hand. Frank deserves as much credit for Country Week as me, if it hadn't been for him then it might not have got off the ground."



With the U13s national victory still fresh in the mind, the association looked to put together something similar for regional sides. The call was put out for country associations to nominate teams for a junior carnival to be held in Perth in early September.

"We let the metropolitan clubs know that country teams were coming to Perth, we gave them the dates and asked that any club wanting to billet a team should let us know," said Kettell. "We had no problem finding places for players to stay, as a lot of clubs came forward.

"At the first Country Week we had four Under-10 teams – Northam and Wongan Hills (aka Central Districts), Goldfields, Newman and Albany. Running side-by-side with that was the Metropolitan Championship.

The metropolitan area was split into four districts – Eastern, Central, Southern and Northern. Then at the end of the week, the winner of each competition played off for the State Championship."

It was Newman who clinched the inaugural trophy, defeating Albany 1-0 in the final. The following year, Hedland, Geraldton, Collie and Merredin sent teams to Perth.

Soon after, Bunbury, Karratha, Paraburdoo and Tom Price were on board.

"It kept on growing," Kettell said. "The focus was always on bringing juniors together from across the state to enjoy their football.

On the side of that were some good memories created and some great friendships made between the coaches and families who were part of Country Week. They were great times."

Team Information

U12 Girls Foord

Albany JSA
Country Coastal JSA
Esperance SA
Geraldton JSA
Goldfields SA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA
Peel JSA

U14 Girls Kerr

Albany JSA
Country Coastal JSA
Esperance SA
Geraldton JSA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA

U17 Girls McCallum

Albany JSA
Country Coastal JSA
Geraldton JSA
Goldfields SA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA

Men's

Albany
Esperance Soccer Association
Geraldton
Goldfields Soccer Association
Hedland
Karratha
Leeuwin
Regional Representative Team

U11A Mixed Taggart Division

Albany JSA
Country Coastal JSA
Esperance SA
Geraldton JSA
Goldfields SA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA
Peel JSA

U13A Mixed Burgess

Albany JSA
Country Coastal JSA
Geraldton JSA
Goldfields SA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste SA

U15A Mixed Lazaridis

Albany JSA
Country Coastal JSA
Goldfields SA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA

U17 Mixed Sainsbury

Albany JSA
Country Coastal JSA
Geraldton JSA
Goldfields SA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA
Peel JSA

Women's

Albany
Geraldton
Goldfields Soccer Association
Karratha
Leeuwin
Regional Representative Team

U11B Mixed Circati Division

Albany JSA
Broome SA
Carnarvon JSA
Esperance SA
Geraldton JSA
Goldfields SA
Hedland JSA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturalise JSA
Newman JSA

U13B Mixed O'Neill

Albany JSA
Broome SA
Carnarvon JSA
Esperance SA
Goldfields SA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA
Newman JSA
Peel JSA

U15B Mixed Risdon

Albany JSA
Carnarvon JSA
Esperance SA
Geraldton JSA
Goldfields SA
Hedland JSA
Karratha SA
Leeuwin-Naturaliste JSA
Newman JSA
Peel JSA



To keep up-to-date with Country Week, please visit our event homepage to read any important documents such as the rules:



FIXTURES

Don't miss a moment of the action.
Scan the QR code to view the 2025
Country Week fixtures.



**THERE'S NO PLACE
FOR POOR SIDELINE
BEHAVIOUR**



Sideline Behaviour Initiative



**FOOTBALL
WEST**

WATER WINS!



IT'S IMPORTANT TO DRINK WATER BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER SPORT TO STAY HYDRATED

Did you know, over half your body is water? Drinking water keeps your body cool, replaces fluid lost through sweat and helps you to perform at your best.



A WORD ON SPORTS DRINKS

Sports drinks are very high in sugar and not recommended for the general population, especially children.

Endurance or high performance athletes should consult an Accredited Practising Dietitian for advice.

**DID YOU KNOW
THE AVERAGE
600ML SPORTS
DRINK CONTAINS
9 TEASPOONS
OF SUGAR?!**



This means if a person drinks **1 x 600mL** sports drink each week over a year, from sports drinks alone they will consume:

**2.3 KGs
OF SUGAR**
(approx.)



STAY HYDRATED

Fluid requirements vary from person to person and depends on a number of factors including the weather, type of exercise and sweat loss.

Children often don't realise when they are thirsty and may need to be reminded to drink often, particularly during exercise.

Aim for the following amounts of water per day and extra during exercise;

4-8 year olds = **1.2L or 5 cups**

9-13 year olds = **1.5L or 5-6 cups**

14-18 year olds = **1.8L or 6-8 cups**

Adults = **2L or 8-9 cups**

WARNING SIGNS OF DEHYDRATION

- Dark urine
- Dizziness
- Dry mouth and throat
- Muscle cramps
- Nausea and headache.

HUNGRY FOR MORE HEALTHY TIPS?

Visit fuelto.go.com.au or email fuelto.go@education.wa.edu.au

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2013).
Eat for health. Australian dietary guidelines.





CLUB CHANGER

Club Development Program AFC's BEST GRASSROOTS PROGRAM IN ASIA 2024

Club Changer, Football Australia's Club Development Program aims to protect and enhance our clubs, to make them stronger and more resilient, to lead them in building welcoming and inclusive cultures and to educate them on positive environments for players, coaches, volunteers, and officials whilst planning for long term viability and success.

LEAD

To lead community clubs in identifying key priority areas for improvement, spark action for positive change and invest in long term sustainable practices for future success.

SUPPORT

To support community clubs in creating inclusive and welcoming environments for women and girls in all aspects of the game.

EMPOWER

To empower community clubs to strategically plan to increase capacity and participation growth, through education, resources, and transfer of knowledge.

CELEBRATE

To acknowledge and celebrate clubs who are investing in the development and future of their football community.



**GET IN
TOUCH**

Mo Syafiq - Club Development Lead

mo.syafiq@footballwest.com.au

www.footballaustralia.com.au/clubchanger



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

Football Australia's Club Changer Program is proudly supported by the Australian Government, through the Australian Sports Commission.

MEET THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION TEAM

Our Community Participation Team makes football accessible, inclusive, and welcoming across WA.

They run grassroots programs, build pathways for all ages and abilities, and work with clubs, schools, and communities to grow the game. Passionate and people-focused, they ensure everyone feels a sense of belonging in football.





TANYA AMAZZINI

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION OFFICER –
MIDWEST/GASCOYNE & REGIONAL
EVENTS COORDINATOR

Next April marks 10 years with Football West, a journey that has allowed me to meet so many wonderful people and build strong relationships across the regions. While I have never played the game myself, football has always been part of my family, with my two sons, Riccardo and Marco, playing since they were five.

Away from football, I recently challenged myself by learning to scuba dive and proudly achieved my Open Water certification—quite the achievement for someone who was never really a water person! My greatest joy, though, is being “NannyT” to Stella, which is truly a blessing.

MIKE DOYLE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT &
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR -
KIMBERLEY (FFF/FW)

The Kimberley region is three times the size of the United Kingdom and has more saltwater crocodiles. Unlike the UK it is one of football’s final frontiers. The opportunity to develop the game here inspired me to take up this unique role supported by both Football Futures Foundation and Football West. This unique partnership increases the opportunities to grow the game in the region I’ve called home for 20 years and to engage people of all abilities. Playing football with people who are socially excluded is incredibly humbling and reminds me of the sport’s real power. Whether it’s supporting our most talented players or encouraging that first ever kick I’m incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be part of this exciting chapter. I hope you all enjoy Country Week as much as I will.



SAMANTHA TESTER

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION OFFICER –
GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE

I’d been asking Mum to play soccer for a couple of years, and in 2014 I finally got started — from then on, I was all in! I wasn’t great at scoring goals, so I decided to be the one to stop them instead. Since then, I’ve been a goalkeeper, always working to be better for my team. After spending so much time at the pitch watching friends’ matches and kicking the ball around, I knew I wanted to start coaching. In 2022, I began as an assistant coach and soon fell in love with teaching kids soccer. In 2024, I landed my dream job as CPO of the Goldfields-Esperance region, where I get to do the sport I love while giving back to the community I grew up in. I couldn’t ask for a better job!



MALIN MARQUARDT

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION OFFICER –
PILBARA

Football has always been a huge part of my life and I consider myself lucky being able to work in the sport I love the most. I have played, coached, and worked in Football in Europe before moving to Australia a few years ago. As the CPO of the Pilbara, I love building relationships with the community, helping to boost Football participation in WA's North West.

Getting to witness young players develop not only on the pitch but also growing their confidence and believe in themselves, being part of a team and enjoying the game is something very special. I am looking forward to an exciting week of Football with kids from all the Regions celebrating the game we all love.

MATHEW ADAMS

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION OFFICER –
LEEUEWIN-NATURALISTE

My life has been influenced by Football for years. I grew up playing & watching the game and began to coach as I reached adulthood striving to be employed in a field I love. How lucky am I! In my life, I always aim to set an example for others to follow by, whether this is through the attitude I display while coaching, the integrity that supports me in my decision making or the kindness I strive to support my family, friends & peers with. I enjoy supporting new players who want to learn the game, the chance to help players who want to develop & providing learning for coaches who want to help grow the game. During my downtime, I like to occupy myself with hiking, reading, karting, shopping, challenging myself with puzzles & spending time with my friends and family. If I could choose to see any musician of all time in concert I would choose to go see the zany but masterful David Bowie.



CHAS LEONARD

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION OFFICER –
GREAT SOUTHERN

I love football and have watched the game since I was very young. Initially coaching my younger brother by default, I now have several years' experience coaching junior and senior players and have been involved in clubs as both a coach and administrator. I have a passion for developing players and getting the best out of teams. I'm a strong advocate of the passing game and strive to ensure players work collaboratively and cohesively to get results and enjoy the benefits that team sport can offer. I have been the Community Participation Officer - Great Southern since December 2024 delivering clinics, training sessions and an academy program to develop players in the region.



50
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1975-2025



GET YOURS NOW

AT THE BELGRAVIA BOOTH

Don't miss out, visit the Belgravia booth to buy new apparel or collect your pre-ordered items!



BOOTH OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday from 9am - 12pm





COUNTRY WEEK OATH

PLAYERS

Representing all players,
we pledge to play fair, respect
our opponents and give our
best effort in every game.

COACHES

Representing all coaches,
we vow to lead with integrity,
respect all participants and inspire
our players to achieve their best.



MATCH OFFICIALS

Representing all match officials, we commit to officiate with fairness, uphold the laws of the game and ensure a safe and respectful environment for all.

SPECTATORS

Representing all spectators, we promise to cheer respectfully, support all players and uphold the spirit of good sportsmanship.

Building Inclusive Football Communities

with Football Futures Foundation

Football West's official charity partner, Football Futures Foundation, leverages the universal appeal of football to strengthen communities and drive social impact.

The Foundation uses football as a tool to advocate for social inclusion, deliver inclusive programs for people with diverse abilities, and empower people to participate in their communities.



The Foundation's i-League and Equal Footingball programs supports players with disability aged 10 years through to adults. These pathways give players the chance to be part of a team, wear a club shirt, and experience the joy of competition in a safe and supportive environment.

If your club or community would like to start an i-League or Equal Footingball team, the Foundation offers resources, training, and ongoing guidance to make it simple for you to get involved and ensure every player feels welcome and valued.

GET IN TOUCH

Mick Owens - Programs Manager
micko@footballfutures.org.au

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE



[@footballfuturesfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/footballfuturesfoundation)



Football Futures Foundation





30th Anniversary Celebration

The Football Hall of Fame was established in 1996 to honour and recognise members of the Football community who have made a significant contribution to our code.

Save the Date

The Football Hall of Fame WA Inc will be holding an induction night in November 2026 to bring the Football family together to honour more worthy recipients.

2026 Nominations

The Football Hall of Fame Committee is seeking nominations from the wider community. Find the nomination form at the link below

<https://footballhalloffamewa.com.au/nominate-for-football-hall-of-fame-wa-induction/>

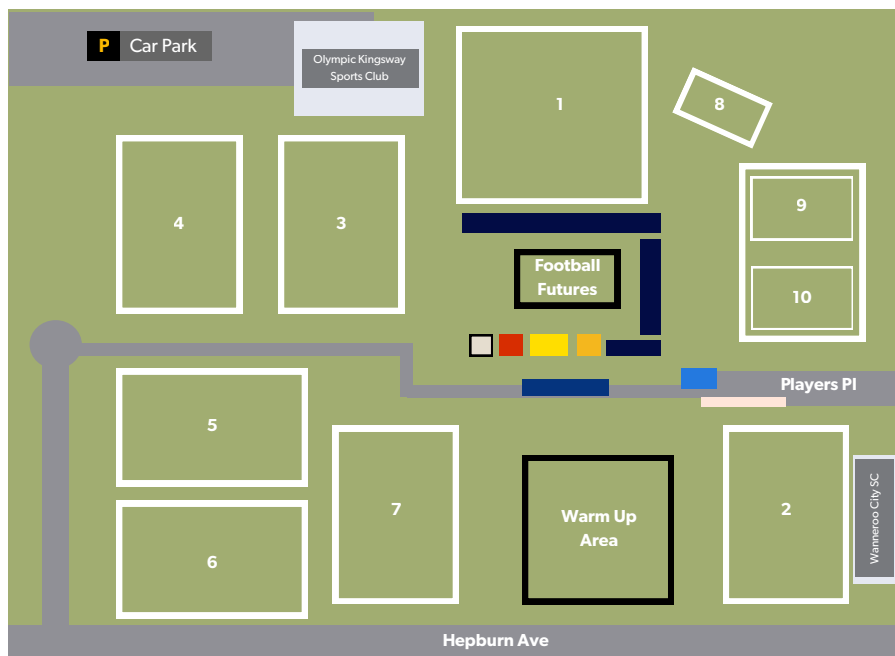
or email: admin@footballhalloffamewa.com.au

VENUE MAPS

Men's & Women's Division at Edinburgh Oval, Curtin University



Junior Divisions at Kingsway Sporting Complex



- Association Marquees
- Football West
- Referee Tent
- Toilets
- Water
- First Aid
- Country Week Merch
- Coffee & Food Trucks

THANK YOU

Thank you to our participating Regional Associations & Clubs



Thank you to the following organisations for their dedication and support to Country Week



Curtin University

SAM KERR
FOOTBALL
CENTRE



Book your team and action photography through Football West's official photographer Vince on 0412 813 162 or www.fotoenzo.com



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