

# swas south west academy of sport

## Themed trophies unveiled

THE South West Academy of Sport has unveiled the trophies to be presented to this year's top athletes ahead of its annual dinner and awards night in December.

Handcrafted by Gerry Reilly from the Melting Pot Glass Studio in Margaret River, each glass trophy features a one-of-a-kind design themed around the academy's corporate colours.

The unique art pieces will be awarded to the most outstanding athletes in the academy's basketball, hockey, Australian Rules football, soccer and individual scholarship programs during a gala dinner at Bunbury's All Seasons Sanctuary Golf Resort.

SWAS chief executive officer Bernice Butlion said a new award in honour of the late Wally Foreman would be introduced this year to recognise individuals for their contribution to sport.

Renowned sporting identity Foreman was among those instrumental in developing the concept of a sports academy in the South West.

"This award is one way of recognising his contribution to SWAS and sport in general," she said.

Butlion said there were still opportunities for local businesses and individuals to support the awards night through sponsorship.

"Businesses and individuals have the chance to help reward our hard-working and talented athletes," she said.

"Award sponsors will receive their own trophy in recognition of their support, as well as tickets to the event which will feature guest speakers."



BMX champion Lauren Reynold displays some of this year's trophies.



Ashlee Bailie will compete in the International Triathlon Union series later this year.

## Triathlon star faces new test

SOUTH West Academy of Sport scholarship holder and triathlon favourite Ashlee Bailie will put herself to the test in the International Triathlon Union series later this year.

Having worked hard to secure the times necessary to compete, the 17-year-old talent will travel to the Gold Coast in December for the first race of the year in the Under 19 ITU series.

Bailie said the ITU event would enable her to see how she measures up against her fellow competitors.

"I am looking forward to having a good crack at the race to get a good feel of where I am in comparison to the other females," she said.

"The first race is important as it basically ranks the juniors from the start and it is important to aim for a top 10 placing as these are then recognised in the following races.

"Points are given out for finishing spots which are then put into a ranking system. This ranking system then determines the three junior world spots."

A rising star on the triathlon scene, Bailie has been selected to represent Western Australia for the past five years and has numerous State titles to her name.

The Bunbury teenager has enjoyed a successful year in triathlon which has seen her earn a spot in the Triathlon Excellence Program for the 2010-2011 season.

Bailie most recently showed her fine form during the State road running championships where she took out the 10km open category of the event.

"Winning the State 10km road running championships was very unexpected," she said.

"The triathlon excellence squad expects us athletes to keep training and stay fit over the winter break, and we are encouraged to participate in races over the break.

"So I entered the State 10km running race with no expectations — I was just in for a good race and training session.

"To have won it was a shock and I was very pleased with how I went."

## Cricketer relishing English workout

BUNBURY'S rising star of the pitch, Sam Whiteman, is in England playing cricket as part of his prize for winning this year's Adam Gilchrist Cricket Development Scholarship.

Based at the Weybridge Cricket Club, the talented South West Academy of Sport scholarship holder says he is relishing the opportunity to play cricket three times a week.

"I'm enjoying my time at Weybridge Cricket Club," he said.

"It's a very social and welcoming club, with teas for players, similar to the dinners held at footy clubs in Australia.

"I was lucky enough to be picked for Surrey County and travelled to Durham for a three-day Test match

and played a couple of one-day games for them too."

And with only a few weeks remaining before he returns home, the left-handed batsman and wicket-keeper's attention is turning to WA.

"I'm now beginning to look forward to returning home to train with the WA State Under 19s and the development squad," Whiteman said.



Sam Whiteman has been playing cricket with the Weybridge Cricket Club.

## Golf day organised to thank sponsors

SOUTH West Academy of Sport sponsors will enjoy an afternoon on the green next week when the academy's inaugural golf day tees off.

To be held at the All Seasons Sanctuary Golf Resort on Thursday, September 2, the event will see academy sponsors treated to lessons from former golf pro Shani Waugh

before the game gets underway. Following an afternoon of friendly competition, the event will wind up with a barbecue dinner and the presentation of prizes.

SWAS chief executive officer Bernice Butlion said the golf day was organised to thank sponsors for their support of the academy throughout the year.

"Our sponsors have helped more than 150 aspiring athletes to follow their dreams of becoming professional sportsmen and sports-women," she said.

"This event is our way of thanking them for their valuable contribution to the academy and South West sport in general."

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