

Academy of sports a reality

THE South West Academy of Sport officially gets underway this Friday when it announces its four partner sports and key sponsors.

SWAS will be the first of its kind in regional Western Australia and enable up-and-coming athletes to receive the training and support they need to become champions of the future.

It will offer them the opportunity to enter elite training closer to home, reducing the stress of travelling to the metropolitan area to reach their potential.

South West Academy of Sport board chairman Don Punch said it was heartening to see the planning stages of such an exciting project head toward the finish line.

"Regional Western Australia has a strong history of producing quality athletes," Mr

Punch said.

"The academy is an outstanding project which will provide increased opportunity for young talents to rise through the ranks and become State, national and international champions."

SWAS board member Tom Busher said the academy will equip participants with the skills they need to compete in the next level of their chosen sport.

"Support will be given to participants through specialist training as well as through education in subjects such as fitness and nutrition," he said.

"This holistic approach to sports tuition will help provide participants not just with the training they require to be competitive at an elite level, but also the life skills they need to ensure a long and rewarding career."