



THE GRIFFIN GROUP

GRIFFIN GROUP NEWS

GRIFFIN ANNOUNCES FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP OF THE SOUTH WEST ACADEMY OF SPORT ACADEMY TO FOSTER LOCAL SPORTS STARS

Young athletes from the South West now have the opportunity to reach their sporting potential with support from the South West Academy of Sport (SWAS). At last Friday's launch event at the Sanctuary Golf Resort, The Griffin Group was proudly announced as the foundation partner of The Academy.

The Academy will play a vital role in identifying, developing and supporting talented local athletes from its base in Bunbury, and will operate specialist training programs in various regional areas throughout the South West. It will initially focus on four partner sports - Australian Rules football, basketball, hockey and soccer.

The Academy was the vision of inaugural chief executive of the South West Chamber of Commerce and Industry Rolf Stene, supported by the framework and passion of the late ABC sports presenter Wally Foreman. It has now become a reality through the hard work of the South West Development Commission. SWAS Chairman Don Punch said it wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of local organisations such as The Griffin Group.

"We are delighted to have The Griffin Group onboard as the SWAS foundation partner," Mr Punch said.



Wayne Trumble, Ian Telfer, Rachel Hayter, Kevin Lynn and Garry Chandler at the SWAS launch.

"Corporate support will be crucial to the ongoing success of the Academy and we look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship with Griffin."

The Academy will offer elite training and a sports education program that would normally only be available to athletes in metropolitan areas. The Academy will minimise the travel requirements of regional athletes and allow them to further their development within the stability of their regional community.

The Griffin Group Executive Director Jason Stowe said that Griffin was proud to play a part in making the Academy a reality for the local community.

"The South West has a strong history of producing world class sports men and women. Griffin believes that The Academy will assist athletes and their families to achieve their goals," Mr Stowe said.

"The Academy is a great example of Griffin's Corporate Community Partnership Program supporting local initiatives. Griffin is proud to continue to support the community that supports us.

"Creating a first class sporting academy in our area is a great step towards improving opportunities for young people in the South West. Given the abundance of talent in the region, we look forward to a long and successful partnership with the South West Academy of Sport."