



Callum Richardson represented WA at the 2009 FFA National Youth Championships for boys recently.

Teenager a soccer star in the making

CALLUM Richardson can lay claim to being part of the next generation of potential Qantas Socceroos players after representing the State at a national soccer tournament.

The 13-year-old young gun from Australind played for a West Australian under-14s team at the recent 2009 FFA National Youth Championships for Boys in Coffs Harbour.

His selection to the State side came after impressing officials during intensive trials and months of training in Perth.

The event, which saw 384 players from around the country face off for national title honours, forms an important part of the FFA talent identification process where future national players are discovered.

For Callum, a South West Academy of Sport athlete, the tournament proved an ideal opportunity to step up and showcase his skills over eight days of soccer.

"It was definitely a good experience to play at such a high level," he said.

"It was good being able to test your skills against all the other States and see how you measure up.

"It was just great being able to play soccer every day."

SWAS head soccer coach Perry Krakowczyk congratulated Callum, who is trying out for the National Training Centre program, on his achievements.

"It has been a while since regional players have been selected to represent the WA State team," he said.

"With a lot of hard work and determination Callum is one of our regional players who made the squad.

"It is now up to our other talented players to follow in his footsteps."