

Three teens snatch spots on SW squad

THREE Margaret River soccer aficionados will join 14 others after they earned a spot in South West Academy of Sport, making history as they become the first athletes to be selected for the academy's soccer program.

Tash Rigby, Declan Flaherty and Jackson Darnell were the selected teenagers from the shire.

They were chosen for the squad out of hundreds of hopefuls who participated in try-outs hosted by Football West in October.

The athletes would now begin training in Bunbury under coach Perry Krakowczyk, a Busselton-based regional development officer with Football West.

"The program will take participants to the next level of competition and serve as an incentive for other soccer players in the region who want to push through the ranks," he said in a media release.

"It will also act as a positive extension of our junior Football West academy, which is already in full swing."

Members of the South West Academy of Sport soccer squad include:

- Dominique Fedele, Harvey
- Tash Rigby, Margaret River
- Kim McCarty, Australind
- Eric Deas, Busselton
- Steven Byrne, Busselton

● Declan Flaherty, Margaret River

● Liam Reeves, Eaton

● Callum Richardson, Australind

● Corey Utterson, Australind

● Jackson Darnell, Margaret River

● Ruben Gelmi, Dunsborough

● Jason Murray, Bunbury

Members of the South West Academy of Sport associate soccer squad include:

● Ryan May, Busselton

● Benjamin Cross, Busselton

● Ashley Smith, Manjimup

● Caleb Axisa, Bunbury

● Callum Dobbs, Boyanup