



BUSINESS OPERATIONS

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **YOUNG CRICKETERS IN SOUTH WEST TO BENEFIT FROM NEW ACADEMY WITH SUPPORT FROM PERDAMAN INDUSTRIES**

The Western Australian Cricket Association today announced an exciting new initiative to benefit young, aspiring cricketers in the South West region of WA.

The South West Cricket Academy has been established at the newly-opened Dalyellup College, south of Bunbury. In a massive boost, Perdaman Industries has agreed to become the inaugural partner of the fledgling Academy.

The Perdaman South West Cricket Academy will foster young regional cricketers at a dedicated facility, guided by the WACA's South West Regional Cricket Officer and High Performance Coach Andy Cottam.

The Academy will identify and develop talented cricketers from throughout the South West, including areas such as Bunbury, Harvey-Leschenault-Eaton, Busselton-Margaret River, and Collie.

It will be open to both male and female cricketers, from Under 14s through to Under 19s, and will also look to support senior cricketers and coaches in the South West.

The South West of Western Australia has long boasted a strong cricket background, with the likes of former Zimbabwe Test batsman Murray Goodwin and ex-Australian cricketer Ken Macleay among the products of the region.

The South West has become one of the fastest growing regions for cricket participation in WA, with around 4,500 children playing formal cricket, and the Bunbury senior competition is one of the strongest in the state.

Western Fury pace bowler Gemma Triscari and WA under-age representatives Sam Whiteman and Jacob Whiteaker are some of the latest success stories to emerge from Bunbury. 17-year old Whiteman is

currently playing for Australia in an Under 19 series against Sri Lanka in Darwin.

WACA Chief Executive Officer Graeme Wood says the Perdaman South West Cricket Academy will build on that success and hopefully unearth the same WA and Australian players of the future.

"It is exciting for all aspiring cricketers in the South West of the state to have access to such a first class facility on their doorstep," Mr Wood said.

"We have seen players from the South West make an impact in both male and female representative teams in recent times, but as the population of the South West region continues to grow, the need for excellent facilities and investment in community infrastructure is of paramount importance.

"Our sincere thanks are extended to Mr Vikas Rambal and Perdaman Industries for their support of the South West Cricket Academy. The partnership will greatly benefit young cricketers in the region and help them to fulfil their dreams."

Mr Vikas Rambal, Chairman of Perdaman Industries, says: "Perdaman Industries is excited to be involved in such an important step forward for the development of grass roots cricket in the South West.

"In association with the WACA, we hope to be able to provide opportunities for not only the up and coming cricketers but also for senior cricket players and coaches within the South West area, and in particular the Collie region."

- ENDS -

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