

TAC CUP

GEELONG Falcons midfielder Rhys Mathieson wants revenge.

Teammate Charlie Curnow reckons it is time for the Falcons to make a statement.

Tonight, the Falcons take on Calder Cannons at Simonds Stadium in the annual showpiece match between the TAC Cup's two most prolific breeding grounds.

"We want to get one back on them from last year," Mathieson said.

"They got us in the Friday night game last year, they just overran us in the last quarter when we were probably good enough to beat them."

Curnow, who, like Mathieson, could go within the top 10 in the AFL draft at season's end, is also willing his side to rise to the occasion.

"We've had a good start to the season (4-1) and we want to go up against these big metro sides and make a statement," he said.

There will be plenty at stake tonight, with more recruiters at this match than almost every other TAC Cup game, mainly because it's a stand-alone game between two quality junior sides.

Recruiters also like to see how players perform on AFL grounds, as well as how they adapt to night-time footy.

But neither player feels any extra pressure to perform.

"It's a good taste of hopefully what's to come in the next couple of years, playing at night," Curnow said.

The Falcons are fourth on the ladder, with Calder back in ninth after a hot-and-cold start to the season.

Calder slipped to its third-straight defeat last week, losing to Murray Bushrangers 10.11 (71) to 6.9 (45).

The Falcons beat Northern Knights by 21 points, as they continue to build form after a lucky start to the year.

The match starts at 7pm.