



## Geelong Falcons welcome new female program.

The Geelong Falcons are excited to announce the addition of a female squad to their already existing quality boys programs. The Geelong Falcons, who have previously seen amazing talent move through their under 16 and under 18 programs, including Jimmy Bartel, Luke Hodge and in more recent times Paddy McCartin and Darcy Parish, are now looking forward to having the opportunity to develop some of the regions most talented female footballers.

The program will be based at the home of the Geelong Falcons at Highton Reserve, where the girls will have access to and be provided with high quality facilities, coaches and conditioning programs. The squad will consist of girls aged between 16 and 18, and will serve as an addition to the pathway for female football in the region, preparing the girls to play at a higher level in the future.

The squad of 30 girls will commence their initial induction and first training sessions in November/December this year. Post the Christmas break, the squad will continue to train and participate in a series of matches against other region's in March next year, before the girls return to their local clubs to play out the season.

The establishment of the talent program has come off the back of an increase in participation within the local AFL Barwon Youth Girls competition, which has grown from four to ten teams within the last two seasons.

AFL Victoria Talent Manager for the Geelong Falcons, Michael Turner, said he was looking forward to growing the Falcon's existing programs to include the girls. "It's great that we (Geelong Falcons) can now provide an opportunity for female footballers in our region to have access to the best facilities and coaching, and prepare the girls for the next stage of playing at either a VFL or AFL level."

Further details will be released in the coming weeks around the selection process for the squad.

AFL Victoria Australian Football League (Victoria) Limited ABN 24 147 664 579 GEELONG FALCONS FOOTBALL CLUB Roslyn Road, Highton, Victoria 3216 PO Box 1487, Geelong, Victoria 3220 Telephone: (03) 5241 6986; Fax: (03) 5241 6616; Email: Katie.geerings@afl.com.au



, 120 hours practice. Experience not excuses. 🖽 🔜