

### **What is the UWANFC Academy?**

The UWANFC Academy is the highest level of football programme currently offered by UWANFC. It is the first step to implement the Club's football plan and achieve the ambitious goal of becoming one of the leaders in youth football development in Perth.

### **Why does UWANFC have an Academy?**

In 2020 UWANFC started a process of significant change and revitalisation of their Youth football section. There have been substantial changes to the management committee (new President, new committee members).

These changes resulted in an ambitious strategy to become one of the leading football clubs in youth football development through a new football plan. The football plan indicates a clear distinction between "*pro*" and "*development*" paths. The Club recognises the increasing demand amongst young footballers (male and female) for more competitive and challenging football, and it decided to create a more challenging route ("*pro path*") parallel to the traditional UWA "*development path*" to meet this demand. The creation of MiniRoos and Junior UWANFC Academy is part of the "*pro path*".

### **What is the UWANFC Academy goal?**

The ultimate goal of the Academy is to develop players that are able to reach their full potential and play at the highest levels of football possible. The Club aims to deliver this plan by offering a highly qualified training programme with coaches educated by football professionals. We aim to participate at the highest levels of Football West MiniRoos and Junior competitions, to allow us to benchmark against the strongest clubs. The Club has set 3-5 years as a time frame to deliver its plan.

### **Who is the UWANFC Academy program for?**

The UWANFC Academy is for female and male MiniRoos (9-12 years old) and Junior (13-16 years old) players who display a strong passion for football, great attitude, willingness to learn and wanting to take their football to the "*next level*". Players are identified through benchmarking sessions at the end of the season and are offered a spot in the Academy for the following year.

### **Why did I receive an offer to join the UWANFC Academy program?**

You might have received an offer to join the 2022 Academy program towards the end of 2021 because of the benchmarking sessions held in September.

### **Why are registration fees higher to join UWANFC Academy program?**

The registration fees to join the Academy program reflects higher costs by the Club to run the above mentioned “pro path”. The Academy registration includes:

- Training shirt
- One additional training session per week (2 instead of 1), which is 3 hours of training per week over a period of ~ 30 weeks per annum.
- Training on the best grounds in WA at UWA Sports Park)
- Coach education (Academy teams’ coaches must attend compulsory technical workshops at the beginning of, and during, the season to properly deliver the technical curriculum and the methodology part of the “pro path” technical development).
- Individual Player performance evaluations – Academy coaches, will be required to complete match reports. They may be involved in video match analyses (from a certain age up) to identify individual player improvement areas.

To ensure the order of the adequate training equipment and save a place in the squad before the start of the season, a deposit of \$100 is required to accept the offer.

### **Do I have to accept the offer to join the UWANFC Academy program to play football?**

No. You can still register to play football for UWANFC even if you decline to be part of the Academy program. Your player will be placed in one of the “development path” teams, and he/she can still enjoy playing football. However, the level of commitment and training, will not be as comprehensive as the Academy and Development Teams tend to play in lower divisions of FW competitions. Even if you chose not to participate in the Academy program, you could always try next year as the Club will invite all the players to the September benchmarking sessions.

### **I understand all the above, but I am still unsure whether to enrol. What do I do?**

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