

Merredin-Wheatbelt Mercury Sport



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American students visit for football

THE Bruce Rock Football Club last week played host to two American visitors who are studying in Australia for four months.

The students made their way to Bruce Rock to play their very first game of AFL football.

Nick Noner and Michael Jaeger are international students studying at Notre Dame University in Fremantle.

They have been in WA for six weeks and have developed an appreciation for Australia's indigenous game through a program conducted by the South Fremantle Football Club.

The program has as many as 30 international students learning about AFL football through weekly training and information sessions.

This led the WA Country Football League to jump at the chance to have some of the players make their way to country destinations to give them the experience of playing their first game of football and in turn help struggling country teams field stronger sides in their reserves grade.

Smarter than Smoking football development manager Simon Dawson said it is a great innovation.

"These guys are interested in our game and having watched them play, they are obviously athletic," he said.

"It is a win-win situation in that they get to experience playing AFL and our local clubs which are struggling to make up enough numbers gain two extra players for the weekend."

For the record, the new additions did not get a taste of victory or defeat with the game against the Corrigin reserves team ending in a draw.

They did, however, make a big impression with Noner winning the best player for the Bruce Rock team and Jaeger receiving the second best player award.

Mr Dawson said for the two boys to come to Bruce Rock not having ever played before and having only limited knowledge of the game was fantastic.

"They played very well and it is a credit to them both that they jumped at the opportunity to travel out and play," he said.



International stars: International students studying at Notre Dame University in Fremantle Nick Noner and Michael Jaeger, donned the Bruce Rock jumpers last week for their first taste of AFL football.

"This won't be the last time that these international students play out here in the country.

"This weekend's game against Burracoppin will have the two boys back again, possibly with two other students that we hope to have playing against them in the Burracoppin reserves team."

Mr Dawson said the game will played at Bruce Rock on Saturday and people are looking for something to do it should be a great game to watch.

Hayden hits hole in one

ALF Hayden won the nearest to the pin novelty with a hole in one at Nokaning on Sunday.

Golfers competed in a stableford event sponsored by Les and Ruth Johnson.

Novelties went to Greg Giles, Brian Waterhouse and Hayden.

With a seven wood being his weapon of choice Hayden rolled the ball in for his first hole in one.

The conditions on the day reflected on the score sheets, with several members playing some of the best golf they have played so far this season.

The winner, playing with a long overdue new driver, was Greg Giles.

Looking after his handicap, Giles had 39 points with three wipes on the card at the end of the day.

It was an impressive round with two birdies and nine pars helping

lead towards the score.

Second place on a countback from Brian Waterhouse went to Les Johnson on 38 points.

Johnson, also watching

his handicap, had two wipes on the card at the end of his round.

Next week is a stableford event sponsored by Transplus.

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