

Academy Action

August 2009

The Official Newsletter of the South West Sydney Academy of Sport

GRADUATION NIGHT

August saw 400 athletes, coaches, parents, sponsors, councillors and members of parliament attend the annual South West Sydney Academy of Sport graduation night.

The night was not only to congratulate the Academy squad on their efforts throughout the year, but to also recognize athletes who have made outstanding achievements in their sport.

Several awards were presented on the night including coaches' awards for each squad, SKINS Dedication to task awards, the perpetual Jim Medway trophies, Coaches Service Awards with the night culminating with the announcement of Greater West Sports Foundation Chairpersons Award nominees and the Chairpersons winner.

Coaches awards were presented to the following athletes from each squad –

Golf – Ben Clapham
Rugby League – David Bond
Tennis – Michael Carnovale
Softball – Jesse Dunn & Julia McCann
Athletes With a Disability – Michael Henderson
Netball – Rebecca McCarthy
Hockey – Tim Roberts & Tegan Risk
Harold Matthews – Scott Davies



Softball Athletes Julia McCann & Jesse Dunn with Head Coach Heather Skuse and Cathy Kerr from Softball NSW.



Netball Head Coach Joanne Morgan and Netball NSW General Manager with Rebecca McCarthy Netball Award Recipient

Coaches Service Awards are presented to volunteer coaching staff for the years of service they provide the Academy and the athletes.

Three year bronze service awards were presented to Tonya Smith – Hockey Manager, Tony Jackson – Softball Coach, Richard Rye – Rugby League Head Coach, David Shorrocks – Netball Assistant Coach and Mark Dunn - Rugby League

A five year silver service award was also presented to Heather Skuse – Softball Head Coach.



Dr Andrew McDonald and Hockey Head Coach Andrew Woolner with Hockey Award Recipient Tori Hall.

Nominees for the Greater West Sports Foundation Chairperson Award included Issac Wodjewodka - Rugby League, Megan Farnham - Netball, Jarrod Szczudlo - Harold Matthews Rugby League, Matthew Harris - Hockey, Natalie Markovic - Tennis, Kayne Kajan - Softball and Belinda New - Golf.



Chairpersons Award Nominees

With such an outstanding group of nominees, selecting a winner was a difficult task. The recipient has to show an attitude that embraces the Academy and its philosophies, social skills, communication skills, leadership, respect and responsibility.

Kayne Kajan, the winner of the 2009 Greater West Sports Foundation Chairpersons Award showed all of these qualities and more. Kayne has loved softball since he started playing at the tender age of 8 years. Kayne has moved through the associations Under 12's, 14's, 16's and now 19's representative age groups, often being one of the younger players.

In January 2009, Kayne was selected in the NSW Under 16's Team and competed at the National Championships in Tasmania, finishing 3rd overall.

Following the National Championships, Kayne was selected into the 2009 Under 19's Australian Squad to compete in the Friendship Series, to be held in July at Blacktown Olympic Park against other Australian teams and teams from New Zealand.

Kayne is a well mannered, extremely driven sports person who puts back into the sport, by coaching, officiating and assisting in the operation of the sport.

When asked Head Coach Heather Skuse said "Kayne was the perfect nominee for Academy Chairpersons award, his commitment to the sport both as a player and volunteer is demonstrated with such dedication.

Kayne's leadership skills, commitment to the Academy program, communication skills, respect for others and excellent sporting achievements make her a worthy recipient of this year's Greater West Foundation Chairpersons award.



Softballer Kayne Kajan with SWSAS Chairperson Mr Peter Campbell.



Kayne Kajan at the recent NIB Games

SKINS™ Dedication to Task Award

Skins™ Compression Garments have been a proud supporter of the Academy since 2006, providing the Academy's State and National representatives with a quality package of Skins™ Compression wear.

The South West Sydney Academy of Sport has implemented a monthly award to a member of the Academy Community who shows dedication, contribution and commitment to task in their Academy training, support and community promotion of the organisation.

Academy Members are encouraged to nominate a person they see fit of receiving this high profile award via the nomination forms available on the Academy website – www.swsas.org.au/swsas/skinsaward.htm

Winners of the monthly award will receive a plaque of recognition presented at the Annual Sports Awards Dinner and will be featured in the monthly Corporate Update.



The Skins™ Dedication to Task Award

Winner for August – Steve Watt

Steve Watt is the sales manager for C91.3 FM. But Steve is much more than that to the local community. He uses his skills and contacts to assist so many community organisations in the Macarthur region. He is an amazing guy so full of energy and carries that infectious smile on his face like a welcome sign. The Academy is very fortunate and proud to recognise Steve as an extremely supportive member of the Academy family.

Steve does not look for personal acclaim, but he is always there when you need support. Steve recognises how hard local volunteers work for the betterment of the wider community and he provides unbelievable support to so many, including the Academy.

Thank you Steve, for your “unbelievable support” of the Academy's athlete scholarship holders, our local community leaders and Australia's Sporting Hero's, of tomorrow.

2009 Calendar

Subject to change.

SEPTEMBER 2009

13th – Softball Trials

15th – 15's Netball Training

26th – U15's Rugby League Trials

OCTOBER 2009

1st – U15's Rugby League Trials

3rd – 4th – U15's Netball Academy Games

10th – U15's Rugby League Final Selections

Nominations for Opens Netball, Hockey, Golf and Tennis Opening Soon.

* For more information go to www.swsas.org.au



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