



**SOUTH
METRO
JUNIOR**
FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Pathways

**CLUB CONFERENCE
2025**

AGENDA

1. Pathways Team
2. St Kilda Junior Academy
3. Interleague (AVMJDS)
4. Coates Talent League –
Sandringham Dragons



**SOUTH
METRO
JUNIOR**
FOOTBALL LEAGUE

It's
about
the
kids



THE PATHWAY TEAM



Nathan Broadbent
SMJFL GM of Football
Operation



Max Timlock
SMJFL Administration
Assistant



David Zivin
SMJFL Football Pathways
Administrator



Eddie Palermo
St Kilda FC North Hub
Co-ordinator



Matthew Crozier
St Kilda FC Academy
Pathways Manager



Bree Vallance
Sandringham Dragons -
Head of Talent Operations



STK JUNIOR ACADEMY



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2025

EDDIE PALERMO

St Kilda FC
North Hub Co-ordinator



STK JUNIOR ACADEMY



St. Kilda FC has a strongly established junior academy program for athletes aged U13 to U15 from Port Melbourne to Mornington.

Divided into 2 hubs (North and South), with the North Hub partnered with the SMJFL and aligned to the Sandringham Dragons region. There are approximately 380 athletes involved in the North Hub/SMJFL program.

Our objective is to provide athletes with a high-performing environment aimed at:

- Connection & Belonging
- Teaching age-appropriate fundamental football skills
- U13s: Introducing
- U14s: Refining
- U15s: Mastering
- Providing a platform to prepare young athletes minds & bodies to participate in the game at a higher level.



STK JUNIOR ACADEMY TALENT ID



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STK Academy staff follow a talent ID framework, intertwined with a philosophy that prioritises player growth and development ('scope') over results and recency bias.

Talent ID Framework:

- Competitiveness
- Kicking
- Clean hands
- Decision-making
- Athleticism

Philosophy:

- 'Crystal-balling' – “what could this player become in the future” vs the now.
- Promoting 'growth mindset' and character – players who want to get better, ask questions and show overall positive attitude.

Process:

- Staff are monitoring STK Junior Academy players at training and games.
- Objective to watch everyone at least twice per season.
- STK Junior Academy maintains an extensive watchlist which is also monitored through the season.



STK JUNIOR ACADEMY – DIVERSITY SQUAD (NGA)

- The diversity squad is an extension of the NGA program for Indigenous, Torres Strait Islander and multicultural boys & girls aged between 13-15, culminating in games against other AFL clubs.
- Selection for the diversity squad will primarily come from players that are currently within the academy (North & South).
- The diversity squad, which plays in the April school holidays, will be monitored by STK Elite Academy staff for future additions into our NGA program (16-19yrs) who are draft concession eligible.

Criteria for eligibility Multicultural (either of the below)

- Player born overseas in a non-traditional English-speaking country.
- 1 parent born in an Asian or African Country
- 2 parents born in non-English speaking country (e.g. Sweden).



SMJFL INTERLEAGUE



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2025



Nathan Broadbent
SMJFL GM of Football Operations



Max Timlock
SMJFL Administration Assistant

PATHWAYS 2025

UNDER 12

- Cost: Free
- 3 x Training Sessions
- Skill and Fun Focus
- Intraleague Exhibition Match (U18 GF Day)
- Equal club representation
- 100% Club Nominations



UNDER 13

- Cost: Fee Payable to STK
- 14 x Training Sessions
- Skill and Contest Focus
- Cross-League Exhibition Match*
- Combination of Club Nominations, Come & Try Day* and Scouting notes used for list building



UNDER 14 / 15

- Cost: Fee Payable to STK
- 7 x Training Sessions PLUS extended Academy experience option*
- Skill, Contest and Game Focus
- Combination of Club Nominations, Come & Try Day* and Scouting notes used for list building

Selected players only

- Interleague fee payable to SMJFL
- 7 x Training Sessions
- 3 x AFL VIC MJDS Games



**METRO JUNIOR
DEVELOPMENT
SERIES**

UNDER 16-18

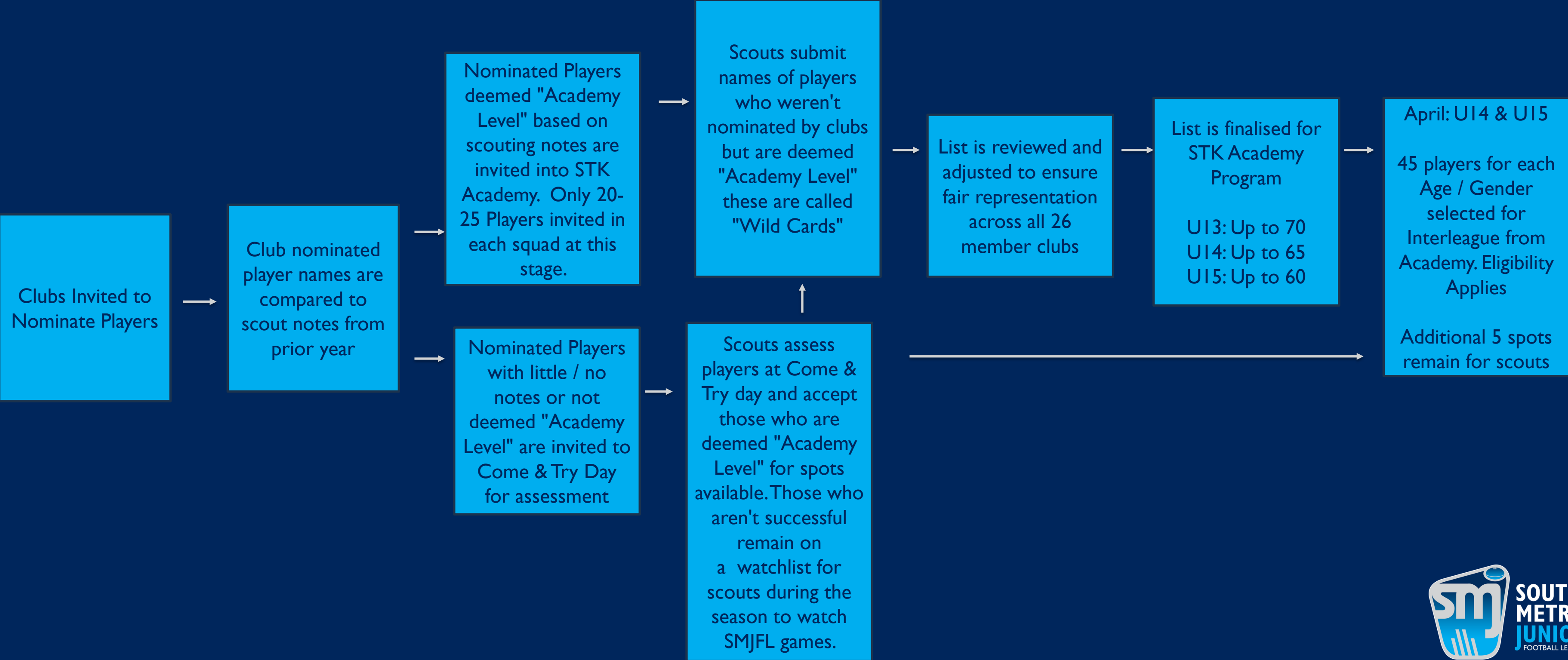
- Rep Coates Talent League
- National Coates Talent AFL Championships
- Coates Talent AFL Academy
- Dragons scouting team used for list building
- STK Academy continues for Multicultural and First Nations players



PATHWAYS 2025: KEY DATES

PROPOSED ACADEMY DATES 2025			
KEY DATES* *Dates are likely, but subject to minor changes	U14 Wed 5-6.30pm	U15 Wed 6.30-8pm	U13 Tues Girls 5-6.30pm Boys 6.30-8pm
STK Come and Try	2/02/2025	2/02/2025	2/02/2025
Induction	12/02/2025	12/02/2025	25/02/2025
Saints NGA 1	19/02/2025	19/02/2025	4/03/2025
Saints NGA 2	26/02/2025	26/02/2025	11/03/2025
Saints NGA 3	5/03/2025	5/03/2025	18/03/2025
Saints NGA 4	12/03/2025	12/03/2025	25/03/2025
Testing Combine	16/03/2025	16/03/2025	16/03/2025
Saints NGA 5	19/03/2025	19/03/2025	1/04/2025
Saints NGA 6	26/03/2025	26/03/2025	22/05/2025
Saints NGA 7	2/04/2025	2/04/2025	29/04/2025
Interleague Session 1 / Saints NGA 8	23/04/2025	23/04/2025	6/05/2025
Interleague Session 2 / Saints NGA 9	30/04/2025	30/04/2025	13/05/2025
Interleague Session 3 / Saints NGA 10	7/05/2025	7/05/2025	20/05/2025
Interleague Session 4 / Saints NGA 11	14/05/2025	14/05/2025	27/05/2025
Interleague Session 5 / Saints NGA 12	21/05/2025	21/05/2025	3/06/2025
Metro Champs Match 1	28/05/2025	28/05/2025	
Interleague Session 6 / Saints NGA 13	4/06/2025	4/06/2025	10/06/2025
Metro Champs Match 2	7/06/2025	7/06/2025	
Metro Champs Match 3	9/06/2025	9/06/2025	
Interleague Session 7 / Saints NGA 14	11/06/2025	11/06/2025	17/06/2025
U13 & U14 Squad Phase 2 - November *	November 2025		November 2025

ST KILDA ACADEMY NOMINATION AND REPRESENTATION



Questions?



Nathan Broadbent
SMJFL GM of Football
Operation



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Thankyou!