

MEDIA RELEASE

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SYDNEY TO HOST 2025 EMERGING MATILDAS CHAMPIONSHIPS

New South Wales will host Australia's most promising young female footballers this July when the 2025 Emerging Matildas Championships take place at Valentine Sports Park in Sydney.

The tournament – <u>formally known as the National Youth Championships</u> – will run across six days from 15 – 20 July 2025, showcasing the top Under 15 and Under 16 female footballers from across the country.

The Emerging Matildas Championships are a key event in the Australian football calendar, featuring teams from Football Australia's nine State and Territory Member Federations competing for the national title while showcasing their skills to national team technical staff.

As part of Football Australia's talent identification pathway, the Championships play an important role in player development, with many current CommBank Matildas beginning their journey at this tournament.

Household names like Mackenzie Arnold (Football QLD), Ellie Carpenter (Football NSW), Kyra Cooney-Cross (Football VIC), Caitlin Foord (Football NSW), Charlotte Grant (Football SA), Hayley Raso (Football QLD), Emily van Egmond (NNSW Football), Cortnee Vine (Football QLD) and recent debutants like Bryleeh Henry (Football NSW) and Jessika Nash (Football NSW) have all progressed through the Emerging Matildas Championships pathway.

The annual tournament not only provides an opportunity for aspiring young players to be identified, but also coaches, officials and technical staff a chance to learn and grow in their respective fields.

The 2025 Emerging Matildas Championships is proudly supported by the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

Football Australia CEO James Johnson said: "The Emerging Matildas Championships are a cornerstone of our elite pathways, where our brightest junior talent from across the country come together for a six-day event which develops, inspires and celebrates the next generation of national team players.

"The success of the CommBank Matildas is built on the foundations laid at events like this, which are crucial in identifying and preparing the stars of tomorrow, while providing opportunities for aspiring coaches, match officials and technical staff to showcase their own wares.

"We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to the NSW Government and their tourism and events agency, Destination NSW for their ongoing support of Australian football and our elite pathways and look forward to witnessing the future of our women's national teams on display in Sydney this July," concluded Johnson.

2025 Emerging Matildas Championships

Venue: Valentine Sports Park, Glenwood, Sydney, New South Wales

Dates: 15 – 20 July 2025

Fixtures and further information will be released in the 2025 Emerging Matildas Championships coming months.

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