



Speech by

GEOFF WILSON

MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE

Hansard 24 August 2000

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Mr WILSON (Ferry Grove—ALP) (7.04 p.m.): What a fertile field of football stars there is in the electorate of Ferry Grove. Grovely State School's Under 12 Rugby League team has claimed victory after its strong win against Kruger State School at the metropolitan grand final last week. It now holds the M. D. Mulcahy Trophy. Grovely's Under 12 team also excelled in the Statewide Foundation Cup, going down in a narrow loss to St Mary's School of Toowoomba last week. Overall, they came third in the State. These boys are real champions. Queensland Junior Rugby League should be justly proud of these young ambassadors of a great game.

The Ferry Grove Falcons Australian Football Club has just made history. A rapidly growing, nine year old club with strong parent support, this is the first time that the club has reached the finals in any year group and it has done so in the Under 12s and Under 14s. Next Saturday at Sandgate the Under 12s will play Aspley in the grand final of Metropolitan Division 1. The Under 14s will play Wilston/Grange in the grand final of Metropolitan Division 3.

Best wishes to all players. I am sure they will treasure for a lifetime the special privilege of reaching the pinnacle of junior Aussie Rules. The achievements of these footballers do not stop there. Five players from the Falcons Under 12s recently played representative football in the Statewide Queensland primary school Australian football championships. Young Jack Hannam, captain of the Falcons Under 12s, had the honour of being selected to captain the Queensland side that played in the national carnival in Darwin. Three Under 14s Falcons played representative footie for Metropolitan West in the Statewide high school competition. Another three players also played for Brisbane West in the AFL Queensland junior Statewide competition in Toowoomba.

Last night at the AFL Queensland Juniors Best and Fairest Awards celebration here at Parliament House there was an acknowledgment of the Ferry Grove club for coming second out of 30 clubs in the club championship award. What a testament to our young talent. Does anyone doubt that we must do everything we can to get kids into junior sport?
