

## Mini program for major junior soccer shortage

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FOCUSSED ON FOOTBALL: Jason Hayhurst, Ray Dixon and Neil Young at Pasadena High. Pic: Sam Wundke

ANOTHER mini-soccer program is kicking off to help cover the chronic shortage of junior places at local clubs, which saw 1000 hopefuls turned away last year.

The six-week On the Ball skills and mini-game program begins at Pasadena High School this Saturday, February 21, following the recent launch of the Mini-Soccer Stars competition at Flinders University.

Running On the Ball will be Cumberland United senior coach Neil Young, former Cumberland junior director Ray Dixon and Modbury Jets senior coach Jason Hayhurst, with the aid of 'Titch' - an inflatable 18m x 25m pitch boundary complete with blow-up goals.

``Children love the inflatables, they are drawn to them like magnets," Hayhurst says.

``The real benefit of course is that their skills are developing while they are simply enjoying themselves."

On the Ball is for children aged five to eight. For more information visit [footballfocus.com.au](http://footballfocus.com.au) or call 8377-7331

<http://www.wherelive.com.au>