



Roar Roundup – Off Season 1

for the
**TIGER
ARMY**

With special thanks to the ongoing support of the Eastlakes Club

Capital Tigers

RICHMOND
EST 1885

SAVE THE DATE

12 MAR
7:30PM

**MATCH
DAY**

GAME STARTS 7:30 PM, FREE PARKING

capitaltigers.com.au

L4LOR – richmondfc.com.au



Richmond's new number four has arrived.

Sam Lalor will wear number four for Richmond in 2026, inheriting the famous Club number for his second season in yellow and black.

Lalor, 19, wore the number throughout his junior football, including for GWV Rebels in the Coates Talent League.

He inherits the famous number after a debut season that brought with it the Bill Cosgrove/Harry Jenkins Medal as Richmond's best first-year player despite missing 12 games.

Lalor averaged 13 disposals and 1.1 goals from his 10 completed matches at AFL level last season.

He was imposing with 18 disposals and two important goals on debut in front of 80,000 fans against Carlton, and with his 24 touches and two majors against eventual premiers Brisbane, also at the MCG.

Dustin Martin, most recently, wore the guernsey number at Richmond, a three-time premierships player, triple Norm Smith Medallist, and Brownlow Medallist.

Already an iconic number at the Club after the legendary career of Richmond 'immortal', dual premierships captain and four-time premierships player, Royce Hart, the number has continued to grow in prominence for the Tiger Army.

Triple Jack Dyer Medallist Geoff Raines donned the number from 1978-82, and Craig Lambert also won a Jack Dyer Medal with the number in 1991.

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Martin then gave its notability a new meaning, given his significance to the Club's 37-year drought-breaking premiership and subsequent golden era.

Lalor, who will now take it into the next generation of prominence with the Tiger Army, said he admired Martin and that it was a massive honour to take on the number.

"There is some great (number four) history within the Club. I wore it as a kid growing up and can not wait to wear it for the first time," Lalor added.

"I look up to him (Martin) a lot, obviously try to base my game off him a fair bit, and he had such an impact at Richmond.

"Hopefully, I can try and play a bit like him, and yeah, he is one of the players I looked at growing up. So it is a massive honour to wear his number."

Other Jumper Number Changes for 2026 – richmondfc.com.au



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Richmond 2026 AFL Jumper Number Changes

- 4- Sam Lalor (from 22)
- 6- Sam Banks (from 41)
- 8- Jonty Faull (from 26)
- 10- Taj Hotton (from 24)
- 11- Luke Trainor (from 31)
- 43- Liam Fawcett (from 37)

Draft News

Sam Cumming arrives at Richmond

Richmond have selected Sam Cumming with pick No. 7 in the Telstra AFL Draft.



Richmond is delighted to welcome bull at a gate midfielder/forward, Sam Cumming, to the Club after swooping on him with its first pick, No. 7 overall at tonight's Telstra AFL Draft.

Born and raised in Wentworth, New South Wales, Cumming moved to Adelaide in 2023, where he boarded at Prince Alfred College and played football for North Adelaide.

Cumming made an immediate impact in South Australian football circles, including winning the SANFL U/18 MVP award as a bottom-aged player last year.

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He averaged 17 disposals and a goal as part of South Australia's National Championships winning team in 2025 and earned All Australian selection.

Cumming also looked more than comfortable at senior level in the SANFL, averaging 21 touches across four games before a shoulder injury cut short his season.

A strong tackler and clearance player, Cumming is always in the thick of it around the coalface when playing through the midfield, though his contested marking also makes him a difficult forward match-up.

Richmond National Recruiting Manager Rhy Gieschen said that Cumming was combative and played with a hard edge.

"Sam has great speed and power and is a strong overhead mark. He is a team-first player and was a highly valued teammate across all teams he represented," he added.

"After a strong and consistent U18 National Championships, he made his SANFL debut, and in his second league appearance, he had 21 disposals, five clearances, five tackles, and kicked three goals, which highlighted his ability to impact both as a midfielder and forward.

"He is a player of high character, and we are thrilled to welcome him and his family to Tigerland."

Cumming continues a strong success line with Richmond and the Sunraysia region, which includes Richmond greats Matthew Knights, Mark Lee, and Dale Weightman (Mildura).

Sam Grlj to bring the sizzle to Richmond

Richmond have selected Sam Grlj with pick No. 8 in the Telstra AFL Draft.



Richmond has selected exciting Oakleigh Chargers running-machine Sam Grlj with its second selection, No. 8 overall at tonight's Telstra AFL Draft.

The speedster averaged 20.3 disposals, five tackles and 3.9 clearances at Coates Talent League level this year and 17 touches for Victoria Metro.

Grlj also impressed when playing for Richmond's VFL team in Round 19 and 20, instantly standing out as a top-level talent.

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Richmond National Recruiting Manager, Rhy Gieschen said the Club had tracked Grij closely across the past three years.

“Sam’s attributes are really clear when you watch him play and he always plays to his strengths which is his terrific mix of speed, agility and endurance,” he said.

“Our fans will love his ability to use these attributes to take the game forward and break lines.

“His ability to link up and challenge the opposition with his run and dash is the standout feature in his game, which is also underpinned by the fact that he is a serious competitor who loves to win.

“Sam showed his ability to play really strong senior football in our VFL side this year acquitting himself extremely well.

“He also showcased his athletic profile at the recent Draft Combine where he was a 2.92 for the 20m sprint and a 5:55 two-kilometre time-trial which is an elite mix of speed and endurance.

“Sam has a real positive outlook on life and is always upbeat. He has great energy and is always looking at ways to improve his own game.

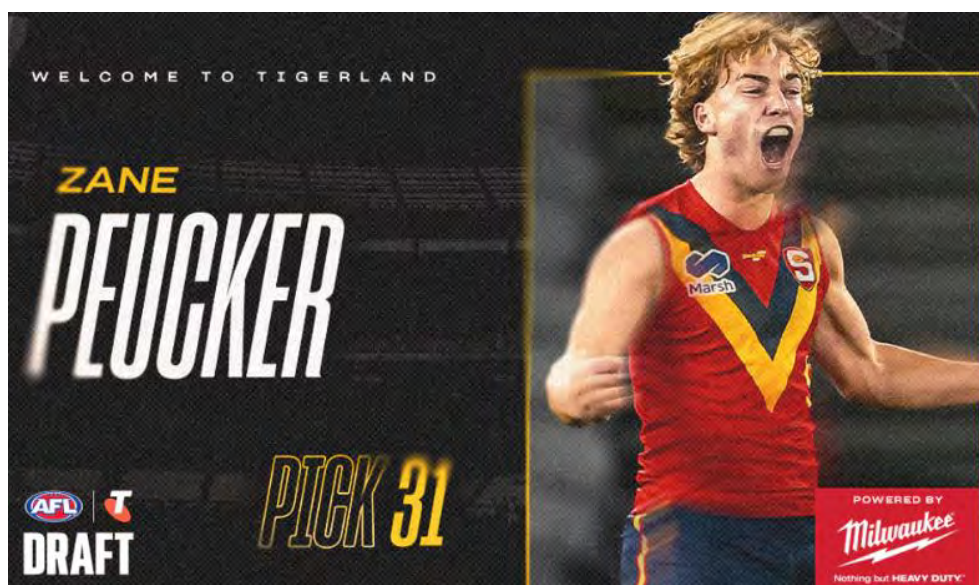
“We are delighted to welcome him and his family to the Swinburne Centre and cannot wait for the Tiger Army to make him one of their own.”

Grij was voted as the captain of the Vic Metro U18 side this year, as well as captaining his school side at Camberwell Grammar such is his high-level character.

The 182cm Canterbury product was used mostly in the midfield and across half back this year.

Tigers grab Zane Peucker

Richmond have selected Zane Peucker with pick No. 31 in the Telstra AFL Draft.



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Richmond has selected Woodville West-Torrens forward/midfielder Zane Peucker with its third selection, No. 31 overall at this year's Telstra AFL Draft.

Peucker was a dominant force for the Eagles U/18s this year, averaging 25 disposals, 1.5 goals, and 5.5 score involvements per game.

The damaging forward half player was particularly prolific late in the year, with 34 disposals and two goals in a narrow loss to West Adelaide in Round 14, and 31 touches and three majors the following week against Norwood.

Peucker also booted a goal in every game he played for the National Championship-winning South Australia, where he was a teammate of fellow Richmond draftee Sam Cumming.

Richmond National Recruiting Manager Rhy Gieschen said Peucker was a player with a great feel for the game and was strong in the contest.

“Zane has speed and power and consistently impacted games as both a midfielder and forward throughout the season,” he said.

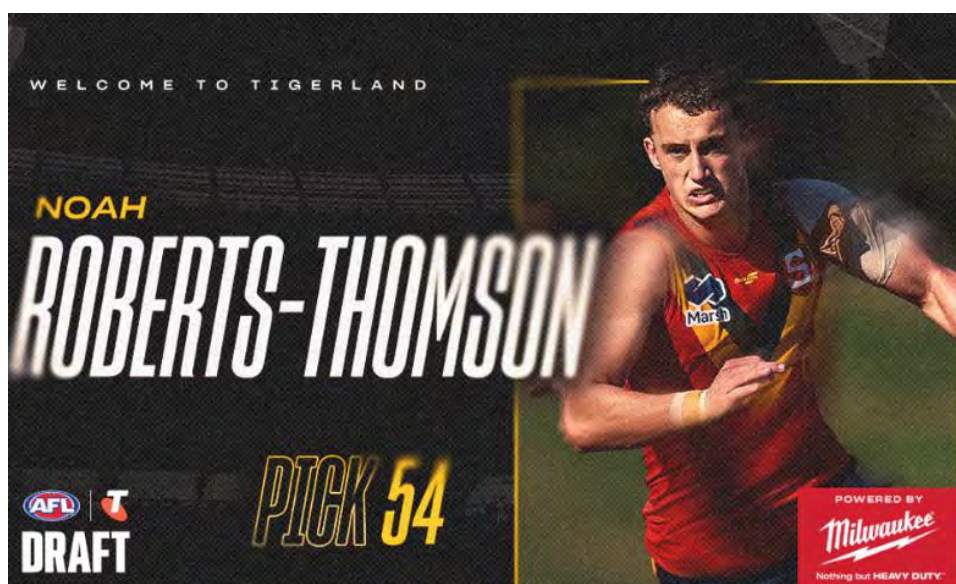
“He is one of the youngest players in this year's draft, given that he was born in December, and we feel he has a lot of development left in him.

“We are excited to welcome Zane and his family to Tigerland and know his father will be particularly over the moon, as he is a one-eyed Richmond supporter.”

Peucker, 17, stands at 179cm tall. His community club is Port District.

Noah Roberts-Thomson bound for Richmond

Richmond have selected Noah Roberts-Thomson with pick No. 54 in the Telstra AFL Draft.



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Richmond has selected Noah Roberts-Thomson with its fourth selection, No. 54 overall at this year's Telstra AFL Draft.

The pacy midfielder/forward from Sturt will join his South Australian teammates Sam Cumming and Zane Peucker at the Club next year, after the Tigers picked both up with earlier selections.

Affectionately known as 'NRT', Roberts-Thomson featured prominently in the Draft Combine 20m sprint and agility screening.

Roberts-Thomson averaged 23 disposals and booted 17 goals at SANFL U/18 level this season.

Richmond National Recruiting Manager Rhy Gieschen said that Roberts-Thomson's speed, power, and terrific work ethic were the backbone of his game.

"Noah had a strong and consistent season for Sturt and South Australia," he added.

"He is a team-first player who played an important role as a forward for South Australia in their National Championships winning team, where he averaged 6.3 score involvements per game.

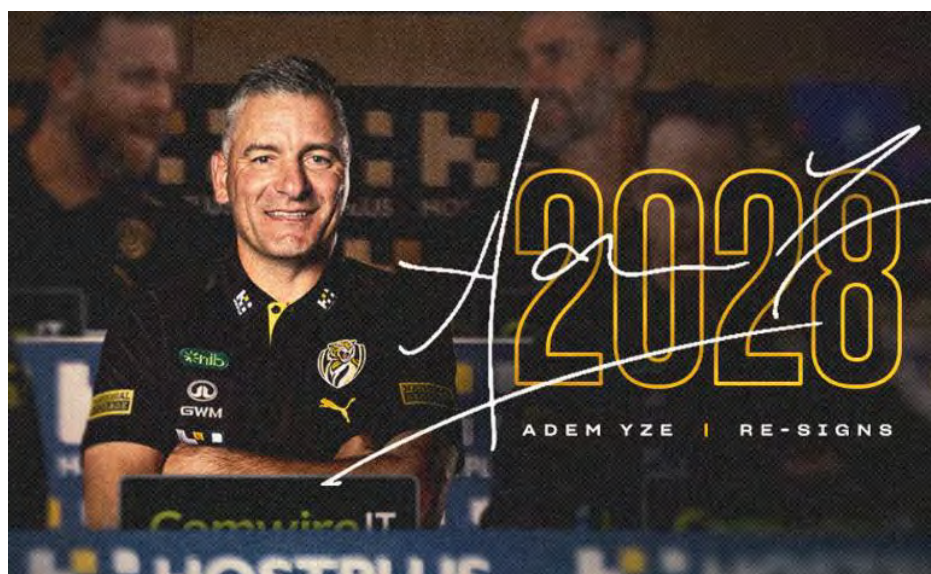
"Noah is a tough competitor who played out the season with a broken finger, highlighting his grit and character.

"We are thrilled to welcome Noah and his family to Tigerland."

The Club traded out its future (2026) fifth round selection to receive pick 54 from Gold Coast SUNS in order to make this selection.

Roberts-Thomson is a cousin of former Sydney Swans dual premiership player Lewis Roberts-Thomson.

Yze inks Richmond extension – richmondfc.com.au





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Richmond is delighted to announce that senior coach Adem Yze has committed to the Club for a further two years, taking his contract through to the end of the 2028 season.

Yze is two years into his tenure at Richmond and has overseen a period of rejuvenation and the emergence of young talent.

The experienced coach has built meaningful connections within the playing list and the broader football program, ensuring his message is delivered with clarity and enabling him to fully utilise his outstanding game knowledge and tactical acumen.

Yze blooded nine AFL debutants last season and in the process won an extra three games and saw a seven per cent decrease in scores against and an improvement in time in front.

Richmond CEO Shane Dunne said the Club's Board and Administration had great confidence in the direction Yze had the playing group heading towards.

"Adem is a highly driven coach who is crystal clear with his plans, communication, and expectations of how he wants the game to be played," Dunne added.

"He has elite personal qualities, has built strong relationships over the past two years, and has a shared hunger for success with the playing group.

"Adem's excellent understanding of AFL strategy and his sharp knowledge of the game are major assets, and they will continue to shine in the coming years.

"We are really excited about what is to come and look forward to seeing Adem continue to lead the group and this Club into our next period of AFL success."

Club Statement: AFLW Review – richmondfc.com.au

Richmond Football Club will implement changes after a comprehensive external review of the Club's AFLW program

Richmond Football Club commissioned a comprehensive external review of the Club's AFLW program in October.

The review was led by former AFL Club executive Brad Lloyd with the support of independent high-performance specialists with extensive experience across elite women's team sports.

The scope of the review included program structure and governance, culture and leadership, coaching and player development, high performance and medical support, recruitment and list strategy.

Wide-ranging consultation was undertaken across the Club including program staff and the playing group. In depth benchmarking and data analysis was also considered as part of the review.

Richmond CEO Shane Dunne said the review has been thorough and carefully considered.

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"We could not ignore our on-field results in 2025. Ultimately this is about building a program that gives our female athletes the best chance of success," Dunne said.

Following the completion of the review, the Club will implement the following changes:

The Club has informed senior coach Ryan Ferguson that he will not continue in the role.

"Ryan is a good football person and has been a valued part of the Richmond Football Club for more than a decade across our AFL, AFLW and VFL programs," Dunne said.

"Ryan was at the helm for our first-ever AFLW win and our first finals' appearance – historic moments and sources of great pride for the Club.

"We thank him for his significant contribution and wish he and his family all the very best for the future.

"Ultimately the decision was made that we needed a different voice, and we will now commence the search to find the best possible senior coach for our AFLW team."

Ferguson said he leaves the Club with pride.

"I've loved my time at Richmond, worked with so many amazing people and I'm proud to have given everything I possibly could to every program I've been involved in," Ferguson said.

"I believe in this group and wish them great success in coming seasons."

The football department will be restructured. The role of Executive Head of Women's Football has been made redundant, and the Club will appoint a General Manager - Women's Football reporting directly to the CEO.

"As Executive Head of Women's Football, Kate Sheahan has done a huge amount of work building our AFLW program from the ground up and we thank her for her dedication and commitment," Dunne said.

"It has taken an enormous amount of energy and passion, and Kate has brought that from the moment she walked in the door. We wish her and her family the best for whatever comes next."

Sheahan said she is proud of what has been built.

"I am grateful for the opportunity Richmond Football Club gave me to lead the establishment of its AFLW program. I will cherish my time at the Club and the relationships I built with the staff and players. I wish the Club and the AFLW program every success in the future," Sheahan said.

Among a number of other decisions taken, the Club will:

- Develop a new AFLW Performance Strategy that defines how we will close the gap and consistently compete in finals.
- Re-structure the high-performance and medical functions to drive standards and create better alignment and clearer accountabilities.
- Increase its investment in leadership training for the player leadership group to more effectively drive agreed values and behaviours.

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- Re-define list build principles to align with the future game model.
- Appoint a full-time AFLW Operations & Scheduling Manager to centralise communications and accountability.

"We are absolutely committed to delivering a successful AFLW program and this review was an important part of that," Dunne said.

"We have now established a clear direction, and we look forward to the work ahead as we prepare for next season and beyond."



<https://membership.richmondfc.com.au/packages>