

THE sons of three former VFL/AFL players are hoping to take the first steps towards a career at the elite level with the Geelong Falcons in the TAC Cup next season.

The Falcons begin their 2013 pre-season training campaign on Monday, November 12 and among the 91 hopefuls invited to try out for a spot on their list are three 17-year-olds with names familiar to footy fans.

Harrison Kol (St Mary's), whose father **Michael** played 63 games for Geelong between 1983-89 and won the Gardiner Medal as the reserves best and fairest in '89.

Teia Miles (St Josephs), son of former Collingwood, West Coast and Geelong utility **Geoff** who played 122 games overall – including 1992 AFL grand final that the Cats lost to the Eagles.

Zaine Cordy (Ocean Grove), son of **Brian** who played 124 games with Footscray between 1981-88 and whose brother **Ayce** has already joined the Bulldogs under the father-son rule via the Falcons. **Brian Cordy** also coached the Falcons for four seasons.

That trio are not eligible to be drafted until 2014 – but unfortunately for Cats, Magpies and Eagles fans, only **Zaine** qualifies to be picked up by his dad's former club under the AFL's father/son rules.

Another squad hopeful is **Patrick McCartin** (St Josephs), the son of former Geelong reserves player and GFL star **Matt**, drafted by the Cats in the 1993 AFL pre-season draft.

“So it's great to see all those kids coming through,” Falcons Regional Manager Michael Turner said.

“They've got a little way to go in their maturity but they are very good players.”

The Falcons will hold simultaneous training sessions at Camperdown and their training base at the Highton Reserve leading up to Christmas before the coaching staff begins cutting the squad back.

“We just basically say to the boys you are here to reach your full potential,” Turner said.

“Our core business is obviously to prepare boys to be drafted to the AFL.”

“Some kids reach their full potential, like a Luke Hodge and achieve what he has in his career.”

“But other boys will be great local players or at VFL level. So you can only do your best and that's all we ask of them when they come into our program.”

“Our High Performance Staff have already mapped out a pretty extensive training program for them up until Christmas.”

There's eight players vying for the five spots available to 19-year-old players on their list.

Turner said half-back George Cameron has been invited back for another stint after impressing in his six TAC Cup appearances earlier this season before being sidelined by a back injury.

Cameron was in the initial Vic Country squad for the under-18 national championships until he was injured.

“There's a lot of boys in the group that I believe will mature into very good footballers so, potentially seasons 2013 and 2014 should be really good years for the Falcons.”

Brad Green