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ALASTAIR CLARKSON

Alastair Clarkson is building a list of players at Hawthorn that looks set to become one of the genuine heavyweights of the AFL competition for years to come. After making steady progress in his first two years as coach, 2007 became a 'watershed' year for the club with its first finals appearance since 2001.

Clarkson has stuck to his guns & persisted with his youth policy since being appointed Head Coach at the end of 2004. He has developed a young flock of Hawks that is steadily building a club culture of winning.

This youth policy has meant that the Hawks have some of the most exciting young players in the competition. The likes of Lance Franklin, Luke Hodge, Jordan Lewis, Jarryd Roughead & Grant Birchall look like forming the nucleus of Hawthorn's next Premiership team.

Clarkson has made a concerted effort to instil discipline & systems into the club, while pushing a game plan that generally emphasises hard running, the creation of space & ball movement to unmarked players.

A qualified teacher, Clarkson also has university degrees in sports science & business. A long coaching apprenticeship with stints at Port Adelaide (AFL), Werribee (VFL) & Central Districts (SANFL – Premiership coach), has meant that Clarkson is ready for the many challenges AFL coaching can throw up.

Playing Career: North Melbourne F.C. 1987-1995
Melbourne F.C. 1996-1997

Coaching Career: Hawthorn F.C. - Head Coach Current
Port Adelaide F.C. - Assistant 2003- 2004
Werribee (VFL) - Head Coach
St. Kilda (VFL) – Head Coach
Central Districts (SANFL) – Head Coach