



*Team NAB AFL Auskick's latest recruit, Mason Downie, after his interview with Dale Thomas on Friday night at UTAS Stadium during the Hawthorn v Adelaide Crows game.
Photo: James Wiltshire/AFL Photos.*

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Mason Downie named Round 14 Team NAB AFL Auskick recruit

Team NAB AFL Auskick has named its eighth recruit of the year, with six-year-old Mason Downie from Lauderdale Auskick Centre in Tasmania joining the team.

The 2025 Team NAB AFL Auskick coaches Nick Daicos and Katie Brennan encourage all registered Auskickers to enter via submitting a video online for a chance to join the team. They are on the lookout for NAB Auskickers who show teamwork, dedication, and passion.

Selected Auskickers will have the opportunity to invite an Auskick teammate of their choice to join them for a remarkable experience, attending the 2025 Toyota AFL Grand Final.

Eleven lucky winners will be announced during the Seven Network's AFL match broadcast, with Mason being the fifth winner to join the team accompanied by his chosen teammate – his friend Lenny Thorp.

Mason and Lenny will join their fellow Team NAB AFL Auskick recruits at the MCG in Melbourne for a once-in-a-lifetime Grand Final experience, where they will take centre stage and present the winning team with their premiership medallions.

Mason is a huge Essendon fan, with Zach Merrett and Mason Redman being his favourite players. He loves playing footy and kicking goals, and his favourite goal celebration is the 'Red Dog' celebration that Mason Redman does.

Mason is a great team player because he likes to pass the ball around and high five his teammates when they do a good kick or pass. He also has a sister called Charlotte, a cat named Buddy, and two dogs named Marley and Rocco.

Mason does Auskick at Lauderdale with his friend Lenny, who is five years old and the youngest of three in his family. Lenny is a Geelong Cats supporter and idolises Jeremy Cameron. Lenny is always on the go, when he's not outside kicking the footy, he loves to go fishing and camping, play soccer or ride his motorbike.

As part of being selected as a Team NAB AFL Auskick recruit, Mason has the chance to be crowned the 2025 NAB AFL Auskicker of the Year which will be announced during Toyota AFL Grand Final Week.

The lucky NAB AFL Auskicker of the Year will receive a remarkable \$5,000 prizemoney thanks to NAB and will have a year full of unique experiences, including meeting AFL and AFLW players and attending AFL games and special events.

If your Auskicker would like a chance to join Team NAB AFL Auskick and have a Grand Final experience of a lifetime, visit nab.com.au/Auskick to enter.

About NAB AFL Auskick

- NAB AFL Auskick is an introductory program for kids to connect with Australian Football while having lots of fun and being active – smiles and grass stains are guaranteed!
- In weekly sessions, kids focus on building football skills and playing in a safe and super fun setting. Expect small groups, heaps of games and parent/guardian involvement.
- NAB AFL Auskick invites all children aged 5-12 no matter their knowledge, skill or ability, to participate in the tackle-free program.
- NAB AFL Auskick offers an inclusive environment for everyone to get involved, with optional 'All Girls' Auskick programs and All-Abilities Auskick centres available.
- More than 141,000 boys and girls participated in NAB AFL Auskick programs at more than 3,500 centres across the country in 2024 – setting a new record!
- Auskick participants have the chance to feature in mini games during halftime at elite AFL and AFLW matches throughout the season. A once-in-a-lifetime experience for many kids!

- Upon signing up, all Auskickers get an awesome pack filled with cool footy goodies not available anywhere else.
- Visit play.afl/auskick for more details.



Mason taking the game on, playing on UTAS Stadium at half-time on Friday night. Photo: James Wiltshire/AFL Photos