



## **Women's Competition – 12 to Watch in 2018**

Our panel of experts cast their eye over the recruits to the Women's Competition and name 12 players they expect to excel in the inaugural season.

### **1. Cambridge McCormick (Port)**

Moved from Brisbane at the start of 2017 to study physiotherapy after being one of the last players omitted from the Brisbane Lions AFLW squad. The former Basketballer is tall and athletic and will be hard to match up against in the ruck.

### **2. Alana Hanson (Sawtell)**

Was so desperate to play AFL that she represented Inverell in the North West competition in 2017. The travel was too much so she's been a key driver in starting a North Coast competition! The former Soccer player and Surf Boat Rower is another who will play in the ruck and with a dozen games under her belt will be one of the most experienced players.

### **3. Cassidy Ronalds**

The reigning Nikki Wallace Medallist for Best and Fairest in the Youth Girls competition having moved across from Basketball. Although 2017 was Cass' first season playing AFL she capped a remarkable year by gaining selection in the NSW/ACT Under 18 State Academy.

### **4. Britt Hargreaves (Port)**

A current Australian Futsal Goalkeeper whose foot and hand skills have transitioned beautifully to footy. Britt played two demonstration matches last season and was competitive and hard at the ball right from the outset.

### **5. Maggie Mills (Sawtell)**

Based on the quality of her performances in two demonstration matches last year Maggie was awarded the Women's Player's Player of the Season by her peers. A tough, uncompromising midfielder whose has previously played both Soccer and Rugby Union.

### **6. Remi Banuelos (Breakers)**

A medical student who moved to Coffs Harbour last year to continue her studies. Had previously played AFL in Sydney which was instantly obvious the minute she took to the field. Is quick and agile and will be a leading ball winner across the competition.

### **7. Tania Slack-Smith (Port)**

A mother of five whose introduction to AFL came via her two daughters playing in the Youth Girls competition. A former Netballer who loves the physicality that footy offers and is guaranteed to be in and under most packs!

### **8. Ahlani Eddy**

Recently moved to the region from Albury where she excelled at footy, gaining a place in the NSW/ACT Under 18 State Academy. The combination of clean hands, silky skills, and athleticism will make Ahlani a key playmaker.

### **9. Brianna McFarlane (Breakers)**

A former Lower Clarence Eagle who dominated the Under 13 Boys competition four years ago. Has excelled at multiple sports including Athletics, Surf Boat Rowing, Touch, Soccer, and Basketball. Despite not having played footy for two years is already standing out at training due to her speed, tenacity and skills which mark her as a “special” player.

### **10. Lizzy Dickson (Port)**

Played her first season of footy in 2017 with the Macleay Valley Eagles where her speed, agility, and endurance earmarked her as a star from her first match. Despite a late season injury her talent was recognised with selection in the NSW/ACT Under 18 State Academy.

### **11. Tiarne Saunders (Sawtell)**

A father/daughter selection based on dad Tony’s involvement with the club. Played two demonstration matches once her State League Basketball commitments were over and shone with her handling skills and spacial awareness.

### **12. Keely Owen (Breakers)**

One of the first players to join the ranks from Soccer last season. Was close to best on ground for North Coast in the rep match at Inverell in just her second outing where she kicked a key goal. Her height and movement will cause problems for opponents.