

Hawks get active for the sake of young fans

By ROB SHAW

THE Hawks were getting active early in Launceston yesterday.

Ten days out from when they are due to kick off their season against Richmond in the NAB Cup at Aurora Stadium, Hawthorn players were already at Aurora Stadium helping to support the Active Launceston Expo.

Following the successful inaugural event last May, the free expo provided plenty of physical activities to try with 44 exhibitors offering displays and information about fitness centres, sports clubs, community groups and family activities.

Demonstrations were staged in activities including belly dancing, yoga, tai chi, women's football, orienteering, croquet, martial arts and even pole dancing.

Hawthorn Tasmanian operations manager Shayne Stevenson said the club was proud to support the project with players Luke Hodge, Lance Franklin,

Jordan Lewis, Michael Osborne and Tasmanian Grant Birchall among those taking part while on their community camp.

"We've had a pretty good couple of days going around and seeing some really good numbers," Birchall said. "Working with the kids has been really good.

"I went to Bridport this morning, I had never been there before. I had to get the GPS out to check where it is.

"It's a nice spot up there. We played a bit of cricket and soccer with the kids and they seemed to enjoy it."

The Hawks also followed in the footsteps of Launceston boxing champion Daniel Geale yesterday by visiting Ashley Youth Detention Centre where they held a clinic and chatted with detainees through the Whitleton project.

Premier David Bartlett will be among the guests when the club stages its season launch in Hobart today.



Brodie Jones, 14, is jumped on by brother Brereton, 12, with a little help from Richard B House Of Bounce.