

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE PS4 NPL NSW MEN'S

ROUND 12
ILINDEN SPORT CENTRE



V



5PM • SUNDAY 28TH MAY 2017



FROM THE CLUB

Welcome all of our players, officials, and guests to this Round 12 game against Sydney FC.

Today's game is part of a wonderful weekend of football that is heritage round. It is a great opportunity for clubs with so much history, such as our great club, to look back on the contributions made by the many wonderful players and officials who have called the llinden Sports Centre and our other venues before it, their home. This dates back to the Club's inception in 1969.

We are fortunate to have some of those former players with us at today's game. Each of them have played their part in the growth and evolution of Rockdale City Suns. So many wonderful memories, so much history and so much to be proud of.

In particular, who could forget our championship winning teams of 1984, 2002 and 2006. For our older members, the 1984 team, coached by Ilija Takac remains the highlight following their 3-2 grand final win over Inter Monaro in front of thousands of jubilant Ilinden fans.

Likewise, we will not forget the 2002 wining side, coached by Mile Todorovski and legend Bill Pilovski who won the decider after a dominant season. And how fitting was it for a true legend of the game, Spase Najdoski to score the only goal of the final in front of 3000 ecstatic fans at Melita Stadium.

Four years later, and we again won the final following a 1-0 win over Penrith Nepean United again at Melita Stadium.

More recently, we will not forget the charge to the grand final by our 2013 team who came from nowhere to make the big dance against Bonnyrigg White Eagles. The team coached by Branko Culina may have lost the final 1-0, but the spirit they showed was truly remarkable.

And most recently, who will forget our 2015 run in the FFA Cup culminating in a narrow 3-2 loss at Jubilee Oval against the then Australian champions, Melbourne Victory in front of over 5000 fans.

We salute every player, committee member and volunteer who has, since 1969, played a part in

making our club what it is and we hope to this year, add a further chapter to that fine history.

On the field, it has been a tough few weeks. We have been crippled by some unfortunate injuries and suspension. That said, the boys are determined to turn things around against the newest boys on the block, Sydney FC. They are a young and energetic team with loads of potential. That said, if our boys can play with the passion and the commitment of some of the great Ilinden teams of yesteryear, we hope to again be singing the Club song at the end of the game.

So best of luck to all of our teams today.

In the under 18s, it is a top of the table clash. The under 20s will be facing stiff competition but they continue to improve and whilst the result did not go our way last week, we have full confidence that they can have a strong second half of the season.

We would also like to acknowledge the improvement shown by our youth teams and in particular our under 16s who last week defeated the Western Sydney Wanderers, a great effort from a team who are on the rise.

Enjoy the game and we hope to see you all next Wednesday night 31st May at the llinden Sports Centre for our final FFA Cup qualifier game. It will be a tough battle but we are looking forward to it.

As always, we would like to thank and acknowledge our wonderful sponsors:

Co major sponsors: Pauls Customs & Forwarding Solutions and the Home Lending Centre at Bexley.

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Regards, Dennis Loether- President RCS FC



Website: rcsfc.com.au **Twitter:** @RockdaleCitySFC

Facebook: fb.com/Rockdale-City-Suns-Football-Club-Ilinden



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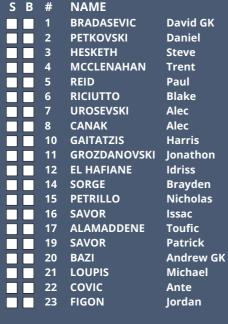












Player Coach: Paul Reid Coach: Michael Grbevski

Assistant Coach: Matthew Ribarovski Goalkeeper Coach: Spiro Parameritis Physiotherapist: Jerry Fillipatos



S	В	#	NAME	
		1	EVANS	Mitchell
		2	CURTIS	Brendar
		3	FLOTTMANN	Patrick
		4	TIMOTHEOU	George
		5	GREEN	Matt
		6	KULESKI	Nicola
		7	MASKIN	Daniel
		8	ZAPATA	Juan
		9	ANTONIOU	Bai
		10	AVERY	Aaron
		11	ARDITTI	Chris
		12	LOKOLINGOY	Charles
		13	MCGING	Liam
		14	GONZALEZ	Cristian
		15	MCILLHATTON	Sam
		16	MUTCH	William
		17	ZUVELA	Chris
		18	FOFANAH	Alusine
		19	IREDALE	John
		20	HEWARD-BELLE	Thomas
ī	ΠĪ	21	AGAMEMNONOS	Andrea

Head Coach: Rob Stanton Asst. Coach: David Zdrilic Manager: Michael Swibel

Referee: K. Patterson
Assistant Referees: N. Backo & P. Teleki

4th Official: M. Bailey

MATCH PREVIEW

After three straight defeats Rockdale City Suns will be out to end their recent slump with victory against Sydney FC on Sunday.

Paul Reid's team has fallen back to reality after setting the pace for the rest of the competition during the first six rounds of the competition.

The goals have dried up for the Suns and with it so have the results. Rockdale will need to rediscover the magic touch in front of goal if they are to return to the top of the table.

The young Sky Blues will be hoping to capitalise on Rockdale's form slump and their fast and expansive attack will be difficult to contain.

Another loss for the Suns could do serious damage to the team's confidence and would drop them well off the pace in the chase for the PlayStation®4 National Premier Leagues NSW Men's competition Premiership.



	1ST GR	ADE -	PLA	/STA	ΓΙΟΝ	4 NP	L NS	W ME	N'S
POS	TEAM	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
1	APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	11	8	0	3	25	11	14	24
2	Blacktown City FC	11	7	3	1	21	11	10	24
3	Sydney United 58 FC	11	7	1	3	23	11	12	22
4	Sydney Olympic FC	11	6	3	2	16	10	6	21
5	Rockdale City Suns FC	11	6	2	3	23	18	5	20
6	Manly United FC	11	5	3	3	26	21	5	18
7	Hakoah Sydney City East FC	11	4	4	3	19	15	4	16
8	Wollongong Wolves FC	11	4	1	6	11	16	-5	13
9	Sydney FC	11	3	1	7	17	24	-7	10
10	Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	11	2	2	7	20	33	-13	8
11	Sutherland Sharks FC	11	2	0	9	16	29	-13	6
12	Parramatta FC	11	1	2	8	13	31	-18	5

REVIEWS

Rockdale City Suns 0 - APIA Leichhardt Tigers 2 at Ilinden Sports Centre

APIA Leichhardt Tigers has returned to the top of the PlayStation®4 National Premier Leagues NSW Men's ladder after defeating Rockdale City Suns 2-0 at Ilinden Sports Centre on Sunday.

Goals to Sean Symons and Jordan Murray condemned Rockdale to their third straight defeat as APIA made it back to back wins.

Murray gave APIA the lead early in the second half and they didn't look back as Symons wrapped up the result with an 84th minute strike.



An injury time Will Mutch strike has helped Sydney FC claim a vital 2-1 PlayStation®4 National Premier Leagues NSW Men's win against Wollongong Wolves at Lambert Park on Saturday.

Mutch's second goal of the match broke the hearts of the travelling Wollongong fans as the streaky winger snuck in to help the Young Sky Blues secure a come from behind victory.

Patrick Antelmi's 74th minute strike put the Wolves in prime position for a much needed away win before Mutch levelled the scores only moments later.

The former Blacktown Spartans player was then on hand to score the winner in the frantic final stages as Sydney FC secured its third win of the season.









TEAM OF THE WEEK



FOOTBALL NSW WOULD LIKE TO THANK THEIR SPONSORS
FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT









WALKING DOWN MEMORY LANE

Before I moved from Auckland, New Zealand to Sydney many moons ago, my impression of Australian sporting culture was rather one dimensional and naive.

My viewpoint was purely based on what I'd seen of Australian national teams in sports such as rugby union, rugby league and netball, codes that enjoy a popular following in my homeland.

Back then, whenever New Zealand lined up against Australia in each of these sports, those who wore the green and gold were predominantly white Australians of British heritage. Players with names like Shaw, O'Connor, Lynagh and Hawker. Rogers, Cronin and Reddy. To me, that was normal.

Australian football (soccer) meanwhile, was completely different.

As a youngster, my first sporting love was football (soccer). I played for Mt Wellington, one of the most successful clubs in the country, and represented Auckland at the Under 16 nationals.

I remember watching my senior team, the national league champions of New Zealand, play a Trans-Tasman challenge match against Australian NSL champions Marconi. I also remember looking through the match program and noting that while every Mt Wellington player was of Anglo-Celtic heritage (plenty of Poms and Scots in that lineup), the Stallions' team was very different. European names such as Prskalo, Jankovics, Krncevic and Vieri jumped off the page and hit me squarely between the eyes.

Being a curious fellow, I wondered where these players with the exotic names had come from and wondered why they were playing for an Australian team.

Little did I know that my interest in that Marconi Stallions side was the beginning of a love affair with Australian football and a journey that would lead me to write a bit about a game that I'd come to adore.

Not long after watching the Trans-Tasman stoush, I moved to Sydney and realised that not only was multiculturalism alive and well in Australia's largest city, the sporting landscape here was vastly different to the one I'd left behind.

Unlike New Zealand, rugby in Australia was dominated by private school old boys and university-educated chaps who earned a crust in the professions. Doctors, lawyers and stock brokers were a dime a dozen within the Wallaby ranks.

League and Aussie rules were the most popular winter games, the games for the masses. And finally, there was football - working class to the core but often regarded as the black sheep on the local sporting landscape.

Why? Because unlike the others, football was the one and only sport that truly represented the multicultural melting pot that is modern day Australia.

I even turned out for a South American side in an Ethnic Cup tournament (apparently my Maori genes gave me the look required to qualify for the team) and couldn't believe the popularity of the event and the technical brilliance showed by the Latinos and continental Europeans. The Brits weren't too bad either and part-timers or not, the talent on display was astounding.

Fast forward to 1996 and I'm a rookie photojournalist earning a crust contributing words and pictures to a weekly rag called Inside Soccer. As part of my beat, I don't miss a home game involving NSL giants Sydney United, Sydney Olympic and Marconi Stallions.

I also cover various games in the NSW state leagues, visiting clubs such as Blacktown City, Bonnyrigg White Eagles, APIA Leichhardt Tigers, Manly, Melita, Rockdale and Sutherland.

I gradually learn the storied histories of clubs that were established by ethnic communities as long ago as the 1950s, when an avalanche of European immigrants flooded into the urban capitals of Sydney and Melbourne, changing the demographic of a nation.

Italians, Greeks, Croatians, Serbians, Macedonians, Maltese and the Jewish community formed their own football clubs across Sydney and those clubs played a huge role in the assimilation process. These communities identified with their football clubs as outlets for social interaction and a sense of belonging. The clubs also attracted to their games large and boisterous crowds that were both the envy and the bane of the locals.

My football journey continues as I attend matches and training sessions and press conferences. I read about the history of the local game and like every self-respecting "football addict" get my TV fix on SBS. I speak to people involved at all levels, from grass roots to the top end, enhancing my football education and enjoyment of the game. I can't get enough.

In 1996, Branko Culina's Sydney United are the

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aristocrats of the Australian game and with the likes of Zeljko Kalac, Tony Popovic, Ante Milicic, David Zdrilic and Kresimir Marusic, it's no surprise that they play a sublime brand of football that takes them all the way to the NSL Grand Final. Unfortunately, Culina's men suffer an upset away loss to Brisbane Strikers in front of a record crowd of 44.000.

At Olympic, I admire the goal-scoring nous of Kris Trajanovski and Abbas Saad, the skill and majesty of Milan Blagojevic, and the industry of Peter Tsekenis. There's also a 17-year-old kid by the name of Brett Emerton who will go on to play almost 100 games for the club before forging a career at Dutch giants Feyenoord, and Blackburn Rovers in the English Premier League.

Meanwhile, over the coming years I also grow to admire the Wollongong Wolves, who claim consecutive NSL Premierships in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 with a talented roster that includes Scott Chipperfield, Matt Horsley and Paul Reid. The Wolves capture the imagination of the local football community and prove that even a club from regional NSW can foot it with the best.

Olympic win their second NSL title in 2001-2002, with Ante Milicic grabbing the winner in the Grand Final against Perth Glory before 42,000 fans in the far west.

But despite the big grand final crowds, the NSL is struggling and by early 2004, the competition is shut down and replaced by the new A-League.

The collapse of the NSL sees the likes of Sydney United, Sydney Olympic, Wollongong Wolves and Marconi reacquaint themselves with other former national league clubs APIA Leichhardt, Blacktown City, Parramatta Eagles and St George in the NSW Premier League, the elite state competition that kicked off way back in 1957.

Today, Marconi and Saints no longer play at the state's elite level, having been relegated to the second tier; but another former NSL club, and the most successful of them all, Hakoah Sydney City East, has re-emerged from the wilderness to again take their place in the sun.

Established by Jewish migrants in 1939, Hakoah Sydney City East won five state Premierships and four grand finals before emerging as the most successful club in National Soccer League history, winning four Championships under the name of Sydney City in 1977, 1980, 1981 and 1982.

The club boasted some of this nation's finest footballers, including Ray Baartz, Jim Patikas, John Kosmina, Jimmy Mackay and Joe Watson. But

unfortunately, despite the incredible success of the team, City just couldn't draw a crowd and due to financial considerations, the club made the decision to withdraw from the national competition.

After some years in the wilderness, Hakoah Sydney City East two years ago won promotion to the PlayStation4 NPL NSW Men's competition and have since managed to hold their own against the best of the best in NSW.

Meanwhile, I discover that Blacktown City is by far the most successful club in NSW state league history, winning more Premierships and more Championships (i.e. grand finals) than anyone else.

Sydney United 58 are a close second on the leaderboard, while other clubs such as Parramatta FC, Bonnyrigg White Eagles, Hakoah Sydney City East, APIA Leichhardt Tigers, Sutherland, South Coast Wolves, Sydney Olympic, Manly United, and Rockdale City Suns also have their names proudly engraved on the honours boards out at Football NSW.

Meanwhile, it needs to be said that while the ethnic clubs established by European migrants all those years ago provided the foundation stones for football in NSW, (indeed, in Australia), district/ association clubs such as Manly United and Sharks have been just as important to the local game, providing opportunities for players and fans alike and boasting rich histories dating as far back as 1930 (Sutherland).

There's also a misconception that the Brits, the Irish and the Aussies haven't had too much of an influence on local football, but nothing could be further from the truth, as players, coaches and administrators from those backgrounds have been at the forefront of the local game for decades.

This weekend Heritage Round will be celebrated at various grounds around Sydney. It's a round that holds special significance for NSW clubs and celebrates their history and the contribution they've made to the football landscape since the start of the 20th century.

So to the players and fans who are involved this weekend, enjoy the football and regardless of the history of your club, take a moment to remember the significance of the occasion. Not just in a footballing sense, but also in an historical sense.

After all, football history is Australian history and for me, it's a rich one that I've been blessed to enjoy ever since that Marconi side with the exotic names rolled into Auckland all those years ago.

By Derek Royal, Football NSW Reporter



25 GK	Max	EPHRAI
26	Josh	TASEVSKI
27	Josh	GOULD
28	Chris	HANCOCK
30	Trent	SIERRA
31	Aron	MIDON
32	Calum	KERMACK
33	Tobias	NORVAL
34	Alex	MALFARA
35	Jared	KADER
36	Jonah	CARAGHER
37	James	TEMELKOVSKI
38	Zac	YILMI
39	Scott	PERIER
	Giuliano	AIROLDI
	Jordan	PYNE
	Jordan	WARD

Coach: Stamati Glaros

Assistant Coach: George Mavros Team Manager: Michael Ephraim



24	Nikola	UJDUR
25	Jay	FOSTER
26	Leo	MALFARA
27	Cooper	COSKERIE
28	Finn	BALLARD-MCBRIDE
29	Ben	VAN MEURS
30	David	MALISHEV
31	Paolo	BONNANI
32	Harry	VAN DER SAAG
33	Guiseppe	TILIO
34	Perry	THOMAS
35	Alex	GOLLAN
36	Daniel	BLACHURA
37	Sam	HAMILTON
40	Duro	DRAGICEVIC

Head Coach: David Zdrilic Assistant Coach: Rob Stanton Manager: Ian McKenzie

UNDER 20s - PLAYSTATION 4 NPL NSW MEN'S									
POS	TEAM	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
1	Sutherland Sharks FC	11	8	2	1	35	11	24	26
2	Sydney United 58 FC	11	6	2	3	17	11	6	20
3	Blacktown City FC	11	6	2	3	17	12	5	20
4	APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	11	6	1	4	28	16	12	19
5	Sydney Olympic FC	11	5	2	4	19	20	-1	17
6	Sydney FC	10	4	4	2	18	8	10	16
7	Manly United FC	11	4	2	5	24	23	1	14
8	Hakoah Sydney City East FC	11	4	2	5	14	15	-1	14
9	Rockdale City Suns FC	11	3	3	5	10	21	-11	12
10	Wollongong Wolves FC	10	3	1	6	16	23	-7	10
11	Parramatta FC	10	2	1	7	10	20	-10	7
12	Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	10	1	2	7	9	37	-28	5

MATCH PREVIEW

Rockdale City Suns host Sydney FC in the final match of round twelve on Sunday with both sides starting to feel their way into the season.

The hosts have proven increasingly difficult customers in recent times with just one loss in their last five and were unlucky to go down 1-0 to high-flying APIA Leichhardt in round eleven's fixture.

Sydney FC are also beginning to show their mettle and have conceded just two goals in their last four. A goal difference of plus ten means David Zdrilic's side are well poised to secure a position in the top five with a win at llinden Sports Centre.







46 GK	Evan	DAVIS
47	Kyle	SARIGIANNIS
48	Jordan	KERRY
49	Jake	TRAJKOVSKI
50	Alexei	ROSSER
51	Caleb	BARTIER
52	Michael	BORG
53	Nathan	MANNO
54	Peter	PATSIAVOUDIS
57	Harry	BROWEL
58	George	MEDAKOVIC
59	Nathan	HANCOCK
60	Daniel	DIMITRIADIS
61	Dimi	PETRATOS
62	Kyle	ANGELOU
65	Dom	BRESCHITTO

Coach: Steve Zoric

Assistant Coach: Gary Deprato



1	Tom	FAY
2	Evan	TSAKOS
3	Aaron	GURD
4	Phil	CANCAR
5	Mitch	MATTISON
6	Jake	HOLLMAN
7	Marco	TILIO
8	Leo	ABDO
9	Jacob	VASILIOU
10	Rocco	CHISARI
11	Alex	MASCIOVECCHIO
12	Jay	HIRSCHOWITZ
13	Paolo	LAXAMANA
14	Benjamin	КООР
15	Luke	OKUDA
16	Bailey	KUBECKA

Head Coach: Jimmy Van Weeren Assistant Coach: Jason Rea Manager: Richard Paddle

UNDER 18s - PLAYSTATION 4 NPL NSW MEN'S									
POS	TEAM	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
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2	Rockdale City Suns FC	11	7	2	2	26	9	17	23
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5	Wollongong Wolves FC	10	4	3	3	20	12	8	15
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7	Parramatta FC	10	3	5	2	12	11	1	14
8	Blacktown City FC	11	4	1	6	14	11	3	13
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10	APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	11	2	2	7	15	26	-11	8
11	Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	10	1	5	4	11	24	-13	8
12	Sydney Olympic FC	11	0	4	7	11	31	-20	4











HOME FIXTURES

HOME GROUND - ILINDEN SPORTS CENTRE West Botany St, Rockdale



	The state of the s	
ROUND 02 VS Sydney United 58 FC	SUN 19TH MARCH	2 - 1
ROUND 03 VS Parramatta FC	SUN 26TH MARCH	4 - 1
ROUND 05 VS Sydney Olympic FC	SUN 9TH APRIL	2 - 2
ROUND 09 VS Blacktown City FC	SUN 7TH MAY	0 - 4
ROUND 11 VS APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	SUN 21ST MAY	0 - 2
ROUND 12 VS Sydney FC	SUN 28TH MAY	17:00
ROUND 15 VS Hakoah Sydney City East FC	SUN 18TH JUNE	17:00
ROUND 17 VS Sutherland Sharks FC	SUN 2ND JULY	17:00
ROUND 18 VS Manly United FC	SUN 16TH JULY	17:00
ROUND 19 VS Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	SUN 23RD JULY	17:00
ROUND 21 VS Wollongong Wolves FC	SUN 6TH AUGUST	17:00



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LIVESHOW

WITH SIRINE DEMACHKIE



EVERY WEEK
THURSDAYS 6PM

