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MATCH PREVIEW
TEAM OF THE WEEK



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Public Notices:

- Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted.
- All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game. Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised people who remain after the stipulated time.
- The setting alight of, or the lighting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares is strictly prohibited. Offenders will be arrested and charged.



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FROM THE CLUB

Welcome everyone to our last home match of the season, against Sydney FC.

The Wollongong Wolves Football Club would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support and commitment to our club throughout the 2017 competition.

We have enjoyed a successful year and have set a very strong platform for some very exciting times to come.

Our first grade team have just missed out on a coveted finals spot this season.

We performed strongly however consistency did let us down at times. The boys improved markedly on our position on the ladder from the previous year and we have no doubt that improvement will continue in 2018. The vast majority of our first grade squad will return and we will supplement our squad with some carefully chosen additions. A commitment to continue developing pathways for our local players will at all times be paramount, along with a mixture of experience to complement and lead.

U20s had the most disjointed and frustrating season of all our sides. Injuries, the loss of key personnel and the regular call up to first grade for some of our players saw the 20s experience a disrupted preparation for pretty much every week of the competition proper. Still, the boys continued to give their all and the experience they gained through the difficulties of this season will stand them in good stead for the future. Most of these boys will again qualify for the 20s in 2018 and the lessons they endured throughout 2017 will have them much better prepared and armed for what lies ahead.

Our U18s flew the flag proudly for our club, having already qualified for the finals with some outstanding performances across the whole year. Coach, Richard Lloyd, has his squad firing at precisely the right time of year and we hold high hopes for our young charges. As with our 20s, the majority of our team will qualify for the 18s again next season, so our future is looking very bright.

2017 has seen us lay some pretty impressive foundations for the years ahead.

On the field we have improved as a club across all areas.

Off the field we have made significant strides.

The Wollongong Wolves now finally have a home facility. Through our partnership with the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council we can now call Albert Butler Memorial Park, Kemblawarra our home. There are some very exciting development plans in place for our ground and in the not too distant future Albert Butler will be transformed into a world class facility that will be the home of football across the Illawarra and South Coast. Already our juniors are playing all their matches here and we intend to expand this ground to be a sporting, community and education hub that is accessed and used by all across all our communities. We have already played an NPL Men's round here, against Sutherland on 23rd July when WIN Stadium – The Wolf Den, was unavailable, with great success and a fantastic crowd. For too long the Wolves have never had a Den we can truly call our own. This is no longer the case.

Our sponsors and partners are a crucial component of our success this year. It is through their support we continue to provide the pathways for our juniors and provide the highest level of representative football for our region. They must be acknowledged and thanked.

MCR – Multi Civil and Rail Services are the Wollongong Wolves Premier Major Sponsor and have been strong supporters of the mighty Wolves since 2014. Continuing to foster football across the Illawarra and South Coast

CDN – Central Data Networks provide integrated IT and software solutions with the Wollongong Wolves exclusively utilizing CDN's CCloudvue centralised software

MR CROWN – The Home of Football in the Illawarra, MR CROWN has partnered with the Wolves to further grow our beautiful game.

Make you sure you join the players, coaches and all football fans at MR CROWN at the end of each home match. Great food. Superb atmosphere. Families and children very welcomed. The ideal way to end your Sunday.

UOW COLLEGE – UOW COLLEGE are the Wolves Education and community partner and provide pathways to the University of Wollongong. Providing opportunities through education.

MELANOMA INSTITUTE AUSTRALIA – Raising funds for ground breaking research into melanoma and partnering with the Wolves to raise awareness particularly among our kids.

And of course the ongoing strong support of **THE ILLAWARRA MERCURY – i98FM – ULTRA FOOTBALL – PUMA.**

Our greatest asset however and the ones we would like to thank the most are of course our fans. **YOU!**

We take great pride in representing each and every one of you.

You celebrate and cheer our victories and feel our losses as heavily as we do.

You take your seats at each of our matches and cheer on our boys at every opportunity.

We are blessed with the most passionate, dedicated and committed fans of any team, in any competition across Australia and know every time we run out onto the field we have many, many, many mighty Wolves fans right behind us.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our great club in 2017.

This year was a very good year. Just you wait for next year.

GO THE MIGHTY WOLVES!



THE OPPOSITION:

SYDNEY FC

The newly promoted Sydney FC Youth, coached by Robert Stanton come to Wollongong in 2017 for an initial Mens 1 Premier League encounter following on from the A-League team, which came last year for the FFA Cup. Stanton has been a visitor as a coach in the past with his association with the Sutherland Sharks for some years and will return to the ground he graced many times in his playing days with the Wolves. This will be the third meeting in competition between the two clubs, the second in Mens 1 and the fifth encounter overall.

THE OPPOSITION TODAY - SYDNEY FC

Sydney FC was victorious in the NPL NSW Mens 2 in 2016 winning both the Premiership and the Championship in their maiden appearance in this competition. The team annexed the premiership winning 16, drawing 3 and losing seven and amassing 51 points to finish three points ahead of the second placed team. A big tally of 84 goals was scored with 41 being conceded with a goal difference of plus 43.

In the Grand Final, the team defeated Western City Wanderers 4-1 with Bai Antoniou, Christopher Arditti, Juan Zapata and Charles Lokoli Ngoy netting. Also in the team on this day were Mitchell Evans, Brendan Curtis, Liam McGing, Nicola Kuleski, Daniel Araujo (Capt.), Andreas Agamemnos, and Matthew Green. Emmamuel Gonzalez, Sam McIlhatton and Daniel Maskin came on as substitutes.

Lokoli Ngoy was the top scorer for his club in the Mens 2 league with 27 goals, with Antoniou in third place on 20 goals.

This year coach Stanton has added William Mutch from Blacktown Spartans and John Iredale with midfielder Chris Zuvela, formerly of Sydney United, will be Sydney FC's captain. With the team being young and exuberant, the team has been fit and eager to mix it up with the opposition in the Mens 1 competition and with a victory over the Wolves in a closely fought match earlier in the season, will want to repeat that effort to conclude their season.

However, during this campaign some players e.g. Bai Antoniou and George Timotheou left, with the latter signing for Sydney Olympic.

So far this season, goalkeepers Tim Heward-Belle and Mitchell Evans, together with outfield players Juan Zapata, William Mutch and John Iredale, have been recognised for their deeds in the Mens 1 'Team Of The Week, with some earning more than one appearance.

When English Premier League club, Arsenal FC played Sydney FC in Sydney on the 13th July, Lokoli Ngoy, McGing, Patrick Flottman, Kuleski, Curtis, McIlhatton, Zuvela, Zapata, Green and Agamemnonos all had game time.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

The Wolves played the Sydney FC A-League team in the FFA Cup Round Of 32 on the 10th August 2016 at WIN Stadium.

Wolves: Justin Pasfield, Kota Kawase, Darcy Madden, Chris Price, James Baldacchino, Zac Mackenzie, David Stojic, Brett Wilson, Ben Zucco, Nicolas Bernal and Josh MacDonald. Steven Hristovski, Blake McGinn and Jake Tew replaced Stojic, Wilson and McGinn respectively. The coach was Jacob Timpano.

Sydney FC: Danny Vukovic, Matt Jurman, Sebastian Ryall, Rhyan Grant, Michael Zullo, Brandon O'Neill, Josh Brilliante, Matt Simon, Milos Ninkovic, David Carney, George Blackwood. Alex Wilkinson, Charles Lokoli Ngoy and Bai Antoniou replaced Zullo, Simon, and Blackwood. The coach was Graham Arnold.

Before an official crowd of 8,029, an air of expectation swept over the crowd prior to the start. Was there to be an upset on offer and would the experience of the away team shine through? The Wolves hung in there for the first half and would be tested when McGinn tugged on Carney's shirt to bring him down with Ninkovic stepping up for the ensuing spot kick. Much to his chagrin, Pasfield kept out his attempt and the Wolves gained some confidence from this, keeping Sydney scoreless until the half time whistle blew. With Sydney having the majority of chances, it took the visitors

until the sixty-seventh minute before the game breaker came. A Zullo cross found Simon, who rose skyward in between Kawase and Pasfield to project his header into an empty net. Four minutes later, Simon added another. Blackwood had made a good run on the right before splitting the defence with a pass that located Simon to his left. With the outside of his foot his curved shot flew inside the far post, giving Pasfield no chance of stopping. Carney added the third to make sure of the victory. Substitute Antoniou cut back the ball from the by line to Carney. He flicked the ball into the air then drilled a low left footed shot in at the far post. During the match MacDonald's powerful effort struck the far post and this was the closest Wolves' goal attempt.

Post match comments by Zac Mackenzie and Matt Jurman were as follows - Mackenzie - 'we did quite well ... We had a real hot go. Had a few chances, which could have gone in.' Jurman - 'It's a good win for us... We did well. We were in control for the whole game.'

THE MATCH UP

Sydney FC sits in eleventh position with fourteen points from six wins and two draws while scoring

thirty-three goals and conceding forty-six. Conversely, the Wolves have scored and conceded twenty-nine goals and twenty-seven respectively, achieved eleven wins and one draw and being in sixth position.

In each team's previous matches Sydney FC accounted for Bonnyrigg White Eagles 3-1 while the Wolves were defeated by Rockdale City Suns 2-1

The last scorer for each club was John Iredale (SFC) and Patrick Antelmi (WW).

The top scorer for each club at present is Charles Lokoli Ngoy (Sydney FC) and Yuzo Tashiro (Wollongong) with 6 and 10 goals respectively.

SCORES AND SCORERS FROM THE PREVIOUS FIVE MEETINGS

2015. Trial - Wolves 0 Sydney FC 4 (George Blackwood 2, Milos Dimitrijevic, Chris Naumoff)

2015. Trial - Wolves 0 Sydney FC 4 (Filip Holosko 2, Andrew Hoole, Shane Smeltz)

2016. FFA Cup - Wolves 0 Sydney FC 3 (Matt Simon 2, David Carney)



2017. NPL NSW Mens 1 - Sydney FC Youth 2
(William Mutch 2) Wolves 1(Patrick Antelmi)

SELECTED REPRESENTATIVE OF BOTH CLUBS - ADAM CASEY

Casey played one season for the Wolves back in 2006 and he became the top scorer of that campaign with six league goals to his credit, with a hat trick in Round 4 versus Bankstown City Lions. He played a total of six games in his tenure. His first goal for the Wolves emanated in Round 1 against Sutherland Sharks. Casey took advantage of an errant back pass not reaching the custodian. He zipped in, gained possession of the ball before despatching it into the goal.

He turned out for Sydney FC in 2007/08 to 2009/10 seasons playing thirteen matches and scoring three goals. His initial A-League goal was scored in Round 10 2008, against the Central Coast Mariners at Sydney Football Stadium in the 39th minute. His was the second goal in the 3-3 draw.

Following on from the Wolves he was at A-League team, New Zealand Knights followed by Sydney FC. Casey later played at North Queensland Fury, and a return to the Illawarra region again with Dandaloo FC. Dandenong Thunder FC followed in Victorian Football League in 2012. In addition, he played ten games for APIA and four games with Rockdale City Suns in the NSW Premier League in 2012 and 2013, before with signing with Tuggerong United in Canberra during 2014.

WOLVES PAST PLAYER OF NOTE - ROBERT STANTON

Robert Stanton played for the Wolves for six seasons and scored seven goals at the club. The central defender began his Wolves stint in the 1997/98 NSL season after signing from Marconi Stallions. He made his debut on the 10th October 1997 at WIN Stadium in Round 2 with Brisbane City being the opposition. Alas the team lost 1-0.

His final game was in Wollongong on the 14th March 2003 versus Melbourne Knights. It wasn't the best of send offs as the team succumbed by 2-1. From Wollongong, Stanton went on to play for APIA.

However, Stanton did achieve success however playing in both the Wolves NSL Grand Final winning teams of 2000 and 2001, starting in the Perth game and coming on in the second half as a substitute against South Melbourne. In fact, Stanton was ever present in all thirty-four league games in the first championship year (1999/2000, as well as all finals matches, four to be exact which showed his fitness and his value to the team.

He scored a brace in the 2000/01 season Round 8 match versus Newcastle United at Marathon Stadium in the 28th and 45th minutes. Stanton glided into the penalty area being on hand to connect with an Alvin Ceccoli cross from the left to glide his downward header past the goalkeeper into the net. For his second, he appeared at the far post to rifle home a Matt Horsley cross. In the opening match against South Melbourne in the 1999/00 season, Stanton earned the plaudits with grand display of defending to win the 'Man Of The Match' award.

His final goal was in the 2002/03 Round 20 match at WIN Stadium on the 31st January versus Sydney United. He struck in the 4th minute. He produced a powerfully struck low trajectory shot that flew into the lower corner of the net.

A tally of one hundred and forty-nine league starting appearances with one off the bench was Stanton's Wolves club achievement with seven goals in total being scored.

(Players comments were originally from interviews conducted by the writer for the match reports at the time.)

By Malcolm Rowney



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UNDER 18s - PLAYSTATION 4 NPL NSW MEN'S

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Sydney FC	21	18	1	2	61	17	44	55
2	Rockdale City Suns FC	21	13	3	5	45	18	27	42
3	Sydney United 58 FC	21	13	3	5	43	26	17	42
4	Wollongong Wolves FC	21	11	3	7	35	20	15	36
5	Manly United FC	21	10	5	6	31	31	0	35
6	Blacktown City FC	21	9	3	9	37	27	10	30
7	Sutherland Sharks FC	21	8	3	10	32	39	-7	27
8	Hakoah Sydney City East FC	21	7	5	9	31	38	-7	26
9	Parramatta FC	21	5	6	10	28	48	-20	21
10	APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	21	4	6	11	33	47	-14	18
11	Sydney Olympic FC	21	2	6	13	30	57	-27	12
12	Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	21	1	6	14	19	57	-38	9

UNDER 20s - PLAYSTATION 4 NPL NSW MEN'S

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Sutherland Sharks FC	21	15	2	4	55	22	33	47
2	Blacktown City FC	21	11	5	5	41	25	16	38
3	APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	21	11	3	7	54	33	21	36
4	Sydney FC	21	10	5	6	41	25	16	35
5	Sydney United 58 FC	21	11	2	8	41	30	11	35
6	Rockdale City Suns FC	21	10	4	7	32	31	1	34
7	Hakoah Sydney City East FC	21	10	2	9	41	26	15	32
8	Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	21	10	2	9	30	52	-22	32
9	Sydney Olympic FC	21	7	5	9	34	44	-10	26
10	Manly United FC	21	5	4	12	40	50	-10	19
11	Wollongong Wolves FC	21	5	3	13	25	41	-16	18
12	Parramatta FC	21	2	1	18	14	69	-55	7



THE WAY THEY PLAYED

2017 PS4 NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE NSW MEN'S

'TEAM OF THE WEEK', 'GOAL OF THE WEEK' & 'SAVE OF THE WEEK.'

These are the performances of Wolves' players who have made the right impressions with their impressive performances to assist the team in specific rounds during the 2017 season.

'TEAM OF THE WEEK'

Round 1 - PATRICK ANTELMi - v Parramatta FC. at Melita Stadium, Chester Hill.

Having his debut for the Wolves, Antelmi made a very strong beginning for his team when he achieved a brace. His first strike was a low hard effort, projected forward as he was practically on the ground after fooling the defence with his dexterity on the ball. His left foot struck sending it powerfully straight into the goal. His second was after he was put through with a defence splitting pass from his teammate Yuzo Tashiro. Antelmi on the right side of goal sped through angling the ball past the custodian.

Antelmi's mobility and speed caused the opposition many problems throughout the match and his goal scoring ability is superb.

(However, due to the club fielding two ineligible players, the result of this match was reversed for Parramatta FC to emerge the winners 3-0, throwing in doubt Antelmi's selection. However, as this was announced before the team's points were deducted, Antelmi's feat should not go unheralded.)

Round 3 - JUSTIN PASFIELD and JOSHUA MACDONALD v Manly United at WIN Stadium, Wollongong

Pasfield made the cut following his sterling performance to keep the hitherto high scoring Manly United to one goal with his acrobatic leaps and saves to safe guard his area.

The impressive MacDonald with his elusiveness and speed on the ball kept the Manly defence honest. He was adept with his set up play and his shots on goal brought the 'keeper into action.

Round 5 - PATRICK ANTELMi v APIA Leichhardt at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Antelmi scored the winning goal and the only goal of the match when he rose high in the goal area

(with the opposition goalkeeper there trying to put him off but to no avail) to head in a long and high but inch perfect Steve Hayes cross. Antelmi is a mobile player and deadly, if given space, near the goal. Antelmi commented post game - 'it was a massive game for us....today it was a brilliant game for the boys defensively and to get our first clean sheet was good especially against APIA who hadn't lost a game. We are still gelling as a team.'

Round 7 - PETER SIMONOSKI and CHRIS PRICE v Hakoah Sydney City East at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

This game was Simonoski's initial appearance in 2017 after not playing since Round 10 in 2016. He certainly made up his absence with an outstanding display in Round 7. He sent in the corner kick that his teammate Yuzo Kashiro headed home for the first goal. Later he produced a high powerful over the head of the opposition goalkeeper after spying him of his line. Simonoski was thirty metres out from goal and it was a cheeky shot that never looked missing the target as it zoomed in. During the play, Simonoski made incisive runs, made assists for his fellow strikers, and got back to defend, even clearing off the line to save a certain goal. The ball was initially kept out but flew across the face of goal before Steve Hayes made doubly sure, also clearing off the line. Simonoski in a post match interview stated -'it was a great team effort. ... It's good to be back...I saw the 'keeper off his line and I thought I would have a go. And it came off.... Yeah, I hope it becomes Goal Of The Week.'

Left overlapping defender and Wolves' captain Price, led by example, making runs wide on the left to support attacks and linked up with his strikers. Late in the first half Simonoski passed inward to Price who subsequently let go with a shot that flew agonizingly wide. He produced another shot on target earlier that was saved. The experienced defender also cut out opposition passes, won the ball in tackles and intervened at crucial times.

Round 8 - JUSTIN PASFIELD and YUZO TASHIRO v Sutherland Sharks at Seymour Shaw Park, Miranda.

Pasfield continued his fine form this season with another outstanding display between the

sticks. He made a number of saves, one where he spread himself well to deny a strikers' attempt. His distribution was spot on and gave his team plenty of confidence.

Tashiroy was involved in all three goals for his team and his speed and sublime touch was all he needed to dismantle the Sutherland defence. Darcy Madden's cross eluded two defenders on its way straight to a rampaging Tashiroy in the eighth minute. He first timed attempt was side footed past the custodian and his team took an early lead. His second to bring up his brace was from the penalty spot following Nicolas Bernal being wrestled to the ground. Tashiroy sent his effort in to hit the right-handed post near ground level before rebounding into the goal. Brendan swept in a free kick from the left and Tashiroy went for it in a crowded area but the subsequent vision of this incident is in conclusive into who got the final touch.

Round 10 - YUZO TASHIRO and HAYDEN MORTON v Rockdale City Suns at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Tashiroy scored his second brace in this match and his goals were the only ones in the match. Tashiroy

is exceptional in the air winning many balls, as he seems to hang in the air to connect. He scored his goal by tucking the ball past a former A League goalkeeper meeting a Josh MacDonald cross in the 46th minute. He added his second in the 81st minute heading on another MacDonald cross. He stated -'Today we had a good game. We had good play and I got the goals. Josh Macdonald is a good creative player and he set me up.. We have good moves and everyone helped me.'

Morton was an anchor at the back for the team against strikers who had achieved twenty-three goals so far in the season and his consummate defending stood the test of this match. He read the play well for timely interceptions, whether in the air or on the ground.

ROUND 11 - JOSHUA MACDONALD, PATRICK ANTELMi and DARCY MADDEN v Parramatta FC at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Macdonald was an ever-present problem to the Parramatta's defence with his jinking runs, trickery and attacking thrusts at the defence. He went close when he tore down the left before veering infield and producing a right-footed shot that shaved the



post and went out. Oh so close!

Madden was a rock in the central defender's position and he impressively anchored the defence. He is very reliable player and can bring the ball out of defence with skill and composure with the ball at his feet.

The striker Antelmi scored with an easy tap in following a kindly provision from teammate Yuzo Tashiro in injury time. Brett Wilson originally had whipped the ball in for Tashiro. Antelmi kept at the defence throughout the match and was the cause of much consternation to them. He showed determination and skill on the ball.

ROUND 13 - PATRICK ANTELMi v Sydney Olympic at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Goal scorer Antelmi positioned himself in many positions to pepper shots at the Sydney Olympic goal and he did this with regular occurrence. He indeed scored the Wolves second goal in the 28th minute. He displayed cunning in his ball skills flicking balls over the heads of defenders and dribbling past these same defenders.

ROUND 14 - CHRIS PRICE and JAMES MARKOVIC v Manly United at Cromer Park, Cromer.

Goal scorer Markovic began the movement before ultimately snagging his debut goal. He showed enterprise in the build up, linked up well with supporting teammate and displayed his powerful shooting ability by scoring from some distance out from goal. He was impressive in defensive duties with good vision of play, timely interceptions and ability to bring the ball out from the back line.

Left wingback captain Price led by example making forays down the left flank, tackling and winning the ball on most occasions, read the play well, and interceded with anticipation. He showed determination throughout.

ROUND 17 - NICK MONTGOMERY v Sydney United 58 at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Montgomery was tremendously effective and truly a standout in the midfield for the Wolves as they battled Sydney United 58. The former A-League player was inspirational as he chased down the ball and attackers, having a couple of pops at goal, mounted attacking raids himself and set up his supports for offensive thrusts in the attack.

ROUND 18 - PETER SIMONOSKI v Hakoah Sydney City East at Hensley Athletic Field, Pagewood.

A match winning performance from Simonoski assisted the come from behind victory for his team.

His brace was scored in the sixtieth and seventy-ninth minutes. Michael Robinson, following a number of passes between James O'Rourke, Steve Hayes, Brendan Griffin and Darcy Madden, set up his second goal. Robinson floated a diagonal high pass to Simonoski on the left side before he subsequently chested the ball down. As the ball fell he pumped it under the diving goalkeeper into the goal. Earlier, Madden had produced a high pass that flew at an approximate 60-degree angle to Simonoski positioned on the goal area line to the left of goal. With two defenders close by, Simonoski reacted quickest to get to the ball. He left these players in his wake then from an acute angle, he rifled the ball in at the top corner to the goalkeeper's left side. Simonoski, besides his goals, was always looking for ways to gain an advantage and did his utmost in achieving this. He was very mobile, looking for space and taking players on.

ROUND 19 - HAYDEN MORTON and PETER SIMONOSKI v Sutherland Sharks at Albert Butler Reserve, Primbbee.

Central defender Morton certainly put his body on the line in this match and was most impressive in the back line in assisting his team. Time after time he intercepted passes whether in the air and on the ground with well timed interventions and the two knocks he sustained (inadvertently by team mates actions in the 5th and 75th minutes), did not help his headache. Late in the first half, he cleared off the line to save blushes and a certain goal. Post match he stated - 'yes I've been in the wars today... a bit groggy...as a collective we played well and I am happy with my performance....'

Striker Simonoski was on song again in this encounter, hitting two goals to keep the Wolves in the hunt for a victory. He was extremely mobile in good touch and form, and he led the Sharks a merry dance. He brought up his brace when he received a Steve Hayes perfect pass. Hayes positioned in his own half, produced a long and high pass that caused consternation in the Sharks defence. Simonoski steamed ahead, saw the custodian off his line, let the ball bounce once before subsequently lifting the ball over his head into the empty net. Earlier, after just ten minutes had elapsed, Simonoski got on the end of a Yuzo Tashiro right footed cross from the right to slot home with his first touch with his right foot. With two defenders close by, he squeezed the ball in between the post and the goalkeeper.

ROUND 20 - YUZO TASHIRO v Bonnyrigg White Eagles at Bonnyrigg Sports Field.

As well as scoring the second goal, Tashiro set up the first goal with a delightful downward header falling into the path of Peter Simonoski who then pounced on the ball to subsequently score from close in. Tashiro was exceptional in the air with his headers and he headed in the second goal following a Simonoski corner kick found him in the centre of the six yard area. Tashiro is good at holding the ball up and supplying supports and he is able to skilfully take defences on.

'SAVE OF THE WEEK'

JUSTIN PASFIELD

ROUND 3 - v Manly United at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Pasfield's agility held him in good stead as he denied Brendan Cholakian curling shot with a dive to his left, using his right hand fingertips to see off the great shot.

ROUND 4 - v Blacktown City at Lily Homes Football Stadium, Seven Hills

Pasfield flew to the right to deflect the ball with his finger tips onto the cross bar following a couple of Blacktown shots following Danny Choi's corner kick. Roberto Speranza's left footed shot was the one kept out.

ROUND 17- v Sydney United 58 at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

A long throw from the left went over the head of a Brendan Griffin and travelled to Panni Nikas who was positioned close to Pasfield's right hand post of the northern goal. The ball bounced then hit Nikas on the chest. As the ball fell to the ground with Griffin and Hayden Morton in attendance, Nikas somehow managed to lash the ball across the face of goal. Nick Olsen gained possession and shot. Pasfield had to move quickly across to his left to the centre of the goal from his position near his right post. He scrambled well, diving to his left to keep the ball from entering the goal and pushing it away with his left hand for a great save. He stated - 'Yeah it was good for the self esteem....We did well today and the boys stuck in.....and a clean sheet at home is what we try to achieve.'

'GOAL OF THE WEEK'

ROUND 3 - YURO TASHIRO (Nomination) at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Japanese striker Tashiro scored in the 50th minute after he linked up with Joshua MacDonald who took the ball across the field played a one- two pass with Peter Simonoski before passing to Tashiro. From

the left of the goal Tashiro left fly and the ball flew in the right side of the goal.

ROUND 11 - PATRICK ANTELMi (Winner) at Lambert Park, Leichhardt.

Against Sydney FC, Antelmi scored his team's only goal of the match and what a stunner it was. Joshua MacDonald swung a corner kick high in and it went to the far post. The Sky Blues central defender Patrick Flottman headed the ball out to the right of the goalkeeper's left goal. It subsequently bounced in front of Antelmi who was facing the sideline. He kept under pressure from George Timotheu who was behind him. Antelmi produced a spectacular overhead kick that caught Sydney FC Youth by surprise as the ball lodged inside the far post. This was certainly a worthy winner of 'Goal Of The Week'.

ROUND 14 - JAMES MARKOVIC (Winner) at Cromer Park, Cromer.

Markovic scored his debut goal for the Wolves in the Round 14 Manly encounter. The Manly goalkeeper's goalkeeper pumped the ball forward and a teammate near the halfway mark heeded it onwards. Markovic gained possession on his team's side of halfway. He ventured forward linking up with Brendan Griffin on his right. Griffin shrugged off an attempted tackle, before returning the ball to Markovic who had run further forward. Markovic burst between two defenders then burying his left footed drive from twenty-five metres out inside the far post with the custodian comprehensibly beaten.

ROUND 16 - PETER SIMONOSKI (Duel Winner) at WIN Stadium, Wollongong.

Simonoski scored the only goal for his team versus Blacktown City and what a doozey it was. He charged down Connor Evans attempted clearance on the left and fortuitously gained possession from the floored opponent. Simonoski completed a couple of touches and moved inward, bamboozling another defender with a feign and dribble. Positioned just inside the penalty area, he let fly with his right foot. The ball swung in the air to lodge narrowly inside the far post for a tremendous goal.

(Players comments were originally taken from the writer's interviews that were included in those match reports of the time.)

By Malcolm Rowney

SHOALHAVEN UNITED FC

In 1966 a passionate and dedicated core of locals, in the Shoalhaven on the South Coast of NSW, formed the Shoalhaven Kindergarten Club.

As the name suggests, the formation of this new football club was centred around providing matches for their young children.

The success of the club was immediate. Numbers grew quickly. Interest in the new, local club sky rocketed.

In 1972, realising their club had expanded much faster than anyone could have imagined it was decided to rename the club.

The mighty Shoalhaven United Football Club was born.

Launching with their new Board and Ladies Auxiliary, Shoalhaven United Football Club entered the competition providing players from Under 7s upwards. The local players now had a team of their own covering all their respective age groups.

Red and Black trim were selected as the official colours and Shoalhaven United Football Club have been proudly playing under these ever since.

Since 1969 the club has experience regular success right across their grades.

Some of the most memorable include –

The club's first main bit of silverware where they were crowned champions The Wiggins Teape Shield.

The mighty red and blacks first trophy of many, many more to come.

In 1978 the First Grade side emerged victorious in the Pre Season Cup and went on to claim the Minor Premiers crown as well

1979 was even more successful for the first grade team. Victory in "The Switching On The Lights Knockout" was followed by Minor Premiers honours once again and additionally they also took out the Premiership. Reserve Grade added to the success of the season also finishing as Minor Premiers.

Celebrations were certainly long and loud that year.

Nurturing and developing their junior players was at all times a paramount focus for the Bears. This was more than evident in 1983 when their Under 13As took out the Minor Premiership, Premiership and emerged victorious in the Knock out Cup registering their own Triple Triumph for the season.

Always enjoying and promoting a family club philosophy Shoalhaven United has experienced regular success across the years, throughout all their age groups. This is more than evident in the number of Senior Club Championships they have secured particularly in recent years and also the numerous junior titles and awards they have gathered.

The mighty red and black Bears have developed generations of players over their long and proud history and this year they boast over 370 registered players from Under 6s through to senior men's and women's and their over 35s mens team.

As with many clubs, Shoalhaven United function and prosper through the dedication and commitment of their passionate volunteers



1966



1966

and parents. For over 50 years they have been an icon throughout Nowra and the Shoalhaven and continue to provide all the players, and particularly the juniors under the mighty Bears logo with the love of football they will have with them forever.

Our beautiful game continues to thrive and grow across Nowra and the Shoalhaven and we are very fortunate we have the Red and Black Bears are still there looking after our next generation of stars and introducing more and more kids to our beautiful game.

They have been doing it strongly, proudly and successfully for over 50 years now and we are greatly looking to their ongoing successes over the next 50 years and many, many more.

Well done Shoalhaven United Football Club.

GO THE MIGHTY BEARS!



1973



1979



1972



1971



1981

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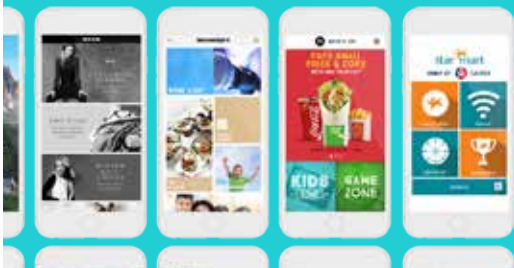
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dusk



MIMCO

CALTEX

Night Owl
CONVENIENCE

HCF

MARCS

city chic

MYER

Domino's

DAVID LAWRENCE



S	B	#	NAME	
■	■	1	PASFIELD	Justin
■	■	3	MADDEN	Darcy
■	■	4	MORTON	Hayden
■	■	5	BALDACCHINO	James
■	■	6	MONTGOMERY	Nick
■	■	7	PRICE	Chris
■	■	8	GRIFFIN	Brendan
■	■	9	SIMONOSKI	Peter
■	■	11	TANOVSKI	Hristjan
■	■	12	KAIRIES	Luke
■	■	14	MACDONALD	Joshua
■	■	15	ROBINSON	Michael
■	■	16	ANTELM	Patrick
■	■	17	O'ROURKE	James
■	■	18	BERNAL	Nicolas
■	■	20	TOSI	Ben
■	■	21	WILSON	Brett
■	■	23	HAYES	Steve
■	■	30	TASHIRO	Yuzo

Head Coach: Jacob Timpano

Assistant Coach: Neil Mann

Physiotherapist: Matthew Whalan

Team Managers: Robert Positti and
Surjit Wadhwa



S	B	#	NAME	
■	■	1	EVANS	Mitchell
■	■	2	CURTIS	Brendan
■	■	3	FLOTTMANN	Patrick
■	■	5	GREEN	Matt
■	■	6	KULESKI	Nicola
■	■	7	MASKIN	Daniel
■	■	8	ZAPATA	Juan
■	■	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	DEVLIN	Cameron
■	■	19	IREDALE	John
■	■	20	HEWARD-BELLE	Thomas
■	■	21	AGAMEMNONOS	Andrea

Head Coach: Rob Stanton

Manager: Michael Swibel

Referee: M. Bailey

Assistant Referees: M. McOrist & N. Wotton

4th Official: J. Casey



UOW

COLLEGE

1ST GRADE - PLAYSTATION 4 NPL NSW MEN'S

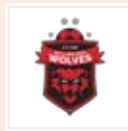
POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	21	16	0	5	49	17	32	48
2	Blacktown City FC	21	14	4	3	43	20	23	46
3	Rockdale City Suns FC	21	12	5	4	41	27	14	41
4	Manly United FC	21	12	3	6	46	36	10	39
5	Sydney Olympic FC	21	11	4	6	33	22	11	37
6	Wollongong Wolves FC	21	11	1	9	29	27	2	34
7	Sydney United 58 FC	21	10	3	8	40	25	15	33
8	Hakoah Sydney City East FC	21	6	6	9	28	34	-6	24
9	Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	21	4	4	13	29	50	-21	16
10	Sutherland Sharks FC	21	5	1	15	28	53	-25	16
11	Sydney FC	21	6	2	13	33	46	-13	14
12	Parramatta FC	21	1	3	17	16	58	-42	6

UNDER 16s



- 1 Mitchell Presilski - GK
- 2 Jarrod Alston
- 3 Adrian Avello
- 4 Blake Burkinshaw
- 5 Joshua Correia
- 6 Eddy English
- 8 Grimshaw
- 9 Sam Lendrum
- 10 Brendan Low
- 11 Fletcher McFarlane
- 12 Rhys Mooy
- 13 Jayden Nikolovski
- 14 Potts
- 15 Thomas Richmond
- 16 Smileski

UNDER 15s



- 1 Luke Genua - GK
- 2 Sebastian Black
- 3 Tyson Black
- 4 Jayden Calver
- 5 Adam Chicharo
- 6 Nav Darjani
- 7 Harrison Dennis
- 8 Anthony Krsteski
- 9 Rocky Lavalle
- 10 Keegan Matias
- 11 Oliver Mitrevski
- 12 Will Natrass
- 13 Luke Paull
- 14 Joshua Petrovski
- 15 Preston Ridley
- 16 Noah Vidler

UNDER 14s



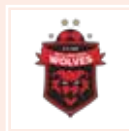
- 1 Tom Butkovic
- 2 Jake Almond
- 3 Sam Alston
- 4 Zander Alston
- 5 Harrison Anagnostopoulos
- 6 Brandan Angelevski
- 7 Andrew Aston
- 8 Josh Field
- 9 Ned Glasgow
- 10 Gabriel Krsteski
- 11 Tony Krstevski
- 12 Dane Mathews
- 13 Logan Mathie
- 14 Luke Palermo
- 15 Matthew Popovski
- 16 Taylan Skurtevski

UNDER 13s



- 1 James Riach - GK
- 2 James Anagnostopoulos
- 3 Lucas Ayala
- 4 Jack Deale
- 5 Julian DeFreitas
- 6 Jack Duffy
- 7 Matthew Jackson
- 8 James Jovanovski
- 9 Jacob Krkovski
- 10 Kieran Kuzmanovski
- 11 Flynn Madden
- 12 Daniel Merola
- 13 Joshua Nikolovski
- 14 Anton Radice Jones
- 15 Luca Seritti
- 16 Samual Starcic

UNDER 12s



- 1 Morgan Woolnough - GK
- 2 Chisholm Brown
- 3 Josh Bussoletti
- 4 Jay DeGouvvia
- 5 Aleksander Dulevski
- 6 Owen Flanigan
- 7 Damon Gray
- 8 Kyron Guevara
- 9 Jyden Harb
- 10 Thomas Hastings
- 11 Cooper Kerridge
- 12 McKenzie King
- 13 Dylan Martos
- 14 Noah McNeill
- 15 William Milinkovic
- 16 Payton Skurtevski
- 17 Jett Stroemer
- 18 Ryan Thompson
- 19 Sebastian Tomasiello
- 20 Kalani Vella

UNDER 11s



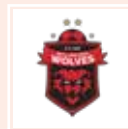
- 1 Harry Taylor - GK
- 1 Josiah Kirchberg - GK
- 2 Max Atsas
- 3 Tom Bent-Genge
- 4 Alessandro Calmasini
- 5 Noah Crapis
- 6 Lachlan Flood
- 7 Lachlan Groves
- 8 Adam Kairis
- 9 Josh Keir
- 10 Martin Kolevski
- 11 Levi Martins
- 12 Liam Mavridis
- 13 Adrian Pontone
- 14 Daniel Simone
- 15 Miles Thompson
- 16 Daniel Tugrul
- 17 Christian Vujic
- 18 Kieran Wardle
- 19 Harry Wililo

UNDER 10s



- 1 Aaron Burns
- 1 Jacob Hastings - GK
- 2 Christian Anagnostopoulos
- 3 Lenny Atsas
- 4 Taj Demito
- 5 Kyan Hawke
- 6 Michael Marijan
- 7 Noah Mathie
- 8 Ordham McDermott
- 9 Christian Mihajlovic
- 10 Ryan Molnar
- 11 Rishay Patel
- 12 John Perri
- 13 Beau Randle
- 14 Christian Rodriguez
- 15 Lennox Roodenrys
- 16 Jimmy Skarvelis
- 17 Ashton Stapleton
- 18 Noah Stella
- 19 Zane Stroemer

UNDER 9s



- 2 Christian Beleski
- 3 Billy Beniuk
- 4 Kiran Dhami
- 5 Kolby Guevara
- 6 Axl Hornby
- 7 Kahled Houchaymi
- 8 Milo Hudson
- 9 Isaac Kostovski
- 10 Cooper Markovic
- 11 Jared Mihajlovic
- 12 Elijah Millet
- 13 Lucas Moreira
- 14 Innocent Nwali
- 15 Samuel Palermo
- 16 Noah Smart
- 17 Lukas Srbinoski

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UNDER 20s



2	Ricardo	BERNARDINO
5	Ethan	KAMBISIOS
7	Jack	LOMBO
8	James	MARKOVIC
10	Harrison	TARANTO
11	Tory	MUSUMECI
13	Nikola	DJORDEVIC
14	Mitchell	FERRARO
15	Marcus	BIMBILOVSKI
	Sean	EVE
	Brodie	CLARKSON
	Bul	JUACH
	Jarred	WILEY
	James	CARLI

Coach: Julio Miranda
 Assistant Coac: Alfredo Esteves
 Team Manager: Robert Positti and Surjit Wadhwa



24	Nikola	UJDUR
25	Jack	STEWART
26	Leo	MALFARA
27	Cooper	COSKERIE
28	Finn	BALLARD-MCBRIDE
29	Ben	VAN MEURS
31	Paolo	BONNANI
32	Harry	VAN DER SAAG
33	Guiseppe	TILIO
34	Perry	THOMAS
35	Alex	GOLLAN
36	Daniel	BLACHURA
40	Jerry	SKOTADIS
51	David	MALISHEV
	Duro	DRAGICEVIC

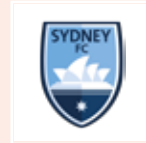
Head Coach: Rob Stanton
 Manager: Ian McKenzie

UNDER 18s



1	Brendon	KRCANOSKI
2	Andrew	BOVA
3	Daniel	CHICHARO
4	Louis	CONNELL
5	Ekoue	D'ALMEIDA
6	Thomas	DARJANI
7	Luke	DAY
8	Jordyn	DELLA VEDOVA
9	Andre	DIAS
10	Riley	HINDS
11	Emanuel	HONDROUDAKIS
12	Jack	HOOPER
13	Brendan	MITROVSKI
14	Benjamin	RIACH
15	Joel	STARR

Coach: Richard Lloyd



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	KOOP
16	Bailey	KUBECKA

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

END OF THE LINE

FINAL ROUND OF A SEASON

As the 2017 final round is upon us with today's match against Sydney FC Youth, it is pertinent to look back at some of the encounters that have been played in the years gone by. To date, in thirty-six seasons of the Wollongong Wolves there have been fifteen victories, ten draws and eleven defeats in the final league round, in percentages, 41.6% wins, 27.9% draws and 30.5% defeats.

Several clubs have been our adversaries on these occasions with APIA Leichardt topping the bill with four, followed by Newcastle, Sutherland Sharks and Sydney Olympic with three apiece. In the NSW based competition from 2004/2005, there have been twelve matches played with six wins (50%), three losses (25%) and three draws (25%) being the breakdown. Varying results have occurred such as a 6-5 loss, 5-0 and 5-1 wins and two 1-1 draws.

Over all seasons, the worst result has been a 4-0 loss to Sydney Olympic in 1994/95 with the best being a 6-0 rout against Manly in 1987.

Following are five of these final round matches at the 'end of the line' in seasons past, with three from the NSW Premier League and two from the National Soccer League. Some of these matches may rekindle memories.

2013

Tension was high in the air at Macedonia Park (Hooka Creek) when the Central Coast Mariners Academy came to Berkeley for the relegation battle in Round 22. The home team was behind in the club championship and the opponents were ahead with the home team needing wins in all three grades. With the U18s and U20s doing their part winning 2-1 and 4-2 respectively, it was up the firsts team to not disappoint.

The home team was Daniel Collison (GK), Jack Keating, Mathew Kocic, Sam Chapple, Chris

Nathaniel, Zac MacKenzie, Steve Hayes, Ricky Zucco, Mitchell Del Turco, Jacob Timpano (Capt.), Peter Simonoski. Josh Bingham replaced Del Turco. The coach was Richard Lloyd.

It was eight minutes in when Simonoski goaled following an error by a defender who misjudged his attempted clearance. Simonoski gained possession and produced a right-footed shot. The ball flew into the goal between the custodian and the far post. Tension was thus relieved for a time.

Just shy of the half hour mark, the Mariners restored parity through an unlikely source. A corner kick was flighted in and the ball went into the goal off Zucco in a crowded area.

The Mariners hit the lead eight minutes after the own goal and this was a worrying time. It was lobbed in and went over Collison's head and this 2-1 lead was carried into the half time break.

A handball in the box was a lifesaver for the Wolves twelve minutes after the second half restart. During the season the Wolves had a many penalties against them and this was a rare positive decision for the club. Zucco made amends by powering his spot kick to the left of centre, as the goalkeeper dived the opposite way. Further efforts by Hayes (a header) Simonoski, Zucco and Mackenzie failed to get the desired victory. Collison pulled off a crucial save in injury time added on to deny the Mariners a winner. However a draw was enough together with a superior goal difference, with this being enough to keep the club afloat in the Premier League. The result in this match was the second draw in successive matches.

Coach Lloyd stated post match - 'we got there in the end and we probably had the better of the chances in the second half and were unable to put those away. And ironically it was

a penalty that got us back, after everything... Zucco scored the first goal for them and he made up for that....Hayes is always top shelf, a top bloke and a top player. He leads and they follow. I'm sure he travels about 12 -13 kms a game.'

Captain Timpano - 'we got them after they were nine points ahead and the U18s and U20s were super today. And we had two options - either a win or a draw. And we were buzzing in the club championship today. It has been a tough year and all the boys were magic today....'

Hayes - 'the fight was always there and I'm so proud of the boys, they put the hearts on their sleeves. But although we did not win, we kept the club alive and that was the whole aim. The mentality of the lads all week was good to fight.... I had a header but I could not see the ball and it actually hit me on the head. I had no idea where it was because of the sun'...

Chapple - 'we got the result we wanted so that's the most important thing. It was a tough game but we fought well. It was a bit of a slow start but we got the result and happy days.'

2011

This Seymour Shaw match was Round 22 and two current (2017) Wolves players in Chris Price and Hayden Morton as well as a former clubman in Matthew Bailey, played for the Sharks. It was on the 28th August 2011.

The Wolves team was Brody Crane (GK), Jack Keating, Dave Abel, Jacob Timpano, Nick Littler, Stepjan Paric, Zac Freeburn, Andres Gomez, Mark Picciolini, John Martinoski and Sean Robertson. Sasho Petrovski, Cameron Littler and Chris Nathaniel replaced Picciolini, Martinoski and Robertson. Trevor Morgan was the coach.

The Wolves got off to an early advantage when Robertson goalied after just four minutes had

elapsed. He had broken through the defensive line with only the custodian to beat. He subsequently came off his line and Robertson shot. The ball cannoned off the 'keeper before Robertson strode past a defender and regained, before poking the ball into the goal.

Central defender Abel made a searching forward run on forty-one minutes that culminated in a corner kick. Paric's ensuing effort was flighted to the far post and Nick Littler was there to rise high to head home.

Custodian Crane made a number of crucial saves with his fingertips denying Bailey, and Panni Nikas while shots Petrovski, Picciolini, Martinoski and Gomez flew in they did not hit the target nor earn the plaudits.

Coach Morgan -...'Sutherland was not at full strength but we did enough to win.'



Nick Littler, who played impressively stated - 'it was very satisfying, getting the win, a goal and a clean sheet.'

2006

This match was played away at Belmore Oval and Sydney Olympic was the opposition. It was 3 pm kick off on 25th June 2006, and the Wolves team consisted of Stacy Alogdellis (Gk), David Polidoro, Karouna Michael, Chris Rigopoulos, Ian Waldon, Dean Kerr, Ballamodou Conde, Steve Hayes, Dustin Wells, Samet Kaynak and Wayne Gibson. James Young came on for Kaynak and this was his only appearance for the firsts team. John Turner was the coach.

Hayes provided the pass for Wells to race onto and being one on one with goalkeeper he won out by scoring in the forty-ninth minute. This was the first goal after two previous home games produced nil score results for the club. In turn Wells turned provider for Hayes, producing a squared pass for the energetic midfielder to slot into the goal on sixty-one minutes.

Sydney Olympic had dominated a lot of the match and was positioned in the Wolves' half for long periods but could not goal until late in the match. It was virtually the last throw of the dice when a rebounded shot was put in. This Wolves victory came following three successive defeats to end the season on a relative high.

1995/96

This final game was Round 33 played at Brandon Park on 28th April 1996 with a crowd of 3298 being in attendance with Melbourne Knights being the adversary.

Coached by Nick Theodorakopoulos, the Wolves team consisted of Brett Hughes (GK), Martin Bourke, Matthew Horsley, Lupcho Naumovski, Sasho Dimoski, Richard Lloyd, Tony Perenich, Alvin Ceccoli, Matthew Dihm, Mario Jermen, and Ian Pollari. Mineo Bonetig came on for Dimoski.

Jermen scored in 8th minute and Melbourne Knights' two goals were scored brothers

Cervinski, Adrian in the 37th minute and David in the 80th, each of whom played for the Wolves, one in the past and one in the future. Jermen was equal top scorer for the club and the goal in this match was his ninth of the season. This loss came after a previous round victory.

1989/90

This Round 26 game was played on Wednesday 25th April at Brandon Park. For this encounter with Sunshine George Cross from Melbourne the team selected was George Bouhoutsos (GK), Jock Morlando, David Ratcliffe, David Skeen, Zivko Hristovski, Jerry Murphy, Paul McFadden, Declan McEvoy, Danny Crainie, Randall Easthorpe and Pat Brodnik. Jeff Allport and Danny Petkovic came on as substitutes. Ratcliffe was in his first season as player/coach.

Before a crowd of 1049, the Wolves went into the lead in the thirty-sixth minute with defender Skeen netting. This was Skeen's fourth season and third goal with the club. There were no further goals in this period and the 1-0 score line remained at half time break. Substitute Petkovic came on to score his one and only goal for the club eight minutes into the second half. Easthorpe, the club's top scorer in the previous 1989 season, duly goaled on seventy-one minutes. To top off the match, Skeen achieved his brace six minutes following Easthorpe's goal. This final round 4-0 victory eventuated following four losses in the previous four matches, shipping a total of fourteen goals with nil in reply in the process. Included in the Sunshine line-up were Craig Foster and Ernie Tapai.

Last season (2016) it was a loss to Bonnyrigg White Eagles by two goals to nil. How will the 2017 squad complete the 'end of the line' final league match today?

By Malcolm Rowney

(Players and coach's comments were originally from interviews conducted by the writer and published in the match reports at that time. Also thanks to Andrew Howe)

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HEAD COACH

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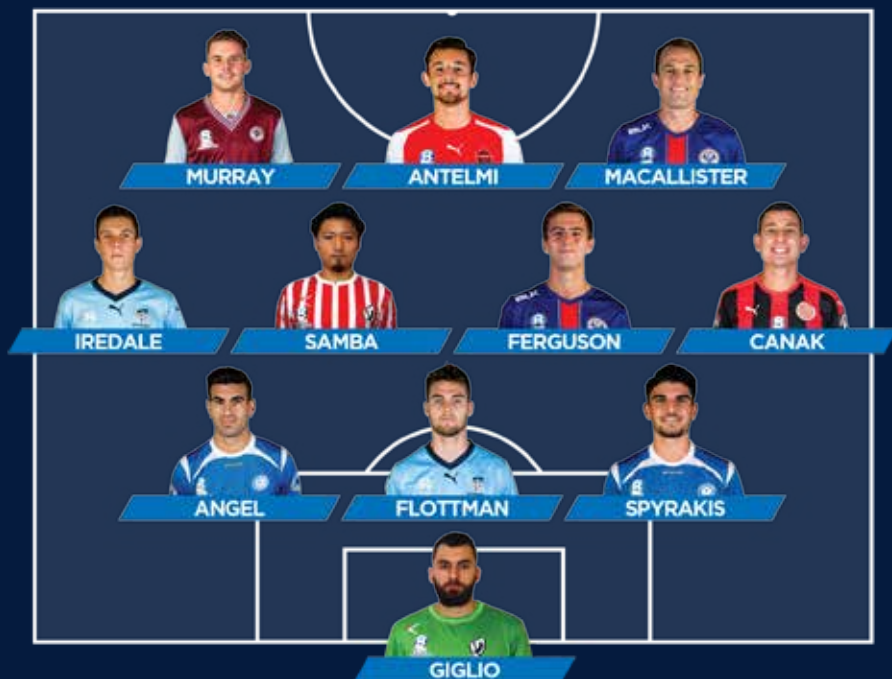
CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP



Club	U/18's	U/20's	1ST	Total
Blacktown City FC	30	76	184	290
APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	18	72	192	282
Rockdale City Suns FC	42	68	164	274
Sydney United 58 FC	42	70	132	244
Manly United FC	35	38	156	229
Sydney Olympic FC	12	52	148	212
Wollongong Wolves FC	36	36	136	208
Hakoah Sydney City East FC	26	64	96	186
Sutherland Sharks FC	27	94	64	185
Sydney FC	55	70	56	181
Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	9	64	64	137
Parramatta FC	21	14	24	59

Club	Played	Wins	Draws	Losses	Total
Blacktown City FC	63	34	12	17	290
APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	63	31	9	23	282
Rockdale City Suns FC	63	35	12	16	274
Sydney United 58 FC	63	34	8	21	244
Manly United FC	63	27	12	24	229
Sydney Olympic FC	63	20	15	28	212
Wollongong Wolves FC	63	27	7	29	208
Hakoah Sydney City East FC	63	23	13	27	186
Sutherland Sharks FC	63	28	6	29	185
Sydney FC	63	34	8	21	181
Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	63	15	12	36	137
Parramatta FC	63	8	10	45	59

TEAM OF THE WEEK



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THE RACE TOWARDS THE PS4 NPL NSW MEN'S FINALS SERIES

What your club needs to do to make the finals of the PlayStation 4 National Premier Leagues NSW Men's competition.

1. APIA LEICHHARDT TIGERS FC

Best Finish: 1st

Worst Finish: 2nd

With the best defence in the league and the best attack, APIA's rise to the summit of the competition table after a vital victory over Blacktown City had an air of inevitability and vindication about it.

The Tigers have one hand on the Premiership trophy heading into the final round of the regular season, and only need a draw against Rockdale at Lambert Park on Sunday afternoon to be officially crowned premiers for 2017.

The incentives for finishing top don't stop there.

APIA will enjoy a week off - a much needed reward after a hectic schedule in the Waratah and Westfield FFA Cup - as well as an all-important second chance in the finals if they can secure victory over Rockdale City Suns in the final round of the season.

Can APIA take out the Premiership something they last won fourteen long seasons ago? The Suns stand in their way of that fate.

2. BLACKTOWN CITY FC

Best Finish: 1st

Worst Finish: 2nd

Having spent a total of 58 days on top of the competition table, more than any other team in the league, Blacktown City's demoralising defeat to APIA on Sunday afternoon may prove to be a defining moment in not just the race for the Premiership trophy, but also the Club Championship.

After Round 21's results, Blacktown City hold a narrow 8-point lead over APIA Leichhardt Tigers in the Club Championship.

Worryingly for Mark Crittenden's men, their form looks to have plummeted at the worst

possible time (excluding their 3-2 heroics in the Westfield FFA Cup Round of 32 knocking off the Central Coast Mariners).

A dismal run of just one point in three games has Blacktown in alarming decline on the eve of the finals.

And it doesn't get any easier in their final match of the season; when they travel to the home of familiar foe, Sydney United 58. The Reds suffered a heart-breaking defeat at the hands of Manly United last round, effectively ending their season, but would undoubtedly love to drive another dagger into the heart of Blacktown City's Premiership aspirations after they lost out to them in the 2016 Grand Final.

In saying that, if there's one team that you should never count out of any calculations on doing the unthinkable its Blacktown City who carry a strong never say die attitude that may well get them across that line once more.

3. ROCKDALE CITY SUNS FC

Best Finish: 3rd

Worst Finish: 4th

Rockdale City Suns hold all the cards in the race for the Premiership trophy.

If they manage to defeat APIA in the final game of the season, it opens the door for Blacktown City to perform a Stephen Bradbury-esque come from behind victory - sealing their second Premiership in just three seasons.

Knowing a victory will secure a third place finish and a vital second chance in the first round of the finals, Rockdale City Suns will not be short of motivation in this fixture at Lambert Park.

Whilst the comfort of a second chance in the finals is on offer for Rockdale if they can beat APIA on the weekend, the perils of a straight knockout fixture looms large if they lose and Manly United beat Hakoah.

Rockdale's final game of the season against APIA appears to be a match of almost innumerable consequences and huge

significance as an enthralling race for both the premiership and top five qualification reaches its climax.

4. MANLY UNITED FC

Best Finish: 3rd

Worst Finish: 5th

If you don't believe in miracles, watch the highlights from Manly United's incredible 3-2-comeback victory against Sydney United 58 on Sunday afternoon.

A victory that not only ensures Manly's qualification for this year's finals, but also brings an end to the top five ambitions of Mark Rudan's team.

Erratic at best in recent weeks, with a deserved win over Blacktown City followed up with a crushing 5-0 defeat at the hands of APIA Leichhardt Tigers, Manly United will be hoping to head into their do or die finals match against either Sydney Olympic or Wollongong Wolves full of confidence.

With Dejan Pandurevic firing on all cylinders and the experienced head of Dylan Macallister leading the line, Manly will be tricky customers in the finals series and could make a run all the way to the Grand Final if they produce their best football.

5. SYDNEY OLYMPIC FC

Best Finish: 4th

Worst Finish: 6th

When Sergio Aguero scored that classic goal to win Manchester City the Premier League title in 2012, he ultimately had goal difference to thank, as his side finished level on points with Sir Alex Ferguson's Manchester United team.

Sydney Olympic, sitting just three points above sixth placed Wollongong Wolves, may be equally thankful for the invention of goal difference come full-time in their match against Sutherland Sharks on the weekend.

Olympic will be short-priced favourites to take all three points against Sutherland, and their 9



point buffer in goal difference over the Wolves may prove a mountain too tall to climb for a desperate Wollongong side.

Having already secured victories over APIA and Manly United this season, Olympic will fancy their chances if they can secure qualification in the finals. Apart from their inexplicable hoodoo against Blacktown City, Olympic have no reason to fear any side in the top five and with Jinya An and Yu Kuboki mercilessly leading their attack, they could prove a real dark horse in this year's finals series.

6. WOLLONGONG WOLVES FC

Best Finish: 5th

Worst Finish: 6th

Clinging to a belief in an unlikely top five qualification like an adolescent child stubbornly refusing to concede the fiction of Santa, Wollongong host Sydney FC in the final round of the competition, needing to overturn a whopping 9 goal differential to have any hope of qualifying for this year's finals series.

Patrick Antelmi has demonstrated his appetite for goals this season and Peter Simonoski has been scoring goals for fun in recent weeks.

But their efforts may not be enough as Wollongong are still reliant on Sutherland snatching an unlikely victory over Olympic for the south-coast team to have any chance of qualification.

HOME FIXTURES

HOME GROUND - WIN STADIUM

Harbour St, Wollongong



PS4
NATIONAL
PREMIER LEAGUES
NSW MEN'S

ROUND 03 VS Manly United FC	SUN 26TH MARCH	1 - 1
ROUND 05 VS APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	SUN 9TH APRIL	1 - 0
ROUND 07 VS Hakoah Sydney City East FC	SUN 23RD APRIL	2 - 0
ROUND 09 VS Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	SUN 7TH MAY	0 - 3
ROUND 10 VS Rockdale City Suns FC	SUN 14TH MAY	2 - 0
ROUND 12 VS Parramatta FC	SUN 28TH MAY	3 - 0
ROUND 13 VS Sydney Olympic FC	SUN 4TH JUNE	2 - 1
ROUND 15 VS Blacktown City FC	SUN 18TH JUNE	1 - 3
ROUND 17 VS Sydney United 58 FC	SUN 2ND JULY	1 - 0
ROUND 19 VS Sutherland Sharks FC	SUN 23RD JULY	3 - 0
ROUND 22 VS Sydney FC	SUN 13TH AUGUST	15:00

Fixtures subject to change.
Check NPLNSW.com.au for the latest information.



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EVERY WEEK
THURSDAYS 7PM

