



# KICKOFF



V



GRAND FINAL  
4PM SATURDAY  
14TH JULY 2018  
LAMBERT PARK

# WELCOME

Welcome to the 2018 TAFE NSW Waratah Cup Final, an opportunity that will see both APLA Leichhardt Tigers and Hakoah Sydney City East grab Football NSW's first piece of silverware.

It's been an amazing year for TAFE NSW Waratah Cup and it all will come to a climax today at Lambert Park.

As one of my first finals attended as the CEO last year, it's ironic that we will once again see the same teams battle it out for the TAFE NSW Waratah Cup, a trophy Hakoah Sydney City East won last year 3-1.

Over 100 clubs - including Association teams from across NSW and teams from the NPL NSW Men's, NPL 2 NSW Men's, NPL 3 NSW Men's and State League Men's, participated in what has been a great campaign to date.

The TAFE NSW Waratah Cup represents the wonderful history of the game in New South Wales, and each year there are fairytale stories of local association teams beating their more favoured State League opposition.

Steeped in history, the TAFE NSW Waratah Cup was first played in 1971 and, following a 20 year hiatus,

recommenced in 1991 where Blacktown City took home the silverware.

Today only two teams remain, both of whom are elite NPL NSW Men's clubs.

Both teams immersed in history, the APLA Leichhardt Tigers battle Hakoah Sydney City East in what promises to be a titanic battle between two highly talented teams.



Cup Finals always produce an entertaining spectacle and this year's combatants will be no exception.

I would like to extend a huge congratulations to all teams involved in this season's TAFE NSW Waratah Cup for their participation

and support of this historic tournament.

Finally a big thank you to the fans for your tremendous support today and throughout the season.

Good luck to both teams and I hope this year's TAFE NSW Waratah Cup Final lives long in your memory.

**Stuart Hodge**  
Chief Executive Officer - Football NSW

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# TEAM LISTS



1	ANTHONY BOUZANIS	13	ROBBIE EZEKIEL
2	CONNOR SHADDDOCK	14	ANTHONY FRANGIE
3	MICHAEL KOUTA	15	STEVEN KATSIONIS
4	BRADLEY WALKER	16	JOSHUA ORCHARD
5	MITCHELL STAMATELLIS	17	HARRY JONES
6	CAMERON DRAPER	19	DOM COX
7	JACK GREEN	20	JAMES COMBES
8	OLIVER GREEN	21	AMAURY MARIE GAUTHIER
10	ANDRE DE JONG	60	TAKAYUKI NOJI
11	JORDAN CRIGHTON		
12	NATHAN ROBERTS		

HEAD COACH TD: GAVIN RAE ASSISTANT COACH: ZLATKO ARAMBASIC  
GOAL KEEPER COACH: TRINITY ALLEN MANAGER: BRIAN REE - ALEX ROBERTSON



1	IVAN NECEVSKI	13	DAVID D'APUZZO
2	NATHAN MILLGATE	14	AIDEN KYRA
3	PAUL GALIMI	15	THEMBA MUATA MARLOW
4	JOSH SYMONS	16	SEAN SYMONS
5	STEPHAN ADATTINI	17	SAM GULISANO
7	HOWARD FONDYKE	18	ADRIAN UCCHINO
8	COREY BIZCO	19	BRANDON LUNDY
10	FRANCO PARISI	20	TASUKU SEKIYA
11	JORDAN MURRAY	22	BLAKE TUXFORD
12	BEN MCCARRON		

COACHES: BILLY MCCOLL, JOHN CALLEJA, BRUNO JASICZEK  
MANAGERS: SERGIO BUCCIARELLI, EMANUELE ZIINO, SAM BARLETTA, JOE CALABRO

REFEREES: B. ABRAHAM, A. GIEV, J. BELL  
4TH OFFICIAL: C. FISHER

# ROAD TO THE FINAL

There is a reason why many believe there is a special type of magic to cup competitions.

Form, big name players and expectations can all be thrown out the window with a single bounce of the ball.

Sometimes It takes more than just being the best to win when everything is on the line.

Whether that is a lucky bounce or an unfortunate mistake from the opposition, knockout football can provide both heartbreak and jubilation.

This season's finalists know very well all the highs and lows of the cup with their history adding extra spice to this already captivating matchup.

Twelve months on Hakoah Sydney City East and APIA Leichhardt Tigers return to Lambert Park for a rematch of epic proportions.

Underdogs Hakoah completed a historic fairytale in 2017 when they stunned APIA to secure a 3-1 victory to be crowned Waratah Cup champions and end the club's long wait for silverware.

This time APIA will underestimate their opponents and will be more determined than ever to claim the title they last won in 2013.

The Tigers cruised to the finals scoring 25 goals in six games.

Billy McColl's side opened their Waratah campaign in empathic style putting nine goals past NPL3 side Fraser Park in a 9-0 win before backing it up with a 4-0 in against Illawarra Premier League side Wollongong Olympic FC.

APIA were pushed by NPL 2 side St George FC but did enough to claim a 3-2 win to progress to the next round and a grudge match with National Premier Leagues NSW rivals Sydney Olympic.

McColl's side were too good for the NPL NSW league leaders as they eased to a 3-0 win, but had a harder time in their next match as they

delivered a second half fightback to snatch a 3-2 win against Rockdale City Suns.

A cup final berth was secured with relative ease as a Corey Bizco double helped APIA to a 3-0 win against Marconi in the Waratah Cup Semi-final.

Their opposition on Sunday returned this season as the reigning Waratah Cup champions.

Once the competition feel-good story, Hakoah has proven this season they are cup specialists.

The Eastern Suburbs based side has shown up their doubters this campaign with their strong form demonstrating last year's fairytale run was not a fluke.

A 3-1 win against Canterbury Bankstown FC helped Hakoah off to a perfect start to their cup defence followed up with a 2-0 win against NPL NSW rivals Sutherland Sharks.

NPL 2 side Mounties Wanderers couldn't stop the Gavin Rae coached side's cup run as Hakoah claimed a 2-0 victory.

A comprehensive 4-0 win against Illawarra Premier League outfit Tarrawanna Blueys set up a Waratah Cup semi-final berth against Bonnyrigg White Eagles.

A three goal first half set the perfect platform for Hakoah against the White Eagles as Andre De Jong, Amaury Gauthier and Anthony Frangie all found the back of the net as the Eastern Suburbs qualified for their second straight Waratah Cup final with a 4-2 win.

Both sides have had relatively straightforward paths to reach the final but Sunday's clash will be something new all together.

There will be plenty of feeling in this clash with the memory of last year's final surely in the front of the minds of APIA and Hakoah.

Eyes will be firmly on same prize as history goes on the line at Lambert Park.

## APIA LEICHHARDT TIGERS

9-1 v Fraser park (H)  
4-0 Wollongong Olympic FC (A)  
3-2 St George FC (H)  
3-0 Sydney Olympic (A)  
3-2 Rockdale City Suns (A)  
3-0 Marconi Stallions (A)

## HAKOAH SYDNEY CITY EAST

3-1 Canterbury Bankstown FC (A)  
2-0 Sutherland Sharks (A)  
2-0 Mounties Wanderers FC (H)  
4-0 Tarrawanna Blueys SC (A)  
4-2 Bonnyrigg White Eagles (A)

# FEATURE STORY

## NO FLUKE AS FRANGIE WANTS SECOND SUCCESSIVE CUP TRIUMPH



Hakoah Sydney City East striker Anthony Frangie believes his side will prove last year's incredible victorious Waratah Cup run was not a one off when they take on APIA Leichhardt Tigers in the cup final on July 14.

The Eastern Suburbs based side will return to Lambert Park, the site of their historic victory, for a rematch against last year's runners-up APIA.

Hakoah has become the National Premier Leagues NSW competition's cup specialists after last season's Waratah Cup win was followed with a return to the tournament's final twelve months later as well as a solid run in the FFA Cup.

Despite a number of their more experienced players leaving the club at the end of the previous campaign, including coach Gavin Rae hanging up his boots to focus on his role as the side's gaffer, Frangie is confident the change in personnel has only strengthened Hakoah.

"Having a younger team we are able to play a quicker brand of football which is quite different from the way we did things 12 months ago," he said.

"This team has developed in a short space of time and on our day we have proven that we can match it against anyone we play.

"We experienced how great the feeling of winning was last year and we are driven to

recreate that moment by defending our title."

For Frangie he has taken on a more prominent role in Hakoah's attack this time around.

The young attacker's mercurial skills and eye for goal has played a big part in Sydney City East reaching the decider for the second straight year.

However, the extra responsibility has hardly crossed Frangie's mind.

"Really I just focus on doing my thing each week and performing my best for the team," he said.

"I don't really think about pressure or my role in the team or anything like that. My process is just making sure I can contribute week in week out, whether that be through scoring goals or creating chances for my teammates.

"Definitely I've developed as a player in the time I have been at Hakoah and I hope to continue that growth."

While he knows APIA will be hell bent on avenging their loss in the 2017 Waratah Cup final, Frangie said the team hasn't spent too much time on their opposition.

"It is certainly a unique situation where we will play the same team at the same venue in the cup final twelve months later," he said.

"As a team we have always lifted in big matches no matter who we play and this will be no different.

"APIA will be well prepared for this game and will be giving it everything they can, however so will we."

Frangie said winning a second straight Waratah Cup title would be just as special as their first.

"Last season was an incredible ride and the feeling to winning the club their first bit of silverware in quite some time was very special," he said.

"However, if we are able to go back and do it all again with a different squad, for me is just as great an achievement.

"We have been working towards this moment and everything will be on the line on game day."

*By Nick Houghton*



# FEATURE STORY

## MURRAY READY FOR CUP REDEMPTION



The disappointment of last season's Waratah Cup defeat is driving APIA Leichhardt Tigers to go one better in 2018, striker Jordan Murray has revealed.

The Tigers suffered a surprise 3-1 loss to Hakoah Sydney

City East twelve months ago and fans will be guilty of feeling like they're experiencing Deja Vu with the two teams meeting again in this year's decider.

Just like last season, APIA come into the game flying high with great form and with three competitions still to play for.

For Murray that is where the similarities end.

The young striker has come on in leaps and bounds during the past twelve months and is now the clear focal point of the Tigers attack having scored an incredible 19 goals in the NPL NSW Men's competition hoisting up as the league's top marksman.

Murray revealed it was defeat in this game last year which helped him take his game to another level.

"The whole team was devastated to not win the Waratah Cup in 2017," he said.

"Even though we were a young team we had been playing great football but sadly we couldn't get the result we wanted on the day.

"Combined with defeat in the grand final last year, I realised that I needed to work harder and put more energy into my football."

The 22-year-old acknowledged that not often do teams get a chance of a do over and stressed that APIA are in a better position this time around.

"I think last year's final was just a case of bad luck for us," he said.

"I don't think we played poorly, just on the day things didn't go our way.

"The fact that we are playing Hakoah again at the same ground is a rare opportunity and one we are desperate to take advantage of.

"The disappointment of our defeats in finals has brought the team together and been a major driving force behind us this campaign."

While Hakoah rode the wave of a fairy tale cup run last year, Murray believes APIA's cup final opponents will be even tougher to beat this time around.

"Hakoah have proven to be very good in cup competitions and anybody who has seen they way they step up in these matches shows that last year wasn't a fluke," he said.

"However, like us they have had a number of big changes in the past 12 months so it will be a case of who can perform at their best when the pressure is on."

Showing a cool head in front of goal this season to lead the golden boot race, Murray is fired up to give his team the best shot at taking home their first piece of silverware for the season.

"I'm playing some of my best football and I'm really confident in both my abilities and that of my teammates to create chances for me to score," Murray said.

"I think when you have that confidence it allows you to just play and not worry too much about the little things as much.

"Its going to be a tough match but we have learnt our lessons. We felt the disappointment of losing a cup final and this time we are determined to do whatever it takes to be the ones holding up the trophy at full time."

*By Nick Houghton*





HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2018 TAFE NSW WARATAH CUP FINAL  
WILL BE AVAILABLE ON FACEBOOK (FACEBOOK.COM/  
NPLNSW) AND YOUTUBE (YOUTUBE.COM/NSWPL)

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