



V



NATIONAL  
PREMIER LEAGUES



# KICKOFF

PRELIMINARY  
FINAL

SYDNEY UNITED  
SPORTS CENTRE  
7.30PM

SATURDAY 1ST  
SEPTEMBER 2018

U18'S • 2.30PM • ROCKDALE CITY SUNS V BLACKTOWN CITY  
U20'S • 5PM • BLACKTOWN CITY V SUTHERLAND SHARKS



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# TEAM LISTS



2 CHRISTIAN GONZALES  
3 JORDAN ROBERTS  
4 ADRIAN VLASTELICA  
5 ANTHONY TOMELIC  
6 CHRIS PAYNE  
7 NAIM RAHIMI  
8 MATHEW SIM  
9 PATRICK ANTELM  
11 YIANNI PERKATIS  
12 SHANON COLE

13 SAM PERRE  
14 NICK STAVROULAKIS  
15 TARIQ MAIR  
16 KYLE CIMENTI  
18 GLEN TRIFIRO  
20 PETAR MARKOVIC  
21 THOMAS MANOS  
22 YIANNI FRAGOIANNIS  
23 PANNY NIKAS  
40 JOHN HALL

COACH: MIRO VLASTELICA GEAR STEWARD: RAY GERRIE



1 IVAN NECEVSKI  
2 NATHAN MILLGATE  
3 PAUL GALIMI  
4 JOSH SYMONS  
5 STEPHAN ADATTINI  
7 HOWARD FONDYKE  
8 COREY BIZCO  
10 FRANCO PARISI  
11 JORDAN MURRAY  
12 BEN MCCARRON

13 DAVID D'APUZZO  
14 AIDEN KYRA  
15 THEMBA MUATA MARLOW  
16 SEAN SYMONS  
17 SAM GULISANO  
18 ADRIAN UCCHINO  
19 BRANDON LUNDY  
20 TASUKU SEKIYA  
22 BLAKE TUXFORD

COACHES: BILLY MCCOLL, JOHN CALLEJA, BRUNO JASICZEK

MANAGERS: SERGIO BUCCIARELLI, EMANUELE ZIINO, SAM BARLETTA, JOE CALABRO

REFEREES: S. LUCAS, J. BELL, J. PARK

4TH OFFICIAL: T. DANASKOS

# 1ST GRADE MATCH PREVIEW

There are no more second chances as Sydney United 58 and APIA Leichhardt Tigers fight it out for the last spot in this season's National Premier Leagues NSW grand final.

There won't be any love lost as these fierce rivals go head to head in a rematch of their clash from week one of the finals series.

United 58 come into this game after a one sided 4-0 thumping at the hands of Premiership winners Sydney Olympic and will need a big bounce back performance to return to the winners circle.

APIA on the other hand are in inspired form thrashing Rockdale 8-2 in last week's minor semi-final only days after their shock 3-2 win against A-League Champions Melbourne Victory in the FFA Cup.

After their penalty shootout win against APIA in week one of the finals, United 58 were given a swift reality check by Olympic.

The 4-0 loss would've not impressed coach Miro Vlastelica who now has to find a way to get his team firing on all cylinders once again.

Reds shot stopper Thomas Manos was almost unbeatable in his last game against APIA but had a hard day at the office last week.

How the young keeper rebounds will have a big say in his side's chances against a rejuvenated APIA attack.

Chris Payne was free to play last week after his red card was rescinded for a case of mistaken identity and he will be once again free to play.

The striker's ability to press and challenge the APIA defence had them struggling in their last clash with Vlastelica sure to employ this strategy again.

Two big wins on the trot have APIA believing in themselves again and it shows.

Japanese striker Tasuku Sekiya seems to have truly taken the weight of APIA's attack and the midfield is once again firing on all cylinders.

The Tigers' experienced midfield has shown both brute force and panache in recent performance which could be a far tougher challenge for United 58 to conquer this time around.

United 58 and APIA have met in the league three times this season including The Red's 5-3 penalty shootout win from the preliminary semi-final.

That result went against APIA's dominance during their two meetings in the regular season.

In Round 9 APIA claimed the victory with a 1-0 win before thrashing United 58 6-2 in the reverse fixture at Lambert Park in round 20.

Both sides are as hungry as ever to lift the Championship trophy so expect a fierce encounter that is set to go down to the wire.

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FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT**



## APIA Leichhardt Tigers 8 – Rockdale City Suns 2 at Lambert Park

APIA Leichhardt tigers have flexed their National Premier Leagues NSW Championship credentials with an incredible 8-2 demolition of Rockdale City Suns at Lambert Park on Saturday.

Tigers' fans thought they had seen it all in Tuesday night's FFA Cup giant-killing of reigning A-League Champions Melbourne Victory, but the Lambert Park faithful will be pinching themselves again after witnessing their side move one game away from the grand final with a truly one-sided triumph.

The incredible rout began with the fifth-minute dismissal of Rockdale defender Blake Ricciuto, who was given straight red after tripping the goal-bound Sean Symons. APIA stalwart Themba Muata-Marlow buried the resulting penalty kick, and the floodgates opened.

Franco Parisi's glorious run and pass saw a rare goal for fullback David D'Apuzzo, while FFA Cup hero Tasuku Sekiya added a third from close range after Symons' shot had cannoned back off the foot of the post.

And when Howard Fondyke volleyed the Japanese attacker's cross past Ante Covic at the back post five minutes later, the Tigers were in dreamland.

The misery continued for Rockdale in the second stanza. Symons headed D'Apuzzo's centre home, and Paul Reid's side were reduced to nine when Aleksandar Canak was dismissed for his second booking.

Substitute Samuel Gulisano opened his first-grade account from the penalty spot after a Suns handball and soon had a brace – and APIA's seventh – after rifling in a deflected effort that left Covic rooted to the spot.

Rockdale pulled two consolation goals back via Alexander Malfara and Michael Neill, before Sekiya clinched his double, and fifth goal in a week, with a delightful lob over the former Western Sydney Wanderers gloveman.

Sekiya's dink proved to be the final kick of a crazy encounter, and undoubtedly an NPL NSW clash that will live long in the memory.



## Sydney Olympic 4 – Sydney United 58 FC 0 at Lambert Park

Sydney Olympic is one game away from securing a historic National Premier Leagues NSW Championship double after defeating Sydney Olympic 58 4-0 in the Major-Semi Final at Lambert Park on Sunday.

A hat-trick to Spanish import Alex Sanchez, along with one goal to Olympic skipper Jason Madonis secured the win for the blues, with their robust defence keeping Sydney United 58 off the scoreboard.

The victory for Olympic was their third consecutive win over Sydney United 58 and capped off their Premiership winning season with a direct run to the Grand Final.

Sanchez would be the first on the scoreboard in the 20th minute, heading home a goal.

Madonis doubled the lead for Olympic only ten minutes later, capitalising on a clearance from Sydney United 58 which saw the ball fall to his feet outside the box.

Sanchez made it 3-0 in the 32nd minute, landing a ball in the back of the net just two minutes later.

An incredible hat-trick for Sanchez came 30 minutes from full-time after he slalomed through the United 58 defence before coolly finishing to wrap up the 4-0 victory.

Olympic will have a week off next week as they prepare for the Grand Final, whereas Sydney United 58 will play-off against APIA for a place in the decider.



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NATIONAL  
PREMIER LEAGUES

# ***SAVE THE DATE*** **GRAND FINAL**

**SUNDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER, 2018 • 4PM • LEICHHARDT OVAL**



# TEAM LISTS - U20'S

#NPLNSW



24 Jack Stewart  
25 Ben Parkinson  
26 Lachlan Campbell  
27 Samuel Hamilton  
28 John Azar  
30 Malcolm Ward  
31 Lachlan Rose

32 Will Salinas  
34 Jarrod Dodds  
35 George Panayi  
36 Anthony Gallo  
38 Lewis Fraser  
39 Adolph Koudakpo

**Coach:** John Carnevale  
**Manager:** Mitch Hendry



3 Richard Stewart  
6 Lachlan Everett  
12 Blair Brown  
16 Ryoga Suyama  
17 Leroy Jennings  
21 Niki Loe  
23 Deren O'Brien  
24 Adam Massoud

25 Blake Currey  
26 Harry Sutherland  
27 Harrison Quirk  
31 Gabriel Contigiani  
32 James Temelkovski  
33 Thomas Papa  
53 Kuot Maliet

**Coach:** Nick Dimovski  
**Assistant Coach:** Steven Gordon  
**Manager:** Craig Simmons

## U20'S - MATCH PREVIEW

It's come down to this for both Blacktown City and Sutherland Sharks.

The pair will face off in Edensor Park for a Grand Final ticket – and who could possibly pick a winner at this stage?

Premiers Blacktown City have been the best team in the competition this season as the regular season table indicates.

While unable to match the firepower of Sydney FC and to a lesser extent Sutherland, City's streetwise discipline and ability to turn it on when needed proved a winning formula.

But it's been a nervous start to the finals from John Carnevale's side, who were defeated 2-0 by Sydney FC in the first week of finals.

They'll now have to play Sutherland, who they

haven't beaten this season, for a spot in the big dance.

The Sharks enter Saturday's clash with renewed confidence having beaten Sydney United 58-2-0 at Lambert Park.

That result was just the fourth win Sutherland have had in their last eleven games, and their end of season slide saw key departures and injuries that saw them fall short of another Premiership win.

But the double winners in 2017 are still just one step away from back to back Grand Final appearances.

And although Blacktown City might still be favourites prior to kick off, Sutherland showed the type of resilience last weekend needed to win high-stakes



46 Jacob Botic  
47 Vinko Gacic  
50 Joshua Jenicek  
51 George Marangos  
53 Daniel Geroski  
54 Jackson Angelou  
56 Adrian Neoklis  
57 Mouhamed Hanache

58 Mohamed Ahmed  
59 Sam Shainfield  
60 Jay Hirshowitz  
61 Noah Botic  
62 Adam Sukar  
63 Ellis Bellos  
65 Brandon Stefanovski (GK)

**Coach:** Steve Zoric  
**Assistant Coach:** Gary Departo  
**Team Manager:** Jack Bulic



1 Dylan Niski  
2 Alen Aganovic  
3 Ryan Duffy  
4 Blake Richards  
6 Ethan Pollard-Smith  
7 Alexander Purves  
8 Bradley Tapp  
9 Suleyman Bangura

10 Carlos De Oliveira  
11 Matthew Caisley  
12 Kai McLoughlin  
13 Jack Hutchings  
14 Dean Pelekanos  
15 Samuel Webb  
16 Luka Zanko

**Coach:** Andrew Montgomery  
**Manager:** Trevor Keayes

## U18'S MATCH PREVIEW

What a match we have in store as the Preliminary Final in the NPL NSW Men's 18's clash features two evenly poised sides as Blacktown City go head to head with Rockdale City Suns.

The two met in the first weekend of semi-final football action with the Suns coming up victors in a heart wrenching 5-4 win on penalties after the match ended scoreless.

Since then, the Suns were one step away from booking a Grand Finals spot only to be defeated by Sydney FC last weekend 3-1 while Blacktown City rolled Manly United 2-0 thanks to goals from Suleyman Bangura and Blake Richards that set-up the clash against the Suns.

Both teams know what's at stake here, a Grand Final berth at Leichhardt Oval next Sunday against the Sky Blues so expect fireworks in what will be a hotly contested match-up.

Who will win is anyone's guess, can it be done in 90 minutes or will we see extra-time or even the dreaded penalty shootouts take place? One thing's for sure, great football with stars of the future will be on display.

PHOTO: JAIME CASTANEDA





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