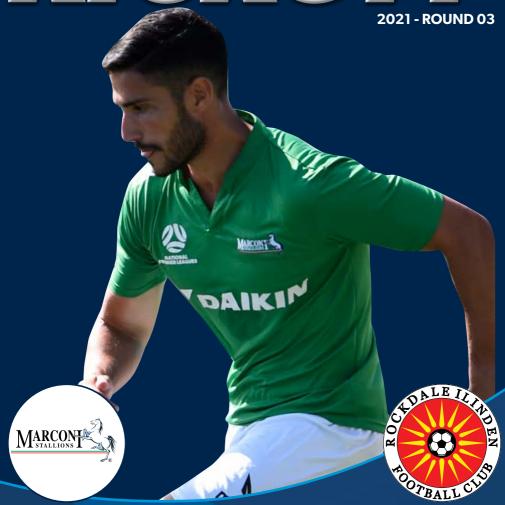
# KCKOFF



MARCONI STADIUM



SATURDAY 13TH MARCH 6PM

## **CLUB WELCOME**

Marconi Stallions FC warmly welcome top of the table Rockdale Ilinden FC to the "Palace" for Round Three of the NPL NSW Men's season.

Unbeaten after two rounds and yet to concede a goal, Rockdale Ilinden FC are already showing they will be hard to beat for the title.

By contrast, Marconi Stallions FC tipped by many as the "Benchmark team" have started slowly and are yet to register a win. A draw with Sutherland Sharks opened the Stallions account last round.

Rockdale Ilinden FC have disposed of both Wollongong Wolves (4-0) and Sydney Olympic (1-0) in successive weeks and naturally, coach Steve Zorić is delighted with his team's impressive start to the season.

"We still have another 15-20% improvement in us."

This sounds ominous for the Stallions who have played with little luck in both matches so far.

According to the Stallions "seasoned" coach Peter Tsekenis, "the team is capable of so much more."

"A sucker punch cost us in the first round against Sydney FC and against Sutherland Sharks we could have won the game, but, in the same breath we very easily could have lost it."

"Keeper Nenad Vekic saved a point with a brilliant save from the penalty spot" (83 minutes)

The Stallions are missing striker Charles Lokolingoy, the powerfully built front man with previous A-League experience (Sydney FC) was a real coup for the club and was dominant in the trial matches. However, at the last minute prior to the start of the NPL, he joined Wellington Phoenix. Finding someone within the squad to fill the void is proving difficult.

Yet despite the setback, the Stallions dominated against Sydney FC only to lose on a rare counter attack. Similarly, against Sutherland Sharks Liam Youlley's powerful strike hit the post with the keeper beaten.

Rockdale Ilinden FC have "strike power" to cause concern to any team. Already, the "baker" as he is affectionately known, Alec Urosevski has scored three of his teams five goals so far. The other two have come from Kylie Cimenti. A formidable duo who will have to be watched closely by the Stallions.

Marconi Stallions FC Coach Peter Tsekenis realizes the importance of the match "we need to bounce back into the winners circle against the team regarded as favorites to win the competition."

Following two disappointing results so far, the Stallions Coach has made changes to his line up – Saturday night will show if they were the right ones made.





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# **MAJOR SPONSORS**





## **CORPORATE PARTNERS**





































# **1ST GRADE TEAM LISTS**



- Nenad Vekic
- 2 Nathan Millgate
- 3 Giorgio Speranza
- 4 Roberto Speranza
- 5 Mason Ingram
- 6 Mark Rodic
- 7 Chris Hatfield
- 8 Connor Evans
- 9 Anthony Costa
- 10 Marko Jesic
- 11 Mitchell Mallia
- 12 Stefan Nikolic
- 14 Anthony Frangie
- 16 Liam Youlley
- 17 Martin Fernandez
- 19 Zach Cairncross
- 20 Dion Shaw
- 23 Brandon Vella
- 24 Paolo Laxamana

Head Coach: Peter Tsekenis Manager: Peter Papoythis



- David Bradasevic (GK)
- 2 Daniel Petkovski
- 3 Mick Neill
- 4 Mitchell Stamatellis
- 5 Banri Kanaizumi
- 6 Daniel Araujo
- 7 Alec Urosevski
- 8 Tomoki Wada
- 9 Bai Antoniou
- 10 Amaury Gauthier
- 11 Nicola Taneski
- 13 Zac Sfiligoi
- 14 Brayden Sorge
- 16 Mo Ahmed
- 18 Sam Gulisano
- 19 Patty Savor
- 22 Enol Ordonez Suarez (GK)
- 23 Kyle Cimenti
- 99 lames Temelkovski

Head Coach: Steve Zoric

Assistant Coach: Gary Deprato

Goalkeeper Coach: Jose Bello Migo

Physio: Michael Koutzoumis

Gear Steward: Jovan Ckorovski

Referee: Assistant Referees: Fourth Official: M. Weiner

C. Wright and C. Loveday

M. Ebrahimi

### **MATCH PREVIEW**

Marconi Stallions will be looking to put a halt to Rockdale's perfect start to the season when the two sides go head to head at Marconi Stadium this Saturday.

The Stallions have had a shaky opening two weeks and are in desperate need of a confidence-boosting win.

A penalty save from star keeper Nenad Vekic saved Marconi from defeat last week as they snatched a 1-1 draw against Sutherland, while in round one defeat to Sydney FC caught many by surprise.

Coach Peter Tsekenis will want to shake-up his side going into this game in an attempt to end their firsthalf struggles which have proven costly.

Chris Hatfield could be given the start this week after coming off the bench in round two, the new signing will be determined to impress and his enthusiasm could inject some extra energy into the Marconi side.

Vekic bounced back from his difficult opening round with a man of the match performance last week. He will be very important for Marconi this season and especially against a Rockdale side who are firing on all cylinders.

llinden fought out a tough 1-0 win against Sydney Olympic last week which was very different to their one-sided 4-0 thrashing of Wollongong in round one.

Alec Urosevski is scoring for fun which is a delight for the Rockdale fans, but it has been their stout defence that has been the low-key standout of their performances so far.

Coach Steven Zoric sets a high standard for his team so expect another big showing in what is their first match away from home.

Marconi needs a win to get their campaign back on track and will need to bring their A-game if they are to upset a top tier side like Rockdale.

# **1ST GRADE LADDER**

POS	TEAM	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
1	Rockdale Ilinden FC	2	2	0	0	5	0	5	6
2	Sydney United 58 FC	2	2	0	0	6	2	4	6
3	Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC	2	1	1	0	4	2	2	4
4	Blacktown City FC	2	1	1	0	2	0	2	4
5	Sydney FC	2	1	0	1	3	5	-2	3
6	Sutherland Sharks FC	2	0	2	0	3	3	0	2
7	Manly United FC	2	0	2	0	2	2	0	2
8	Marconi Stallions FC	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1
9	Northbridge Bulls FC	2	0	1	1	2	4	-2	1
10	APIA Leichhardt FC	2	0	1	1	1	3	-2	1
11	Wollongong Wolves FC	2	0	1	1	1	5	-4	1
12	Sydney Olympic FC	2	0	0	2	0	2	-2	0

## **FIRST GRADE REVIEWS**

#### Sutherland Sharks 1- Marconi Stallions 1 at Seymour Shaw Park

A missed penalty in the dying stages has cost Sutherland Sharks as they were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw against Marconi Stallions at Seymour Shaw Park on Saturday.

Striker Jeremey Cox had the chance to win it for the Sharks from the penalty spot in the 83rd minute but was denied by a brilliant save from Stallions shotstopper Nenad Vekic.

It was another frustrating draw for Sutherland who took the lead in the first half thanks to a clinical finish from Gabriel Contigiani.

For the Stallions, it was a hard-earned point with a Marko Jesic penalty early in the second half securing the draw.

# Rockdale Ilinden 1 – Sydney Olympic 0 at Ilinden Sports Centre

A second-half strike from Alec Urosevski has helped Rockdale maintain their perfect start to the season with a 1-0 win against Sydney Olympic at Ilinden Sports Centre on Sunday.

It was a hard-fought win for Rockdale in front of a vocal home crowd as they held out Olympic for all three points.

However, the win was soured by a freakish injury to Daniel Araujo, who was taken from the field by an ambulance which delayed the game by more than an hour.

The result ensure's Rockdale finish the round in top spot for the second straight week.



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## **U20 TEAM LISTS**



30 **Jordan Ford** 31 **Daniel Helweh** Jarred McKinley 32 Andrew Holder 22 25 Blake Ilitch 18 **Dimos Vlachos** 35 Jeremy Dinh 36 Jarrod Galea

Coach: Steve Appleby Manager: Patrick Gatt

38	Jesse Hirschowitz
39	Jay Hirschowitz
40	Luka Zepina
41	Ahmad Taleb
42	James Hilton
43	Jackson Andrews
44	Adrian Neoklis



Andrew Di Blasio 31 32 Aari Bouboulos 33 Adam Manoski 34 Ali Hamdan 35 Daniel Geroski 36 Dion Iconomopoulos 37 Harry Skotadis 38 Jad Moussa

Head Coach: Michael Grbevski Assistant Coach: German Cabrera

James Nikolovski

39

40	Karim Farhat
41	Lucas Ramirez
42	Marcus Grbevski
43	Mouhamed Hamdache
44	Peter Tufevski
46	Youssef Harrar
48	Gaelen Dorigo
49	Max Luburic
53	Jayden Anevski

## **U20 LADDER**

POS	TEAM	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
1	Manly United FC	2	2	0	0	6	0	6	6
2	Sydney Olympic FC	2	2	0	0	6	0	6	6
3	Northbridge Bulls FC	2	2	0	0	5	2	3	6
4	Sydney FC	2	1	1	0	3	1	2	4
5	APIA Leichhardt FC	2	1	1	0	3	2	1	4
6	Sutherland Sharks FC	2	1	0	1	3	2	1	3
7	Wollongong Wolves FC	2	1	0	1	3	4	-1	3
8	Marconi Stallions FC	2	0	1	1	0	3	-3	1
9	Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC	2	0	1	1	1	5	-4	1
10	Blacktown City FC	2	0	0	2	3	5	-2	0
11	Rockdale Ilinden FC	2	0	0	2	2	6	-4	0
12	Sydney United 58 FC	2	0	0	2	1	6	-5	0

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### MARCONI MENTOR PROGRAM

To further unify Marconi Stallions FC from the bottom to the top an innovation has been introduced into the program in 2021. The aim is to have the top support the junior program and in return the junior program to support the senior.

The innovation is the Mentor Program.

Men's NPL 1 players are now spending spend half an hour per week with their allocated team- 2 players per team. (3 in some cases)

Younger NPL players with Boys SAP Program (Ages 9 to 12)

Senior NPL players with Boys Youth (Ages 13 to 16 years)

Players have already started meeting with their teams and are getting to know the players – they take an active part in the session – chatting with the players and building relationships with them. The purpose of the Program is for the senior players to help the younger ones develop their games, their character, ability to handle pressure and help them with any issues along the way. (Photos at training)

Players in the NPL are from varying occupational backgrounds – schoolteachers, physiotherapists, personal trainers, Auto Mechanics, a farmer – so many varying backgrounds to offer support and advice to the younger players. We also have a player Mason Ingram who works with disabled children.

In turn, the Boys SAP and Youth are getting to know the NPL players and take an interest in how the team is going.

Last Thursday the Mentors of the Boys Youth Program attended training to present the teams with their playing jerseys and gear bags for 2021. (photos)

Head Coach Peter Tsekenis is in full support of the Mentor Program.

"It is important that the whole club is engaged in the Football Program. The Mentor System does just this -there is no better way than to have the young players at the club look to the older more senior players for guidance and direction."

"With Mental Health becoming an increasingly prevalent issue it is now even more important that young players have the support they need, both within the family at home and also in this case their football family at Marconi."

The Mentors for the Boys SAP Program will be on hand this coming Thursday to present jersey's and playing gear to the Marconi Stallions FC Under 9 to 12 years of age teams.

# MARCONI STALLIONS FC TEAM MENTORS FOR 2021

#### **BOYS SAP**

Under 9 – Anthony Costa / Anthony Frangie
Under 10- Brendan Vella / Dion Shaw/Mason
Ingram

Under 11- Mitch Mallia /Connor Evans/Stefan Nikolic

Under 12- Robert Speranza/Liam Youlley/Paolo Laxamana

#### **BOYS YOUTH**

Under 13- Nathan Millgate /Chris Hatfield Under 14- Giorgio Speranza/ Marty Fernandez/ Dimos Vlachos

Under 15- Nenad Vekic /Zac Cairncross
Under 16 - Marko Jesic /Mark Rodic









# **PHOTO GALLERY**





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## **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

CLUB	PLAYED	U20's	1st	TOTAL
Rockdale Ilinden FC	4	0	24	24
Sydney United 58 FC	4	0	24	24
Manly United FC	4	12	8	20
Sydney FC	4	8	12	20
Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC	4	2	16	18
Blacktown City FC	4	0	16	16
Northbridge Bulls FC	4	12	4	16
Sutherland Sharks FC	4	6	8	14
APIA Leichhardt FC	4	8	4	12
Sydney Olympic FC	4	12	0	12
Wollongong Wolves FC	4	6	4	10
Marconi Stallions FC	4	2	4	6

Club championships for all NPL Men's and Women's are available online:

Men's: https://mens.nplnsw.com.au/club-championship/

Women's: https://womens.nplnsw.com.au/club-championship-nsw-womens/

## **NEXT ROUND FIXTURES**

#### NORTHBRIDGE BULLS FC VS MARCONI STALLIONS FC

1:30 PM / SAT 20 MAR CAMPBELLTOWN SPORTS STADIUM

#### APIA LEICHHARDT FC VS SUTHERLAND SHARKS FC

5:15 PM / SAT 20 MAR LAMBERT PARK

# MT DRUITT TOWN RANGERS FC VS SYDNEY FC

7:00 PM / SAT 20 MAR POPONDETTA PARK

# ROCKDALE ILINDEN FC VS MANLY UNITED FC

3:00 PM / SUN 21 MAR ROCKDALE ILINDEN SPORTS CENTRE

# SYDNEY OLYMPIC FC VS WOLLONGONG WOLVES FC

4:00 PM / SUN 21 MAR BELMORE SPORTS GROUND

#### SYDNEY UNITED 58 FC VS BLACKTOWN CITY FC

4:00 PM / SUN 21 MAR SYDNEY UNITED SPORTS CENTRE





# 2021 HOME FIXTURES

# HOME GROUND - Marconi Stadium 121-133 Prairie Vale Road, Bossley Park

clubmarconi.com.au/marconi-stallions

ROUND 1	26/02/21 (Fri)	19:45	Sydney FC
ROUND 3	13/03/21 (Sat)	18:00	Rockdale llinden FC
ROUND 5	27/03/21 (Sat)	17:00	Sydney United 58 FC
ROUND 6	02/04/21 (Fri)	16:00	Wollongong Wolves FC
ROUND 8	17/04/21 (Sat)	16:00	Sydney Olympic FC
ROUND 9	24/04/21 (Sat)	16:00	Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC
ROUND 10	01/05/21 (Sat)	16:00	Blacktown City FC
ROUND 13	22/05/21 (Sat)	16:00	Sutherland Sharks FC
ROUND 15	05/06/21 (Sat)	16:00	Northbridge Bulls FC
ROUND 18	26/06/21 (Sat)	16:00	APIA Leichhardt FC
ROUND 22	25/07/21 (Sun)	15:00	Manly United FC

FOR MORE INFO VISIT NPLNSW.COM.AU

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