KICKOFF







ALBERT BUTLER MEMORIAL PARK SUNDAY 19TH JUNE 3PM

FIXTURES, LADDERS

MATCH PREVIEW

REVIEWS, TEAM LISTS



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WOLVES SHOP Fraternity Club, 11 Bourke Street, Fairy Meadow



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CLUB WELCOME













This week we welcome the players, officials, and supporters of APIA Leichhardt FC to Albert Butler Memorial Park for our round 16 fixture in the NPL competition.

The last fortnight has seen the Wolves register two draws against Sydney FC 3-3 and Sydney Olympic 1-1. The team has shown a lot of fight and courage to stay in games against top of the table opposition. Luke Wilkshire has spent much time over the last week on the training ground to tighten up the defence. The last few weeks has seen the Wolves concede too many goals which has significantly impacted the chances of a top 5 finish.

The Wolves now sit in 9th position on the ladder with 16 points and remain 10 points out of the top 5. This Sunday's game against APIA Leichhardt FC is crucial in the context of the season and our semi-final hopes.

Our under 20's have been outstanding in the first half of the season and currently sit third on the table. The 20's had a draw last week and will be looking forward to returning to the winners circle as they look to stay in touch with top spot. Please arrive early and support our 20's team.

The club wants to acknowledge and thank each and every one of our wonderful and loyal sponsors. Without their support, the club does not exist. I also want to acknowledge and thank our wonderful volunteers who turn up at every home game and carry out their roles with a minimum of fuss.

Good luck to both teams and hope you enjoy the match. I look forward to seeing you throughout the second half of the season. "C'mon you Wolves".

Strebre Delovski Chief Executive Officer Wollongong Wolves FC



MATCH PREVIEW

VAPIA LEICHHARDT

The 2019 Runners-up in the Premiership and the Championship winners, APIA Leichhardt travel to the Illawarra region to take on the Wollongong Wolves in Round 16 on Sunday 19th June. The two teams have and the Wolves have scored ten (WW) and fifteen goals (A) against each other since 2018 with a goal per game ratio of 2.0 and 3.0 respectively. The very first meeting was in Round 7 of the NSL in 1981 with the result being a 1-1 draw with Peter Tredinnick (WW) and Zdenko Kafka achieving the goals. The initial NSW Premier League encounter eventuated in the 2004/05 season with the result being a victory 1-0 to APIA with the scorer being Martin Vass.

The club was also the initial second tier club to defeat A-League opposition in the FFA Cup on two occasions after defeating Western Sydney Wanderers 2-1 in the 2021 Round of 16. In a prior year, Melbourne Victory was the other team that was disposed of. A stunning long range forty metre free kick from Tynan Diaz zoomed over the WSW custodian who was off his line, into the goal. Clearly Western Sydney Wanderers had not done their homework as Diaz had enacted this for the Wolves in the 2008 NSW Premier League Grand Final, albeit from thirty meters.

This fixture therefore should be a compelling contest.

THE OPPOSITION TODAY - A.P.I.A. LEICHHARDT FC

Former Parramatta Eagles, Sutherland Shark and Wollongong Wolves player, Danial Cummins took over as coach for his second stint at Lambert Park from John Calleja for the FFA Cup Rounds in latter part of 2021 and after the pandemic lockdown Round 3 in 2021 and beyond. New recruits club for 2021 include striker Jason Romero from the USA, Fabian Monge from Sydney Olympic via Xanthi and Diego Celis from Argentina and Chile.

One of many honours that APIA have won is the 1966 Australian Cup victory by defeating Hakoah 2-0 at Wentworth Park in Sydney. This team comprised of Bill Rorke, Cliff Van Blerk, George Nuttall, Pat Hughes, Jim Sambrook, Phil Bottalico, John Giacometti, Ricardo Campana, John Watkiss, Archie Blue and Billy Kerlaan.

In the 2021 abandoned season, APIA was in eighth position on twenty-one points earned from six wins and three draws when the competition was curtailed. The team scored twenty goals with Franco Parisi and Blake Powell top scoring with four apiece with ten players in all contributing in the scoring. The team conceded twenty-one goals. The goal per game ratio was 1.23. Five the team posted nil scores, with the quickest goal being in the fifteenth minute of Round 13 by Peter Kekeris, Kekeris, Parisi and Powell were multiple scorers in a single match with a brace each. The best result was 4-1 in the Round 13 Mt Druitt dance with the least impressive was 1-3 versus Mt Druitt in Round 2. The best result sequence without loss was four matches Rounds 7-10, draw, win, win and win. Team Of The Week selections were Ivan Necevski (2), Sean Symons (2), Paul Galimi (2), Themba Muata-Marlow (2) with Josh Symons, Matthieu Cordier, Franco Parisi, Sam McIllhatton, William Mutch and Harry Callahan with one each. The goal per game ratio was 1.17 and the win/loss ratio was 0.42.

APIA in the last five seasons has finished in 1st, 1st, 2nd, 2nd and 12th position.

THE MATCH UP

Apia has twenty-one victories against the Wolves who number eighteen wins with eighty-four and seventy-five goals respectively with thirteen draws between the two teams.

The score line, which has occurred most often between the two teams, is 1-1 with a nine time eventuality, equalled by 2-1 or 1-2, also on nine occasions with 2-1 having the most occurrences on five. APIA's biggest win was 4-1 in 1983 while in 2014, the Wolves posted their biggest win of 5-1. The most number of goals scored in a single match was eleven with APIA winning 6-5 in 2009.

So far in 2022, the Wolves have sixteen points and have scored twenty-six goals compared to APIA's twenty-nine points and thirty-four goals with the top scorers for each club being Lachlan Scott (WW) and Jason Romero. APIA occupies pole position on the ladder while the Wolves are ninth place. Nine players have contributed to both the Wolves' and APIA's scoring.

Most of APIA's 2022 goals have been scored in the 61'-75' time period with nine occurrences, while conceding most in the 76'-90+' period with six conceded. Conversely, the Wolves have scored six times each in the 61'-75' time frame, while conceding six times in the 76'-90+'. Fifty nine per cent of the Wolves' goals have been scored in the second half, while sixty-one per cent of conceded goals have eventuated in the first half. In APIA's case, most goals scored and conceded have occurred in the second half of matches with sixty-six and fifty-eight per cent respectively.

The last scorer for each team was Sean Symons (A) and Darcy Madden (WW).

In the previous Round 15 match, APIA defeated Blacktown City 1-0 and the Wolves earned a 1-1 draw Sydney Olympic.

The result sequence for each team in the last five matches from earliest to latest is - Wolves - win, loss, loss, draw and draw and APIA - draw, win, loss, win and win.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Sean Symons has scored a number of goals this season and was on the score sheet in the last few APIA matches. In fact, he has scored goals since 2017 consistently from his position as a wide player, He has a strong left foot and can hit ones from outside the box as well as close in. He can curl the ball dexterously and has close ball skills. He will be a dangerous threat to the Wolves.

Centre back Nick Littler is an experienced centre back who defends with steel and conviction and cuts out attacks whether aerial or nearer the ground. He has made assists that have led to goals and has scored a number in addition.

His battle with Symons will go a long way in determining the outcome.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

At Lambert Park in the 2004/05 season on Sunday 20th February 2005 the teams played seventeen minutes before an electrical storm haltered play.

APIA's team comprised of Clint Bolton(GK) Paul Dee, Nathan Moulds, Robert Stanton, Martin Vass,

Jimmy Nikas, Sam La Rocca, Tony Desoro, James Stubbs-Mills, Peter Peralta and a and Norman Tome. Replacements for La Rocca and Peralta were Ben Jenke and Leigh Gunn respectively. The Wolves line-up was Scott Whalan (GK), George Souris, Robbie Cazzolli, Ben Blake, Craig Morton, David Kerr, Daniel Cummins, Adam Hughes, Mineo Bonetig, Paul Harries and Michael Clare. Nick Stavroulakis and Shane McGirr came on for Cummins and Clare with Adrian Alston being the coach.

With torrential rain falling, the Wolves made most of the play though it was a hard fought and torrid encounter. More chances were created by the likes of Bonetig and Kerr trying to set up Harries and Clare. McGirr came close hitting the side netting. APIA defended though stoically until the eighty-eight minute. A corner kick probed into the box and Jenke won a heading duel. The ball went to Nikas who subsequently crossed from the left to Vass. He diving Whalan off the inside of the post. The Wolves kept at it in time remaining, but APIA held on for the slender win.

SCORES AND SCORERS FROM THE PREVIOUS FIVE LEAGUE MEETING

- 1. 2019. APIA 0 defeated by Wolves 3 (Thomas James x3)
- 2. 2019. Wolves 4 (Takeru Okada, Lachlan Scott, Thomas James x2) defeated APIA 0
- 3. 2020. APIA 1 defeated by Wollongong Wolves 4 (Lachlan Scott x2, Bul Juach x2)
- 4. 2021. APIA 2 (Matthieu Cordier, Sean Symons) def Wollongong Wolves 1 (Lachlan Scott)
- 5. 2022. APIA 2 (Sean Symons 83' Jason Romero 93) defeated Wollongong Wolves 0

THREE SELECTED GOALKEEPERS FOR APIA - BILL RORKE, CLINT BOLTON and TONY FRANKEN.

Rorke was in goals for APIA from 1965 to 1970 and in 1965 the team won the Grand Final over St. George 2-0 and won three different cup competitions in 1996. He was an Australian representative in 1965 when the national team took their first foray in World Cup qualifiers.

Bolton played at Lambert Park in the 2004-05 NSW PL season making eleven appearances with his final game coming against the Wolves in Round 11 at the APIA home. Following on from this club he was Sydney FC first custodian in the A-League.

From 1991 to 1992 Franken was the APIA custodian and he made twenty-four appearances. His debut was in Round 1 Wollongong City game and he achieved eleven clean sheets in his first season.

THREE SELECTED GOALKEEPERS FOR WOLLONGONG WOLVES - DEAN ANASTASIADIS, BRODY CRANE and SEAN BILLINGTON.

Anastasiadis came to the Wolves from Carlton was between the sticks for thirty-eight league matches from 2000/01 and 2001/02. He was also in goal for three finals appearances culminating the NSL Grand Final victory over South Melbourne. In this match he was not able to stop a shot by his brother John that came twelve minutes from full time. However, he repelled the South Melbourne attack on many instances including a finger tip save from a Steve Panapoulos shot and denied what looked liked a certain straight after Stuart Young fifty-seventh minute goal. In another instance he turned away a Con Boutsianos forceful shot. After the Wolves he went back to his first senior club, South Melbourne. He made his debut in Round 14 Northern Spirit and his final outing emanated in Round 26 Northern Spirit fixture at North Sydney Oval when he was involved in a collision four minutes in that necessitated an arm in plaster. Anastasiadis had a strong presence, was composed with skilful footwork and touch and strong hands.

Crane was the captain for the club in his two seasons from 2010-2011. He tallied forty-four league games and three cup games. Following the Round 14 APIA Leichhardt adventure, he stated - 'with the way we play I need to sweep the back four quite a lot. On each occasion, I was able to get there just in time, otherwise I would have been in trouble... Yes, I was disappointed to concede the early goal... It was a good performance personally and I'm very happy to battle it out and get a win in the end.... We got better as the game went on definitely.' He came from Blacktown City and went back to the club following his Wolves stint. Crane was an acutely aware goalkeeper who had strong footwork, could bounce back quickly from any error with good

jumping ability. He was adept with his footwork and passes out were with precision.

In the 1985 season, Billington was between the sticks on ten league occasions with his debut being in the Round 7 Marconi match-up. He played one further league game in 1986. In his ten games in 1985 he achieved one clean sheet. His final game and only start in 1986 was in Round 17 Newcastle fixture.

TWO REPRESENTATIVE OF BOTH CLUBS - CHARLIE YANKOS and PETER TREDINNICK.

Yankos played two seasons for APIA Leichardt in 1987 and 1988 totalling forty-four appearances with two goals in his initial season at the Lambert Park club and also gaining a Premiership Winners Medal in 1987. His first game for the club was in 1987's Round 1 St. George match. The central defender played four seasons from 1990/91 to 1993/94 at the Wolves attaining eighty-six appearances with eleven goals in total. His first club game was in the Round 2 Sydney Olympic fixture and his initial goal emanated in the twenty-first minute of the Melbourne Knights Round 6 match at Brandon Park, and he followed up with another in the forty-fifth minute in the same match. The team, with Yankos as a member, made the NSL finals in 19991/92 and 1992/93. Yankos was a strong defender with good interception skills, was good in the air and had a very strong shot as evidenced in the Bi Centennial match for Australia against Argentina.

Tredinnick was an APIA player for two stints in four seasons, 1983 and 1984 and in 1987 and 1988 totalling ninety-eight appearances with a nine goal tally. Earlier he played at the Wolves for two seasons as well, in 1981-1982, with fifty-two starts with five goals in credit. His initial Wolves' goal was in the 1981 Round 3 Footscray fixture at Wollongong Showground while his first APIA strike was in 1983 Round 21 versus West Adelaide with a sixty-first minute strike at Lambert Park. Tredinnick was a tricky player with good acceleration.

By Malcolm Rowney

(Players' comments were taken from interviews conducted by the writer for inclusion in his match reports at the time.)



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FEATURE STORY

CLEAR IT OUT - PART 2

Being on the line of the goal domain when the custodian is not that close, the only option for a defender is to 'clear it out.' Following on from the first part of this article when these players were identified as Dave Abel, Jeff Allport, Lisandro Berbis, Robert Cazzoli, Nikola Djordjevic, Chris Dunleavy, David Green, Steve Hayes, Dax Kelly, George Souris and Jacob Timpano.

This Part 2 component of the article displays further players who have saved the team's bacon at crucial time. Some of these players have enacted this on multiple occasions, some even in the same match or had instances that were brought to the reader's attention in Part 1.

The latest player to be present on the line to thwart the opposition scoring was Senna Stevenson in 2022 Round 11. At Seymour Shaw Park, Miranda for the Sutherland Sharks sojourn, the Sharks threw down the gauntlet in the final twenty minutes of the match as they attempted to get an equalizer or indeed that and a winner versus a ten-man team. A Shark striker, who was difficult to deal with, looked likely to goal only for Stevenson to be perfectly placed to ultimately deny assisting in the vital victory.

In the 2020 NSWPL Mens 1 Semi-Final, Sydney United 58's Matthew Sim whipped a cross in and it probably would have lodged into the goal only for Josh Bingham. Being on the line at the near post the striker was able to head away to safety.

Against Canberra side Downer Olympic in the 1981 NSL Cup, on the half hour, Jeff Ainsworth blocked a Phil Redmond shot on the line with custodian Jim Preston not in the hunt. In the second half, Downer wide player Oscar Sangone looked very likely to score. However, Bill De Graaf performed a spectacular acrobatic overhead kick with just centimetres to spare, in keeping the Downer player's attempt out.

At the near post, Sydney Olympic's corner kick was curled in and very nearly went in. This action was in the 2017 Round 20 fixture. However, Brendan Griffin was positioned effectively to boot the ball away and prevent the Olympic opportunity.

In the Tiger Turf Cup Round 3 home match versus Greenisland FC in 2007, substitute Jasci had Wolves' custodian Nathan Denham spread-eagled on the ground but it was fortuitous for the Wolves that Wayne Heath managed to get there on the line in time and save the day for a clean sheet.

A 1982 Round 5 Ampol Cup match against Polonia saw defender Ray Vlietstra, who was positioned perfectly to clear off the line the danger that was presented by Polonia striker, Bogdan Wieniewski's fine header.

Round 1 of the 2014 season saw the Wolves taking on Blacktown City at WIN Stadium. With Blacktown already having four goals in the bag, in a crowded penalty area, it was midfielder Sam Matthews who was in the perfect position on the goal line to deny the opposition from scoring a fifth at this stage, even they ended up doing so in the final minute of the game.

Away to Marconi in 1983, Jeff Ainsworth was in the correct position to frustrate Marconi's Jay O'Rourke from converting his opportunity.

When the Wolves played Sydney Olympic at Belmore Sports Ground in the Round 12 of the 2012 competition, it was Chris Triantis on twenty-two minutes who looked to double his team's score two minutes after the initial conversion. His free kick had beaten the Wolves' custodian Daniel Collison. But Jacob Timpano being on the line to block and deny the Olympic striker.

In the 1981 Round 14 Canberra City match at Wollongong Showground custodian Natch Vardareff was beaten by Scottish player Ian Purdie but the Wolves' Jeff Ainsworth was present on the line to head out and save a good goal attempt.

Defender Nick McInerney was in position to intervene in the 2010 Round 15 Sydney United 58 clash at WIN Stadium. Wolves' custodian Brody Crane hands were stung by a Mirjan Pavlovic targeted effort. With the Sydney United midfielder Steve Hayes rushing in order to push the loose ball home it was McInerney on the line to defuse the threat.

Following Sutherland Sharks Tomohiro Kajiyama's cross in the 2017 Round 19 Sutherland Sharks sojourn, Hayden Morton was right on the line to intervene and keep Kajiyama's strike out.

Versus Marconi in 1982 Round 18 at Wollongong Showground, both Jeff Ainsworth and Chris Dunleavy cleared off the line shots by John Bradley and Terry Butler to assist custodian Jim Preston.

A shot from Mt Druitt Town Rangers in the 2021 season Round 3 game caused consternation in the Wolves' defence at Albert Butler Park. The away team seemed close to securing the lead in the scoreless first half. However, Nikola Djordjevic put in a clearance to rebuff the Rangers' scoring opportunity and keep his team with a clean sheet, which ultimately eventuated by the end of the encounter.

A total of four dangerous shots were cleared off the line in the one match in 1982. At Wollongong Showground in Round 29 against Sydney Olympic, Arno Bertogna saved his team twice before Jeff Ainsworth got into the act with Jim Preston beaten. A final minute shot was projected and Bertogna was perfectly position once again to thwart.

In a match with Blacktown City in Round 8 of the 2021 season, central defender Nikola Djordjevic projected the ball off the line as Blacktown attacked.

Even though the away team was repelled at this stage at Albert Butler Memorial Park, they took a further six minutes before they scored their first with four more to come.

At John Crehan Park for the Round 14 match in 2007 with Marconi Stallions this away team looked probable to score as the Wolves' custodian Zlatko Josevski was out of his domain in order to cut off an attacking foray. The ball came in once more with Steve Hayes being perfectly positioned close in to project a header away to safety.

In the first half of the final match of the 1984 season, John Fleming was in the optimum position to deny the Newcastle strikers at Adamstown Oval as custodian Ron Tilsed was not able to repel at these times. In the second instance, striker Simon Brandt was in a prime position to score and it looked positively likely only for Fleming to get there in the nick of time to disallow.

The 2014 Waratah Cup Round 5 meeting with Sutherland Sharks at Hooka Creek Park (Macedonia Park) was an encounter that ended up going into extra time and then penalties. With a 0-0 score line



at the time, the Sharks' Matthew Gordon moved inward before getting the ball to Panni Nikas. He in turn produced a shot that zoomed towards the Wolves' goal. The custodian Tom Hamilton did not manage to get to it. However, Ben Zucco was there to deter it from entering his team's domain, thereby steering the ball away and out of harm's way.

The Tiger Turf Cup Final in 2007 was played at Seymour Shaw Park between the Wolves and Manly United. The Wolves went close to conceding when Wolves' custodian Zlatko Josevski parried substitute Manly attacker Craig Midgley's shot. He was scurrying back into position when the ball was projected back again towards the goal. However, Wolves' defender Matt Hunter was there to prevent the ball from entering his team's domain.

The 2021 FFA Cup Round Of 16 saw the Wolves take on the Central Coast Mariners. In the second half, a Marco Urena strong effort looked to be goal bound and custodian Hayden Durose's domain was about to be breached. However, central defender Nick Littler was positioned to thwart.

At Ilinden Sports Centre Rockdale City were the opponents for the Wolves in 2018 Round 13 clash. With a 1-1 score at half time, the Wolves' custodian lustin Pasfield ventured out of his domain to defuse

an attacking foray. However, Michael Neill projected the ball back on target with an empty goal at his mercy. Wolves' central defender Michael Robinson was having none of this and he got back in time on the line to head it away and save.

In the FFA Cup Round of 32 in 2014, Central Coast Mariners' Eddie Bosnar provided a shot which had custodian Daniel Collison beaten. However, Sam Matthews was right in position to prevent the ball from entering the Wolves' domain.

An APIA striker's shot from five metres away looked home and hosed at Lambert Park in this Round 8 in 2007. However, Ben Blake was on the job and he certainly cleared it out to safety.

'Clear it out' is the mantra for members of the defensive set-up and these players did just that to save their team. These following players - Jeff Ainsworth, Arno Bertogna, Josh Bingham, Ben Blake, Bill De Graaf, Nikola Djordjevic, Chris Dunleavy, John Fleming, Brendan Griffin, Steve Hayes, Wayne Heath, Matt Hunter, Nick Littler, Sam Matthews, Nick McInerney, Hayden Morton, Michael Robinson, Senna Stevenson, Jacob Timpano and Ben Zucco, have done their respective teams a sterling service to enhance their defensive reputations.

By Malcolm Rowney













FEATURE STORY

FOR PETE'S SAKE

Seven players named Peter have played for the Wollongong Wolves since 1981 and 'for Pete's sake' these are their histories and contributions as a representative of the club. On occasions four of these players played in the same match. This initial one occurred in the 1984 Round 3 Brisbane City clash at Spencer Street in Brisbane.

A striker in the 1984 season of the National Soccer League made twenty-five starting appearances and scored two goals. This player was Peter Beggs. His debut was in the Round 1 Canberra Arrows assignment at Bruce Stadium. His first goals emanated in the Round 9 win against Newcastle at Wollongong Showground. The team had worked the ball down the right side until it got to Alex Bundalo. He guided the ball in and Beggs was in position to project a flicking header in to the goal. His other goal was achieved in the Round 16 Brisbane Lions encounter at Towradgi Park. A Lions' defender in the box restrained Kotamanidis and a penalty kick ultimately ensued. Beggs dispatched the resultant spot kick perfectly to put his team ahead with nine minutes left in the proceedings. Kotamanidis was a member of the victorious 1987 and 1988 sides.

Beggs as a striker was quick with a good touch, positioned himself to take advantage when in goal range and took the game to opposition defences.

With the NSL being folded, the Wolves were back into the NSW Premier League competition and midfielder Peter Gaffney was a member in this 2004/05 season team. He made seven appearances all from the bench with his debut being in the Round 10 Rockdale rendezvous. His final game was against Sydney Crescent Star in Round 22. Gaffney was the mastermind behind the second goal in the 2005 Continental Tyres Cup Quarter Final match up with St.George. He made ground eluding players before passing an incisive pass to Tynan Diaz who went on to turn his marker and lob the custodian for the ball to lodge into the goal. Gaffney show acceleration and was willing to take on players.

With seven seasons with the club in two stints with a brief sojourn of two matches at Sydney Olympic after the first three seasons, and with a total of one hundred and twenty-five appearances for the club, this midfield player was Peter Kotamanidis. With the total of appearances, twenty-seven were from the bench. Fourteen goals were his tally with eight of these being attained in his first season, 1984. His initial goal was scored at Dapto Showground versus Sydney United with four minutes left on the clock. Alex Bundalo made an enterprising run before sending David Green on an overlapping run down the right. He produced an enticing cross, which Kotamanidis duly headed into the goal. His final club goal was in his penultimate season, 1989, when he came on to score as a substitute. With the instigation of David Skeen, in the heavy conditions. Rade Stefanovski was wide on the right side, before providing a cross, which Kotamanidis latched onto to head and change the scoreboard. As a midfielder. Kotamanidis had good vision, was skilful on the ball and an accurate passer who was involved in much of the play.

This striker played four times for the Wolves in the 1984 NSL season with one starting appearance and three from the substitutes bench. Peter Kukulovski's debut was from the bench in the Round 1 Canberra Arrows clash at Bruce Stadium on 4th March. His starting appearance was in Round 5 versus Sydney Olympic at Wollongong Showground, a game in which three Peters took to the field. Kukulovski was able to get into space, put pressure on opposing defences and possessed good passing technique.

Defender, Peter Murray played for the Wolves in the 1994/95 season achieving sixteen starts and three from the bench. He scored one league goal, which was against Brunswick Juventus. It was a penalty conversion in the thirty-ninth minute following an Adrian Cervinski shot being tipped over by the hand of a defender who was subsequently sent for an early shower. Murray's Wolves debut was in Round 1 with Marconi-Fairfield being the opposition with Round 25 being his final hit-out. In addition, he scored one goal in a Cup tie. Murray as a defender was solid in making goal saving tackles, and was instrumental in clearing danger with his aerial ability and clearance kicks and was composed on the ball.

This striker began his first grade career as a fifteen year old in the 2009 season and went on to play a further eight years with the club, leaving the club for Sydney United after the 2018 season. His debut was as a substitute for Corev Gameiro in the Round 19 Manly home game coming on in the eightyeighth minute with his full debut occurring in the final round against Blacktown City, a match in which Peter Simonoski scored his initial goal. A right-sided corner kick was taken with the ball falling to Jamie McMaster who lifted the ball to Simonoski and he duly slotted home. Simonoski following his full debut match- 'It was a good cross that came in. I had a shot that went in and I was pleased with my debut. This level is a lot more physical and faster as well than what I am used to.' He tallied forty-eight goals from ninety-four league games with a goal per ratio of 0.51 and eighteen cup appearances with nine goals. He was a multiple scorer in a single game with a Cup and league treble against Spirit FC and Marconi Stallions with three braces versus Parramatta FC. Sutherland Sharks and Hakoah Sydney City East. In addition Simonoski was the equal top scorer in 2012 and on top singly in 2015. After three seasons away, he has rejoined the club in 2021 following the pandemic lockdown and will continue to score goals. Simonoski is a good link up wide player who has guick acceleration and a strikers' sense of positioning for goal strikes and has ability to elude players with his deft touch, leading the line in both scoring and creating goals. Simonoski was back at the Wolves in late 2021 for the friendly with Sydney FC and the Round 32 and 16 of the FFA Cup where one goal was scored. In 2022, He scored two goals in the league and two in the Australia Cup early rounds. He scored against Blacktown City in Round 10. Joshua Macdonald was out on the left when Lachlan Scott passed to him. After Macdonald had moved in a forward direction, he angled the ball to the right for Simonoski. He received the ball with his back to the goal. He took a further couple of touches before moving to the right and letting go with a powerful shot that zoomed into the top right corner of the goal. 'The goal was coming. I had a few chances the last couple of weeks... Someone said turn, so I thought I would back myself and hit it. I will take it'.

A midfielder played two seasons with the Wolves in 1981 and 1982 with fifty-two appearances with a six goal haul. Peter Tredinnick began his Wolves' career in the Round 1 Sydney Olympic sojourn at Wollongong Showground. His first goal was scored in the Round 3 home game with Footscray. It occurred in the seventy-first minute after he eluded a defender before striking the ball from twenty metres out. The ball lodged in at the far corner of the goal. A twelfth minute goal was his final one in 1982 at Marconi Stadium. Alan Waldron provided a pinpoint cross for Tredinnick to head home. Tredinnick was a fast forward with the requisite skill to take on defenders, had good technique for passing and linked up well with his teammates.

With a five season stint from 1981 to 1985 achieving one hundred and fourteen appearances that includes two from the bench and ten goals in the kick, Peter Willis was a feature in defence from Round 8 in 1981 when playing West Adelaide at Hindmarsh Stadium. His initial goal occurred in Round 16 against Sydney City at Sydney Athletic Field in the 1982 season and his final score was in 1985 Round 20 versus St. George when he converted a penalty kick. As a defender, Willis was a strong tackler with a powerful shot when taking spot kicks with good crossing ability.

The players named Peter Beggs, Peter Gaffney, Peter Kotamanidis, Peter Kukulovski, Peter Murray, Peter Simonoski, Peter Tredinnick and Peter Willis, gave their all for the red and whites and 'for Pete's sake', their contributions have assisted the club.

By Malcolm Rowney

(Player quotes were originally taken in post match interviews conducted by the writer for inclusion in his match reports of the time.)

PROUDLY SUPPORTING JUNIOR FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT



















IST GRADE TEAM LISTS



- 2 Daniel Goni
- 3 Darcy Madden
- 4 Nikola Djordjevic
- 5 Banri Kanaizumi
- 6 Senna Stevenson
- 8 Brendan Griffin
- 9 Peter Simonoski
- 10 Takumu Tsujimura
- 11 Josh Macdonald
- 12 Harrison Taranto
- 13 Tomas Butkovic
- 14 Nicholas Duarte
- 15 Nick Littler
- 16 Guy Knight
- 17 James Stojcevski
- 18 Evan Ball
- 19 lake Lavalle
- 20 Kuot Maliet
- 21 Jacob Madden
- 22 Leroy Jennings
- 24 Lachlan Scott
- 25 Nav Darjani

Coach: Luke Wilkshire

Assistant Coach: Matheus Scapin

Senior Managers: Chris Keller and Mark

Wilkshire

Equipment Manager: Egor Dolgopolov

GK Coach: John Krajnovic

1 Ivan Necevski

3 Paul Galimi

4 Josh Symons

5 Nick Azzone

6 Simon Nicholas

7 Matthew Cahill

8 Diego Celis

9 Jason Romero

10 Franco Parisi

14 Jack Armson

15 Themba Muata-Marlow

16 Sean Symons

18 Adrian Ucchino

19 Fabian Monge

20 Nathanael Blair

21 Michael Kouta

22 Luke Turnbull

23 Walter Scott

38 Yianni Nicolaou

Head Coach: Danial Cummins

Assistant Coaches: John Calleja and

Valerio Silvestro

Goalkeeper Coach: Bronislav Jasiczek

Club Physios: Michael Sawan and

Isaiah Martins

Club S and C: Stelios Pikoulias

Club Official: Andrew Mandaglio

Data and Analysis: Steve Callas

Referee:
Assistant Referees:
Fourth Official:

Craig Fisher

Bradley Wright and Brodie Merchant

Jake Rose

1ST GRADE LADDER

POS	TEAM	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
1	APIA Leichhardt FC	15	9	2	4	34	23	11	29
2	Sydney Olympic FC	15	8	4	3	28	18	10	28
3	Manly United FC	15	8	4	3	22	13	9	28
4	Sydney FC	15	7	5	3	43	33	10	26
5	Marconi Stallions FC	15	7	5	3	34	25	9	26
6	Blacktown City FC	15	7	3	5	26	19	7	24
7	Rockdale Ilinden FC	15	7	3	5	26	23	3	24
8	Sydney United 58 FC	15	6	3	6	23	32	-9	21
9	Wollongong Wolves FC	15	4	4	7	26	26	0	16
10	Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC	15	2	5	8	26	41	-15	11
11	Sutherland Sharks FC	15	3	0	12	16	30	-14	9
12	Northbridge Bulls FC	15	2	2	11	24	45	-21	8





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FEATURE STORY

FIVE

Following are the 'five' quickest goals that Wollongong Wolves players have achieved in play off finals matches in the club's history. Four of these representatives were strikers with one being a central defender. The goals will be highlighted in reverse order.

The fifth quickest goal was scored in the twenty-fourth minute of the 1999/00 Major Semi-Final by a Fijian national team player at the venue of Brandon Park played on 4th June 2000. The opposition was Carlton FC and Esala Masi headed the ball in for his team's initial goal of the encounter for his thirteenth goal of the campaign.

It was in the 2008 Major Semi-Final against Sydney Olympic, played on Friday, 15th August, that this striker scored in the thirteenth minute. A through ball provided by Ballamodou Conde allowed Ilija Prenzoski to scoot from the right side towards the goal to ram his shot past the custodian and for his team to take the early lead. This goal was the first of two for the Semi-Final and his twelfth overall in the season. He went on to score one more as the Finals matches continued.

This goal was seven minutes faster than the previous one, coming in the 2000/01 Major Semi-Final 1st Leg, scored six minutes after the opening whistle against South Melbourne. Sasho Petrovski attained his goal at WIN Stadium on the 11th May 2001. The

striker had tallied twenty-two up until this stage of the season. Further in the play offs, he scored an additional two goals.

In the runners-up position was the goal attained in the third minute in the 1992/93 1st Leg Semi-Final versus Parramatta Eagles with the venue being Marconi Stadium. It was central defender Mike O'Shea who got his team to an early advantage when he achieved his goal, his fourth of the campaign.

The quickest goal ever in a Wolves play off series was achieved in the very first minute of the 1987 NSW Premier League Grand Final played at Parramatta Stadium on Sunday 27th September. Before some patrons had taken their seat, Robert Giraldi gave his team an early advantage. From a free kick taken by Rade Stefanovski, the ball flew to Giraldi and he rose to head home beating the despairing Canberra City custodian. This was Giraldi's seventeenth goal of the season.

The 'five' fastest times of goals scored in play-offs ranged from the quick first minute to the a longer twenty-fourth, a wide scope of timings, with Robert Giraldi, Esala Masi, Mike O'Shea, Sasho Petrovski, Ilija Prenzoski being the achievers in 1987, 1999/00, 1993/94, 2000/01 and 2008, four of these seasons being Championship years.

By Malcolm Rowney



TEAM OF THE WEEK









+524 GAMES LIVE & ON-DEMAND







FEATURE STORY

SPIRIT

The Round 7 Australia Cup draw in 2022 designated that NSW Spirit FC was to play against the Wollongong Wolves. This match was scheduled on the Thursday 16th June 2022 and to be played at Christie Park. Previously, these two clubs have met three times along the way in the cup. These encounters occurred in 2010, 2015 and 2018 with the results being two victories to the 'Spirit' and one to the Wolves.

GHFA Spirit was a follow on from Northern Spirit, which played in the National Soccer League of Australia from 1997, which had Graham Arnold and Robbie Slater amongst others. In 2004 following the end of the NSL, the former youth teams of Northern Spirit were assembled in the new Gladesville Hornsby Football Association. In 2019 the GHFA merged with North West Sydney Women's Football Association to form North West Sydney Football. In 2015, Spirit FC were crowned Premiers of NPL NSW Mens 2 but did meet the criteria for promotion. NWS Spirit was in sixth position on the Mens 2 ladder after sixteen rounds when the 2021 season was called off due to the pandemic.

On the 9th June 2010 at Christine Park, the Wolves were Nikodin Matic in goal, Alex Mansueto, Nick McInerney, Tayfun Buyukkopru, Jason Trifiro, Andrew Paine, Chris Nathaniel, Andres Gomez, Shaun Van Rooyen, Nick Littler and Jared Fish. Greg Valic, and Andrew Keep came on for Littler and McInerney with the coach being Trevor Jordan. A penalty was given to the Spirit in the fourteenth minute and Daniel Cunningham duly converted with a well-directed effort. The Wolves could not gain an equaliser and a minute short of the hour Ben Gough made the Wolves' task more difficult when he goaled.

The second meeting was in 2015 at John Crehan Park Cringila on the 15th April 2015. Wolves' coach Nahuel Arrarte sent out Thomas Hamilton (GK), Dhari Al Saad, Darcy Madden, Brendan Griffin, James Baldacchino, David Stojic (Capt), James O'Rourke, Jordan Murray, Sam Matthews, Shannon Fielding and Ben Zucco as the team. Bradley Welch, Peter Simonoski and Cameron Soleski came on for Murray, Fielding and Zucco respectively. Spirit's coach John Lafferty selected the team as David Lowery (GK), Tom Lovell, Nicholas Trimble, Henry Wells, Grant Cornwell, Ryan Johnstone, Lord

Darkoh, Jacob Harris, Kuag Reeve, Ossama Zaki and Adam Servetta. Abraham Majok and Brad Gibson subbed on for Wells and Zaki respectively.

Spirit caused concern for the Wolves when they went ahead on twenty-four minutes through a Wolves' mistake. A defender received a pass in space and without any discernible pressure. He turned and passed the ball straight to Reeve who was level but a few metres to his right. Reeve, who was surprised at his good fortune, moved forward and dispatched the ball on target. It flew powerfully into the goal beating a despairing Hamilton. At half time Spirit held the upper hand. It took until the sixty-first minute until there was a change to the scoreboard. Striker Simonoski was brought on at the beginning of the second half and another striker Welch was introduced and it was he was bundled over in the penalty error after Trimble had inconvenienced. Simonoski took the resultant spot kick, lodging the ball high into the goal. The Wolves hit the lead through another penalty twenty-one minutes after the first. Servetta went down following his tackle on Stojic and was adjudged to have hand balled. Simonoski's second spot went in the same direction as the first. This striker put paid to Spirit's chances of a comeback, when he achieved his hat trick a minute into time added on. A clearance came off the custodian Lowery who was off his line. The ball fell to Simonoski who followed through. In control, he sent the ball into the goal. Even though the team was two goals in arrears their will to win did not waiver. Arrarte - 'It was a pretty scrappy game from our end and obviously they are a top side, Top of the table and have a number of decent players. We did not play well but scored three goals and showed a lot of character.' Simonoski - 'It was a team effort. The boys set me up and I was good enough to finish them off. The last one was a bit of a gift.' Coach Lafferty - '1-0 at half time and we wanted to go and finish it off in the second half. It was no good just sitting back against a Mens 1 team and hoping to work it out. To be fair, I don't like blaming referees and we find all the excuses in the world but I thought the first one was fifty-fifty and the second one in my opinion was not a deliberate handball and that got the Wolves back into the game. Credit to the Wolves, though. We came here to play football, we pressed high and if we can't play out we will try and find something. It is not long play and just kick and hope....It was closer than the scores indicate.'

In 2018 the clubs were at it again in Round 5 of the FFA Cup. The teams were Luke Kairies (GK), Taylor McDonald, Darcy Madden, James Baldacchino, Brendan Griffin, Peter Simonoski, (Capt.) Joshua Macdonald, Caoimhim Fowler, Ryan Ensor, Steve Hayes and Yuzo Tashiro. Ethan Kambisios, Takuya Nozawa and Tory Musumeci replaced Griffin, Fowler and Hayes. The coach was Jacob Timpano. GHFA Spirit was McKenzie Byron (GK), Jacob Harris, Grant Cornwell, Jayden Young, Ahmed Sweedan, Emilio Monos, Samuel De Oliveira, Masdon Ireland, James Duff, Sidya Malhutra and Adam Nisbet. Louis Bozanic, Andrew Robertson and Ryan Johnstone subbed for De Oliveira, Duff and Nisbet, with David Perkovic being the coach.

The Wolves began confidently spaying around passes and the Spirit moved up quickly to harass the ball players. The Wolves made early inroads and in the seventh minute the home side went ahead at || Kelly Park Coniston. Minutes prior, a Simonoski short was taken by Byron caught it and Ensor produced a long ball into the box, which caused consternation before the ball was cleared. Fowler became in possession to the left of centre. He took a touch from outside the penalty. His ensuing left footed shot zoomed into the goal, giving the custodian little chance of preventing. Twenty minutes later it was game on as Spirit received a penalty kick after an infringement in a crowded box. Harris duly converted with a strong effort. On the half hour Spirit surged ahead. With many people in the penalty area, Sweedan managed to project the ball over the goal frame line. Another penalty was awarded to Spirit. Harris steeped once again and he attempted to bury his opportunity and sure up the upset victory. However, Kairies picked the right direction, diving to make a fine save. Nozawa hit the cross bar unluckily for his team and this was the closest chance. The Wolves were left to rue their efforts and Spirit pulled off a gigantic win to progress further in the competition. Custodian Kairies -'It was disappointing and our performance was not up to it and we should have been better as a team. They were a NPL 2 team up against us and we did not match them. I got lucky with that (penalty save). The first one was a clear penalty but the second was a

bit soft. I'm glad I came through for the boys.' Coach Timpano -' It was not good enough. The boys had enough opportunities to win the game and the guys out there were good enough to do this. It was cup football and some players have made my selection for the weekend quite easy.'

Cup games can throw up results that upset the apple cart with the lesser credential team winning at times. That is the beauty of these types of competitions though not all supporters would agree when their team is affected. Spirit FC has won two out of three meetings and when these two sides meet it is game on. Kudos to the goal scorers of these matches - Daniel Cunningham (S), Ben Gough (S), Peter Simonoski (W), Kuag Reeve (S), 'Quivi' Fowler (W), Jacob Harris (S) and Anthony Sweedan (S).

As for this Cup contest, it remains to be seen what transpired on the 16th June 2022.

By Malcolm Rowney

(Player and coach quotes were taken from the interviews taken by the writer for inclusion in his match reports at the time.)



U20 TEAM LISTS



- 1 Tommy Butkovic
- 2 Ben Giason
- 3 Ryan Mrvcic
- 4 Dax Kelly
- 5 Senna Stevenson
- 6 Nicholas Kalule
- 7 Thomas Dunn
- 8 Luke Dearsley
- 9 Denim Nou
- 10 Nico Duarte
- 11 Josh Fields
- 12 Michael Manyoun

Coach: Aaron Kellaway

Assistant Coach: Juan Chazaretta Manager: Warren McWhirter GK Coach: John Krajnovic



- 24 Sebastian Boffa
- 25 Massimo Melissari
- 26 Joshua Azzopardi
- 27 Dylan Chau
- 28 Marcus Apostolakis
- 29 Daniel Azzone
- 30 Gene Marantos
- 31 Matt Lee
- 32 Alex Bardas
- 33 Harry Stavris
- 34 Cooper Stormonth
- 35 Dylan Susovic
- 37 Alexander Zinnato
- 39 Anthony Kyriazis
- 40 James Khoury
- 41 Konstantin Petkovic

Coach: Anthony Mazza

Assistant Coach: Johnathan Webb

Manager: Pierre Sassine Official: Joe Mirigliani

U20 LADDER

POS	TEAM	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	PTS
1	Blacktown City FC	13	9	3	1	30	8	22	30
2	Sydney FC	12	8	2	2	33	13	20	26
3	Wollongong Wolves FC	15	7	3	5	23	18	5	24
4	Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC	11	7	2	2	33	17	16	23
5	Sydney Olympic FC	13	6	2	5	18	17	1	20
6	Marconi Stallions FC	14	6	2	6	22	22	0	20
7	Northbridge Bulls FC	15	6	2	7	21	26	-5	20
8	Manly United FC	13	6	1	6	19	18	1	19
9	APIA Leichhardt FC	14	4	4	6	19	23	-4	16
10	Rockdale Ilinden FC	15	3	5	7	22	36	-14	14
11	Sutherland Sharks FC	14	4	2	8	16	30	-14	14
12	Sydney United 58 FC	15	2	0	13	12	40	-28	6

GOLDEN BOOT TALLY

Name (Team)	Goals
Marko Jesic (Marconi)	14
Jaiden Kucharski (Sydney FC)	14
Alec Urosevski (Rockdale Ilinden)	14
Roy O'Donovan (Sydney Olympic)	13
Jason Romero (APIA)	10
Sean Symons (APIA)	10
Bruno Mendes (Manly United)	9
Lachlan Scott (Wollongong Wolves)	9
Jordan Smylie (Blacktown City)	8
Jack Stewart (Mt Druitt Town Rangers)	8



NEXT ROUND FIXTURES

APIA LEICHHARDT FC VS SYDNEY FC 5:30 PM / SAT 25 JUN

LAMBERT PARK

WOLLONGONG WOLVES FC VS MANLY UNITED FC

6:00 PM / SAT 25 JUN **WIN STADIUM**

MARCONI STALLIONS FC VS MT DRUITT TOWN RANGERS FC

7:00 PM / SAT 25 JUN **MARCONI STADIUM**

BLACKTOWN CITY FC VS NORTHBRIDGE BULLS FC

3:00 PM / SUN 26 JUN **BLACKTOWN CITY SPORTS CENTRE**

ROCKDALE ILINDEN FC VS SYDNEY UNITED 58 FC 4:00 PM / SUN 26 JUN **ROCKDALE ILINDEN SPORTS CENTRE**

SYDNEY OLYMPIC FC VS SUTHERLAND SHARKS FC 4:00 PM / SUN 26 JUN **BELMORE SPORTS GROUND**







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FIXTURES 2022 HOME GAMES



HOME GROUND - WIN Stadium 46 Harbour St, Wollongong NSW 2500

7:30 PM Sydney FC Fri, 18th Mar R3 Fri, 25th Mar 7:30 PM Sydney Olympic FC R4 Fri, 22nd Apr 7:30 PM Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC R8 Fri, 6th May 7:30 PM Blacktown City FC **R10** Sun, 22nd May Sydney United 58 **R10** 3:00 PM Albert Butler Memorial Park 7:30 PM Fri, 27th May Northbridge Bulls FC **R13**

Fri, 17th Jun APIA Leichhardt FC 7:30 PM **R16** Sat. 25th lun 6:00 PM Manly United FC **R17** Fri, 1st Jul 7:30 PM Rockdale Ilinden FC **R18** Fri, 15th Jul 7:30 PM Marconi Stallions FC **R20** 3:00 PM Sutherland Sharks FC Sun, 31st lui **R22**



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NIDI NICVA

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