

Extra Time

Brisbane's Soccer Magazine

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Soccerroo Coach Frank Farina
displays his exceptional
taste in literature!

ExtraTime

Brisbane's Soccer Magazine

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Editor's Comment

At the BMS General Meeting last month the club delegates voted to have ExtraTime continue as the 'official' local soccer magazine next season. Thanks to all those who voted and we will do our best to continually improve the publication as we go into 2005.

To club officials, players or supporters reading this column I would ask one thing. If there are any news items or stories concerning your club that are worthy of publication then please let us know and we will run it. It's impossible to make monthly calls to all clubs to find news so we are relying on you to pass the information to us. This could take many forms, whether it be coach or player changes, upcoming events, or anything else that is newsworthy, anecdotal or humorous. We need to generate our own publicity and we can all play a part in that.

Free Stuff!

Talking of publicity, the next issue of ExtraTime (Sept) will be the last one for this year. Many clubs will be looking to recruit coaches and players so next month ExtraTime will run **FREE CLASSIFIEDS** to any clubs wishing to place an advert to begin their search. All we ask is that you restrict your text to about 50 words and please include all relevant contact details. Email your text to **extratime@odyssey.com.au** ('classified ad' in the subject line please) by **August 20th**.

For the Good of the Game

In the middle of September we will learn who will be our Brisbane rep in the new APL, due to start with a 'soft launch' in early 2005.

Whatever your preference, or whatever your opinion, one thing is certain - this could well be the last shot that Australian soccer gets at elevating itself to any kind of level of credibility. Whoever is chosen as our APL team must have the support of all of us. It will be time for the soccer community to display objectivity like never before. 'For the Good of the Game' is the FIFA motto, and one that we must embrace ourselves. It's no good complaining in 5 years time about how nothing has changed in our sport if we do not actively support our local side. Some will have deep-seated 'issues' with the successful applicant, whether it be the Lions or the Strikers, but we have to try and draw a line under the past the moment the ASA make their decision. We are about to enter a new era in the Australian game so it's time to wipe the slate clean and put aside any prejudices. Hard for some to do I know, but it's 'put up or shut up' time for our code.

To stand any kind of chance of attaining credibility and respectability in the world football family we must have a robust national competition. Otherwise we have little hope of being regular qualifiers to the World Cup and virtually no chance of ever hosting one. Who says so? Not just the editor of this humble rag, but the gov'nor of FIFA himself, Sepp Blatter.

LOCAL news

Well the fat lady cranked up the vocal chords and the champagne was on ice yet again at Heath Park as Lions tried to finally seal the 2004 Premiership. Easts had other ideas though and inflicted a first league defeat of the year on the reigning champions with a spirited display that thoroughly deserved the 3 points.

Lions' record this season speaks for itself but the APL hopefuls have stuttered somewhat in recent weeks. Of course it has only delayed the inevitable for a short while as there is no doubt about the destiny of the title.

The race for the remaining 3 finals places appears done and dusted but there is still plenty to play for as none of the sides that make the finals series will want to meet the Lions in the semi-final. Pine Rivers and Rochedale have been slugging it out for several weeks to try and cement the runners-up slot and Mitchelton have seen a welcome return to form recently after suffering from a few mid-season jitters. It seems unlikely now that any of the chasing pack in mid-table can catch the top 4 but as we all know, anything can happen in football.

The situation at the bottom is becoming rather nerve wracking for 3 clubs in particular. Easts seemingly had forgotten how to win prior to the Lions game and Taringa may have left it a little too late to get themselves out of the mire. Souths look gone for all money and will need to rebuild in Division 1 next year. Things went from bad to worse for Peter Bannon's side after an unsavoury incident during the heavy home loss to Qld Lions when the referee was allegedly assaulted by a Souths player.

At this stage it appears that either Easts or Taringa will have to take on the runners-up from Division 1 in the dreaded promotion/relegation play-offs. History has shown that the winning

habit defeats the losing habit and neither side will fancy playing in that all-or-nothing showdown.

ExtraTime again caught up with the Premier League coaches for our regular monthly wrap.

A MONTH OF MOUTH

Eastern Suburbs: Col Bennett

Until we beat Lions it hadn't been a good month for us at all. It's getting harder for us from week to week and we're starting to look at other team's results. We're struggling to get players to training and that's causing us problems. The last few games are going to be tough and we just hope the players can find some spirit inside themselves to get us out of this situation. We have a talented team but I feel the players aren't hurting enough when we lose and they have to stand up and be counted now.

Pine Rivers: Clayton Koch

It's been an indifferent month where we've had a couple of strange weeks but overall I'm happy. We've lost Barry Browett with a bad knee injury which is a big blow for both Barry and the club. On the positive side Koji (Kanagawa) is looking good in the reserves and could be ready for first team action soon. We were aiming to reach the finals again at the start of the season which we've now achieved, so our next goal is to finish second in the Premier League which will be the highest position the club has ever attained.

Editor's Note: *ExtraTime would like to wish Barry Browett, who suffered a serious knee injury against North Star, a full and speedy recovery and we hope to see him back in action as soon as possible.*

Rochedale Rovers: Kieran Cooper

Until we lost against Wolves we had been going great. It was good to knock Lions out of the cup and we've cemented a top 4 place so I'm very happy. We've still got to keep an eye on the teams around us and keep getting results but on paper our run-in is pretty good. Our target was a top 4 finish and with the position we're in now obviously we've increased those goals and want to finish as high as we can. A few injuries haven't helped us but overall I'm happy with everything. Lions have wrapped the league up but in the finals anybody can beat anybody.



Tables (as of 26th July)

| Premier League | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| QUEENSLAND LIONS | 18 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 63 | 8 | 49 |
| PINE RIVERS UTD | 18 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 44 | 34 | 38 |
| ROCHEDALE ROV | 18 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 41 | 26 | 35 |
| MITCHELTON | 18 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 33 | 21 | 33 |
| PALM BEACH | 18 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 32 | 32 | 26 |
| BRISBANE CITY | 18 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 26 | 31 | 24 |
| BRISBANE WOLVES | 17 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 30 | 36 | 22 |
| NORTH STAR | 18 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 23 | 31 | 19 |
| TOOWOOMBA | 17 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 16 | 33 | 18 |
| EASTERN SUBURBS | 18 | 5 | 11 | 2 | 22 | 35 | 17 |
| TARINGA ROVERS | 18 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 26 | 42 | 14 |
| SOUTHS UNITED | 18 | 2 | 12 | 4 | 17 | 44 | 10 |

| Premier Reserves | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| QUEENSLAND LIONS | 18 | 15 | 2 | 1 | 51 | 13 | 46 |
| ROCHEDALE ROV | 18 | 13 | 4 | 1 | 55 | 22 | 40 |
| PALM BEACH | 18 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 34 | 23 | 37 |
| BRISBANE CITY | 18 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 41 | 24 | 36 |
| BRISBANE WOLVES | 17 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 31 | 33 | 25 |
| MITCHELTON | 18 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 33 | 32 | 23 |
| EASTERN SUBURBS | 18 | 6 | 10 | 2 | 36 | 40 | 20 |
| NORTH STAR | 18 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 34 | 41 | 20 |
| SOUTHS UNITED | 18 | 6 | 11 | 1 | 28 | 44 | 19 |
| PINE RIVERS | 18 | 4 | 10 | 4 | 30 | 56 | 16 |
| TOOWOOMBA | 17 | 4 | 11 | 2 | 26 | 41 | 14 |
| TARINGA ROVERS | 18 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 14 | 44 | 10 |

| Premier Youth | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| QUEENSLAND LIONS | 18 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 82 | 14 | 54 |
| MITCHELTON | 18 | 13 | 4 | 1 | 54 | 19 | 40 |
| PALM BEACH | 17 | 13 | 4 | 0 | 57 | 23 | 39 |
| NORTH STAR | 18 | 11 | 6 | 1 | 53 | 30 | 34 |
| ROCHEDALE ROV | 17 | 10 | 5 | 2 | 45 | 21 | 32 |
| BRISBANE CITY | 18 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 41 | 26 | 29 |
| SOUTHS UTD | 18 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 34 | 35 | 21 |
| TOOWOOMBA | 17 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 21 | 38 | 19 |
| TARINGA ROVERS | 18 | 4 | 11 | 3 | 21 | 57 | 15 |
| BRISBANE WOLVES | 17 | 3 | 11 | 3 | 24 | 48 | 12 |
| EASTERN SUBURBS | 18 | 2 | 15 | 1 | 17 | 73 | 7 |
| PINE RIVERS | 18 | 2 | 15 | 1 | 17 | 82 | 7 |

| Division 1 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| BRISBANE OLYMPIC | 18 | 13 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 14 | 42 |
| UNI OF QLD | 17 | 10 | 1 | 6 | 44 | 22 | 36 |
| PENINSULA POWER | 18 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 34 | 18 | 33 |
| MT GRAVATT | 18 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 30 | 24 | 28 |
| IPSWICH KNIGHTS | 18 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 29 | 22 | 27 |
| SOUTHSIDE EAGLES | 18 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 27 | 25 | 27 |
| REDLANDS UNITED | 18 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 37 | 30 | 26 |
| BEENLEIGH | 18 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 28 | 31 | 21 |
| ROCKLEA | 18 | 4 | 11 | 3 | 14 | 41 | 15 |
| ALBANY CREEK | 18 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 25 | 39 | 14 |
| THE GAP | 17 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 24 | 34 | 13 |
| CAPALABA | 18 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 21 | 46 | 13 |

| Div 1 Reserves | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| UNI OF QLD | 17 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 68 | 15 | 46 |
| PENINSULA POWER | 18 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 39 | 13 | 40 |
| REDLANDS UTD | 18 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 42 | 19 | 39 |
| MT GRAVATT | 18 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 56 | 13 | 37 |
| ALBANY CREEK | 18 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 34 | 26 | 30 |
| THE GAP | 17 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 32 | 29 | 29 |
| SOUTHSIDE EAGLES | 18 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 28 | 37 | 24 |
| BRISBANE OLYMPIC | 18 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 35 | 32 | 23 |
| IPSWICH KNIGHTS | 18 | 6 | 11 | 1 | 27 | 36 | 19 |
| ROCKLEA UTD | 18 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 12 | 47 | 10 |
| BEENLEIGH | 18 | 1 | 14 | 3 | 19 | 78 | 6 |
| CAPALABA | 18 | 1 | 15 | 2 | 14 | 61 | 5 |

| Div 1 Youth | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|
| PENINSULA POWER | 18 | 13 | 1 | 4 | 64 | 20 | 43 |
| UNI OF QLD | 17 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 65 | 15 | 40 |
| ALBANY CREEK | 18 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 65 | 20 | 39 |
| REDLANDS UTD | 18 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 56 | 21 | 33 |
| MT GRAVATT | 18 | 10 | 7 | 1 | 52 | 34 | 31 |
| BEENLEIGH | 18 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 50 | 29 | 30 |
| BRISBANE OLYMPIC | 18 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 40 | 41 | 25 |
| THE GAP | 17 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 34 | 37 | 19 |
| CAPALABA | 18 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 40 | 45 | 18 |
| IPSWICH KNIGHTS | 18 | 6 | 12 | 0 | 31 | 50 | 18 |
| ROCKLEA UTD | 18 | 3 | 15 | 0 | 22 | 89 | 9 |
| SOUTHSIDE EAGLES | 18 | 1 | 17 | 0 | 10 | 128 | 3 |

| Division 2 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|----------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| IPSWICH CITY | 18 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 38 | 11 | 44 |
| GOODNA | 18 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 43 | 13 | 40 |
| BRISBANE FORCE | 18 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 44 | 15 | 39 |
| BETHANIA | 18 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 58 | 23 | 37 |
| NEWMARKET | 18 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 43 | 27 | 32 |
| SAMFORD | 18 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 27 | 25 | 25 |
| ANERLEY | 18 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 34 | 35 | 23 |
| GRANGE THISTLE | 18 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 24 | 24 | 22 |
| NORTH PINE | 18 | 4 | 11 | 3 | 37 | 54 | 15 |
| SLACKS CREEK | 18 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 21 | 42 | 14 |
| MOGILL UNITED | 18 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 18 | 55 | 14 |
| OXLEY UNITED | 18 | 0 | 17 | 1 | 15 | 78 | 1 |

| Div 2 Reserves | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|----------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| BRISBANE FORCE | 18 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 45 | 12 | 45 |
| IPSWICH CITY | 18 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 41 | 20 | 38 |
| GRANGE THISTLE | 18 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 39 | 17 | 37 |
| GOODNA | 18 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 51 | 28 | 33 |
| NORTH PINE | 18 | 10 | 7 | 1 | 57 | 35 | 31 |
| NEWMARKET | 18 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 33 | 17 | 29 |
| BETHANIA | 18 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 50 | 29 | 28 |
| ANNERLEY | 18 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 34 | 38 | 26 |
| SLACKS CREEK | 18 | 5 | 11 | 2 | 23 | 38 | 17 |
| SAMFORD | 18 | 3 | 12 | 3 | 18 | 51 | 12 |
| OXLEY UNITED | 18 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 10 | 60 | 10 |
| MOGGILL UTD | 18 | 0 | 16 | 2 | 15 | 71 | 2 |

| Metro Div 1 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| DARRA LIONS | 18 | 17 | 0 | 1 | 71 | 17 | 52 |
| TARINGA ROVERS | 18 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 33 | 19 | 38 |
| ACACIA RIDGE | 18 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 48 | 40 | 30 |
| SOUTHS UNITED | 18 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 39 | 31 | 28 |
| WILSTON ATHLETIC | 17 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 45 | 41 | 24 |
| CLAIRVAUX | 18 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 39 | 33 | 23 |
| BRISBANE WOLVES | 17 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 35 | 33 | 23 |
| PINEAPPLE ROVERS | 18 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 33 | 42 | 22 |
| PARK RIDGE | 18 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 27 | 36 | 19 |
| BAYSIDE UNITED | 18 | 4 | 11 | 3 | 26 | 43 | 15 |
| UNI OF QLD | 18 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 28 | 48 | 14 |
| MITCHELTON | 18 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 21 | 62 | 10 |

| Metro Div 2 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| BRISBANE TORO | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 53 | 23 | 35 |
| LOGAN CITY KINGS | 14 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 60 | 26 | 33 |
| PINE RIVERS | 14 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 53 | 32 | 25 |
| PINE HILLS | 13 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 34 | 31 | 22 |
| NEWMARKET | 14 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 34 | 42 | 20 |
| THE GAP | 12 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 28 | 31 | 14 |
| RIDGE HILLS | 14 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 24 | 31 | 14 |
| MOOROONDU | 14 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 21 | 42 | 14 |
| BRIGHTON | 14 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 19 | 42 | 9 |
| REDCLIFFE PCYC | 13 | 3 | 10 | 0 | 9 | 35 | 9 |

| Metro Div 3 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| CLAIRVAUX | 18 | 16 | 0 | 2 | 75 | 18 | 50 |
| EASTERN SUBURBS | 18 | 14 | 4 | 0 | 70 | 28 | 42 |
| UNI OF QLD | 18 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 41 | 16 | 37 |
| DARRA LIONS | 18 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 49 | 35 | 35 |
| PINEAPPLE ROVERS | 18 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 27 | 27 | 28 |
| NEWMARKET | 18 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 40 | 34 | 26 |
| ACACIA RIDGE | 18 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 39 | 45 | 26 |
| BAYSIDE UNITED | 18 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 37 | 38 | 25 |
| GRANGE THISTLE | 18 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 29 | 42 | 18 |
| NORTH PINE | 18 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 19 | 71 | 10 |
| PINE HILLS | 18 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 24 | 61 | 8 |
| SOUTHS UNITED | 18 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 21 | 56 | 4 |

| Metro Div 4 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|
| OLD BRIDGE | 18 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 87 | 12 | 49 |
| TARINGA ROVERS | 18 | 14 | 3 | 1 | 48 | 26 | 43 |
| REGENTS PARK | 17 | 14 | 3 | 0 | 90 | 25 | 42 |
| BRISBANE CITY | 18 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 55 | 35 | 35 |
| BRISBANE FORCE | 17 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 70 | 36 | 33 |
| NEWMARKET | 18 | 10 | 6 | 2 | 52 | 39 | 32 |
| SLACKS CREEK | 18 | 6 | 11 | 1 | 33 | 58 | 19 |
| ACACIA RIDGE | 17 | 5 | 11 | 1 | 36 | 56 | 16 |
| MT GRAVATT | 18 | 4 | 13 | 1 | 28 | 66 | 13 |
| THE GAP | 17 | 3 | 13 | 1 | 17 | 60 | 10 |
| BEENLEIGH | 18 | 2 | 13 | 3 | 50 | 112 | 9 |
| SOUTHSIDE EAGLES | 18 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 14 | 55 | 8 |

| Metro Div 5 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| NORTH STAR | 18 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 87 | 12 | 49 |
| SLACKS CREEK | 18 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 57 | 13 | 47 |
| NEWMARKET | 17 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 48 | 27 | 36 |
| ANNERLEY | 18 | 11 | 7 | 0 | 51 | 38 | 33 |
| BRISBANE OLYMPIC | 18 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 54 | 51 | 30 |
| BRIGHTON | 17 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 50 | 51 | 25 |
| RIDGE HILLS | 18 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 31 | 41 | 24 |
| EASTERN SUBURBS | 18 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 30 | 57 | 15 |
| REDLANDS UNITED | 18 | 4 | 11 | 3 | 21 | 57 | 15 |
| ALBANY CREEK | 18 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 26 | 50 | 14 |
| IPSWICH CITY | 18 | 3 | 11 | 4 | 22 | 45 | 13 |
| CLAIRVAUX | 18 | 1 | 14 | 3 | 29 | 64 | 6 |

| Metro Div 6 | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| ALBANY CREEK | 17 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 49 | 14 | 40 |
| PARK RIDGE | 17 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 42 | 25 | 38 |
| CAMIRA | 17 | 11 | 2 | 4 | 43 | 20 | 37 |
| GOODNA | 17 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 39 | 41 | 22 |
| REGENTS PARK | 17 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 39 | 57 | 20 |
| MOOROONDU | 17 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 43 | 46 | 17 |
| MT GRAVATT | 17 | 2 | 10 | 5 | 24 | 45 | 11 |
| BRISBANE WOLVES | 17 | 2 | 12 | 3 | 28 | 59 | 9 |

| Open Youth Div | P | W | L | D | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| QUEENSLAND LIONS | 14 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 72 | 10 | 39 |
| BETHANIA RAMS | 14 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 52 | 30 | 32 |
| ROCHEDALE ROVERS | 14 | 8 | 6 | 0 | 56 | 34 | 24 |
| BRISBANE FORCE | 14 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 41 | 21 | 24 |
| SOUTHS UNITED | 14 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 50 | 28 | 21 |
| TOOWOOMBA | 14 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 30 | 37 | 16 |
| SLACKS CREEK | 14 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 8 | 94 | 4 |
| NORTH PINE | 14 | 1 | 13 | 0 | 22 | 77 | 3 |

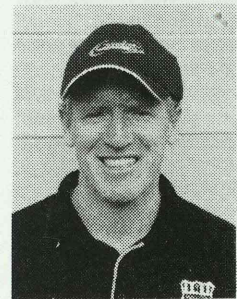
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Toowoomba Raiders: Gordon McBain

We're in a bit more of a comfortable position now which is pleasing. We're making plans for next year to build on the progress we've made this season. We'll be looking to strengthen the side and allow our better young players to come through into the first team at the right pace. In the last few weeks the attitude of the players has been much better and that has translated onto the pitch.

Mitchelton: Greg Brown

It's been a good month or so for us with a few important victories which is just what we needed after a bit of a lull. We appear to be back on track but we've still got tough games coming up. We've been bleeding a few young lads in the last few weeks and they have done very well. We want to finish 2nd or 3rd to avoid Lions in the semi and we're looking forward to playing them at home in the last game of the season - we'll be pumped for that game!



North Star: Ken Swan

We've lost a couple lately which is bit disappointing because we've been playing well. I thought we were dominant against Pine Rivers but they took their chances well. If we can keep most of these kids together for next season and the season after we will have a very good side.

We haven't started our recent games very well but we've finished them well and we have to work on being more consistent for 90 minutes. If we can assure our safety as soon as possible it will allow us to relax a bit and experiment with a few things.

Brisbane Wolves: Kevin Meacock

It's been an up and down month for us again. We've performed well but thrown some games away when we should have got something. We seem to do things that keep us one step away from getting into the top 4 which is frustrating. There is still a chance of us getting into the finals and while there is a mathematical possibility we will keep going and hope that other clubs slip up. Perhaps we have lacked a bit of leadership on the field at times. Having said that there have been a number of players who have really stepped up for us this season and done well.

Brisbane City: Frank Pimblett

It was good to take a point from Lions but we certainly could've taken all 3 because we had more clear-cut chances. The commitment has been better but it's a big ask for us to make the finals now. We'll have to win at least 4 out of our last 5 games and hope that Mitchy drop a point or 2. Our inconsistency has been alarming and overall it's been a disappointing season for us.

Taringa Rovers: Alan Waller

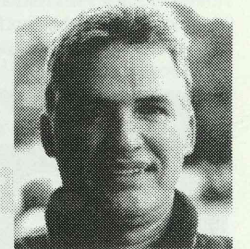
We've had mixed fortunes in the last month but we are playing better than in the first round. Realistically we know it's going to be difficult from here to stay out of the relegation play-off place, but I know we can beat some of the teams that we still have to play, especially at home. A lot will depend on whereabouts in the table our opposition lies when we play them. If they have nothing to play for then that might just give us an edge. We haven't given up yet.

Palm Beach: Karl Herdle

All in all it's been a pretty good month; not just because of our results, but because the players seem to have recuperated from our mid-season loss of form and have an extra spring in their step. In the home run all we can do is give it our best shot and see what happens above us. Mitchy have some tough games coming up and if we win ours then it's going to put some extra pressure on them. Anything can happen and there is still lots to play for; it's a very competitive league this year.

Queensland Lions: Miron Bleiberg

We were disappointed to lose our 100% record against City but they played well and deserved their point. I've been saying for a long time that we are not as good as the table suggests. It's more that the rest of the competition is even and they tend to beat each other. We're not invincible and I don't have 11 Brazilians in my team. When we are on top of our game we can be very good, but when we aren't other teams can catch us.



Souths United: Peter Bannon

It obviously hasn't been a good month; it's gone from bad to worse really. Without being too cliché, it really is going to be tough from here

and we're relying on other results as well. We've played well in some periods, poorly in others and we've been punished for the mistakes we've made. All we can do is keep battling away and hope that we can get the results we need.

In **Division 1** Brisbane Olympic are looking to make it a magnificent year for the Greeks as they continue their march towards the Premier League. Mick Rooney's side have overcome some stern tests in recent weeks and managed to retain their healthy lead at the top. The defeat of Peninsula Power last month helped enormously and surely they can only lose it from here.

University of Queensland slipped into second spot after a superb recent run and have the depth to really trouble Easts or Taringa in the promotion/relegation play-off should it pan out that way. Uni coach Tibor Hagymas feels his club is unique in many ways and can easily cope with life in the Premier League. "I don't think there is any club anywhere in Queensland that has over 200 players arrive each year. We don't lure players with money we lure them with the culture we have here. I believe the UQ Sports Council have allocated funds to improve the playing facility in the next year or two so we will be in a good position. The players play for each other and never complain as there are no stars here. We play with the old amateur ideal and we're probably the soccer equivalent of a rugby club," he said. "Paying money out to players has ruined many clubs and it's comforting to know that it won't happen here. It's about mateship at Uni," Hagymas added.

Obviously Peninsula Power will still be hoping they can hit top form in the dash for the line and it really is between them and Uni for the

runners-up spot now. Southside Eagles, Mt. Gravatt and Ipswich Knights have been too inconsistent through the season and will have to wait until 2005 to make a renewed challenge for Premier League football.

At the bottom you can still take your pick from any of the current 4 cellar-dwellers. None of these sides have been able to get any kind of run going and this one could go right to the wire. The Gap are possibly in the best position to escape the drop but it does look grim for Capalaba.

Steve Faulkner's Div 2 Round Up

Ipswich City can begin their preparations for Division 1 in 2005. Had Newmarket justifiably beaten them in round 16 there may have still been a lingering feeling that the boys from Booval might not make it. But a towering Jason Lucas performance kept out several certain goals and earned City a point.

Having known Jason for longer than either of us might care to remember, I can honestly say that I have never seen him looking trimmer and fitter than he is at present. Ipswich would do well to get him to commit to paper for next year and then keep him as injury free as possible.

Only a short time ago I talked of the Goodna juggernaut. The loss of their influential sweeper has meant their defence has looked much more fragile and a 3-0 loss to a resurgent Samford followed by a 1-1 draw against the largely unfancied Annerley, might make some critics think that perhaps Goodna's season might end in tears.

Brisbane Force have had a great time of late and will have everyone looking over their shoulders. They sit only 1 point behind a stuttering Goodna but have a tough run home. I did think Bethania would fade away when news

of long term injuries filtered through to me a number of weeks ago. Quite the reverse! The spirited boys from Opperman Park have been absolutely 'Ram'pant (sorry) and have absolutely hammered some teams. You can't help admiring Bethania's youthful enthusiasm and attacking play. Would they do credit to Division 1? I think they would.

Newmarket sit in 5th spot and like Goodna, their season is stuttering. Unlike Goodna they have only 32 points and not 37, so dropping points between now and the end of the season is an absolute no-no.

Wild scenes out at Samford when a streaker added his own contribution to an entertaining evening. The streaker might argue that it was a cold night, but if he wants to display his body in front of a bunch of athletic young men in the future, he might consider a tad of body building in areas which the bench press just won't hit if he wants to impress his audience.

Wilting streaker aside, the Samford fairy tale goes on. Since signing Robbie Kidd a few weeks ago their results have been unreal. At the time of writing Samford sit on 22 points, 10 away from their nearest rivals. Of course it's unlikely, but should they win the next 5 games and the clubs above them lose... well you can do the maths! They could finish 2nd! I wouldn't bet my house on it, but all I will say is Samford do play against 3 of the other promotion contenders and it would not be wise to bet against them. The one thing I have learned about this division is you do not take anyone lightly.

Whilst Oxley are doomed, which has to be upsetting for football people who remember Oxley a long time before I came to this country, every remaining team in the comp (including Oxley) can take points off the big boys.

Peter Polichronis on the Metro Leagues

Each of the top 9 teams would still consider themselves a finals chance in **Metro 1**, however with Darra and Taringa certainties to be there and Acacia Ridge only having to win two of their last five it looks as if five teams will be vying for the coveted 4th spot and a daunting final series against Darra. Mitchelton have by far been the disappointment of the season with many early punters tipping them to win the league they find themselves propping up the ladder. However, if Uni's downward spiral continues they're sure to find themselves with the wooden spoon. My prediction for the top 4 are Darra, Taringa, Acacia Ridge and Pineapple Rovers with the

Piney's surprising everyone to knock out Darra in the semis and take out the flag.

Metro 2 is looking to be harder to pick than the proverbial broken nose. With the top 3 spots decided Pine Hills, Newmarket and The Gap will be fighting to the end to make the final series. The Gap have all the pressure though as they must win their 2 games in hand to stay in touch. Brisbane Toro, Logan City, Pine Rivers and Newmarket are my tip for the finals with Toro prevailing in the grand final.

Only 5 teams are still in the finals hunt in **Metro 3**, however a crunch game for the Pineapple Rovers this week against league leaders Clairvaux and if the Rovers are unable to get a result they can just about kiss their finals chances goodbye. Darra have been the big improvers over the past few weeks, at one stage they were in 9th position but now they find themselves in 3rd and form suggests they will stay there. My top 4 is Clairvaux, Easts, Darra and Pineapple Rovers.

Metro 4 has really sorted itself out over the past few weeks. Looks like Brisbane Force, Brisbane City and Newmarket will have to tussle over the final spot though early in the season it looked as if a toss of a coin would decide the finalists. Old Bridge still look the goods to take out the league but watch out for Regents Park who feel a little hard done by with their Cup exit. My prediction for the finals is Old Bridge, Taringa, Regents Park and Brisbane Force.

Metro 5 is another league where 3 teams look to be contending for one final spot. Brighton have a game in hand and will be looking for the slightest slip up from Annerley over the next few weeks to snatch 4th spot, but with the Greeks winning Euro 2004 you would be foolish to write off Olympic just yet. Final 4 should be North Star, Slacks Creek, Newmarket and Annerley.

2 separate battles have emerged in **Metro 6** with the top 3 all still a chance for the minor premiership and Goodna and Regents Park toughing it out for 4th spot. Park Ridge haven't lost since round 5 and are my tip for top spot, although it seems as though as soon as I give someone a wrap in this column they lose their next game so apologies in advance boys! The top 4 should remain the way it is at the moment with Regents Park being the team that misses out. ■

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Opinion

Kieran Cooper on referees



It seems the topic at the top of the list at the moment is referees. Are they easy targets? Is it an easy excuse for our teams to blame the ref? Why do we do it?

Let's be honest here. I'm sure every single person who has ever laced up a pair of boots and taken part in a game, or every single club official, parent or supporter who has ever witnessed a game, have at one time or another come across a referee who they believe was rubbish. That's human nature! But what are we looking for? What makes a good referee?

Let's start at the beginning. We are all involved in the greatest game in the world. We either play, coach, administer or support this great game. We all play a part, so too do the referees. If you take any of the above named people out of the system this great game of ours deteriorates.

Supporters pay their money (at some grounds) to watch a game so you might say they are entitled to their opinion. Most of the time their opinion will be lop sided towards their own team. Again this is only natural.

If the referees get to know the players & coaching staff etc, and vice-versa then I'm sure everybody would have a lot more respect for each other

Administrators are usually volunteers who have given up precious free time to help their clubs. I'm sure these administrators have made many mistakes over the years, but because we need them to do a job that nobody else wants to do we forgive them. If we don't forgive them we replace them. Then you have the administrators who run the game. Sure some of them are paid, this is their job. Again I am sure these people make mistakes, and yes, they are in the firing line but at the end of the day these people work for the clubs and if the clubs are not happy they

can get them replaced. Players make mistakes week in and week out. Usually we have enough players in our squads to make sure the ones that are making mistakes can be replaced if need be. Some of these players are paid, most are not. Coaches too are in the firing line. If the team is winning it is because of the players, but if the team is losing it must be the coach's fault. They too can be replaced because it is pretty easy to find a replacement coach for a senior team. So that leaves referees. I don't know exactly how the referees association works but I imagine it is on different levels - Premier League, Div 1 etc.

These people are paid to do a job. But out of all the people involved in our sport the referee seems to cop the most abuse. A coach and player can find another club. An administrator can retire and relax and maybe spend some time with their family. A supporter can stay home. Where can a ref go? No matter what he/she does in a game somebody will be upset. I know there are many, many ways that these people can improve themselves. I know they're not perfect. But what sort of game will we have if each week we have to pull somebody from the crowd because we haven't got a ref?

To me a good referee is just one of the lads. He/she has personality and uses it. He/she has a sense of humour on the park and uses it. He/she has common sense and uses it. He/she knows the players and uses this knowledge while refereeing. He/she accepts mistakes and admits to them when wrong. He/she doesn't try to use the uniform as a reason to be a dictator. He/she is approachable to discuss decisions provided it is done in an appropriate manner. If the referees get to know the players & coaching staff etc, and vice-versa then I'm sure everybody would have a lot more respect for each other.

So where does the current situation leave us? Will we get better referees by publicly humiliating them? Will we improve their standard if we continually abuse them from the touch lines

or terraces? The answer is no. What we will do is force them out of the game? Where will that leave us? Is refereeing a job you would do? If you answered yes then go and do it. If you answered no then it doesn't really give you the right to criticise does it?

Do you want referees at your games or would you prefer somebody from the crowd?

As a player I have had some terrible decisions go against me which have affected the outcome of the game. As a coach I have also had some decisions go against me which have also affected the outcome of a game. But as a club administrator I have also had the task of finding people in the crowd to referee a game and guess what? They have also made mistakes.

In saying all this, as a player and as a coach I have also had some decisions go for me. This too has affected the outcome of the game. In a split second, a referee must call it is he/she sees it. Right or wrong the decision is made. As soon as we accept this fact we will all be better off. Remember, the referee and assistants are not perfect, they can not see everything, they will make mistakes.

So in closing I suggest you ask yourself this. Do you want referees at your games or would you prefer somebody from the crowd? You can argue all you like about refs being paid and therefore should be of better standard. But until the day comes when the referees association are knocking people back because their books are full, we must respect and thank them for doing a job that nobody else wants to do.

Now I can just see the looks on people's faces as they finish reading this article. I'm sure I too will now get slaughtered and accused of trying to crawl up the referees' backside, but unless people can come up with some alternatives instead of the continuous bagging, than I really couldn't care less. ■



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**Brisbane
Men's
Soccer**

philmoye

The BMS supremo with a pitch on pitches

One of the most attractive things about living in Brisbane (South-East Queensland for that matter) is the climate. The clubs in our association have the advantage of a sub-tropical climate to produce natural turf playing fields of the highest quality. Why is it that many pitches are below standard? In fact, ask yourself the question, 'What is the standard?'

This question has led me to a great deal of research into the standard of playing surfaces around the world. The European Standard CEN TC/217 WG3 has been under development since 1994 and expected to be completed some time in 2005 - 2008. Not a lot of help there.

FIFA has done a great deal of work in standards for artificial turf and has written a standard for this surface. This remains the best reference material I could find. So back to our situation. Why is it that many pitches are below standard? A good pitch is a lot like art. I know what I like when I see it. Much of the problems associated with surfaces at clubs relates to the actual initial construction method. Developed over landfill, using the local soil available and presented by the Council as a playing field.

Safety must be the primary concern of any club and certainly this association. A poorly constructed and/or neglected field will often be a dangerous field. Simply put, the field that is not constructed correctly and maintained can present a number of hazards to the players, which can lead to a variety of injuries. This can detract from the attraction of the facility and open the owners up to the threat of litigation.

The playing characteristics of the field will be severely impaired by poor design and/or a lack of maintenance. The ball can become faster over the surface, it will roll unevenly and the ball bounce will vary from place to place. The players will feel uncomfortable running on an uneven surface and frustrated by the inability to control an unpredictable ball. If we are ever to produce higher standards of play we must have better surfaces for the players. Unfortunately the long-term suitability of a

playing surface that has been poorly constructed is not good. Many clubs spend considerable amounts of money on maintenance of surfaces that are basically flawed. Given these problems many clubs still produce 'acceptable' pitches. Obviously no club is about to rip up their pitch and start from scratch with a new construction but probably that is what is needed in some cases.

The next best thing we can do, short term, is be aware of the standard required to produce good football and work steadily toward achieving the very best result possible with the field you have got. To assist this, BMS has developed a Playing Facility, Surface and Marking Standard to set out the associations' goals for soccer facilities. This standard should be referred to when planning modifications or upgrades to the club. It would also be advisable to attach the Standard to any application for a grant.

The major contributing factor to poor surfaces would be overuse. Many clubs simply do not have the luxury of having a 'playing' pitch. They use the field daily for training and playing and

Safety must be the primary concern of any club

the recovery time for the surface is next to zero. Junior players are recognised as contributing only 50% of the wear produced by senior players but given the number of juniors at some clubs, this is still a major factor. The importance of maintenance is critical to the performance of the surface over a long, hard season and this is one area where many clubs could do more.

From the safety aspect the hardness of pitches is a critical concern, followed by problems of uneven surfaces. Hardness is the single most critical cause of ACL injuries in AFL Football and must be a concern for every soccer club. The cause/effect of hard grounds to injuries to players is well documented with scientific research.

The surface should have a degree of evenness to allow the ball to roll over the surface without affecting its trajectory or causing the ball to bobble on the surface. The evenness of the surface not only affects the standard of play but also is a major risk for player injury.

BMS will produce a maintenance guide in due course but every club must be aware and committed to providing the best possible surface for the players. Not only do the clubs have a social responsibility to provide a quality facility but a legal responsibility to ensure the safety of players and officials that use the field. BMS has no intention of wielding a large stick to enforce clubs to comply with a standard that may be difficult to achieve but nonetheless an improvement in playing surfaces is a paramount concern.

Much has been said about improvements to training and coaching to produce quality players and it is recognised that BMS can do little to influence the way clubs approach that problem.

The quality of the playing surface is a basic ingredient in the quest for quality play and it is something that BMS can influence.

Sub-standard and unsafe pitches will be identified and every assistance given to the club to improve this vital part of the football experience. The new standard developed by BMS gives a guide to the preparation of acceptable and safe playing surfaces. I hope that all clubs factor into their plans the club

The quality of the playing surface is a basic ingredient

commitment in terms of dollars and resources to improve their playing pitches. This most basic of club responsibilities seems at times to take a back seat to other issues. Given the potential for litigation from injuries I would

hope that this article would produce some positive results at club management level.

I would like the soccer community to give as much feedback on this issue as possible. Please contact me direct at pmoye@bigpond.net.au for your comments on any of the issues raised in this column. ■

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Thanks for the Memories



The drama and colour of Euro 2004 might be over, but the memories of attending such a fantastic event will be engraved on the brains of all who were there. Newmarket Metro Div 3 coach and ExtraTime reader Andrew Waters was lucky enough to head off to Portugal for the Championship and gives us his spectator's-eye-view of the atmosphere.

When hosts Portugal beat Spain to reach the quarterfinals, the whole nation went crazy. If anyone had just arrived into the country they would've thought they had already secured the cup. For 3 hours after the game, car horns roared throughout every town and city, parties raged and Portuguese young and old had smiles fixed on their faces. Portugal has a great passion for the beautiful game. Porto recently won the Champions League and expectations were high for its national team.

The European Cup of Nations tournament is brief, conducted on a daily basis and arguably the most exciting the world has to offer in any sport. The Rugby World Cup, although most enjoyable lasted too long. The 2002 World Cup in Japan & South Korea had too many meaningless games with too many teams competing, and the Olympics is too diverse.

Each day in Portugal everybody in the workplace discusses the previous night's matches. It's so serious that Sweden's head of state made a personal plea to former player Henrik Larsson, who had retired from international football, to return and play in Portugal. A petition was tabled with 100,000 signatures and this finally persuaded him.

Hotels were full of supporters from all over the world. People from Canada, South Africa and Aussies supporting Greece, were all in town to see the tournament. Breakfast each morning was a giant discussion, tactics, players, and performances. If you love the game this was surely the place to be?

Driving in Portugal is very exciting, extremely fast and somewhat dangerous. It has the worst accident record in Europe and I quickly found out why as I hid in between trucks too scared to venture into the overtaking lanes. It took about 3 hours to drive between the 2 major cities, Lisbon

& Porto. Most of the major games were played in the four stadiums, Dragao, Bessa, Luz & Alvalade. These are the homes of Porto, Boavista, Benfica & Sporting, the major teams of Portugal. All had received a major refit or had been rebuilt before the tournament so they were in pristine condition. Dragao, built across the road from Porto's old ground being the most impressive.



Denmark & Sweden fans gather before the big clash

Both Holland & Sweden had enormous support filling large sections of the ground at their games. Both sets of supporters wore their colours giving an amazing effect, a sea of orange or yellow. The Greeks were the noisiest by far despite being low on numbers until the final. Their war like chants and gestures resembled a kind of Haka and I heard many Aussie accents in among their ranks. Progressing to the knockout phase was a major achievement for Hellas and then they had the audacity to defeat the reigning champions in the quarter finals and the hosts in the final itself.

The tournament also attracts the games former stars as guests of the mass media or just as onlookers. Franz Beckenbauer, Karl Heinz Rumminage, Gordon Strachan, Chris Waddle, Peter Schmeichel and Jimmy Armfield were

people I personally saw in my hotel.

I received an e-mail from Brisbane when I returned one evening asking if I was having a good time and I suddenly thought that perhaps I had died and gone to football-heaven where

there were top games every day. It really was that good. There is a type of rolling effect the tournament has as each game that's played has major implications for other teams and their chances of qualifying for the knockout phase in the group. It all gets very exciting as the drama and possibilities unfold in this 24 hours-a-day football fiesta.



Possibly the coolest phone booth you'll ever see

The security has been quite tight with 3 checkpoints going into the games. The local riot squad did look quite formidable, but the authorities were more concerned with any terrorist threat than drunken supporters and armed guards stood on rooftops of stands at each game with binoculars. I saw a Croatian flag confiscated for having Pepsi all over it (Coca Cola were the main sponsors) and I personally had a mini tube of sun screen taken at the turnstiles. This level of stupidity seems to have become the norm all over the world. Despite this vigorous and aggressive policy the Croatians still managed to throw flares after they scored against England. They must have hidden them in their underpants!

There was a specially created 'fan park' in the regenerated docklands area of Lisbon where 8,000 people crammed into the park for the opening fixture with the host nation. There were soccer related activities to enjoy prior to Kick Off such as measuring the speed of a shot, bending a ball round cardboard cut outs of Zidane, beach soccer and an exhibition. A giant screen displayed the opening game, unfortunately

Portugal lost and this rather dampened the atmosphere. A large superstore across the road sold every item related to Euro 2004 one could imagine, a place where flexing the credit card became a serious workout.

The tournament also presents a wonderful corporate opportunity and major players lined up to sponsor the tournament. Sports clothing manufacturers produced lavish advertisements featuring the stars of the games and these were seen on a regular basis, everything in every shop had a football theme, such is the power and lure of the game.

There is nothing better than watching the game 'live' as TV offers only a

limited view of the match. From a technical perspective, the off the ball movement can be seen without hindrance, and then there is the atmosphere which cannot be captured even with the most sensitive of microphones. Sitting high up in the stadium, centrally or pitch-side behind the goal offers differing perspectives, but just as valuable and exciting. There really is nothing like being there.



Swedish fans mob the team bus

As the competition moved into its final stages the excitement grew locally as the host nation were still involved. Rossio Square in Lisbon, the scene of large supporter gatherings, returned to some normality. Adverts for tickets blew in the wind with the German & French apparently doing the selling! Most supporters had headed

home, their summer vacation ended in a penalty shoot-out or an embarrassing defeat inflicted by lesser opposition.

In 4 years we can start all over again, or maybe 2 for the 2006 World Cup in Germany. My travel agent can expect a call as soon as I get back to Brisbane! ■

differentCLASS



It's not often that 2 internationally qualified and renowned FA coaches come to town, but last month Sam Saif and Michael Hennigan paid a visit to our fair shores to take part in some coaching clinics. "Who?" did I hear you ask? Well they might not be household names in the true sense of the word, but 63 year-old Hennigan was the Assistant Manager to the last Englishman to win the English Premiership.

That of course was Howard Wilkinson's Leeds Utd who took temporary charge of the crown back in 1992. Hennigan still rates Wilko as the biggest influence on his coaching career even though he has worked alongside many other acclaimed mentors.

Hennigan's CV is littered with mouth-watering roles. He has worked for the English FA at all levels from local to international, including a spell with the Under 21 National side where he was charged with the responsibility of scouting the opposition teams. What he doesn't know about the game isn't really worth knowing and he is always happy to pass on his intricate knowledge of

the game. "Today it's all about developing young players for league football and preparing them mentally and physically," he said. "The European game has influenced us in England in the sense that the players are now much more aware of the need for the right diet and lifestyle. I think they respect the game more and that's a vital attribute for anyone looking to make it to the top level."

Hennigan, who holds both the UEFA 'A' Licence and an FA Coach Educator qualification, played for both Southampton and Brighton in his

younger days but now spends his time delivering coaching courses for the English FA. When asked if he had any advice for up and coming coaches he was adamant that dedication was the key. "You have to study the game. Watch the game and watch more experienced coaches. Try to attend National and State courses and always look for self-improvement. You have to be devoted and always try to learn from every game or session," he said.

Sam Saif, who holds the same qualifications as Hennigan, had spells at the academies of both Leeds Utd and Sheffield Utd and now divides his time between here and the USA where he oversees coaching courses and clinics. 43 year-old Saif advocates an open-minded approach when it comes to picking up tips from other coaches. "Even if you only learn one thing from them it will be worthwhile. That's how I learned about the game, by taking what I could from all

the different coaches I've worked with. Michael Hennigan has been a huge influence on me, as has Dave Bassett and Dick Bates. They all have differing strengths and they all inspired me," he said.

Saif has been moderately impressed with some of the

players he has seen in Australia and would love to ply his trade here some day. "I've seen some good players here and I would love to be able to start something in Australia and be part of its growth. From what I have gathered the coaching structure in Queensland needs a lot of work and I would love to be part of that as coaching coaches is what I do best," he said.

Hennigan and Saif have now flown to the USA where they will take part in the Manchester United coaching program before heading back to the UK. ■



Michael Hennigan & Sam Saif

Morley Looking for More in London



Ex Brisbane Strikers, Taringa and North Star hitman Luke Morley (pictured right) has packed up his kitbag and jetted off to London to try his hand in a few trials with some English clubs.

22 year-old Morley has been a hit in both the NSL and the local Premier League and is hoping to display enough to prospective suitors to score himself a professional contract.

"I'm starting off in London with the possibility of trials with Millwall, Fulham and West Ham. There's a few things in the pipeline so I'm heading over there to make sure that if anything comes up I can be there as soon as possible. I'm going with an open mind and I'm looking forward to it, but if it doesn't work out I'll be happy to come back here and have a good crack at the new APL," he said.

ExtraTime would like to wish Luke all the very best of luck in his quest for a contract in England.

Photo: Chris Brunskill

Former Socceroo visits Kelvin Grove

Former Socceroo captain Paul Wade visited Kelvin Grove State College Excellence in Soccer Program on his recent visit to Queensland.

Wade, who has played over 100 internationals for Australia, came out to the school to coach a very fortunate group of year 8 students who were enthralled by Paul's stories of representing Australia.

Kelvin Grove State College has been running the soccer excellence program for the past 7 years under soccer coordinator and head coach Ian Milligan. The program has produced several NSL players including Australian U/21 internationals Michael Baird and Thomas Willis. The program at Kelvin Grove focuses on the individual, with not only soccer skills and technique, but covers nutrition and sports psychology as well as a comprehensive strength and conditioning program overseen by Nathan Wade. This includes aspects such as basic movement patterns, core stability, speed, strength and agility.

The program also uses guest coaches such as Paul Wade when they are available. Paul was in Brisbane to promote his clinic at Pine Rivers Soccer Club in July. Paul emphasises a



maximum participation - maximum fun approach to the clinics which assists the players to develop spatial awareness, motor skills and have fun in drills and games with maximum ball contact enabling them to develop individual skills, build confidence and adapt to the real game. For more information on the clinics or to enrol call 1300 889 806 or visit the website, www.sportseg.com.au.

For more information about the soccer program at Kelvin Grove State College contact Ian Milligan on 3552 7362 or 0412 479 385 ■

destination ATHENS

Yet more of our unsung officials get international recognition.

Story: Anthony Kidd

The Oceania flag flies high again next month when three Australian women's soccer officials embark on their toughest test yet - the 2004 Olympic Games in Greece beginning this month.

Referee Krystyna Szokolai of Brisbane (below) and assistant referees Airlie Keen of Adelaide and Jacqueline Leleu of Rockhampton will officiate at the ten-team Women's Championship, the trio celebrating their first Olympic selection.



Women's NSL Referee Krystyna Szokolai departs Brisbane on August 5th and arrives in Greece where she will undergo a fitness test in preparation

for the first game on August 10th. "Our competition actually starts a day before the opening ceremony," she said.

For Krystyna picking up a whistle became the next step after admitting she "couldn't kick a ball to save her life," following her first soccer season at the age of 16. Now some 16 years later the 32-year-old veterinary medicine graduate prepares to face her toughest assignment yet - the Olympic Games.

Szokolai has been increasing her physical, mental and technical skills in preparation for the Olympic stage. "I think Brazil is one of the faster teams and they are generally one of the toughest to referee, and the Men's local games here in Brisbane have been a great learning curve for me and proved to be great experience. Greece will be riding high from their National team's success and I can't wait to get there," Szokolai exclaimed.

All three officials have a wealth of International experience, Szokolai representing Oceania at the 2002 FIFA women's U-19 World Championships in Canada. Krystyna controlled the semi-final between Germany and eventual winners USA when she was chosen as one of five referees to stay on until the end of the tournament.

"I haven't thought about any of that for this tournament yet, I'll be taking each day as it comes I think," she admitted.

Australia is the only country with three officials selected for the tournament, closely followed by Brazil with two. The appointment for the Australian women follows a flurry of success for Australian referees including Brisbane-based Mark Shield and assistant referee Mark Gibson who were recently appointed to the prestigious Asian Cup running from July 17 to August 7.

Mark Shield paved the way for Australian soccer officials when he represented Oceania with an impressive performance as the only Australian to officiate at the 2002 FIFA World Cup where he controlled the Belgium v Tunisia group match. Shield has been both the NSL referee of the year and the NSL Grand Final referee three years running.

The appointments are the latest of a joint initiative between the Asian and Oceania confederations through the 'referees exchange program' which commenced in March.

The Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) extended an invitation to the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) for Asian match officials to officiate at the OFC Women's Olympic Qualifiers in Fiji. The OFC was in turn invited in April to send match officials to the AFC Women's Olympic Qualifiers in Japan, which resulted in the participation of Australian Referee Szokolai and assistant referees Leleu and Keen.

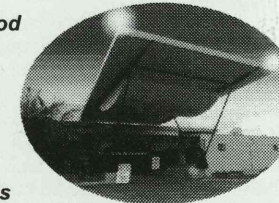
We wish our Australian officials the very best for the up and coming tournaments and beyond. It's comforting to see the Confederations working together to offer our referees a diverse range of competitions to further their skills and development. ■



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Congratulations Greece. A brilliant, brilliant result for the underdog, for the champion team and football as a whole. Hearing the old adage, it's a champion team, not a team of champions set me to thinking of the champion teams we all have in our backyards.

Living as we do, on planet soccer, most of us were engrossed in the spectacle, one or two having travelled over. Back home in Oz, as usual there was very little mainstream media coverage of the event until the English

were knocked out and suddenly it's blanket coverage. No prizes for objectivity. Normal coverage was then resumed for the rest of the matches until Greece made it through to be worthy winners and suddenly it's party time in Brisbane, Melbourne and Dunedoo. It's nothing short of incredible that the numerous European countries have followed their game and come together to make the underdog of Australian sport a vibrant beating pulse across the nation. Of course, they're not quite there yet, one commentator making the point that it's wonderful to see the Greeks winning the EuroWorld Cup!

But watching soccer grow here is like watching a sunrise, a small far off fiery ball on the horizon, moving imperceptibly slowly but ever nearer to touch us with its warming rays. What is making this happen? The game itself, skill, entertainment, the celebrity value of the players? It's all of this and more. Nearing the end of the season, I thought I would put forward a word for the unsung champions, the club volunteers.

You know things are bad at half time when the coach is smoking the asthma puffer

In our communities, nearly everyone from the youngest little to the eldest greybeards step up to provide ground staff, canteen staff, technical staff and fund raisers for no financial gain but just for their club. And we are forgetting that they too are every bit as skilled and entertaining as the players in making up a champion team in each club. Not taking anything away from the

hard yards volunteers put in, and they do, but without even thinking about it or putting in anything resembling effort, they have all been blessed with this amazing talent of, 'if there's way to stuff it up, we'll find it!!'

Did you realize for example that there is a way to put the nets up upside down? Neither did our groundsman til the ref (who was Dutch) put him straight. The same ref could have booked him for over celebrating the very same night after a great win. His keys had 'mysteriously vanished' so bed for him that night was the backyard mulberry bush. Our sponsor one year was a school and as the principal came to survey his new grounds, there were little notices saying 'KEEP OOF, PIOSON' appearing everywhere. Not happy Jan!

The best though was when he forgot to turn off the paint when line marking and he tried to get us to believe he hadn't been up to the pub for a quickie. Now that's some skill! But after all, who is it that turns up each match day to get the ground ready and provide a welcome for the teams?

The canteen staff are a law unto themselves had you noticed? They make sausage sizzles into a Picasso-like art form. I'm not quite sure how it all goes together but it does. Italian hysterics from behind the counter easily rivals that of the terraces and now I know where the chefs of the world get it all from. An excited sanger one day jumped off the barbie into the path

Sharon Jackson vouches for the value and virtues of volunteers

**EVERYONE
is about
to love**

of a passing player who fell right over on his coccyx. Ooh, painful. More than his pride was hurt that day and a new sub was needed. Lighting of the said barbie is absolutely secret men's business that is not done properly unless he's singed his eyebrows off and naturally, the new bucket of chips waiting to be cooked is placed just where you can kick it over. A new culinary delight was invented in our canteen one day when the chef tried a new batter for the fish, custard powder. Sweetlip anyone?

Still, many a treasurer's day is made on sighting Aunty Mary's Old English fudge cake. All he gets is a look but he's happy as the canteen starts doing a roaring trade in tea & cake. I should add at this point, however, one or two of our male players are encroaching on this female stronghold with some fab chocolate caramel shortcake. Hmm, the way to every girl's heart... The point is, lots of Aunty Mary's, Sophia's and Helga's are all cooking away for the cause.

Spare a thought for our long suffering strappers. Every coach's whipping boy, he gets it from the coach, the players and the ref. I'll never forget when poor old Dad (who was Greek) puffed all the way up the pitch to a stricken player. The player, who had just been winded got up fine just as Dad got there. Dad promptly sat himself down and had to be helped off between two players. Or when in the days of the magic sponge, a player having been kicked in the unmentionables was caused further writhing by a cold wet sponge launched at him after the hapless strapper fell over his own feet. Many's the time a strapper has

ran out to an obviously hurt player-minus his spray? It's a gift! But who'd be without him?

Who'd volunteer to be a coach? You know things are bad at half time when the coach is smoking the asthma puffer. If you remember a few years ago, Herron were obliged to withdraw paracetamol from the shelves due to a tampering incident. Our coach at the time, after a trying day with the ladies, opened the medicine cupboard for something to ease his aching head. "There's only Herron paracetamol," he says, "and I tell you, I'm tempted to take it." Now that's entertainment!

What about that terrible spectre, the club committee? A well known playerism is "the only form of life lower than the ref is the club committee". Until he joins up and adds his bit to the merry band of mishaps. Many a time a secretary has sent the team off to the wrong ground, the treasurer has forgotten the refs' fees and the president has locked the keys in the clubhouse. Now that's talent!

As yet another interminable meeting leers at you from the diary, committee members think, "Why do I do this?" Why indeed? It's because when they look back at the end of a season where they have all worked hard, played up and stuffed up, they have all done it together. Despite themselves they have had great fun along the way and provided a champion club for their community to belong to.

To all champion clubs around the nation, strips \$100.00, socks \$10.00 - Volunteers, priceless. ■

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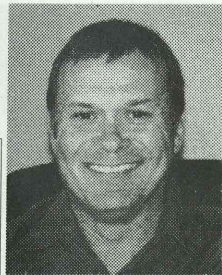
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**Brisbane
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**BMS General Manager
Bruce Dinsdale urges you to
have your say**



Well by the time you get to read this there will only be a few matches left for this season's competition and then we are into the final series. At this time of year, we do start to plan for next season and so I thought this would be a good time to reflect on some of the issues that we faced this year and invite your feedback.

Disciplinary

As everyone would be aware, this year saw the introduction of a revised disciplinary policy. In previous years, there was a mandatory one match suspension for all players sent off and then the length of suspension was determined by an independent panel once the referees report had been received. Players then had the right of appeal against the severity of the sentence. However they could not appeal against the mandatory one match.

During the off season, we researched overseas competitions and similar competitions in other sports and decided that a fairer system would be to set pre-determined suspensions for offences and allow the players the right of appeal on the grounds of wrongful dismissal. Part of this policy meant that players were allowed to play until their appeal was heard and a decision made.

Many may have been confused by this change in policy, and some are now undoubtedly unhappy with the system, judging by the complaints we receive in the office once the list of suspensions are sent out. However, we do believe it is an improvement on previous models and attempts to be fair to all parties concerned.

Cup Competitions

This year we also revised the cup competitions and set ourselves to create a meaningful cup competition for both Premier and Metro Divisions which was a diversion from the regular season. Part of this meant the scheduling of regular cup weekends with no fixtures allocated

so that the focus could be on the cup matches. Obviously some teams ended up with weekends off if they were knocked out of their respective competitions.

The matches were scheduled as double-headers in an attempt to create the opportunity for host clubs to create an event around the matches. This was to also attract spectators to one venue where they could see four teams play including teams they may not normally see.

Promotion and Relegation

Promotion and relegation is still the method used primarily to initially determine where teams will play in the following season. In Premier divisions a play off helps to determine the second team promoted/relegated following one team being automatically promoted/relegated. In Metro divisions, the situation is a little more complicated as teams may actually not even nominate for the following season which can leave some vacancies in higher divisions. Here we try and assess which teams may be best suited to filling these vacancies, usually based on their table position from this year. This is even more complicated as teams may improve from year to year with an influx of new players (how does anyone know how good they might be before the season starts?) or when new clubs are admitted to the association.

These issues are by no means the only ones that need review and discussion and I'm sure there are a lot more issues that people would want to comment on eg. Youth Competitions, Playing Surface Standards, Media and Publicity, Final Series etc etc.

I always welcome discussion on any topic and I would encourage you to email me at admin@soccerbrisbane.org.au with any comments you have. I am positive that if we all work together, listen and discuss alternatives we will improve the game here in Brisbane. ■

what's going on at... NORTH STAR

It's been a tumultuous 18 months but North Star are finally seeing the light

During the late 80's and mid 90's North Star was a name synonymous with success at local level. Premierships, Grand Finals and top players made the club a household name within the soccer community.

The financial pressure exerted by these successes instigated a decline in the late 90's which saw the club slip into Division 1. After a gestation period Bob Hamilton took the reins and steered the club back into the Premier League and all seemed to be back on track at O'Callaghan Park.

Then in October 2002 the management committee of North Star Sports Club broke the disturbing news to its members that the Sports Club was in financial trouble. The recently appointed soccer committee set about creating a new incorporated body, North Star Football Assoc. Inc., which allowed the club to continue with its primary function - playing junior and senior football.

In 2003 BMS allowed North Star to continue competing in the Premier League despite the obvious difficulties faced by the club. With the negative publicity generated following the closure of the licensed facility the club suffered huge player losses and were forced to honour all player payment debts for the previous year before they could proceed. New coaching staff were recruited and the revamped North Star finished a creditable 9th position in the Premier League. At junior level they were named 'Junior Club of the Year' with 75% of their junior sides securing semi-final berths.

The early portion of 2004 was a struggle for Ken Swan's youthful outfit, but since passing the

halfway mark of the season they have improved dramatically and steered themselves away from the danger of relegation. Brisbane Strikers player-coach Stuart McLaren was recruited, as was Luke Morley, and both have helped enormously by bringing their experience and quality to the table. "At training they are true professional players," Swan said. "They set a great example to young players and they demonstrate to our youngsters exactly what you need to do to play at the top level."

In June North Star moved their home matches to Perry Park after some voracious galahs munched on the pitch at O'Callaghan Park. This of course was not the sole reason for the move. Perry Park offers a far more supporter-friendly environment in addition to a superior surface for the players and board member Clive Mensink said the club hoped to foster a relationship with current tenants, the newly-named Queensland Strikers. "The Strikers saw it as a chance to promote their bistro and licensed facility at Perry Park during a part of the year when there is nothing happening for them football-wise.

Obviously we'd like to benefit the Strikers as our main focus is to provide opportunities for our young players. We had a relationship with Northern Spirit last year and some of our youth players went to the Strikers last season."

"Aside from the pitch issue, it was an opportunity to provide our patrons, and those from other clubs, with better hospitality service. We also wanted to attract more neutral spectators to the games and this was deemed more viable if they didn't have to travel to Zillmere," Mensink added.

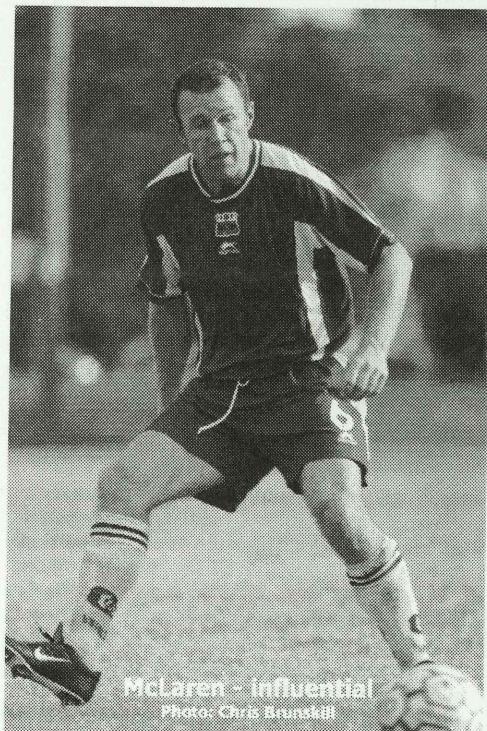
Brisbane City Council's vision for O'Callaghan Park is to create a multi-sport complex and clubhouse. Over the next 3-4 years the various stakeholders, which includes Kedron Wavell Services Club, will construct the precinct with the

We're building such a good base now that I'm sure we will be up amongst the top few clubs in 2005

development of the individual sports the sole responsibility of the tenants. The lease for the precinct, now renamed the Zillmere and Districts Sports Club, is held by Shawsporz (the sports management arm of Kedron-Wavell) who will shift their administration offices to the old North Star buildings and negotiate the club's role and requirements in the coming months.

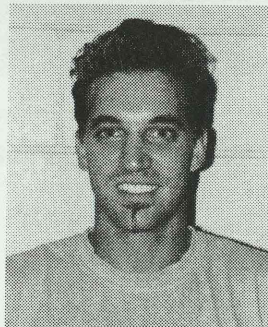
Despite the uncertainty surrounding the final structure of the new precinct, coach Ken Swan is upbeat about his side's chances of a continued revival next season and their ability to attract new recruits. "We're building such a good base now that I'm sure we will be up amongst the top few clubs in 2005. These kids will have had a year of learning how to play in the men's competition and there is no doubt that will stand them in good stead. I expect to lose a couple of players to whoever gets the new APL franchise, but hopefully we're demonstrating to all the good young players out there that we can provide a pathway because we've got a good program in place here," Swan said.

"We've come a long way in the last 18 months and we're debt free so it should be a rosy picture ahead," he concluded. ■



McLaren - influential
Photo: Chris Brunskill

Key Player - Antony Hall (capt)



Swan on Hall:
"Antony has been brilliant for us this year and I rate him as one of the best keepers in the League. He's a great leader and very professional. He works himself to the limit in every training session."

PROFILE

Name Antony Hall
Born 05/06/77
Place of birth Lancaster, England
Occupation Landscaper/personal trainer
Previous clubs Rochdale Rovers, Taringa Rovers, Ipswich Knights, Uni of QLD, Clydebank FC (Scotland)
Position Goalkeeper
Nickname Hallie
Club you support Liverpool
Playing strengths Handling, Crosses, consistency
Playing weaknesses being self critical
Heroes Gordon Banks, Nelson Mandela, Bob Marley
Favourite player Zinedine Zidane
Who do you play like Shay Given
Career highlights Playing Hearts in the Quarter final of the Scottish FA Cup
Career lowlights Having a shoulder reconstruction
Representative honours Qld rep, Qld juniors indoor and outdoor
Best player you've faced Kerry Dixon
Best player you've played with John Barnes, Ian Rush
Best advice you've been given Life is full of highs and lows but don't dwell on the negatives
Biggest influence family and friends
Hobbies golf, riding, all sports
Who would you most like to meet Bill Shankley
Who would you most like to be stuck in a lift with Julie Delpy
What will you be doing in 5 years time Have my own Personal training business

One to Watch - Daniel Leach

"He's got a very bright future in the game ahead of him." - Ken Swan

In off the POST

Bits and pieces from around the traps

LIONS BANK ON SUNCORP

Queensland Lions will be the first soccer tenants at the revamped Suncorp Stadium if their APL bid is successful. Speaking at a function held at Richlands last month, consultant John Ribot said he was very happy with the rental agreement struck with the stadium's officials. "The negotiations with Suncorp mean that if we have a crowd of around 8000 to start with the rent will be on a per-head basis. A percentage of the gate receipts will go back to the stadium. We can grow with the stadium and we would like to think that we can attract crowds of 30,000 eventually. The conditions of hire are conducive for us to do that."



The new Lions Den?

Meanwhile, Strikers HQ have announced that they will take up residence at Ballymore should they get the nod from the ASA. Chairman Clem Jones said the club will be renamed to the Queensland Strikers in an effort to embrace a wider audience. "The change of name from Brisbane Strikers to Queensland Strikers reflects our ambition to be a truly representative team of the Queensland public."

Ross Melville, who retired from the role of President last season also returns to resume his position. The eagerly-awaited decision on the make-up of the league is expected later this month.

JOHNNY WARREN PRESENTED WITH FIFA CENTENNIAL ORDER OF MERIT

Former Socceroo captain Johnny Warren has been honoured for his service to Australian soccer when he was presented with the FIFA Centennial Order of Merit by FIFA President Joseph S. Blatter in Sydney last month. On 21 May 2004 FIFA celebrated its 100th

birthday. During the centenary year one person within each of FIFA's 204 member associations is being presented with the FIFA Centennial Order of Merit.

Johnny Warren has been recognized for his broad-ranging contribution to Australian soccer as a player, coach, administrator and media commentator.

Australian Soccer Association CEO John O'Neill said of Johnny Warren, "Despite having been retired from the game as a player for nearly three decades, Johnny is one of the most well-known soccer personalities in Australia. His passion and commitment for the advancement of the Australian game is virtually without peer."

Johnny joins a list of notable worldwide recipients including Johan Cruyff (Netherlands), Eusebio (Portugal), Ferenc Puskas (Hungary) and Sir Stanley Rous (England). Brazil's Pele and Germany's Franz Beckenbauer each received special awards nominated by FIFA for their services as a 'player and football personality'.

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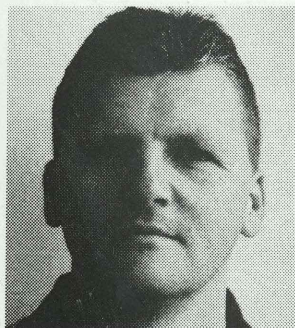
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Referee Dave Ogston reaches for the top pocket



With the wearing of jewellery becoming a fast hit from the rap stars around the block to the Euro superstars, we in Australian soccer are currently in the process of attempting to rub the out the star spangled bangles, the diamonds and metallic shards that gape out of most visual orifices they can be squeezed into, and the gold ingots worn on peoples fingers during the game.

It's not that we don't like how they look, agree or disagree that they should be worn, but more a fact that at the beginning of last year and then continued further into this year, the powers that be have pronounced the wearing of such body adornments to be both a danger to the player themselves, as well as a danger to an opposition player they might come into contact with.

Two phrases being bandied around at present are 'Workplace Health and Safety' and 'Duty of Care'. Everyone hears them in their regular 9 to 5 place of employment, but as soon as the doors locked at 5.00pm on a Friday it's off to the pub and it turns into 'Blah, Blah, Blah' for the activities that are about take place in the next 60 or so hours until we have to turn up on the doorstep to earn a living next Monday morning.

After a season and a half of reducing the body adornments, the scourge of the earring or the hidden choker, they have reared their ugly heads in recent weeks and are starting to once again become a thorn in the side of the official.

Prior to most matches the referees will come into the dressing rooms or meet your team on the field of play and give you a couple of pointers to assist them in the running of the game.

Generally, what refs say goes like this:

- No jewellery
- No swearing
- No dissent or shouting at either the referee or assistant, as all it does is causes a boring caution that no one wants
- Enjoy - play hard but fair

Generally, what players hear is this:

- Blah, Blah jewellery
- Blah, Blah swearing
- Use dissent or shout at either the referee or assistant
- Play hard

So it once again comes back to the person in black (or the myriad of new colours) to wait and see what sinks in during the pre match conversation and what has been ignored and what the outcome is going to be.

When the referee begins to think about the game, there are generally two major points that must be thought of prior to the kick off apart from the laws of the game. 'Player Safety' and 'Duty of Care'.

If Player 'A' comes out with rings on all fingers, it only takes an accidental flick of the wrist to make the ring come into contact with another player and there is a greater risk of the player 'B', whether it be opposition or not, becoming more injured.

In regards to earrings, rubber, metallic or material bracelets and necklaces, the danger is more present to the individual adorning them. If once again contact by accident or intention is made, the risk of the player being either punctured, cut, torn, or worse is not worth the risk of wearing it.

No referee in Brisbane, and I doubt Australia, is able to afford a law suit for personal injury just because they let some go outside the law and wear a piece that a player may think is becoming of them. By all means wear what you want to but don't think about entering the field of play whilst you are wearing jewellery.

Now after being that negative there is a little good news in regards to wedding rings and of course medi-alert bracelets and necklaces.

Wedding rings are acceptable as long as any stone in them is turned in towards the palm and then taped. Generally the only finger a ring is allowed to be worn on is the ring finger, with the

Greek community being given dispensation to wear it on the other hand due to their traditions. Medi-alert bracelets and necklaces are once again allowed to be worn but must be taped in place so as not to cause a danger to another person whilst the game is being played. All jewellery outside those specified are not to be worn.

As we lead up to the finals series best of luck with the jostling for positions and keep this in mind in case you are removed because if the referee leaves you on the side of the field to remove your finery you might not get onto the field until the next break in play and by that time it may be too late. ■

ASA DELIGHTED WITH NUMBER OF BIDS FOR NEW LEAGUE

The Australian Soccer Association announced that 12 consortiums would be vying for the 8 positions available for the New National Competition which is set to kick off in July 2005.

Each of the 7 locations nominated by the ASA as their preferred cities (Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane and Auckland) all had at least one submission while a group from the Central Coast also put in a bid.

Melbourne had the most interest with 3 bids, while Sydney and Brisbane each had 2 parties make a submission.

The ASA will now spend the next 6 weeks studying the bids and meeting with each of the interested parties with the winning bids to be announced around September 19th.

"We are delighted with not only the number of bids received but the calibre of the people who want to be involved," said ASA Head of Operations Matt Carroll.

"It's looking very positive. There are some very impressive presentations and we now have the important task of looking more closely at each of the bids."

"We will be working hard to ensure that the bids

meet the required standards we have set. Bids came in from all of our preferred areas and in the major markets of Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne we have got some competitive tension which is a great result."

The ASA is continuing to meet with a range of broadcasters and potential major sponsors of the competition.

LOCATION BIDDER

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Adelaide | Pickard Group |
| Auckland | Football Kingz |
| Brisbane | Queensland Strikers |
| Brisbane | Queensland Lions Soccer Club |
| Central Coast | Spirit Sports & Leisure Group |
| Melbourne | Melbourne United Pty Ltd |
| Melbourne | Melbourne Victory |
| Melbourne | Victorian Soccer Federation |
| Perth | Perth Glory Soccer Club |
| Newcastle | Newcastle United |
| Sydney | Soccer NSW |
| Sydney | Consortium headed by Nick Politis as Chairman will include Eastern Suburbs League Club, Sydney Football Stadium & other stakeholders to be announced at a later date |



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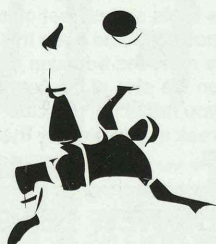
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| Premier Cup Final..... | Sun 5th September |
| Promotion/Relegation 1st Leg..... | Wed 1st September |
| Promotion/Relegation 2nd Leg..... | Sat 4th September |
| Metro Semi Finals 1st Leg..... | Sat 4th September / Sun 5th September |
| Metro Semi Finals 2nd Leg..... | Sat 11th September / Sun 12th September |
| Metro Grand Finals..... | Sat 18th September / Sun 19th September |
| Premier Semi Finals 1st Leg..... | Sat 11th September / Sun 12th September |
| Premier Semi Finals 2nd Leg..... | Sat 18th September / Sun 19th September |
| Premier Grand Finals..... | Sat 25th September / Sun 26th September |

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