

THE SOCCER POST

A publication of the Manly Warringah Football Association



MANLY WARRINGAH
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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TeleChoice The People's Choice

NSW Premier League

Manly United FC 0
Sydney Olympic 2

Sydney Olympic surpass Manly United

Sydney Olympic's push for a Top-Two finish in the TeleChoice Premier League gained further momentum following a 2-0 win against a lethargic Manly United FC at Cromer Park on Sunday afternoon.

An own goal from United skipper Richard Williams and a glancing header from Matthew Mayora on the hour mark wrapped up the three points for the Blues, who have now scored eleven goals in their last three outings. Paul Wither and Anthony Hartshorn both went within a whisker of opening the scoring after 12' minutes but saw their efforts hacked to safety by the scrambling Manly defence.

United's Robbie Cattanach then had the chance to break his goal scoring duck four minutes later but blazed his free-kick over the crossbar following a foul on Craig Midgley. Mayora should have troubled the scorers after 25' minutes but saw his point-blank header well parried by Brad Swancott. Three minutes later Chris Triantis had the travelling Belmore faithful in a euphoric mood after creating the game's opening goal.

After cutting inside a Beau Busch challenge, Triantis shot from the edge of the area and saw his strike cannon off the head of Williams and past Swancott for a deserved lead. Six minutes before the break Milorad Simonovic rattled the crossbar from 20-yards following up a Shannon Cole deflected free-kick and you got the feeling yet another home loss for Manly was a possibility given their lack of bite across the park.

A surging run down the left-flank from defender Emmanuel Zunino saw Olympic deliver the knockout blow after 60' minutes. After linking up with Roger Galayini, Zunino produced an inch perfect ball from the byline onto the head of the advancing Mayora, who was unmarked on the six-yard box and duly guided his effort inside the far post. Sydney FC's teenage recruit Chris Payne should have halved the deficit on 75' minutes but his control let him down at the final moment, allowing Michael Herbert to clear the danger.

Olympic coach Milan Blagojevic described his team's performance as "dominant" and feels they are clicking into gear at the right time:

"It was a must win game away from home with second spot up for grabs and I thought we were great, especially in the second-half, we dominated," he said.

"At the moment everyone is fit and competition for spots is fierce which brings the best out of everyone, we have A.P.I.A.-Leichhardt and Sydney United the next two games and both will provide a good test for us.

"I drummed into the boys that the hard work starts now, we will continue to prepare as a unit for the finals."

His counterpart Phil Moss admitted the fate of his team was on a knife's edge, with the possibility of missing the finals all together staring him in the face:

"Up until their second goal I felt we were in the game, it was a good arm wrestle between two decent teams," he said.

"At the moment our attitude isn't anywhere near where it should be, not enough boys are turning up on match day.

"At training when there is no pressure the boys play the house down but at the moment we are lacking the temperament required to pick up points on weekends.

"We had too many players who didn't believe we could get out of jail after we conceded that second goal and for me that just isn't good enough."

Raiders party on to wee hours after historic win

CELEBRATIONS raged long into the night at the President Hotel on Saturday after BTH Raiders won their first Premier League game of the season at Wyatt Ave. Captain Chris Hallett was the hero, dusting himself off after being fouled inside the box to slot home past Beacon custodian Hamish Carroll. BTH coach Richie Dowdall said the win was a long time coming and paid tribute to the fighting spirit his youthful squad has displayed this winter.

"If I had a dollar for the amount of times opposition coaches and referees have come up to me after each game and said how unlucky we are, I would be able to retire on the spot," he said.

"Credit to the boys, they could have thrown their hands in the air after losing so many games on the trot but they keep coming back each week.

"Even now I have close to 30 players at our training sessions each week, the attitude of everyone is great. We have six games left and many of the teams we are due to play are also in a relegation dogfight so we aren't dead and buried just yet.

"It isn't going to be easy but I knew that at the start of the year when I recruited 18 new players, mathematically we can still avoid the drop which has kept the boys spirits up. While we need a host of results to go our way to be a chance of staying up, to finally get a win under our belts was a great feeling."

In other results competition leaders Brookvale edged past Pittwater RSL FC 1-0 thanks to a first half penalty from Steve Riches, Wakehurst moved into the top four after scoring with the last kick of the game to defeat Manly Vale 2-1, Mosman upset CC Strikers 1-0, Forest Killarney came from a goal down to beat Manly Allambie 3-1 and Dee Why overcame Narrabeen 1-0.

Abigroup

Constructing Australia's Future

Abigroup Contractors, Australia's second largest construction company, are currently contracted to design and construct the new 'Village at Balgowlah' retail and residential development for Stocklands.

Abigroup are committed to being actively involved with the local community and are proud sponsors of the Manly United Football Club.

Quality kids will give our game a big boot along

MORE than 130 potential stars of the future attended last week's Manly United School Holiday Program at Cromer Park. And, I have to say from the outset the improvement in a lot of the kids caught me by surprise. But it was the youngest groups that stood out more so - the 5-9 years.

While it is hard to gauge their game awareness in match-like situations at a school holiday camp where technical training and fun games are the order of the day the basic skills and intensity of their training is what really stood out. Simple skills testing with dribbling slaloms and passing targets produced very good results.

The difficulty of the skills tests the kids were put through were increased from the April school holidays and everyone who participated coped with them well. The attitude and behaviour of all the players was exemplary and that showed me two things: they wanted to be there and the quality of the coaching was good. A concerted effort to move away from "child-minding" to a specific football camp is showing signs of working. Quality of coaching is so pivotal in a young players' development but realistic quantity is also crucial.

The sessions went for 2.5 hours a day - including food and drinks breaks - for four days with Wednesday off to refresh them for the final two days. Any longer and you lose the concentration and interest of the youngsters. I'm not for one minute saying that there were 130 future Socceros or Matildas at Cromer Park last week but the progress from a local youth development point of view was very encouraging.

With Manly United running in and after-school programs, community centres and an elite training program during term at Cromer Park - coupled with improved coaching at local club level with more and more mentors doing their coaching badges and other courses to expand their knowledge - we are starting to see real benefits at an MWFA and MUFC level. The MUFC/MWFA under-10s (boys) and under-11s (girls) squads have just been finalised too and are amongst the strongest we have seen in recent years.

There is a definite improvement across the board in the younger age groups. MUFC first grade captain Richy Williams, who runs the school holidays camp with striker Craig Midgley - both of whom have completed Part A of the FFA/AFC A-Licence and are employed fulltime in the coaching and development department at Cromer Park - agrees the standard of the youngsters is definitely on the rise.

"Most certainly there was a noted improvement in the basic skills and technical ability of the young ones," he said.

"Numbers were very good from 5 years to 9 years and if we can continue to work hard with those age groups I think there will be massive improvements in the coming years.

"Coaches at local club level are also doing a great job because we can see improvement from one school holidays to the next."

The week was fittingly completed with a "World Cup" played in the shadows of a grandstand named after a bloke whose feats they all dream of one day emulating - Lucas Neill.

Neill not Galatasaray bound

Lucas Neill's agent has ruled out any chance of his client joining Harry Kewell at Galatasaray.

Socceros and West Ham defender Neill had been strongly linked with a move to the Turkish giants, but a move to the 2007/2008 Turkish Super Liga Champions now looks unlikely.



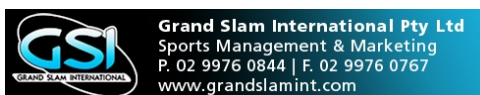
West Ham captain Lucas Neill vies for the ball with fellow Socceroo Mark Viduka

He only joined the Hammers in 2007 and has just been named club captain by manager Alan Curbishley. Baring that in mind his agent Paddy Dominguez sees no reason why Neill would want to leave Upton Park.

"It doesn't make sense that a manager who brought Lucas to the club and has installed him as captain would look to sell him," Dominguez told *The Australian*.

"It would be very strange. Lucas' relationship with Alan Curbishley is good and he is relishing the role of captain."

Grand Slam International launches new innovative website



Grand Slam International (GSI), is pleased to announce the launch of its new innovative website www.grandslamint.com

This announcement coincides with the launch of [GSI Ambassadors & Speakers](#) division, strengthening the company's already strong sport and entertainment offering. Please find attached a full list of **GSI Ambassadors & Speakers**.

GSI Ambassadors & Speakers has formed a comprehensive list of athletes, coaches, media celebrities, business and motivational speakers to service a variety of client and event requirements.

Ambassadors and Speaking talent includes: Olympians Ian Thorpe, Alisa Camplin, Jane Saville, Cadel Evans, Debbie Watson, Lisa Forrest, John Konrads and Craig Stevens;

Footballers John Aloisi, Les Murray, Tony Vidmar, and Gary van Egmond and;

Business, coaching and motivational speakers Jeff McMullen, Pat Farmer and Tracey Holmes.

For more information regarding GSI's Ambassadors & Speakers please contact: Karen Oates, Director Client Services karen@grandslamint.com Ph: + 61 2 9976 0844

Expressions of interest

Manly Football has four legal identities that require their financial records audited each year to Australian Standards. We are now calling for expressions of interest for companies and individuals to complete the audits for the 2007/2008 financial year. The end of financial year for all four bodies is 30 September. Expressions of interest should be sent in writing to the General Manager at Jeremy@mwfa.com.au Queries can also be answered by calling Jeremy Toivonen on 9982 6228 during business hours

EOI close on 1 August 2008

Sydney FC Fan Day Season Launch

Save the date – Circle Sunday August 10 in your diary and be sure not to miss the Sydney FC Fan Day & Season Launch 2008.

The wait is almost over for Sydney FC supporters, with the Hyundai A-League club counting down to the start of season 2008/09, which will kick off with a round one clash at home against the Melbourne Victory on 16 August. Early next month supporters can become part of the action when Sydney FC officially launches its season with Fan Day 2008.

Activities will get under way at 10am, with fans invited to view an open training session, followed by festivities including a celebrity football match, the official season jersey presentation to the Sydney FC team, as well as an autograph session and the opportunity to get your photo taken in the Bing Lee/JVC photo tent with a Sydney FC player; so don't forget your camera.

There'll be plenty of fun for kids and families at the free community event, as well as entertainment, giveaways, and the chance to become a member of Sydney FC's growing family.

What Sydney FC Fan Day & Season Launch 2008
When 10:00am – 2:00pm - Sunday August 10 2008
Where - Macquarie University Sports Fields – University Oval Corner of Culloden and Talavera Road North Ryde

For more information, please call the Sydney FC office on 02 9387 4233 or visit www.sydneyfc.com

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Want to become a "Field Sign Sponsor" please ring or email Sean Westwood at 0413 618 444 or at marketing@manlyunitedfc.com.au – all support is appreciated.

MOSSY'S MUMBLINGS

RED CARD: THOSE complete fools who claim the Australian under-23 Olympic Team should be a developmental squad. The other nations – Brazil and Argentina no less – are stacking their squads with superstars and FFA chairman Frank Lowy wants a medal. Wake up to yourselves!



GOOAAAL: CONGRATULATIONS to both Brookvale ladies premier league and the Beacon Hill ladies U14/1 sides on making their respective State Cup Finals this Sunday. The finals will be played at Parklea. Best of luck for the big games from all at MWFA and Manly United.



WITH Manly United enjoying a break from the NSW Premier League this weekend due to Tiger Turf Cup semi-finals, first grade stars Beau Busch and Chris Payne will be turning out for Newcastle Jets and Sydney FC, respectively, in the first round of the A-League pre-season cup. Busch jetted out for Perth on Thursday for the Jets' clash while Payne will take on Queensland Roar at Campbelltown Sports Stadium on Saturday night.

MOSSY'S MUMBLINGS



MUMBLINGS is a column based on true events and real people. While we have eyes and ears everywhere please feel free to email your short story – funny, quirky, sad, stupid, hilarious, down right ridiculous or otherwise – to mossy@mwfa.com.au While we try to get every story to print the final decision rests with the editor.

SUNDAY marks the staging of the 30th Annual U9 Strikers Cup at Cromer Park. With 28 teams from all over Sydney and NSW, the day-long tournament is truly Australia's premier event for that age group. Strikers have done a wonderful job with the event over the years and helped prepare thousands of youngsters for the jump to full-field football and the representative ranks.

It promises to be a jam-packed day of action at MWFA headquarters with the host club working hard towards winning the title for only the third time. Do your best kids but remember – fun and participation must be the priority!

All the action starts from 8.30am.



SAM Panetta is a coach who really knows how to get through to his players. Problem is he has lost a lot of hair doing it. No, not because it is falling out – but because his players got to shave it off!

The popular Manly United under-12s Metropolitan League coach challenged his players five weeks ago to "win five on the trot and you can shave my head!" Well, five weeks and five wins later, the clippers came out at training in the Cromer Park sheds this week. The fifth win came via a last-minute penalty last weekend. At one stage Mrs. Panetta was believed to have given it the old "it's a shaved head or it's me" line but Mumbblings hears she has since mellowed her stance and will infact continue to live under the same roof. Hate to think what Sammy has in stall if they win the GF!



REFEREE'S Corner this week has a few more brain teasers. But first here are last week's Q&A.

Q. How far from the corner of the field of play is the **optional** mark that can be made at right angles to the goal/touch line, to ensure that opponents are standing the correct distance away when a corner kick is being taken.

A. 9.15m (10yds) B. 10.06m (11yds) C. 11m (12yds)

Answer: B. 11yds (the reason is the defending team must be at least 10 yds from the ball when it is placed so if the attacking team chooses to put it on the line of the arc they can).

Q. A player taking a penalty kick taps the ball slightly forwards. A colleague, who was outside of the penalty area, rushes into the penalty area and scores a goal. How does the referee restart the game?

A. Kick-Off B. Indirect Free Kick C. Penalty Kick

Answer: A. Kick off – it's a goal.

Now for this week's little beauties..

Q. A player deliberately passes the ball to his goalkeeper who dives and catches the ball inside his penalty area, thus preventing an oncoming opponent from scoring an obvious goal. What action should the Referee take?

A. Send-off the goalkeeper for preventing an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.

B. Award an Indirect Free Kick and let the goalkeeper remain on the field
C. Award a Penalty Kick

Q. Shin guards must?

A. Be of an approved safety design
B. Be made of shock proof materials
C. Provide a reasonable degree of protection



WE reported recently on the Day of Difference clash between Beacon Hill and Curl Curl O35/3s a couple of weeks ago and the compliments continue to stream through Mumbblings desk. The day – attended by Sofie Delezio and her dad Ron – raised more than \$6,000.

"It was an enthralling match but the attitude of the players from both Beacon Hill and Curl Curl who have made this day their own was outstanding," brilliant Beacon Hill playmaker Dave "Sluggo" Richardson told Mumbblings.

"The competitiveness and camaraderie between the two teams is incredible.

"I have only been involved for the past three years but Beacon Hill has proved to be a wonderful example of the spirit of the game and the league."



IT'S official – according to Mumbblings readers anyway – Abbott Rd No. 5 Field is the worst in the MWFA.

"What a disgrace - a professional referee would probably have cancelled our match it is so bad," exclaimed one reader this week. It wasn't the first complaint and we can guarantee it won't be the last!

AN irate player phoned MWFA headquarters this week to complain about a referee "to the highest person possible!"

The answer: "Well the Pope's in town so why not try him."

Thankfully the caller saw the funny side but it was just too golden an opportunity for the telephonist to pass up on.



WE know some readers may think we overdo things with the mighty Curl Curl O35 ladies side but we have to admit they keep providing us with good, printable material! This time it was a 4-1 victory over the previously undefeated Seasiders – renowned locally for years of dominance in Ladies football.

But it wasn't the result in particular that makes them newsworthy this week – more so the team's preparation for the top of the table clash. It involved cancelling their one and only training session of the week in the lead-up to the big game to venture down to Cromer Park and catch all the action of the Manly United-Sydney FC fixture.

Then, after consuming a few bottles of anything but soft-drink, they bailed up Sydney FC coach John Kosmina and star midfielder Steve Corica in the

clubhouse for some tips on how to handle the pressure of a top-of-the-table clash. Mumbblings can only assume the tips worked to perfection – they don't call "Kossie" the man with the Midas touch for nothing.

They also took the opportunity to add "Kossie" and Steve to their growing list of celebrities to don the Curl Curl YOUTH jacket (**see pic below**).



SHOULD be interesting the next time Mosman and Brookvale do battle in an AL1 game after a recent clash resulted in a post-match war of words. The Mosman camp claimed that a Brookvale supporter ran away with the spare match ball late in the game with the scores locked at 0-0. Brookvale have now hit back with claims the said ball was "back on the field of play before the player had time to turn around and find another".

"Bet they didn't tell you about the manager/coach being told to shut up and sit down by the ref - oh I forgot they didn't provide any seats in the technical area so he couldn't!" said an emailed response from the Brookie camp this week. Mosman are second in the league with Brookvale trailing in 7th spot, just four points outside the top four with a game in hand. A semi-final clash is not yet out of the question!

You can't beat the passion these end of season games generate..



THE Brookvale premier league squad seems to be kicking goals on and off the field this season. Not only are they leading the comp by a handsome margin, but they leant their support en masse to Forest-Killarney's annual Leukaemia Foundation fundraiser after last weekend's clash at Melwood Oval.

"All the players and the coaching staff got behind our fundraiser and now I'm off to re-stock the bar!" Melwood Oval barman Gav told Mumbblings this week.



MANLY United under-14 assistant coach Chris Williams led the U11 Met North outfit to the State Title at Nowra last week. The youngsters recovered from a first round loss to take out the title in emphatic fashion. Williams, a young coach at just 22, impressed all with his handling of the team. "For a young man looking after a group of young boys who mostly did not know each other and had at best an interrupted preparation (due to rain), his

performance was nothing short of outstanding," one parent wrote in this week.

"There was a first up loss but there was no panic. Some strategic positional changes and a gentle word had them back on track. They consequently never lost another game and won the title."

Williams had to deal with injuries to both goalkeepers at one stage, illness and fatigue (8 games in 5 days) and didn't put a foot wrong. Congrats to the super coach and all the players.



NARRABEEN president Denis Hole best summed up last week's Manly United School Holiday camp – attended by a whopping 130 youngsters - at Cromer Park. Run by first grade stars Richy Williams and Craig Midgley and boasting coaches from the clubs' first grade, Grade 20s, 18s and ladies ranks, the camp was a raging success.

"Great Coaches! Great Skills! Great Fun!" he told Mumbblings. "And Richy made sure that nobody left without their ball, jacket or drink bottle - kids super happy and parents very impressed!"



TERM 3 of the MWFA/MUFC Elite Training Program starts on Monday July 28 (club players), Tuesday July 29 (rep players) and Wednesday July 30 (goalkeepers). Please see below information flyers with all the details.



MWFA / MUFC ELITE TRAINING PROGRAM **TERM 3 – 2008**

INCLUDES GOALKEEPER TRAINING (see below)

MWFA CLUB PLAYERS

Boys and girls - aged 6-13yrs (NEW YOUNGER AGE GROUPS)

NOTE: Open to all players aged 6-9yrs and 10-13yrs playing MWFA club 1st division (or the highest division in their age group at their club)

Dates: **Monday July 28 – Monday September 15**
Times: 4.15pm – 5.30pm
Venue: Cromer Park – 101 South Creek Rd, Dee Why
Cost: \$160/player for 8 weekly sessions + *\$20 for training kit + ball)

(*optional for players with MUFC training kit from previous camps)

Payment: \$160 or \$180 due on July 28 at 1st session
Cash or cheque (payable to MWFA) only

COACHES: Sharon Egger – MUFC Girls Youth League Head Coach
Susan Wheatley – MUFC 1st grade player
Staff coaches

SPECIALIST GOALKEEPER TRAINING

With Bruno Jasiczek (MUFC GK COACH)

Dates: **WEDNESDAY July 30 – Wednesday September 17**
Times: 6pm–7.30pm
Venue: Cromer Park – 101 South Creek Rd, Dee Why
(Synthetic-grassed cage)
Cost: \$35/player per session
Bookings: BRUNO on **0421 131 051** or email bjeronimo@gmail.com

Open to all goalkeepers aged 9-18yrs playing representative youth league or MWFA club 1st division (or the highest division in their age group at their club)



MWFA / MUFC ELITE TRAINING PROGRAM **TERM 3 – 2008**

INCLUDES GOALKEEPER TRAINING (see below)

REPRESENTATIVE YOUTH LEAGUE PLAYERS
Boys and girls - aged 10-15yrs

Dates: **TUESDAY July 29 – Tuesday September 16**
Times: **4.15pm – 5.30pm**
Venue: **Cromer Park – 101 South Creek Rd, Dee Why**
Cost: **\$160 for eight sessions (\$20/player per session)**
Cash or cheque (payable to MWFA) only
Payment plans available

Coaches: **Phil Moss (MUFC Head Coach)**
Sharon Egger (MUFC Girls Youth League Head Coach)

Program: **Technique, 1v1, 2v2, specific game-related positional play**

Bookings: **Essential email mossy@mwfa.com.au**

Wet Weather: **Call 9982-6228 after Noon on day of program**

SPECIALIST GOALKEEPER TRAINING

With Bruno Jasiczek (MUFC). Every WEDNESDAY night (6pm–7.30pm) from July 30 – September 17 in the synthetic-grassed cage at Cromer Park. Cost \$35/session. Bookings call BRUNO on **0421 131 051 or email bigeronimo@gmail.com**

Open to all goalkeepers aged 10-18yrs playing representative youth league or MWFA club 1st division (or the highest division in their age group at their club)