

EXTRA TIME



The Official Magazine of the McDonald's Kanga Cup
Issue 1, Monday 4 July 2022
Canberra, ACT



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**KEEP AN EYE OUT EACH MORNING
FOR THE NEW EDITION OF EXTRA
TIME, THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
THE MCDONALD'S KANGA CUP AND
SEE IF YOUR TEAM IS FEATURED!**

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McDonald's Kanga Cup, 2022

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR COPY OF THE OFFICIAL PROGRAM?



The McDonald's Kanga Cup turns 30 in 2022 and the Official Tournament Program has been a staple of the event since it was first held in Sydney in the early 1990's. The 30th Anniversary edition of the Official Program is the perfect souvenir of what is sure to be a wonderful event.

As you would expect, you can see every Pool across every age-group in your program, plus handy ground maps and a map of Canberra showing where every hub is located to make your stay a lot easier.

There are welcomes from your hosts, Capital Football and the Chief Minister of the ACT plus a retrospective look back at the 1991 Kanga Cup – the very first edition. As well as that, there 's an

in-depth feature on Thirty Years of Memories of the biggest Youth Football Tournament in the Southern Hemisphere.

We also shine the focus on the Referee Youth Academy, outline the Benefits of Youth Football and bring you a full list of the winners of each age group at the last McDonald's Kanga Cup – held two years ago! There's also the Code of Conduct, important for everyone to read, players, officials, and spectators alike and a look at our hugely vital Volunteers.

This 32-page A4 publication, printed in full colour, will be available in limited supplies throughout the tournament and is a must-have keepsake for young and old alike. So, don't miss out, make sure you grab your copy of the 30th Anniversary McDonald's Kanga Cup Official Program!

Programs will be distributed to clubs via kitbags. Additional copies may be available at Kanga Cup playing hubs. Should you be unable to secure a copy, feel free to email us at info@kangacup.com and we will endeavour to assist.

THOUSANDS ATTEND KANGA CUP OPENING CEREMONY

A packed Reconciliation Place in Canberra was the scene for the launch of the 30th edition of the McDonald's Kanga Cup as representatives of the competing teams and the tournament officials gathered to mark the Official Opening Ceremony of the largest Youth Football Tournament in the Southern Hemisphere.

With thousands of youngsters bedecked in their club gear and rugged up against the cold on the shores of Lake Burley-Griffin, it was certainly a colourful spectacle with the highlight being the traditional march past where the competing teams could highlight their club and enjoy a moment in the spotlight.

A Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country added to the occasion with the teams enjoying some music to pass the time and mingling with their peers ahead of the week-long event which, for the 2022 edition, has attracted over 240 teams including overseas representation from Singapore.

"The Opening Ceremony is a Kanga Cup tradition, and we are delighted that the teams involved enjoyed themselves at Reconciliation Place," Capital Football Chair Angelo Konstantinou, who welcomed the teams to Canberra and the Australian Capital Territory commented.



“The Kanga Cup is a tremendous competition and displays everything that is so special about the game of football. It’s a place to have fun and make friendships that, in some cases, last an entire lifetime.

“Our thanks go out to the Kanga Cup Organising Committee for the superb job that they have done in making this Opening Ceremony event the success it has been.

“This week will see memories made for everyone involved, will see some exemplary football and some top-class goals, tackles and saves. I wish all the competing players, the match officials and everyone watching a hugely enjoyable McDonald’s Kanga Cup.”

The 2022 McDonald’s Kanga Cup takes place from Sunday 3 July to Friday 8 July, culminating in the Grand Finals of each Cup, Plate and Shield for each age category at the VEO Hub at Southwell Park, Lyneham.



DON'T FORGET TO VISIT SPORT IN FOCUS, THE OFFICIAL MCDONALD'S KANGA CUP PHOTOGRAPHERS TO BOOK YOUR TEAM SHOT, A SUPERB MEMENTO OF YOUR TIME IN CANBERRA!

CURL CURL BRING A GEM OF THE TEAM TO THE KANGA CUP



Based on the Northern Beaches in Sydney, NSW and playing out of their home ground at Abbott Road, Curl Curl FC arrive at the McDonald's Kanga Cup with a fresh-faced group of U12 players who nearly already qualify for 'veteran' status.

That's because the squad that makes up the Curl Curl FC Gemstones have been playing together for four years ahead of this, their maiden appearance at the world-renowned

Youth football extravaganza that is the Kanga Cup. And many will be following in the footsteps of elder siblings.

"They are a wonderful group of girls, many who have had older brothers come and play at Kanga Cup before," Elisha Stewart, four-year Coach of the Gemstones herself, told the Kanga Cup.

"We love the idea of a week-long competition to help grow the girls' skills, experience more game time, and be involved in a tournament. Kanga Cup is a wonderful opportunity for the girls to have a week away dedicated to Football, it will hopefully be a wonderful experience that they will always remember."

The week-long event of football, fun and friendship is something that lives long in the memory and can provide a lifetime of moments which are often fondly recalled many years down the track. It's a fantastic event and one which Stewart is well attuned to.

"The McDonalds Kanga Cup is special as it is a competition that allows for the girls to compete against other all girls' teams," she said. "I believe is a wonderful opportunity to be part of. Women's football has grown and continues to grow significantly, it is something we are all passionate about.

“We would just like to continue growing as a team, push the girls to achieve their personal best and above all have an amazing week together in Canberra playing Football. The girls and their families are all paying their own way to take part in Kanga Cup, we spilt the entry fee amongst the team and found some great accommodation where we can all be near one another.”

As per every team that is competing this week in chilly Canberra, Curl Curl are indebted to a group of people who often go unrecognised in their support of youth and junior football, enabling the members of the Curl Curl squad to live a first-hand experience of this major youth football tournament.

“I would like to thank our club for the support they give us as a team,” Stewart explained. “Prodigy Football for the extra coaching and our extra team members that are joining our team for the week. Not all our girls could make the trip to Canberra, so we have some amazing girls helping us out. I’d also like to thank all the parents for making it possible for the girls have this trip and this experience.” It’s clear that Curl Curl FC will enjoy themselves this Winter in the ACT.



AROUND THE GROUNDS



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WANDERERS LOOKING FORWARD TO FOOTBALL CELEBRATION

The West Canberra Wanderers U16 team may well be a local based club but that doesn't dampen their enthusiasm for the McDonald's Kanga Cup in any way, with the team super-excited about competing at the 2022 edition. As a club that competes in the National Premier League there is a focus on player development at the club, with teams throughout the elite level set-up in the Canberra region. Established in 2014, the club are based in the south of Canberra at the Melrose Synthetic facility but attract players from across the ACT.

"Whilst we're an NPL-focussed club based in Canberra, we also have Pathways teams in the community league and the Wanderers Academy, an all-year Skills Acquisition Program for players in U9 to U12 age groups," Pathways Coach Chris Sheedy commented. "We're from Canberra, but our players are looking forward to spending time on the sidelines as a group, getting to know other teams and watching some great football."

The Wanderers have a real community feel to the club, something that is evident on matchdays at their home facility in Melrose High School, and it's the opportunity to play against teams from around the country and make friends from different clubs that attracts the club to participate.





“The Kanga Cup is a one-of-a-kind event,” Sheedy confirmed. “Every coach and player wants to be part of it, so much so that it has become a rite of passage. It’s an event that creates memories for players and their families. We’re so lucky that it takes place right here in Canberra, and we’ve missed it over the last few years. The Kanga Cup represents everything good about football - community, performance, health, friendship, and unity.

At the Kanga Cup we look forward to playing teams from other regions to continue the development of our players. At the same time, our teams enjoy the time they get to spend together, both on the field and off. It’s always a festive environment.”

A healthy respect for your opponent, an enjoyment of the fixture you are competing in and respecting the officials and the club’s badge are paramount for the Wanderers. Having the chance to do that at a world-renowned competitive tournament will be a hugely satisfying moment for the Wanderers and their supporters.

“When it’s boiled down, the Kanga Cup is about family,” Sheedy said. “Of course, we thank our coaches and managers, but we also use the Kanga Cup to say thank you to the families who support their players throughout the year to be part of this fantastic sport.

“There is simply nothing else like the Kanga Cup. It brings together in our small but awesome city everything that everybody loves about football. It gives our local teams exposure to clubs from around Australia and, sometimes, from around the world. And, as it removes us from the grind of weekly competition, it reminds us of why we play. The Kanga Cup is about enjoying and celebrating football - it’s that simple.”

REPUTATION PRECEDES COMPETITION FOR SHIRE



The McDonald's Kanga Cup brings with it an allure all its own. You will often hear comments that there is nothing else like it. That's because its reputation precedes it and, sometimes that makes entering the competition a simple decision as it was for Sutherland Shire's SAP U9 program. The squad in Canberra are representing the Sutherland Shire Football Association (SSFA), an association based in the Sutherland Shire in Sydney's south and will be led in the National Capital by Team Manager, Marty Manns and Team Coach, Jordan Grinham.

"As we are yet to experience the Kanga Cup, we are yet to fully understand how special this competition is, but we are all aware of the reputation that this competition has and its history of providing quality football opportunities," Manns said of the team's entry. "We are excited to be part of the competition in its 30th year, and after a couple of disappointing years through COVID. This is the first year this group have been playing together and have really gelled as a playing group. Since the commencement of the squad's training program back in November last year, the boys have all struck up friendships and these connections are already visible when they play every weekend.

"They all play with everything they have and in the right spirit of the game. 'Although the SAP program is aimed at player development, rather than winning games. In short, our group are just a great group of young players trying to get the most out of the opportunity they have received to further their football 'development and are thoroughly enjoying the journey."

The lure of the national competition, and a visit to Canberra in the chilly climes of winter, are all part of the reasoning for entering the tournament but it was the chance to play every single day that has driven Sutherland Shire to make the trip down the Hume Highway.

"The main reason for our desire to enter the Kanga Cup was to experience a larger scale competition, where the boys can test themselves against other well matched sides," Manns revealed. "And to be honest, they just want to play as much football as they can squeeze in! Training 3 times a week and playing on the weekends is nowhere near enough for this group.

"A few months ago, there was a proposal for this squad to participate in the MADCUP in Spain, a venture that was a little too big of an ask for most families. After this, the players were keen to cut their teeth in another competition, and the Kanga Cup was mentioned. As soon as the idea was floated the boys and their families were all on board, and the waiting game was on until registrations opened, and we could join the competition.

"We would like to thank the coaching staff at SSFA SAP for allowing us to participate, with coaching director Jon Long worthy of a thank you. As Manager, I would just like to thank all the parents involved in our group for coming together, without hesitation and with much willingness to support the boys in our entry to this competition. Our Coach, Jordan Grinham also deserved a massive thank you for all the effort he has put into the development of this squad."

It's not just the football that will be on offer for this lucky group of talented players, there's plenty to see and do off the pitch in the ACT and Manns and his group will be hoping to experience it all!

"The players and their families are keen to take in some of the attractions on offer in Canberra," he said. "Vertikal Indoor Snow Sports, Cockington Green and Questacon are just some of the options on our radar. The parents are also looking to blow off some steam, when possible, with separate Mum's Night Out and Dad's Night Out bound to be planned. Our coach is also adamant that he will find an opportunity to fit some golf in there somewhere as well!"



AROUND THE GROUNDS: RETRO



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