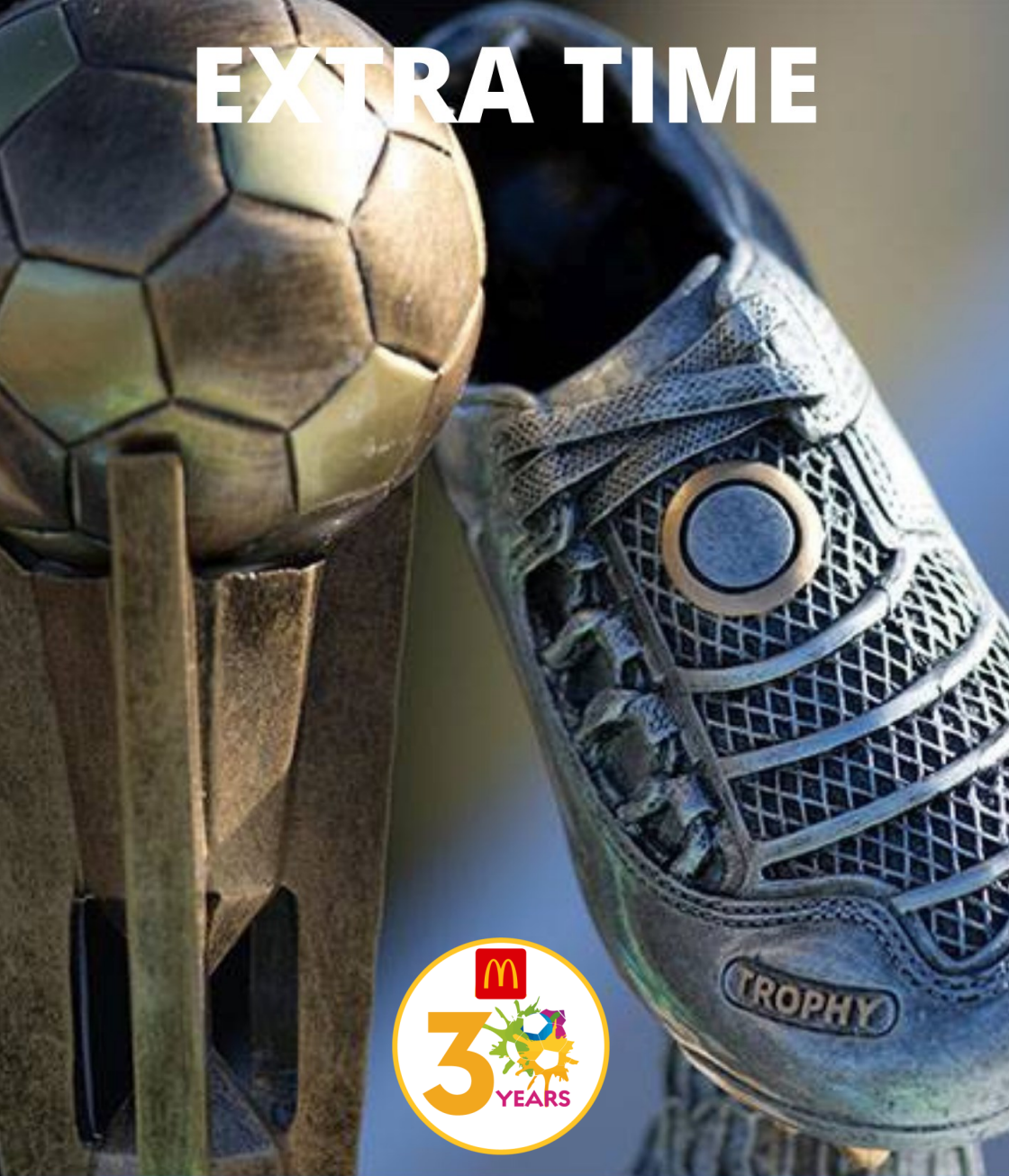


EXTRA TIME



The Official Magazine of the McDonald's Kanga Cup
Issue 5, Friday 8 July 2022
Canberra, ACT



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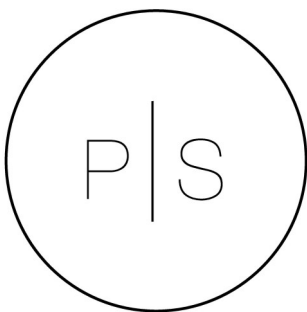
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KEEP AN EYE OUT EACH MORNING
FOR THE NEW EDITION OF EXTRA
TIME, THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
THE MCDONALD'S KANGA CUP

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McDonald's Kanga Cup, 2022

PURE SOCCER ARE UP FOR THEIR FIRST KANGA CUP



What does a former professional footballer do when they retire? Well, in the case of James Coutts, they move to Australia and start up a football Academy.

Coutts, who was a well-travelled player in the non-league scene in the United Kingdom, began his career at AFC Bournemouth, a club well-known to many here in Australia as they prepare for a second stint in the English Premier League.

Coutts career path has brought him to Logan Lightning and the formation of the Pure Soccer Academy. At only two years of age, the Academy is in its formative years and a trip to Canberra will no doubt be utilised to help the team focus on the academies three key pillars, Intense, Fun and Learning.

“Pure Soccer is all about providing a fun, professional coaching experience for every player and coach we work with,” Coutts told Kanga Cup. “Each year we look to learn and grow as a business to ensure all players entering our programs have an enjoyable time whilst also maximising their potential.

“Our Full Time group wanted a tour away and we've heard great things about the tournament. This will be our 1st ever inter-state tournament, however we're very excited to get started.”

The McDonald's Kanga Cup competition can offer up many different reasons for entering for different teams, but Coutts feels like the trip to the National Capital can provide his team with an environment not too far away from the professionalism that he was used to throughout his career.

“We want to build a stronger bond amongst our group, play some exciting Football and create some life lasting memories for the players,” Coutts commented. “The parents of our players covered the costs of entering the tournament and we have two of our great parents who have put together an itinerary for the boys for when we're not playing.

“We would like to thank all of our Full time parents who continue to support us and a special mention to Julie Sorensen and Ross Street for their help with organising.”

MACCABI HAKOAH AIM TO DEVELOP PLAYERS AT KANGA CUP



Hakoah Sydney City East FC, better known as Maccabi Hakoah, have travelled from the Eastern Suburbs to have their crack at the Kanga Cup. Maccabi Hakoah FC U9s coach Jack Smith thinks very highly of the tournament and its ability to bring aspiring players from around the country to play it out in Canberra.

“It’s a great competition, it’s a really good experience for the boys to get out of their comfort zone and out of their area of playing around in Sydney,” Smith said. “The exposure of playing against teams from all over the country is great.”

Smith is most looking forward to seeing his team gain the experience of competing against different teams in an unfamiliar environment. He is pleased with how the youngsters have approached the tournament so far and is excited to see what they can do.

“I’m looking forward to the boys just playing together and going up against a different competition. It’ll be great to see them play as a team and enjoy it as an experience for themselves,” Smith said. “They’re all very excited. We all drove down to the hotel last night and went out for dinner, and now they are ready to play some football.”

Smith is not fazed by the results of the games his team will play in the Kanga Cup but rather about how it can help develop their skills going forward. “For me, it’s about the kids. It’s not about the result, it’s not about winning or losing,” Smith said. “They just need to learn how to play proper football and play as a team and just enjoy themselves.”

The club aims to teach younger teams how to both win and lose and play football to achieve development in themselves. Maccabi Hakoah FC believes the Kanga Cup is a great tournament that brings lots of people together from all parts of the country to bond over their love of football. “It’s a great experience for not only the kids, but the parents too. With its great facilities, it’s a really good tournament that succeeds in uniting many people.”

CUP EXPERIENCE IS PROVING WORTHWHILE FOR PASCOE VALE



Pascoe Vale FC have come from Victoria to give their U11 boys team a chance to experience travelling interstate and playing a different pool of competition to what they are used to. Coach Peter Christoforo is excited to see the smiles on the players faces as they get the Kanga Cup show on the road.

"I am looking forward to exposing the boys to travelling interstate and giving them that opportunity to play against the best kids in the country," Christoforo said.

It is evident that energy levels are high amongst these youngsters through their approach to the game. During warm-up it is clear their level of enthusiasm and excitement to be playing football in the capital.

"I think I just really enjoy seeing the kids doing what they do, enjoying themselves and getting the chance to play football interstate," he said. "The most important thing is to see the kids wearing their smiles, and to obviously see Canberra too while we are here. There are a lot of teams here that they won't be able to play again."

Christoforo believes the club creates resilient football players that portray their love of the game on the field. They place a focus on the enjoyment of the sport with their fellow teammates, and it is that simple. While in Canberra, Pascoe Vale has organised the opportunity to go to local soccer clubs and explore that aspect of the city along with other activities that aim to create a bond within the team. Christoforo is pleased to get the players out of their normal routines of being at home these school holidays by travelling interstate for a week filled of football.

"We went to the aquatic centre and did some recovery sessions, and all we really hope is to do things as a team and bond together," he said. "They are definitely enjoying the Kanga Cup, the kids just love to play the sport. Especially being away from home it is a different experience for them and not being sat on a device all day and getting out and about is always good for them."

DEVELOPMENT IS THE KEY FOR BLACKTOWN CITY



Blacktown City FC, who was formed in 1953 as Toongabbie Soccer Club and changed their name to Blacktown City in 1979, is one of the leading football clubs in the New South Wales National Premier League and are back in Canberra for the 2022 McDonald's Kanga Cup enjoying every minute of their participation.

As a club Blacktown take great pride in their proven youth development programs for elite players as they strive to create talented footballers and great people, both on and off the field, by providing world class facilities and coaching. A trip to the Kanga Cup, the pre-eminent youth football tournament in the Southern Hemisphere, plays a big part in that development.

But it's about a lot more than just player development and football according to spokesperson for Blacktown City Carla Duckmanton as the club feels a major part of the community especially so when they compete at their home ground of Lily Homes Field in Seven Hills.

"Blacktown City FC has entered the McDonalds Kanga Cup in order to build community awareness and create team bonding with our players and parents participating in the McDonalds Kanga Cup," Duckmanton commented. "Blacktown City FC prides itself on building communities and creating a culture of family through our sporting activities.



“Through our partners and community, Blacktown City FC have been able to promote the McDonalds Kanga Cup in order to raise funds for our teams to participate. We will be promoting team bonding exercises within the Canberra region by visiting various locations whilst promoting our family focussed community sporting ethics.”

If you're wondering why the name Blacktown might ring a bell it may be because On 2 August 2017, City defeated Central Coast Mariners 3-2 in the Round of 32 of the 2017 FFA Cup, becoming the fifth state-level side in FFA Cup history to defeat A-League opposition, ultimately reaching the Quarter Finals.

That team was well-backed by the community and its sponsors, and their Kanga Cup team is no exception, aiming to make memories that will live as long as that tremendous Cup run five years ago.

“The club would like to thank our sponsor, Paul Scotellara from Connex Group, for their support and ensuring our teams are able to participate in the McDonalds Kanga Cup,” Duckmanton confirmed. “The Kanga Cup is a large football festival which will allow Blacktown City FC to test its football programs against local, national, and international teams.”



AROUND THE GROUNDS



Above image of VEO Southwell Park is courtesy of ACT Government, Riverside Olympic team, below, is courtesy of The Examiner.



AROUND THE GROUNDS



NORTH TASMANIA EMBRACING FULL KANGA CUP SPECTRUM



North Tasmanian Junior Soccer Association (NTJSA) are a new team that is ecstatic to be a part of the Kanga Cup and visiting Canberra for what is the first time for many of them. It is also NTJSA Coach David Sturdy's first time here and he thinks having such a great tournament in an equally great city is a perfect match.

"We signed up to experience a great trip with a great group of boys," Sturdy said. "A couple of boys have been here, but the majority haven't, it is an interesting city. There are loads of things to do, and the Kanga Cup is a fantastic tournament as well."

NTJSA are looking forward to playing a variety of teams that they would not normally go up against in their usual competition in Tasmania. "We're excited to having a great experience playing some different teams and I suppose trying to come together as a team ourselves," he said. "We are a new team this year so it is a good experience for them to all bond together and play some good football along the way."

Sturdy feels as though he is on the field with them as he feels the emotions as strongly as they do in the hope that the youngsters succeed in the tournament. "Although everyone is keen to be here, I get really nervous as well for them because obviously I want the boys to do well," Sturdy said. "I am happy for them to get to experience this after two years of not being able to really travel interstate. Particularly with a young team, it's fantastic to bring them away as a fresh and new team."

NTJSA are making the most of their travels after an interrupted last couple of years due to COVID-19. They are seeing what Canberra has to offer with its tourist destinations including those that are fun for the kids. "We went to the Parliament House yesterday, War Memorial today, we're hoping that we go to Questacon as well, so really having a look around Canberra," he said. Sturdy thinks that the Kanga Cup is a great tournament with excellent facilities that allow for teams to be spread across the city. "In Tasmania sometimes we struggle with space to warm up but it is really open here so it is great to notice that difference."

GUNNERS EMBARKING ON SUCCESSFUL CUP RUN



The Gungahlin United under 14s have had a successful Kanga Up campaign so far, led by Marcial Munoz. Munoz brings with him years of coaching experience, most significantly coaching the Gungahlin First Grade Premier League side. With teams from all around Australia playing in the Kanga Cup, it has been a great learning experience and Munoz is extremely happy with how his team performed so far.

"I think we have enjoyed the cup this year," Munoz said. "We have had different opponents, we have encountered different playing styles, different formations and I think it has been productive for us in that regard. It allows us to play against something that is different to our local competition which is nice and challenging. It's harder as well which is good for the boys. But yes it's been a really good experience so far this year."

Munoz entered his strong side in the competition this year for his team to get several more minutes than they would in their local premier league (NPL) level. It also allows Munoz to train his team in actual games instead of training games where it is nearly impossible to recreate a game like scenario. "We joined in order to get more games in," he said. "I don't think we have enough games in our regular season, so it was useful to get more game time, game understanding and again, it's better in an actual game than anything you do at training."

Munoz and his Gungahlin side won their first two games, one against local rivals Canberra Olympic. While they are focused on winning as many games as possible, Munoz is still aiming for the boys to learn as much as they can while they have the chance to play against tough opposition, in difficult circumstances.

"I think we are still getting there, and we are learning still," Munoz commented. "We are still trying to fine tune things that we set goals for at the start of the season. So hopefully, over the next few days we can continue to challenge the boys and learn from the different experience but hopefully, they grow, and they can find solutions to certain situations and just improve and enjoy it, which is the reason why we are here. We are going to put our best foot forward and if we can do a good job and impose our style of play on every game we play."

COMBINED MARIST ENJOYING CUP CHALLENGE



The Marist College under 14 division one and two sides have combined to enter this year's Kanga Cup competition and couldn't be happier with the opportunity to showcase their skill against interstate competitors. Coached by Daniel Rothenfluh and Tony Favelle, the side have left their schoolboy competition for one week and turned their focus to the Kanga Cup.

With this being the first Kanga Cup for nearly all the players from the Marist under-14's, they were all happy to be out there playing and being able to play with their friends. Despite their match results from day one and day two, the team still has smiles all around and are constantly improving each time they put on the boots.

"We are a mixed team, so two teams from the same school, so you can imagine it be hard to mesh two teams like that with no training sessions prior to this week," Rothenfluh commented. "We love to play as a team and have fun. Being there with your friends and being as respectful as possible. It's also a great learning area for the players. I was trying to take a holiday during these school holidays, but the boys kept on begging me to sign them up as soon as the opportunity arose. They have all enjoyed the experience, tough opponents and playing with your mates, they really enjoy it."

Both teams who combined for the Cup are winning their respective local competitions and are yet to lose a match. Both Rothenfluh and Favelle, while are disappointed to lose, think it is a bonus and lesson for all their players as it keeps them in line and reminds them that there are tougher competitors out there in Canberra and Australia. "My team hasn't lost a game yet in our league," Rothenfluh confirmed.

"And neither has Tony's, so it is good that we have a CPL (Capital Premier League) team that we played yesterday, and two Sydney teams as well. It's good for our boys to play some tougher competition. They are also playing teams they have never played against. It's good to see the fun of it. It makes them stronger, and it helps us when they lose because it is a great learning experience, and it allows me to see what they need to improve on with these guys too."

AROUND THE GROUNDS



EXTRA TIME MAGAZINE

Designed and Edited: Russ Gibbs, Manager, Communications & Commentary

Contributors: Russ Gibbs, Sonia Emanuel, Matthew Williams

Images: Declan Smith, Sport in Focus, Sonia Emanuel, Matthew Williams, Club Facebook

EASTS FC PUTTING IN A KANGA CUP CHALLENGE



Easts Football Club (FC) have returned to the 2022 Kanga Cup with big aspirations and smiles from ear to ear. Coached by Keith Jeffs, the young under-13's team have been put in a difficult division but are still giving each game maximum effort and playing still playing quality football despite their opponents. Jeffs couldn't be happier with his team effort over the past few days.

"The Kanga Cup is always run extremely well. Having two referees too is nice so yeah always good," Jeffs said. "We probably got graded in the wrong comp,

probably prefer to be in the plate competition but the boys are giving it a great crack and are having a good week. It's not too cold in Canberra too, I mean I have bright sunshine and warmth on my back at the minute, so it's been pretty good."

As Easts FC are a local club, not at the premier league level, they are finding it a bit more challenging in this year's competition against three premier league competitors.

"I think we have been up and down in patches, but it's been alright," Jeffs revealed. "We are just a club, not at the premier league level like the other clubs. There has been some good efforts and times where we have gone a bit flat but that's what you expect in any competition."

The Kanga Cup is more than just a football competition, as it allows interstate teams to come to Canberra and explore the nation's capital. With many young competitors, it might even be the first time in Canberra for many of the players. Canberra has places such as Questacon, both old and new parliament house and many more attractions so it adds more possibilities for team bonding.

“We went to the Bentspoke Bar last night as a team and the families really enjoyed it,” Jeffs said. “I think tonight we are going to one of the holidays parks because they have a pool there that we can use. I went for a walk around Parliament House to stretch my legs and we usually go to the War Memorial as well. It’s just a great week for each player to have time with their families and the team.”

Jeffs still has hopes for the competition as he believes that his side can take home some wins on the final days of the Kanga Cup. “I think the best part of our week is still to come, we have two games left and I am really looking forward to them,” he said. “We are playing the team that we have the best chance against, and I really believe that this team can win.”

Although the focus of the Kanga Cup is football and winning trophies, it is important to remember that making connections and having fun throughout the whole week is extremely important. Keith Jeffs and his courageous under 13’s side are all about having fun and are focused and ready to try their best to win their matches on the final day.





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