

# THE WANDERER

SEASON 2018/19 #WSWVCCM  
ROUND 18 9 FEBRUARY 2019

## THE DUKE OF WESTERN SYDNEY

94<sup>TH</sup>  
EDITION



VS



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**Turner Freeman**  
LAWYERS



# THIS MATCH

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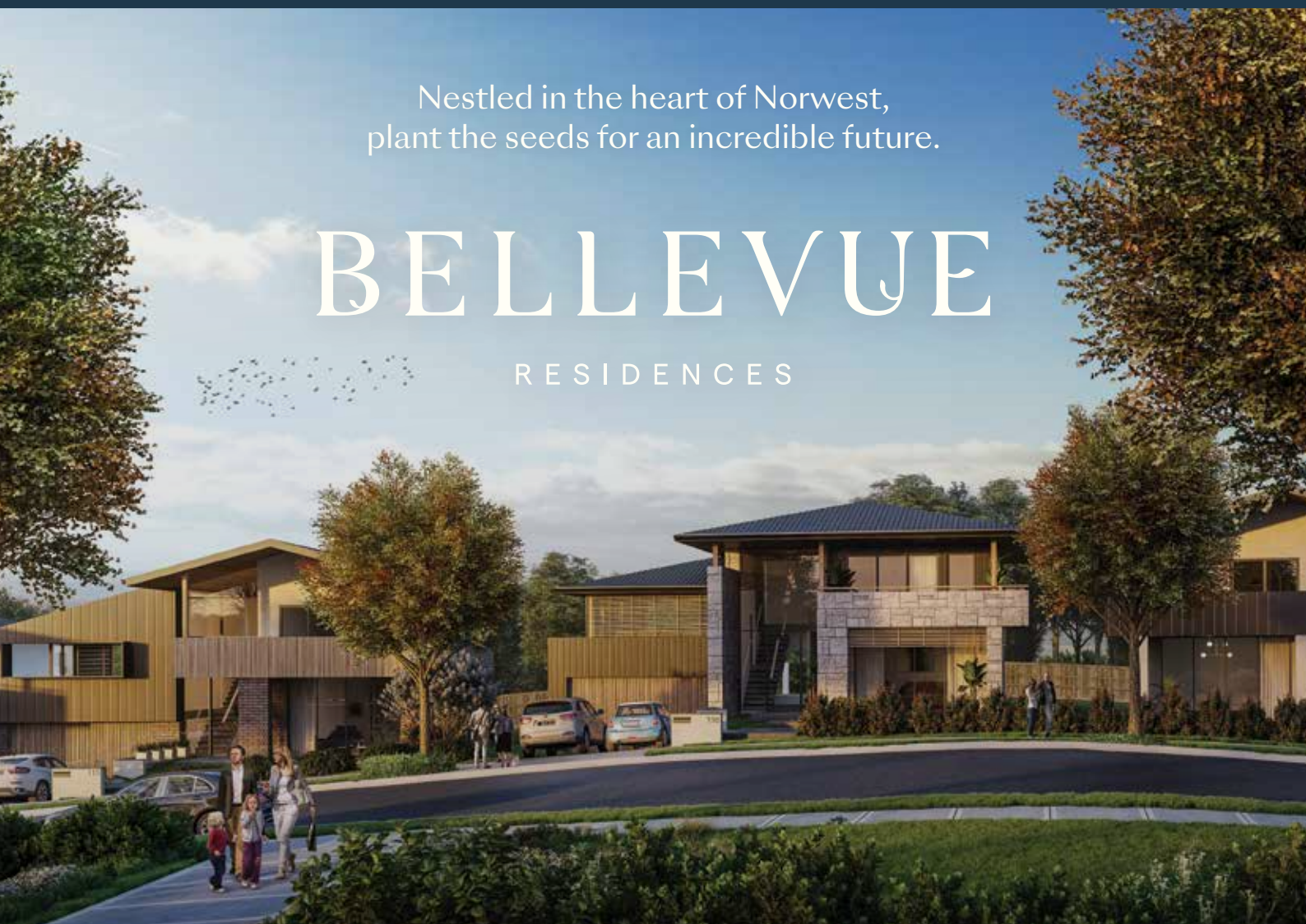


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As CEO of Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Western Sydney (RMHC GWS), it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to today's match between the Western Sydney Wanderers and Central Coast Mariners. Over the past six seasons the partnership between the Wanderers and RMHC GWS has grown from strength to strength for both organisations through the development and relationship between the players, staff and families at the house. We are proud that this ongoing relationship is creating such a strong legacy - just this week the Wanderers staff, Ambassador Nick Fitzgerald along with other players cooked dinner for our families as part of our Meals from the Heart program which the club has been involved with for the past four years. While many of our programs and events like our Meals from the Heart program, Christmas carnival and School Holiday programs are always attended by Wanderers players; the partnership goes beyond that. It's the regular visits and engagement with our families that makes our relationship so valuable to the house and the families that stay here. For our families and kids to have their sporting heroes spend quality time with them and brighten up their day really highlights the clubs values to family and community. We really appreciate the work and support that the Wanderers do for us throughout the whole year and to have a match day like today which highlights this support to RMHC GWS and all the families that stay with us from all of NSW and Australia. From everyone at the house - enjoy today's game. Belinda Woolford Chief Executive Officer Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Western Sydney.

# MATCH PREVIEW

**I**T'S BACK TO back home matches for the Red & Black with the Wanderers hosting Central Coast Mariners at Spotless Stadium tonight.

The Wanderers head into tonight's match after a very disappointing 5-1 defeat to Newcastle Jets at ANZ Stadium.

Roy O'Donovan finished with a brace of penalties for the visitors, while Dimitri Petratos, Jason Hoffman and Matthew Ridenton also got on the scoresheet for Ernie Merrick's men.

Wanderers new signing Mitchell Duke's goal midway through the half was mere consolation for the Wanderers, whose night was compounded by defensive woes.

The Central Coast Mariners similarly were faced with heartbreak over the weekend in their match against Melbourne Victory.

A second-half capitulation saw Victory's Kosta Barbarouses score in the 88th minute, condemning the Mariners to a 3-2 defeat in front of their home fans, despite pushing the champions all the way.

There's no doubt that Mike Mulvey's men will feel they should have taken all three points after Andrew Hoole's duo of stunning free-kicks had them leading 2-0 at the break.

The Mariners and the Wanderers will both on

the hunt for three points tonight, desperate to kick-start their run to finals.

The last time these two sides met was back in Round 7 with the Wanderers breathing life into their Hyundai A-League campaign with a much-needed 2-0 win over the Mariners.

Young midfielder Keanu Baccus scored his first Hyundai A-League goal in first-half stoppage-time to put the Wanderer sin front, before Jaushua Sotirio sealed the result after the break.

The Red & Black will need to repeat the performance to give any hope to a berth in the finals series, making tonight's match a do-or-die fixture for both sides' hopes. **W**



(Left from right), Marc Tokich at training, Kwame Yeboah leads the line



# REOZONE



CATHERINE CANNULI  
 @CANNULI\_13

With many lessons learnt, it's time to look forward and start planning for the next season of the competition which I'm sure is going to be bigger and better than ever. **W**

Andrew Howe @AndyHowe\_statto is Australia's leading football statistician. He is co-author of the upcoming Encyclopedia of Matildas, now available for pre-order from [fairplaypublishing.com.au](http://fairplaypublishing.com.au).











# THE DUKE OF WESTERN SYDNEY

MITCHELL DUKE IS BACK IN THE HYUNDAI  
A-LEAGUE AND IS STRONGER THAN EVER

STORY BY JESSICA CSASZAR

 @JESSICACSASZAR

**I**T TOOK 21 seconds for Mitchell Duke to mark his return to Australian soil and open his goal account for the Western Sydney Wanderers. His first touch in a Red & Black jersey - a bullet header in Friday's 5-1 loss to Newcastle Jets - would have been exactly how he had dreamt it, results aside.

For Duke, returning back to where it all started was certainly part of his plans. For the Liverpool Rangers junior, playing in front of his family and friends at his hometown club is a very special moment in his career. "I grew up in Liverpool so coming back to the Western Sydney Wanderers was an easy decision," said Duke.

"It's a very good feeling to represent where you come from.

"There's always been a small part of me that wanted to play at the club at home point in my career so coming back from spending the last four years in Japan was a very easy decision for me.

"A big part of the reason to come back to Australia was my family and the football level, and there's no better place for me to play than at my home. This club is my hometown club."

"It's a proud moment for me and my parents are so happy for me."



Duke broke into the Hyundai A-League in 2011, progressing through the Mariners youth team to first team.

Making his senior debut in February that year, the pacey forward scored his first goal in that same match, a 3-1 win over Gold Coast United.

66 appearances and 13 goals later, Duke ended his stint with the Mariners and made the move overseas to play for Japanese side Shimizu S-Pulse where he had played for the last four seasons.

During that period, lots had changed for Duke. The winger started a family, his mentality changed and he became a seasoned professional.

"Being abroad in Asia, in Japan, really put things into perspective," said Duke.

"I started my little family and I've got a two-and-a-half year old now.

"Four years is a decent grind in Asia and a big part of that reason for me to come back to Australia as well was the football level and lifestyle.

"Especially for mental freshness. It can be tough living and playing overseas on the mental side of things, so it's been really good to be back.

"I've been buzzing since I've joined the club and I'm happy to be back involved in the Hyundai A-League."

Like former Wanderers legend Shinji Ono, Duke made the switch to the Red & Black from Japanese powerhouse Shimizu S-Pulse and support from across the continent has not stopped.

"I think what's been good for me is that they have massive respect for Australians over in Japan," explained Duke.

"The fans over there knew that Shinji came over to Australia so they had a decent connection with Australia.

"Alex Brosque and Eddie Bosnar also had some respect while they were over there so I was proud to be part of one of the Australian contingents at the club.

"I think that played a part in my adjustment in Japan because they had a big respect for the players over there.

"The fans at Shimizu had massive respect during my time there and I've got nothing but great things to say about my time there.

"But that's in the past now and I'm really excited to be at the Wanderers and really excited about this new challenge."

After spending four years away from the Hyundai A-League, Duke is now determined on his return to share the lessons he has learnt from his international experience.





(Left to right), Duke celebrates his debut goal for the club, Duke waving to friends and family in the stands.

"I feel like now that I'm 28, I want to be a leader at the club and I want to help lead and teach the young boys so as to help them grow as footballers.

"That's a big thing for me, when I was a bit younger I was a bit more stand-offish and now I know what's expected. I want to push the boys to a whole other level with what I've learnt overseas.

"I want to bring that side of me to the Red & Black, I want to be a big help and make a big impact."

And with his first touch seeing him score his maiden goal for the club on his debut, there's no doubt that Mitchell Duke will quickly etch his name into the Wanderers history books next to a legend that made the switch from the same club. **W**

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PENRITH  
CAMPBELLTOWN  
WOLLONGONG  
NEWCASTLE



# ELRICH

#21 DEFENDER

6 63.3% 8

SUCCESSFUL CROSSES DUEL SUCCESS RATE KEY PASSES

Tarek Erich, a Western Sydney local who played junior football with Parramatta Eagles was one of the Wanderers' three inaugural signings on 25 June 2012. The fullback made 11 appearances in his one season with the club, helping the Red & Black in their record-breaking run to the Premiers Plate and Grand Final. Capped three-times by the Socceroos, Elrich returned to the club in May 2018 after five successful seasons with Adelaide United, where he made 112 appearances for the Reds, winning the Premiership, Championship and FFA Cup.



## PLAYERS TO WATCH

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Kye Rowles joined the Mariners from Brisbane Roar for the 2017/18 Hyundai A-League season. The Australian Institute of Sport graduate made two Hyundai A-League appearances for Brisbane Roar, making his first competitive start for Brisbane in an AFC Champions League game against Ulsan Hyundai. The dynamic defender was also a regular in the Australian U-17's squad and appeared at the 2015 FIFA U-17 World Cup.



# ROWLES

#15 DEFENDER

2

SUCCESSFUL CROSSES

54.6% 3

DUEL SUCCESS RATE KEY PASSES

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PLAYERS TO WATCH

#WSWCCM



13

# WESTFIELD W-LEAGUE WRAPS UP

WITH MANY LESSONS LEARNT, THE WANDERERS  
WESTFIELD W-LEAGUE SEASON HAS COME TO  
AN END

STORY BY JANAKAN SEEMAMPILLAI

**T**HE WESTERN SYDNEY Wanderers Westfield W-League team head into the off-season hoping to use their 2018/19 campaign as a learning curve for what's set to be an exciting future.

Whilst the Red & Black failed to make finals, there are plenty of positives to work on going forward.

The Wanderers have been playing an exciting brand of football this season, showing plenty of skill and flare on the park.

The likes of Erica Holloway, Kylie Ledbrook, Elizabeth Addo and Georgia Yeoman-Dale showed plenty of creativity in the middle of the field, down the flanks and up front.

The Wanderers created the fifth most goal scoring chances in the entire league and had the equal fourth most shots on goal at a whopping 183.

Holloway played in every match this season and her tenacity to get past defenders and put the ball into the box was a highlight of her game this season.

When reflecting on the season that just past, Holloway is adamant her team won't reflect on their ladder position but rather the positive steps they were able to make.

"You can look at a season like ours and think no positives could be taken away - but that's not the case," explained Holloway.

"Yes we finished bottom of the table and yes we didn't achieve our goal of finals football, but at no point did we give up or stop fighting.

"Every game we came out fighting, and continued to fight until the final whistle. We pushed teams who are now vying for a grand final spot, we were unlucky on many occasions not to get a result. I went to training every week feeling positive, because the group of girls were great, the coaching staff were great - we just unfortunately couldn't get the results we wanted."



Ledbrook, along with Holloway, was the only other Wanderer to play in every match this season. The veteran midfielder scored a few cracking goals for the Red & Black this season and was a constant threat to the opposition's goal. Ledbrook alone created 20 goal scoring opportunities this season and her ability to win the ball off the opposition also made her a valuable asset.

Ghanian International Elizabeth Addo added plenty of spark up front when she made her debut four games into the season. Addo's footwork, speed and strength gave the Wanderers attack a new dimension.

Rachel Lowe and Leena Khamis were also honest performers in the front third this season and were both rewarded for their efforts with goals late in the season.

Lowe, in particular, showed plenty of glimpses of what she is capable and earned plaudits from Holloway.

"Rachel Lowe would have to be my MVP (Most Valuable Player) for the 'kids' as we affectionately call them," said Holloway.

"I've played with Rachel for a few years now and she has really grown into an intelligent and truly gifted player.

"Her vision, awareness on the ball and ability to find and exploit teams in pockets is phenomenal.

"Courtney Nevin is another young one that has really

stepped up. She is strong, has a killer left foot and plays with confidence far beyond her years."

Captain Servet Uzunlar also had a stellar season in defence.

The inspirational skipper had an amazing tackle success rate of 93.8%, made 22 interceptions, had 42 clearances and when she wasn't stopping goals, she was helping scoring them with three assists to her name this season.

American Sydney Miramontez was also rock solid down back, often winning the ball and then turning defence into attack. Her link up play with Holloway, Ledbrook and Yeoman-Dale was an impressive part of the Wanderers performances this season.

Whilst there is plenty of soul searching to do for the Wanderers ahead of next season, Holloway knows what it will take to get to finals next season.

"We need to ensure we hit the ground running. The Westfield W-League is a short season, so if you don't come out firing from the get go, you can lose the pack quickly and then it's panic stations to try to catch up.

"The mentality and effort was there from the team, but we just need to gel as a unit and execute from the beginning.

"I have every confidence that Dan and Cath will turn things around next year and bring the Wanderers our first ever Westfield W-League finals appearance!" **W**

Erica Holloway controls the ball in the Wanderers final home match of the 2018/19 Westfield W-League season





SCORE



SQUAD

| S                        | B                        | #  | NAME               | POSITION   | SPONSOR                   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----|--------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1  | Danijel NIZIC      | Goalkeeper | Centuria                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4  | Joshua RISDON      | Defender   | Pepper Money              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5  | Brendan HAMILL     | Defender   | Vaccaro Group             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6  | Kosta GROZOS       | Forward    | G.P.P. Skip Bins          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7  | Nick FITZGERALD    | Forward    | McDonald's                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8  | Jordan O'DOHERTY   | Midfielder | JD Sports                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9  | Oriol RIERA        | Forward    | Mitsubishi Electric       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 | Alex BAUMJOHANN    | Midfielder | Aqualand                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 | Bruce KAMAU        | Forward    | Castle Hill Hyundai       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12 | Mitchell DUKE      | Forward    |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13 | Tass MOURDOUKOUTAS | Defender   | Hertz                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16 | Jaushua SOTIRIO    | Forward    |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17 | Keanu BACCUS       | Midfielder | Best Signs                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18 | Mark TOKICH        | Midfielder | Pronto Cloud              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19 | Mark BRIDGE        | Forward    | Turner Freeman Lawyers    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20 | Vedran JANJETOVIC  | Goalkeeper | Joe Black                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 21 | Tarek ELRICH       | Defender   | Transport for NSW         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 22 | Rashid MAHAZI      | Midfielder | Club Marconi              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 23 | Lachlan SCOTT      | Forward    |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 24 | Raúl LLORENTE      | Defender   | Access Fire               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 27 | Kwame YEBOAH       | Forward    |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 28 | Roly BONEVACIA     | Midfielder | Multiquip                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 32 | John ROBERTS       | Forward    |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 33 | Tate RUSSELL       | Defender   |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 34 | Patrick ZEIGLER    | Defender   | Wet'N'Wild                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 40 | Nicholas SUMAN     | Goalkeeper |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 49 | Abraham MAJOK      | Forward    | Western Sydney University |

COACH

Markus BABBEL

ASSISTANT COACHES

Jean-Paul DE MARIGNY

Arthur DILES

Davide DEL GIOVINE

SUBSTITUTES

OFF

ON



HYUNDAI  
A-LEAGUE

LADDER

CORRECT AS OF ROUND 17

| CLUB        | P  | W  | D | L  | PTS |
|-------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| 1 GLORY     | 17 | 12 | 4 | 1  | 40  |
| 2 VICTORY   | 17 | 11 | 3 | 3  | 36  |
| 3 SYDNEY FC | 17 | 11 | 2 | 4  | 35  |
| 4 UNITED    | 17 | 8  | 5 | 4  | 29  |
| 5 CITY      | 17 | 8  | 3 | 6  | 27  |
| 6 PHOENIX   | 17 | 7  | 5 | 5  | 26  |
| 7 JETS      | 17 | 5  | 3 | 9  | 18  |
| 8 WANDERERS | 17 | 2  | 4 | 11 | 10  |
| 9 ROAR      | 17 | 1  | 6 | 10 | 9   |
| 10 MARINERS | 17 | 1  | 3 | 13 | 6   |

P PLAYED W WINS D DR

ROUND 18 MATCHES



SCORE

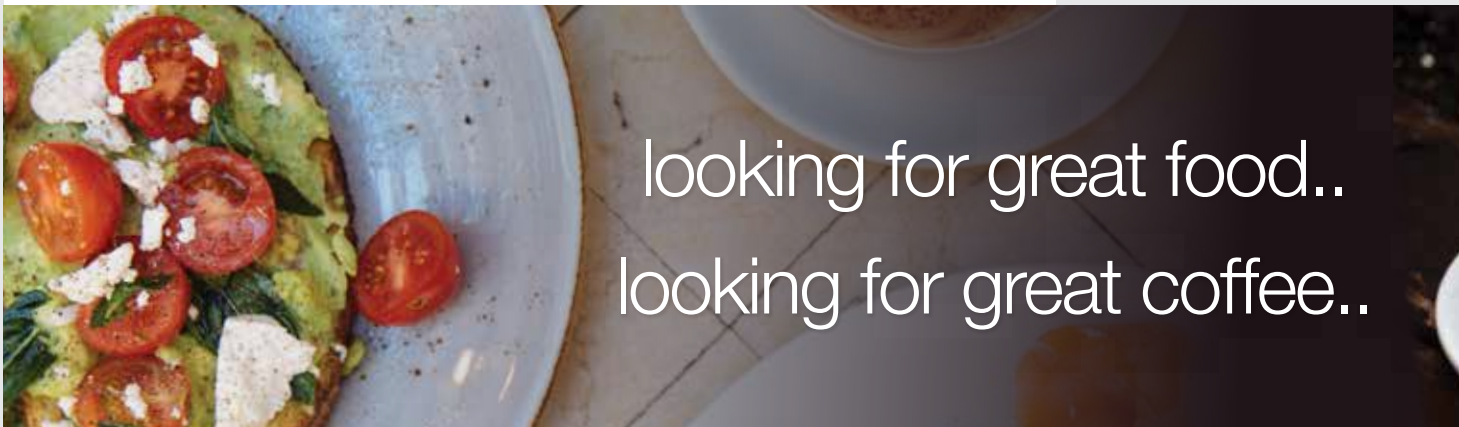
SCORE



SCORE

SCORE

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## S MATCH



CORRECT AS OF ROUND 14

## LADDER

| CLUB           | P  | W | D | L  | PTS |
|----------------|----|---|---|----|-----|
| 1 VICTORY      | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2  | 24  |
| 2 ROAR         | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4  | 20  |
| 3 SYDNEY FC    | 12 | 6 | 1 | 5  | 19  |
| 4 GLORY        | 12 | 5 | 4 | 3  | 19  |
| 5 CITY         | 12 | 6 | 1 | 5  | 19  |
| 6 UNITED       | 12 | 5 | 3 | 4  | 18  |
| 7 JETS         | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6  | 16  |
| 8 UNITED       | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 13  |
| 9 WANDERERS FC | 12 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 4   |

AW L LOSS PTS POINTS

## SEMI FINALS

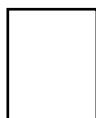


SCORE



SCORE

SCORE



## SQUAD

| #  | NAME                     | POSITION   | S                        | B                        |
|----|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1  | Ben KENNEDY              | Goalkeeper | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2  | Jonathan ASPROPOTATMITIS | Defender   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3  | Jack CLISBY              | Defender   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4  | Jake McGING              | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6  | Tom HIARIEJ              | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7  | Andrew HOOLE             | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8  | Michael McGLINCHY        | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 | Tommy OAR                | Forward    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 | Connor PAIN              | Forward    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 | Adam PEARCE              | Goalkeeper | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 | Aiden O'NEIL             | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 | Adam BERRY               | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 | Kye ROWLES               | Defender   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 | Joshua MACDONALD         | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 | Peter KEKERIS            | Forward    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 | Matthew MILLAR           | Defender   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 | Matthew SIMON            | Forward    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 | Kalifa Cissé             | Defender   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 | Corey GAMEIRO            | Forward    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 | Jacob MELLING            | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 | Mario SHABOW             | Midfielder | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 | Joe GAUCI                | Goalkeeper | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 | Jordan MURRAY            | Forward    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## COACH

Mike MULVEY

## ASSISTANT COACHES

Nick MONTGOMERY

Ray JUNNA

Matthew NASH

## SUBSTITUTES

OFF

ON

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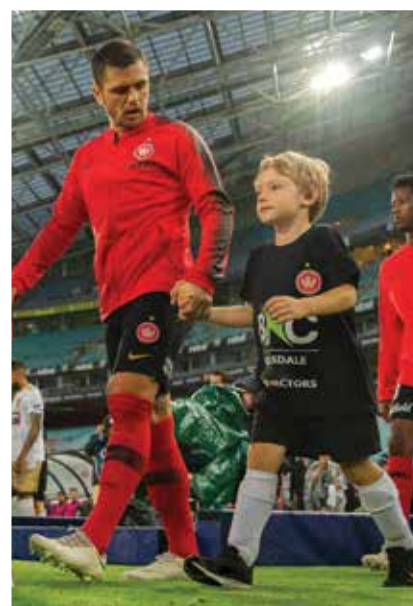
Look for the crown



# JUNIOR WANDERER OF THE MATCH

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the five differences below?



**T**HIS WEEK'S JUNIOR Wanderers come from Parramatta FC! The juniors recently played half-time at our Hyundai A-League match! Make sure you get behind and support all our half-time participants tonight who all come from clubs in Western Sydney. [W](#)

### ARE YOU A JUNIOR WANDERER?

© Snap a photo and tag @wswanderersfc on Instagram to feature in the next issue of The Wanderer.



## JUNIOR QUIZ

1. Which Wanderer scored in the Foxtel Y-League Grand Final last week?
2. After today's match, how many games do the Wanderers have left this Hyundai A-League season?
3. Which English club will the Wanderers take on at Bankwest Stadium to open the stadium for football?
4. How many seconds did it take Mitchell Duke to score his first goal for the club?

## WANDERERS SHOP

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# THE FOX TALES

IT'S SO AWESOME seeing so many junior participants in the stands tonight to celebrate Play Football Round. Now is the best time to sign

up for your local club to learn new skills and make lots of new friends.

There's plenty of exclusive ticket offers for junior registers players aged 5 to 16 as well as match day activities at the grounds and on -pitch at half-time.

Make sure you tune and get involved with Play Football Round with all Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League games available live through broadcast and stream. [w](#)

## BE HEALTHY, GET ACTIVE!

**W**ITH EVERYONE BACK at school now, we've got plenty of tips on how you can stay concentrated and get the most out of your day.

1. Set aside a reasonable amount of time to do each specific task.
2. Make sure you only do one thing at a time as sometimes multitasking can reduce your concentration levels.
3. Build in planned breaks! The best type of break is kicking a ball around to get your heart rate up. [w](#)

Spot the Difference: 1. The JD Sports logo is missing off Josh Risdon's jacket 2. The word 'National' is missing from 'Bleasdale National Contractors' on the player mascot's shirt 3. The Nike tag is missing from Josh Risdon's jacket 4. The Nike tick is gold on Josh Risdon's shorts 5. The Nike tick is missing from the player mascot's shoe. Junior Quiz, 1. Tass Mourdoukountas, 2. 8, 3. Leeds United, 4. 19 seconds.

If the Wanderers **WIN**  
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# Y-LEAGUE WARRIORS

IN A BRAVE FINISH, THE WANDERERS FOXTEL  
Y-LEAGUE TEAM HAVE GONE DOWN IN THE  
GRAND FINAL



**A**FTER TOPPING THE Conference B table and securing a berth in the Wanderers Foxtel Y-League Grand Final for the second season in a row, the Wanderers Foxtel Y-League team have many things to be proud of. Unfortunately for the Red & Black, their fairytale finish to the Foxtel Y-League season came crashing down after a clinical performance by Brisbane Roar in the Grand Final last week.

The Roar set up the win in the first half through goals from Shannon Brady and Daniel Leck.

Mila Muratovic added a third for the Roar on 61 minutes and while the Wanderers responded late through defender Tass Mourdoukoutas, it was to be Brisbane's day. Brady was one of Roar's best and had a hand in all three goals, while keeper Macklin Freke also had an afternoon to remember, making a string of excellent saves at the other end. It was the Wanderers who arguably started the stronger and dominated the first 20 minutes, only to go behind against the run of play midway through the first half.



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After some pinball in the Wanderers box, the ball fell to Brady on the right, with his powerful low drive going through the legs of a defender and into the far corner of the net. Roar keeper Freke was at his best to keep out a fierce drive from Andrea Agamemnonos soon after as the hosts looked to hit back swiftly. But seven minutes before the break Roar doubled their lead through Leck. Brady combined brilliantly with Emlyn Wellsmore on the right, with the latter cutting the ball back for Leck whose first-time finish was too good for the Wanderers keeper. Both Muratovic and Leck had chances to extend Roar's lead before half-time, while Mohamed Adam was inches away from pulling a goal back for the Wanderers in stoppage-time. Desperate to get back into the contest, the Wanderers upped the intensity early in the second half. But each time they created an opportunity, the impressive Freke was there to deny them. Drew Sherman's side then snuffed out any chance of a comeback with a third goal just after the hour mark. Brady was again involved, weaving past his marker before a superb reverse pass got Muratovic in behind, with the young attacker producing a composed finish to make it 3-0.

The Wanderers gave themselves a lifeline with 11 minutes left when Mourdoukoutas produced a smart finish from a corner but there would be no comeback from last season's champions.

Overall, it was a very gallant performance from the Red & Black who produced more chances and shots on goal than the Roar. Time and time again, the Wanderers were blocked by Brisbane's Roar and will no doubt be seeking revenge next Foxtel Y-League season. The Wanderers will now switch their attention to the upcoming National Premier League season where the Wanderers Academy will have sides competing from U13s upwards. **W**



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# E-LEAGUE GEARING UP

## THE NEXT SEASON OF E-LEAGUE STARS HAVE BEEN NAMED

**L**AST THURSDAY NIGHT saw the highly anticipated E-League draft take place ahead of the competitions second season. Melbourne Victory, Brisbane Roar and Melbourne City announced some of their signings before the draft, leaving the field wide open for clubs to make their signings as they look to dethrone reigning Premiers, Sydney FC. This year sees an extra player being included in each squad. Whereas last year had only an Xbox and PS4 player, clubs will now have a reserve in their squads. With the competition kicking off on February 21 to coincide with the last nine rounds of the Hyundai A-League, we give you a club-by-club rundown of all the action.

### ADELAIDE UNITED

Fan favourite Jamie O'Doherty (FUTWIZ Jamie) returns for the Reds for another season, playing in their Xbox stream and looking to add to Adelaide's fifth-placed finish from last year. United will have a new PS4 player, with Rick Trann (RickTran\_) replacing Zac-May Burgess (vDreaMz--Shooter) who will be the Reds' reserve.

### BRISBANE ROAR

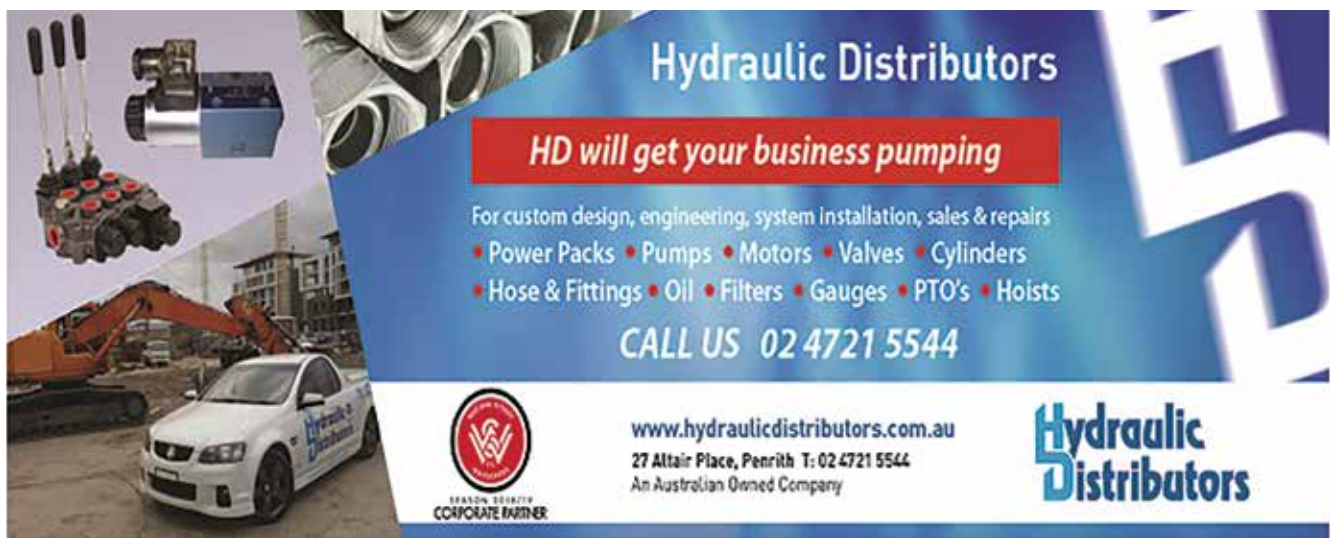
Dylan Banks (AussieFifa) will don Roar's orange for Season Two of the E-League, signed earlier for their PS4 slot. While Andy Phanouvong (Akpo) will play Xbox for the Roar, joining a host of new faces in this year's E-League. The Roar have waived their pick for a reserve, opting to host a tournament on February 8 to fill their final slot.

### CENTRAL COAST MARINERS

Jesse Da Silva (JesseD) joins Kiran Gupta (Kyren) at the Central Coast Mariners off the back of an impressive first season for the Gosford-based outfit. Matthew Camilleri (Strawhat Camels) returns, though this season he will feature as a reserve.

### MELBOURNE CITY

The side have signed Peter Saisanas (saisanas) from Perth Glory for their PS4 slot, while Marcus Gomes (Marcus) returns, now ranked 10th in the world. Storm Noa (Storm Noa), the 14th pick, joins the club as the reserve.



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(Right) OhNoAGoat returns for his second season with the Red & Black

#### MELBOURNE VICTORY

Across town, Mouad Zwed (Mo Zwed) has re-signed for Melbourne Victory, joined by Sarge Singh (SARGE) as his new Xbox teammate. Ben Carter (EpicFlyer010) rounds out their squad as the reserve.

#### NEWCASTLE JETS

Christian Bartiollo (Fweshest) will be representing the Jets this year in the PS4 stream, having played for Wellington last year. His Xbox teammate is Liz Varley (N8 Liz) who becomes the first ever female competitor in the E-League.

#### PERTH GLORY

Glory have signed local lad Adrian Klein (StridentCorn) for their E-League PS4 player, who will partner David Cook (N8 HighFly). This is Cook's second season, while Zach MacGregor (zacmac99) is a fresh face to the league.

#### SYDNEY FC

Reigning Premiers Sydney FC have kept their winning recipe intact, retaining Mark Brijeski (FUTWIZ Marko) and Samer Elbadar (Samer96\_). The pair will play PS4 and Xbox, respectively.

#### WELLINGTON PHOENIX

Last year's cellar dwellers have re-signed Justin Josevski (N8 Justmanutd12), who will be joined by Omer Cenk (oCenk) as his Xbox teammate. Daniel Ryan (D-Ry) crosses the Tasman as a reserve, having played for Adelaide United last year.

#### WESTERN SYDNEY WANDERERS

Joel Andruskiewicz (N8 Jaz) will be playing PS4 for the Western Sydney Wanderers despite spending a lot more time on Xbox. He will be joined by Joseph Nassar (OhNoAGoat) who returns for the Wanderers. 



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# TAKE FIVE

## TAREK ON HIS WORK WITH THE PFA AND THE FUTURE OF THE HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE

**W**HEN THE HYUNDAI A-League started, no one had any idea what it would be like. I grew up playing in the same places where all our fans play now so for me it's massive to be back home. To finally have a club in the Western Sydney region, the facilities that we're going to have are going to be second to none, the best in the league, and the stadium that we're going to have is going to be one of the best stadiums in Australia for sure. A lot of the Hyundai A-League clubs, they don't really have a junior system, and I think this is where Western Sydney's ahead. We've got our junior teams in our Academy which is great and that'll give those kids that hunger to play for a club that represents them. For me, it's good to see how far the Hyundai A-League has come and I'd like to see it get bigger and better and I work really hard with the PFA to try to make this A-League as big and better for the players.

We probably won't reap the rewards of that but the young boys coming through will. For me with the injury I had last season, it was a really bad knee injury so for the Wanderers to give me this opportunity to finally put the Red & Black hoops back on again is huge. Hopefully I can be here for many more years and the number one target is that silverware. **W**

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TAKE FIVE

# Who do we slow for? Slow down for Wanderers.



Too many lives are lost to speeding. So this season, dozens of young Wanderers' fans have come together to send a message to all road users. They want you to slow down, to protect the lives of their mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers. Who do you slow for?

Visit [towardszero.nsw.gov.au/sponsorships/westernsydneywanderers](https://towardszero.nsw.gov.au/sponsorships/westernsydneywanderers)

For everyone on our roads, **slow down.**







# PLAY FOOTBALL CELEBRATED THIS WEEKEND

**T**HE HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE and Westfield W-League competitions will celebrate Play Football Round this weekend to encourage junior football participation and registration across the country for the upcoming grassroots season. To kick off the week, Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League clubs across Australia will provide registered junior players aged between 5 & 16 with special ticket offers to watch their heroes in action. FFA CEO David Gallop AM was once again looking forward to the annual event that recognises and promotes grassroots football in Australia. "The Play Football Round aligns with our mission of becoming the largest and most popular sport in Australia by connecting our grassroots participants to the Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League," said FFA CEO David Gallop.

"The latest update of the AusPlay participation results showed that there are approximately 1.094 million girls & boys, Women & Men playing football making it the most popular club participation sport in Australia.

"During Play Football Round, clubs will be engaging with their local Member Federations and grassroots clubs through different community events.

"At each match this weekend there will also be different activations featuring grassroots clubs and players getting involved pre-match in the precinct and on the field during half time."

"There is no better way to get inspired for the upcoming Football season than by watching a Hyundai A-League or Westfield W-League match either at the ground or on TV," concluded Gallop. 

**MAKE SURE YOU JOIN OUR TEAM IN 2019 AND PLAY FOOTBALL. REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON AT PLAYFOOTBALL.COM.AU**



# HELPING OUT

**T**HIS WEEK'S CENTURIA Wandercrew Volunteer of the Week is Emma! Emma currently plays football for Epping FC and plays a huge role in co-ordinating our half-time ALDI Minirooms to make sure that they have a fantastic experience. If you see Emma on the pitch at half-time make sure you say hi! The Wandercrew is a fantastic way to make new friends and meet like-minded people who all support the Red & Black and the work they do in the community. So what are you waiting for? Join our Centuria Wandercrew today. 

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# KEEPING FAMILIES CLOSE

**T**HE CLOSE FRIENDSHIP between the Western Sydney Wanderers and Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Western Sydney continues into 2019, as the charity looks to support more than 1,300 families over the next 12 months.

By giving their time to visit Ronald McDonald House Westmead this January to host a school holiday clinic, Wanderers staff and players helped give seriously ill children and their siblings a chance to have fun, get active and create new memories with their families, even when they're far from home. Just this week, they also stepped into the kitchen at Ronald McDonald House Westmead to cook and serve a Meals from the Heart dinner. For families who have spent a long day on the hospital ward with their seriously ill child, returning in the evening to a healthy, home-cooked meal is a gift. For worried parents, it takes away the burden of trying to find the time, energy, and money to prepare a meal during some of the toughest times any family could face.

As a charitable organisation, RMHC Greater Western Sydney simply wouldn't exist without the support of the community. The ongoing partnership between the Western Sydney Wanderers and this important charity helps spread the word, and keep the doors open for families from across Australia. By acknowledging RMHC Greater Western Sydney today, and including families from Ronald McDonald House Westmead as part of the game day experience, the Wanderers really are #KeepingFamiliesClose. From the 60 families who will sleep under its roof tonight, and every family who will be supported by RMHC Greater Western Sydney: Thank you. **W**



Ronald McDonald House Charities means  
**#KeepingFamiliesClose**

To support families like Ava's:  
**TEXT 'RONALD' TO 0400 662 662**

For over 25 years, Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Western Sydney has been supporting seriously ill children like little Ava (left) and their families, so they can stay together while they face some of the toughest times imaginable.



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