

THE WANDERER

**BRILLIANT
BONEVACIA**

95TH
EDITION



VS



SEASON 2018/19 #WSWvPER
ROUND 20 24 FEBRUARY 2019

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LAWYERS



THIS MATCH

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THE WANDERER

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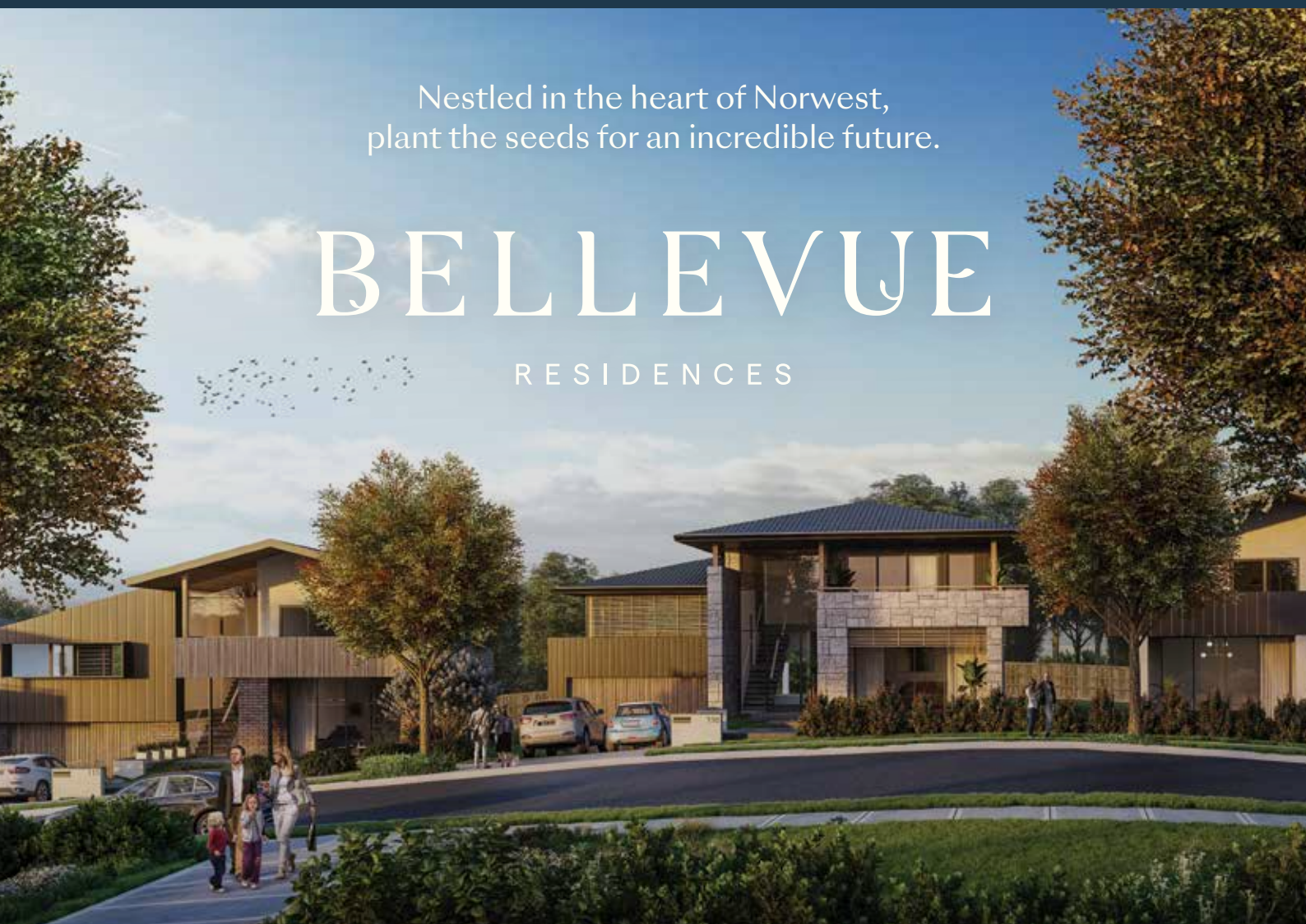


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Good evening and welcome to tonight's Round 20 Hyundai A-League clash against Perth Glory at Spotless Stadium. What a rollercoaster of a season it has been for the Red & Black. It has been heartbreaking at times, but there are definitely brighter days ahead as we've seen in the results of our last two matches. The player's hard work and season-long efforts are finally starting to pay off and it's been awesome to see them secure two vital wins on the trot - a feat we haven't had in the last 12 months. There are many positives to take though from this season with the player's mentality improving and many youngsters from the Wanderers Academy getting the call-up to the senior team. Tonight's match against the Glory will no doubt be a close one with former Managers and Heroes coming back into town. Emotions will be running high as the boys will be looking not only to secure three points against the league-leaders but also prove a very important point of pride. So get behind our boys tonight as they look to make it three wins in a row! Come on you Wanderers! Catherine Cannuli, Wanderers Ambassador and Westfield W-League Assistant Coach.

MATCH PREVIEW

FAMILIAR FACES TURN into foes tonight as the Wanderers host Perth Glory at Spotless Stadium.

The Wanderers head into the match with two wins on the trot after a gritty display against Adelaide United last week.

An inspired Roly Bonevacia led the Wanderers to secure all three points and will no doubt be looking to continue his form against the Glory tonight.

Having delivered the free-kick for Oriol Riera's 12th-minute opener, star man Bonevacia returned to restore the visitors' lead following Ryan Kitto's equaliser and then supplied the pass for Abraham Majok to confirm Western Sydney's first victory over the Reds in eight attempts in the Hyundai A-League.

Kitto had spared Craig Goodwin's blushes following the Adelaide talisman's failure to beat Vedran Janjetovic from the spot but their fightback fizzled out after the restart as the Reds missed a chance to extend their two-point gap to fifth-placed Melbourne City. League leaders Perth Glory will be similarly heading to the match filled with confidence after an emphatic 4-0 victory over Brisbane Roar at HBF Park.

Andy Keogh struck a brace on his return to the starting XI while standout pair Jason

Davidson and Diego Castro bookended the scoring with a goal apiece in a one-sided affair at HBF Park.

The final scoreline was Perth's largest winning margin against Brisbane and completed their maiden clean sweep of the Queensland club.

Tonight's match will mark the third time the Wanderers and Glory have met this season. The first match saw the sides share the spoils in the opening match of the season whilst their most recent meeting in Round 13 saw the Glory edge the Wanderers 4-3.

There's no doubt that the Wanderers will be looking to continue their winning streak and exact revenge on some familiar foes. **W**



(Left to right) Mitchell Duke being put through his paces at training; Bruce Kamau keeps focused on the ball



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ON THIS DAY

COURTESY OF ANDREW HOWE
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Wanderers and Matildas forward Georgia Yeoman-Dale was born on this day in 1994. A schoolgirl international player, Georgia toured China and the United Kingdom with the national schoolgirls team in 2010. She was then picked up by Canberra United (2010–2014) where she made her Westfield W-League debut aged 16. Georgia won two premiership medals with her hometown club before moving on to Newcastle Jets (2014–2016), Sydney FC (2016–2018) and then Western Sydney Wanderers in 2018. [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.



FIELD REPORTER

CATHERINE CANNULI
@CANNULI_13

WE'RE CELEBRATING PLAY Football in the month of February and there's no better way to celebrate than registering to play football this month. Play Football is an initiative that bridges the gap between players in the Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League with the mums, dads and kids that represent the grassroots community.

Some of my favourite memories were playing football as a junior, making new friends and learning some great skills.

I haven't stopped loving football and since transitioning into coaching, my love for football has only gotten stronger.

As part of Play Football Round, the Wanderers have been hosting free football clinics in the month of February prior to all their home matches.

This clinic is a great opportunity for boys and girls new to football or currently playing football to come together to learn new skills, improve their confidence and meet fellow Wanderers.

So if you haven't registered your attendance for the free Wanderers clinics or for the upcoming grassroots football season do so now! You won't regret it. [W](#)



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WARM UP





BRILLIANT BONEVACIA

ROLY BONEVACIA IS BACK TO HIS BEST FOR THE RED & BLACK

STORY BY JESSICA CSASZAR

 @JESSICACSASZAR

IT'S BEEN A year of transition for the Wanderers but Roly Bonevacia has proven to be a fantastic spark for the Red & Black this season.

The dynamic midfielder has kept the Wanderers season afloat boasting six goals and four assists.

A product of the famous Ajax youth academy, the 25-year-old has enjoyed stints with NAC Breda and Roda JC in the Eredivisie before arriving to the Hyundai A-League in 2014 with Wellington Phoenix.

The talented midfielder scored 15 goals during his four season stint at Phoenix, featuring in 102 matches.

Following his tenure at the Nix, Bonevacia made the switch to the Red & Black this season and it hasn't been without it's fair share of criticism.



Head coach Markus Babbel's comments at the start of the season about Bonevacia's ability may have been unorthodox, but it certainly has looked to have lit a fire underneath Bonevacia. A positional change by Babbel has seen Bonevacia playing a wider and more forward role at the Red & Black, allowing for a more adventurous form of attacking football that has allowed him to take more risks. Bonevacia has been reaping the rewards of this positional change having been involved in 40% of the Wanderers goals scored this season, higher than any other Wanderer.

While the first half of the season seemed to be an adjustment period for the midfielder, the Ajax youth player has become the man of the hour at the back-end of the Wanderers season, stepping up to lead both on and off the field. Bonevacia confidence has gone from strength to strength and this was shown in the Red & Black's recent match against Adelaide United where Bonevacia got on the scoresheet and provided an assist. "It felt good to score a goal and for the team as well, it's great to win games and go back-to-back," said Bonevacia.

"For my personal confidence it feels good. "For the team, it's been good for us in moving forward and improving to make sure we don't throw the season away. "Like we are down but have proven we will continue fighting and working hard." Like many of the Wanderers senior players this season, Bonevacia has openly spoken about the importance of playing for pride on both a personal and club level. "It's not only all about playing for the jersey but also for your own pride," said Bonevacia.



“You play for your family, your wife and your kids”

“You play for your family, your wife and your kids for example.”

“Players have their own reasons to play for and for me, you have to prove what you are capable of as a team.

“And as an individual player, you need to prove your ability so playing for pride is important for every player.”

Bonevacia will be looking to star again in tonight’s match against Perth having scored in both of the club’s previous fixture’s against the side this season.

“It was a good feeling scoring in both our previous matches against Perth Glory this season,” said Bonevacia.

“I hope we can hurt them this time as we have been close twice.

“I would really love to win tonight’s game”.

On the brink of one of his best personal seasons, Bonevacia will be eager to put his best foot forward as he looks to surpass his season high at Wellington.

With six matches after tonight still to play for there is without doubt a change in the air for the Red & Black who will look to the likes of Bonevacia to help end their season on a positive note. **W**

(Left to right) Bonevacia staring down the competition against Perth; Bonevacia provides an assist against the Mariners

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WOLLONGONG
NEWCASTLE

52 52.1% 17

TOTAL SHOTS

DUEL SUCCESS RATE

KEY PASSES

RIERA

#9 FORWARD

A Barcelona native, Riera developed at the famed FC Barcelona La Masia Academy before playing in Barcelona C and B teams as well as a single match for the senior team in the Copa Del Rey in 2003. After departing Barcelona Riera has played in the La Liga and Segunda teams including Deportivo de La Coruña, Celta de Vigo, Osasuna as well as a season with Wigan Athletic in English Championship. A proven goalscorer noted for his finishing, aerial ability, and strong physical presence, Riera joined the Wanderers as a marquee player in July 2017. That same season Riera smashed the previous record for most goals scored in a season by a Wanderer across all competitions.



PLAYERS TO WATCH

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LAWYERS



#9 FORWARD

KEOGH

43

TOTAL SHOTS

36.5%

DUEL SUCCESS RATE

12

KEY PASSES

#WSWvPER

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PLAYERS TO WATCH



13

THE LOCAL LAD

KEANU BACCUS IS RARING TO GO FOR HIS NEXT THREE SEASONS AT THE RED & BLACK

BORN IN SOUTH Africa, Keanu Baccus and his family migrated to Australia in the early 2000s settling in the Western suburb of Kings Park. Inspired by his older brother, Baccus began his football journey at Parklea SFC where he played up until U9s before making the switch to Fairfield Hotspur. 10 years on, Baccus still lives in the heart of Western Sydney and down the road from the very first ground he played at. "I still come have a kick around at Morgan Power Reserve, it's only five minutes down the road," said Baccus. "If my little brother plays, I come watch his team.

"I started at Parklea SFC when I was about four and my brother also started playing when he was young, he's about seven years older than me. "So it was good to follow in his footsteps." Like most juniors who have started playing football for the very first time, Baccus started as a striker because he just loved to score goals. "When I was really young, I started as a striker," explained Baccus. "When you're young all everyone wants to do is score goals. "The biggest role Parklea played in my junior development was making sure that I had fun playing football when I was young." Following seasons at both Parklea and Fairfield Hotspurs, Baccus had a brief spell at Blacktown Spartans before a move to Blacktown City came calling. It was from here that Baccus was called into the Wanderers Academy system, making his debut in the club's Foxtel Y-League 2014/15 season against Melbourne Victory in Round 4. Baccus quickly made waves in the Academy system and co-captained the National Premier League team in their inaugural season. The highly regarded youngster went on to make his Hyundai A-League debut in Round 13's clash against Perth, where he joined older brother Kearyn on the field for the very first time. Ying and yang, Keanu was thrown into the depths as a right-back in the match - a position he also plays.



Slowly Baccus made the shift to a defensive midfielder. Baccus continued his stellar performances in the Foxtel Y-League squad and was voted by his fellow peers as Player of the Year at Wanderers Medal 2017.

The following season saw the 20-year-old earn consistent game time with the first team towards the back-end of the 2017/18 season before locking down a starting spot with this season. One of the club's own, Baccus re-affirmed his loyalty to the club by signing a three-year contract extension until the end of the 2021/22 season.

Humbled by the opportunity, Baccus has been a symbol of a new dawn of Wanderers who have been breaking into the Wanderers first team from the Academy this season.

"Growing up in Western Sydney, the Wanderers are my hometown team and there's no better feeling for me than getting onto the pitch and representing where you have come from.

"It's been a really exciting journey so far for me at the club and I'm really looking forward to continuing to develop over the next three years at the club.

"With the new facilities and new stadium opening soon, there's no place I'd rather be than at the Red & Black." And with Baccus just going from strength to strength this season, the Red & Black faithful should be very excited for what's to come from the Kings Park local. **W**



(Top to bottom) Baccus controls the ball in Adelaide; Keanu darts down the sidelines at ANZ Stadium



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

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ON

TONIGHT



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4 ADELAIDE UNITED
5 MELBOURNE CITY FC
6 WELLINGTON PHOENIX
7 NEWCASTLE JETS
8 WESTERN SYDNEY WANDERERS FC
9 BRISBANE ROAR FC
10 CENTRAL COAST MARINERS

P PLAYED W WINS D DRAW L LOSS F GOALS FOR A

ROUND 20 MATCHES

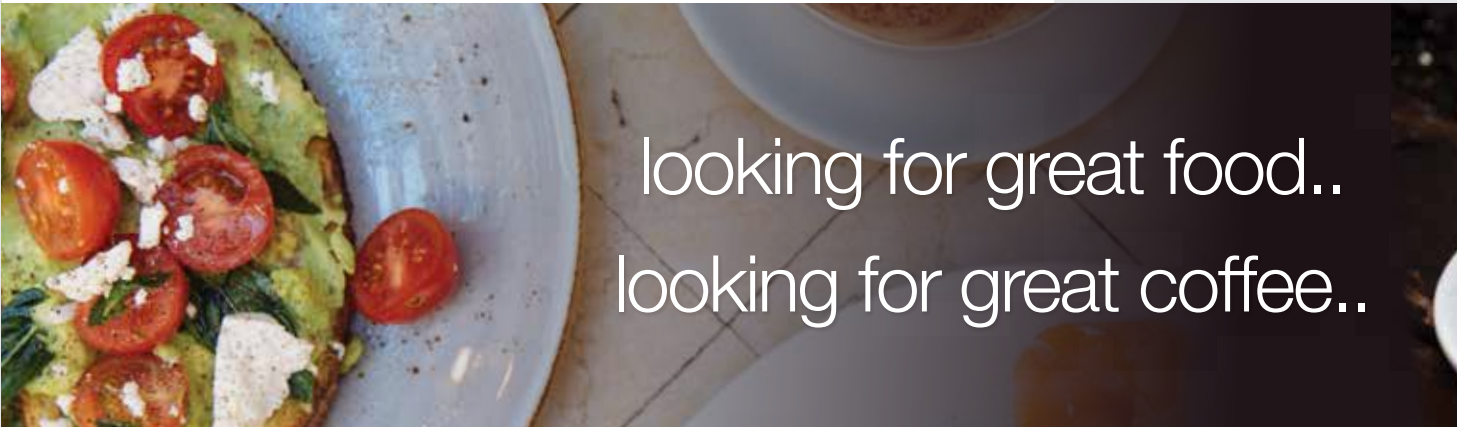
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SCORE

VS

SCORE

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S MATCH

HYUNDAI
LEAGUE

CORRECT AS OF ROUND 19

P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
19	14	4	1	42	17	25	46
19	11	4	4	41	24	17	37
19	11	3	5	33	22	11	36
19	8	6	5	27	24	3	30
19	8	4	7	23	22	1	28
19	7	7	5	26	26	0	28
19	6	4	9	24	25	-1	22
19	4	4	11	29	41	-12	16
19	2	6	11	23	43	-20	12
19	1	4	14	19	43	-24	7

GOALS AGAINST GD GOAL DIFFERENCE PTS POINTS

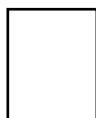


SCORE



SCORE

SCORE



SQUAD

#	NAME	POSITION	S	B
1	Tando VELAPHI	Goalkeeper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Alexander GRANT	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Jason DAVIDSON	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Shane LOWRY	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Ivan FRANJIC	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Dino DJULBIC	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Joel CHIANESE	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Neil KILKENNY	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Andrew KEOGH	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Brendon SANTALAB	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Matthew SPIRANOVIC	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Chris HAROLD	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Brandon WILSON	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Tomislav MRCELA	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Diego CASTRO GIMENEZ	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Christopher IKONOMIDIS	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Jake BRIMMER	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Jacob ITALIANO	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Fabio FERREIRA	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Scott NEVILLE	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Callum TIMMINS	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Walter SCOTT	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Juan De Dios PRADOS LOPEZ	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	Liam REDDY	Goalkeeper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COACH

Tony POPOVIC

ASSISTANT COACHES

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Hayden FOXE

Danny MILOSEVIC

SUBSTITUTES

OFF

ON

UGHT TO YOU BY



Look for the crown



JUNIOR WANDERER OF THE MATCH

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the five differences below?



THIS WEEK'S JUNIOR Wanderer is Cruz! Cruz was lucky enough to bump into the players at the airport and got the chance to meet his heroes Roly Bonevacia and Jaushua Sotirio. [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 two Wanderers were named in the Hyundai A-League team of the Week?
2. Name the Wanderer who scored in both of the club's previous matches against Perth Glory this season.
3. How many times after today's match have the Wanderers played Perth this season?
4. Which Wanderer recently signed a three-year extension at the club?

WANDERERS SHOP

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IT'S BEEN SO COOL meeting so many junior Wanderers at our free clinics during the month of February!

The clinics are part of our Play Football Celebrations which encourage everyone to register for their local football club.

Playing football is great because you get to make new friends, learn new skills and most importantly play the beautiful game!

That's not the only way to celebrate Play Football, so make sure you tune and get involved with Play Football Round with all Hyundai A-League games available live through broadcast and stream. [W](#)



WE'VE GOT SOME great tips on how you can stay healthy and active now that school's back!

1. Eat the alphabet, make sure you take vitamin-rich foods to school.
2. Make sure you know how to properly wash your hands to prevent the spread of illness in the classroom and playground.
3. Sleep! Making sure you get enough sleep is a crucial part of ensuring that you stay healthy.
4. Choose the right backpack to prevent back problems. [W](#)

Spot the Difference: 1. The 'S' is missing from the Harvey Norman sign 2. 'Land' is missing from the Aqualand logo on the back of Tass Mourdoukoutas shorts 3. Mariner Sam Graham's name is missing from the back of his jersey 4. The hoops are missing from Tass Mourdoukoutas' jersey 5. Mariner's goalkeeper Ben Kennedy's leg is missing. Junior Quiz answers: 1. Josh Risdon and Tate Russell 2. Roly Bonevacia 3. Three 4. Keanu Baccus

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JUNIOR WANDERER ZONE

MOURDOUKOUTAS ON SOLID GROUND

YOUNG DEFENDER TASS MOURDOUKOUTAS HAS PAVED A WAY FOR HIMSELF IN THE WANDERERS HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE TEAM

GROWING UP IN Sylvania Waters, Mourdoukoutas started playing football at the Football NSW Institute before moving to Sydney Olympic's youth team in 2016. From Sydney Olympic, Mourdoukoutas was scouted for the Wanderers Academy where he played in both the club's NPL 2 first grade side and Championship-winning Foxtel Y-League team.

After a number of call-ups for the Young Socceroos and consistent performances in the Academy, Mourdoukoutas made his Hyundai A-League debut in Round 16 against Wellington Phoenix coming on as a substitute in a 1-1 draw.

It wasn't long then before Mourdoukoutas was snatched up by the first team with the youngster getting some vital senior football under his belt.

Mourdoukoutas has been one of the shining lights on a challenging campaign for the Red & Black and has played a role in each of the matches the Wanderers have won this season with the centreback believing this season has been fundamental for his development.



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"(The wins) have definitely shed a more positive light on the season, it's always good to win and it has given us some momentum heading into the final stages of the season," explained Mourdoukoutas.

"I think even more experienced players haven't really had a season like we have this season. "But I think there's a lot of positives to come in the remaining weeks. Everyone is still looking to make their mark, especially us younger boys because we still haven't proven anything yet.

"I actually think there's been a lot of good experiences to be gained, more so than discouraged, because I think with the older players going through this situation with you can learn from how they react.

"They've all reacted really well and we learn from that."

Mourdoukoutas has been part of a group of Wanderers Academy players that have been thrust into first team action under the guidance of head coach Markus Babbel. For Mourdoukoutas, it is no surprise that the Academy has been producing such talent and he is humbled by the opportunities given to him.

"You could say there's a whole new generation of Wanderers, as we have a great Wanderers Academy and plenty of players coming through so it's only natural that these players progress into the first team," said Mourdoukoutas.

"Obviously, a lot of praise goes to the boss Markus Babbel for giving us young boys a chance.

"Whether that has been out of necessity or we've earned our chance, a lot of boys have really taken our chances.

"And that's been through great guidance by coaching staff and senior players who have really helped us be prepared throughout the week and the whole season."

Looking to the future, Mourdoukoutas is determined to continue working hard each time he pulls on the Red & Black hoops.

"We've just got to keep our heads down and keep working, especially us younger players so that we can keep learning every day.

"And keep growing as a footballer and a person, which is the most important thing." **W**

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SOTIRIO SHINING

JAUSHUA SOTIRIO ON HIS JOURNEY OF SELF-BELIEF AND HIS LOVE FOR THE RED & BLACK

ONE OF THE most familiar faces in Wanderers history, youngster Jaushua Sotirio has been in the Wanderers development system since day one.

Growing up in the inner west around Summer Hill and Ashfield, Sotirio played his junior football with Five Dock and Leichhardt before moving onto Marconi Stallions.

The forward made his Hyundai A-League debut against Newcastle Jets in Round 10 of the 2013/14 season.

The exciting attacker continued to grow and soon found himself on the pitch in the AFC Champions League victory over FC Seoul and scored his first goal in Red & Black soon after against Perth Glory in Round 6 of the 2014/15 Hyundai A-League season.

Sotirio's breakthrough season came in 2015/16 as he became a first team regular, playing in 22 first team matches and scoring one goal.

But it has been arguably in one of the Wanderers toughest season's in history that Sotirio has shone through, growing in leaps and bounds.

The second-half of the 2018/19 season has been about pride in the Wanderers and there's no player that has more faith in the Red & Black than Sotirio.

"It's been a bit of a crazy season and one that I've never experienced before actually," said Sotirio.

"We've played some good football in patches but we've just been unlucky with not getting the result and it's been hard on the boys.

"It's been hard on morale, we've been a bit down but we've been trying our best.

"We always give our 100% in every game, so we've just gotta play for pride and give it all back to the fans and ourselves."

Such year of growth for Sotirio has come from a mix of self-



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(Right to left) Sotirio celebrates his goal against Central Coast Mariners; Sotirio goes for a run

belief and guidance from senior players and experienced coaching staff.

"I've been here for a while now at the club and I've won the Asian Champions League as well so it means the world to me," reflects Sotirio.

"It's been my only Hyundai A-League club so you know I've always given my all and I always will give my all.

"You know I'm still learning every day, especially with the foreigners, they've been at the highest level so I'm still learning everyday off them.

"You know on things like how I can improve my game, you know they're giving me pointers and tips on how I can make better runs or have better movement."

Sotirio's hard yards at the Red & Black have been paying off with the 23-year-old's goal against Melbourne City being voted by the Hyundai A-League as Goal of the Month for January.

This was backed up by another spectacular performance by Sotirio against the Mariners where he helped secure a crucial win for the club.

"The goal against the Mariners, you know it was a very important game - an important game for the whole club, the players, for everyone," said Sotirio.

"We've had a big rough patch and that win was an important win.

"You know I did that celebration, it was just a bit of banter with the crowd.

"Because I cop a lot of negativity and criticism and you know it's just a way of saying you know keep talking and I'll just prove myself on the field."

And prove himself he has with things only looking up for Sotirio if he continues to apply himself the way he has. Either way, the youngster will be forever remembered as one of the most loyal and faithful to have ever worn the Wanderers hoops. **W**





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TAKE FIVE

RIERA ON TONIGHT'S MATCH AGAINST GLORY

THINK WHEN YOU are not in a good situation it's about how many games we have left and how we can beat the opponent.

After having two weeks where we have won two matches in a row, we have another big game tonight and it's all about giving 100%. It's all about mentality, it has not been easy this season with everything that has happened, I got injured and spent some time sidelined. We also had a lot of unlucky results which for such a young squad is not easy to accept so I think these last few games will be a lot about mentality.

It's just about trying to control the things we can control.

After having back-to-back wins our mentality is much better and we are a lot more confident in ourselves.

Without the ball we have been trying to be a lot better and in the past weeks we've been trying to prove ourselves.

Tonight's match against Perth is massive game with three points that we have to get. We will face some of our old friends like Santalab (Brendon Santalab) and Chris (Ikonmidis) and it will be a very emotional game.

But it will be a good fight and a battle for us. We know we have to get three points and just try to put our best foot on the field. **W**

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LAWYERS

WE'VE UPDATED OUR MATCH DAY PLAYLIST LISTEN HERE SPOTIFY.COM/USER/WSWANDERSFC

HIGH HOPES **PANIC! AT THE DISCO**
YOUNG BLOOD **5 SECONDS OF SUMMER**
BE ALRIGHT **DEAN LEWINS**
RISE **JONAS BLUE**
IN MY BLOOD **SHAWN MENDES**

FEEL IT STILL **PORTUGAL**
HIGHER **HILLTOP HOODS**
READY FOR IT? **TAYLOR SWIFT**
SOMETHING JUST LIKE THIS **COLDPLAY**
GET LUCKY **DAFT PUNK**



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






WANDERERS HOST FREE CLINICS IN FEBRUARY

AS PART OF the Wanderers ongoing celebrations of Play Football, the Red & Black have been hosting free football clinics prior to all their home matches in February.

Powered by Soccer Kickstart, these sessions will follow through on proven development systems which follow the Football Federation Australia curriculum.

Participants are guaranteed to have a great time developing their football skills in a dynamic high-quality session with fully qualified and highly experienced coaches. The clinics are aimed towards players who are starting to enhance their football skills in a dynamic high-quality session with the experienced coaches.

Sessions are heavily focused on technique, game understanding and improving confidence as well as providing a great experience.

At the end of this clinic, the goal is to have participants comfortably perform all four technical components of football - passing, shooting, controlling the ball and dribbling. 


**VISIT WANDERLAND.COM.AU TO FIND
OUT MORE ABOUT OUR FREE CLINICS**



HELPING OUT

This week's Centuria Wandercrew Volunteer of the Week is April! April has been a vital part of Westfield W-League volunteer group this season, helping with promotions and match day. April was also part of the Wanderers Schools Cup earlier this year.

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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MCDONALD'S PROUD COMMUNITY PARTNERS

TOGETHER, THE WANDERERS and McDonald's have been working for a number of seasons to make an impact on the community in Western Sydney. Last match day, the Wanderers held their annual Ronald McDonald House fixture to raise awareness and support the incredible work Ronald McDonald House Charities in Greater Western Sydney do in supporting families with sick kids.

Players and staff also headed to the house for the fifth year in a row to cook meals for families as part of the house's Meals from the Heart program.

McDonald's also supported the Wanderers community traditions in hosting a White Ribbon match at the start of the season and a Harmony Day clash at the club's next home game at ANZ Stadium.

The Wanderers new Migrant Program also continues this Hyundai A-League season with the club working with a number of Western Sydney resettlement and migrant advocacy groups to distribute 500 memberships to the migrant community.

Christmas saw the Wanderers take the full team to visit The Children's Hospital at Westmead, delivering gifts to seriously ill children.

This was in line with the club's Christmas campaign with Foodbank, where members and fans were encouraged to bring non-perishable food to the Sydney Derby to be donated for families in Western Sydney. Throughout the month of February, the Wanderers have also hosted free football clinics pre-match to celebrate Play Football Round while McDonald's continued to hand out free Wanderers jerseys to all first-time clinic participants at Wanderers Weekly and Holiday clinics. **W**



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