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EDITION 12 OCT 2019  
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# THIS MATCH

## FEATURES

### WE'RE BACK

It's the moment we have all been waiting for

### NINE SEASONS OF BRIDGE

With his showing in last week's Sydney Derby, Mark Bridge became the 27th player in Hyundai A-League history to notch up 200 appearances.

### W-LEAGUE WRAP

The Wanderers have had a cracking start to the inaugural season of the E-League.

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## THE WANDERER

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# JOHN TSATSIMAS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MEMBER #4,403

GOOD EVENING AND welcome to our very first match back at our home, Wanderland. We have come full circle tonight. Seven years ago we kicked off against the Central Coast Mariners in our very first Hyundai A-League match and tonight we play against the same opponent in some very different surroundings. We have been counting down to this day for the last three years and today we see our wonderful members and fans turn Bankwest Stadium into a sea of Red & Black. We got a first taste of the Wanderland experience in our historic match against Leeds United in July and it was an incredible night to open the stadium for football. But tonight, we officially move in. All of us as one, will make it our formidable home as we build it into our fortress. Together, we look forward to an exciting season after a long off-season, and a long time away from home, and can't wait to see what both our Men's and Women's teams bring to Wanderland. 

# MATCH PREVIEW

IT HAS FELT like an eternity, but the Hyundai A-League pre-season is finally over and it's time for some football action.

An opening game against traditional rivals Central Coast Mariners has seen the Red & Black return to their spiritual home ground of Wanderland today.

Head coach Markus Babbel and his coaching staff have been working hard for almost four months to get the squad in shape and ready for what will be a tough opening to the season against a Mariners side intent on casting aside suggestions they are the easy-beats of the league.

The Wanderers will go into the contest off the back of a solid preparation in which they performed admirably during a series of friendlies and the FFA Cup.

While there was disappointment an under-strength Wanderers were knocked out of

the Cup by Melbourne City at the quarter-final stage, the squad has taken plenty of positives over the last few weeks.

The club's new signings such as Pirmin Schwegler, Daniel Lopar, Daniel Georgievski, Dylan McGowan, Matt Jurman and Alex Meier, have fitted in well, helping with a new mentality at the club.

The Mariners, under new coach Alen Stajic, will present a tough battle for the Wanderers. They have had a very solid pre-season, making the semi-finals of the FFA Cup before bowing out to Adelaide United.

The two clubs have had plenty of great battles since 2012. Last season Western Sydney got the better of the Mariners, winning both home games 2-0 before losing 3-1 in Gosford.

The Wanderers will be looking to maintain their good overall record against the Mariners having won 11 and drawn six of the 23 encounters between the two clubs. **W**



(Top to Bottom) The Wanderers train at Bankwest Stadium; Pirmin Schwegler looks on at his fellow teammates

## TONIGHT'S MATCH DAY PARTNER

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# FIELD REPORTER

CATHERINE CANNULI  
 @CANNULI\_13

WE'RE HOME AND doesn't it feel great.

It's been a long time coming but there is no better feeling than that drive into Parramatta for game day.

It's been an exciting off-season so far for our Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League teams who have been getting ready for a massive homecoming season.

We also recently moved into our new Centre of Football in the heart of Blacktown

The Centre of Football features three elite training pitches housing the club's elite men's, women's and academy team, Westfield W-League and Hyundai A-League designated changerooms, physiotherapy, state-of-the-art gymnasium, offices and media centre.

The 11-hectare development on the edge of Bungarribee Park on completion will include nine pitches, grandstands facing two pitches, a new Academy facility and community offices complementing the current venue.

Our Centre of Football is one of the biggest club sports facilities in the country and it's crazy to think where we have come from to where we are now.

Growing up and playing football, it was a dream to one day train in facilities like these

so I can only imagine how the players feel when they turn up to training everyday.

It's also a great feeling to have everyone under the same roof.

From our Academy coaching staff, to Markus Babbel and his team, to all our administration staff. Everyone is in the same building, working towards the same goal.

The new facilities have helped us get prepared for a massive Westfield W-League season coming up.

Pre-season officially gets underway next week and we have already announced the return of two young guns - Courtney Nevin and Jada Whyman.

Returning from an injury last season, Jada will play an integral role in our spine this coming season.

Courtney debuted for the Wanderers last season and featured in nine matches after a stellar season with the Football NSW Institute NPL Women's side where she scored 35 goals in a season.

With more announcements to come in the following weeks, stay tuned for all the Westfield W-League news and fixture details and get behind our Westfield W-League girls as they aim to make history this season. **W**

## ON THIS DAY

COURTESY OF ANDREW HOWE  
 @ANDYHOWE\_STATTO



ON THIS DAY in 2013, the Wanderers opened their 2013/14 Hyundai A-League campaign against the Central Coast Mariners at Bluetongue Stadium. Wanderer Tomi Juric was the hero, scoring a late equaliser after the Red & Black were unable to capitalise on a dominating display against the Mariners. The opening game of the Wanderers Premiership defence finished in a thrilling 1-1 draw as Juric's 87th minute goal cancelled out Mitchell Duke's strike against the run of play. **W**



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# THE NEW DAWN.

A NEW ERA IS UPON US.

IT'S THE MOMENT we have all been waiting for.

After years in the wilderness, the Hyundai A-League season 2019/20 marks Western Sydney's return to Wanderland, and with it, a renewed optimism.

The chance to turn over a new leaf and make a fresh start is a solid distraction from the Red & Black's previous seasons of pain.

Regardless of what happens this campaign, Markus Babbel's second year in the dugout will forever go down in history as the homecoming season.

The winds of change have been sweeping through Western Sydney as the club has been gearing up for what will be their most vital season in their short history.

With a magnificent new stadium to play their home games, a state-of-the-art training facility and an impressive squad, there's a growing sense of optimism around the club.

While acknowledging all those factors are critical to sustained success, coach Markus Babbel remains cautious when talking up the Wanderers' prospects.

Babbel's trepidation has nothing to do with his own belief or the quality in his side, but a different element all together.

Something which separates the good teams from the very best.

And it's a key trait he hopes his team can rediscover quickly as they head into an exciting new dawn in Western Sydney.

"What we [The Wanderers] maybe have lost in the last years is the winning mentality. It's what Sydney FC has, what Melbourne Victory has, what maybe Perth Glory has," said Babbel.



(Left from right), Markus Babbel oversees training,  
Wanderers starting XI against Leeds United

**“We have more quality and we have a better team spirit. That is the biggest difference to last season.”**

“We have to bring this mentality back in this club and then I’m very optimistic in the future that the Wanderers will be one of the strongest teams in the league. I’m very optimistic about this.

“We want to have success here. But first we must build a good base and from there you can go forward.

“I won’t say our target is first. I played for Bayern Munich so for me [expecting to finish first] that’s normal, but here we have many young ones and they have never learned it, so they have to learn how it is to win, to handle pressure.

“We have to bring this culture to the club. We have to bring the culture back to the club from [the early years] where there was great success here.”

To help fast-track that switch from mid-table battlers to title contenders, the Wanderers are buying into a new philosophy as they get ready for the new campaign.

It’s a mantra that might only consist of two words – ‘No excuses’ – but Babbel

believes can have a profound effect on their future prospects.

“We can’t say ‘we don’t have a gym, the pitches aren’t good’ because everything is there now, everything is perfect. I don’t want to hear these excuses anymore, I want to know where is the solution, what can we do?,” the German explained.

“[The players] can’t tell me that [their] technique is bad because the pitch is bad, now it’s up to them, so work harder, do more, ask me if they want to do something extra.

“We have a fantastic coaching staff here so it’s in the players’ hands to do more. They can come to me and say ‘Markus, do you have 10 minutes to work with me on my first touch?’ No problem, we do it.

“Don’t go the easy way, try to work hard, try to give 100% in every session and you will improve. And it’s not only us [the first-team] it’s the whole club, there’s no excuses anymore.”

With all the off-field blocks in place to help deliver the Wanderers success, Babbel set



about overhauling his squad and recruiting players with a certain character.

While the club has unearthed some exciting young talent in the last couple of years, the ex-Liverpool and Bayern Munich defender needed to implant experience and quality around them.

In have come the likes of Pirmin Schwegler, Alex Meier, Daniel Georgievski, Daniel Lopar, Matthew Jurman and Dylan McGowan to add more steel to the side.

"We have more quality and we have a better team spirit. That is the biggest difference to last season," Babel declared.

"We're a really good team, working very focused on the pitch but also in between the guys there's a good relationship there.

"Everyone knows there's a challenge and they have to fight for their place but they are respectful to the others.

"Last season we had a lot of selfish players and the atmosphere in the team wasn't good, but this is now totally different.

"The new ones that have come in have brought quality but also the ones that were

there last year, especially the young ones, improved a lot so you can see the quality now at training is much better.

"That's the reason why I'm so positive about the new season...the team spirit is so much better than last year. We'll play a good season."

And that season gets underway tonight, in the long-awaited return to their spiritual home, Bankwest Stadium in Parramatta.

The Wanderers host Central Coast in what is a repeat of their first-ever Hyundai A-League match at the venue in 2012.

"It's going to make a big difference to be back home," said Babel.

"We had the experience with the Leeds game and it was a fantastic atmosphere. The boys gave 100% because the supporters were pushing them.

"With this atmosphere, if you are on the pitch you have to give 100%, it's not possible to give 50%. It's similar to Anfield.

"What I really hope I can see at the home games that this is the 12th man for us, pushing the boys to their limit." ❏

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# PLAYER TO WATCH

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**11**

GAMES PLAYED  
LAST SEASON

**3**

**0**

GOALS



**18 10**

KEY PASSES

**24 7**

TOTAL SHOTS

**13 4**

SHOTS ON TARGET

**12**

**2**

INTERCEPTIONS



**7**

SUCCESSFUL  
CROSSES

**MITCHELL  
DUKE**

#12 FORWARD

**TOMMY  
OAR**

#10 FORWARD

# CLASSIC CLASHES

THE WANDERERS WILL COME FULL CIRCLE TONIGHT WHEN THEY HOST THE MARINERS IN BANKWEST STADIUM'S FIRST HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE FIXTURE

IT'S A RIVALRY that has stood the test of time since 2012.

No matter the circumstances or their positions on the table, there is always an edge whenever the Wanderers and Mariners line-up against each other in the Hyundai A-League.

There have been many memorable clashes so we've listed the top five Wanderers moments against the Mariners over the past seven seasons.

## ROUND 1, 6 OCTOBER 2012

RESULT: Wanderers 0 v Mariners 0

VENUE: Pirtek Stadium

LINE-UP: Ante Covic; Adam D'Apuzzo, Nikolai Topor-Stanley, Michael Beauchamp, Mateo Poljak, Youssef Hersi, Aaron Mooy, Labinot Haliti, Dino Kresinger, Mark Bridge, Jerome Polenz

An historic night for the Wanderers as the club fought out a draw with the Mariners in their first game in the Hyundai A-League, just seven months after being formed.

## ROUND 23, 2 MARCH 2013

RESULT: Wanderers 1 (81' Labinot Haliti) v Central Coast 0

VENUE: Bluetongue Stadium

LINE-UP: Ante Covic; Adam D'Apuzzo, Nikolai Topor-Stanley, Michael Beauchamp, Mateo Poljak, Shinji Ono, Youssef Hersi, Dino Kresinger, Mark Bridge, Iacopo La Rocca, Jerome Polenz.

It was the game that turned the Premiers Plate race on its head. At one stage of the season the Wanderers were 10 points behind the Mariners. But, the win here, through a Haliti goal, saw the Wanderers replace their rivals at the top of the table.

## ELIMINATION FINAL, 26 APRIL 2014

RESULT: Wanderers 2 (31' Hersi, 81' La Rocca) v Central Coast Mariners 0

VENUE: Pirtek Stadium

LINE-UP: Ante Covic; Adam D'Apuzzo, Nikolai Topor-Stanley, Matthew Spiranovic, Mateo Poljak, Shinji Ono, Youssef Hersi, Mark Bridge, Brendon Santalab, Iacopo La Rocca, Jerome Polenz.

In just their second season, the Wanderers qualified for a second straight grand final, overcoming the Mariners in a hard fought contest thanks to goals in each half from Hersi and La Rocca.



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(Left from right), Shinji Ono celebrates against the Mariners at Wanderland, Labinot Haliti celebrates his goal that saw the Wanderers jump to the top of the table



#### ROUND 26, 26 APRIL 2016

RESULT: Wanderers 4 (8' Castelen, 36' and 52' Santalab, 83' Nichols) v Central Coast Mariners 1 (21' Garcia)

VENUE: Pirtek Stadium

LINE-UP: Andrew Redmayne; Scott Jamieson, Nikolai Topor-Stanley, Scott Neville, Andrew Guerao, Romeo Castelen, Mitch Nichols, Kearyn Baccus, Mark Bridge, Brendon Santalab, Alberto Aguilar.

This was the Wanderers biggest home win against the Mariners as Santalab helped himself to a brace while Castelen and Nichols also got on the scoresheet.

#### ROUND 9, 3 DECEMBER 2016

RESULT: Wanderers 4 (6' Kuskami, 31' Martinez, McGing (OG), 87' Santalab) v Central Coast Mariners 1 (5' Powell)

VENUE: Pirtek Stadium

LINE-UP: Jerrad Tyson, Jack Clisby, Aritz Borda, Jonathan Asproptomitis, Scott Neville, Dimas Delgado, Bruno Pinatares, Mitch Nichols, Nicolas Martinez, Jumpei Kuskami, Lachlan Scott.

This was the Wanderers biggest away win against the Mariners, who scored in just the fifth minute through Powell. But it was one way traffic after that with Kuskami scoring just a minute later to equalise before Martinez, an own goal and Santalab completed the scoring. **W**

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SCORE

SQUAD

S	B	#	NAME	POSITION	SPONSOR
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Daniel LOPAR	Goalkeeper	McDonald's
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Dylan MCGOWAN	Defender	Access Fire
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Daniel GEORGIEVSKI	Defender	Vaccaro Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Matthew JURMAN	Defender	MATE
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Mitchell DUKE	Defender	Pepper Money
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Jordan O'DOHERTY	Midfielder	JD Sports
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Radoslaw MAJEWSKI	Midfielder	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Bruce KAMAU	Forward	Castle Hill Hyundai
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13	Tass MOURDOUKOUTAS	Defender	Centuria Turner Freeman Lawyers
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14	Alex MEIER	Forward	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16	Mathieu CORDIER	Defender	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17	Keanu BACCUS	Midfielder	Best Signs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	19	Pirmin SCHWEGLER	Midfielder	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	Vedran JANJETOVIC	Goalkeeper	Joe Black
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21	Tarek ELRICH	Defender	Club Marconi
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	22	Nicholas SULLIVAN	Midfielder	A.S.S. Fencing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	23	Kosta GROZOS	Midfielder	GPP Excavations
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	27	Kwame YEBOAH	Forward	Rees Electrical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	28	Fabian MONGE	Midfielder	Industrial Harvest Western Sydney University
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	29	Daniel WILMERING	Midfielder	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	30	Danijel NIZIC	Goalkeeper	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	33	Tate RUSSELL	Defender	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	34	Patrick ZIEGLER	Defender	Multiquip
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	35	Mohamed ADAM	Forward	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	40	Nicholas SUMAN	Goalkeeper	Hertz
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	50	Jack GREENWOOD	Goalkeeper	

COACH

Marcus BABEL

ASSISTANT COACHES

Jean-Paul DE MARIGNY  
Labinot HALITI  
Davide DEL GIOVINE

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ROUND 4 MATCHES



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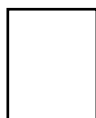


SCORE



YE

SCORE



SQUAD

#	NAME	POSITION	S	B
1	Mark BIRIGHITTI	Goalkeeper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Gordon ZYGMUNT	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Jack CLISBY	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Kim EUNSUN	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Giancarlo GALLIFUOCO	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Milan DJURIC	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Michael MCGLINCHEY	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Jordan MURRAY	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Tommy OAR	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Daniel DESILVA	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Adam PEARCE	Goalkeeper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Abraham MAJOK	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Kye ROWLES	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Dylan FOX	Defender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Samuel SILVERA	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	Gianni STENSNESS	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Matt SIMON	Forward	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	Ruon TONGYIK	Defender	<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"/>
26	Joshua NISBET	Midfielder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COACH

Alen STAJCIC

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## JUNIOR WANDERER OF THE MATCH

### ARE YOU A JUNIOR WANDERER?

Tell us in 25 words or less why you're the #1 Junior Wanderer fan and WIN a prize pack from Wesley & Sunny! The winner for each match will also feature in The Wanderer and on the big screen!

### WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR!

Send your answer to competitions@wswanderersfc.com.au. The most passionate answer wins!

# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the five differences below?



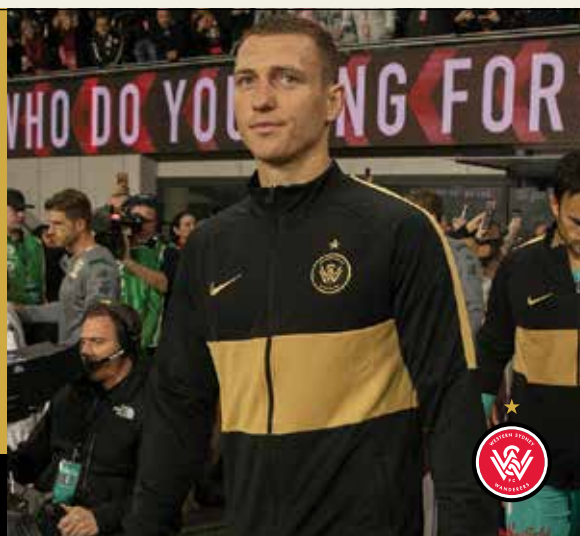
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE ANSWERS: 1. Pepper Money logo is missing off Mitchell Duke sleeve; 2. Kappa logo missing off shorts of Leeds player; 3. Wanderers logo and Nike tick missing off Tass Mourdoukoutas' shorts; 4. Mourdoukoutas' right leg is missing; 5. #1 missing off Duke shorts. JUNIOR QUIZ ANSWERS: 1. Alex Meier, 2. Mitchell Duke, 3. Jada Whyman and Courtney Nevin, 4. Pirtek Stadium, 5. Kwame Yeboah.



# GET IT WHILE IT'S COOL

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# THE CORNER POST

HOW GREAT DOES it feel to be back at Wanderland!

It's been a very long three seasons away from our fortress but it's awesome to be back at a place that we call home.

The wait has been worth it and we got a taste of what match day could be like in our historic match against Leeds United.

What a night that was!

We've had a very busy off-season and have been out at heaps of events at our local communities!


It all kicked off with our visits to our associations Grand Final Days where we met the next generation of footballers as well as hand out medals and



certificates to all the winners.

It was so cool to meet so many of you in person!

We also visited lots of schools in Western Sydney and some of our holiday clinics in the lead-up to the season.

If you see us around tonight at Wanderland or at a community make sure you stop us and say hi! 



## JUNIOR QUIZ

1. Which former Bundesliga golden boot winner did the Wanderers sign this season?

2. Who is the Wanderers Hyundai A-League captain this season?

3. Name the two W-League players the club recently re-signed.

4. What was Bankwest Stadium's previous name?

5. Who scored in the Wanderers friendly against Leeds United?



## LOVING WANDERLAND?

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# DUKE ON OUR RETURN TO WANDERLAND

THERE REALLY IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME FOR OUR CAPTAIN.

WANDERER MITCHELL DUKE may have been on the "wrong side" for Western Sydney's historic first match in the Hyundai A-League at Parramatta Stadium back on 6 October 2012, but it was a match he has remembered for a long time.

While the Round One game ended in a 0-0 stalemate, Duke, playing for Central Coast Mariners at the time, was nonetheless struck in awe by the atmosphere created by the Wanderers fans.

Fast forward seven years and the proud, Liverpool-born attacker is preparing to play in front of the passionate Wanderers again when the club makes its long-awaited return to Bankwest Stadium.

This time, however, he'll be wearing the famous Red & Black hoops having returned to his Western Sydney roots after joining the Wanderers in the middle of last season during the January transfer window.

"We had a taste of the new stadium against Leeds in July and it was an unbelievable atmosphere, so there is a lot to look forward to for the fans being back home after such a long time away," said Duke.

"What better way to do it than against the Mariners, who we played against in the first game here when I was actually on the other side. It's exciting and a massive moment for the club."

Duke admits he has good memories of that night seven years ago.


"I remember that game well. It was crazy, it was loud, it was passionate and it was intimidating. To play against it was unbelievable and now, to be on the other side playing with it behind me is so exciting," he said.

"I hope it will be that same taste and feeling that it was all that time ago."

The forward has no doubts that the intense and passionate backing of the fans makes a huge difference to the players.

"I think it gives you that little bit extra percentage to play better," he explained.

"You want to be better for the fans and with that sort of atmosphere it sort of eggs you on and it pumps you up.

"To play in front of that again is just a massive thing for a player and it's going to be huge for the club this season." 



# FROM FAN TO PLAYER

## MO ADAM ON HIS JOURNEY TO WANDERLAND

STORY BY RAY GATT

🐦 @RAY GATT

AS A 12-YEAR-OLD sitting in the Eastern stand at what was then known as Pirtek Stadium, Mo Adam has vivid and everlasting memories of what it was like to be part of the Wanderers family from the very first day of the club's existence.

The ritual would start on a train trip from Liverpool Station with his Dad and friends, eventually arriving at Parramatta, meeting with the mass of Red & Black fans and joining in the march to the stadium.

Along the way, Adam would dream of one day being on the other side of the fence, wearing the famous Wanderers colours and having the fans marching the streets on the way to watch him play for the club he has followed from the start.

"I have plenty of great memories from those early days, the whole experience," said Adam.

"It was really amazing, especially inside the stadium with the amazing atmosphere. Of course, I really enjoyed the Sydney Derby."

Seven years on from those days and the exciting 19-year-old attacker is getting ready for the biggest moment of his fledgling career - a possible debut in the Hyundai A-League.

A graduate from the Wanderers Academy, Adam was promoted to the first-team squad in July and has been heavily involved in the pre-season preparation that also saw him make his senior debut, and score, in the FFA Cup against Perth Glory in August.

Adam said it would mean everything for him to get his chance to feature in the opening game of the season against the Central Coast Mariners.

"To be honest, it would mean the world to me to have my family and friends supporting me ... Those who watched me from a little kid to who I am now," said Adam.

"My family sacrificed a lot for me and the rest of the family. We came to Australia from Sudan via Egypt and it was tough going."

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"It's been a little tough here as well at times, so for me to be able to give something back to them would be great."

Adam paid tribute to the Wanderers coaching staff for his good form and opportunities to date.


"Credit to Labi (assistant coach) Labinot Haliti and the whole coaching staff and the players, everyone has supported me from the start," said Adam.

"I've been getting plenty of advice.

"And to get a scholarship from the Wanderers is fantastic because it gives you some assurance for the future.

"Having a head coach (Markus Babbel) who has trust in you and gives you opportunities, I feel I can take my game to the next level and get as many games as possible.

"I am like a sponge, that's why I bug Markus so much with a lot of questions! I just like to take in as much information as I can."

Adam is one of nine Wanderers Academy graduates in the club's Hyundai A-League squad this season. 



*(Top to Bottom) Adam making his Wanderland debut against Leeds United; Adam celebrating his first senior goal with teammate Tate Russell*





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## THERE'S NO GUARANTEES IN LIFE, BUT TAREK ELRICH PROMISES TO GIVE HIS ALL FOR THE RED & BLACK.

No-one knew who was going to be in the starting line-up. Unfortunately, I was one of the players who didn't make it, but I remember that first season for all the good things, going on a roll and winning games back to back, the happy days coming to training and the fans coming out in great numbers to support us.

The stand out was travelling to Newcastle, winning 3-0 away from home and being crowned the Premiers in our first season ... that was an incredible achievement and a big moment for everyone at the club.

The club has had success with the Premier's Plate and the Asian Champions League, but we want more.

Unfortunately, that grand final trophy has eluded us ... I don't think we deserve to be on the wrong end of that.

So, the target is for more silverware. We have recruited well and have good, quality young players coming through the Academy system. 

WE ARE IN a much better space these days.

It was difficult being away from home but now we are back at Parramatta and we are ready to turn it into a fortress again. It is massive to be back here, it is our home, and I know the fans feel the same.

I know when I have spoken to rival players over the years they have told me coming to Parramatta to play was the best thing and they always looked forward to it.

Looking back on playing the Mariners in the opening game of the season back in 2012 brings back wonderful memories.



### CONTRIBUTE TO OUR MATCH DAY PLAYLIST — SEARCH FOR WSWANDERERSFC

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# WANDERERS COMMUNITY ROADSHOW

THE WANDERERS WERE proud again to run their annual Community Roadshow this off-season, visiting a number of Western Sydney football associations during their Grand Final weekends.


As many as 15,000 people, including 5,000 participants, were be involved with a number of associations who got ready for the emotion, thrills and excitement of Grand Final time.

Starting with Southern District Soccer Football Association, Grand Finals were held right across the region in early August all the from under 13s all the way up to Over 45s.

Other associations involved include Nepean, Blacktown, Gladesville Hornsby, the Hills District, Bankstown and the North West Womens Association.

As has been the case from the very beginning of their existence, the Wanderers threw their full support behind the associations, who are the life blood of the sport.

The club had a strong presence at each of the Grand Final weekends, providing active zones that will include various activities for kids, the chance to meet players from the first team squad and the chance to win prizes.

A number of Wanderers Academy players also visited the associations during the roadshow, going back to the clubs they originally played their junior football with. 



## HELPING OUT

EACH SEASON WE have over 70 passionate volunteers give up their time on Wanderers Hyundai A-League, Westfield W-League and Foxtel Y-League games to give back to the community and help us with match day.

These volunteers are part of the Centuria Wandercrew workforce and roles range from helping with our activations to taking care of the hundreds of Minirooms that take to the field every week at half-time.

We would like to thank all our Wandercrew members who have returned or joined us this season and look forward to giving you a memorable Wanderland experience! 

 **SIGN UP TODAY TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE CLUB VISIT [WANDERLAND.COM.AU/WANDERCREW](http://WANDERLAND.COM.AU/WANDERCREW)**



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We look forward to meeting you online or onboard soon. ✈

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