#### Σπορ Ο Κόσμος





# **FOOTBALL NSW PROFIT DOWN A MASSIVE 45%**

Football NSW reported a staggering 45% decline in annual profit for the past financial year- nonetheless, it WAS still a profit.

The profit of the company for the fi-

"There is no Plan B, C or D-for those who still have doubts. I tell vou the 2010 World Cup will be organised in South Africa," Blatter told reporters in Tokyo this week.

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"I will be proud because it is a little bit like my baby. I've had a dream for 34 years to bring the World Cup to Africa. It's a little bit like my baby.'

"All the stadiums will be there," said the country's organising chief Danny Jordaan. "There will be a transport revolution. There's no question, we will be ready."

In the meantime, FIFA has denied that the global financial crisis could spell trouble for the World Cup with TV and sponsorship deals almost com-



New Football NSW Directors Michael Webber & Robert Waddell

nancial year after providing for income tax was \$479,607.

Last financial year the annual profit was \$878,511!

According to the organisation's Annual Report, "This result was achieved despite the effect on our share portfolio caused by the US sub-prime market and the economic flow on which rippled through the world markets".

# **BLATTER'S "PLAN B" IS DEAD, AND THERE IS NO** "C" OR "D" EITHER!

FIFA president Sepp Blatter has squashed talk of ditching South Africa as 2010 World Cup hosts, saying there was "no Plan B."

Blatter's earlier revelation this year that FIFA had contingency plans should the country be deemed ill-prepared had triggered a flurry of speculation about possible alternatives.

But with less than 18 months left before the tournament kickoff, the FIFA boss insisted South Africa would be ready to become the continent's first World Cup hosts.

pleted and 75 percent of funds already in the bank.

"We are very safe," said FIFA general secretary Jerome Valcke. "Most of the companies, Hyundai, Coca-Cola and Sony, I would say are safe."

# **EURO 2012?**

The preparations by Poland and Ukraine to host the 2012 European Championship appear to be on track.

Government and sports officials from the two countries gave updated reports to UEFA on Wednesday after a troubled year in which their hosting rights were threatened because building work at stadiums, airports, hotels and roads fell behind schedule.

"We have full confidence in Euro 2012 in Poland and Ukraine," UEFA president Michel Platini said.

### **BAN ON 3-NATION BIDS** FOR 2016?

Whilst on the Euro Cup, European soccer's governing body UEFA has reiterated its position that it was opposed to three-nation bids for the expanded 2016 European championships.

After a meeting of its executive committee, UEFA said that it would permit solo bids and joint bids by two neighbouring national associations only.

But it said bids involving three or more countries would be considered "under exceptional circumstances" only.

This was amidst media reports in Britain last week which suggested that Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have had held preliminary talks about putting in a joint bid.

UEFA decided at its last executive committee meeting to increase the size of the championships, starting with the 2016 edition, from 16 to 24 teams.

## **NEW BLOOD ON FNSW** BOARD

Following Football NSW's AGM held last weekend, we have two new Directors on the Board- Ku-Ring-Gai & District Football Association President Michael Webber and former Football NSW CEO Robert Waddell.

Both individuals polled more votes than the other candidates which included now outgoing Football NSW Board Members Howard Bradley, Frank Wilson and Ross Kelly.

Former Football NSW board member Rob Laws decided not to run for the vacant position.

### WHAT'S THE MOST **POPULAR CONVERSATION TOPIC?**

The answer is FOOTBALL according to a recent survey conducted in London.

In fact, more than 80% of 32,000



fans questioned in a worldwide survey said that football was their most regular topic of conversation while 49% said it was more important to them than even family and partners!

The survey, carried out by Premier League sponsors Barclays across 185 countries, found that Liverpool striker Fernando Torres was the league's most popular player according to 38% of voters.

Team mate Steven Gerrard was second and Manchester United's newlycrowned European player of the year Cristiano Ronaldo third.

David Beckham's goal from the halfway line against Wimbledon in 1996 was voted the fans' favourite moment since the league began in 1992.

## **BETEZY BET OF THE WEEK**

Here's what "The Scotsman" had to say .....

"Well punters we came back to the field after my golf tip last week. Geoff Ogilvy only got beaten by 2 shots, he was too far back to win the tournament.

This week however we are back to the gallops. The Villiers at Randwick tomorrow is great racing. I think you will see a horse with a great future.

I am tipping Sydney Race 5, horse number 3 Angels Breath trained by Ron Quinton.

Good Luck and good punting", from The Scotsman

#### **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!**

Before I sign off today I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Chrismas for next week and may Santa's sack be full of what you want.

