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## Sports World

With LAKIS KONISTIS

### 5 MILLION FANS IN LESS THAN 5 YEARS!

The Hyundai A-League 2009/10, and this coming round will see 5 million passionate fans in less than five years!

As a relatively new competition, building from the ground up, 5 million spectators in less than five years is a cause for celebration.

The 12,161st spectator to make it to match day in Round 3 is all it will take to record the 5,000,000th attendee to the Hyundai A-League.

4,987,839 fans have already attended a Hyundai A-League fixture to date and the 5,000,000 mark will be eclipsed this coming weekend.

And to help celebrate, the FFA is offering 'number 5 million' a trip for two to Melbourne to see Australia's 'do or die' AFC Asian Cup qualifier against Oman on Wednesday, 14th October.

### 1,000th GOAL!

With 34 goals in just 2 rounds, another milestone was achieved when Melbourne Victory's Carlos Hernandez scored the Hyundai A-League's 1,000th goal.

The Hyundai A-League will heat up even further in Round 3 with Perth Glory to host their first home match versus Newcastle Jets, Wellington Phoenix crossing the Tasman to face the Brisbane Roar, the Hyundai A-League's best credentialled team, Adelaide United, taking on league leaders Gold Coast United and Sydney heading to Gosford to face the Mariners.

### STATS, FACTS & MILESTONES...

#### Adelaide United v Gold Coast United:

Adelaide United hosts its 50th Hyundai A-League match, the first club to reach the half-century of home matches. (W26-D12-L11).

#### Central Coast Mariners v Sydney FC:

Central Coast Mariners and Sydney FC have played out the highest-scoring Hyundai A-League game to date- Sydney getting up 5-4 at Bluetongue Stadium in Round 15, 2007/08.

#### North Queensland Fury v Melbourne Victory:

After losing their first two matches, North Queensland Fury will be striving to avoid the record of longest losing s-

tart for a new club- never before has a team lost its first three matches in the Hyundai A-League

#### Brisbane Roar v Wellington Phoenix:

Brisbane Roar will be aiming to put a halt to an unwanted all-time Hyundai A-League record, having conceded goals in their previous 12 matches at home. The last time the Roar kept a team scoreless at Suncorp Stadium was on February 8th, 2008 (Brisbane Roar 2-0 Sydney FC)

#### Perth Glory v Newcastle Jets:

Newcastle Jets will be aiming to avoid a club record winless streak of ten away matches.

### SUNS FOR NSW PREMIER LEAGUE?

The Rockdale City Suns (46pts) have wrapped up the NSW Super League Minor Premiership on goal difference from PCYC Parramatta (46pts).

The Eagles will now have to wait for yet another year whilst the Suns have put themselves right into NSW Premier League calculations for 2010-subject to meeting FNSW criteria now.

The other three clubs that have made the "Top 5" include Spirit FC, Sydney University and St. George.

As predicted by this column ages ago, Fraser Park will be vacating their spot in the 2010 Super League to arch rivals Dulwich Hill.

### DULWICH HILL MINOR PREMIERS

Dulwich Hill (51pts) has wrapped up the Minor Premiership officially over the weekend.

The local side ended up five points clear of Mounties FC (46pts).

The remaining "Top 5" is made up of Schofields, Inter Lions and UNSW.

### SYDNEY OLYMPIC?

As reported last week, Sydney Olympic had three teams qualify for the semi finals in 2009.

What is the latest news regarding these three teams?

#### U/20's:

The U/20's get back into the action on Sunday 23rd August at Marconi Stadium where they are scheduled to play the Sutherland Sharks (12:30pm).

Sydney Olympic has not beaten the Sharks all year so far (0-0) and (1-4) but semi finals football is a different story altogether.

The winner of this clash will get the chance to take on U/20's Minor Premiers Blacktown City next week to see

who advances into the Grand Final first.

The loser will have another chance when they will meet the winner of the elimination semi final between Marconi and Sydney United.

#### U/16's:

Sydney Olympic's U/16's produced the goods in their elimination semi final against Sydney United last weekend winning 2-0.

The boys must now overcome Manly United tomorrow afternoon in yet another elimination semi final. Good luck boys.

#### U/13's:

Sydney Olympic's U13's, deserved MINOR PREMIERS, come out to play for the first time this weekend against Wollongong City after they beat the West Sydney Berries 1-0 in extra time last Saturday. The winner of this match, who we believe will be Sydney Olympic, will go straight into the Grand Final.

Can the Olympic juniors achieve the "double" in 2009?

### THE BERRIES?

The only hope the Berries have of celebrating any success in 2009 lies with their U/13's team.

Unfortunately for the youngsters, they lost to Wollongong 1-0 but...

They do get another chance to redeem themselves tomorrow against Blacktown City at Valentine Park, Glenwood. And we expect them to do just that!

### SHARKS NET TIGER TURF CUP

A Nick Stavroulakis' goal 5' minutes from the conclusion of second-half ex-



tra-time has enabled the Sharks to win the 2009 Tiger Turf Cup.

In an entertaining encounter, it was Brad Boardman who broke the deadlock in the 24' minute to give the Sharks the lead.

Manly responded straight from the ensuing kickoff through Keith Shevlin and the game was 1-1.

The action seesawed until "Man-of-the-match" Nick Stavroulakis stole the ball just outside the box, beat two Manly defenders and fired in a low shot into the back of the net to Sutherland the lead with 5' minutes remaining.

Congratulations to the Sharks on a magnificent feat.

#### Match Stats:

Sutherland Sharks 2 (Brad Boardman 24', Nick Stavroulakis 115')

Manly United 1 (Keith Shevlin 25')



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