



JOIN NOW 1800 321 321

INTERNET & TELEPHONE BETTING

**TO GET THE SCOTSMANS TIPS
JOIN BETEZY NOW!**

- Ⓜ Racing - better than all 3 totes on all Australian gallop meetings
- Ⓜ Sports guaranteed better than the TAB ever single time
- Ⓜ Live in the betting on all major televised sporting events

* Terms & conditions apply. Only available to persons over the age of 18 years old. Keep gambling enjoyable. If gambling is a problem call gambling help line (NT) 1800 629 693.



⇒ **3-D FOOTBALL,
HERE IT COMES!**

Soccer fans could soon get closer than ever to the action without even leaving their chairs as 3-D TV gets set to revolutionise sports events this year.

Sky and Disney's ESPN will both launch 3D networks in the coming months, with ESPN airing a minimum of 85 sporting events, including 25 World Cup finals matches from South Africa.

Sky will get the ball rolling Sunday by filming the English Premier League clash between Arsenal and Manchester United in 3-D and broadcasting it to selected pubs across the United Kingdom and Ireland.

It will be the first live 3-D TV sports event broadcast to a public audience anywhere, according to the company part-owned by News International.

Sky 3D will be launched in April before it is later made available to all Sky+HD customers for a wider range of content including documentaries and movies.

2010 is the year for 3D TV.

The move into 3-D broadcasting follows hotly on the success of James Cameron's 3-D movie Avatar, which has become the highest-grossing movie worldwide partly due to 3-D engagements.

The sci-fi film had racked up a box office total of \$1.859 billion already.

ESPN will roll out its 3-D network in June beginning with the World Cup soccer match between hosts South Africa and Mexico in Johannesburg.

Separately, Discovery Communications Inc. said it had joined ranks with Sony Corp and IMAX Corp to launch a dedicated 3-D network in the United States beginning in 2011.

⇒ **BENITEZ NEXT
TO JUVENTUS?**

Rafael Benitez remains the No 1 target to take over as coach of Juventus- and what has added fuel to the hot rumour is that the Liverpool manager's agent has refused to rule out the move.

It is common knowledge that Benitez has grown increasingly frustrated with life at cash-strapped Anfield and the developments in Turin will test the Spaniard's determination to see out his contract, which runs until 2014.

In the meantime, Juventus has appointed coach Alberto Zaccheroni, with Juventus' deputy director general



With **LAKIS KONISTIS**

**Sports
World**

Roberto Bettega admitting the club should be doing much better than they currently are, and that the new tactician is ready to help the squad improve.

"With Alberto we agree that this is not the real Juve," he said. "We can do much better, our potential is much higher than what it is currently."

When asked about former coach Ciro Ferrara, the former Italy striker confirmed there were no hard feelings but that things had to improve.

"I join president [Jean-Claude] Blanc in my thanks to Ciro and his staff, but I must say that our goal is to bring this team and these players to their proper level."

⇒ **GOLD COAST TO BENEFIT
IF 2018 BID FAILS?**

A fatal blow to Australia's \$45 million bid to host the 2018 soccer World Cup could actually be a blessing in disguise for the Gold Coast- with a renewed push to get vital Federal Government funding for the 2018 Commonwealth Games bid.

Soccer governing body FIFA has announced it would probably only consider bids from European countries to host the 2018 Cup, the snub

raising hopes the Federal Government will now abandon its stumbling bid and concentrate on the more realistic attempt to lure the Commonwealth Games to the Gold Coast.

But it is not all smooth sailing for the Commonwealth Games bid team either, with speculation Geoff Dixon- the NSW-based chairman of Queensland Events who had been conducting a feasibility study for the Games to come to the Gold Coast- will now be given a bigger role in the World Cup bid process.

In November Mr Dixon was appointed by the Federal Government to assist with the World Cup bid and is now expected to take on a more high-profile role.

Premier Anna Bligh said the FIFA announcement could benefit the Coast. "This is good news for our Commonwealth Games bid. It's now full steam ahead and we will be working hard to get everyone on board," she said.

Although Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has given his support for the Commonwealth Games bid he has refused to contribute any funding because of the \$45 million contributed to the more risky World Cup hosting attempt.

If Australia does continue with a bid for the 2022 World Cup it will be up against the United States, Qatar, Indonesia, Japan and South Korea.

The Australian Commonwealth Games Association is due to meet early this year to decide whether an Australian bid for the 2018 games will proceed.

⇒ **HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE
ROUND 26**

**Melbourne Victory (1st)
v North Qld Fury (9th)**

· A crowd of more than 12,253 at Etihad Stadium this weekend will ensure Melbourne Victory attains an average home-and-away season crowd of more than 20,000- this would be the fourth season in a row the Victory has topped 20,000 for its average home crowd in the home-and-away season.

**Central Coast Mariners
(8th) v Newcastle Jets (6th)**

· A draw between these teams would be the eighth draw between these two sides, which would be the most number of draws between any two Hyundai A-League teams.

**Adelaide United (10th) v
Brisbane Roar (7th)**

· A win for Adelaide United will provide at least some hope of finishing above last spot on the final Hyundai A-League ladder, which would be the first time an Adelaide club has finished at the bottom of an Australian national league ladder since 1981 (West Adelaide).

**Sydney FC (3rd) v
Perth Glory (4th)**

· Sydney FC's next win will be the club's 50th win in a Hyundai A-League match.

**Gold Coast United (2nd) v
Wellington Phoenix (5th)**

· Wellington Phoenix will be aiming to not lose to Gold Coast United, becoming the only team that Gold Coast were not able to defeat in their inaugural Hyundai A-League season.

⇒ **VALE- EMMANUEL
(MANNY) POULAKAKIS**

Football Federation Australia was saddened to hear that Emmanuel (Manny) Poulakakis passed away on the 25th January after a short period of illness.

Born in Egypt in 1923, Manny had a prolific playing career as a goalkeeper in Egypt before arriving in Australia in 1960 to take up coaching, as one of the few coaches to hold an English FA coaching badge at the time.

Manny was a very successful coach throughout the 1960's through to the beginnings of the former National Soccer League in 1977 with clubs such as South Melbourne, Heidelberg, George Cross, Juventus, Melbourne Hakoah, and Pan Hellenic (NSW) winning various State & National Titles along the way. During his tenures he also coached numerous Socceroos including Jim Mackay, Peter Ollerton & Jack Reilly.

During the late 1960's, Manny was also offered the Socceroos coaching position which he declined for personal reasons.

Manny was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame (Roll of Honour - Meritorious) in 2000, was named the South Melbourne FC Coach of the Century and was also inducted into the South Melbourne FC Hall of Fame at their recent 50th Anniversary Gala Ball.

Manny is survived by his son John and grand children Michael and Jacqueline.

Manny's funeral was held on Monday 1st February at the Greek Orthodox Church of St Andrew - Forest Hill, Victoria.



Rafael Benitez