



MONDAY
 6:00 PM 5-12 YRS
 6:45 PM 12-16 YRS
 7:30 PM 17 YRS - ADULTS
 8:30 PM PERFORMANCE GROUP

TUESDAY
 7:30 - 8:30 PM LADIES CLASS

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⇨ **VERBEEK TO QUIT SOCCEROOS**

Pim Verbeek will quit as Australia's soccer coach after the World Cup in South Africa.

Verbeek, who became the first permanent head coach appointed following the departure of fellow Dutchman Guus Hiddink after Australia's 2006 World Cup campaign, announced his decision Monday in a statement released by Football Federation Australia.

Verbeek has guided the Socceroos to a 15-8-4 record since taking over on December 6th, 2007.

"It has been a very difficult decision for me after more than two years but it is time for me to look for a new challenge," said Verbeek, who quit as South Korea coach to take the Australian job.

Speculation about his future has been swirling around the Australian media for several months.

"I have enjoyed every minute of being head coach of Australia and we achieved some fantastic results including qualifying for the World Cup and the Asian Cup. It is a good time to make this announcement so we can now focus completely on preparing everything perfectly for the upcoming World Cup in South Africa. We will do everything right to prepare for this tournament to get the best result possible," concluded Verbeek.

FFA Chairman, Mr Frank Lowy AC, congratulated Verbeek on his achievements during his time as the Head Coach of the Qantas Socceroos.

"Pim has been a great coach for the Qantas Socceroos and has earned the respect of everybody in football in this country and around the world," Mr Lowy said.

"He has been the consummate professional in every aspect of his role and has led our national team with distinction here and overseas. Under his leadership the team has achieved everything we aimed to achieve and I expect he will



With LAKIS KONISTIS

Sports World

have the team ready to perform at its best in South Africa," concluded Mr Lowy.

Verbeek helped the Qantas Socceroos reach their highest ever position of 14th in the FIFA World Rankings in September 2009.

So why is he leaving?

⇨ **OLYMPIC 9TH AND BERRIES 10TH IN A DISASTROUS WEEKEND!**

Sydney Olympic were caned by Blacktown City FC (4-1) and the West Sydney Berries were well and truly plucked by their arch rivals Bankstown City Lions (5-1) over a weekend that produced unhappy results for many of our Greek supported clubs.

Sydney Olympic coach Pat Marando conceded that his team needs to 'toughen up' if they are to be genuine chances in 2010. "My players have been a bit naive as of late. They basically have been putting themselves in positions where they know they will not win. We basically have to regroup and look forward rather than look back and regret", he said.

Sydney Olympic travels to Cromer Park this weekend and will be welcoming back Ian Ramsey and Emmanuel Giannaros to their side, and Marando expects they will be better prepared for the game against Manly.

After the Berries' game Bankstown City coach Peter Tsekenis said, "We are very happy the way the boys played as it is very hard against 10 players, we played very cohesively and we structured our play as tonight we wanted the intensity to

be there and we took the advantage".

The Berries have slipped alarmingly to 10th spot now and this weekend's clash against the undefeated Blacktown City FC looks like a difficult assignment for them.

⇨ **NSWPL ROUND 5...**

The highlight in Round 5 of the NSW Premier League must surely be the clash between Sydney United and Bonnyrigg White Eagles at the Sydney United Sports Centre. Both sides have been tipped for big things in 2010.

Another great clash will take place at Seymour Shaw where the Sharks take on Marconi Stallions.

Rockdale City have started well and will start favourites against Apia Leichhardt Tigers- but I am tipping the Tigers to come roaring back.

At Cromer Park, Manly United FC will be out to inflict more pain on Sydney Olympic following their heavy defeat at the hands of Blacktown City FC at Belmore last weekend- but Olympic has the wood on Manly- and they could turn it around.

Bankstown City should be brimming with confidence following the shellacking handed out to West Sydney Berries- and then Wolves better be ready or another big scoreline could follow.

In the final match of the round, Blacktown City FC look likely to keep their hold on top-spot as West Sydney Berries visit Lily Homes Stadium. I cannot see the Berries escaping with anything more this weekend.

⇨ **STANMORE HAWKS 2 HILLS BRUMBIES 3**

Another one of our sides, namely the Stanmore Hawks must have thought that 2010 was going to start with a WIN...

The Hawks led well into the second half by 2-1 courtesy of goals from Hatjisotrataus (27') and Squillaciotti (75'), but what was to follow was... un-

believable.

The home fans were starting to celebrate prematurely as the Brumbies not only equalised in the 88th minute- but they also found a 'winner' in the 93rd minute to win the game 3-2!

⇨ **GOD BLESS THE MINOTAURS!**

The only club of ours to record a win last weekend was the Hurstville City Minotaurs- and what a win it was!

The Minotaurs demolished last year's champions Wanderers 3-0 at Parkes Reserve on Sunday afternoon. It was a polished display from Peter Sarikakis' Minotaurs, who scored a goal through Nick Mezanakis 10 minutes out from halftime, and then went on with the job in the second term, sealing the victory behind a brace from Michael De Meglio.

Could the "General" have another great Minotaurs side on his hands?

Time will tell...

⇨ **LIFE AFTER PIM?**

The FFA has announced that Verbeek's package was about \$3million- placing him amongst the "Top 20" coaches in world football.

So you quickly realise that the FFA will not have too much trouble finding a suitable replacement- and they won't be waiting around either!

The search has already begun unofficially and negotiations will intensify in the coming weeks that's for sure and certain.

FFA's priority will be for the new coach to prepare the Socceroos for the 2011 Asian Cup, to be held in Qatar in January.

What is just as certain is that the FFA will continue with its Dutch coaching philosophy, now embedded in the national curriculum.

How many World Cups have the Dutch won by the way?

ERREA TIPPING COMPETITION



| | Αλιφέρης Γιώργος | Αυγερινός Δημήτρης | Κονιστής Λάκης | Λαζάρου Γιώργος | Μαργιώλης Γιώργος | Νικολάου Παναγιώτης | Παξινός Χρήστος | Σταυρουλάκης Γιώργος | Σταυρουλάκης Μανόλης | Το πουλί |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Σάθερλαντ-Μαρκόνι | 1 | 1 | X | X | 1 | X | 1 | 1 | X | 2 |
| ΑΠΙΑ-Ροκντέιλ | 1 | X | 1 | 1 | 2 | X | X | 1 | 1 | X |
| Μένλι-Σίδνεϊ Ολύμπικ | X | 2 | 2 | 1 | X | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Μπανκστάουν-Σάουθ Κοστ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | X | 2 |
| Μπλακτάουν-Γ.Σ. Μπέρις | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | X |
| Σ. Γιουνάιτεντ-Μπόνιριγκ | 1 | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | X | 1 | 1 | X |
| ΒΑΘΜΟΙ | 9 | 13 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 11 | 7 | 14 | 12 | 8 |

Ο νικητής θα κερδίσει \$1000 δολάρια τα οποία θα διατεθούν σε ίδρυμα της επιλογής του. Το ποσό αυτό είναι ευγενική προσφορά της εταιρίας αθλητικών ειδών "ERREA".

