

# Sydney Olympic 2011

## The Team:

Much excitement, and expectation, surrounds Sydney Olympic in 2011 following a rather lean spell in recent years. The Blues have undergone extensive changes in the off season, signalling the club's intent on re-finding the glory days.

The Blues welcome back Peter Tsekenis to the club - The former Bankstown City Lions player/coach returns to the club he represented, and captained, as a player in the NSL. Assisting Tsekenis will be longtime assistant Peter Papoythis, with the two men making some wholesale changes to the setup at Sydney Olympic.

A number of Bankstown City players have followed Tsekenis to the club, with Richard Luksic and Ibrahim Haydar certain to add some steel what has been a cagey Blues defensive line in recent seasons.

Moving forward, Tsekenis will be relying heavily on the impact of Bill Tsanidis and David Gullo on the two flanks. Both players, from Bankstown and Bonnyrigg White Eagles respectively, had successful seasons in 2010, with both men possessing skill, strength and composure well beyond their young years.

Upfront, despite losing James Monie and Mat Mayora, the additions of William Angel and Robert Mileski will fit in nicely with a midfield comprising the likes of Phil Makrys, Anthony Doumanis and Chris Triantis.

With much promise of a Sydney Olympic revival in recent seasons finishing in despair, 2011 could quite possibly be the year of Sydney Olympic with a very impressive playing roster backed up by a very experienced coaching staff.

## The Coach:

Peter Tsekenis' appointment as coach carries extra significance for the new Blues boss following his playing days in the 'blue and white' shirt. Leading the club he supported and loved as a child signifies additional motivation for the former Lions coach.

Tsekenis' understanding of what the shirt means to the supporters, and what it should mean to the players, will no doubt leave 'no stone unturned' in 2011.

Tsekenis' experience as both a player and coach stand him in a good position to bring Sydney Olympic back to the glory days, with the addition of some very good talent to the squad already whetting the appetite of Sydney Olympic supporters.

Player to watch: Sydney Olympic's new signing Robert Mileski will carry much expectation on his shoulders this season. Mileski has proven his worth with Bankstown City as the side's playmaker in Peter Tsekenis' previous sides, and 2011 promises to be no different.

Mileski's fine touch of the ball, vision and execution is arguably one of the best in the competition, with the attacking midfielder certain to be part of all Sydney Olympic forward forays.

Rising Star: David Gullo's exceptional 2010 campaign at Bonnyrigg White



Eagles proved the 18-year-old can mix it NSW's Premier League competition - and Sydney Olympic have certainly bought well with the signing of this young talent.

Explosive down the left wing with a no-nonsense attitude, Gullo possesses a composed attitude with a touch and left-foot worthy of the A-League. With the likes of Mileski, Phil Makrys and Anthony Doumanis moving the ball around from the middle of the park, Gullo's attacking presence will have many opponents on the back foot.

David Gullo is without a doubt one of the finest young talents in this year's competition - a player definitely to look out for in 2011.

## Roster

- 1 Paul Henderson
- 2 Emmanuel Giannaros
- 3 Billy Darwich
- 4 Ibrahim Haydar
- 5 Richie Luksic
- 6 Alex Smith
- 7 Phil Makrys
- 8 Chris Triantis
- 9 Hussein Akil
- 10 Anthony Doumanis
- 11 Robert Mileski
- 12 Bill Tsanidis
- 14 William Angel
- 15 Tod Bamber
- 16 Peter Triantis
- 17 Mitchell Stamatelis
- 18 Jerry Kalouris
- 19 David Gullo
- 20 Luke Gearin
- 21 Nenad Vekic
- 22 Steven Tibbets

Coach: Peter Tsekenis

## Ins:

Nenad Vekic (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), David Gullo (Bonnyrigg White Eagles), William Angel (Bankstown City Lions), Bill Tsanidis (Bankstown City Lions), Robert Mileski (Bankstown City Lions), Hussein Akil (Al Mabbara FC - Lebanon), Alex Smith (Fraser Park FC), Richard Luksic (Bankstown City Lions), Ibrahim Haydar (Bankstown City Lions), Paul Henderson (Central Coast Mariners).

## Outs:

Mat Mayora, Zaim Zeneli, Daniel Zeleny, Emmanuel Zuninio, Joshua Lawson, Andre Gumprecht, James Monie, Cedirc Ramirez, Ian Ramsay, Dimitris Petratos, Angelo Petratos, Steve Bason, Ricky Perinich, Nick Tsattalios.

