



**State League One - Round 8
Fairfield Bulls -
Stanmore Hawks 3-2**

Fairfield Bulls staged the mother of all comebacks on Sunday afternoon at Hajduk Stadium, coming back from 0-2 down at the break to overcome Stanmore Hawks 3-2 in a stirring display. Goals by sharpshooters Neil Philippou (11') and Nick Paradisis (45') out the visiting Stanmore side in a commanding half time position. El Kerhani pulled a goal back for the Bulls on 56 minutes, before E Georgees equalized 12 minutes before the end. Not satisfied with a point, Sargon Georges grabbed a third and winning goal for Fairfield City in the 85th minute, sending the home fans in a frenzy of celebration.

NSW Super League Round 9 Review

Macarthur Rams increased their lead at the top of Super League to five points after claiming their fifth win in a row, when they accounted for Blacktown Spartans 2-1. Spirit FC fell to their third loss in a week with a hefty 0-3 reverse to Granville Rage while St George had their biggest win of the season, 6-2 over Hills Brumbies. Dulwich Hill gained their first win of the season, defeating Sydney University 3-1.

**Fraser Park v
West Sydney Berries**

There was drama aplenty at Fraser Park as the home side finished with just eight players after three sendings off. While the dismissals were somewhat late in the game, there proved enough time for West Sydney Berries to take advantage, their winner coming four minutes from time, when Fraser Park were down to nine. The Berries had taken the lead just before half time, when Dimitri Zakilas met an Ante Deur cross. A send off to Paulo Oliviera in the second half reduced Fraser Park to ten but that didn't stop them from getting an equaliser, Clive Delaney netting from a cross to draw the home side level at 1-1. But as the game degenerated in the final fifteen minutes, with Carlo Musumeci and then Robert di Meglio being red carded, Zakilas and the Berries maintained their composure to gain another valuable three points, hot on the heels of the Spirit victory last week. Zakilas, at the second attempt, secured the win. "I always knew it would be a tough game", said Steve Karavatakis.

"This league is unpredictable and it doesn't matter who you play, everyone is capable of beating everybody else." "But our defence was strong, and though we missed a lot of chances, we still maintained our composure." "We tried to play football," stated Alex Augusto, "and I thought we played better than them but we got punished". "I had to change the team when Paulo was sent off, bringing off Fred Umlil and replacing him with Des Koroma to help keep our balance, reverting to a 4-4-1. And Des did really well, helping to set up the equaliser". "We probably played better with ten than we did with eleven. But the game, as a whole, really needs to improve its quality across the board". The win lifts the Berries into the top five for the first time this season, their second win in a row since the Easter break. Fraser Park (Clive Delaney 77') v West Sydney Berries (Dimitri Zakilas 45', 86')

Peter Rowney



**Fairfield Lions -
Gladesville Ryde Magic 2-1**

Fairfield City Lions returned to the winner's circle on Sunday afternoon at Norford Park accounting for Gladesville Ryde Magic 2-1 in a closely fought encounter. The Lions started like a house on fire, taking the lead after just three minutes through Mirwiss Amiri, and Ben Cronk doubled their advantage just before the break. Andrew McKie reduced the deficit for Gladesville two minutes into the second half, but the Magic could not find the equalizer. The victory sees Fairfield City Lions leapfrog their beaten opponents, going into third spot on 12 points, looking ominous with one and two games in hand on the teams around them.

By Frank Speranza

State League Two Round 10

There was plenty to talk about following a weekend of gasping results in State League division two, Springwood upsetting Wanderers 1-0 away from home, Northbridge defeating Minotaurs 3-1 and Roosters beating Prospect 3-1 were among the hot topics of discussion. But besides a tough 1-1 draw between Chopin Park and Hawkesbury, a 1-1

deadlock between Belmore and Bathurst, and a casual 4-0 romp from Hakoah over Gazy, the water cooler ears were burning with chatter about the abandoned fixture between Luddenham and Nepean, the game called off with Nepean leading 2-0 and with a player advantage on field. The results see Roosters cuddle up in the top-three bed next to Luddenham and Fairfield, with Hakoah, Prospect and Hawkesbury just behind them. Springwood, Northbridge and Chopin Park are also within range. There were some indifferent results for division two sides in Waratah Cup action with league strugglers Gazy Lansvale moving into round three of the knockout tournament following a thrilling 2-1 win over Picton Rangers

follow-up attempt narrowly wide of the posts. The scoreline stayed 1-1 at full-time. '75 coach Mark Rooke would be a happy chappy if his side could pick up its scoring rate. "We had the best of them in the second half and missed an open target to win it, but they're a decent side and a draw in the end is not a bad result. I can't believe where [Belmore] are sitting in the competition from the way they played. I thought our boys did well to back up from Wednesday night [Waratah Cup loss to Schofields] and it was a credit to both defences. I'm certainly happy to get something out of the game." Having played seven of its opening eight games on the road, Belmore coach John Kyriazopoulos knows he just has to get through the next two weeks before he begins a seven-game home run, which means taking points at places like Bathurst is golden.

"We were a little bit unlucky... both sides kept fighting, kept battling, and it was good game in the end. I'm still happy to get a point at Bathurst, that's always a positive." Bathurst '75 1 (Luke Sullivan 29m) Belmore Hercules 1 (Paul Paras 32m) Reserve grade: Bathurst '75 2 Belmore Hercules 1

Northbridge defeat Minotaurs Northbridge upped the ante in its division two conquest with a 3-1 disposal of last year's grand finalists Hurstville City Minotaurs at Valentine Sports Park on Saturday night. Hurstville drew first blood when Haissan Morhi beat the off-side trap and managed to squeeze it in at an acute angle to take the Minotaurs to a 1-0 halftime lead.

But Joe Haywood's boys were having none of it and turned the tables with a second-half onslaught sparked by a brilliant strike from Atsushi Yamada and finished off by a Elliot King brace, the diminutive player nudging one home with his head and then dipping his toe onto a cross to make it 3-1 to Northbridge. King is another foreigner in Haywood's buccaneer brigade but one that fell into his lap, the London semi-pro player just happened to be visiting Australia and was looking for a local team to join. Enter Northbridge. The win over Hurstville maintains Northbridge's unbeaten run as hosts and keeps them on top-five backsides in an impressive start to state league competition.

"It's a new club into the league so we'll take each game as it comes," Haywood said. "We've still got people missing every week so each week is like, how's it going to perform, but we seem to bounce back well as a team." "Hurstville are a strong team and they try to get you to play that type of football and we fell for it in the first half, but in the second half we went back to playing the style of football we like to play and that worked out well for us." Hurstville coach Peter Sarikakis has endured a terrible start to the 2011 season, second from last with the second worst goal difference and just the one win over bottom side Gazy to their name. Having said that, the Minotaurs have played just twice at home and will cherish being back at Punchbowl Oval in a huge game against Luddenham next Sunday to perhaps launch a season revival. Northbridge FC 3 (Atsushi Yamada, Elliott King x2) Hurstville City Minotaurs 1 (Haissan Morhi) Reserve grade: Northbridge FC 1 Hurstville City Minotaurs 1

Daniel De Nardi

midweek, but Hakoah and Bathurst both lost their elimination fixtures to exit the competition just before the money-back stage. Wanderers, Northbridge, Hawkesbury and Chopin Park play their round two games this week.

Belmore draw at Bathurst

A whirlwind of first-half action decided a 1-1 draw between Bathurst '75 and Belmore Hercules under lights at Alec Lambertson Field on Saturday night. The result didn't help alleviate either side's lowly ladder position but it did serve as a good hit-out to get both campaigns back on track after a few wobbly rounds, particularly as Bathurst was bundled out of the Waratah Cup knockout midweek following a 3-0 loss to State League 1 side Schofields Scorpions. Bathurst's Luke Sullivan struck on the half-hour mark against Belmore following some good lead-up play from Brett Osborne but the celebrations were cut short after Hercules responded only a few minutes later through Paul Paras.

The home side had a blatant chance to win it when Corey Adair outmuscled a Belmore fullback only to see his shot saved by the Hercules keeper straight back at him, but he could only guide the