

WARATAH CUP GRAND-FINAL – PREVIEW

Joseph Carlucci

Football NSW's version of the English FA Cup comes to an end this Sunday as the Premier League's Manly United FC goes head-to-head with State League One side, Mounties Wanderers.

Teams from across the state, featured in the NSW Premier League, NSW Super League, League One, League Two and Association teams commenced the Cup journey back in March, with the two most entertaining sides from the competition deservedly in Sunday's grand-final. Manly United FC enter the clash as overwhelming favourites, representing the NSW Premier League, though Craig Midgley's men will need to avoid any complacency against a giant killing Mounties side that has already disposed of the likes of West Sydney Berries, Sydney Olympic and Blacktown Spartans.

Mounties coach Aiden

Desmond will look to his experienced campaigners to lead the younger chargers in the decider, with captain Daniel McCann in exceptional form at present.

Featuring a number of experienced former Premier League players, Mounties can count on the likes of Ali Akbal in goal, Mark D'Alessandro in defence and Daniel Willoughby out of midfield to pressure Manly United from the opening whistle. On the opposite side of the coin, Manly United FC too enter this clash with much expectation surrounding a relatively new side following a mass exodus of players at the conclusion of last season.

Coach Craig Midgley – much like his counterpart Desmond - has assembled a very young group of players to get the side to the grand-final, though it will be the more experienced heads that will need to be on their game to set the

tone on Sunday. Captain Marc Richards has performed admirably in his first season at the club, his all round reading of the game has been gold for the younger troops, as has the return to form of Robbie Catanach in the attacking third.

A former Football NSW Gold Medal winner, Catanach has been in great touch this season, with his goals proving very important in the Cup competition. In a grand-final match where for the first time ever a State League One side is present, Mounties Wanderers will be out to make history on Sunday as they meet the might of Manly United FC.

A very entertaining grand-final is anticipated at Bonnyrigg Sports Ground with both sides more than capable of playing good attacking football. The team to overcome any grand-final jitters first will go a long way in claiming the trophy on Sunday.

Waratah Cup 2011 Grand-Final
Sunday 10th July, 2011
 Bonnyrigg Sports Club
Manly United (NSW Premier League)
v Mounties Wanderers (State League One)



NSW Premier League Round 12 washed out fixture
 Saturday 9th of July, 2011
A.P.I.A.-Leichhardt Tigers v Rockdale City Suns, Lambert Park, 3:00 pm

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Kats corner

I sat watching our Australian under 17's the other night versus Uzbekistan in the FI-FA under 17's world cup and the result of 4-0 did not bother me as we had two players sent off and that was going to be inevitable as they had the numerical advantage.

What really hit home was the player's deficiency in technique and touch and control and composure on the ball.

Possession? it was like a hot potato ! some good raw talent that can be saved, but technically not up to it ! Their touch passing and control was not up to scratch ! the problem with Aussie soccer is just that these players are not coached properly to refine their technique at a young age ! please read again !

This Uzbekistan team that we hardly have heard off were far superior in skill, touches and technique and pointed out some real truths about the players that we are developing and producing through the system . The problem is the coaches coaching our best young players at early age. Please note early age 11,12,13! I spent thousands of hours perfecting my touch and control with drills I should know!

The core of the problem in Australian soccer is just that ! we are producing players that are athletic , strong, fast but we don't produce creative players with skill and technique! We are producing good defenders and goalkeepers and with the exception of Harry Kewell and Mark Viduka, we are not producing attacking players with creativity and imagination with good touch and control .

So I asked myself that is nothing new, we keep on producing the same players with the same problem through the years although FFA have invested heavily in our technical department to get this right ! Hans Berger our technical director has also identified that! so what has been done about it? not much! when ex-players now accredited coaches with skill and technique and creativity apply for jobs with Football NSW and FFA and are knocked back! that alarms me and questions must be asked why? who makes such decisions? should not technique minded coaches be in charge of our best young players? are not these people the right solution to create players with touch and good technique? Milan Blagojevic is in charge of the skillaroos. great move forward but is that enough ? Alex Tobin great move but we need more !

why are people involved in the development of our young players that can hardly kick a ball and have no idea how to demonstrate such ? who employs these coaches ? why? who is accountable for this ?

I was a creative midfielder that scored lots of goals and made lots of goals ! I offered to coach and develop young players at Football NSW and Football Australia as I am passionate about it ! I was told great idea and will let you know ! still waiting ! I wonder if the people making such decisions are really fair dinkum about Aussie football or just going through the motions.

Why is the system ignoring Peter Katholos, Gus Cerro, Alan Davidson, Con Boutisianis, Gabrielle Medez, Pablo Cartozo, Raul Blanco etc?

Its ok to deliver the national curriculum and tell all this is the way we must play , but what about making the hard decisions in changing the coaching personnel also to install some elegance and beauty into our football! only then we will be able to compete with the rest of the world football!

Barcelona in my view has changed football forever! football is a beautiful game and the performance is delivered by artists ! it's time we produced artists of our own in this country!

Peter Katholos

TECHNIK FOOTBALL PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM by Peter Katholos



- FFA Accredited Coach Licenced
- Former Australian International (25 app)
- 1982 Australian Player of the year
- One of the best technique players Australia produced.



OUR VISION

To produce technically gifted players that are educated, creative and skillful.

All demonstrations of technical drills shown and taught by Peter Katholos

PROGRAM

Ages: 7yrs to 16yrs (14 players per squad)
 7 to 10 & 11 to 13 & 14 to 16

Program: One session per week,
 20 sessions program

Cost: \$35 per session
 (includes training kit)

Venue: Beaman Park, Earlwood NSW



The player development program is for players that have ambitions about football. Players from any club are welcome!

Come and join us!

Expression of interest please call or email

Mob: 0412 281 010 or email: peter@technikfootball.com

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