

FOOTBALL NSW

# Kats corner

Lots of noise in the last couple of weeks about the subject of lack of technique and creativity in the Australian football/soccer player.

**W**ow! we have been talking about this subject for a long time now and in fact back as far 1979 when I picked up a coaching manual written by Mr. Eric Worthington and he points out that we need to produce players with technique, flair and creativity! yes that's right 1979! 32 years later Mr. Hans Berger tells us the same, we are talking about the same subject! so what was done to implement this change then? Nothing, and what changes have been implemented to make the change now? Well let's see! The problem is everyone talks about it but the people on the top don't implement the changes! they assume it will just happen, well it won't. So let's analyze what changes we need to make it happen and quickly!

a) Coaches, the most crucial, we need to appoint coaches/directors to believe and understand what that football philosophy means. people that understand football, people that have played football and people that believe in that type of football philosophy and the type of footballers that we need to produce. People that will allow individuals to take players on, encourage

creativity and flair, people that won't start shouting because someone tried to create a two players to one situation and did not succeed! Get rid of the old school, get rid of the pretenders and the text book coaches, it has failed!

b) The players must understand that strength and speed and how hard you tackle are not all you need and are not the most important areas of the makeup of a footballer. the main should be the football ability of control, creativity and flair! The mindset is how many goals we can create and score to win, not defending and kicking people to win. It also underlines that it's not how tall you are but how effective you are either small or tall stature. So players must be technically better, the years of the dinosaurs are long gone!

The game has changed forever with the dominance of Barcelona! What a team? Possibly the best team of all time! Every player possesses skill and football ability in every position and they have the x factor that man MESSI! The world has noticed in every corner of the world! To beat them you have to outplay them, to defend against them it is impossible! Classic example is Real Madrid this season



and Manchester united! They both conceded that unless you dominate possession you have no chance to beat such team! We in Australia have also realized that football ability is what we need to compete on the world stage. In the recent performances by the under 16's, the under 17's, the under 20's and the Olyroos we have seen that creativity and flair is rare amongst our very best young players. There is a few exceptions but not many! The Joeys' 4-0 second-round thrashing against Uzbekistan at the WYC, followed by the Young Socceroo's losses to Costa Rica (3-2), and the embarrassing 5-1 tutorial against a second-string Spain

are evidence that the players that we are producing are not good enough!

Then the Olyroos the headline read "the Australian under-23s were fortunate to finish 0-0 when outplayed by united Arab emirates their skilful opponents at Adelaide's Hindmarsh Stadium." Did I read that right? Our players are too scared to hold the ball, afraid to make a mistake, their touch is average there is no flicks, back heels outside of the foot passing it's so boring and predictable! I remember watching the semi final v Italy in Germany in 2006 and could not believe that none of our players had the ability or the confidence

to play a wall pass or take on a player with a dribble to create an opening! I was before my time as Italy playing with one man less, creativity would have won us the game! I rang Les Murray in Germany and told him we need to produce players with creativity and flair that he echoed to all the viewer's back then! Five years on we still have the same problem!

Hopefully the next crop of young players coming though we will see changes as the coaching appointments and the mentality of playing football will finally sink in!

See ya next month

## TECHNIK FOOTBALL

"reach your goal"



All demonstrations of technical drills shown and taught by Peter Katholos

### PROGRAM

Ages: 8 yrs to 16 yrs (14 players per squad)  
Program: One session per week, 30 week program (first session FREE)  
Cost: \$35 per session (includes training kit)  
Venue: Beaman Park, Earlwood NSW

### OUR GOAL

- To produce technically gifted players that are educated, creative and skillful.
- Players from any club are welcome!
- The player development program is geared for players that are serious about football.

Come and join us!



Peter Katholos  
Former Australian Socceroo  
FFA Accredited Coach

CONSULTANT • COACHING • MANAGEMENT • TOURS

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## FOOTBALL NSW RESULTS

Sunday 25th  
September 2011

NSW PREMIER LEAGUE:  
FINAL SERIES: PRELIMINARY  
FINALS: FIRST GRADE:  
Sydney United Blacktown  
City Washed Out. GRADE  
20: Sutherland Sharks  
Blacktown City Washed  
Out. GRADE 18: Sutherland  
Sharks 1 Manly United FC  
4 Win on penalties (1-1 F/  
T 1-1 E/T).  
DIVISION TWO: GRAND

FINALS: FIRST GRADE:  
Roosters FC Hakoah FC  
Washed Out. RESERVE  
GRADE: Hawkesbury City  
Fairfield Wanderers Washed  
Out.  
PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE:  
FINAL SERIES: PRELIMINARY  
FINALS: GRADE 13: Marconi  
Stallions 1 Sydney United 0.  
GRADE 14: Marconi Stallions  
1 Sydney Olympic 0. GRADE

15: Bonnyrigg White Eagles  
4 Marconi Stallions 3 Win  
on penalties (1-1 F/T 2-  
2 E/T). GRADE 16: Manly  
United FC 3 Blacktown City  
0. GRAND FINALS: GRADE  
13: APIA Leichhardt Tigers 0  
Marconi Stallions 4. GRADE  
14: Sutherland Sharks 0  
Marconi Stallions 4. GRADE  
15: Sutherland Sharks 2  
Bonnyrigg White Eagles 0.

GRADE 16: Marconi Stallions  
3 Manly United FC 0.  
METROPOLITAN  
REPRESENTATIVE LEAGUE:  
GRAND FINALS: GRADE  
11: Macarthur Association  
2 Gladesville Hornsby  
Association 0. GRADE 12:  
Sutherland Association 2  
Eastern Suburbs Association  
4 Win on penalties (1-1 F/  
T 1-1 E/T).

## Manly United re-sign Craig Midgley till 2013 as head coach

Craig Midgley will  
call the shots until  
at least 2013 after  
a strong first full  
season in charge.

On a shoestring  
budget, United  
were expected to  
struggle in the NSW  
Premier League.  
Instead, under  
Midgley's guidance,  
they finished sixth  
in the 12-strong  
competition and  
lifted the Waratah  
Cup. He is looking  
for more of the  
same in 2012.  
"Exciting times lay  
ahead," Midgley  
said. "With a  
synthetic pitch to  
be laid and the kids  
we have coming  
through the system,  
we are moving in  
the right direction.  
"I will introduce  
some more plans  
next season which  
hopefully will aid  
our long term  
success."