

AUSTRALIA



Peter Katholos ready for Subway SAP East challenge

Former Socceroo midfield maestro Peter Katholos is gearing up for what will be an exciting season ahead being recently appointed as the Under 11 and Under 12 Subway SAP East head coach.

The 50-year-old has been casting his eye along with former Sydney Olympic great and good friend Pablo Cardozo in selecting the best possible players from a talented pool of players from the Eastern Suburbs, St George and Canterbury/Bankstown areas.

Ranked as being one of the most gifted technical players in Australia by the late and great Hungarian superstar Ferenc Puskas, Katholos has been happy with the progress he's seen with his SAP squad. "It has been very good thus far as the response from all the players has been fantastic. "The trials went very well, we had well over 200 kids trialling and it was tough making that final decision as there were a number of talented young players looking for that opportunity to be part of this special program. "I could have easily had two squads with equal ability that's how tough it was to make that overall decision but I am excited with the group of players we have to progress to the next level.

"I have always wanted to work with elite players and this is an ideal opportunity for me to put something back in the game by working with some of our best young talent. "Steering them towards the right pathway and laying the correct foundations to further their development to go onto one day becoming ready-made footballers at 16-17 is certainly one of my many objectives."

Katholos stated that Football NSW's technical director Alex Tobin's vision in bringing coaches who had experience playing at decent levels has certainly benefited the SAP program.

"It was a good move by Alex in

appointing coaches who have had that prior experience as players and were involved in the game at a high level.

"You need the best coaches possible in educating young players and developing them the right way.

"That is the secret countries such as Spain, Italy, France and England enforce as they employ ex-players as coaches for their respective development programs whether it be for their national sides or clubs. "Alex must be praised for the hard work and efforts he has put into this program which is identifying talented youngsters and progressing to one day becoming future Socceroo stars." Asked what criteria he looks at whilst trialling players Katholos stated to Football NSW. "Technique would be the first thing I look at along with their touch.

"Their football intelligence comes next as well as making quick decisions and being quick on their feet."

Having been capped by the Soccerooos 25 times and playing for the likes of NSL clubs such as Sydney Olympic, Marconi Stallions, APIA Leichhardt Tigers, St George, Melita Eagles and Sydney United, the 'Kat' also coached the senior squads of St George, APIA Leichhardt Tigers, Sydney Olympic U19s, Sydney Olympic U11s and St George U13s.

On another topic, Katholos will be keeping a close eye on not only his squad's first match-up this Sunday at Valentine Sports Park against Sutherland's SAP side but he will be assisting his son Alex as a caddy at the current Emirates Australian Open who will take on the likes of Tiger Woods, Adam Scott, Jason Day, Dustin Johnson, Geoff Ogilvy and Greg Norman. "Alex has really excelled in the sport of golf, I am very proud of his achievements and look forward to him going up against the best. "He's only 22 so he's got plenty of time to continue to develop as a full time pro golfer."

Qantas Young Soccerooos 3-0 win over China

The Qantas Young Soccerooos have finished their AFC U-19 Championship qualification campaign with a clinical 3-0 win over China PR at the MBPJ Stadium in Kuala Lumpur today. In hot and sunny conditions, the Qantas Young Soccerooos turned on a clinical and professional display to finish the tournament with maximum points at the top of group G. The Qantas Young Soccerooos' intent was evident from the start as they set out to upset China's rhythm. In the 3rd minute, Anthony Proia made a good run down the left wing and pulled the ball back for Terry Antonis who was not able to keep his side-foot shot from skying over the bar. Antonis then turned provider and passed to Ryan Edwards whose fierce shot was somehow turned on to the post by Han Rongze in the China goal.

China's midfield then began to link well with their lone forward, Wang Shangyuan, forcing the Qantas Young Soccerooos goalkeeper, Jack Duncan, to make a good save to keep the scores level. However, the Qantas Young Soccerooos midfield of Antonis, Edwards, Reece Caira and Jamie Maclaren were beginning to dominate their counterparts. China were looking dangerous on the counter but the Qantas Young Soccerooos continued to pressure the Chinese, and on one occasion Proia fed Maclaren whose shot went over the bar.

Just as it looked like the teams would go into the break scoreless, the Qantas Young Soccerooos midfield produced a slick passing move that had become their trademark at this tournament. Maclaren finished off the move with a volley which Rongze could only catch well over the line. The goal seemed to relax the Qantas Young Soccerooos and

at the beginning of the second half Head Coach Jan Versleijen brought on the speedy Liam Wooding to play on the right wing. China seemed to tire as the Qantas Young Soccerooos continued to apply the pressure.

In the 48th minute China's Li Songyi brought down Maclaren with a crude tackle and was penalised with a yellow card. From the free kick, Caira sent over a curling cross which was met by Maclaren. His strong header was finished off by Adam Taggart whose volley was unstoppable. Shortly afterwards, Antonis and Maclaren both had good efforts saved, and in the 63rd minute Caira, Maclaren and Wooding combined in the best move of the game which resulted in Wooding passing the ball past Rongze to make the score 3-0 and the result very safe for the Qantas Young Soccerooos.

In the final third of the match, the Qantas Young Soccerooos played possession football and China was reduced to desperate and crude tackles. In the 75th minute Songyi picked up his second yellow and was shown the red card, and in the 89th minute Sun Zhengao was dismissed for a dangerous sliding tackle on Corey Brown whose introduction by Versleijen caused the Chinese defence further headaches on the left flank.

In his final game in charge as Head Coach of the Qantas Young Soccerooos, Versleijen was full of praise for his young team which he believes will only get better. The Qantas Young Soccerooos and China PR will now go forward to the AFC U-19 Championship 2012, which will serve as the qualifying event for the 2013 FIFA U-20 World Cup which will be held in the Turkey.

MATCH DETAILS

TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2011 • MBPJ STADIUM, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

QANTAS YOUNG SOCCEROOS 3
CHINA 0

SCORERS: JAMIE MACLAREN 39', ADAM TAGGART 50', LIAM WOODING 63'

YELLOW CARDS: (AUS) DANIEL PETKOVSKI 20', ANTHONY PROIA 45', JACK DUNCAN 58' • (CHN) LI SONGYI 48'/75', MI HAOLUN 19'

RED CARDS: (CHN) LI SONGYI 75', SUN ZHENGGAO 89'

REFEREE: KO HYUNG JIN (KOREA REPUBLIC)

ASSISTANT REFEREES: YANG BYOUNG EUN (KOREA REPUBLIC) & HO WAI SING (HONG KONG)

FOURTH OFFICIAL: TIMUR (KYRGYZSTAN)

CROWD: 400

QANTAS YOUNG SOCCEROOS LINE UP: 18.Jack DUNCAN (gk), 2.Josh BRILLANTE (17.Jason GERIA 59'), 45.Daniel PETKOVSKI (5.Corey BROWN 74'), 3.Connor CHAPMAN, 4.Curtis GOOD (c), 6.Terry ANTONIS, 7.Jamie MACLAREN, 9.Adam TAGGART, 19.Reece CAIRA, 22.Ryan EDWARDS, 13.Anthony PROIA (44 Liam WOODING 46').

SUBSTITUTES NOT USED: 8.Jake BARKER-DAISH, 12.Nicholas MUNRO (gk), 28.Aaron LENNOX (gk), 16.Jesse MAKAROUNAS, 21.Tom KING, 26.Nicholas ANSELL, 30.James DONACHIE, 43.Allan WELSH.

CHINA PR LINE UP: 1.Han RONGZE (gk), 2.Sun ZHENGGAO, 3.Shi KE (4.He GUAN 61'), 9.Wang SHANGYUAN, 11.Wu XINGHAN, 14.Li SONGYI, 15.Mi HAOLUN, 16.Chen ZHONGLIU (24.Qi TIANYU 82'), 17.Liu BIN BIN, 18.Wang TONG, 30.Zhuang JIAJIE (8.Xie PENGFEI 68').

SUBSTITUTES NOT USED: 5.Wutikuer AISHAN, 7.Sun GUOWEN, 10.Luo SENWEN, 12.Jin BO, 19.Chen HAO, 20.Zheng DALUN, 26.Lin CHUANGYI, 31.Gao SHENG (gk), 41.Xu JIAMIN (gk).