

## news

SUSPENSIONS CARRIED OUT BETWEEN  
JETS AND PHOENIX PLAYERS

-By Joseph Carlucci

*The independent Match Review Panel (MRP) – consisting of Simon Micallef (Chair), Alan Davidson and Alan Contini – convened to consider the following incidents from the Hyundai A-League Pre-Season match on 18 August 2012 between Newcastle Jets and Wellington Phoenix:*

**01** The incidents involving Tiago Calvano (Newcastle Jets) in or around the 23rd minute of the match which involved a tackle on Manny Muscat and subsequent assault on a player. The MRP has proposed a sanction of four (4) matches, being the one (1) Mandatory Match Suspension plus an additional sanction of three (3) matches. Under the A-League Disciplinary Regulations the Player or the Club may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for the consideration of the additional sanction proposed by the MRP or argue that Exception Circumstances, as defined under the Grievance Resolution Regulations, exist which would enable a Judicial Body to impose a sanction outside of the Range of the Table of Offences.



The incident that sparked an on field brawl between the Newcastle Jets v Wellington Phoenix

**02** The incident involving Manny Muscat (Wellington Phoenix) in or around the 23rd minute of the match which involved assault on a player. The MRP has proposed a sanction of four (4) matches, being the one (1) Mandatory Match Suspension plus an additional sanction of three (3) matches. Under the A-League

Disciplinary Regulations the Player or the Club may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for the consideration of the additional sanction proposed by the MRP or argue that Exception Circumstances, as defined under the Grievance Resolution Regulations, exist which would enable a Judicial Body to impose a sanction outside of the Range of the Table of Offences.

**03** The incident involving Ben Sigmund (Wellington Phoenix) in or around the 23rd minute of the match which involved assault on a player. The MRP has proposed a sanction of three (3) matches, being the Mandatory Match Suspension plus an additional sanction of two (2) matches. Under the A-League Disciplinary Regulations the Player or the Club may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee for the consideration of the additional sanction proposed by the MRP or argue that Exception Circumstances, as defined under the Grievance Resolution Regulations, exist which would enable a Judicial Body to impose a sanction outside of the Range of the Table of Offences.

**04** The incident involving Andrew Durante (Wellington Phoenix) in or around the 63rd minute of the match which involved assault on a player. The MRP has proposed a sanction of two (2) matches, being the Minimum Sanction for the Offence (the Mandatory Match Suspension plus the additional sanction of one (1) match).

“This kind of unprofessional and unsportsmanlike behaviour has no place in our game,” said Head of A-League Damien de Bohun.

“Having been involved in football for a long time it is very disappointing to witness the on-field incident that occurred on Saturday as it detracts from our sport – a sport built on speed, skill and flair”.

“I look forward to meeting with each Hyundai A-League Club before the season commences and reinforce not only our expectations on the professionalism of the sport but ways in which we can work together to grow the game.” In accordance with the Hyundai A-League Disciplinary Regulations, the players will serve their respective suspensions in FFA sanctioned and approved Pre-Season matches and, if applicable, the Hyundai A-League Regular Season.

*FFA Media Release:*

## Ben Buckley to step down as FFA CEO



**The Chief Executive Officer of Football Federation Australia, Mr Ben Buckley, announced he will step down from his role at the conclusion of negotiations for the FFA's new broadcast deal in about two months.**

Mr David Gallop has been appointed the new Chief Executive Officer.

Mr Gallop is well-known as the former CEO of the National Rugby League and Australian Rugby League Commission and is widely respected as a leader and sports administrator.

The Chairman of FFA, Mr Frank Lowy AC, said Mr Buckley first raised the prospect of moving on from FFA several months ago and the two had agreed the conclusion of the broadcast deal was a logical time to make a career move.

“The broadcast deal is at the heart of the future of football in this country and it has been the most critical aspect of my work for the past 18 months,” Mr Buckley said.

“I told the Chairman some time ago I was determined to negotiate the best possible deal to underpin the future growth of the game

but that once done I would like to work with he and the board to identify a successor.”

Mr Lowy said Mr Buckley had discussed Mr Gallop with him about two months ago. Mr Buckley had contacted Mr Gallop soon after he had left the NRL and had discussed possible opportunities at FFA.

“These discussions created the opportunity for us to consider Mr Gallop as a successor to Ben,” he said.

Mr Lowy described Mr Buckley as one of Australia's finest sports administrators.

“Ben has worked tirelessly for football both at home and abroad and has steered the game through a difficult period of consolidation,” he said.

“He has the respect and thanks of the board for his contribution and he will remain a valued friend of the game.

“I wish him well for the future.”

Mr Lowy said he was looking forward to working with Mr Gallop to build on past achievements and grow the game into the future.

“Mr Gallop comes to the job well-equipped to meet the challenges ahead.

“He is an experienced sports administrator of high standing and is widely respected across all sports.”

Mr Gallop is on leave overseas and will be available to media on his return in about two weeks. He will assume his new role with FFA before the end of the year with the commencement date to be confirmed soon.

## Sydney FC confirms remaining pre-season fixtures will take stars all over Sydney

**Sydney FC has confirmed its remaining pre-season friendlies, with the Sky Blues to play matches all over Sydney against State League and Hyundai A-League teams before the season starts on 6 October 2012.**

**THE REMAINING PRE-SEASON PROGRAM IS:**

**Tue 28 Aug/Sydney FC v Manly United  
Cromer Park 7.30pm**

**Sat 1 Sep/ Sydney FC v Adelaide United  
Marconi Stadium 5.00pm**

**Wed 5 Sep/Sydney FC v APIA Leichhardt 7.30pm**

**Sun 9 Sep/Sydney FC v Newcastle Jets  
Leichhardt Oval 2.00pm**

**Sun 16 Sep/Brisbane Roar v Sydney FC  
Virgin Australia Stadium, Mackay tbc**

**Sat 22 Sep/Newcastle Jets v Sydney FC  
Budgewoi Sports Complex 2.00pm**