

news

NSW PREMIER LEAGUE PLAYERS DOMINATE
SYDNEY FC'S NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE SQUAD

Sydney FC National Youth League (NYL) Coach Brian Dene has named the 2012/13 NYL squad with the Sky Blues continuing its philosophy of selecting younger players to promote development over results.

The National Youth League is an U20 competition with provision to select one player who is 21-years-old but Sydney FC has neglected to take up the option, underpinning Head Coach Ian Crook's philosophy of developing younger players.

The 2012/13 NYL squad contains four 16-year-olds, three 17-year-olds, six 18-year-olds, one 19-year-old and two 20-year-olds. The average age of the Sydney FC NYL Team is 17 years and seven months.

"We have selected a young team but we're very excited by the potential of all the boys in the squad," Dene said. "We believe we've identified some good prospects who we'll be able to work with to help develop them into A-League players."

"Every time you go out onto the pitch you try to win but this team has been selected with the future in mind. We aim to develop young players so they are able to step up to play in the A-League."

The development philosophy is highlighted by the fact that the current Sydney FC Hyundai A-League squad contains 10 players who have progressed to the first team squad through the Youth team system.

Terry Antonis, Dimi Petratos, Rhyan Grant, Joel Chianese, Mitch Mallia, Nathan Sherlock, Blake Powell, Hagi Gligor, Daniel Petkovski and Vedran Janjetovic are all members of the Sydney FC 2012/13 A-League squad having previously played in the youth team.

"Brian has put together a very good squad in consultation with the first team coaching staff because we believe it is important to have similar structures and philosophies right through the club," Crook said. "The youth team will also spend time training with the first team to ensure the young boys develop and to keep our footballing philosophies consistent."

"We've got some very talented kids who, with hard work, have the potential to follow in the footsteps of Terry Antonis, Dimi Petratos, Rhyan Grant, Joel Chianese, Mitch Mallia and others to become members of the A-League squad."

The Sydney FC NYL squad features the following:

- 16-year-old Tom Slater, son for former Soccerro Robbie Slater
- Indigenous star Keifer Dotti
- Peter Triantis, whose

brother Chris played for the Sydney FC Youth Team in 2008/09

- Anthony Bouzanis, whose brother Dean played for Sydney FC before moving abroad to play for Liverpool in England.
- Four players from the 2011/12 Sydney FC NYL team (Ryan Norval, Daniel Petkovski, Hagi Gligor and Christopher Naumoff)
- Daniel Petkovski and Hagi Gligor are contracted NYL Players and are also part of the 2012/13 Sydney FCA-League squad

The Sydney FC Youth Team is:

Ryan Norval - Rockdale City Suns/Sydney FC Youth
Keifer Dotti - Rockdale City Suns
Aaron Calver - NSWIS
Roberto Speranza - Rockdale City Suns
Daniel Petkovski - Marconi/Sydney FC Youth
Hagi Gligor - NSWIS/Sydney FC Youth
Josh MacDonald - NSWIS

Peter Triantis - Sydney Olympic
Nikola Taneski - APIA Leichhardt Tigers
Christopher Naumoff - Sutherland Sharks/Sydney FC Youth
Tom Slater - NSWIS
Lukas Stergiou - Sutherland Sharks
Luke Jenner - Blacktown City
Luke Clifford - Blacktown City
Alec Urosevski - Rockdale City Suns
Anthony Bouzanis - Sydney Olympic
Coach: Brian Dene
Assistant Coach: Miro Vlastelica
Goalkeeper Coach: Davide del giovine



Sydney Olympic's Peter Triantis was selected for the Sydney FC National Youth League side

Chris Tadrosse: Part time farmer, part time footballer

Bonnyrigg White Eagles Premiership winning captain Chris Tadrosse has an unusual story.

The dynamic left back lives and works on an apple orchard in Bilpin, making his rise that included an appearance in the NSW Premier League All Star Team of the Year, all the more remarkable.

"There aren't many apple orchards in Bonnyrigg!" he laughed.

"I've lived in Bilpin my whole life, my family have an apple orchard so I work here and then travel for training and games," he added.

Bilpin is a mammoth 70km from the Bonnyrigg Sports Centre. When asked whether the travel posed any difficulties, Tadrosse said, "You've got to do what you've got to do. It's not easy when you're training and playing a lot, but you put up with it."

Tadrosse, who has had spells at Melbourne Victory more recently at North Queensland Fury in the A-League, was the unanimous choice to fill the left back slot in the Star Team of the Year. Needless to say, he was voted into his selection.

"It's a great honour," Tadrosse said.

"After the season we've had, we felt that Bonnyrigg have a number of players in the team, I'm just lucky to be one of them," he added.

Bonnyrigg White Eagles weren't in action over the weekend, their week off earned by virtue of their Premiership where they finished 15 points clear of Sydney Olympic Marconi Stallions. Tadrosse said that the week off affected their preparation, heading into their Grand Final qualifier against Marconi on Saturday evening.

"We've been working hard at training," he said.

"We've played them twice this season and done well against them."

"In the semi-finals though, it's a one off match. It's for grabs," he said.

If Brian Brown's side were to go all the way and win the Championship, they would emulate the 2011 Sydney Olympic side in completing the double, something that would be a huge achievement given the nature of the NSW Premier League competition.

Tadrosse was excited, both from a personal and team perspective.

"It would mean a lot for the club," he said.

"We've worked really hard all season."

"Obviously at the start of the year we hadn't planned to win the double, we just wanted to take it step by step," he said.

"To do it would be fantastic though and it would be the perfect way to finish off a great year," Tadrosse added.

If they beat Marconi on Saturday, Tadrosse's Bonnyrigg White Eagles would only be 90 minutes away from completing one of the great seasons.



Bonnyrigg White Eagles skipper Chris Tadrosse