

Sydney United 58 - Wollongong Wolves 2-0

Sydney United 58 won its fourth match in a row after second half goals from Chris Payne and Panny Nikas helped the Reds to a 2-0 victory over Wollongong Wolves at Sydney United Sports Centre.



After a battling opening forty five minutes, Payne slammed home a Nikas cutback to put Jason Culina's side ahead on the hour mark before the mercurial midfielder made sure of the victory with his fifth of the season on the stroke of full time. The win pushes Culina's Reds into second place on the competition ladder with second-placed Sydney Olympic and third-placed Blacktown City meeting at Belmore later on Sunday afternoon. Having opened the campaign with two back to back losses the performance over Wollongong will bolster confidence around Edensor Park with the side set to take on strugglers Hakoah Sydney City East and Bonnyrigg White Eagles in the next fortnight. The defeat will be a tough one for the visiting Wolves side to swallow with Jacob Timpano's men receiving their fair share of goal scoring opportunities throughout

the 90 minutes despite losing three players to injury before the stroke of half time. The Reds' gloveman's best of the night arrived in the opening minutes where a frenetic start to the match saw both sides' trade early blows. Fresh from his late winner against Hakoah Sydney City East last Sunday afternoon, Wolves frontman Peter Simonoski forced Manos into a superb acrobatic save early on after collecting Yuzo Tashiro's knock down on the volley. Nikas squandered the best chance of the half for the hosts' minutes later when he sprayed a rebound wide from six yards after Matt Sirm's curler bounced back off the post. The United 58 skipper was then denied by the woodwork after lashing a swerving effort from outside the box against the crossbar. Tashiro continued to keep Manos busy at the conclusion of the first

half but Timpano's side should've broken the deadlock 10 minutes into the second when defender Darcy Madden saw his effort blocked on the line by Adrian Vlastelica after a corner. Minutes later Manos came to the rescue again to parry Wolves attacker Josh Macdonald's near post snapshot. And the Wolves were punished for their missed chances when Payne slammed in his fourth effort of the campaign into an empty net after being found by Nikas' clever cutback. The visitors continued to push for an equalizing goal late on and saw Simonovski denied a penalty shout after a collision with Tomoki Menda on the edge of the box,

before Nikas sealed the three points with a cool finish on the breakaway. **Match Stats**
Sydney United 58 2 (Payne 64, Nikas 90') Wollongong Wolves 0
Sydney United Sports Centre, Edensor Park
Referee: S Lucas Assistant referee: J Adabjou S Quinn Fourth Official: S Carwardine
Sydney United 58: 21. Thomas Manos, 9. Patrick Antelmi (7. Mohammad Rahimi 87'), 2. Cristian Gonzalez (15. Tomoki Menda 72'), 20. Peter Markovic, 23. Panagiotis Nikas, 6. Christopher Payne, 11. Yianni Perkatis, 3. Jordan Roberts, 8. Matthew Sim, 5. Anthony Tomelic (18. Glen Trifiro 46'), 4. Adrian Vlastelica
Substitutes not used: 1. John Hall, 13.

Sam Perre
Yellow cards: Nikas 67
Red cards: N/A
Wollongong Wolves: 1. Justin Pasfield, 5. James Baldacchino, 17. Ryan Ensor (2. Taylor McDonald 35'), 23. Steven Hayes (8. Brendan Griffin, 32'), 10. Joshua Macdonald, 3. Darcy Madden, 6. Nicholas Montgomery, 40. Takuya Nozawa, 4. Michael Robinson, 9. Peter Simonoski, 30. Yuzo Tashiro (21. Caoimhin Fowler 45')
Substitutes not used: 16. Luke Kairies
Yellow cards: N/A
Red cards: N/A
Player Ratings
3 - Nikas (SU58)
2 - Manos (SU58)
1 - Vlastelica (SU58)

A-League 2018 Finals Series details revealed

Details of the A-League 2018 Finals Series have been confirmed after Brisbane Roar became the final team to round out the top six. **Adelaide United** defeated Western Sydney Wanderers 3-2 tonight ensuring Roar would be in the finals mix. **Sydney FC**, Newcastle Jets, Melbourne City, Melbourne Victory, Adelaide and Roar will do battle over the coming weeks. **The Elimination** Finals kick off next week. **Melbourne City** will host Roar on Friday April 20, while crosstown rivals Melbourne Victory, will take on Adelaide United, Sunday April 22. **In week** two Premiership winners Sydney FC and second-placed Newcastle Jets will play the lowest ranked and the highest ranked winners from the Elimination Finals respectively. **The Grand** Final will take place on May 5. **Club members** will receive a priority purchasing period for each match before tickets go on-sale to the general public. **All matches** in the A-League 2018 Finals Series matches will be broadcast live on FOX

SPORTS and ONE.

Hyundai A-League 2018 Finals Series (Week One) - Elimination Finals

Hyundai A-League 2018 Elimination Final 1
Melbourne City FC (3) vs Brisbane Roar FC (6)
Friday, 20 April 2018
AAMI Park, Melbourne
Kick-off Time: 7.50pm (AEST)



	CLUB	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1.	Sydney FC	27	20	4	3	64	22	42	64
2.	Newcastle Jets	27	15	5	7	57	37	20	50
3.	Melbourne City FC	27	13	4	10	41	33	8	43
4.	Melbourne Victory	27	12	5	10	43	37	6	41
5.	Adelaide United	27	11	6	10	36	38	-2	39
6.	Brisbane Roar FC	27	10	5	12	33	40	-7	35
7.	Western Sydney Wanderers FC	27	8	9	10	38	47	-9	33
8.	Perth Glory	27	10	2	15	37	50	-13	32
9.	Wellington Phoenix	27	5	6	16	31	55	-24	21
10.	Central Coast Mariners	27	4	8	15	28	49	-21	20