



By George Stavroulakis

## Caltex Socceroos set for October friendly against Kuwait

**Football Federation Australia (FFA) today announced that Graham Arnold's first game in charge of the Caltex Socceroos will be played next month against Kuwait in Kuwait City.**

**Arnold's men** will meet Romeo Jozak's side in an international friendly match on Monday, 15 October 2018 (local time) after completing a short training camp in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The match venue and kick-off time are still to be finalised. Caltex Socceroos Head Coach, Graham Arnold, said that he's looking forward to the chance of building upon Australia's new style of play against a challenging West Asian opponent. "During our recent training camp in Turkey we worked hard to add attacking layers to the strong defensive base the Socceroos had at this year's (FIFA) World Cup," Arnold said. "The fresh faces in camp did exceptionally well, they added a lot of energy to the training sessions and plenty of enthusiasm. "Next month's camp in the UAE, which will conclude with our friendly against Kuwait, will provide us with the chance to develop our play further and put our new style into a game situation. "The players understand what we need to achieve and

it was valuable to have the time with them in Turkey, without the pressure of a game, so I am confident that we will take further strides forward during the October window," he said.

**Australia and Kuwait** have played 11 matches at senior men's international level in the past, with the first meeting between the two nations coming in Sydney in 1977, and the most recent being played in Melbourne during the opening match of the AFC Asian Cup in 2015, where Australia won 4-1.

**Following the** October FIFA window, the Caltex Socceroos will return to Australia in November. On Saturday, 17 November 2018 the Socceroos will play Korea Republic at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane, before meeting Lebanon on Tuesday, 20 November 2018 at ANZ Stadium at Sydney Olympic Park.

**All three** of the Caltex Socceroos' upcoming international friendlies will be broadcast LIVE in Australia on FOX SPORTS and Network TEN.



### Upcoming Caltex Socceroos Matches:

#### **Kuwait v Caltex Socceroos (International Friendly)**

**Date:** Monday, 15 October 2018 (local time)

**Venue:** To be confirmed (Kuwait City, Kuwait)

**Kick-off:** To be confirmed

**Broadcast:** Live in Australia on FOX SPORTS and Network TEN

#### **Caltex Socceroos v Korea Republic (International Friendly)**

**Date:** Saturday, 17 November 2018

**Venue:** Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane, Queensland

**Kick-off:** 6.50pm (local); 7.50pm (AEDT)

**Tickets:** [www.socceroos.com.au/tickets](http://www.socceroos.com.au/tickets)

**Broadcast:** Live in Australia on FOX SPORTS and Network TEN

#### **Caltex Socceroos v Lebanon (International Friendly)**

**Date:** Tuesday, 20 November 2018

**Venue:** ANZ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park, New South Wales

**Kick-off:** 7.30pm (AEDT)

**Tickets:** [www.socceroos.com.au/tickets](http://www.socceroos.com.au/tickets)

**Broadcast:** Live in Australia on FOX SPORTS and Network TEN

## Hamill announced as Wanderers captain

**The Western Sydney Wanderers have today announced Brendan Hamill as the club's captain for the upcoming Hyundai A-League season.**

**Born and bred** in Western Sydney, Hamill started playing football for his local side Chipping Norton FC before being identified for various state league and youth representative teams. The commanding defender returned home to Western Sydney following stints at Melbourne Heart (City) and K-League side Seongnam FC in 2014, making his Red & Black debut against Guangzhou Evergrande in the AFC Champions League Quarter Final in 2014. Hamill went on to play a key role in the club's Champions League conquest including a number of authoritative performances before going on to

impress in the Hyundai A-League and FFA Cup. Last season, Hamill was named part of the club's captaincy group alongside veteran Mark Bridge. The Western Sydney local has featured in 76 matches, scoring six goals, during his five seasons at the club.

**Western Sydney Wanderers** CEO John Tsatsimas said that Hamill embodies what it means to be from Western Sydney. "Brendan exhibits all the qualities that a Western Sydney Wanderers captain should," said Wanderers CEO John Tsatsimas. "I could not be prouder that a player born and bred in

Western Sydney is leading us into this campaign. "His commitment and passion for the club has been quite evident over the period of time he has been a Wanderer and we look forward to seeing the rest of them, in particular the younger players, following in his lead." Head coach Markus Babbel believes Hamill is the perfect fit to lead the group for the upcoming Hyundai A-League season. "Brendan Hamill is our captain because since I have come to the club he has been fantastic," said Babbel. "He's solid at the back, he speaks well with the team and he shows all the



things that I expect from our club's captain." "I'm very happy he's doing well." Hamill says he's grateful for the opportunity to lead the team in season 2018/19. "I'm honoured to represent the people of Western Sydney, I'm honoured to represent the club," said Hamill. "To lead the team is a massive honour but to do it in an environment

where I was born and bred is huge for me, it's huge for my family and I'm excited. "We've got a huge challenge ahead but I'm looking forward to it. I've got great leaders around me and we really want to attack that title this year. "This club is all about winning titles and chasing honours, so it's no different this year."