

NPL 2018 Semi Finals confirmed

Lions FC (QLD) will host Heidelberg United FC (VIC) in the first of the National Premier Leagues (NPL) 2018 Semi Finals on Tuesday 18 September at Lions Stadium. Lions FC narrowly defeated the Edgeworth Eagles 1-0 last night, whilst Heidelberg United FC defeated the Devonport Strikers in a thrilling 3-2 victory at Valley Road in Tasmania last Saturday (8 September). The other NPL 2018 Semi Final will see Campbelltown City SC (SA) host Sydney Olympic FC (NSW) on Saturday 22 September at Steve Woodcock Sports Centre. Sydney Olympic defeated Perth SC 1-0 courtesy of a 6th minute goal from the captain Jason Madonis. Campbelltown City SC booked their semi finals berth after they defeated Canberra FC (ACT) 3-0 at Deakin Stadium yesterday.



The NPL Finals Series brings together the eight teams who finished top of their respective NPL standings at the end of their regular seasons to determine Australia's best NPL side. 2018 marks the sixth edition of the NPL Finals Series, which was last year won by Heidelberg United FC. Sydney United 58 FC won the inaugural competition in 2013 and in 2016, while MetroStars SC from South Australia (2014) and Blacktown City FC from New South Wales (2015) have also been crowned Champions of the series in the past. The winner of the NPL 2018 Finals Series will receive automatic entry into the FFA Cup 2019 Final Rounds, providing an added incentive for the eight clubs taking part.

Every match in the NPL 2018 Finals Series will be streamed LIVE on www.nationalpremierleagues.com.au as well as via the official Hyundai A-League Facebook page (www.facebook.com/aleague).

POINTS SYSTEM TO DETERMINE HOSTS OF SEMI FINALS AND GRAND FINAL:

To determine the host Member Federation clubs for the Semi Finals and Grand Final, the following points system will apply.

- Win within normal time (i.e. 90 minutes) = 3 points
- Win during extra time = 2 points
- Win on penalties = 1 point
- Goals scored by home team (excluding penalty shootouts) = 3 points
- Goals scored by away team (excluding penalty shootouts) = 4 points
- Goals conceded (excluding penalty shootouts) = -1 point
- Yellow cards = -1 point; and
- Red cards = -3 points

The host of the Grand Final will be determined by the club with the highest accumulation of points across the Elimination Finals and Semi Finals.

Note: In the event that Heidelberg United is successful in Match 3, they will progress to Match 6 and be deemed the away Club for this fixture regardless of the NPL Finals Series points system. FFA shall determine the match details for this fixture in its sole and absolute discretion.

The NPL 2018 Finals Series schedule is as follows:

National Premier Leagues 2018 Elimination Finals				Venue	Kick-Off (local)	Kick-Off (AEST)
Match 1: Sunday, 16 September 2018	Sydney Olympic FC (NSW)	vs	Perth SC (WA)	Lambert Park, Leichhardt, NSW	3:30pm	3:30pm
Match 2: Saturday, 15 September 2018	Canberra FC (ACT)	vs	Campbelltown City SC (SA)	Deakin Stadium, Deakin, ACT	5:00pm	5:00pm
Match 3: Saturday, 8 September 2018	Devonport Strikers FC (TAS)	vs	Heidelberg United FC (VIC)	Valley Road, Devonport, TAS	6:00pm	6:00pm
Match 4: Saturday, 15 September 2018	Lions FC (QLD)	vs	Edgeworth FC (NNSW)	Lions Stadium, Richlands, QLD	7:30pm	7:30pm
National Premier Leagues 2018 Semi Finals						
Match 5: 22/23 September 2018	Winner of Match 1	vs	Winner of Match 2	Host to be determined by points system		
Match 6: 22/23 September 2018*	Winner of Match 3	vs	Winner of Match 4	Host to be determined by points system*		
National Premier Leagues 2018 Grand Final						
Match 7: 29/30 September 2018	Winner of Match 5	vs	Winner of Match 6	Host to be determined by points system		