



## Manny Spanoudakis St George City FA Head Coach

» Συνέχεια από τη σελίδα 39 (MS) - Now that this season has ended, it's important that we all take a little time off to decompress and freshen up again for next season. NPL 2 presents many more challenges and we will need all our energy for the year ahead. I am confident that the strategy that Aytek Genc has implemented remains valid

and robust enough to overcome the rigours associated with the NPL 2 Men's and NPL 1 Youth

League competitions.

FNSW - Who are some of the people within the club that have contributed to the club's overall success, and what is it exactly that they do /

have done?

(MS) - Our Head of football Aytek Genc is the driving force behind our club. His vision and commitment to our values and goals is world class and his ability to bring it all together is second to none.

Steve Keremelevski is the U20 & 1st Grade team manager. He has volunteered his time to provide hundreds of hours of support at training and the games. Without Steve looking after the match day operational tasks we could not focus on our job. Our operations manager, Nicole Aroney, was the glue that held it all together behind the scenes. Nicole did so many things to support us, it would take an hour to mention them all.

Stelios Pikoulas (strength & conditioning coach) was integral to the physical preparation and competiveness of our 1st Grade & U20's squad. We started our preparation on December 4th 2017 and trained 3 days a week

(plus games) until the Grand Final. Stelios made sure that every week the players were physically prepared for the game ahead and did an outstanding job. He is professional and diligent in all that he does and has a great future ahead of him

**Also working** closely behind the scenes was Mina Lawendy, our team physiotherapist. Mina worked tirelessly to make sure that the players stayed on the park and collaborated closely with all staff to keep us informed of the injured players and their status.

Additionally, Adrian Webster wore two hats both as 1st Grade Assistant Coach and U20's coach. This allowed us to work closely and to integrate the U20's into the senior training program as much as possible. I believe Adrian's contribution was key in helping us secure the double in both U20's and 1st Grade. Adrian worked closely with his brother Dujon in the U20's in the second half of the season and helped us secure the Club Championship.

Finally, the Board of SGFA leveraged our position as the

also negotiated the use of Kogarah Jubilee Oval for 6 home games this season. This is by far the best football facility in NSW and all players from U13 – 1st Grade enjoyed the experience of playing at this fantastic facility. Other than this facility, we also need to thank local clubs like Hurstville Zagreb and San Souci, who allowed us to use their training grounds throughout the season when required – the support from the local clubs has been fantastic since our inception.



largest community group in the St George area to secure valuable funding for the development of two state of the art football facilities. Their lobbying to all levels of government for these necessary funds saw the opening of a new synthetic field at Ador Ave, and in early 2019 a new million dollar amenities block and synthetic pitch at Peakhurst Park. This will allow our club to have a training base second to none in the NPL from which we can continue to develop our teams. The Board



## FNSW - On a personal level, FNSW captured the moment your son, James, netted the winning goal in this year's Grand Final - tell me what that meant to you both, as well as the family?

I truly appreciate the significance of that moment, both as a parent and as a coach. James scored his goal near the end of the Grand Final and it effectively secured our victory and brought closure to a very rewarding season. Joy, pride and relief overwhelmed me at that time, and I am grateful that God brought this moment into both our lives. Early in the season, James suffered a bad injury and his season was disrupted after completing a strong pre- season. You're never sure how a player responds to injuries and if he'll come back just as strong. Watching him do hours of rehab and pushing himself to get back to full fitness was stressful, both as a parent and a coach. Once he recovered, he played in the second half of the season, and in the Semi-Final and Grand Final, and his contribution was immense.

Unfortunately for James, I am very hard on him. He takes it in his stride and always works hard for the team and I am very proud of the young man he has become. To be able to share such a significant moment in the club's history with my son – not to mention my father in the stands – is indescribable.

Winning is a habit in football – and the manner in which the St George City FA club built their foundations and have gone about their business during their first 3 years of operation, you can see why winning has well and truly become a habit for everyone associated at the club.