

# SOCZEROOS JEWISH GROUP CALLS FOR SOCZEROOS TO BOYCOTT PALESTINE GAME

**A RIGHT WING JEWISH GROUP HAS CALLED FOR THE SOCCEROOS TO BOYCOTT THEIR ASIAN CUP MATCH WITH PALESTINE.**

The Sydney-based Australian Jewish Association has asked FFA to stop the Socceroos from taking on Palestine on Friday. It claims that football is being politicised by the Asian Football Confederation and that the AFC is biased against Israel. "Soccer is being blatantly politicised by the Asian Football Confederation as 'Palestine' is not a country recognised by the international community," the AJA's statement reads. "The AFC, dominated by Arab interests, should not have

admitted 'Palestine' as a member. In 1974 the AFC expelled Israel as a member. Its expulsion could rightly be characterised as antisemitic.

"The AFC has even attempted to erase Israel from its history books altogether. Israel participated in the Asian Cup (which is played every four years) in 1956, 1960 and 1964, actually winning the Asian Cup in 1964.

"Yet the AFC's promotional video for the last Asian Cup (held in Australia in 2015) showcased all past winners but ignored Israel's win in 1964. The admission of 'Palestine' as a participating country is the other side of the same antisemitic coin.

"Palestine' is in part controlled by Hamas, a proscribed terrorist organisation and in part by the Palestinian Authority which incites and rewards the murder of Jews in Israel.

"Australia's participation in the Asian Cup in these circumstances legitimises the politicisation of the Cup as it

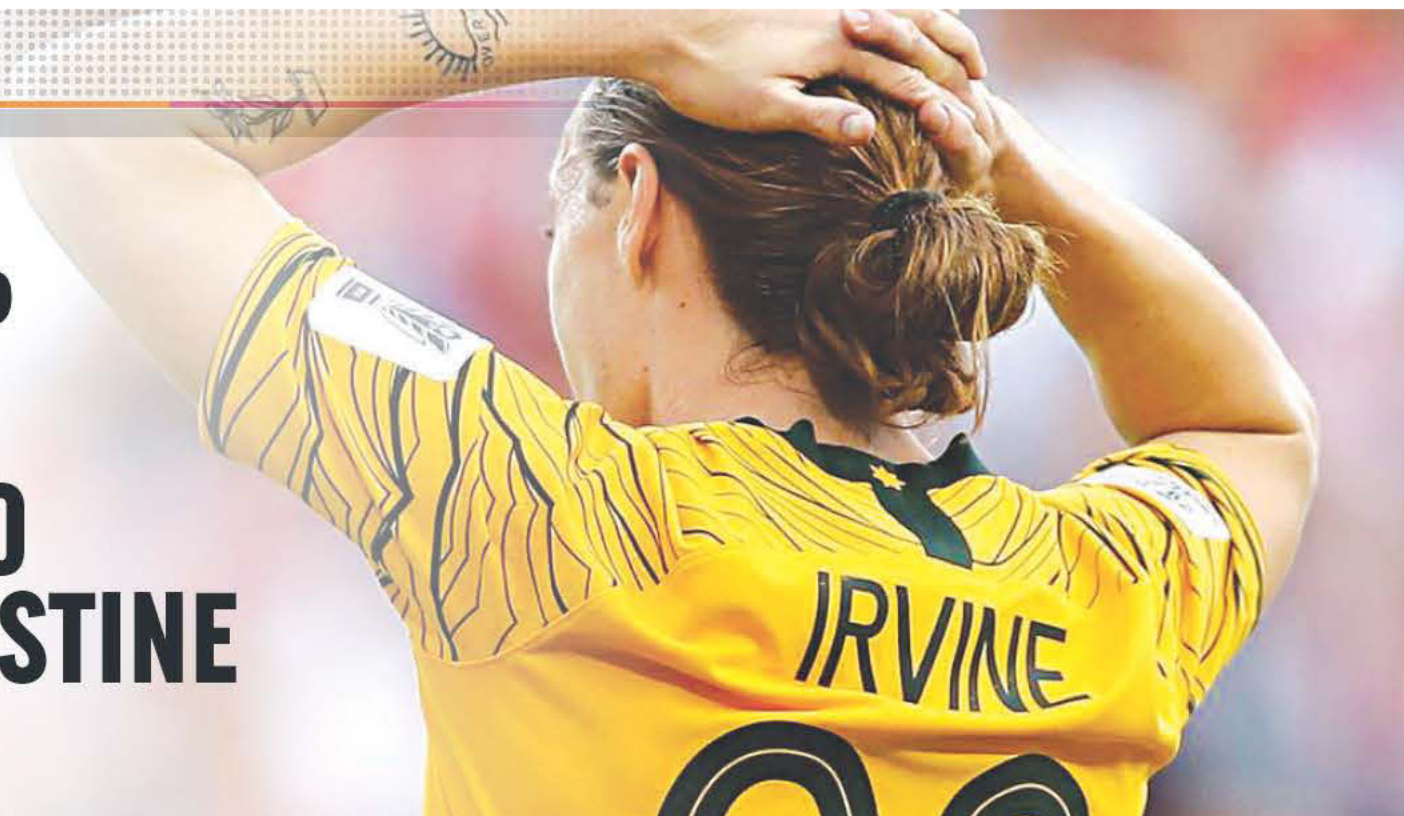
renders Australia complicit with the AFC's political bias against Israel."

AJA President Dr David Adler said: "The FFA Board should not allow the Socceroos to play 'Palestine'.

"If compelled to do so, then at the very least it must do so under protest by sending a clear and unambiguous message to FIFA and the football world that the AFC's bias and antisemitic policies and the politicisation of the Asian Cup for propaganda purposes are wholly unacceptable to Australia and should not be tolerated."

The AJA was set up a year ago and was launched on controversial right wing columnist Andrew Bolt's Sky News TV show The Bolt Report.

It said it supported free speech and opposed political correctness, and campaigned against key parts of the Same Sex Marriage bill. Its Twitter account has 403 followers.



## A-League Results ROUND 12

09.01.2019	13:00 D1 Regular Season	Perth Glory	3-1	Sydney FC
	10:50 D1 Regular Season	Adelaide United	2-0	Melbourne Victory
08.01.2019	10:50 D1 Regular Season	WS Wanderers	2-3	Wellington Phoenix
06.01.2019	10:00 D1 Regular Season	Brisbane Roar	2-4	Perth Glory
	08:00 D1 Regular Season	Melbourne City	2-1	Newcastle Jets

### A - League table ROUND 12

	Team	GP	Pts	W	D	L	GF	GA	+/-
1	Perth Glory	12	29	9	2	1	27	13	14
2	Melbourne Victory	12	23	7	2	3	24	14	10
3	Sydney FC	12	23	7	2	3	24	16	8
4	Melbourne City	11	20	6	2	3	15	10	5
5	Adelaide United	12	19	5	4	3	16	13	3
6	Wellington Phoenix	12	19	5	4	3	17	15	2
7	Newcastle Jets	12	12	3	3	6	13	17	-4
8	WS Wanderers	12	9	2	3	7	14	23	-9
9	Brisbane Roar	12	7	1	4	7	15	25	-10
10	Central Coast Mariners	11	2	0	2	9	10	29	-19

### Next matches

11.01.2019	10:50 D1 Regular Season	Melbourne City	-	Brisbane Roar
12.01.2019	08:35 D1 Regular Season	Wellington Phoenix	-	Central Coast Mariners
	10:50 D1 Regular Season	Melbourne Victory	-	Newcastle Jets
13.01.2019	09:00 D1 Regular Season	Sydney FC	-	Adelaide United
	11:00 D1 Regular Season	Perth Glory	-	WS Wanderers

## JORDAN: SOCCEROOS WERE COMPLACENT

Jordan coach Vital Borkelmans believes the Socceroos underestimated his team, and says Graham Arnold's prediction of an Australian win before kick-off was "dangerous".



Arnold was full of confidence before the match and expected victory in his side's Asian Cup opener, but Australia went down 1-0 to Jordan.

"It's very, very dangerous to talk like this," Borkelmans told reporters after the game. "I said many times to my players, guys, nobody knows.

"You saw it at the World Cup, big teams lost to small countries. It changed everything.

"When you put this (thought) in your players, they get so mentally strong that the performance is going up every minute in the game."

Borkelmans hailed his players and said they did everything he asked of them in terms of containing the Socceroos' key performers.

"It was the No.5 (Mark Milligan) and No.8

(Massimo Luongo) and also when No.22 (Jackson Irvine) come inside and No.17 (Mustafa Amini) - they make always the same movements," he said.

"I say to my players when these guys have the ball, make pressure on these guys. When they're coming inside, we have a lot of space behind the back. All my team made a big, big, big tactical performance."

Asked about his pre-match comments, Arnold denied he was being arrogant.

"That's a translation difference. It's not arrogance, it's belief," the Socceroos boss said.

"It's not arrogance at all. Those words are used a lot in Australia and in Australia it's not considered arrogant."