



# Gladesville Ryde Magic 3 Sydney University 2

**Gladesville Ryde Magic came from behind against Sydney University to take all three points at Christie Park, winning 3-2 on Sunday afternoon.**

**It was** Sydney University who came out the blocks early with the visitors dominating early proceedings in what was a very warm afternoon at Christie Park.

**Sydney conjured** up the first real opportunity of the game after eight minutes when Marcus Del Vecchio's strike sailed agonizingly close over the cross bar.

**The 'students'** domination paid off just before the quarter hour mark when James Tsokos effort from inside the box beat the outstretched Kiriakos Tohouroglou in goal.

**With a** host of Magic's players still making their way back from injury, Uni were able to take advantage of the hosts makeshift defence with Daniel Barrett and Fergus Worrall wreaking havoc up and down the right-hand flank.

**The visitors** were able to double their advantage in the 30th minute with a slick counter attack after winning the ball from a Gladesville corner.

**Yuya Kotaki** countered with pace before offloading the ball to Worrall on the wing who in turn found Panayoti Gotsis unmarked in the middle of the 18-yard box allowing for an easy tap in in to score Uni's second goal of the encounter.

**It all** seemed to be smooth sailing for the visitors until Magic pegged one back with five minutes to go in the first half with Rosario Occhipinti heading in from close range to provide

the visitors with a lifeline as they entered the break 2-1 down. **Gladesville continued** to place the pressure on Sydney after the break and were rewarded with an equalizer in the 50th minute as Chris Triantis' free kick fell kindly on the head of Christos Tomaras.

**Magic had** shrugged off their slow start and were well and truly back in the contest with the equaliser, the momentum having clearly switched in their favour.

**Aside from** Sydney Uni captain, Scott Tonkin's headed effort flashing just wide of the post there was little to concern the Magic keeper in the second half.

**Following the** drinks break midway through the second half, the home side continued to apply the pressure with skipper Chris Gaitatzis coming threatening the opposition goal on several occasions as Gladesville went in search for the decisive goal.

**Gaitatzis' persistence** eventually paid off in the 83rd minute when he was found unmarked just outside the six-yard box and given all the time in the world to place his volley in the left-hand corner past helpless keeper Daniel Axford.

**Behind with** just under ten minutes, Sydney pushed forward as they went in search of an equaliser. Nathan Sharpley's

deflected cross was a heart in mouth moment for Magic's players as they watched it rebound off the post and back into the field of play.

**The home** side's much improved second half display proved enough as they came from behind to defeat Sydney University in what was a thrilling first round encounter.

**GLADESVILLE RYDE MAGIC 3** (Occhipinti 40', Tomaras 50', Gaitatzis 83')

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SFC 2** (Tsokos 14', Gotsis 30')  
**GLADESVILLE RYDE MAGIC;** 3.S.Tarazona, 4.A.Khan, 5.L.Harte, 6.Z.Kolundzic, 9.C.Gaitatzis (capt), 10.C.Tomaras, 11.C.Triantis(14.A.Mickael 83'), 12.A.Jolly, 15.K.Nikas(2.C.Newton 75'), 18.R.Occhipinti(16.J.Barrett 63'), 33.K.Tohouroglou.

**Substitutions Not Used** – 1.G.Koliomihos.  
**Yellow Cards** – 15.K.Nikas 51', 12.A.Jolly 72', 9.C.Gaitatzis 88'.

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SFC;** 1.D.Axford, 2.P.Kardasis, 8.Y.Kotaki(17.I.Hillier 64'), 9.S.Tonkin (capt), 10.P.Gotsis, 11.N.Sharpley, 15.F.Worrall(J.Makridopolus 75'), 18.B.Serafin, 20.J.Tsokos(19.J.Lameri 58'), 24.M.Del Vecchio, 31.D.Barrett.

**Substitutions Not Used** – 5.M.Borovina, 6.D.Mifsud.  
**Yellow Cards** – 24.M.Del Vecchio 17', 9.S.Tonkin 60', 10.P.Gotsis 72', 19.J.Lameri 74', 17.I.Hillier 85'.

