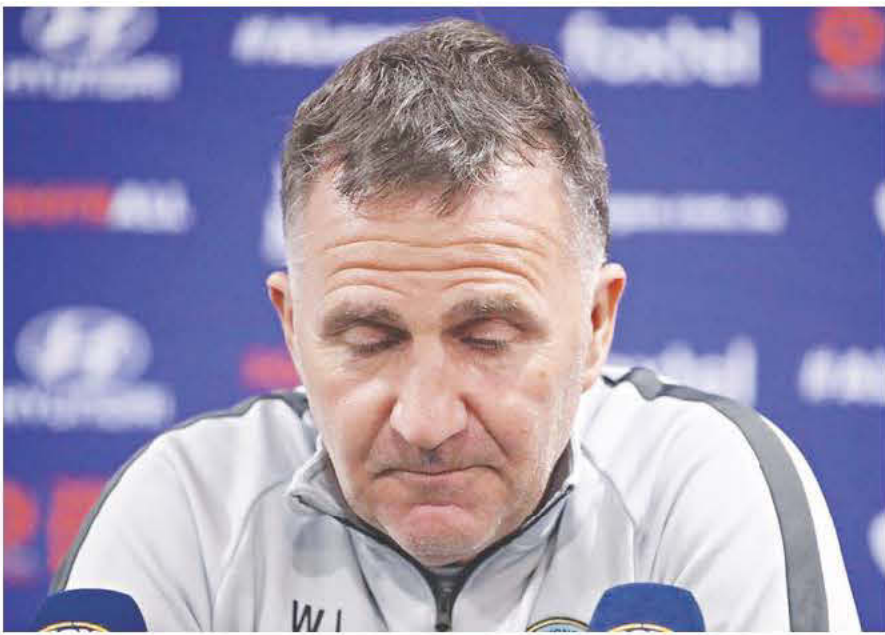




By George Stavroulakis

Joyce axed by City

Melbourne City are on the lookout for a new coach after they elected not to extend Warren Joyce's two-season stint at the helm of the A-League club.



Melbourne City have parted ways with coach Warren Joyce and will continue their long battle to realise their A-League ambitions without the Englishman, after declining to extend his two-year stint as senior coach. **Joyce leaves** City after a tumultuous season; one of on-field underachievement given the club's alignment with Premier League giants Manchester City and the deep pockets of their Abu Dhabi-based owners. **The club's** 2018/19 campaign ended brutally on Sunday as Adelaide United's Ben Halloran scored an 119th minute extra-time winner in their elimination final. **City's fifth-placed** finish came after a brighter third-placed result in his first season. **After the** match, Joyce denied his second season was a regression but City bosses disagreed, and will now start the search for his successor. **"It's been** a challenging couple of seasons, but I have great pride in the players and staff for the progress the club has made," Joyce said in a statement. **"I've seen** real growth from the playing group and within the football organisation and the continued development of the right kind of culture. **"I am** confident that A-League success is around the corner." **Joyce's chief** remit was always results - with a goal of reaching the Asian Champions League - but he was also tasked with cultural change in the dressing room. **The 54-year-old** installed a hard-working, team-first ethos at the club, at significant cost. **Socceroos legend** Tim Cahill and club great Bruno Fornaroli walked out on the club during his two years in charge. **Neil Kilkenny** left after claiming the club's player-of-the-year award, captain Michael Jakobsen also departed, as did Fernando Brandan and Anthony Caceres. **City's player** turnover was significant; Luke Brattan was the only player in Sunday's elimination final loss to have played under a different coach at the club. **Fans voted** with their feet. **Crowds were** down amid the player losses and a less exciting style of play, with the club's active supporter group disbanding. **More players** will depart in the coming days, with Brattan, star defender Bart Schenkeveld off-contract, player of the year Eugene Galekovic likely to retire and Riley McGree set to return to his Belgian parent club, Club Brugge. **City football** boss Michael Petrillo will lead a review of Joyce's time in charge along with City Football Group executive Brian Marwood. **Petrillo said** the club's long-running goal of reaching the Asian Champions League "remained unchanged". **"We want** to be constantly competing for silverware and playing in the Asian Champions League, with a definitive brand of football," he said. **City chief** executive Brad Rowse said Joyce's efforts promoting young talent would long be remembered at the club. **"Under his** stewardship a significant number of young players have made the transition to first team football and many have been recognised with national team selection," he said.

FFA Cup Round 6 Matches Announced

Twenty teams have had their fates decided as Football NSW announced its official Round 6 FFA Cup draw with games set to be played on Wednesday 15th and 22nd of May.

Ten matches look set to light up football pitches across NSW with a number of interesting ties dominating the lineup of games with an all NPL NSW Men's encounter happening at Hensley Athletic Field as Hakoah Sydney City take on the Marconi Stallions. **An all** NPL 2 NSW Men's tie will take shape in Sydney's North as the Northern Tigers tackle the Bonnyrigg White Eagles while NPL 2 NSW Men's side Mounties Wanderers have won a home encounter against NPL 3 NSW Men's outfit Dulwich Hill.

With some round 5 FFA Cup matches to be played on Wednesday evening (8th May) there could be some huge encounters to take place with a possible Sydney United 58 v Blacktown City match-up should Mark Crittenden's men beat their arch rivals Blacktown Spartans the possible pick of the bunch.

Nepean Football Association side Hazelbrook FC will entertain either Mt Druitt Town Rangers or Kirawee Kangaroos while the winner of Umina United or Pittwater RSL will have a home tie against NPL NSW Men's league leaders Wollongong Wolves.

The winners of round 6 will then move to the all important round 7 passage where those winners will determine who will represent NSW at the round of 32.



Round 6 FFA Cup Matches

Match	Teams	Association / League
125	Hakoah Sydney City FC	NPL NSW Men's
	Marconi Stallions FC	NPL NSW Men's
126	Winner of 112 (Umina United or Pittwater RSL)	
	Wollongong Wolves FC	NPL NSW Men's
127	Hazelbrook FC	Association Team
	Winner of 115 (Mt Druitt Town Rangers FC or Kirawee Kangaroos FC)	
128	Sydney United 58 FC	NPL NSW Men's
	Blacktown City FC	
129	Northern Tigers FC	NPL 2 NSW Men's
	Bonnyrigg White Eagles FC	NPL 2 NSW Men's
130	Winner of 117 (Western Condors FC or Sutherland Sharks FC)	
	Manly United FC	NPL NSW Men's
131	Rockdale City Suns FC	NPL NSW Men's
	Sydney University SFC	NPL 3 NSW Men's
132	Mounties Wanderers FC	NPL 2 NSW Men's
	Dulwich Hill	NPL 3 NSW Men's
133	St George FC	NPL 2 NSW Men's
	APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC	
134	Winner of 122 (Nepean FC or UNSW)	
	Sydney Olympic	NPL NSW Men's