

Melbourne City sign Noone from Bolton

Melbourne City still don't have a senior coach for next A-League season but they've signed their second foreign player in Craig Noone.

The 31-year-old English attacking midfielder and winger has joined from crisis-hit third-tier English League One side Bolton Wanderers, who were relegated from the Championship in April and placed in administration last month.

Noone's signing is unlikely to appease AAMI Park fans, who are desperate for the Manchester City-aligned club to loosen the purse strings and sign bring proven European talent to Melbourne.

"**Craig is** a creative, pacey wide player who, after playing at the highest level in the UK, will bring a lot in experience and threat to the team," City football boss Michael Petrillo said.

"**Craig is** a proven goalscorer and provider who is just as comfortable cutting inside and shooting from range as he is at linking up with his fullback and delivering dangerous crosses."

But the Liverpool-born talent has scored goals in every campaign since 2008, for Bolton, Cardiff City, Brighton and Hove Albion and Plymouth Argyle.

Noone helped Cardiff City win promotion to the English Premier League in 2013, staying with the club during their first season in the top flight.

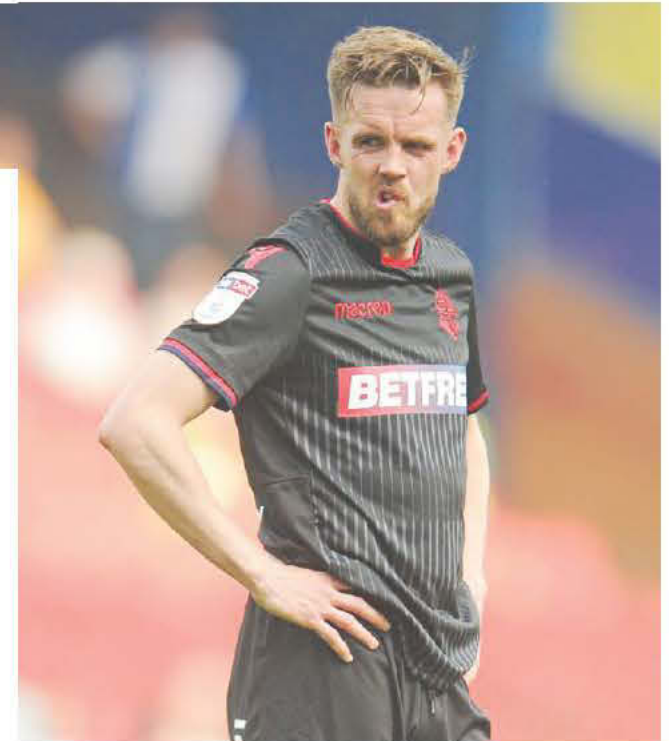
"**I'm excited** to join Melbourne City and test myself in the A-League," Noone said. "I want to win and be competing for silverware."

"**I know** a few players in Australia and know the quality is good. I'm expecting it to be physical and fast-paced and can't wait to step out in front of the fans for the first time at AAMI Park."

Noone joins fellow international Florin Berenguer at City, who are without a coach since declining to extend Warren Joyce's contract after two years in charge.

With 17 contracted players, City's incoming manager has an almost complete squad, with three slots remaining for internationals - including one marquee signing.

Key pair Luke Brattan and Bart Schenkeveld are out of contract next season, with an announcement about their



futures yet to be made.

MELBOURNE CITY'S 2019/20 SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Mark Birighitti, Dean Bouzanis.

Defenders: Scott Jamieson (captain), Harrison Delbridge, Nathaniel Atkinson, Scott Galloway.

Midfielders: Rostyn Griffiths, Kearyn Baccus, Connor Metcalfe, Denis Genreau.

Attackers: Lachie Wales, Florin Berenguer, Jamie Maclaren, Moudi Najjar, Ramy Najjarine, Gianluca Iannucci, Craig Noone.

YOUR GUIDE TO AUSTRALIA VS JAMAICA

A look at the Matildas' final match of their World Cup group stage, a meeting with world No.53s Jamaica, known as the 'Reggae Girlz'.

AUSTRALIA v JAMAICA

Women's World Cup - Group C

Stade des Alpes, Grenoble

Tuesday June 18, 9pm local -

Wednesday June 19, 5am AEST

AUSTRALIA

Jubilant captain Sam Kerr declared her side "back in it" after their gutsy 3-2 comeback win over Brazil in Montpellier, and the Matildas can show as much with a professional display over Jamaica. Anything but a handy Australian win in Grenoble would be

a surprise, especially given the importance of snatching one of the top two qualifying positions to avoid a Round of 16 clash with a top seed. That said, expect coach Ante Milicic to make minor changes to freshen his side.

Coach: Ante Milicic

Captain: Sam Kerr

Ranking: 6

Best World Cup finish: Quarter-finals (2007, 2011, 2015)

Key player: Chloe Logarzo. At her first tournament, the supreme athlete has wowed in two opening

performances and could announce herself on the world stage if she can continue her showings.

JAMAICA

First-timer the Reggae Girlz have succeeded by simply reaching France, where they have been whacked 3-0 and 5-0 in back-to-back outings. Jamaica were always going to find the going tough against three top-15 sides, and it remains to be seen whether coach Hue Menzies will field his strongest side



against Australia or give fringe players a taste of the tournament before they head home.

Coach: Hue Menzies

Captain: Konya Plummer

World ranking: 53

Best World Cup finish: First tournament

Key player: Khadija 'Bunny' Shaw. The prodigiously-talented 22-year-old has overcome the death of four brothers, three due to gang-related violence, to lead Jamaica to qualification - putting the country's inadequacies at this tournament into perspective.

ULTRA FOOTBALL **TEAM OF THE WEEK**

NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES


JAMES


MENDY


ANTONIOU


KEKERIS


PARISI


OKADA


WARREN


ESPOSITO


OUGHTRED


GALIMI


HEWARD-BELLE

ROUND 15
#NPLNSW

Ultra Football Team of the Week and what a cracking round it was as Round 15 cruised past with some huge results. Even though the result did not go the way for Sydney FC against the Wolves, keeper Thomas Heward-Belle made sure the scoreline did not get too out of hand having made several astonishing saves in keeping the Sky Blues at bay. APIA Leichhardt Tigers FC's heroic 1-0 victory with 10 men on the pitch against Sydney United 58 FC earned two players spots in Paul Galimi and the maestro himself Franco Parisi. Sydney Olympic FC's Peter Kekeris played himself into a debut spot in the squad with a great display in the Blues' victory on Sunday while Mount Druitt Town Rangers FC new recruit Jacob Esposito was solid in his clubs victory over the Suns on Saturday. Wollongong Wolves Football Club had its usual suspects gain entries with yes you guessed it, Thomas James and Takeru Okada earning spots while Sutherland Sharks FC's Marc Warren and new recruit Bai Antoniou also factored themselves into the team. Manly United FC also had a double entry with Mendy Charles Thomas and Travis Oughtred bagging their positions. — with Bai Antoniou, Peter Kekeris, Thomas James, Jacob Esposito, Travis Oughtred, Franco Parisi, Mendy Charles Thomas, Paul Galimi and Takeru Okada