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BLACKTOWN CITY - SYDNEY UNITED 3-7 (3-3)

SYDNEY UNITED 58 SIZZLE SEVEN FINALS HOPES ALIVE



TWO EXTRA-TIME GOALS HAS HELPED SYDNEY UNITED PULL OFF ONE OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR FINALS COMEBACKS IN NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES NSW HISTORY TO SNATCH A 7-3 WIN AGAINST BLACKTOWN CITY AT LILY HOMES STADIUM

Locked at 3-3 at the end of 90 minutes, after fighting back from 2-1 and 3-2 down, United delivered a masterclass in extra-time to score four unanswered and secure the most incredible of victories.

Former Blacktown City striker Patrick Antelmi came back to haunt his former club by scoring eight minutes into extra time before a Tariq Maia wonder strike and a famous Matt Sim double at the death gave United 58 the historic victory and bundled City out of the finals.

The first 20 minutes of the match was nothing anyone could have predicted with five goals and a missed penalty in what was an explosive opening to the contest.

Peter Simonoski gave the visitors the lead after eight minutes before Blacktown hit back with a penalty for Matt Lewis. Dakota Askew spurned a brilliant chance moments later when he missed Blacktown's second penalty of the night.

The two sides then traded goals with Grant Lynch finding the back of the net before Simonoski levelled from the penalty spot but only before Leroy Jennings would then give Blacktown the lead once again.

A Tomislav Uskok goal midway through the second half set up what would be a thrilling close to the match with the scores locked at 3-3.

It was a difficult way for Blacktown's season to come to an end, but one Sydney United 58 and their fans will definitely not forget.

It took Sydney United 58 less than three minutes to find a breakthrough when Maia took advantage of a scattered Blacktown defence to set up Simonoski

The midfielder received the ball at the edge of the box before beating two defenders and delivering a perfect cross which was hammered into the back of the net.

The goal stunned Blacktown into action and within only two minutes they were awarded a penalty when Mason Versi was cut down in the box by Yianni Fragogiannis.

Matt Lewis kept his cool to fire past the keeper and level the score at 1-1.

Incredibly only three minutes later Blacktown was awarded another penalty when Fragogiannis cut down Versi a second time.

This time Blacktown couldn't take advantage from the spot with Dakota Askew blasting his shot over the bar.

The match was travelling at breakneck speed and before the fans could catch their breath City had taken the lead 13 minutes in

Lynch beat his marker to fire in from inside the penalty area off a looping corner kick.

The goal failed to settle the match and Sydney United 58 were the recipients of a penalty on the 17 minute mark.

Simonoski wasn't going to be denied and dispatch a perfect penalty to level the scores again at 2-2.

However, Blacktown had other ideas and kept up the helter skelter pace of the match by taking the lead only two minutes later.

Jennings got his head to the ball to nod it into the bottom right corner and make it 3-2 for the home side.

After a wild opening 20 minutes, Blacktown finally took control of the contest midway through the half.

City were happy to push the ball around with deft passing moves without truly punishing the opposition defence.

United 58 had one or two half chances but by the 40th minute mark the game had truly settled down.

There was one last moment in the first half when a spectacular acrobatic save from Pendergast denied a rasping effort from Yianni Perkatis who had unleashed a shot from 30 yards out.

It was an incredible first half of football and both sides, as well as the fans, were desperate to catch their breath at the break.

The interval failed to slow the game with both sides exploding out for the blocks at the resumption.

It was end to end with attack the primary focus.

Patrick Antelmi was brought off the bench by United 58 coach Miro Vlastelica to inject some extra firepower for his side.

Something had to give and it was United 58 who were the benefactors in the 74th minute as Uskok fired in from close range to tie the scores once again at 3-3.

Blacktown were straight back on the attack and Jennings could've given the home side the lead but he was unable to turn a cross across the face into the net.

It was a nerve-wracking final minute with two United 58 efforts cleared off the line by Blacktown with the referee's full-time whistle proving a saving grace as the match headed to extra-time.

As expected it was foot to the floor football from the start.