



# TONY POPOVIC

“WE WILL GET VERY AGGRESSIVE”

PERTH GLORY'S BACKLINE HAS TAKEN ANOTHER BLOW AS COACH TONY POPOVIC ADMITS HIS SIDE NEEDS TO IMPROVE BEFORE THE SEASON SLIPS AWAY.

**D**efender Osama Malik has been ruled out of Perth Glory's A-League fixture against Newcastle Jets on Saturday because of a

hamstring injury.

Malik reported hamstring tightness in Perth's shock home loss to Central Coast Mariners last weekend.

Glory coach Popovic says Malik will be sidelined for up to three weeks but is relieved the injury isn't more serious. The experienced Malik will miss Perth's away trip to Newcastle which Popovic rates as a danger game despite the Jets' winless status.

"There will be a lot of desperation involved with their team," Popovic said today.

"I think we will get a very aggressive start from Newcastle ... we are expecting a real tough encounter which you always get in Newcastle.

"They're a team that always look

dangerous. Unfortunately they haven't got the results they want so far but a very dangerous team going forward.

"We have to be aware of that but also know that we can cause problems to any team and we have got to put the package together in defence and attack."

Perth's complete package was missing in a rare home loss to Central Coast last week - the Mariners won 2-1 to bank their first win of the season.

"We have just got to improve," Popovic said. "It's our first poor first half of football we have been very good in every (other) first half.

"In the end we were a goal down (at half-time) and we reacted very well but unfortunately it wasn't enough.

"We have just got to try and complete the game and get that 90 minutes in terms of a performance that will give us a better chance of getting a result when things aren't quite going for you on the day."

CBA

## HISTORIC CBA TO CLOSE FOOTBALL'S GENDER PAY GAP

A look at Australian soccer's new collective bargaining agreement, which closes the pay gap between the Socceroos and Matildas.

The new CBA between Football Federation Australia (FFA) and Professional Footballers Australia (the PFA) spans the next four years - covering the next men's and women's World Cup cycles, including Australia's bid to host the 2023 Women's World Cup.

### WHAT THE NEW CBA ENTAILS

\* The Matildas and Socceroos will receive a 24 per cent share of an aggregate of national team generated revenues - including broadcasting, sponsorship, merchandising and match-day revenue - in 2019/20.

\* This share rises by one per cent each year of the four-year deal, meaning it will reach 27 per cent by 2023.

\* Five per cent of the aforementioned revenue will be re-invested into Australia's national youth teams.

\* The Matildas will have a three-tier centralised contract system, which includes minimum guaranteed payments supplemented by a player-driven bonus structure.

\* Tier 1 Matildas will earn \$83,000 per year - the same as top Socceroos - while Tier 2 will earn \$56,000 and Tier 3 will earn \$40,000. In 2019, the top-earning Matildas

received \$55,000.

\* The Socceroos' payments are a combination of a flat match fee and a commercial dividend at the end of each season with guaranteed minimums aligning with the Matildas' guarantees.

### WHAT PRIZE MONEY ARE THE PLAYERS ENTITLED TO?

\* Players' share of prize money on qualifying for a World Cup will increase from 30 per cent to 40 per cent. That share increases to 50 per cent if they progress to the knockout stage.

\* The players' share of Asian Cup prize money will increase from 30 per cent to 33 per cent. The prize money share increases again to 40 per cent if they qualify for the final.

### HOW WILL PLAYER CONDITIONS BE IMPROVED?

\* The Matildas' coaching, high performance and operational support will mirror the Socceroos' standards.

\* The Matildas will now fly business class for international



travel, in line with the Socceroos.

\* A minimum of \$1.448m will be allocated to the PFA's player development program - through which players access wellbeing, education and transition services - across the four years of the CBA.

\* FFA's parental leave policy will be reviewed and upgraded to provide more support to Matildas during pregnancy and when returning to national team duty.

\* The FFA will re-negotiate sponsorship contracts to ensure there are equal performance bonuses for the Socceroos and Matildas, while commercial parameters will apply equally to players across both teams.