



By George Stavroulakis

## Round 6 - Hyundai A-League 2019/20

## Sydney FC – Melbourne Victory

Sunday 17 November 2019 - 18:30 AEDT

■ **Sydney** FC have won their last two A-League matches against Melbourne Victory, including a 6-1 hammering in their most recent clash – the most goals they've scored in a game against their Big Blue rivals in the A-League.

■ **Sydney** FC have won six of their last eight A-League matches at home to Melbourne Victory (L2), despite leading at halftime only twice in that span.

■ **Melbourne** Victory have won five of their last eight A-League regular-season matches on the road (L2), including their only away trip of this campaign (1-0 v Brisbane Roar).

■ **Sydney** FC have won 11 of their last 13 A-League matches at home (D1, L1); including all three in that span at Netstrata Jubilee Stadium.

■ **Only** Western Sydney Wanderers (118) have won more aerial duels than Melbourne Victory (98) in the 2019/20 A-League season.

■ **Sydney** FC have had the most big chances (15) of any team this A-League season, though they have converted just four.

■ **Adam** Le Fondre (Sydney FC) has had the most shots on target (7) from inside the box of any player this A-League season, four more than Melbourne Victory's best Ola Toivonen (3).

■ **Ola** Toivonen has been directly involved in seven of Melbourne Victory's last eight A-League goals, scoring five and providing two assists in that span.

## JORDAN V AUSTRALIA

Next Match – Caltex Socceroos – FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ and AFC Asian Cup China 2023™ – Preliminary Joint Qualification Round 2

Date: Thursday, 14 November 2019

Venue: King Abdullah II Stadium, Amman, Jordan

Kick-off: 6.00pm (local); 3.00am AEDT – Friday, 15 November 2019

Broadcast: Live in Australia on FOX SPORTS, ABC TV, Kayo Sports, and via the My Football Live App, Live, Fast and Data Free for Telstra mobile customers  
Australia's match against Jordan will be broadcast live in Australia on FOX SPORTS, ABC TV, Kayo Sports, and via the My Football Live App, Live, Fast and Data Free for Telstra mobile customers.

Caltex Socceroos 23-Player Squad | 11-14 November 2019 | FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ & AFC Asian Cup China 2023™ - Preliminary Joint Qualification Round 2

Name	Club, Country	A-International Caps (Goals)
Aziz BEHICH	Istanbul Basaksehir, Turkey	38 (2)
Brandon BORRELLO	SC Freiburg, Germany	3 (0)
Martin BOYLE	Hibernian FC, Scotland	3 (2)
Milos DEGENEK	Red Star Belgrade, Serbia	28 (1)
Kenneth DOUGALL	Barnsley FC, England	0 (0)
Mitchell DUKE	Western Sydney Wanderers FC, Australia	5 (2)
Adam FEDERICI (Gk)	Stoke City FC, England	16 (0)
Craig GOODWIN	Al-Wehda, Saudi Arabia	5 (0)
Rhyan GRANT	Sydney FC, Australia	11 (0)
Ajdin HRUSTIC	FC Groningen, Netherlands	3 (0)
Jackson IRVINE	Hull City, England	33 (5)
James JEGGO	Austria Wien, Austria	4 (0)
Awer MABIL	FC Midtjylland, Denmark	13 (4)
Aaron MOOY	Brighton & Hove Albion, England	42 (6)
Andrew REDMAYNE (Gk)	Sydney FC, Australia	1 (0)
Josh RISDON	Western United FC, Australia	14 (0)
Mathew RYAN (Gk)	Brighton & Hove Albion, England	58 (0)
Tom ROGIC	Glasgow Celtic FC, Scotland	46 (9)
Trent SAINSBURY	Maccabi Haifa FC, Israel	47 (3)
Brad SMITH	Seattle Sounders FC, Un.States of America	21 (0)
Harry SOUTTAR	Fleetwood Town, England	2 (4)
Adam TAGGART	Suwon Bluewings, Korea Republic	10 (5)
Bailey WRIGHT	Bristol City, England	24 (1)

## TRENT SAINSBURY.. "That's what I hope to bring, what I trust I'll bring, to the national team."

Australia defender Trent Sainsbury's risky decision to swap the Dutch Eredivisie for the Israeli Premier League has helped him rediscover his form.

**Socceroos manager** Graham Arnold has given the nod to Sainsbury's need to prioritise match minutes by ditching Dutch giants PSV for Israeli side Maccabi Haifa.

**It's about** a year since the defender sealed a move to the Eredivisie but as the northern European winter sets in he's enjoying sunnier climes on the shores of the Mediterranean.

**The 27-year-old**, who was a standout performer in Australia's 2018 World Cup campaign, had found himself sitting on the bench during the back end of last season after falling out of favour with PSV coach Mark van Bommel.

**So in** late August he made the switch to the Israel Premier League and he's enjoying his new life.

**"There are** certain things that are a bit different, like there's a bit of difference in the food that you can find, the mentality is different. They are a lot more open and friendly in Israel," he said.

**"I guess**, for me personally, the hot weather is nice."

**Despite a** recent two-game injury layoff, Sainsbury has rediscovered form and played his part in four wins in the five games he has started for the Greens.

**He said** his new club has gone beyond what he expected to welcome him and he has grown into a senior role on the field.

**"Everyone basically** speaks English, they've all got great mentalities, they all really want to work hard and learn and we've got such a young squad as well," Sainsbury said.

**"It so** easy for me to go in and represent that

leadership that the club was looking for."

**Maccabi sit** second in the league after Sunday's 3-1 win over Beitar Jerusalem—a game Sainsbury played in before he flew into Socceroos camp in neighbouring Jordan.

**Arnold, who** first developed the defender at the Central Coast Mariners and is his father-in-law, backed Sainsbury for taking the plunge.

**"Trent had** a decision to make, he could have stayed at PSV and probably sat and watched again for another year; he didn't play that much football last year," the national team boss said.

**"But he** made a decision, he wanted to get out, he wanted to go somewhere where he was going to play every week and enjoy life, and that's what he's doing."

**Sainsbury, who's** been part of the senior national side since being called up by Holger Osieck in 2013, said being in camp was like being back with his "best mates" again.

**His recent** club performances have him pushing to make his second start of the qualifiers when the Socceroos face Jordan at King Abdullah International Stadium on Thursday (Friday 3am AEDT).

**"The main** reason I left PSV is because I wanted to go somewhere and play, and I think at Maccabi I've seen myself playing every week, being a leader and taking the club onto bigger and better things," Sainsbury said.

**"Translating it** to (the Socceroos), it all goes hand in hand; when you're confidence is high, you're playing your best football.

**"That's what** I hope to bring, what I trust I'll bring, to the national team."

### A-League 5th Round Table

	TEAM	MP	W	D	L	GOAL	Pts
1	Melbourne City	5	4	1	0	10:5	13
2	Western United	5	3	1	1	8:6	10
3	WS Wanderers	5	3	1	1	6:4	10
4	Sydney FC	4	3	0	1	9:5	9
5	Adelaide United	4	2	0	2	6:6	6
6	Perth Glory	5	1	3	1	6:6	6
7	Melbourne Victory	5	1	2	2	5:6	5
8	Central Coast Mariners	4	1	1	2	5:7	4
9	Brisbane Roar	4	0	2	2	1:3	2
10	Newcastle Jets	4	0	2	2	4:8	2
11	Wellington Phoenix	5	0	1	4	5:9	1

#### A-League 5th Round Results

Adelaide United - Brisbane Roar 1-0  
Melbourne Victory - Wellington Phoenix 1-1  
Western United - WS Wanderers 2-1  
Newcastle Jets - Perth Glory 1-1  
Melbourne City - Central Coast Mariners 3-1

#### A-League Round 6

16.11. Central Coast Mariners - Adelaide United  
16.11. Western United - Newcastle Jets  
17.11. Brisbane Roar - Melbourne City  
17.11. Sydney FC - Melbourne Victory