

defenders but he will need to work on his finishing to make the most of his skilful dribbling and chance creation. **We will** be also watching to see if skipper Matty Lewis can replicate his goalscoring form that hit home pre-COVID to lift his side while it was a good debut for keeper Shaun Catlin who kept his first clean sheet for the club in round 1. **It is** set to be an exciting match and with local bragging rights on the line, it is sure to go down to the wire.

Sydney United 58 v North Shore Mariners, 3pm Sunday at Sydney United Sports Centre

A big bounce-back performance will be on the agenda for Sydney United 58 as they host North Shore Mariners at Sydney United Sports Centre on Sunday. **United 58** slumped to a 2-0 loss against traditional rivals Sydney Olympic in the opening week of fixtures and coach Zeljko Kalac will be driving his side for a much-improved showing this week around. **The Reds** were stunned by a rapid Olympic attack and had little answers to stop the early onslaught as their defensive unit were really put to the test by the Blues. **United 58** have yet to adapt to the departure of key players Yianni Perkatis and Patrick Antelmi but with such a short season it is imperative to their finals chances they fill the gap as quickly as possible. **It will** be up to experienced campaigners Matt Sim, Thomas Manos and Yianni Fragogiannis to help their younger teammates find their rhythm while we may see the introduction of new recruits Jacob Poscoliero and Mirjan Pavlovic thrown into the mix. **North Shore** showed against Blacktown that they are not to be underestimated and were a disallowed goal away from snatching a shock win. **Manny Peters** is a handful for any defence and could be the key to a Mariners win while look out for Charles William who had a good opening match against Blacktown City. **United 58** will be favourites at home but if they're not at their best it could easily be the Mariners for the taking.

Sydney Olympic FC v Sydney FC, 5 pm Sunday at Lambert Park

Sydney Olympic and Sydney FC will be both fighting for back-to-back wins when they face off at Lambert Park on Sunday. **Olympic and** the Young Sky Blues were very impressive in the first week of fixtures but will have plenty of work to do if they are to add another three competition points to their tally. **A brilliant** attacking display from Olympic helped them to a 2-0 win against Sydney United 58 while an early three-goal flurry lifted Sydney FC to a 3-2 victory against Western Sydney Wanderers. **For Olympic**, their result last week was the perfect start for new coach Ante Juric who would've been very happy with what he saw on the pitch. **The frontline** of former A-League players Charles Lokolingoy, Adam Parkhouse and Fabio Ferreira is the most fearsome attacking trio in the competition and will strike fear into every defence they face. **It was** also great to see a good debut from young promising goalkeeper Nicholas Sorras, son of former Olympic NSL defender George, the tall custodian held his own against United 58. **Looking to** stop them will be a Sydney FC team which showed they to know their way onto the scoresheet. **The Young** Sky Blues raced out of the block with a huge first half in a dominant display of attacking football. **However, gaffer** Jim van Weeran will be concerned with the way they let Western Sydney back into the contest after the break. **The young** Sky Blues have talent oozing in all departments but Jake Hollman is one name to pen for years to come – he is something special. **Patrick Wood** also had a great first up match against the Wanderers as did Thomas Fay and Benjamin Koop. **Sydney Olympic** will surely look to target any drops in

concentration from Sydney FC so they pressure will be on the Sky Blues to keep their composure in what is sure to be an intense clash. **Olympic will** be the favourites for this match but Sydney FC shouldn't be underestimated.

Rockdale City Suns v Marconi Stallions, 6.30 pm Sunday at Ilinden Sports Centre

Rockdale City Sun's will be fighting for their first win of the rebooted NPL NSW Men's season when they host Marconi Stallions on Sunday at Ilinden Sports Centre. **Rockdale were** held to a scoreless draw in their first outing last round but Steven Zoric's side will be pushing for three competition points against a talented Marconi outfit this week. **The Stallions** come into the game with winning form after defeating APIA 2-1 last week. **Nikola Taneski** will be a player to watch for Rockdale with the talented striker proving to be a dangerous option going forward. **The former** Sydney United and Manly frontman should play a big role again this week while Amaury Gauthier always

provides that spark for Zoric's men. **Two players** that will sure to keep the Stallions side on their toes will be the Japanese duo of Tomoki Wada and Banri Kanaizumi. **Marconi was** in brilliant touch against APIA with mercurial striker Anthony Frangie in fine fettle. **While the** club also had impressive debuts for its young guns in Mark Rodic and Lachlan Sepping who both showed they belong in the first team. **Marko Jesic** was his usual pest self always throwing himself in and around the action and his experience will be one to watch come match day along with the Speranza brothers Roberto and Giorgio. **Liam Youlley** bossed the midfield against APIA and his menacing tackles will be on show against a tough Rockdale outfit. **We also** may see the return of both Anthony Costa and Martin Fernandez who both missed the club's opening match. **The Stallions** will be tough to beat and will be favourites despite being the away side. **Matches between** these sides are always action-packed and this one is sure to be no different.

FIXTURES - ROUND 02



7:30 PM • FRI 7 AUG • LAMBERT PARK

Referee: H. Jomaa
Assistant Referees: N. Wotton
Fourth Official: M. Staples



7:30 PM • FRI 7 AUG • CROMER PARK

Referee: A. Arndt
Assistant Referees: J. Park
Fourth Official: A. Morris



7:00 PM • SAT 8 AUG • POPONDETTA PARK

Referee: M. Weiner
Assistant Referees: R. Osborne
Fourth Official: P. Teleki



3:00 PM • SUN 9 AUG
SYDNEY UNITED SPORTS CENTRE

Referee: C. Fisher
Assistant Referees: B. Merchant
Fourth Official: A. Hosnani



6:30 PM • SUN 9 AUG • ILINDEN SPORTS CENTRE

Referee: T. Plasto
Assistant Referees: R. Osborne
Fourth Official: H. Al-Nakeeb



5:00 PM • SUN 9 AUG • LAMBERT PARK

Referee: C. Wright

