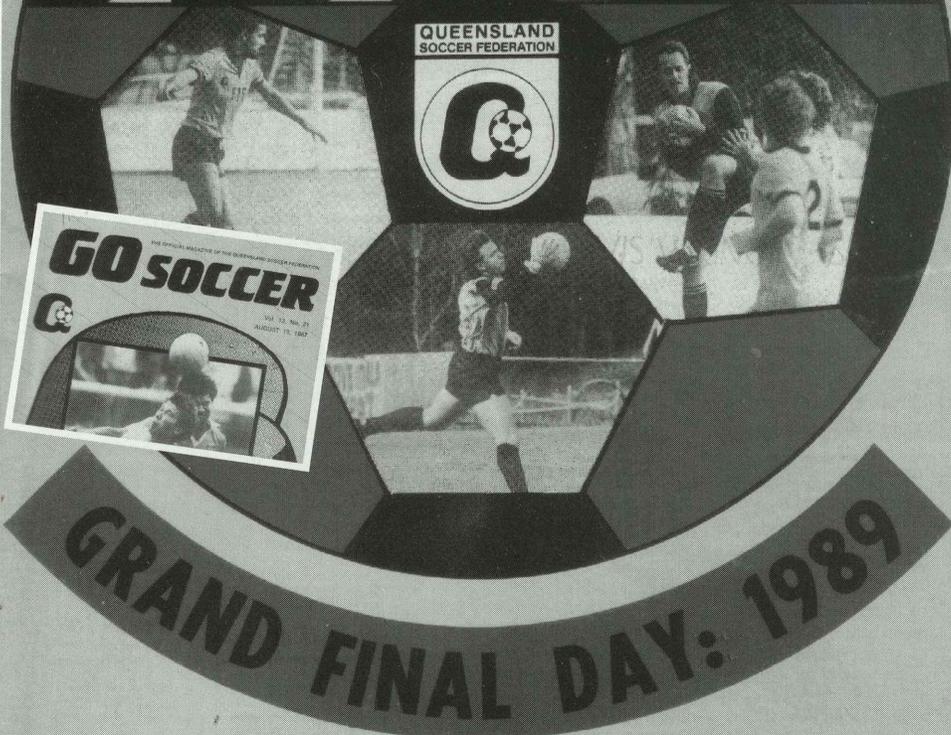


Extra Time

Brisbane's Soccer Magazine

Issue 5
May 2004

\$2.50
(inc GST)



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ExtraTime

Brisbane's Soccer Magazine

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© ExtraTime Publications 2004

ISSN 1449-1060

Published by ExtraTime Publications
ABN 27 163 200 307

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EDITOR'S

Comment

ExtraTime was fortunate to recently get our hot little hands on a large collection of old Qld soccer magazines, from the 'Go Soccer' mag of the 80's to the early editions of 'Eye On Soccer' in the 90's and onward.

Former QSF Secretary Jim Gilbert had kept the magazines for posterity and has allowed ExtraTime to take temporary charge of them in order to take a look back at past events and also to gauge what progress our code has made, if any.

It made for fascinating reading and acted as a reminder that our game does have a history that is worth remembering and recording. It stirred the blood to read about some of the superb players that have been cultivated in Queensland over the years and it has to be said that some of the photographs raised more than the odd laugh at ET. I guess some of those haircuts and tight shorts seemed like a good idea at the time!

Perhaps the most glaring difference between then and now (at least for this humble writer) was the number of genuine characters we used to have in the game. Is it me or is that missing nowadays? Swashbuckling centre-forwards, granite-like defenders and 'bite-yer-ankles' midfielders just don't seem to be around anymore, certainly not in the same numbers anyway.

So what is it? We all know that the game has changed as far as the rules go. We all know that society has changed as far as attitudes go, and of course we all know that we have suffered from some quite outrageously poor administration in the last decade or more. If that were not enough, we are now bombarded with high quality soccer on both free-to-air and pay TV, thus reducing the need for those infected with socceritis to actually get out and watch a match to satisfy their cravings. Are these the factors that have caused our sport to be pushed further and further behind all the others, or is it a combination of all these things plus a load of other baggage as well?

In issue 2 of ExtraTime Kieran Cooper spoke about some of the reasons he felt had contributed to the continued downward spiral of the game. The visa-player rule, the QAS, the Strikers, the overseas exodus and the loss of ethnic identity were all introductions or changes that have impacted on soccer in one way or another. If you add these to the preceding points then it's not hard to see why our game is in its current state of disrepair. It's not so much the changes themselves, it's more how we as a sport have failed to react to them and accommodate for the inevitable modifications in the future.

LOCAL news

Queensland Lions look to once again be without peer in the Premier League as their march to yet another title gathers seemingly unstoppable pace. The Richlands club have disposed of every opponent so far and have served up a feast of goals in the process.

The only club to keep Lions within sight at this early stage of the season is newly-promoted Mitchelton. Greg Brown's outfit have hit a rich vein of form in the last month and look as if they've been in the Premier League for years. Fit and mobile, they've proved to be a real handful for even the most experienced sides. This was highlighted last month by a 4-1 demolition of highly fancied Brisbane City in front of a very healthy crowd at Teralba Park. Heady times for Mitchy and they look to have the goods to keep it going for the rest of the season.

East's have slipped off the pace recently and will be looking to get back amongst the leaders, as will Brisbane City who had a horror month before breaking their bad run with a good win at Palm Beach. Rochedale and Pine Rivers seem to have overcome some early season jitters and you can be sure that both these sides will figure in the final shake-up.

ExtraTime spoke to all the Premier League coaches to find out what they thought of their team's form in the last 4 weeks.

A MONTH OF MOUTH

Brisbane Wolves: Kevin Meacock

Obviously the last few weeks have been disappointing because we wanted better results. We've played well at times in all our games but haven't been able to do it for 90 minutes. Little

mistakes have cost us in every match but we've brought some players in recently that hopefully will help us with those situations. I honestly believe that we are a good enough side to make the top 4. I'm not worried in any way about us having any relegation problems because the players we have will at some stage gel together and get on a good run. The second half of the season is going to be really interesting.

Eastern Suburbs: Col Bennett

We've had a couple of losses without scoring so we need to reassemble and get ourselves back on track. We've got some tough games coming up against the likes of Palm Beach and Rochedale and of course the cup game, but if we can play the way we did for the first hour against Lions then we will do OK. We matched Lions for over an hour of the game and I thought we had some good chances to go in front. Kearton was in superb form and we didn't take our chances when we had them. We have a good quality team but it's time for the players to dig a bit deeper.

Mitchelton: Greg Brown

We've had 5 wins in a row now so I can't ask for more. The next few games are against some of the struggling sides so we've got to feel confident that we can do well in those matches. If we can get results in our next 3 games then we're still in touch with Lions and

we've still got to play them. I've got a good group of players and they're getting stronger towards the end of our matches so the fitness is good and the commitment is excellent. There's an expectation around the club now that we should do well.

Palm Beach: Karl Herdle

Brisbane City were too strong and too experienced for us and we basically were out-muscled. It was a tough game with 12 yellow cards and 3 sent-off. Apart from that result I've been very happy, that was really our first bad game and it had to happen sooner or later. We are realistic about the possibilities of playing with a bunch of 19 year-olds, but I'm delighted overall. We're quick and we play with a lot of enthusiasm. We've got that bad game out of the way now so we have to just get on with it.



Tables (as of 26th April 2004)

Premier League	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
QUEENSLAND LIONS	8	8	0	0	35	4	24
MITCHELTON	8	5	2	1	18	10	17
PALM BEACH	8	4	2	2	16	10	14
PINE RIVERS UTD	8	4	2	2	16	20	14
ROCHEDALE ROV	7	3	2	2	12	13	11
EASTERN SUBURBS	8	3	1	4	10	13	10
BRISBANE CITY	7	3	1	3	9	12	10
BRISBANE WOLVES	7	2	1	4	12	17	7
SOUTHS UTD	8	2	1	5	7	17	7
T'WMBA RAIDERS	7	2	1	4	6	17	7
NORTH STAR	8	1	2	5	7	14	5
TARINGA ROVERS	8	1	1	6	13	16	4

Premier Reserves	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PALM BEACH	8	6	2	0	18	9	20
ROCHEDALE ROV	8	6	1	1	30	12	19
QUEENSLAND LIONS	8	6	1	1	23	5	19
EASTERN SUBURBS	8	4	1	3	23	15	13
BRISBANE WOLVES	7	4	0	3	17	17	12
MITCHELTON	8	3	3	2	14	14	12
SOUTHS UTD	8	3	0	5	16	16	9
NORTH STAR	8	2	3	3	18	22	9
BRISBANE CITY	8	2	2	4	13	16	8
T'WMBA RAIDERS	7	2	1	4	14	21	7
PINE RIVERS UTD	8	1	2	5	16	35	5
TARINGA ROVERS	8	0	0	8	4	24	0

Premier Youth	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
QUEENSLAND LIONS	7	7	0	0	33	8	21
PALM BEACH	8	6	0	2	26	13	18
ROCHEDALE ROV	8	6	0	2	21	12	18
NORTH STAR	8	5	0	3	29	14	15
MITCHELTON	8	5	0	3	25	10	15
T'WMBA RAIDERS	7	4	1	2	17	12	13
TARINGA ROVERS	7	4	1	2	13	19	13
SOUTHS UTD	8	2	2	4	13	18	8
BRISBANE CITY	8	2	1	5	18	14	7
BRISBANE WOLVES	7	1	1	5	9	24	4
EASTERN SUBURBS	8	1	0	7	5	38	3
PINE RIVERS UTD	8	0	0	8	5	32	0

Division 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE OLYMPIC	8	7	1	0	14	2	22
PENINSULA POWER	8	5	2	1	18	8	17
UNI OF QLD	8	4	3	1	22	9	15
BEENLEIGH	8	4	2	2	17	9	14
IPSWICH KNIGHTS	8	4	1	3	13	9	13
REDLANDS UTD	8	3	2	3	15	12	11
SOUTHSIDE EAGLES	8	3	2	3	13	13	11
MT GRAVATT	8	3	1	4	14	12	10
THE GAP	8	1	5	2	13	18	8
ALBANY CREEK	8	1	1	6	12	21	4
ROCKLEA UTD	8	1	1	6	5	23	4
CAPALABA	8	1	1	6	5	25	4

Div 1 Reserves	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UNI OF QLD	8	7	1	0	29	6	22
PENINSULA POWER	8	6	2	0	18	3	20
REDLANDS UTD	8	6	2	0	18	3	20
MT GRAVATT	8	5	0	3	21	8	15
SOUTHSIDE EAGLES	8	4	1	3	15	15	13
ALBANY CREEK	8	4	1	3	13	15	13
THE GAP	8	4	0	4	16	16	12
BRISBANE OLYMPIC	8	2	1	5	13	17	7
IPSWICH KNIGHTS	8	2	0	6	13	20	6
ROCKLEA UTD	8	2	0	6	5	21	5
BEENLEIGH	8	1	2	5	12	21	5
CAPALABA	8	0	0	8	3	31	0

Div 1 Youth	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PENINSULA POWER	8	7	1	0	39	7	22
UNI OF QLD	8	7	0	1	31	6	21
ALBANY CREEK	8	5	3	0	38	9	18
BEENLEIGH	8	4	4	0	30	11	16
MT GRAVATT	8	5	1	2	26	12	16
REDLANDS UTD	8	4	2	2	20	10	14
CAPALABA	8	3	1	4	22	19	10
THE GAP	8	2	1	5	18	23	7
BRISBANE OLYMPIC	8	2	1	5	17	26	7
IPSWICH KNIGHTS	8	2	0	6	9	20	6
ROCKLEA UTD	8	0	0	8	3	42	0
SOUTHSIDE EAGLES	8	0	0	8	1	69	0

Division 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GOODNA & DIST	8	6	2	0	22	3	20
IPSWICH CITY	8	6	1	1	17	5	19
BETHANIA RAMS	8	5	2	1	29	12	17
BRISBANE FORCE	8	5	1	2	15	6	16
NEWMARKET	8	4	3	1	21	12	15
ANERLEY	8	2	3	3	19	15	9
GRANGE THISTLE	8	2	3	3	12	12	9
NORTH PINE	8	2	3	3	22	25	9
SLACKS CREEK	8	2	1	5	10	17	7
SAMFORD	8	2	1	5	7	14	7
MOGGILL UTD	8	1	1	6	4	30	4
OXLEY UTD	8	0	1	7	7	34	1

Div 2 Reserves	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE FORCE	8	5	3	0	14	3	18
GOODNA & DIST	8	5	1	2	25	13	16
BETHANIA RAMS	8	4	3	1	24	9	15
NEWMARKET	8	4	3	1	18	6	15
GRANGE THISTLE	8	5	0	3	12	10	15
IPSWICH CITY	8	4	2	2	14	11	14
NORTH PINE	8	4	1	3	24	15	13
ANERLEY	8	2	3	3	14	20	9
OXLEY UTD	8	2	1	5	6	11	7
SLACKS CREEK	8	2	1	5	12	19	7
SAMFORD	8	1	2	5	3	22	5
MOGGILL UTD	8	0	0	8	7	34	0

Metro Div 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DARRA LIONS	8	8	0	0	32	6	24
TARINGA ROVERS	8	5	2	1	14	12	17
ACACIA RIDGE	8	5	0	3	22	21	15
BRISBANE WOLVES	7	3	2	2	18	13	11
SOUTHS UNITED	8	3	2	3	18	15	11
PINEAPPLE ROVERS	8	2	3	3	16	18	9
WILSTON	8	2	3	3	20	23	9
MITCHELTON	8	3	0	5	16	24	9
UNI OF QLD	8	2	2	4	11	18	8
PARKRIDGE	8	2	2	4	11	21	8
CLAIRVAUX	8	2	1	5	18	17	7
BAYSIDE UTD	7	1	1	5	9	17	4

Metro Div 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PINE RIVERS	6	6	0	0	35	9	18
BRISBANE TORO	6	5	1	0	23	10	16
LOGAN CITY KINGS	6	4	0	2	28	14	12
NEWMARKET	6	3	1	2	17	16	10
PINE HILLS	6	2	1	3	14	15	7
MOOROONDU	6	2	1	3	8	17	7
RIDGE HILLS	6	1	2	3	8	17	5
THE GAP	6	1	1	4	12	16	4
REDCLIFFE PCYC	6	1	1	4	5	19	4
BRIGHTON DISTRICT	6	0	2	4	7	24	2

Metro Div 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CLAIRVAUX	8	8	0	0	39	9	24
EASTERN SUBURBS	8	6	0	2	24	12	18
UNI OF QLD	8	4	3	1	17	10	15
NEWMARKET	8	4	2	2	20	15	14
PINEAPPLE ROVERS	8	4	2	2	11	10	14
BAYSIDE	8	4	0	4	14	19	12
DARRA LIONS	8	3	2	3	22	12	11
ACACIA RIDGE	8	3	0	5	16	30	9
GRANGE THISTLE	8	2	2	4	9	14	8
PINE HILLS	8	2	0	6	12	23	6
SOUTHS UTD	8	1	1	6	14	24	4
NORTH PINE	8	1	0	7	8	28	3

Metro Div 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLD BRIDGE SPORTS	8	7	0	1	36	6	21
TARINGA ROVERS	8	7	0	1	16	11	21
BRISBANE FORCE	8	6	1	1	43	11	19
REGENTS PARK	7	6	0	1	45	9	18
NEWMARKET	8	5	1	2	27	15	16
BRISBANE CITY	7	5	1	1	22	14	16
SLACKS CREEK	8	3	1	4	12	23	10
ACACIA RIDGE	8	2	1	5	15	28	7
MT GRAVATT	8	1	1	6	13	31	4
THE GAP	8	1	0	7	4	37	3
BEENLEIGH	8	0	2	6	24	44	2
SOUTHSIDE EAGLES	8	0	0	8	4	32	0

Metro Div 5	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NORTH STAR	8	8	0	0	38	6	24
SLACKS CREEK	8	7	0	1	25	8	21
ANERLEY	8	6	0	2	30	16	18
BRISBANE OLYMPIC	8	5	0	3	26	20	15
NEWMARKET	8	4	2	2	26	15	14
ALBANY CREEK	8	3	2	3	14	19	11
BRIGHTON	8	3	0	5	27	30	9
RIDGE HILLS	8	3	0	5	9	22	9
EASTERN SUBURBS	8	1	3	4	14	28	6
REDLANDS UTD	8	1	2	5	11	26	5
IPSWICH CITY	8	1	1	6	8	21	4
CLAIRVAUX	8	0	2	6	17	34	2

Metro Div 6	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ALBANY CREEK	7	7	0	0	22	3	21
CAMIRA	7	5	1	1	17	7	16
PARK RIDGE	7	4	0	3	14	12	12
GOODNA	7	3	0	4	18	18	9
MT GRAVATT	7	2	2	3	13	15	8
REGENTS PARK	7	2	2	3	16	28	8
MOOROONDU	7	2	0	5	23	27	6
BRISBANE WOLVES	7	0	1	6	14	27	1

Open Youth Div	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
QUEENSLAND LIONS	6	6	0	0	48	4	18
ROCHEDALE ROV	6	4	0	2	22	10	12
TOOWOOMBA	6	3	1	2	15	11	10
BETHANIA	6	3	1	2	18	20	10
BRISBANE FORCE	6	2	3	1	13	4	9
SOUTHS UTD	6	2	2	2	17	11	8
SLACKS CREEK	6	0	1	5	3	50	1
NORTH PINE	6	0	0	6	9	35	0

Rochedale Rovers: Kieran Cooper

It's 2 wins in a row now and we've played all the teams above us so we're expecting a decent run between now and the end of the first round. The team is a bit more settled and it's helped to have the same players on the park. Our goal is to make the top 4 and if you take Lions out of the equation it's a very even competition.

Toowoomba: Louis Escalante

Things have been a little bit up and down of late. We were happy to get the win against North Star as it was a good boost for us. The players have adapted very well to the changes at training, the way we train is the way we are going to play. Nobody is thinking about relegation here. We're being positive about what we are doing and we are looking at a top 6 or top 4 finish.

Pine Rivers: Clayton Koch

We started poorly and now we've gone 4 games unbeaten. We'll be hoping to push for a top 4 spot from here. We've got a fair bit of depth now and with Wayne Heath and Josh Rose joining us now we have every chance. There are some good sides in the league so it all comes down to consistency from here. We're finishing games off well now which is pleasing.

Souths United: Peter Bannon

We've had a lot of injuries to key players and have been battling for results. We have to try and turn things around although some of our performances haven't been too bad. We're not doing quite enough to get in front but I can't fault the effort. I'd like to think we can stay out of trouble but it also relies on how everyone else does. The next few weeks could put us in the safety zone or the relegation zone there are no easy games. We need to keep everyone on deck and the attendance at training has been ordinary which is frustrating from a coaching point of view. I've told the players that we haven't made the mental step up that is needed in this league.

Taringa Rovers: Alan Waller

We've certainly improved and I feel we are as good as everyone else in the league except for Lions. We're playing better than we were at the start of the season but we're having a problem converting chances. We got 6 against Toowoomba but against Mitchelton we missed a heap of opportunities. Other teams are struggling for results so I'm confident we can stay out of trouble. No-one is hitting the panic button here. If we stay together for a few years we can have a very good side.

Queensland Lions: Paul Schiavo (media spokesman)

It's a terrific squad and everyone is playing for their place every week. That leads to the quality of football that we're playing. A lot of it has to do with the fitness levels of the boys because they really are super-fit. Every player that comes into the side seems to maintain the same standard. We move the ball quickly and keep going right to the end. It's quality football, it's not route one stuff and the players and coaches should be congratulated for that.

Brisbane City: Frank Pimblett

It was a great win for us at Palm Beach but before that it was pretty disappointing. We conceded a lot of goals and didn't score any, in fact we got a couple of hidings. We've done a bit of soul searching and sorted a few things out so hopefully we're back on the right track again. I'm not saying we've turned the corner because we have to do it every week. We have to keep playing as a team and work hard for each other for the whole 90 minutes. If you don't do that in this league you get rolled.

North Star: Ken Swan

We've signed Stuart McLaren which has been a great boost for our squad of very young players. We're down near the bottom but we're not despondent and I really appreciate Stuart's belief in what we are trying to do. We're trying to do the right thing by these young players but they need time to develop. Our defeats have been tight and no team has given us a flogging, we just need to learn how to win. We'll just keep working hard and the results will come, patience is the key. What I'm really enjoying this year is the enthusiasm of the players. They want to learn; they arrive early at training and leave late. We're very positive about what we're doing and it'll all come together.

No change at the top of Division 1 with Olympic and Peninsula looking every inch the favourites to be the top 2 at the end of hostilities. Olympic's narrow win against their closest rivals allowed them some breathing space at the top, but their experienced coach Juan Cutillas will know that they must keep their intensity up if they are to realise their Premier League ambitions. Olympic's mean defence is making victories much easier to come by but more goalscoring prowess may be required as the season rolls on. Peninsula Power are ticking along nicely but will have one eye on the ever dangerous Uni of Qld who will be snapping at the heels of the top 2 in the coming weeks. The students are consistently good performers in this league and can expect

to influence the final placings. Ipswich Knights' hopes of a quick return to the Premier League may have to be put on hold for a year unless they can instil some consistency into their game. The 1-0 home defeat to the improving Beenleigh has dented the Knights' progress and they will be looking to put the wheels back on as soon as possible. Mount Gravatt finally look to have sorted out some early season problems and will be looking to put a good run together up to the halfway mark of the year. The Hawks were highly fancied as promotion candidates but have a lot of work to do if they are to peg back the leaders. At the other end of the table it looks like it's going to be a long season for Rocklea, Albany Creek and Capalaba. All are leaking goals at an alarming rate and will soon lose touch with the mid-table positions if their fortunes don't change.

In **Division 2** pride of place has to go to Ipswich City who have won all of their last four fixtures, defeating Newmarket in Round 5 and taking the top spot. The Bundamba side should also be congratulated for it's off field efforts with crowds and an atmosphere to rival the Premier Division. The signing of goalkeeping legend Jason Lucas will no doubt bolster their cause and it could be that we will be seeing an Ipswich derby in Division One in 2005.

Not far behind Ipswich are Goodna who have had almost as good a time of the past month with the exception of a perhaps surprising draw against North Pine in Round 7. Of their four games the 4-0 away win at Bethania has to go down as Goodna's most outstanding result of the period.

Brisbane Force have had a quietly successful month with the draw against Grange Thistle and the loss of Daniel Pitkin to Brisbane City the only

blots on their copybook. Grange are however the team to take away Newmarket's 100% record, and have experienced some quite credible results of late. The 2-1 loss away to Ipswich City recently is testament to the progress that this proud old club has made. Perhaps the sight of Chris Knight armed with a rubber glove on his right hand serves to inspire his Lanham Park charges!

Newmarket and Bethania, whilst still at the top end of the table, need to show a little more consistency if they are to challenge for the one spot that everyone wants. Both have recently dropped too many points in what is a tight division. Despite this, there are many who believe that one of these two teams will win the division.

North Pine result aside, Annerley have not had the best time of late and will need to hit a bit of form if they are to avoid problems at the wrong end of the table. They certainly achieved this with their 6-0 beating of Moggill and it will be interesting to see if they can maintain this form. The same should not apply to the spirited Samford and Slacks Creek sides who I would expect to gather more points in the coming weeks.

Moggill and Oxley are two teams who will need to change their fortunes if they are to avoid the dreaded drop come September. Results to date are not impressive and it will take a big effort to turn around their seasons.

Metro 1 has really stepped up a gear since last season. Old Lions' influence on Darra has been entirely positive with the Westsiders emulating their big brothers and sweeping all before them to give themselves favouritism for the sole promotion spot. Taringa have had a few good

pick-ups and see themselves undefeated so far and the round 11 top of the table clash looms as one not to miss. Such has been the improvement in this league that at the time of writing none of last year's finalists are currently in the top 4. Newly promoted Wynnum are showing they have what it takes currently holding up the top 4.

With all of the pre-season chopping and changing, it was going to be hard to pick an early season favourite in **Metro 2**. Pine Rivers are doing their best not to let new boys Brisbane Toro have it all their own way and look the goods to carry on their form throughout the season. With an impressive few weeks results Newmarket are quietly confident in upstaging the top two, look out for them with a mid-season surge.

Only two teams to look out for in **Metro 3**. Clairvaux and Easts seem to be a cut above the rest and the round 8 clash will certainly be a mouth-watering feast of football. Only four points separate the next seven spots and the next few rounds should start sorting out who will be fighting it out for the finals. Pineapple Rovers have an easier few weeks than most so look for

them to cement third.

Metro 4 is by far the closest of all the competitions, a toss of the coin could decide who gets the prize. Old Bridge and Regents Park have come across from the dark side and are seemingly holding their own. Southside Eagles look to be in for a long season being the only team in the Metro competition not to have a point thus far. Metro 4 hold the team with the best attack, Regents Park, and the team with the worst defence, Beenleigh, can't wait for the return leg in round 12!

Metro 5 has been dominated by North Star, with an impressive average of almost 5 goals per game whilst conceding less than a goal a game. 4 teams will be vying for the other three finals places, Annerley, Slacks Creek, Newmarket and Olympic, with the latter the dark horse for the comp.

Albany Creek are the dominant force in **Metro 6**, conceding just one goal for the season. Mixed results make it hard to pick the other finalists however the boys at Park Ridge are pretty confident in starting to secure some away results to challenge for the championship. ■



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Opinion

Kieran Cooper on problem parents, gradings and sign-ons

Parents in sport! We talk about it all the time. We witness it week in and week out at our clubs (some worse than others) but the problem remains. Why do they do it? How can we help them?

Having been in the administration business for a few years now, it never ceases to amaze me how parents can cause so much trouble for clubs without even knowing they are doing it. I can only talk from experience at my own club (Rochedale) but I am sure the trend is similar in most. Let me explain.

Come the end of January each year, most clubs have a junior sign on weekend. Letters have normally been posted to all parents and newspaper adverts are taken out. At my club we have a Saturday, Sunday and Monday evening for sign-on. Now let's say for arguments sake the parents have not seen the advert or for some reason they have not received a letter, surely they are aware that sign-on happens at approximately the same time every year?

If parents were aware of just how difficult it is to get volunteers to assist with sign-on days maybe they would make an effort

Ok, let's move on. We have had sign-on so now we move on to grading (11's and up). No matter how many times we try to explain to parents about divisions, we still end up with many leaving at the end of grading because their child is not in a division they should be in. Now let's remember that we have already had sign-on days so we have a fair idea of the number required for each age group and we know if we need more players for any of them. So let's say we have four teams of Under 12 players. Over a

period of three weeks we have finalised the four squads. We have stopped taking registrations because we know we have enough players. What happens? Players who have not made the division their parents wanted them to make up and leave the club. What does this do to the club? Well it leaves that club short, that's what it does.

Do parents sign their children up to a club or to a team? Most of the time the children are fine with the situation. They just want to play soccer. It's the parents who step in and consider the team we have allocated is of a lower standard then the one their child should be playing. So how do we fix this problem? Here's an alternative that I'm sure will upset a few people. Have a NO REFUND policy at your club. It is something we have never done before but we are certainly willing to look at. Imagine how many parents will be willing to leave if we all had the same policy. I am sure there are not too many organisations around who will give you a refund once you have joined. I am sure this would fix the problem, but if not it would certainly slow it down.

Another gripe I have brings us back to sign-on. How many parents just think they can show up at your club when it suits them and expect to sign on there and then be put straight into a team? I know here at Rochedale we probably have as many sign-ons after the official sign-on date as before it. What if we said, sorry, but these are our sign-on days and if you're not signed up you cannot play? Would this make people come and register when they are supposed to? I think so. I understand there are always exceptions to the above rule, i.e. players playing for the first time etc, but in general it



should be a policy. If parents were aware of just how difficult it is to get volunteers to assist with sign-on days maybe they would make an effort.

Let's move on. We have sign on done, teams graded and the leagues started. Now the real problems start...

...Parents on the sideline. Now I must say that at Rochedale we have been very lucky over the years with our parents. Maybe this is due to the fact that we will not tolerate bad behaviour. I am not saying it doesn't happen because it does. So what am I talking about?

Here are a few examples. Parents not getting their children to training or games on time. Children just not turning up for games without letting the coach know (parents fault). Parents on the sideline questioning coaches decisions. Parents questioning referees and linesmen's decisions. Parents coaching their child from the sideline when it could be contrary to the coaches instructions. Parents bagging their own players. Parents bagging the opposition players. Parents white-anting the coach, club, players etc. Parents taking it all too seriously. If you are a parent and you are reading this ask yourself if you are guilty of any of the above.

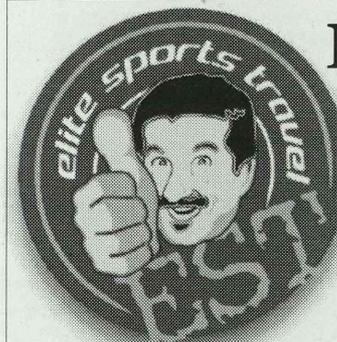
Parents should remember a few things. Firstly

your child is playing a team sport so if he/she fails to turn up you are letting the whole team down. Secondly our coaches and managers are volunteers and give up a fair bit of time to help your child. Thirdly, the match officials (referees/linesmen) are doing the best job they can. They might be young, they might not have a soccer background, they will make mistakes. But they are doing a job that not many people want to do. So give them a break.

And last but not least, ask yourself the following. Would you prefer your child sitting at home watching television, playing on the computer, playing PlayStation or getting into trouble on the streets?

Well the more you push from the sideline, the more you get verbally involved with everything around you, the more chance you have of your child getting fed up with it all and simply doing nothing.

There is an old saying going around which states that 'soccer would be a great game if we didn't have parents', well that's not true. We love the parents getting involved. But make sure it is in the right manner. If you want to really get involved in your club then go see one of your committee members, I am sure they can find a million ways where you can help. ■



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FAME at last

It's been a long time coming but Australian Soccer finally has a Hall of Fame

Prior to their home game against North Star last month, Easts' coach Col Bennett was presented with his awards for his induction into the Australian Soccer Hall of Fame.

The original thoughts for a National Hall of Fame and the Honours system began in 1980. Senior sports journalist Ted Simmons (left) was dissatisfied that the only honours system in existence was life membership granted to members who had served on National or State boards as recognition of their efforts to



exclusion of club officials, referees, coaches, players and others.

It took years of approaches to the national body before David Hill in 1996 agreed to take action and appointed ASF commissioner Don DiFabrizio in Melbourne to study the suggestion of an honours system. DiFabrizio eventually formed a committee of five to further examine the proposal with Simmons joining early in 1998 in the position of secretary/administrator after the resignation through illness of predecessor Don Sutherland. The committee completed the honours system concept and a National Soccer Hall of Fame and the criteria needed for nominations with the inaugural inductions held in 1999 at a gala luncheon in Sydney. Nominees were to include all areas of the sport - officials, players, coaches, referees, media and to be split into players and non-players for simplicity of selection.

There were to be 3 categories of awards:
Players: Hall of Champions, Medal of Excellence, Award of Distinction.
Non-Players: Hall of Honour, Roll of Honour

(Distinguished), Roll of Honour (Meritorious).

Under the criteria, any person, male or female, who has made an outstanding contribution to soccer in Australia shall be eligible to be nominated for the Australian Soccer Hall of Fame. Selection to the Hall of Champions/Hall of Honour shall be awarded for outstanding and eminent service or contribution in any area of football activity. This award will be the highest recognition which can be given for contribution to the growth and development of the game in Australia.

To be nominated players must have been retired from the game for a minimum of 3 years before they can be nominated, while all other candidates are eligible at any time. The committee has had a difficult task in making its decisions as it also had to take into consideration those pioneers back to the official 1880 start of soccer in Sydney, thus covering almost 125 years of the game in Australia.

In its discussions, the committee decided to aim for 3 objectives - an honours system to create a National Soccer Hall of Fame, creation of State Halls of Fame and creation of a National Soccer Museum. At this stage, it has established the national system while Western Australia and South Australia have set up a State Hall of Fame with similar action suggested to all other States.

Queenslanders so far elected to the Hall of Fame are: Colin Bennett, Barry Bainbridge, Ian Brusasco, Les Broadbent, Frank Farina, Alex Gibb, Pamela Gilbert, Dieter Klose, Bob Lawrie, Grahame McMillan, Joanne Millman, Des Miles, Gordon Nunn, Fred Robins, Cliff Sander, Connie Selby and Elaine Watson.

Nominations can be made through a State association, club or by family. Nominations close February 28 each year but can be submitted at any time. ■



Phil Moye

The BMS President talks it up

For several editions I have been harping on about the cost of soccer as felt by the 'end user', the player and the role that Soccer Australia, our state body and indeed the BMS has in reducing or at least containing that cost.

The single greatest component in the achievement of cost saving comes from planning. BMS has been asking clubs to submit their 3-5 year plans for some time now. Not just because we like to read deadly dull documents as a cheaper alternative to buying the paper for soccer news. It is because a club business plan or lack of it is a clear indicator of the vitality of the organisation it describes.

It is no coincidence that the clubs that are clearly focused have their objectives written down for all to see. Planning is all about operating effectively. For a club (business) to operate effectively it must have a clear idea of what it is trying to achieve (goals) and how it intends to do so (strategy). It doesn't matter if the club just wishes to maintain its position or if it has the

If members wish to have something they must be aware of the cost of attaining it

intention of shooting for the stars. The key is to plan to achieve the goal.

How many clubs have actually asked their members - what is it you want? The first step to planning is agreeing on the goals. I have no intention of lecturing you on what you should plan for but rather to ensure that you plan for the things you want. It is so much easier to achieve goals if everyone is aware of the plan. Most clubs are like small boats, if someone hasn't got their oar in the

water it's harder for all the rest. If they have their oar in the water and paddling in the opposite direction it can be a disaster. Agreeing on a plan is the first step. Communication is vital to fuel the process. Let everyone know just exactly what it is you wish to achieve and how you intend to do it. You will receive advice from all quarters. Some you will discard, some you will have to think about. Don't be frightened of advice. It is communication sorting out the wheat from the chaff.

Some of the best ideas come from left field. Communicate a goal and the strategy for achievement can come in the most unexpected ways. Even if it doesn't come that way, the goal will be there for all to see. People will sign up to help if they understand what it is they are working toward. Report progress as widely as possible. Some people will only join in when they see some actual progress. Welcome them, ensure they have their oar in the water and move on to your next project.

Planning is useful for identifying a range of management benefits. One that I focus on is cost. If members wish to have something, they must be aware of the cost of attaining it. Under funded, half completed and disastrous projects litter the landscape at many clubs. Most were the result of a failure to plan properly and communicate clearly.

The cost of providing soccer for our members can only be contained if we plan to manage our business effectively. Falling membership and escalating costs usually go hand in hand. No matter what level your club is at, no matter what level your club wishes to obtain, the key to success is to plan to succeed.

Brisbane Mens Soccer is committed to assist all clubs in the attainment of their goals. A strong viable association is only possible with strong, vital clubs. Need help to get started? Contact me directly for a confidential talk about your clubs needs, plans or strategy.

Phil Moye
Ph: 0419 678 349

what's going on at... MOUNT GRAVATT



It's been an eventful few years at Dittmer Park and this season is no exception. ET ventures into the Hawk's nest

The origins of the Mount Gravatt Soccer Club were formulated over 40 years ago in the booming post-war era southern suburbs, attracting players from around not only the Mt Gravatt district, but also other neighbouring and growing suburbs.

The establishment of a local soccer club provided a facility to the many young players on the southside, previously denied the opportunity due to rapid urban development and lack of public transport.

The adopted vision of Mt Gravatt Hawks Soccer Club is to be the 'Home of the Future Socceroos', a self-establishing statement forged primarily on the success of Mt Gravatt players attaining National selection in the past. The club is recognised as a quality stable that possesses a pedigree in the development of junior players who regularly attain Regional, State and National selection.

Players such as Nathan Coe, Jade North, Matt McKay, Jamie Johnson and Wayne Shroj are just a few to mention that the club can boast as having brought through the junior ranks to senior level. Alicia Ferguson, a current member of the Matildas, also came through the club as a junior.

In its infancy the club took up residence at the Mt Gravatt Showgrounds, but as the years passed and the popularity of soccer grew the club's player base rose so steadily that a move to more suitable surroundings was required. The decision was made to relocate to the more

extensive facility at Dittmer Park which has been the home ground ever since. In 1994, then President Bob Baldwin forged a deal which saw the Aussie Rules club and the soccer club combine to form the Mt. Gravatt Sporting and Workers' Club. The move was heralded at the time as a great opportunity for the club to grow to be one of the biggest sports and community clubs in Brisbane, but the club fell into liquidation in 2000 and the future of Mt. Gravatt was very much in jeopardy.

In 2000 Southern Cross assumed control of the workers club and under the terms of the lease, ensured that the soccer club and the AFL club continued. Substantial refurbishments were made to the licensed facility which was modernised and enjoyed a revival in trade.

Meanwhile, current President and Life Member Terry Bowness, along with Treasurer Mary Walsh, instigated the formation of a new entity, the Mt. Gravatt Hawks Soccer Club Inc. Had it not been for the commitment and leadership demonstrated by these stalwarts the club might not exist today. With all monies being controlled by the liquidated Workers' Club the new Mt. Gravatt Hawks had an initial bank balance of only \$300 to work with. Terry and Mary drew up a strict budget to ensure the immediate future and set about building relationships with suppliers and creditors who were disaffected by the demise of the Workers' Club.

Terry was also quick to establish interaction with Southern Cross, the new owners of the licenced and gaming club who maintain the grounds and are one of



Southern Cross

the sponsors of Mt. Gravatt Hawks Soccer Club. Terry and Mary remain the backbone of the club which has resulted in the formation of a dedicated Board of Directors whose aim is to ensure the values of the old soccer club are carried into the future.

On the field in 2004 the team has suffered from indifferent form so far. Much was expected of the side and Coach Graham Ross will be working overtime to get the players back on track to push for promotion to the Premier League once again. "The frustrating part is that we've performed quite well without getting the results," he said. "The ball just isn't going in the net and we've just got to stay positive and keep doing the things we're doing and work a little bit harder. Everyone is confident that we can turn it around but we're taking it game by game at the moment."

With players like Craig Hawkins, Robert Laslo, Steven Bland and John Weatherby, it's a mystery as to why the Hawks aren't flying, but Ross concedes that a few of this seasons new recruits failed to settle at the club and have been released. "We've let a few go who didn't gel with the team and the remaining players

just have to keep doing the hard work and try to get the results we need," he said.

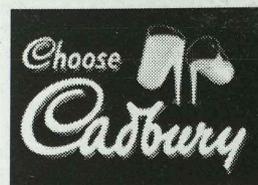


The Hawks have a few good youngsters who have recently broken into the side and should ensure a solid base for the next few years. Mattie Ward and Linden Oberle are two such players who were in the side that defeated Peninsula Power in the Premier Cup last month.

First Team fortunes aside, the growth of the club has continued and this year the Hawks field 30 junior boys teams, 5 junior girls, with 5 teams in both senior mens and ladies competitions. The Ladies Premier Team is again coached by Michael Matthews who has also secured the services of quality players to help defend their Premiership win of 2003.

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Mount Gravatt have a number of quality business partners and would like to extend their thanks to the **Mount Gravatt Hotel** for their sponsorship of the Man of the Match awards. ■



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A MINUTES SILENCE...

Tom Robinson was born on 13 January 1916 in Stalybridge, Cheshire. From an early age he was a talented sportsman. Swimming, cycling, cricket, snooker and of course football were his loves. In the mid 1930's he became a semi-professional with Rochdale before turning fully professional with Oldham Athletic in the then 2nd Division North.

He played mainly right-half or centre-half. In the start of the 1938 season he transferred to Wolverhampton Wanderers where he played regularly in the reserves. His career was just gaining momentum when the war broke out in 1939. During the war he became a Sergeant-Major in the Artillery and also was a Physical Instructor. During these years football matches were held between different Commands around the country to help boost morale and Tom was lucky enough to play alongside or against the likes of Joe Mercer, Stan Mortenson, Tommy Lawton and many others. He often recalled a match during this time where the opposition contained the England back line of the late 1930's. After the war, with a small child and another on the way, Tom decided not to pursue a football career as he was 30 years of age. He continued to play amateur football into his 40's. In 1966 Tom emigrated to Australia. His football love of the last ten years was the Brisbane Strikers for whom his son, Paul, was the mascot Thor. Tom passed away on 29 March 2004 at the age 88.

A BLAST from the past



As mentioned in the 'Comment' section earlier in this issue, we have been lucky enough to acquire a large number of 80's & 90's 'Go Soccer' and 'Eye on Soccer' magazines. So much time has been spent perusing them that this issue was in danger of not making its deadline at the printers. The editor is a sucker for nostalgia!

In the next few issues of ExtraTime we will take a look back at bygone eras via these publications and compare the issues of yesterday with those of today. Methinks you will not be surprised to find that many of the articles written back then would be just as pertinent if they were written last Tuesday.

Reading these old mags made me realise that although the administrators of times gone by complained about the state of the game back then (the lack of media coverage, clubs not marketing properly, poor crowds, etc sound familiar?), at least it had an identity. There were faces and personalities that you immediately associated with soccer. Do we have that now? What is the image or face that symbolises local soccer for you?

Some of the top players of the recent past have gone on to forge coaching careers, some have entered administration, others became referees and some quite simply disappeared off the face of planet football. Perhaps in the future, if we can track some of these people down, ExtraTime will run an article on just why some of these ex-players left the game altogether.

Anyway, on with the nostalgia... Included in this engaging insight into recent Queensland soccer history are a number of souvenir Grand Final editions. In this issue we take a look back at the contents of the 1989 Grand Final between Brisbane Lions and Eastern Suburbs.

Easts claimed the Championship with a 3-2 win in front of a crowd of around 5000 at Perry Park with an extra time winner from Wayne Corbett, who tapped home after Lions 'keeper Rob Farrow deflected a Tony Kane shot into his path. Tigers' midfielder Paul Peterson was the outstanding player on the day as Easts became one of the few clubs to take out the Grand Final from 5th place in the league. In fact, their qualification for the finals series was only secured by virtue of a superior goal difference to that of Rochedale and Taringa. Ironically, Easts were coached by John Sime who is now DOC at Lions.

THE '89 GRAND FINAL SQUADS

Brisbane Lions

Rob Farrow
David Hunter
Jeff Lombardo
Andrew Stowell
Arno Bertogna
Michael Tonner
Angus Smith
Brett Druery
John Lowey
Russell Stewart
Brendan Eastwell
John Ogden
Stewart McLeod
Chris Slater
Nick Meredith
Frank Mengotti
Kevin Tatton

Coach: Frank Liddell

Eastern Suburbs

Dave Mewburn
Paul Laycock
Steve Wilson
Mark Geritz
Steve Perry
Paul Peterson
Stein Grodum
Brad Ryan
Colin Phelan
Wayne Corbett
Bill McDermot
Tony Kane
Justin Playle
Bruce Rehbock
Leon Wilson
Richard Nicol
Phil Thompson
John Pappas
Coach: John Sime

The Division 2 (now Div 1) Grand Final between Acacia Ridge and Ipswich Utd and the Division 3 Grand Final between Goodna and St. Albans were also played on the same day and there was no shortage of talent in any of those sides. My fading memory forbids me from recalling the scores in these two games but I'm sure there are some notable pundits out there who can let us know.

How they Finished - the 1989 Final Table

XXXX League	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NORTH STAR	22	17	4	1	51	14	55
BRISBANE LIONS	22	14	5	3	46	21	47
BRISBANE CITY	22	13	4	5	51	28	43
PINE RIVERS	22	10	7	5	41	33	37
EASTS	22	9	6	7	43	25	33
ROCHEDALE	22	9	6	7	33	31	33
TARINGA	22	8	9	5	26	25	33
MT GRAVATT	22	6	12	4	31	23	30
COALSTARS	22	4	7	11	25	48	19
OLYMPIC UTD	22	4	2	16	24	42	14
GRANGE THISTLE	22	2	6	14	14	43	12
REDLANDS UTD	22	1	2	19	13	65	5

Cashed Up

Oh for the days of major sponsorship! In '89 the Grand Final winners shared a prize pool of \$13,000. The involvement of XXXX ensured that the winners of the Premier League Final received a whopping \$7500 and the runners-up bagged \$2500. If you allow for inflation that's pretty good dosh. What would the winner's pot be worth now? \$11,000 or \$12,000 perhaps? In an acknowledgement section to the QSF sponsors of the time there are a total of 16 businesses mentioned who supported soccer at State level that year. We won't give them a free plug here, but it makes you wonder why some of these organisations no longer provide financial support for the game. Perhaps someone should ask?

State Highlights

Queensland played NSW in the inaugural State of Origin game in '89 but went down 3-2 to a NSW side that contained 10 players with international experience. The Maroons squad was littered with luminaries.... Farrow, Haddow, Jackson, A. Hunter, Niven, Pimblett, Halford, Scriggins, Wright, Meredith, Vogler, Woodruffe, D. Hunter, Swan, Koch. Peter Vogler and Alan Hunter netted for Queensland and sweeper Steve Jackson picked

up the George Roberts Memorial Award as the best Queenslander in the interstate clash.

Golden Boots

The leading goal scorers that year were North Star's Jim McDonagh and Lee Scriggins, along with Kieran Cooper of Brisbane City who all bagged 16 goals. Coops had won the award for the previous 2 seasons and made a late surge in the last round of fixtures to equal the total of the 2 North Star marksmen. However, McDonagh was declared the winner by virtue of his 4 goal tally against Olympic. He won a trip to Sydney for his feats.

'89 Gold Medal Winner

Coalstars midfielder dynamo Andy Ogden, now coaching at Brisbane Force, took out the Gold Medal with a record 29 votes, which surpassed the 28 received by Ian Steele in 1978.

One for the Ladies

'89 was a boom year for women's soccer with 38 teams competing in the Brisbane league. Queensland had 4 players selected for the national team - Sharon Wass, Michelle Sawyers, Kerri Rowe and Joanne Millman. The year was also marked by the resignation of AWS President Elaine Watson after 15 years service to the organisation. Elaine is thankfully still involved in the game today.

He Can Play a Bit

The Under 13 to Under 15 Qld Junior Rep sides of '89 contained a number of players who went on to scale the giddy heights of professional football, some who flirted with the NSL and quite a few who vapourised altogether. Among the former were none other than new Australian captain Craig Moore, Steve Corica, Troy Cranney, Glenn Gwynne, Scott Guyett, Stuart McLaren, Jeromy Harris, Clint Bolton and Sean Cranney.

The Refs

In '89 the ASRF stated they had experienced a 'considerable rise' in memberships at the start of the season but many members had left mid-way through the year because they couldn't stand the abuse from players and officials. Some things change and some things stay the same! ■

A Word From the Wise Guy



Long-time soccer sage Eric Sinclair gets lyrical on the correlation between the NSL and dead horses.

GUESS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.

More changes than my wife's hair colour, well nearly.
More restructures than Michael Jackson's face, almost.
More models than the Ford Motor Company, that may be a slight exaggeration.
Give up?

Perhaps a parody on a once popular song might help.

*Here we go again,
We hear the trumpets blow again,
We're takin' a chance on.....
A national league of course.*

Another bold headline. This time in E.T. issue 4 April 2004.
'ASA Chief Announces New National League Structure'
Yet another announcement about another, almost annual, restructure.

Just a random glance through some old GO SOCCER magazines in my possession and I came up with the following:

GO SOCCER 20/4/83...Editorial;
"Once again the future of the National Soccer League is clouded. The NSL Management Committee met in Sydney over a week ago to supposedly decide on a format, yet, no announcement for the 1984 season was made."

GO SOCCER 21/3/84 Article Headline;
HOW THE NSL WORKS. *Explaining how the then new Conferences of the NSL worked (not very well apparently - Read on).*

GO SOCCER 1/4/86 Article Headline;
(Remember the NSL was not even 10 years old at that stage)
HOW IT ALL WORKS.
"In a competition known for its unpredictability (a gross understatement even 20 years ago) and a penchant for off beat ideas, the NSL has exceeded itself this week with the selection criteria for next years 14 team competition."

If I had the time and the will to pursue this dead end exercise I would no doubt have been able to find more articles relating to this subject. However, I thought that this random sample relating to two changes in three years would illustrate the point I'm trying to make.

We all know of many more revamps than those mentioned. Every administration had its own solution for the salvation of the NSL all of which dissolved into the pipe dreams they were. They must have been on some good stuff.

When will those who make the decisions, and, at what enormous cost, finally realize that they are flogging a dead horse. Our country is too vast and our pockets not deep enough to keep such a National League financially viable.

Sure, the Rugby Union Super 12 competition has so far been successful. This in no small part has been due to the infusion of at least \$40million by Vodafone. We will have the chance to see what happens now that particular sponsorship has dried up.

What massive sponsorship is in place to carry the NSL? From where do the massive amounts that have been bandied about as forming part of the entry criteria into the NSL come? How long will it last?

I know Frank Lowy and his cohorts are squillionaires, and they didn't get that way by backing dying horses. They are shrewd businessmen and will not inject their own funds into schemes that have a history of failure, and who would?
John O'Neill might have a few sleight of hand card tricks, but he is not Merlin the Magician, nor can he raise Lazarus from the dead.

In the words of the title of a Jane Fonda movie *"They shoot horses, don't they?"*

Time to load up the old blunderbuss fellas and put the old nag out of its misery. Should we aim at the jockeys? ■

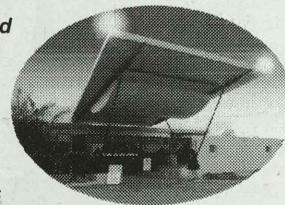


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Goalkeepers are brave men", says the commentator watching the Celta Vigo keeper struggle to his feet in obvious pain, nose pouring with claret and refusing to come off in his teams UEFA Cup tie. He played on til full time, keeping his losing team within one goal for the return leg and all the time with a broken nose. It tells you of the dedication, drive and just pure stubbornness that are the hallmarks of the goalkeeper. However, Pablo Cavallero is not on his own.

Bert Trautmann was born in Bremen in 1923. He was a decorated German soldier before being finally captured (for the third time) by the Allies. He saw the war out at St.Helen's in the North West of England and played the odd game of football. In a remarkable twist of fate, he was spotted by Manchester City. Having signed him in 1949, initial hostility from fans gave way to respect and admiration when in 1956 he helped his team raise the FA Cup that year, all the time with a broken neck. He became the PFA's player of the year and the stuff of legend.

They are definitely a different breed, born, not created. Think back to when the Captain picked you for a stand-in keeper for the juniors. It was scary stuff, the ball coming at you, not much faster than the screaming insults from your teammates as it sailed into the net. "Couldn't catch a cold," was a polite version for the adults looking on. On his return, the real keeper just smirks, secure in the knowledge he can step up to the mark. "It's a confidence thing," said one, "Not arrogance. You want your team to win and you just know you can keep better than the other guys. So, when danger threatens you say, get out of the way, it's mine". This innate confidence grows until there is something of a giant at the back looming large in the players' psyche, giving them confidence in their turn. It's true, you can just about see the defender's thoughts projecting with the soaring ball, "Catch it, mate catch it!" - the body language saying it all when it's touched over the bar.

From the under 9's these guys stand apart. Everyone's dreaming of being the next Pele whilst they're going to be Gordon Banks. Banks' dazzling 1970 World Cup save against Pele inspired many youngsters and you wonder did it inspire Pele himself as his son, Edinho, decided to become a goalkeeper. Peter Schmeichel was definitely one such kid. He rates this as the greatest save he's ever seen and he might know a bit. The 'Great Dane' is the player that made stature a byword for keeping and is arguably the finest keeper of his generation. He's famous for his one to one work, growing at least another foot in 6 yards. It's not just his 6 ft 4 frame it's his actor-like presence giving the appearance of all keeper and no goal. He's not shy about taking his chances at the other end either where his teammates suddenly find his hulking form amongst them waiting for a chance. Scoring a total of 13 goals in his career, it's a keeper's greatest revenge. There is no doubt either that he has taken inspiration from the great Northern Ireland keeper, Pat Jennings, re-inventing parts of the body to be used as shot stoppers and from Jennings' great goal in the 1967 Charity Shield Cup where his goal clearance flew past opposite number Alex Stepney after being caught by a gust of wind.

Well, perhaps that was the luck of the Irish, but keepers do need it. They are cast as villains as much as heroes, as seen in Middlesborough's historic League Cup win of late. After being 2-0 up, the Australian keeper, Mark Schwarzer, gave Bolton a lifeline fluffing a simple catch. Groans could be heard from Cardiff to Brisbane. Then he

Sharon Jackson delves into the cryptic craniums of custodians

TOUGH LIVES

reasserted his hero status as he pulled off 2 spectacular saves, dispiriting the opposition and driving his team to their first major Cup victory in 128 years.

Strikers miss and that's it, they miss. Keepers' miss and it has far reaching consequences. Think of England's David Seaman at the 2002 World Cup against Argentina. Hailed as a steadfast hero in that match, he was vilified in the next against Brazil when Ronaldinho's lob put Brazil into the semi-final and England on the plane home. The level of likely blame could be seen by the way his team mates formed a supportive phalanx around him as they emerged from the plane. Having notched up 1000 appearances, Seaman's ability is impressive if only for sheer longevity. Maybe though, autographing himself as 'Safe Hands' is tempting fate. Whilst trying to catch a fish, he missed the start of the 1996 season with a shoulder injury, must've been a goal-fish or perhaps even a lob-ster. (sorry)

It's a wonder keepers ever get to be keepers though with their impressive record of domestic stuff ups. Spain's Santiago Canizares, didn't make it to the 2002 World Cup after dropping a bottle of aftershave on his foot. Nottingham Forest's Dave Beasant dropped a salad cream bottle on his foot while making a sandwich and Liverpool reserve Keeper Michael Stensgaard's career ended in ignominy as he dislocated his shoulder while putting an ironing board up.

They also have a warped sense of humour. Leigh Richmond Roose is a football legend. Sadly killed on the Somme in 1916, he left a legacy of humour, sportsmanship and originality. A doctor of bacteriology playing around the start of the 20th century, he once paid for a private train to get him to an away game on time. Often he would be seen casually leaning against the post chatting to the opposition fans behind the goal. He once turned up with his hands heavily bandaged insisting he was fit to play. He was, giving an impressive display and his team mates heart failure. His lateral interpretation of the rules led to an enduring change that stands today. Until Roose came along, keepers had been allowed to handle the ball outside the eighteen-yard box. The North Welshman interpreted these

rules so that he would often carry the ball to the other end of the field. He was one of the first goalkeeping greats to emerge with a very sporting approach. On his debut for Celtic in 1910, he ran up the pitch to shake hands with the scorer of the opposition's third goal. History doesn't record what his team mates thought of this gentlemanly gesture but I'm sure it wouldn't be printable.

He also had his superstitions that many a keeper identifies with but will not admit to. He insisted that he could only keep goal in one particular top made by one particular person and if he washed his undershirt, it would bring him bad luck. His career spanned 17 years for several clubs and numerous caps for Wales - phew!!

Today Arsenal keepers never wear a new shirt unless it has been washed. In the 2002 Under 18 Women's' Championships, the keeper had inspirational words under her wristband. Former

Millwall and Northern Ireland goalkeeper Ted Hinton used to keep his false teeth at the back of his net and if you watch any goalkeeper walking up to his goal, he will tap the posts and the bar in the belief that this helps repel the ball.

There is a mystique about keepers which would explain why Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the

creator of Sherlock Holmes, was a keeper. Some of them are even heaven sent - Pope John Paul II was a young keeper in pre-war Poland. God knows they need all the help they can get as they also hold some dubious honours. Sheffield Wednesday keeper Kevin Pressman holds the record for the fastest ever red card in English football. He was sent off after just 13 seconds. At the other end of the scale, spare a thought for Nicky Salapu of American Samoa. He entered the record books in April, 2001 after conceding 31 goals in a World Cup Qualifying game against Australia. And then, it had to come, in 1911 the Dunfermline Athletic goalkeeper by the name of Slavin was stretchered off, drunk.

Well, as the commentator says, they are brave but they are also unique and complex characters who form a special place in our football hearts. Get well soon Pablo! ■



Brisbane Men's Soccer

BMS General Manager Bruce Dinsdale explains the revamped Metro Cup

What is the Metro Cup?

Quite often all the stories and publicity surrounds the Premier Competitions and the Premier Cup, but this year BMS have revived the popular cup competition for Metropolitan division teams and called it the Metro Cup. This competition has been played in a number of different formats and under different names over previous years, so I thought it might be opportune to bring everyone up to date with the who, when, why and how of this year's Metro Cup.

Why?

Like the Premier Cup, the main purpose of this cup competition is to create a monthly event with a random draw and knockout style competition with the opportunity to play teams outside of the regular division.

How?

Weekend games will be played rather than mid-week night matches after the preliminary round to allow the focus to be on the specific matches and create local and media interest. All weekend matches will be played as double headers with the 'home team' being allocated the main kick off time. This is in order to give all supporters the opportunity of seeing four teams play at one venue, create some atmosphere and crowds at the venue, and to make the promotion efforts more cost effective.

Prize Money?

Winners	\$1,000.00
Runners-Up	\$500.00
Semi Finalists	\$150.00

Who?

Thirty two teams nominated and were put in the first round draw.

When?

Round 1 Wednesday 31st March onwards

The Gap M2	2 v 5	Clairvaux M1
Clairvaux M3	2 v 3	Uni of Qld M4
Park Ridge M1	3 v 1	East's M3
Pine Hills M2	1 v 8	Wilston M1
Pine Rivers M2	6 v 2	Pine Hills M3
Newmarket M4	0 v 3	Darra Lions M1
Newmarket M3	2 v 5	Regents Park M4
North Star M5	4 v 2	Redlands M5
Bris. Toro M2	1 v 0	Ridge Hills M2
Annerley M5	2 v 1	Mooroonda M2
Taringa M1	1 v 0	Logan City Kings M2
Taringa M4	0 v 1	Acacia Ridge M3
Grange M3	1 v 3	Pineapple Rovers M1
Bris. City M4	2 v 3	Brisbane Force M4
Bayside M1	3 v 2	Old Bridge M4
Souths M1	7 v 0	North Pine M3

Round 2

Saturday 1st May / Sunday 2nd May

16 teams

Clairvaux M1	v	Pineapple Rovers M1
Uni of Qld M4	v	Bris Toro M2

Regents Park M4	v	Brisbane City M4
Park Ridge M1	v	Souths M1

Pine Rivers M2	v	Taringa Rovers M1
North Star M5	v	Bayside M1

Darra Lions M1	v	Wilston M1
Annerley M5	v	Acacia Ridge M3

Round 3

Saturday 5th June / Sunday 6th June

8 teams

Semi Finals

Saturday 3rd July / Sunday 4th July

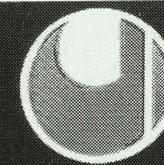
Final

Saturday 31st July / Sunday 1st August

So there it is...the Metro Cup for 2004. Hopefully all those who play and watch will enjoy the competition. ■

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THE FULL MONTY

Half-full or half-empty? Monty runneth over the Cup

For a number of years I have been disappointed in the presentation of our Cup competition whether it be the old Queensland Cup, South East Queensland Cup or the new Premier Cup.

In retrospect I think the Queensland Cup, which had the backing of the *Bank of Queensland*, most definitely had the highest level of credibility and I can recall at least one of these games being played as a curtain raiser to the Strikers game at Suncorp Stadium.

There are a number of points to reflect on with the latter. First of all we had a strong sponsor with associated prize money, secondly we had another extremely tangible reward for players and spectators, i.e. playing at a major stadium prior to an NSL fixture.

Subsequently, interest in the cup competitions has fallen poorly and the loss of a major sponsor has definitely been integral to this downfall. Whether it is the QSF or BMS there is some blame associated with the governing organisations.

This 'drop off' has also resulted in the clubs treating the competition with varying degrees of contempt with some pulling out of 'unfavourable' draws and coaches fielding second string sides.

To be fair to BMS they have tried to regenerate some interest with the introduction of the Premier Cup but I believe that this year they made one major blunder in including all 36 sides in the preliminary draw.

This resulted in Lions (holders previous two years) being drawn against the high-flying Mitchelton - quite clearly this should never have occurred as a qualifying fixture. In my mind, the situation was worsened when Mitchelton decided to rest a number of first team players and paraded a much weaker side. Having said that, they gave Lions an extremely close call only going down by the odd goal in three.

Mitchelton had a very good chance of defeating Lions and really adding much needed spice to the Cup.

The need to start with 32 teams to get to 2 teams is obvious, so with 36 sides (PL, 1st and 2nd Divisions) we need four qualifying games - simple.

The four qualifying games should be drawn from Division 2 with the losing sides not required to pay any entry fees. Hopefully this will be changed in 2005. From here on in I believe there should be no seeding and all

at least BMS is trying hard to get the mix right and for this they should be commended

teams drawn straight out of the hat. The weekend games will certainly add focus to the competition and the double headers idea is certainly worthy of inclusion to see how well it works. So as I said, at least BMS is trying hard to get the mix right and for this they should be commended.

Now it is up to the clubs to make sure they treat it as a true competition and play to win from the first game and not wait until the semi-finals. I know the attitude of some players in the early rounds is also lacking as the majority of clubs, if not all, do not pay for Cup appearances as the players usually end up sharing the spoils of the prize money. Once again this year the cash comes from the clubs competing, i.e. their entry fees are split for the prize money. Oh for a sponsor and Oh for an upset!!!!

Make sure you, the supporter, is out there on the Cup Days. ■

Excuse me sir, are you over 35?

Some have been there and done it, some have been there and didn't quite manage it, and some have never been there at all.

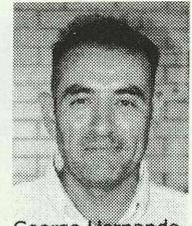
But no matter what category Over 35's players fall into there is one thing they share - a common love for the game and a passion that keeps them playing long after many of their younger counterparts have hung up their boots.

Over at the Spanish Centre in Acacia Ridge there's a group of players whose affinity with the game spans the four corners of the globe. They are known as Independiente (pictured on back cover), the namesake of which is a leading Argentinean club. Far from being an exclusively Spanish side, Independiente's players herald from France, Argentina, Mexico, El Salvador, Australia, Chile, Cuba and Indonesia. Formed in 2000, the team plays in the Brisbane Masters Soccer League, an 8 team league which is largely comprised of 'ethnic' based sides representing the likes of Serbia, Vietnam, England and Peru etc.

At the helm of Independiente is George Hernando, once a player with another leading

Argentinean club, River Plate. He made 21 appearances for the club between 1979 & 1981 before heading to these shores and turning out for the likes of Marconi, Apia and Sydney Utd. Hernando sees no problems with the ethnic-based league. "It is a good opportunity to mix with people from different backgrounds and forge new friendships. All the teams try to help each other and fair play is evident in all games", he said.

Perhaps the most popular Over 35's League is run by Queensland Lions. A staggering 36 teams in 4 divisions compete in the competition which is now in its tenth year of operation. Teams vary from established BMS clubs such as Capalaba, Redlands, Samford, Oxley, The Gap and Taringa Rovers, to separate entities formed purely to play in the league. Most games are played on Friday nights and Sunday afternoons and the season runs from the end of March until August. Any clubs interested in joining the competition in 2005 should ring Cathy at Queensland Lions on 3271 3609.



George Hernando

ASA APPOINTS SAATCHI & SAATCHI

The Australian Soccer Association (ASA) has appointed Saatchi & Saatchi to promote the upcoming international matches between the Socceroos and Turkey. Played over two legs at Aussie Stadium in Sydney on Friday May 21 and the Telstra Dome in Melbourne on Monday May 24, the games represent the first opportunity for Australians to see the Socceroos live on home soil in more than two and a half years.

Turkey are currently ranked 9th in the world having finished third in the last World Cup and are sure to provide the Socceroos with a tough work-out ahead of the OFC FIFA World Cup Qualifiers (stage 2) in late May and early June. Coach Frank Farina believes we couldn't have better opposition to test the Socceroos. "They will be two really great games and important preparation for the start of our qualification process for the 2006 World Cup in Germany. Our players are really looking forward to the games, as not only are they playing against one of the top teams in the world, but we are playing at home for the first time in several years. I hope that when the players take to the field against

Turkey in Sydney and Melbourne, that we have full houses to urge the team to some good performances," he said.

The appointment of Saatchi & Saatchi to promote the Turkey games is another step forward in the ASA's commitment to improving the overall image of the game in Australia and ensuring the Socceroos' internationals gain maximum exposure.

Saatchi & Saatchi's Mark Green said, "We are delighted to be working with the new administration at the ASA on this project. This is an era of change and re-invigoration for Australian soccer and we are proud to play a part."

John O'Neill, CEO of ASA added, "The appointment of Saatchi & Saatchi for the two games reflects our intention to further professionalise the promotion of Socceroo internationals and will no doubt assist us in drawing great crowds for what promises to be very exciting fixtures, and provide additional value for our key sponsors such as Avaya, Nike and the Australian Sports Commission."

straight RED

Referee Dave Ogston reaches for the top pocket



Constant violation of the laws by means that are in themselves not major enough to be cautioned for, is not only annoying to the spectators who want to enjoy a fair game, but can also cause the same spectators to become irate at the referee for continual foul-picking for small, innocuous acts. This also forces the referees to stop the actions of an offender before it leads to other more harmful events later in the game. This is why referees have to continually, after several steps, end the farce and mutter the dreaded words, "You're being cautioned for Persistent Infringement of the Laws".

Many players regard this statement as a cop out, and one that is an easy answer to the typical but shallow statement all too often heard from the mouths of wanna-be tough men. "You just don't like me!" Sorry, but it's not so. It's a legitimate answer to a person that has, and is continuing to, cast a shadow over a sport that yes, does have a certain amount of body contact, but is far more attractive when there are flowing moves by the attacking side or when a defender is able to win ball and all in a cracking tackle. That's football!

Law 12, Page 26 of the FIFA Law Book, Fouls and Misconduct.

A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following seven offences:

3....persistently infringes the Laws of the Game.

A functional referee is one that is able to see the aggressor incessantly causing the fouls and after a period, whether it be 3 in 3 minutes or 2 in 60 minutes, keep them in the memory, warn and use their people management skills. Then, if all of this fails, show the player you are no longer able to allow the opposition to be disadvantaged and caution the individual.

No matter if the cause of the public warning is for constant small pushes or the continual verbalising that more and more people believe is acceptable, proactive steps have to, and will be taken. If you don't do this you let down the opposition and the referee of next weeks game that will just be told, "I did it last week and didn't get booked".

As a referee, I believe you should identify the point at which you are no longer willing to accept the acts of the antagonist and the next time you have to deal with him or her, the actions will be out of your hands. This not only tells the player that enough is enough, but most thinking teammates and player-coaches will take it as a positive step and stop the player from making a mistake that not only will they regret, but so may the team (Unfortunately some don't learn and then they are the fools).

As referees we are inspected on a regular basis and as such action for this caution goes like this.

Player # 13 - Small foul.
Referee - Whistle and free kick given.
Inspector - Noted on running sheet.

Player # 13 - Small foul.
Referee - Whistle and free kick given.
Inspector - Noted on running sheet.
Referee - Smart move if he/she warns player on the move while game is on.

Player # 13 - Small foul.
Referee - Whistle, public warning and free kick given.
Inspector - Noted on running sheet, if no action taken marks removed.

Player # 13 - Small foul.
Referee - Whistle, caution for persistent infringement of the laws and free kick given.
Inspector - Noted on running sheet, if no action taken marks removed.

Player # 13 - Small foul.
Referee - Whistle, caution for persistent infringement of the laws (you cannot warn a second time), and player sent from the field of play and free kick given.
Inspector - Noted on running sheet, if no action taken marks removed.

As I said before, if you warn the player against such a ploy or tactic and he doesn't listen, generally it is disappointing not only for the team involved but also the referee that they couldn't get their point across and had to resort to a caution. If it does have to go to the next step

then generally the referee won't be disappointed and just relieved to rid their game of irritation.

If the referee does give a warning to a player, take it as a warning, it's not a caution. Accept it and listen, it's not an invitation for other players or captains to get involved unless otherwise asked. Sometimes in heated situations we realise it's hard, because trust me the easy thing to do would just be to caution the offender. As I say, accept it and think of a different way to affect your opponent other than unlawfully because the next move may be regretful for both parties. ■

Button it!

Referee Ted Kearney laments dissent

Imagine if you would, a Soccer game without dissent. You can? Where are you from, Mars?

Respect in the modern game for officials has degenerated to an almost automated response to refereeing decisions. Players think they have the absolute right to do it and referees in general the world over have not dealt with the problem as they have in most other codes. We have always made excuses for players reacting the way they do and hence this practice has reached almost epidemic proportions.

But do players understand or care what they have done through this process? In reality they have only succeeded in clouding issues with referees and in reality they gain absolutely nothing for their team or themselves except the odd caution. Players who dive around screaming for free kicks at the slightest contact or complain vehemently about every decision only manage to put referees in two minds and when in doubt a referee will choose to play on. Continually distracting officials with biased diatribe cannot possibly help the cause and I often wonder what their real objective is in what they do. Is it to big note themselves or is it to cover up for obvious playing deficiencies?

And when does this virus usually rear its ugly head in a game? I will tell you. It occurs well into most games when clearly the players and coaches are losing the plot, and in many cases the game, and they are looking for a scapegoat rather than admit or accept their own inadequacies or failures. Amazingly a referee can make a close call in the first minute and it

will generally go by without too much drama. Make the same decision in the 88th minute and all hell breaks loose. The referee is absolute rubbish, a *#@!^# imbecile. He is a disgrace. His parents weren't born they migrated from under a rock. He cost us the game. It has nothing to do with the umpteen mistakes perpetrated by the players during the 88 previous minutes. It has nothing to do either with any coaching faux pas. No, definitely not, it is this 'disgraceful' decision you have just witnessed (of course usually together with numerous other previous alleged poor decisions as well) that everyone (50%) swear (and swear being the operative word) is the reason.

Come on people get real. Have you ever been at a game where your team isn't playing? You are just there to watch because you happened to be close by or your team is playing one of these sides next week, or for some other reason. Tell me when that referee has ever really been a major concern to you. If you are honest you will answer hardly ever. Why? Because, there is no bias on your part, you are there to watch the game. You probably even agree with him now and then or at least have some idea why he has pulled something up or let something else go. When you actually watch the game without prejudice, you can usually see these things.

Now don't get me wrong. Referees would never want passion to be taken away from the game, but let's have some honesty every now and then. It might be a refreshing change and you might even actually enjoy the game. It is the best game in the world and it's worth watching occasionally, rather than just the referee. ■

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See article on
page 25.

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