

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2022



FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA



Football Australia recognises, respects and celebrates the cultural distinctions of First Nations people and values their rich and positive contribution to not only football but also to the broader Australian and global society.

In the spirit of reconciliation, Football Australia acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of Australia and that sovereignty was never ceded. We extend this respect and honour to acknowledge all elders past, present and future generations as we continue to grow with their guidance and wisdom.

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# CHAIR'S REPORT

Chris Nikou

**I concluded the 2021 Annual Review by stating that we had set a strong platform for continued progress and transformation in the year ahead, hoping to adapt to a COVID-normal life with less disruption to the football community at large.**

While in 2021 we climbed our way back to more than 1.4 million participants, we are confident that in 2022 (as we finalise our 2022 National Participation Report) we can restore the two million participants we reported in pre-COVID 2019, and will continue to strive to achieve this.

The way in which the Australian football community has conducted itself this year, supported by our Member Federations, has been exemplary. Our 2022 participation figures are a credit to the efforts of our Member Federations, A-League Clubs, Associations, Zones, Community Clubs and our large volunteer base.

**“WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT IN 2022 WE CAN RESTORE THE TWO MILLION PARTICIPANTS.”**

Over the last three years, we have undergone a period of great change. With 2022 being another year of strong progress, we continue to take transformative steps towards the future, driven by our 15-year vision and by our clear strategic agenda.

We have almost completed the important and difficult structural changes necessary for the continued evolution and growth of our great game.





In November 2021, Football Australia announced the formation of its inaugural National Indigenous Advisory Group (NIAG), which brings a breadth and depth of knowledge and insight into the current and emerging goals of the First Nations community across Australia.

A key advisory body for Football Australia, chaired by former Socceroo Jade North, NIAG comprises eight First Nations community members from diverse cultures and experiences, who are driving change in a variety of areas: professional and grassroots football, media, academia and government.

Throughout the past 12 months, the NIAG has been instrumental in advising Football Australia on the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and our first Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).



In December 2021, Football Australia authorised the completion of a transaction that saw 33.33% of the economic and voting interests in the Australian Professional Leagues (APL) be issued to global private equity firm Silver Lake.

The transaction provided the significant capital that underpins the future growth and development of Australia's premier professional men's and women's football competitions, the A-Leagues, and also provides Football Australia with the opportunity to deliver an exciting growth agenda for the whole of Australian football, as part of an ambitious 15-year vision.

Silver Lake's appointed Director to the Board of the APL is Stephen Evans, and Football Australia appointed global

football identity Ebru Koksal as its representative. Ebru Koksal is an outstanding and experienced globally recognised football executive.

During the year, we farewellled Stefan Kamasz from the Football Australia Board and welcomed Spiro Pappas, who filled the casual vacancy created by Stefan's departure.

Spiro brings a unique skill set to the Board, with extensive experience in the financial services industry globally, as well as a deep understanding of technology trends, where he will add valuable input as Football Australia continues its digital transformation journey.

## **“NIAG BRINGS A BREADTH AND DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE AND INSIGHT”**

I would like to thank my fellow Directors, who continue to steer the game so diligently and expertly, and our CEO, James Johnson, and his team, in what has been a progressive year on so many fronts.

Given the great progress made under James's leadership, it was vitally important to the Board that we extend his contract so we can continue the strong trajectory our game has taken since his tenure began in 2020. We are pleased to announce that James's contract has been extended until the end of 2024.



Over the last year, I have been impressed with the increased level of collaboration among the game's stakeholders. Their strong appetite for working together will ensure that the game will continue to evolve and grow in ways not seen before. For this, I would like to thank all members of our Congress as we continue to drive the game forward.

On Australia Day, CommBank Matildas captain Samantha Kerr was recognised in the honours list by the Council for the Order of Australia. In the days leading up to this honour, Sam became Australia's all-time leading goalscorer, a feat that we congratulate and celebrate. Sam has had an incredible 12 months that also saw the 28-year-old named a finalist for world football's top prizes: FIFA's The Best, and the Ballon d'Or.

I would also like to acknowledge and congratulate Julius Re for receiving a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for 'services to football', and Karen Waud, for receiving an OAM for 'services to sport as an administrator and player'.

An inductee of both the Football Australia and the West Australian Football halls of fame, Julius Re was instrumental in the formation of the WA Soccer Federation and the Australian Soccer Federation in the 1960s.

Karen Waud is a leading administrator of our game and has been involved with West Ryde Rovers FC for over 50 years, as well as serving as chairperson for North West Sydney Football.

During the same week, Football Australia announced that four legends of Australian football were inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame – Class of 2021 at the Socceroos' FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ qualifier against Vietnam in Melbourne.

CommBank Matildas greets Kate Gill; fellow Board Member Heather Garriock; Socceroos legend Mark Schwarzer; and Joseph (Joe) Huxley Honeysett, a name synonymous with the establishment of football in Tasmania; were inducted into the esteemed list of Australian football contributors.

## **“WE AIM TO LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY FOR THE SPORT BEYOND THE GLOBAL TOURNAMENT IN A YEAR'S TIME.”**

On 12 November 2022, at the CommBank Matildas versus Sweden match at AAMI Park, Football Australia inducted another six legends of Australian football into the Hall of Fame – Class of 2022: former CommBank Matildas Moya Dodd and Collette Gardiner (née McCallum); Tasmanian writer and photographer Walter Pless; former Socceroos Head Coach and current Celtic Manager, Ange Postecoglou; architect of the global and Australian player association movements, Brendan Schwab; and 1956 Olympian Edward 'Ted' Smith.

Once again, Football Australia is pleased to advise that 28 Australian match officials have been appointed to FIFA's Panel of International Referees for 2022. This year's list, which enables Australia's finest referees, assistant referees, futsal referees, and video match officials, to officiate FIFA sanctioned tournaments and fixtures, features four new Australian match officials.

During the year, we celebrated key milestones as we head towards the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, including '500 days to go' and 'One year to go'. As of November 2022, it is only eight months away and before we know it, it will be time for the kick-off on 20 July 2023. With tickets now on sale and the draw having been released in recent weeks, with Australia in Group B (pitted against the Republic of Ireland, Nigeria and Canada), we now look forward to it all kicking off.

We are pleased with the progress we have made with our *Legacy '23* plan during the year, as the organisation continues to push its bold project to leave an enduring legacy for the sport beyond the global tournament in a year's time.

I think it is important to highlight that our relationship with government at all levels has strengthened in the last 24 months and we continue to have strong dialogue with the federal and state governments about our challenges and opportunities as a sport. I believe it is vital to continue to show unity as a sport, so we can continue to strengthen these relationships.



As a Board, we are delighted with the commercial turnaround of the organisation. On the back of last year's CommBank sponsorship announcement for the CommBank Matildas, we recently welcomed Subway as a sponsor for the Subway Socceroos, and new car and lifestyle brand CUPRA. We welcome both to the football family and look forward to long and mutually prosperous and beneficial relationships.

Football in Australia has a rich, diverse and proud history that transcends home shores, seeing Australia's football teams compete on the global stage and creating a sense of national pride unrivalled by other sports or codes.

On 17 June 2022, Football Australia celebrated the Centenary of the Australian men's National Team, known today as the Subway Socceroos. This date marked the anniversary of the Subway Socceroos' first-ever match on 17 June 1922, when a team coached by Alf Morgan and captained by Alex Gibb took on New Zealand in Dunedin.

Throughout 2022, Football Australia acknowledged this significant milestone in Australian sport with a program of activities, events and initiatives, including hosting a celebratory match featuring the Socceroos and New Zealand's All Whites at Suncorp Stadium in September. At this match we hosted over 400 people as we celebrated the occasion, which also included almost 50 former Socceroos at the pre-match function.

As Chair, I was delighted to be in the stands in June when the Subway Socceroos, with a world ranking of No. 42, secured qualification for a sixth FIFA World Cup™ (fifth consecutive),

with a historic 5–4 victory over world-ranked No. 22, Peru, in a dramatic penalty shootout at the Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium in Doha, Qatar.

Everyone involved in Australian football can be overjoyed with the achievement of our team to qualify for a fifth consecutive FIFA World Cup™. It was a long journey for this group – a total of 48 players contributed on the field since the cycle kicked off in Kuwait City in September 2019.

COVID-19 threw many challenges at our team and organisation throughout this pandemic, but as Chair of Football Australia, I could not be prouder of the way our people – from players to coaches, support staff, administrators and executives – all rose to the challenge to help Australia arrive at this landmark day.

As I write this update, we are preparing for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ and wish Graham Arnold and the team all the very best in Group D, which includes, France, Tunisia and Denmark.

Our CommBank Matildas had a busy year, using most FIFA International Windows during the year to continue their preparations for the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™. Unfortunately, they suffered a heartbreaking end to their Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Women's Asian Cup campaign, after South Korea stunned the green and gold with a late 1–0 victory in the quarter-finals. The focus now turns to eight months' time, with the CommBank Matildas preparing to host their first FIFA Women's World Cup™, with a busy schedule of matches in the lead-up to the major tournament.

It was pleasing to see all our Youth and Junior National Teams back in action in 2022. Our CommBank Young Matildas, coached by Leah Blayney, participated in the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup™ for the first time since 2006 and it was their first international match since 2020.

Similarly, the CommBank Junior Matildas, coached by Rae Dower, returned to the international stage for the first time since 2020, winning the AFF U-18 Women's Championships in Indonesia.

**“FOOTBALL IN AUSTRALIA HAS A RICH, DIVERSE AND PROUD HISTORY THAT TRANSCENDS HOME SHORES.”**

In May, we announced that Tony Vidmar will lead the Olyroos in its bid to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. With the Olyroos' quest to qualify for the AFC U23 Asian Cup™ falling short, Tony Vidmar's team now turns its attention to the next AFC U23 Asian Cup™, which takes place in the lead-up to Paris 2024.

The Subway Young Socceroos program returned in late 2022 ahead of the AFC U20 Asian Cup Uzbekistan 2023™ Qualifiers, and our Subway Joeys qualified for the FIFA U-17s World Cup™ by topping their group, in Shepparton, VIC in October.



The Australia Cup 2022 reached another level of competitiveness, culminating in the first-ever non-A-League team reaching the Australia Cup Final. Sydney United 58 FC reached the Australia Cup 2022 Final, falling short only to A-League team Macarthur FC, with a near-record crowd of over 16,000 fans attending the match at CommBank Stadium in Parramatta, New South Wales.

In 2021, our sport was deeply concerned to learn of the public allegations made by former player Lisa De Vanna about her time with the National Team between 2001 and 2019. Football Australia acted quickly and engaged Sport Integrity Australia, with a view to establishing an independent mechanism to supplement the governing body's complaints-handling process under its Member Protection Framework. This process was initiated in October 2021.

## **“A NEAR-RECORD CROWD OF OVER 16,000 FANS ATTENDED THE AUSTRALIA CUP 2022 FINAL.”**

In May this year, Sport Integrity Australia provided an update on Football Australia's independent complaints-handling process. Football Australia understands that Sport Integrity Australia received 27 submissions, 25 of which were deemed 'out of scope'. The independent complaints-handling process and subsequent investigations are ongoing.

During the year, I continued to serve on the Executive Committee of the Asian Football Confederation, representing Football Australia and our continued quest for sports diplomacy with our Asian partners. Thanks to the many members of our football family who interact with FIFA and AFC, we have enhanced Australia's standing internationally.

It is an incredibly proud moment that sees us having two FIFA World Cups to look forward to in a space of eight months, and I strongly believe there has never been a more exciting time for our game.

We continue to work closely with our Member Federations on agreed priorities and initiatives, which have the effect of further growing our game. I am pleased with the level of cooperation to date, which needs to continue throughout 2023, so we can fully exploit the opportunities before us.

In closing, I look forward to the excitement that 2023 brings, with continued stakeholder alignment and buy-in remaining a strong focus as we acknowledge our common interests and act with a unity of purpose to pursue our common goals. It will take courage and boldness to make the right decisions for the broader good of the game.



**Chris Nikou**

CHAIR



# CEO'S REPORT

James Johnson

**Football Australia is a rapidly evolving organisation and in 2022, much of the change the organisation has spoken about since we launched the XI Principles for the Future of Australian Football, has been brought to life.**

Since the Congress was expanded in 2019, this new administration at Football Australia has worked extremely hard to build a fit-for-purpose organisation, able to deliver more effectively on Australian football's strategic objectives. In 2020, this change began with the rebranding of the organisation to 'Football Australia' and before that year closed out, we would announce the unbundling of the professional leagues from Football Australia.

It is worth recalling the unbundling once again and the circumstances surrounding it because its implementation has caused the most significant structural change to Australian football. Even before the unbundling was completed, we were very aware that the organisation had a choice to either be forced to change, or to lead the journey of transformation for Australian football. We chose the latter and our decisions to date reflect our commitment to this principle.

**“WE CHOSE TO LEAD THE JOURNEY OF TRANSFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL.”**

When the unbundling took place in December 2020, there was much uncertainty about the future of the organisation and Australian football more broadly. It is fair to say that this uncertainty and apprehension about the future was justified because we were entering the





unknown. For so long, Australian football had operated under a particular model, but the game found itself at a crossroads because our stakeholders – participants, fans, clubs and governing bodies alike – had grown frustrated by the limits of what they believed to be an out-of-date and out-of-touch model for Australian football.

At the AGM in 2020, I was asked how we planned to generate revenue following the unbundling, without the professional leagues asset to drive commercial outcomes. A valid question at the time because apart from the governance and administrative change, which would be required to implement the unbundling, the next obvious issue was our ability to generate revenue.

In response, I referred to the vision outlined in our XI Principles, which has been crucial to our journey of transformation so far, and the chance to reconnect the football community, which is the largest and most diverse sporting community of any kind in Australian society. I also highlighted that it would be the first time the strength of our two iconic National Team brands would be tested without the professional leagues, but that this would also be an excellent opportunity to re-position them in an extremely competitive domestic sporting landscape.

Football Australia is a different business to the one we saw at the end of 2020. With a strategic focus on rebuilding the business, it brings me great delight to report that the organisation finds itself in the healthiest financial position it has ever been in, with the FY2022 financial results reflecting the success of this approach. We saw a net surplus, after discontinued operations and extraordinary items for the year

ended 30 June 2022, of \$3.6 million, and Net Members Equity of \$21.0 million. More detail is provided in the Financial Report.

This strong financial performance is underpinned by several factors. After two years of deliberate and focused work to reimagine and restructure the brand value proposition of our two National Teams to one that is partner-centric and values-based, the Subway Socceroos are now the second-favourite Australian national sports team (behind the Australian Men's Test Cricket Team), and we anticipate that our CommBank Matildas, currently ranked fifth, off the back of a strong year and in the lead-up to the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™ on home soil, will continue on their current trajectory to rise up the rankings and surpass the Wallabies as the fourth favourite Australian national sporting team.

**“THE ORGANISATION FINDS ITSELF IN THE HEALTHIEST FINANCIAL POSITION IT HAS EVER BEEN IN.”**

The collective work being done by the organisation in collaboration with our media, sponsor, licensing and agency partners, has enhanced the commercial power of not only the Subway Socceroos and CommBank Matildas in 2022, but also the game more broadly. This has attracted some of the biggest brands in the world to our game, including the likes of Subway, Commonwealth Bank, Disney, and most

recently LEGO®, and join the Australian football family as partners of Football Australia.

In 2022, we revealed that The Walt Disney Company will produce a six-part docuseries, *Matildas: The World at Our Feet*. The docuseries will air on Disney+ in 2023, showcasing the CommBank Matildas to audiences around the world.

Our partnership with 10 Paramount entered its second year and continues to provide vital exposure for our game to a larger audience than ever before, with strong free-to-air coverage for National Team matches. Pleasingly, 2022 saw the newly rebranded Australia Cup Final shown on free-to-air television during prime time for the first time, with the 2021 Final, and then again with the 2022 Final. We congratulate Melbourne Victory and Macarthur FC respectively on winning each of these Finals.

We also welcomed CUPRA, part of the Volkswagen Group, as the new automotive partner of our National Teams. We are delighted that they have chosen to partner with Football Australia as its first strategic partner in the Australian market.

On the morning of 22 September 2022, ahead of the Centenary match against New Zealand in Brisbane, Football Australia and Subway announced a record-breaking partnership, which sees Subway become the naming rights partner of the Subway Socceroos, and Official Partner of the CommBank Matildas and Australia Cup.

After welcoming CommBank to the Australian football family in 2021, our commercial growth has accelerated



in 2022. Excitingly, we anticipate this growth to continue, with new partnerships already in the pipeline and soon to be announced.

As the regulator of the professional leagues, we have now established a more robust regulatory framework to provide effective oversight of these leagues. This is a different role for Football Australia to the one which it has traditionally played in Australian football and has required us to shift culture – both internally and externally – and import new skills and expertise into the business. The past 12 months have seen Football Australia take significant steps forward in our transformative journey towards becoming a strong football economy and a world-class developer of football players.

The reform of the Domestic Transfer System (DTS) continues to progress, with updates and measures being introduced in waves throughout 2022, in collaboration at various stages with the Member Federations, Australian Professional Leagues (APL), Professional Football Australia (PFA), and the Association of Australian Football Clubs (AAFC).

In April 2022, we removed the cap on player transfer fees for movements outside of the A-Leagues, resulting in a more open market and providing clubs with greater economic opportunities. In August 2022, FA announced new domestic and international loan provisions, which are both aligned with recently introduced FIFA provisions and specific to the current landscape in Australia. Most recently, the National Dispute Chamber Regulations (NDRC) were updated and expanded in September 2022 to include all professional players in the scope of this dispute resolution mechanism, and to reflect the unbundling of the professional leagues.

We appointed well-respected football executive James Kitching to the role of NDRC Chair.

Efforts for additional DTS initiatives, including football agent regulations, domestic training compensation and a domestic transfer matching system are ongoing, with updates to be announced in the coming months as we strive to incentivise player development and grow the Australian football market.

The 2022 Australia Cup was one of the most memorable and successful in history, with an NPL club making the final for the first time. Our efforts to create a more aligned football pyramid came to life through this competition, with clubs at all levels competing throughout the country for a chance to represent Australia on the world stage at the AFC Cup.

Significantly for club development, we have also implemented a domestic club-licensing system in 2022. For the first time, the FA Club Licensing Regulations now include A-League Men, A-League Women, NPL Men and NPL Women clubs in its scope, with specific criteria and requirements developed for each competition. Football Australia is collaborating with our Member Federations for NPL Men and NPL Women club licensing and we will soon have consistent data for clubs across the country, in the areas of sporting infrastructure, personnel and administration, finance and legal, which can be used to drive the lifting of standards and professionalism for clubs in Australia.

Plans for a men’s national second-tier competition are well underway, with extensive financial modelling, identification of competition principles and standards, and consultation with stakeholders having taken place throughout 2022.



The creation and implementation of the Expression of Interest process will be the next priority for this initiative as we aim to introduce a sustainable, professional second-tier competition featuring the strongest Australian clubs.

A crucial component of our football transformation is the appointment of a leader to oversee these initiatives, and in August, we were delighted to announce Ernie Merrick as Football Australia's inaugural Chief Football Officer. With extensive background in player development and elite football coaching, Ernie is playing a key role in revolutionising our technical direction and football pathways.

Our CommBank Matildas continue their preparations for the landmark FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, which will be hosted in Australia and New Zealand in July and August next year. We learned recently, at the draw in Auckland, the team would be taking on Canada, Nigeria and the Republic of Ireland in Group B of the tournament. The team's preparation over the last two years has seen the CommBank Matildas play more top-10 ranked and European teams than ever before, which we believe has prepared us well for this draw. Our priority prior to the tournament in July is to ensure that the team's preparations are focused on ensuring the greatest chance of success at the tournament. We wish Tony Gustavsson and the team the very best in their final months of preparation.

The Subway Socceroos' qualification to the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ after defeating Peru 5–4 on penalties in Doha on 13 June, was undoubtedly the highlight for 2022. Following the match, the Subway Socceroos engagement metrics demonstrated just how popular the Subway

Socceroos are and how the team can unite the country and inspire the nation. We wish Graham Arnold and the Subway Socceroos the very best and look forward with anticipation to their opening match of Group D against current world champions, France.

The Subway Socceroos qualification to a fifth consecutive FIFA World Cup™ has led to a resurgence in the sport and propelled the organisation into one of the most exciting periods the Australian game has experienced in recent times, where in the space of 10 months, we will attend a FIFA World Cup™, and host the biggest women's sporting event on the planet: the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™.

## **“THE TEAM CAN UNITE THE COUNTRY AND INSPIRE THE NATION.”**

The success of our senior National Teams has been underpinned by our focus on introducing a high-performance culture to all our National Teams. We restructured our National Teams unit and introduced a Director of High Performance to oversee this significant shift for Football Australia. For the CommBank Matildas, we have worked diligently behind the scenes to deliver on the recommendations of the Smith Gander Report, which has now seen the introduction of various initiatives to drive high performance and a positive culture for players.

We have also driven a deliberate strategy to stand up our Youth National Teams this year, after two years of COVID-impacted activity. Despite these challenges, however, our Youth National Teams have returned with great success.

I would like to note the achievements of the Young Matildas, who competed at and won their opening match at the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup Costa Rica 2022™, against the host nation, and our Junior Matildas, who were crowned champions at the AFF U-18 Women Championships. The players in these age groups are the future Matildas of the next decade and will feature in the lead-up to the 2032 Olympics in Brisbane, so it is crucial that we continue to nurture them through this key development phase.

In June, we also saw our U-23 Men's Team return to action at the AFC U23 Asian Cup™, with the team successfully progressing to the quarter-finals of the tournament. Our U-17 Men's National Team also secured automatic qualification to next year's AFC U17 Asian Cup 2023™, following a 3–1 win over China to clinch top spot of Group G in the Qualifiers. This tournament was held in Shepparton in regional Victoria and is part of our deliberate strategy to have more National Team activity in regional Australia to drive greater exposure and engagement in those areas. Activities included, among others, a national Talent Identification (Talent ID) camp for U-16 and U-17 boys in Townsville, and a two-match international series against the New Zealand Junior Football Ferns in Canberra, in preparation for the CommBank Young Matildas' participation at FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup Costa Rica 2022™.





It was also extremely pleasing to see our Pararoos and ParaMatildas competing at the 2022 International Federation of Cerebral Palsy Football (IFCPF) World Cup in April. Both teams performed admirably, but I would like to draw special attention to the ParaMatildas who, after becoming our newest National Team in March, competed in their first IFCPF World Cup and finished second to the United States.

To support this heightened activity, we also now have a full suite of coaches for our Youth National Teams to complement this activity, including former Socceroo Tony Vidmar as U-23 Men's National Team coach, and former Matilda Leah Blayney as U-20 Women's National Team coach.

We are delighted to welcome back the A-League Men's and Women's competitions as they commence the 2022/23 seasons, and after two years of COVID-impacted competition, we are excited to see a full season unfold without interruption. We have already seen an exciting start to the A-League Men's competition and this year, have been given an insight into the competition through the 'All Access' program. This is a great initiative, and we look forward to more innovation from the APL as it carries out its strategy for growth. As the regulator of the A-Leagues, we were also thrilled to approve the expansion of the A-League Women's competition, welcoming Western United to the competition this year, before seeing the return of the Central Coast Mariners to the national women's competition in the 2023/24 season. This is a great example of how we intend to work with the APL to support its growth.

The international club content, with the likes of Manchester United visiting Australia, has added to the already positive atmosphere surrounding the sport. Additionally, through the unbundling, these matches require Football Australia's approval, and we have been able to increase our revenue through sanction fees. These matches have highlighted the power of global football, and in addition to our participation at the upcoming FIFA World Cup™ and our co-hosting of the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, are a great representation of who we are and who we want to be as a sport: local but also global.

Since launching the *Legacy '23* plan in February 2021, we have used it as a platform to drive change and create lasting, tangible benefits for the game. We have always been adamant that *Legacy '23* means tangible outcomes for the sport and as of October 2022, football



has unlocked over \$276 million in funding from federal and several state governments for stadium infrastructure, high-performance and participation programs, and community facilities. This includes commitments from respective state governments to upgrade stadia in Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne. Most recently, we were granted over \$2 million by the federal government in its October Budget, to support participation in multicultural and junior participation programs.

The opportunity to leave a tangible legacy for future generations following the tournament, was a key driver in bidding for hosting rights to the Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™. We recognised that legacy was something that needed to be in place before the first ball of the tournament was kicked, and have worked hard since securing hosting rights to maximise the opportunities in front of us. This is a significant achievement for the game and one that should not be understated. There is still more work to be done and we will drive engagement with government to ensure we can continue to unlock funding for the game across the five pillars of our *Legacy '23* plan.

Throughout 2022, we have continued to evolve internally; we also continue to drive change, embedding inclusive behaviours and ensuring a supportive, collaborative workplace that promotes staff wellbeing, while maintaining a steady level of recruitment activity. Today, Football Australia has hired more women at general manager level (63% at end of Q2, 2022) than ever before, and we are making further inroads in achieving a better gender balance across our organisation.

We continue to adjust to a new, flexible way of working and are focused on the ongoing improvement of work/life balance experience for our staff. A suite of flexible leave options has been extended to staff to use over the coming 12-month period, aimed at rewarding team contributions to date, providing greater flexibility to manage personal circumstances, and with a view to retaining staff services in a very competitive labour market.

## **“WE ARE ACHIEVING A BETTER GENDER BALANCE ACROSS OUR ORGANISATION.”**

Football Australia has done well to strengthen existing products, enhance National Team brands and diversify revenue streams to de-risk its business. To ensure we can adapt and continuously meet the challenges of the changing nature of football, we have also reshaped several departments, including Technical, National Teams, Commercial, and Communications and Marketing.

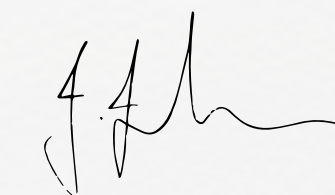
As we look ahead to 2023, we recognise we must continue to evolve new products and explore innovative opportunities for growth to truly maximise the potential of this period. To fully realise this for the entire game, however, it is vital our Members are brought along on this journey and encouraged to play a meaningful role. Football Australia is committed to working closely with its Members as we seek to collectively maximise the opportunities ahead for the benefit of our community.

The next 12 months will be crucial for Australian football, with it being the opportune moment to capitalise on the increased interest in the game. To ensure we can deliver on this, Football Australia has shifted its business priorities to focus on leveraging Australia's participation at the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ and the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, two of the world's largest sporting events. Over the next 12 months, we will see more exciting football products, more digital innovation, and an approach that places our participants at the centre of the experience.

I want to close by thanking my team at Football Australia, who continue to work tirelessly for the benefit of Australian football. They have and continue to achieve great things, and without their dedication, the game would not be where it is today.

Finally, I must take a moment to thank the Australian football community, which, through bushfires, the pandemic and extreme weather conditions, has bounced back and continues to thrive despite difficult circumstances. You are an inspiration to us all.

The next 12 months is a special time to be a part of our game, and our football community should relish the opportunity for the game to take centre stage. Collectively, we all have a duty to ensure that the next year is the best in the history of Australian football, and I look forward to sharing this journey with you.



**James Johnson**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



# FINANCIAL REPORT



# FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 (FY2022)

**The net operating deficit of Football Australia for 2022 is \$2.4 million compared to a \$17.6 million surplus in 2021, while the overall net surplus is \$3.6 million, after discontinued operations, compared with a surplus of \$11.8 million in 2021.**

The FY2022 period saw Football Australia operations steadily return to pre-COVID-19 levels, with the lifting of international border closures and the ability to host Subway Socceroos matches in Round 3 of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ Asian Qualifiers, as well as hosting matches for the CommBank Matildas, in preparation for the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™. However, with the risk of COVID-19 infection still needing to be managed, additional costs were incurred to safeguard players and staff during international travel and competition or to comply with quarantine obligations.

FY2022 is also the first year of a four-year deal with Network 10, having entered a new deal for broadcast of the National Team matches, AFC National Team competitions and the Australia Cup Final Rounds.

With the unbundling of the professional leagues officially occurring in July 2021, FY2022 was the first year of Football Australia's operations with the A-Leagues entirely excluded.

Significant grant revenue, connected to Football Australia's *Legacy '23* plan to leverage the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, has unlocked Australian Government funding of \$12 million over two years.

This has enabled increased investment into Football Australia's senior and Youth Women's National Teams, as well as the rejuvenation of Football Australia's national Club Development Program (Game Plan).

New sponsorship was attracted during the period; in particular, the Commonwealth Bank became naming rights partners for the Matildas.

We highlight the following results for FA:

- Operating deficit before grants and distributions for the year ended 30 June 2022 of \$2.4 million.
- Grants and distributions for the year ended 30 June 2022 totalling \$1.3 million.
- Net deficit before discontinued operations and extraordinary items for the year ended 30 June 2022 is \$3.7 million.
- Net surplus after discontinued operations and extraordinary items for the year ended 30 June 2022 is \$3.6 million.
- Net Members' Equity at 30 June 2022 is \$21.0 million.

The financial results encapsulate the revenues and expenditures of administering and/or supporting the key pillars of our global game including:

- 2 national competitions (Australia Cup, formerly FFA Cup; National Premier Leagues).
- 10 National Teams (Youth National Teams through to both the men's and women's senior teams – the Subway Socceroos and CommBank Matildas) competing across all corners of Asia and the world.
- Football Development (MiniRoos, National Premier Leagues, player pathways, Coach Education etc.)



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FY2021 financials includes A-League operations, which were unbundled from Football Australia in July 2021.

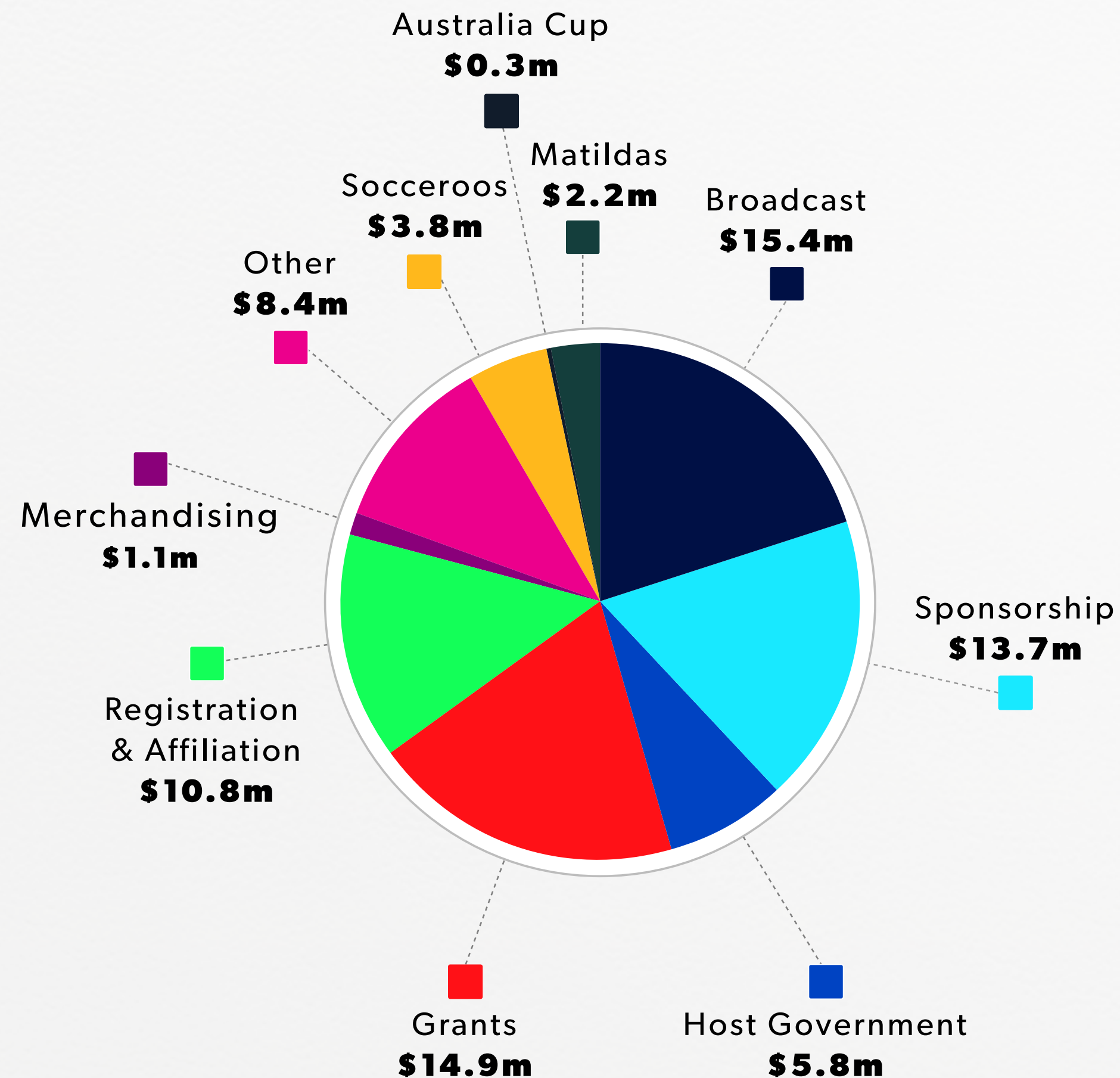
OPERATING REVENUE			OPERATING EXPENSES					
SUMMARISED PROFIT & LOSS (\$'000)	2022	2021	SUMMARISED PROFIT & LOSS (\$'000)	2022	2021	SUMMARISED PROFIT & LOSS (\$'000)	2022	2021
Broadcast	15,392	37,653	Employee Benefits	27,330	22,514	<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b> (Before Grants & Distributions)	<b>(2,428)</b>	<b>17,561</b>
Sponsorship	13,740	11,127	Travel	19,241	9,163	Grants & Distributions	1,277	23,265
Gate Receipts	6,297	1,155	Marketing & Media	4,669	12,124	<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b> (Before Discontinued Operations and Extraordinary Items)	<b>(3,704)</b>	<b>(5,704)</b>
Host Government	5,825	226	Event Hosting	5,245	1,581	Extraordinary Items	7,113	-
Grants	14,901	8,953	Administration	2,075	3,617	Discontinued Operations	221	17,530
Registration & Affiliation	10,830	12,113	Broadcast	6,529	259	<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>3,630</b>	<b>11,825</b>
Merchandising	1,101	926	Other Team Expenses	2,031	2,005	<b>SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEET EXTRACT (\$'000)</b>		
Other	8,368	10,710	Professional & Consultants	1,935	1,991	Total Assets	60,615	45,632
			Commissions	5,009	2,296	Total Liabilities	39,633	29,288
			Other	4,819	9,753	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>20,982</b>	<b>16,344</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>76,454</b>	<b>82,863</b>	<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>78,882</b>	<b>65,303</b>			





# OPERATING REVENUE

Total revenue of \$76.5 million in FY2022 has decreased in comparison to FY2021 (\$82.8 million). The pie chart below shows the key categories that make up revenue.



- Broadcast**  
 (\$22.3 million decrease from FY2021)

This category comprises domestic and international broadcast rights to Football Australia competitions such as the Australia Cup, and Socceroos, Matildas and other Youth National Team matches. The significant decrease is driven by the unbundling of the A-League.

- Sponsorship**  
 (\$2.6 million increase from FY2021)

This includes all sponsorship revenue in both cash value and non-cash value in kind. The increase is driven by the new CommBank Matildas naming rights deal and CUPRA automotive partner deals.

- Gate Receipts**  
 (\$5.1 million increase from FY2021)

Gate receipts revenue was received across the Socceroos, CommBank Matildas and the Australia Cup Final matches. FY2021 gate receipts related to 2021 A-League Finals Series with no matches being hosted for the Socceroos or Matildas due to the impacts of COVID-19 and international border closures.

- Host Government**  
 (\$5.6 million increase from FY2021)

This category includes revenue received from various state governments to secure the rights to host Socceroos and Matildas matches. This increase is attributable the ability to host Socceroos and Matildas matches in FY2022 after international border closures in FY2021.

- Grants**  
 (\$5.9 million increase from FY2021)

Football Australia receives grants for specific purposes from different sources, including various government departments, the Australian Sports Commission, FIFA and AFC. The increase in FY2022 is primarily driven by the federal government *Legacy '23* funding, and the AFC and FIFA Qatar 2022™ Men's World Cup qualification subsidies and broadcast pool revenue.

- Registration and Affiliation**  
 (\$1.3 million decrease from FY2021)

This category includes National Registration Fees (NRF), registration fees for various courses and competitions (coaching, refereeing accreditation, MiniRoos, Australia Cup). The decrease is due to absence of A-League club licence fee revenue in FY2022 as a result of the unbundling of the leagues.

- Merchandising Revenue**  
 (\$0.2 million increase from FY2021)

Football Australia centralises the management of the official merchandising programs for National Team products. The increase is a result of higher Football Australia merchandise sales in FY2022, with more Socceroos and Matildas matches being hosted compared to FY2021, offset by lost revenue as a result of unbundling the leagues.

- Other Revenue**  
 (\$2.3 million decrease from FY2021)

All other revenues not captured under specific categories are allocated to Other Revenue. Significant items include betting royalties, cost recoveries from APLs, and revenue from Sporting Schools programs. FY2021 also included insurance recoveries on the centralised insurance program procured on behalf of A-League clubs and JobKeeper revenue. Decrease was due to leagues unbundling, removing the need for an insurance recharge to A-League clubs and the conclusion of JobKeeper payments in early FY2022.

- Discontinued Operations**  
 (\$17.3 million decrease from FY2021)

FY2022 includes leagues net result after recharges and FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™ grant funding adjustments. FY2021 relates to the accelerated accounting recognition of expansion club licence revenue as a result of the leagues unbundling and transitioning into the control of APLCO. This is a one-off accounting adjustment and does not form part of operating revenue.

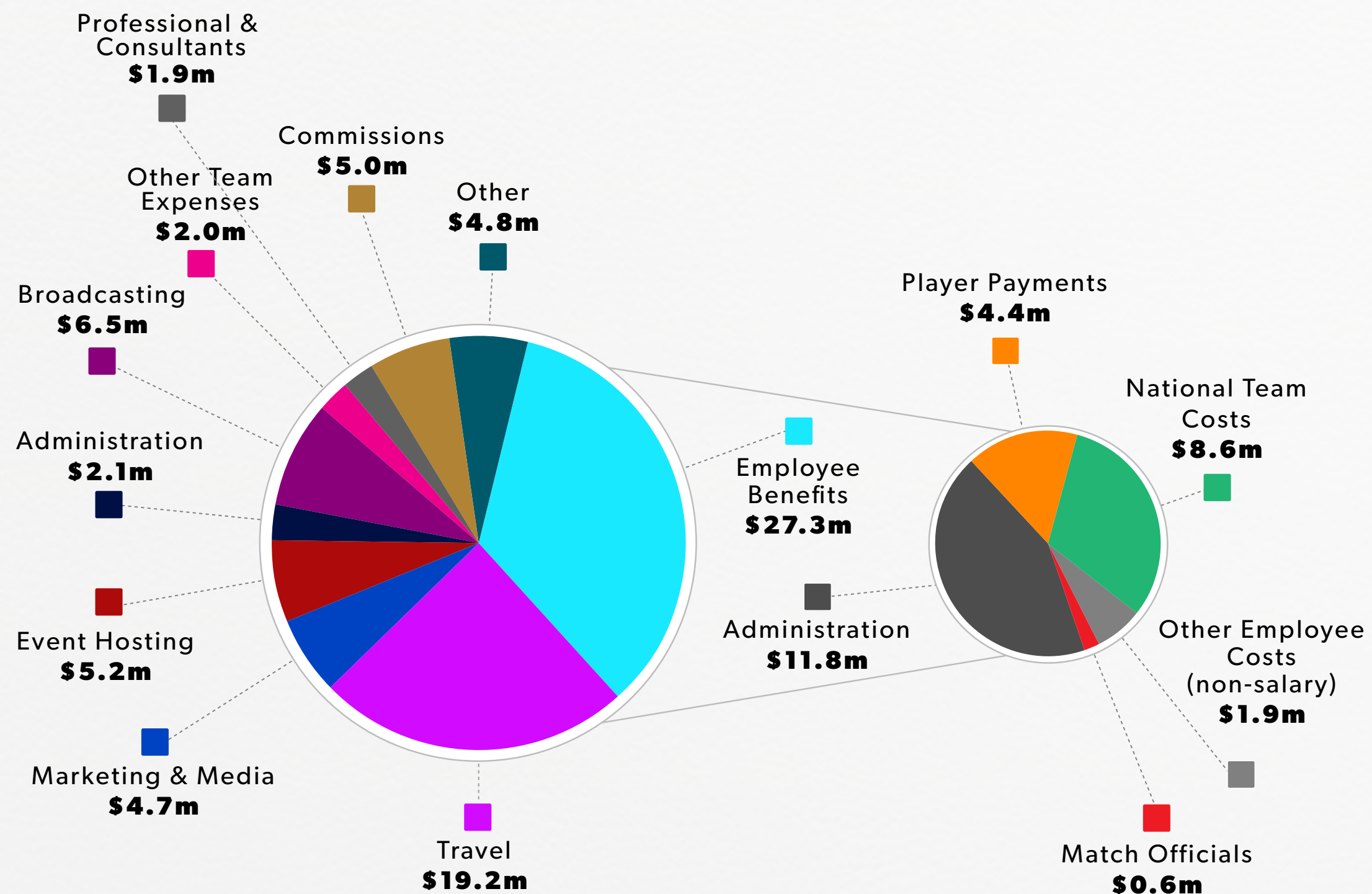
- Extraordinary Items**  
 (\$7.1 million increase from FY2021)

Relates to sale of 5% of Football Australia's Carry Unit in APLCO from Silver Lake capital raising transaction.



# OPERATING EXPENSES

Operating expenditure of \$78.9 million in FY2022 is a \$13.6 million increase on FY2021 operating expenditure (\$65.3 million). The key elements comprising operating expenditure are as follows:



- Employee and Team Benefit Expenses** (\$4.8 million increase from FY2021)  
 Increase is attributable to an increase in higher player payments and National Team support staff costs, including on-costs, due to return to normal levels of National Team activity after lifting of COVID-19 international border and travel restrictions.

- Travel Expenses** (\$10.1 million increase from FY2021)  
 Increases in costs are due to activity levels and general mobility returning to pre-pandemic levels for National Teams, including higher incremental costs resulting from flight and accommodation scarcity for scheduled destinations for the Socceroos FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ Round 3 qualifying campaign.

- Marketing and Media** (\$7.4 million decrease from FY2021)  
 Reduction in FY2022 is driven by leagues unbundling.

- Event Hosting** (\$3.7 million increase on FY2021)  
 This category includes expenses incurred in delivering matches across Socceroos, Matildas, as well as the Australia Cup Final. Increases occurred as a result of hosting senior National Team events and Australia Cup matches after COVID-19 border and event restrictions were lifted, offset by savings from leagues unbundling in FY2021.

- Administration** (\$1.5 million decrease on FY2021)  
 This allocation includes corporate overheads such as office rental, depreciation, utilities and legal fees. Savings were driven by reversal of FY2021 legal fees provision and other expense reductions from leagues unbundling.

- Broadcasting Expenses** (\$6.3 million increase from FY2021)  
 Increase driven by costs associated with the broadcast rights relating to the Network 10 broadcast deal.

- Other Team Expenses** (\$0.1 million increase from FY2021)  
 Increase driven by return of increased National Team activity compared to FY2021, offset by leagues unbundling savings.

- Professional and Consultants** (\$0.1 million decrease from FY2021)  
 This category includes external expertise engaged across several areas including audit, A-League expansion (FY2021 only), MiniRoos inventory management, Coach Education, and security and technology. Savings were driven by leagues unbundling, offset by additional digital technology and National Team consultancy fees.

- Commissions** (\$2.7 million increase from FY2021)  
 These expenses primarily represent the accounting recognition of sponsorship contra along with contracted servicing costs for sponsors and broadcasters. Increased sponsorship contra from CommBank Naming Rights

deal and provision for a grassroots football fund, offset by leagues unbundling savings.

- Other Expenses** (\$4.3 million increase from FY2021)  
 This amount relates to IT costs, insurance and other miscellaneous costs incurred by Football Australia. Savings driven by leagues unbundling costs, including player insurance, offset by digital registration platform build and higher general insurance costs.

- Grants and Distributions Expenses** (\$22.0 million decrease from FY2021)  
 Driven by saving from A-League club grants as a result of unbundling.



# FIFA FORWARD FUNDING

FIFA Forward project funding in FY2023 approved by FRAC and Board includes:

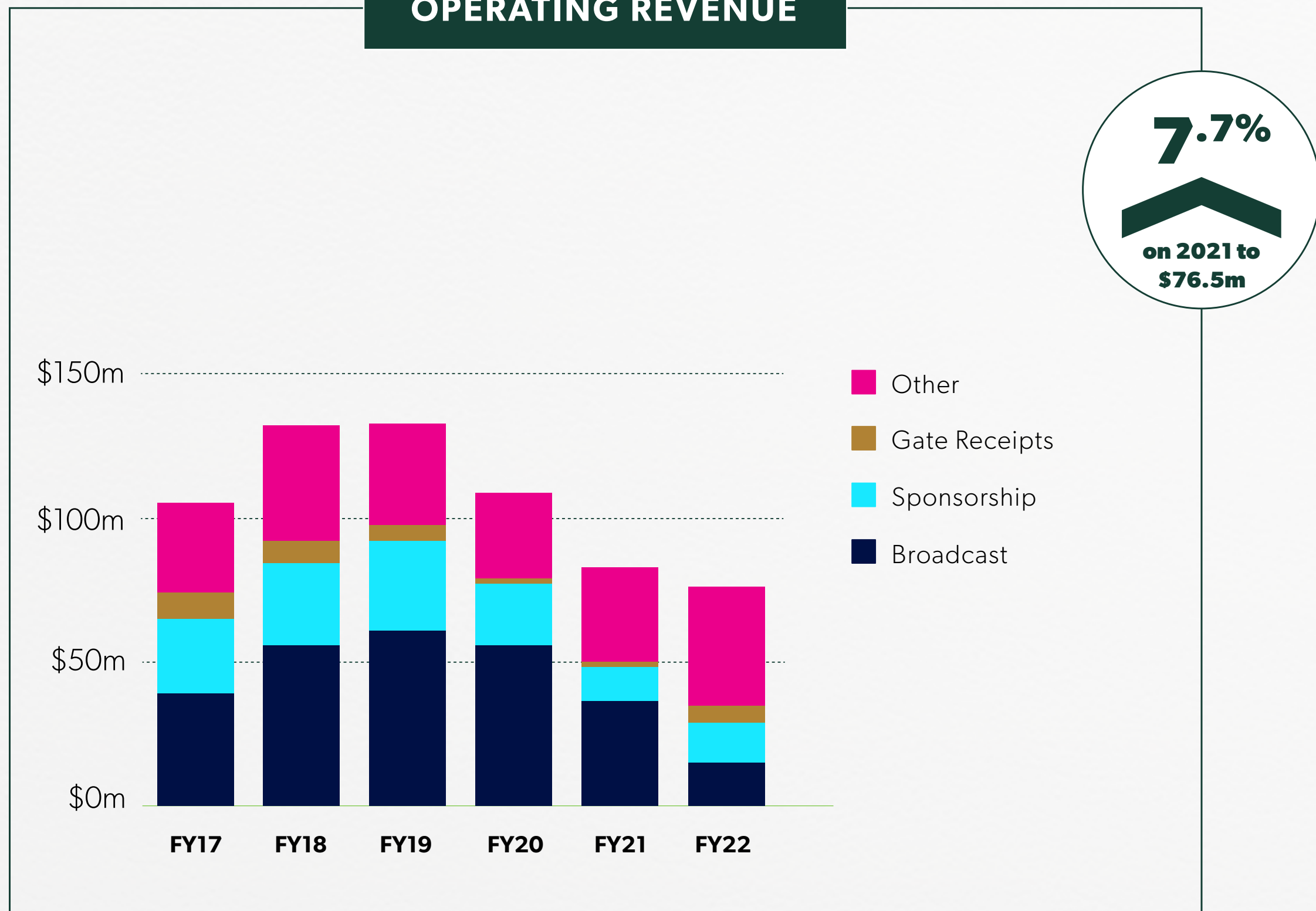
- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1. U17 Girls (CommBank Junior Matildas) | USD250k |
| 2. U17 Boys (Subway Joeys)              | USD250k |
| 3. Cup of Nations                       | USD320k |
| 4. Leadership women                     | USD200k |

**Total** **USD1.02M**

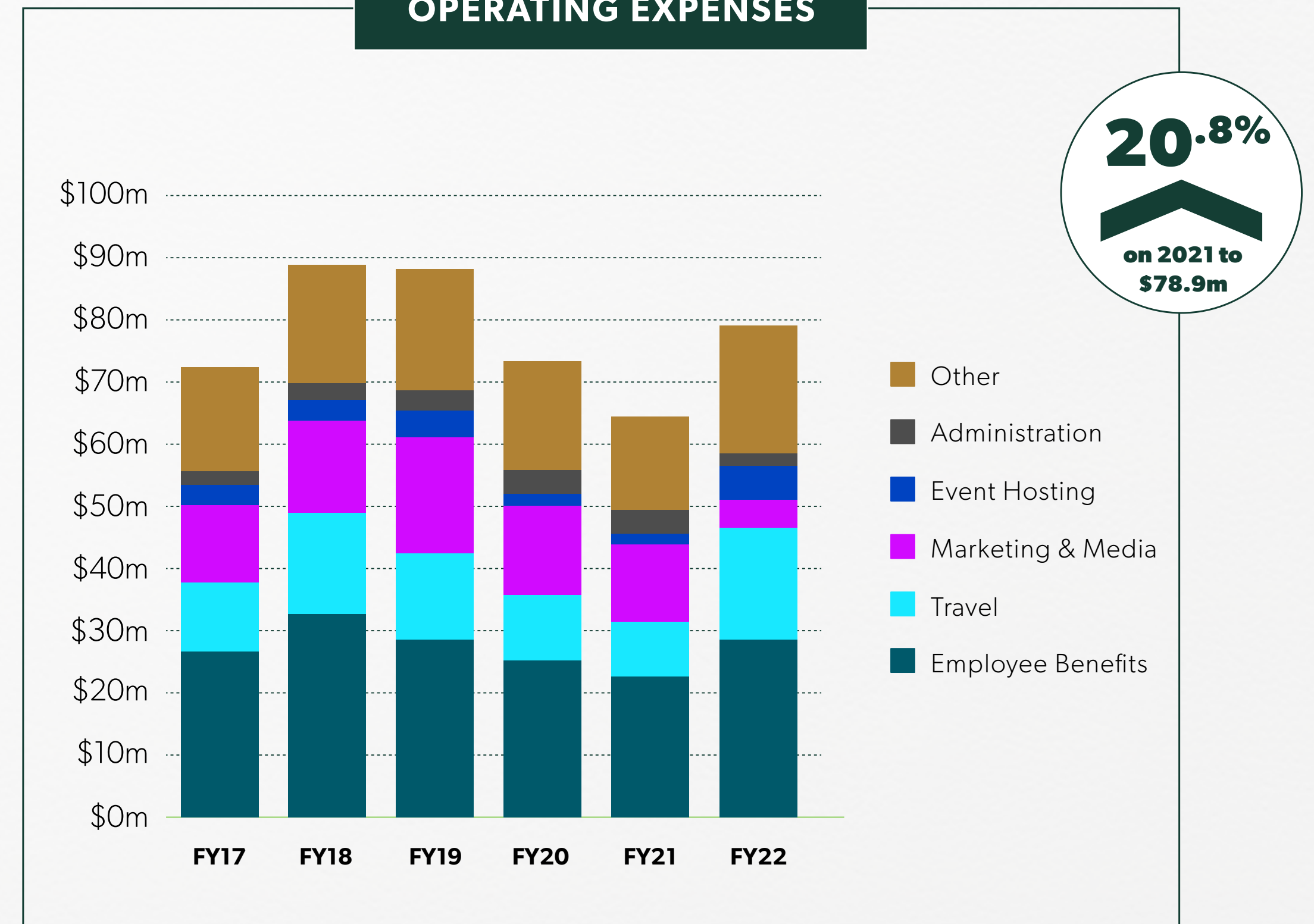


# KEY HISTORICAL FINANCIAL COMPARATIVES

## OPERATING REVENUE

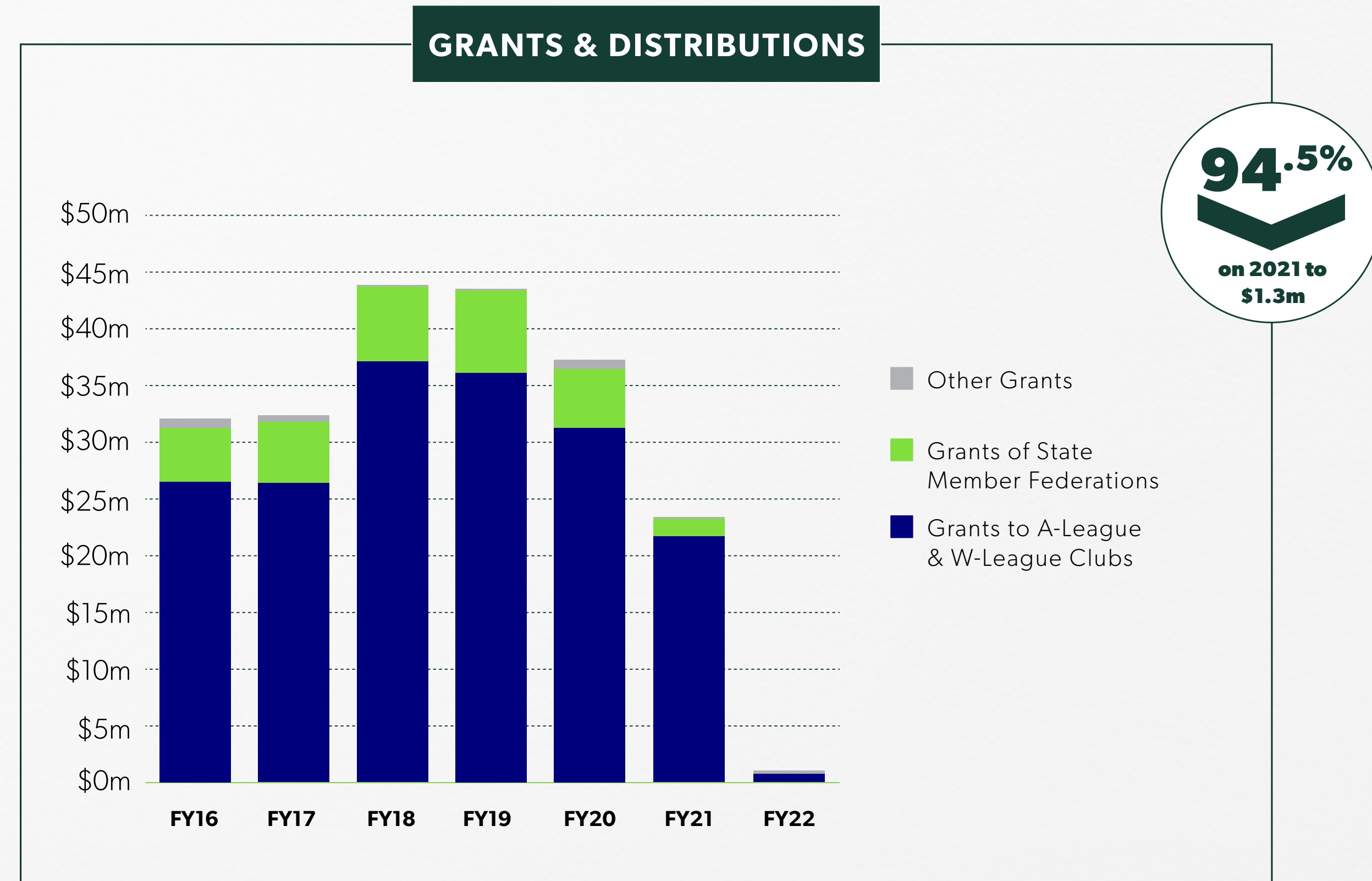
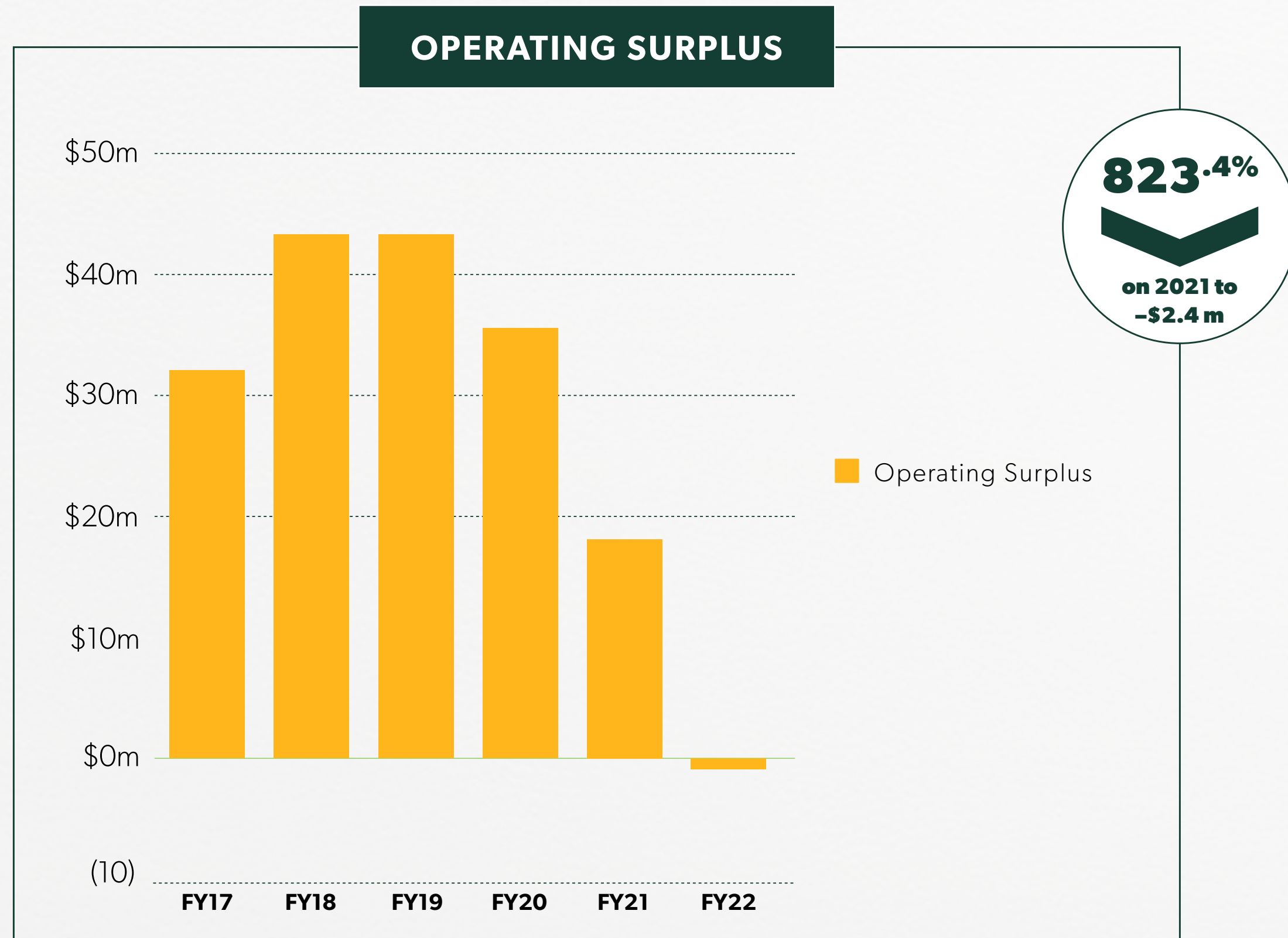


## OPERATING EXPENSES

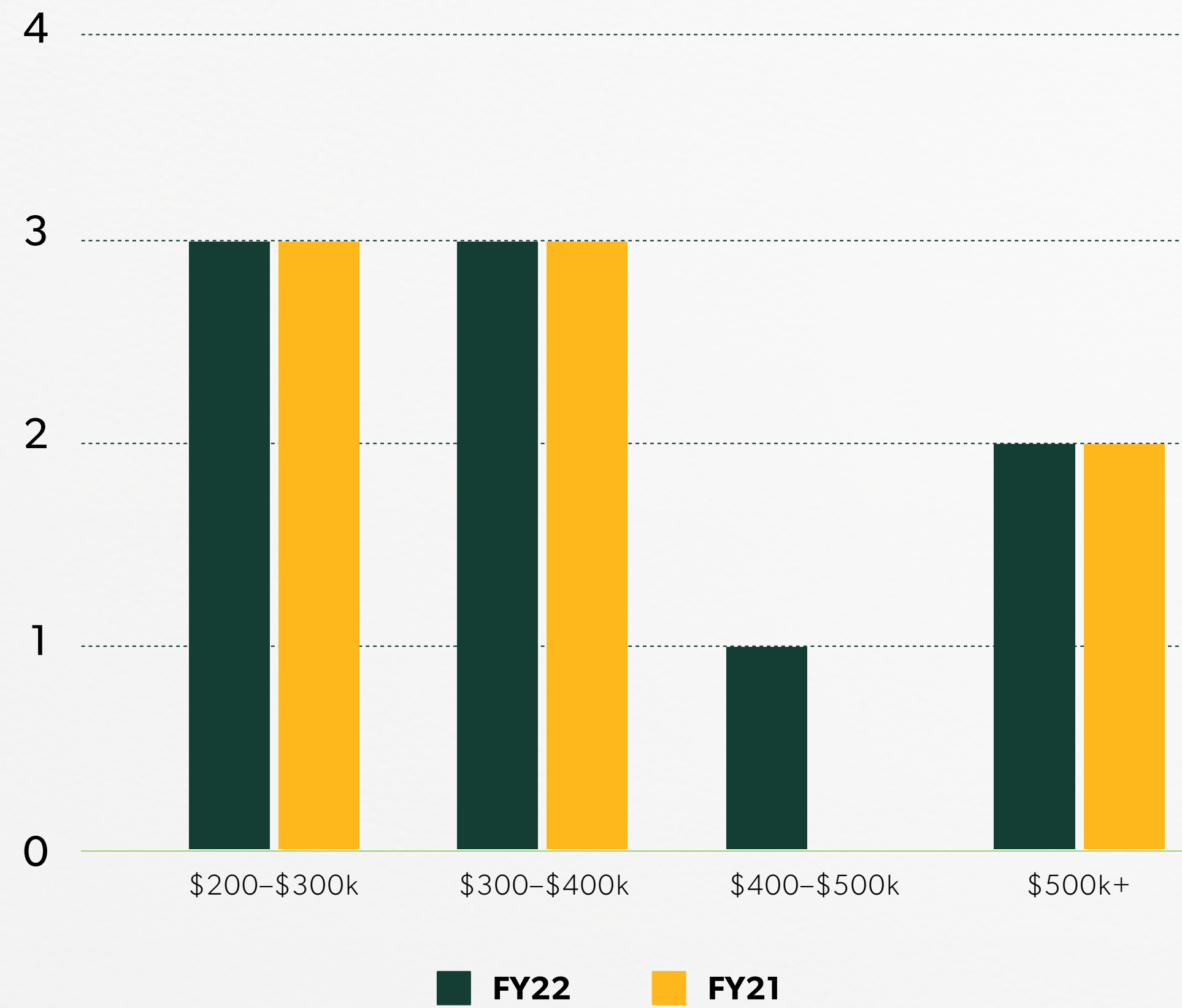


# OPERATING SURPLUS

## BEFORE GRANTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS



## NUMBER OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) WITHIN SALARY BRACKETS



# ACTIVITY REPORT



# GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION

## SPORTING SCHOOLS

Sporting Schools is the national government schools program run by Sport Australia to encourage national sporting organisations (NSOs) to have a presence in schools and to facilitate active, healthy lifestyles in students.

With a primary focus on increasing participation of school students in football, through principles of physical literacy and human movement, the Sporting Schools program aims to spark the love of football to potential new participants of the game. By offering a wide variety of programs such as football, futsal, gala days and events, holiday clinics and lunchtime sessions, the Sporting Schools program is constantly diversifying to suit participating schools' schedules and timings.

**“SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM AIMS TO SPARK THE LOVE OF FOOTBALL TO POTENTIAL NEW PARTICIPANTS OF THE GAME.”**

One year into the change of delivery structure at Football Australia (centralised model of state Junior Program Officers managing a 250-plus casual workforce of coaches), the program is experiencing exponential growth as each term progresses. Achieving this year's target of over 1,000 schools by September 2022, the awareness and demand for football in its schools program is increasing within the market.

Term 2 in 2022 saw the Sporting Schools program reach a major milestone. In a program where schools had 38 NSOs to choose from, football was ranked the top selected sport. Equating to approximately 2,500 football sessions delivered within a 50-day period,







Term 2 results saw a 60% increase from the previous year and the highest number of programs recorded since Football Australia's inclusion in the program in 2017.

## MINIROOS

MiniRoos is the foundational program of grassroots football in Australia, encompassing both the MiniRoos Club Football and MiniRoos Kick-Off programs for all participants in football aged 11 and under.

MiniRoos Kick-Off saw participant numbers hit over 13,000, the highest number of participants in the program since 2019 (prior to COVID-19 disruption). As grassroots clubs started to regain their capacity and rebuild after COVID-19-affected seasons, the uptake of MiniRoos Kick-Off within grassroots clubs was most successful in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria, with other states and territories struggling to find sufficient time and volunteers to run the program.

**“MINIROOS KICK-OFF SAW PARTICIPANT NUMBERS HIT OVER 13,000, THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAM SINCE 2019.”**

In 2022, the MiniRoos Kick-Off program underwent a testing period of diversifying the product to suit a wider range of markets, to alleviate the pressure on grassroots community clubs. The exponential growth in football in schools programs highlighted a new avenue to use MiniRoos Kick-Off to bring new participants into the game. Furthermore, implementation of the MiniRoos After-School program, as well as holiday clinics, regional roadshows, and MiniRoos Come and Try events, were largely successful, equating to 40% of the total participant numbers in MiniRoos Kick-Off.



## WALKING FOOTBALL AND MULTICULTURAL MINIROOS

During 2022, Football Australia continued to grow its Walking Football and MiniRoos Settlement programs across the country.

Walking Football continued to emerge from Australia's COVID-19-impacted shutdown, to provide a brilliant environment for our participants to engage socially, stay fit and experience the thrill of playing our game. Official 'Laws of the Game' were developed, exercise and session plans provided to support participants, and our Football Australia ambassadors – former Matilda Shona Bass and former Socceroos Paul Wade – spent time across the nation inspiring our community to get involved in playing football.

**“A WELCOMING  
ENVIRONMENT FOR MORE  
THAN 1,800 CHILDREN.”**

Our MiniRoos Settlement programs saw newly arrived migrant, refugee and asylum-seeker children experience football as one of their first social experiences on arrival in Australia. The programs have provided a welcoming environment for more than 1,800 children since its inception and enables families to learn about the support networks that are available to them in Australia, while engaging around a sport that is familiar to them.



# TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

The Football Department's Technical Team has continued to undergo significant changes in 2022, with a busy and exciting year underpinned by close collaboration with FIFA, Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and multiple stakeholders nationwide. We also welcomed several new additions to the team, to complement our existing skill set and provide further technical knowledge and guidance to our stakeholders.

In a year that saw a major focus by the organisation on resuming activity of both the female and male Junior and Youth National Teams after two years of COVID absence, the teams all experienced international competition. The involvement across all the programs in various tournaments and competitions will continue to add valuable experience and provide much-needed depth for the CommBank Matildas and the Socceroos.

**“LIVE-STREAMED MATCHES CULMINATED IN OVER 30,000 VIEWS ON THE FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA CHANNEL ON YOUTUBE.”**

With the borders reopening across the country, a major initiative to link Coach Education and Talent ID through to Youth National Team activity generated much excitement across the football community. Several Talent ID camps and Elite Matches across the country showcased the incredible young footballing talent we have in Australia. These matches were well attended by live crowds and were also live-streamed for the U-16 Boys', U-17 Girls' and U-20 Men's teams. This culminated in over 30,000 views on the Football Australia channel on YouTube and introduced several next-generation Socceroos and Matildas stars to the world.





A web app form was created to use alongside these Elite Matches, enabling coaches and technical directors to conduct live scouting and reporting on players' potential and performance. Our technical staff produced reports, including feedback coming directly from these matches, assisting in the talent identification process. The subsequent sharing of this data with Member Federation technical staff will allow us to build resources to be used in Coach Education into the future.

After much consultation with FIFA and its technical experts through the FIFA Ecosystem Analysis Report, we received approval for participation in FIFA's global initiative in the Talent Development Scheme. In October 2022, three FIFA technical experts will visit Sydney and spend several days assisting with the design and implementation of this initiative, which is tailored to respond to issues identified in the FIFA Ecosystem Analysis and our own Performance Gap reports.

**“DATA SHARING WILL ALLOW US TO BUILD RESOURCES TO BE USED IN COACH EDUCATION INTO THE FUTURE.”**

During May, a six-month collaboration with FIFA culminated in an onsite workshop in Sydney for 10 male and 10 female aspiring C Licence Coach Instructors. Representing all Member Federations, the coaches joined with FIFA technical experts and Football Australia technical staff to align processes around the 'coaching of coaches'. This has enhanced the capacity of our Coach Education staff across the country as we look to streamline our coach accreditation to meet the AFC convention.

Finally, the National Youth Championships resumed for boys and girls in September and October for the first time since 2019. Into the future, the aim is to align these championships with other major national team activity, creating 'Festivals of Football' around the Domestic Match Calendar (DMC).



# LEGACY '23

**Hosting the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™ is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to realise a truly meaningful legacy for football, the community and the nation.**

*Legacy '23* is an ambitious five-pillar plan to ensure we deliver positive and enduring benefits for Australia's largest community sport, beyond 2023. *Legacy '23* articulates the opportunities that come with hosting the largest women's sporting event in the world and the biggest global event in Australia since the Sydney Summer Olympics in 2000.

Investment has been secured from federal and state governments for four out of the five pillars. However, more support is required and we will continue to work with government and commercial partners to unlock the full potential of this plan.

## "AN AMBITIOUS FIVE-PILLAR PLAN."

Summary:

- In June 2020, Australia was announced as co-host of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™.
- In February 2021, Football Australia launched the *Legacy '23* Plan.
- In December 2021, Football Australia launched Our Game™, an initiative aimed at harnessing the power of football to build an inclusive and diverse game that embraces, positively influences, celebrates and elevates women and girls.
- In March 2022, we celebrated 500 days to go until the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, and launched a new Women's National Team in the CommBank ParaMatildas.
- In April 2022, the *Legacy '23* Ambassador Program was launched.



- In July 2022, we celebrated One Year to Go until the FIFA Women’s World Cup 2023™.
- As of October 2022, \$276 million in federal and state funding has been secured across stadium infrastructure, high-performance and participation programs and community facilities.

## THE FIVE PILLARS OF LEGACY '23

### 1. PARTICIPATION

**Growing our game through expanded community programs to ultimately achieve gender parity with 400,000-plus new female participants.**

We aim to grow our game through expanded community programs, to ultimately achieve gender parity with 400,000-plus new female participants.

By expanding the reach and impact of Australia’s most diverse and largest club participation sport, we can create more economic, health and social benefits for all Australians, and unlock the potential of women and girls from First Nations and migrant communities.

#### AS AT 2021:

**356,607 female participants\***

**26.67% female participants**

*See the ‘Grassroots Participation’ section of this review for further information on existing women’s and girls’ participation programs.*

### 2. FACILITIES

**Building our game through improved grassroots infrastructure to ensure equitable female facilities to meet surging demand.**

Together we can help remove the barriers to female participation and growth at all levels of our game, to create positive, thriving football communities across Australia.

As at October 2022, the National Facilities Audit has identified that nationally, 40% of existing football facilities are classified as female friendly. This differs greatly state by state as the table below shows:

<b>National</b>	40%
<b>ACT</b>	32%
<b>NSW</b>	24%
<b>QLD</b>	51%
<b>SA</b>	48%
<b>TAS</b>	26%
<b>VIC</b>	69%
<b>WA</b>	35%

#### #EQUALISER CAMPAIGN

In response to the National Facilities Audit, Football Australia launched the #Equaliser campaign in April 2022, in support of the Community Facilities pillar, to advocate for and deliver adequate female-friendly facilities across the country.

Since its launch, many #Equaliser events have been held across four states, with a total of \$7.75 million secured in

funding for community facilities.

*See the ‘Government Relations’ section of this review for further information on key infrastructure investment announcements.*

### 3. LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

**Leading our game through capacity in women’s leadership to shape the future of Australian sport and a culture that welcomes more women and girls to the game.**

**CURRENTLY, FEMALES REPRESENT:**  
**20% of active coaches**  
**13% of active referees**  
**50% of Football Australia Board members**

### 4. TOURISM & INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

**Expanding our game to boost tourism, trade and international relations when co-hosting 30 nations and their leaders.**

In August 2022, the federal government committed funding to the Pacific Women’s Player Pathway Program. This program is aimed at giving elite women footballers from Pacific regions the opportunity to participate in and benefit from Australian high-performance infrastructure, expertise, and competition.



This program includes two strands:

1. Player Pathway Program, where players had the opportunity to trial with A-League Women clubs with the aim of receiving a formal offer to be part of the upcoming 2022/23 season.
2. Four Nations Tournament, where three Pacific women's national teams travelled to Australia for a friendly tournament in the November FIFA window along with our CommBank Young Matildas.

Football Australia further confirmed its intention to launch a bid to host the 2026 AFC Women's Asian Cup.

*See the 'International Relations' section of this review for further updates.*

## 5. HIGH PERFORMANCE

**Elevating Our Game™ with world-class preparation to support our CommBank Matildas, while also developing the next generation of talent.**

In 2022, Football Australia has provided our women's National Teams as follows:

<b>CommBank Matildas/ Women's National Team Program</b>	<b>CommBank Young &amp; CommBank Junior Matildas/ Youth National Team Program</b>	<b>CommBank ParaMatildas/ All Abilities Program</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 matches funded</li> <li>• 5 home windows across 7 different cities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competed at the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup 2022™ for the first time since 2006</li> <li>• AFF U-18 Women's Championship 2022</li> <li>• 11 Youth National Team camps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia's first national women's and girls' CommBank ParaMatildas Cerebral Palsy football team launched in March 2022</li> <li>• Competed at the first-ever 2022 International Federation of Cerebral Palsy Football (IFCPF) Women's World Cup, in Spain in May, finishing second to the USA</li> <li>• 3 training camps</li> <li>• First-ever all-female side to compete at the 2022 National Para Championships</li> <li>• Confirmed as host of the 2023 IFCPF Asia-Oceania Championships</li> </ul>

*See the 'National Teams' section of this review for further updates.*





## THE LEGACY '23 AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The *Legacy '23* Ambassador Program will play a critical role in advocacy and raising awareness of the variety of important initiatives set out in the *Legacy '23* Strategic Plan.

Our Starting XI comprises a diverse and enthusiastic group of trailblazers to support and advocate for *Legacy '23*.

*Legacy '23* Ambassadors:

1. Tony Armstrong, *ABC News* Breakfast presenter
2. The Hon. Julie Bishop, Chancellor of Australian National University
3. Elizabeth Broderick AO, Special Rapporteur and Independent Expert to the United Nations
4. Julie Dolan AM, Matildas cap #1
5. Kurt Fearnley AO, Paralympic champion
6. Phillipa Harrison, Managing Director of Tourism Australia
7. Azmeena Hussain OAM, Director of Football Victoria and social justice advocate
8. Narelda Jacobs, NIAG Member and Network 10 Presenter
9. Kate Jenkins, Australia's Sex Discrimination Commissioner
10. Awer Mabil, Subway Soccerroo
11. The Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Queensland Premier





# OUR GAME

Our Game™ is our platform, and *Legacy '23* is our game plan for Football Australia's bold objective. To do this, we must understand the importance of tackling head-on the barriers to awareness and accessibility in our sport, and the feeling of apprehension, all of which can prevent women and girls from fully participating in football.

## **"LEGACY '23 IS OUR GAME PLAN."**

Underpinning the development of Our Game™ is extensive research into the drivers for the attraction and retention of women and girls at all levels of the game. Learning from successful programs implemented by Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) and FIFA, the initiative's ambition is to cultivate an energised and passionate community, to own the future of women's football confidently and unapologetically.

Our Game™ will work at addressing perceptions of women in football and the hesitancy limiting women's participation, as well as enhancing visibility and awareness of the various avenues of involvement, celebrating accomplishments and providing practical resources to facilitate participation.



# FIRST NATIONS

**In November 2021, Football Australia announced the formation of its inaugural National Indigenous Advisory Group (NIAG), which brings a breadth and depth of knowledge and insight into the current and emerging goals of the First Nations community across Australia.**

A key advisory body to Football Australia, the NIAG comprises eight First Nations community members from diverse cultures, experiences and intersectionality, who are driving change in a variety of areas: professional and grassroots football, media, academia, and government.

Football Australia's NIAG will focus on:

- supporting the ongoing cultural safety for football's First Nations participants, to assist in retaining First Nations players, coaches, support staff, administrators and in those in governance positions
- evaluation and advice on football pathways and programs designed to drive social outcomes
- guidance on future strategic partnerships and employment strategies
- promotion of reconciliation through the ongoing engagement and shared development of Football Australia's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Throughout the past 12 months, the NIAG has been instrumental in advising Football Australia on the Uluru

Statement from the Heart and in helping to develop the organisation's first RAP.

On 22 February 2022, Football Australia's first RAP was launched, having been developed in collaboration with the NIAG, Football Australia's RAP Working Group, and internal and external stakeholders. Reconciliation Australia recognised and awarded Football Australia's plan with a 'Reflect' status under the RAP framework.

**“NIAG COMPRISES EIGHT FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY MEMBERS FROM DIVERSE CULTURES, EXPERIENCES AND INTERSECTIONALITY.”**

Football Australia understands and welcomes the integral role football can play in our nation's reconciliation journey. Our Reflect RAP is our initial step towards delivering on our commitment to be an inclusive and diverse game.

Through our first RAP, Football Australia has established cultural protocols and education for Football Australia events, to ensure our events are culturally safe, celebratory and educational within our sphere of influence.





This year we have celebrated dates of significance, including NAIDOC Week, National Reconciliation Week and the anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), using these moments for staff education, which has led to increased connection with more members of First Nations communities and celebrations of First Nations culture more broadly.

This education forms part of our ongoing development of the cultural learning strategy, which will see an increased number of staff, participants and players receive more opportunities to engage further in education regarding First Nations peoples, cultures and history.

With all this strong foundational work, Football Australia is proud to pledge support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart, seeing the organisation leading the way by making one of the most significant contributions to the reconciliation movement.

In supporting the Uluru Statement, Football Australia stands side by side with First Nations people in calling for a voice to Parliament enshrined in the Constitution, and for legal and structural reforms to reshape the relationship between First Nations peoples and the Australian population.

Football Australia continues to support the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia & New Zealand 2023™ on cultural integration through honouring important practices, including traditional placenames across all Australian Host Cities, in collaboration with local councils and traditional owners.



# LGBTQIA+

**Football Australia is committed to ensuring that football is a safe and inclusive game for all. As a founding member of Pride in Sport, we continue to evolve our policies and engagement practices to create a safe and inclusive environment for all members of the LGBTQIA+ football community.**

With the aim of putting our values into action and to stand in solidarity with the LGBTQIA+ football community, Football Australia participated in the 2022 Mardi Gras Parade on Saturday 5 March, alongside representatives from the Australian Professional Leagues (APL).



# GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

For Football Australia, this was a big year in the government relations space, with the reintroduction of international matches for both the Socceroos and Matildas, a federal election in May 2022, federal Budget submissions, the implementation of the National Football Facilities Audit tool and general advocacy work for the game at federal and state levels, to name but a few activities.

Although there was a strong emphasis on continuing work commenced in the previous year in relation to FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™ through *Legacy '23*, there were additional new challenges on the horizon. These challenges included the Australian Government and International Relations Department advocating and negotiating with state and federal governments during a difficult period of constant flux, to assist both domestic and international team operations with respect to athlete movement. This athlete movement included hosting the Australia Cup, hosting home internationals and team qualification matches, and supporting outbound National Teams.

Throughout the year, content has been critical to putting the game front of mind once again. Football Australia led negotiations with both federal and state governments resulted in demonstrable support for the game at an elite level, providing funding that has underpinned both Socceroos and Matildas games against Brazil, USA, Thailand, Vietnam, Saudi

Arabia, Japan and Canada. The Brazil match series, in particular, was the only international sporting event to be executed in Australia inside a COVID-19 bubble.

Funding success was realised in many forms throughout this period. For example, Football Australia received a further \$3.1 million in the federal government's 2021–22 Budget, towards its *Legacy '23* Strategic Plan, and later in April 2022, with the New South Wales State Government also realising the inherent value in the plan by committing \$10 million towards delivering a legacy for the game within New South Wales.

**“POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT SECURED \$141.3 MILLION IN COMMITMENTS TOWARDS FOOTBALL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.”**

As a sport, we improved our ability to present stronger cases for facility projects through the implementation of the National Football Facilities Audit tool. This tool was the catalyst for Football Australia's 2022 federal election campaign, #Equaliser. This campaign highlighted the lack

of female-friendly change rooms across the country (only 36%), leveraging the election at a club level to garner federal funding support for female-focused facilities projects. This campaign ran for four weeks, achieving \$17.95 million in commitments, which included \$7.75 million from the Australian Labor Party, and will be relaunched ahead of future state elections.

In addition, we worked with state and territory Member Federations to organise meetings with MPs, senators and candidates, to advocate for facility projects that required funding. Activations also included working with the Parliamentary Friends of Football to drive events such as the inaugural *Legacy '23* Cup in Canberra, which raises the profile of our game within political circles.

With Member Federation support we developed a national football facilities priority project list, which enabled Football Australia to advocate strongly for the sport in the months prior to the May 2022 federal election. Overall, football's political engagement from an electorate level through to a national-office level, secured \$141.3 million in commitments towards football infrastructure projects, which was the highest of any sport and included \$47.4 million from the ALP.



# COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIPS

**Football Australia's commercial growth accelerated in 2022 through a number of new commercial partnerships as well as strong increases in crowd attendances, broadcast audiences and licensed product sales.**

Football Australia's broadcast partnership with 10 Paramount entered its second year, with 10 Paramount providing strong free-to-air coverage for National Team matches in Australia and abroad. In 2022, the FFA Cup Final (renamed the Australia Cup) was telecast during prime time on free-to-air television for the first time. Fans across the country tuned in to Channel 10 to watch Melbourne Victory defeat Central Coast Mariners, after a COVID-19-impacted FFA Cup 2021 campaign. Then in September 2022, a strong audience again tuned into Channel 10 for the Australia Cup 2022 Final between Macarthur FC and Sydney United 58 FC.

After the FFA Cup was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19, Football Australia was delighted to see the *Magic of the Cup* podcast return, and the 2022 Australia Cup Final welcomed the second-highest crowd attendance on record.

After kicking off its partnership in 2021, CommBank continued to demonstrate its significant commitment to football by expanding its support to the CommBank ParaMatildas and CommBank Pararoots, and in doing so, played a major role in Australia claiming its first piece of World Cup silverware after the CommBank ParaMatildas

reached the final of the inaugural IFCPF Women's World Cup in Spain.

On the morning of 22 September 2022, ahead of the Centenary match against New Zealand in Brisbane, Football Australia and Subway announced a record-breaking partnership, which sees Subway become the naming rights partner of the Subway Socceroos, and Official Partner of the CommBank Matildas and the Australia Cup. Subway executives joined the pre-match gala dinner and then watched the Subway Socceroos defeat New Zealand, with the fresh new partnership starting perfectly on a truly historic night for Australian football.

## "FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA AND SUBWAY ANNOUNCED A RECORD-BREAKING PARTNERSHIP"

CUPRA was also welcomed as the new automotive partner of our National Teams. CUPRA, part of the Volkswagen Group, is the unconventional challenger brand inspiring the world from Barcelona, and Football Australia is proud that CUPRA has chosen football, and specifically our engaging and iconic National Teams, as its first strategic partner in the Australian market.





After a successful initial term, Cadbury extended its sponsorship of the CommBank Matildas for another four years, to 2026, and we look forward to seeing CommBank Matildas featured on Cadbury products in 2023, and continuing our shared work with Cadbury to help women in sport feel seen, appreciated and supported.

In addition to bolstering its sponsorship portfolio, Football Australia's commercial strategy has focused on working with partners that can help take football to new audiences.

In 2022, Football Australia revealed that The Walt Disney Company will produce a six-part docuseries, *Matildas: The World at Our Feet*. The docuseries will air on Disney+ in 2023, delivering previously unseen insights into our CommBank Matildas, on and off the pitch, and sharing their story not only in Australia, but also to a worldwide audience.

Further initiatives included working with The Wiggles, one of the world's biggest children's entertainment groups, to drive increased family attendances at matches, and helping to launch The Wiggles' new line-up in 2021, which was revealed at the CommBank Matildas versus USA match in front of a record-breaking crowd of 36,109 at Accor Stadium. The Wiggles' support continued through to the Subway Socceroos World Cup qualification, with Andrew Redmayne's heroic goalkeeping efforts against Peru leading to worldwide accolades and an honorary appointment as the 'Grey Wiggle'.

Football Australia also launched a range of exciting new licensing projects – highlights of which included a

Socceroos Centenary Coin with the Royal Australian Mint, limited-edition Socceroos Centenary Stamps with Australia Post, and an eight-book publishing contract with Penguin Random House featuring CommBank Matildas and Subway Socceroos players, aimed at engaging and entertaining junior football fans everywhere.

Principle XI in the XI Principles is focused on transforming our National Teams into uniquely iconic brands, and the collective work being done with our media, sponsor, licensing and agency partners, as well as internal departments at Football Australia, has enhanced the commercial power of not only the Subway Socceroos and CommBank Matildas in 2022, but also the game of football as a whole, and with two World Cups ahead, we forecast further growth in 2023.

Football Australia would like to thank all its partners for their crucial support in funding, marketing and growing football in Australia.



# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Football Australia's International Relations Department saw a change of scope during the COVID-19 pandemic, with routine collaboration with other AFC Member Associations temporarily coming to a halt as government regulations restricted activity and travel.**

Instead, the team played a critical role in keeping Australia's national football teams on the road, working constructively with the Australian Government and various state governments to ensure teams would fulfil their match obligations, specifically the Subway Socceroos being able to stay eligible for qualification to the 2022 FIFA World Cup™ in Qatar, and the CommBank Matildas having their pick of international opposition in the lead-up to the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™.

This also included a major breakthrough in October 2021, when Football Australia became the first organisation in the country to host an international event without participants requiring a 14-day quarantine, when the Matildas ended a 596-day hiatus of National Team activity on Australian soil with a two-match series against Brazil.

This international event, an important step in Australia's opening up, was played under strict COVID-19-bubble conditions and was made possible through extensive consultation and engagement with government and health authorities. As part of this process, the team also led an

Australian sporting-first procurement of world-class contact-tracing technology from Kinexon, which also supplied the NFL, MLB and NBA.

That recovery was boosted further when the Socceroos enjoyed their own homecoming at the same Sydney venue three weeks later, hosting Saudi Arabia in a FIFA World Cup Qualifier, having played a string of nominal 'home' qualifiers in neutral locations such as Doha, which were secured by the International Relations Department.

## "AN IMPORTANT STEP IN AUSTRALIA'S OPENING UP."

Work supporting Australia's national football teams continued in 2022, working constructively with the AFC and other football stakeholders on the delivery of home FIFA World Cup Qualification matches, and working to relocate an AFC U-20 Asian Cup Qualification Group from Iraq to Kuwait to support a safer playing environment.

The team also secured the hosting rights for the AFC U-17 Asian Cup Qualifiers for the regional Victoria town of Shepparton. Due to events outside of anyone's control, they were finally successful at the third attempt, delivering the first Asian youth competition of its kind in Australia since 2009,







and the first ever to take place outside an Australian capital city.

The event, which brought more than 150 international participants from 15 countries to Australia and attracted nearly 3,000 fans through the gates, including many from the diaspora communities of the participating nations, provided a template for potential future activity in this area.

As part of a sign that operating activity is returning to normal for the International Relations Department, work is underway with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to deliver more sporting collaboration with countries in the Pacific region, and to look at opportunities to use Australia's hosting of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ as part of the International Pillar of *Legacy '23*.

Another significant milestone from the year came with the recruitment of Tom Engelhardt in June 2022. Tom returns to Australia after more than five years in a consultancy role with the AFC. Welcome home, Tom.



# NATIONAL TEAMS



# COMMBANK MATILDAS

**With the commencement of a new four-year international calendar, the focus for the CommBank Matildas turned fully to building squad depth ahead of the FIFA Women's World Cup Australia and New Zealand 2023™, while concurrently preparing for the AFC Women's Asian Cup India 2022™.**

While the CommBank Matildas fell short at the continental championships with a quarter-final exit, the preceding 12 months did see a host of highlights, including a long-awaited homecoming, the unearthing of exciting new talent and increasingly strong attendances for home international matches.

Four more players would join the National Team ranks while another five players would register a century of appearances for Australia.

## OCTOBER 2021 – HOMECOMING SERIES AGAINST BRAZIL

After almost 600 days, the CommBank Matildas had a jubilant homecoming in Sydney, in the match against Brazil. The two-match series saw Australia host the South American powerhouse at CommBank Stadium.

In front of family and friends they had not seen in almost a year and to raucous home support, Clare Polkinghorne, Mary Fowler and Emily van Egmond fired Australia to a 3–1 win in the first match. Three days later, it was Polkinghorne again on the scoreboard and captain Sam Kerr to assist the home team to a 2–2 draw.

The series was momentous for Sydney-born Alanna Kennedy, with the defender captaining the side in her 100th appearance in the opening match, and for forwards Remy Siemsen (cap #216) and Bryleeh Henry (cap #217), as they became the latest members of the CommBank Matildas.





## NOVEMBER 2021 – WELCOMING THE WORLD CHAMPION UNITED STATES WOMEN’S NATIONAL TEAM

The final FIFA window of 2021 saw the CommBank Matildas welcome the United States Women’s National team (USWNT) – two-time defending FIFA Women’s World Cup™ champions – in Sydney and Newcastle.

In front of a record 36,109 fans at Stadium Australia, the venue that will host the FIFA Women’s World Cup 2023™ final, the USWNT recorded a 3–0 win against the CommBank Matildas. Australia bounced back in the second clash with Kyah Simon’s late strike, securing a 1–1 result in Newcastle.

Midfielder Tameka Yallop joined the 100 Club in the opening match of the series, while young defender Jessika Nash became CommBank Matilda cap #218.

## JANUARY 2022 – AFC WOMEN’S ASIAN CUP INDIA 2022™ CAMPAIGN

The new year saw the CommBank Matildas head to Dubai for a pre-tournament training camp ahead of the AFC Women’s Asian Cup India 2022™. Head Coach Tony Gustavsson named a travelling squad before cutting down to the final 23 players.

Drawn in Group B, Australia’s AFC Women’s Asian Cup campaign commenced with a glut of goalscoring, with a dominant 18–0 win over Indonesia. Sam Kerr netted five goals and in doing so, became Australia’s all-time leading international goalscorer. Three days later Kerr was on the

scoreboard again as the skipper, when Emily van Egmond and Mary Fowler oversaw the CommBank Matildas, defeat of the Philippines. Group play concluded on 27 January as van Egmond and Kerr fired to see off Thailand 2–1. Finishing on top of Group B set up a tantalising clash with Korea Republic in the quarter-finals. Despite dominating on almost all match indicators, a stunning strike from the Taegeuk captain, Ji So-yun, three minutes from time, resulted in the end of Australia’s campaign in Pune.

Vice-captain Steph Catley was added to the 100 Club in the quarter-finals, while electric forwards, Holly McNamara (cap #219) and Cortnee Vine (cap #220), made their tournament and international debuts in India.

## COMMBANK MATILDAS SQUAD – AFC WOMEN’S ASIAN CUP INDIA 2022™

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Lydia WILLIAMS (GK) | 13. Tameka YALLOP     |
| 2. Courtney NEVIN      | 14. Alanna KENNEDY    |
| 3. Aivi LUIK           | 15. Emily GIELNIK     |
| 4. Clare POLKINGHORNE  | 16. Hayley RASO       |
| 5. Cortnee VINE        | 17. Kyah SIMON        |
| 6. Clare WHEELER       | 18. Mackenzie ARNOLD  |
| 7. Steph CATLEY        | 19. Kyra COONEY-CROSS |
| 8. Charlotte GRANT     | 20. Sam KERR          |
| 9. Caitlin FOORD       | 21. Ellie CARPENTER   |
| 10. Emily VAN EGMOND   | 22. Holly MCNAMARA    |
| 11. Mary FOWLER        | 23. Remy SIEMSEN      |
| 12. Teagan MICAH       |                       |





## APRIL 2022 – NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONALS

After a break following the AFC Women's Asian Cup, the CommBank Matildas returned to action in April with a two-match series against fellow FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ co-hosts, New Zealand. For the first time since 2020, the women's National Team played matches outside of New South Wales, with Townsville and Canberra the two hosts. Over 10,000 fans braved the rain at QCB Stadium for the first-ever international football match at the stadium. Injury-time goals from Emily van Egmond and Sam Kerr saw the hosts turn around a deficit to send the crowd into raptures in a 2–1 victory. Kerr was again on the scorecard in the second match at GIO Stadium in Canberra as she and Hayley Raso ensured that the CommBank Matildas swept the series, with a 3–1 win over the Football Ferns.

## JUNE 2022 – SPAIN AND PORTUGAL INTERNATIONALS

June saw a host of CommBank Matildas stars earning a rest after an exhaustive 12 months, providing a host of fresh faces with the opportunity to impress and gain invaluable experience in the UEFA Women's EURO in Spain and Portugal. A confident Spanish side provided that experience when they recorded a 7–0 victory in Huelva. The young Australian squad regrouped for the second clash with the team, fighting to a 1–1 draw with Portugal, thanks to Princess Ibini's first international goal.

In the clash with Portugal, the CommBank Matildas longest-serving player of all time, Lydia Williams, became the first female goalkeeper to notch up a well-deserved century of

appearances. The tour also saw defender Jamilla Rankin (cap #221) and midfielder Taylor Ray (cap #222) become the latest inductees into the Australian women's National Team pantheon.

## AUG-SEP 2022 – CANADA INTERNATIONALS

The high-quality opponents continued in September, when the Tokyo 2020 Olympics gold medallists faced Australia in two tightly contested internationals in Brisbane and Sydney. In a glimpse of the fervour to come in 12 months' time, more than 25,000 supporters filed into Suncorp Stadium to watch a physical match between the two nations. A sole first-half strike saw the visitors walk away with a 1–0 victory. Three days later, in the new Allianz Stadium, the venue for Australia's first match at the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™, almost 27,000 additional fans viewed a scintillating first-half performance from the CommBank Matildas. Unfortunately, Mary Fowler's early strike was not enough to secure victory for the home team.



# SUBWAY SOCCEROOS

## NOVEMBER 2021 – AFC ASIAN QUALIFIERS – ROAD TO QATAR – ROUND 3

The Subway Socceroos entered the year with the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ qualification firmly in sight. After a series of qualification matches played away from home due to travel restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Subway Socceroos played their first game in Australia in over two years.

The Subway Socceroos' first match on home soil since October 2019 was played against Saudi Arabia, who were top of Group B. In a tight affair in front of 23,314 fans at Western Sydney Stadium, the match finished a nil-all draw.

The November FIFA World Cup qualifying window continued with a fixture against China, played in Sharjah (United Arab Emirates).

In a setback for the Subway Socceroos, they were held to a 1–1 draw. Mitch Duke's powerful first-half header looked to have the Subway Socceroos on course for a crucial three points in their quest to qualify for a fifth consecutive World Cup. However, Graham Arnold's side had to pay for not taking their chances when China was awarded a contentious penalty midway through the second half, to level the scores.

## JANUARY 2022 – AFC ASIAN QUALIFIERS – ROAD TO QATAR – ROUND 3

In front of almost 28,000 fans in Melbourne, Australia rediscovered its attacking mojo. The home side dominated from the outset, with Jamie Maclaren and Tom Rogic both scoring in an entertaining first half. Substitutes Craig Goodwin and Riley McGree both scored their first international goals after the break, to complete the 4–0 rout against Vietnam.





Australia's hopes of automatic qualification for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ were dealt a blow after being held to a 2–2 draw against Oman in Muscat, in the second game in the January window. Australia scored the opener when Jamie Maclaren slammed home a penalty after Martin Boyle was brought down inside the penalty area.

Oman levelled the scores in the 54th minute, through Abdullah Fawaz, who found the back of the net with a well-struck effort from the edge of the penalty area. Aaron Mooy reinstated Australia's lead in the 79th minute when he slammed home an effort from the top of the box. However, Australia was denied all three points in the 89th minute, when Abdullah Fawaz scored his second of the night from the penalty spot.

That result left Australia three points adrift of the group's automatic qualification positions with just two games left to play in Round 3 of AFC FIFA World Cup qualifying.

### MARCH 2022

The Subway Socceroos returned to Sydney for a crucial clash with Japan. In what was an exciting first half, overshadowed by the wet weather that had disrupted Sydney all day leading up to the clash, the Socceroos and the Samurai Blue were locked in at nil-all at half-time.

Kaoru Mitoma netted a late winner for Japan, which sent the Samurai Blue into the FIFA World Cup and confirmed Australia's third-place finish in the final round of qualification.

With the focus now on the playoffs, the Subway Socceroos travelled to Saudi Arabia where Graham Arnold made a host

of changes, with Bruno Fornaroli and Nathaniel Atkinson making their starting debuts, and Nick D'Agostino making his first appearance for the National Team.

Despite creating some solid chances, the Subway Socceroos suffered a slim 1–0 defeat in Saudi Arabia.

### JUNE 2022 – AFC ASIAN QUALIFIERS – ROAD TO QATAR – ROUND 3 PLAYOFFS

#### AUSTRALIA VS. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The Subway Socceroos' hope of qualifying for a fifth successive World Cup would now come down to a series of playoff matches. The first test was against the other third-placed nation in the AFC World Cup Qualifiers, UAE.

Having debuted the week before in a friendly victory over Jordan, Subway Socceroos coach Graham Arnold opted for Kye Rowles to partner Bailey Wright in the centre of defence. Meanwhile, Mathew Leckie led the line in the absence of Taggart as Martin Boyle and Craig Goodwin provided support from the wings.

Australia found the opening goal in the 52nd minute. Boyle broke down right and surged towards the line before fizzing a cross to Jackson Irvine, who neatly tucked the ball past the keeper, with his right foot.

A late strike by Ajdin Hrustic secured a 2–1 win over UAE and sealed the Subway Socceroos' passage to the intercontinental playoff against Peru for a chance to progress to the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™.



## AUSTRALIA VS. PERU

After a qualification campaign that stretched 1,008 days and saw Australia's senior men's national football team play just four of its 20 qualification matches on home soil, Graham Arnold's side was faced with one final hurdle: the match against Peru.

In an even contest that went the distance, neither side could find the decisive goal and just before the 120 minutes expired, reserve goalkeeper Andrew Redmayne was subbed on to take the place of Mat Ryan for the all-important penalty shootout.

Martin Boyle stepped up to take the first penalty, which was deflected by the Peruvian goalkeeper, Pedro Gallese. Gianluca Lapadula then put Peru in front in the shootout as he blasted the ball past Redmayne.

Aaron Mooy then smashed the ball into the top corner to level the scores in the shootout, but Peru restored their lead through Alexander Callens.

Craig Goodwin subsequently thumped the ball into the roof of the net to make it 2–2. When Luis Advincula's effort thundered off the post to make it one missed penalty each, the tide started to turn.

Ajdin Hrustic then stepped up to give Australia a 3–2 lead as he wrong-footed the keeper with a smart finish to the right, but Peru restored parity through Renato Tapia.

Jamie Maclaren sent Gallese the wrong way and slotted the ball into the bottom-left corner while Flores scored his penalty to set up a showdown between Alex Valera and Redmayne.

In just his third appearance for the Subway Socceroos, Andrew Redmayne became an instant hero for the entire country. His match-winning save sent Australia through to their fifth successive FIFA World Cup. Speaking after the match, Redmayne revealed the plan to bring him on for the penalty shootout had been devised months in advance.

The qualification for FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ will be remembered as one of the great Australian sporting moments in Australia's history.

## SEPTEMBER 2022 – CENTENARY OF THE SOCCEROOS

September marked 100 years since the Australian Men's national football team took to the field for an 'A' international for the first time.

To celebrate the occasion, the Subway Socceroos played two matches against New Zealand, their first opponents on the international stage.

Ahead of the encounter in Brisbane, Football Australia confirmed the list of those selected and honoured, after over 110,000 individual player and coach selections were digitally submitted by supporters from around the world.

In addition to the 16 fan selections, seven players were nominated by Football Australia's Panel of Historians.





## HEAD COACH



### GUUS HIDDINK

Guus Hiddink helped end Australia's 32-year World Cup drought after beating Uruguay on penalties in 2005. In Australia's second-ever World Cup appearance in 2006, he led the team to Round 16, exiting a group containing Brazil, Japan and Croatia. The Dutch legend has previously been in charge of the likes of the Netherlands, PSV Eindhoven, Chelsea, Real Madrid, Korea Republic and Valencia. Hiddink returned to the dugout, alongside Graham Arnold, for the recent friendly matches against New Zealand as part of the Centenary celebrations.



### GRAHAM ARNOLD

From 1984 to 1990, Graham Arnold played 178 games and scored 67 goals with Sydney United. He was named 1986 NSL Player of the Year and top scorer with 17 goals. In the late 1980s, Arnold moved overseas to play in Belgium, Japan and then Holland, where he became prominent with Roda JC (Holland) as a leading striker. Arnold played for Australia in 56 'A' internationals, scoring 19 goals. Between 2000 and 2010, Arnold worked in several coaching roles with the National Team at various levels, though predominantly with the senior side as an assistant, but also as interim boss. In 2004, he was inducted into Football Australia's Hall of Fame.

During his time as an A-League coach, Arnold won Coach of the Year on three occasions, winning a combined four premierships and two championships with Central Coast Mariners and Sydney FC. After the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia, Arnold took over as Head Coach of the Socceroos and U-23s. In January 2020, he guided the U-23s to the Tokyo Olympics, the Olyroos' first Olympic Games in 12 years. He later oversaw Australia's campaign to secure their place at the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™, following a dramatic penalty shootout win over Peru.



### ANGE POSTECOGLOU

Ange Postecoglou was appointed Head Coach of the Socceroos in 2013 and was at the helm until 2017, helping Australia qualify for the FIFA World Cup in 2018.

Credited for bringing a number of young players into the team, Postecoglou was in charge of the team in 2014 in Brazil, and six months later he guided Australia to the 2015 AFC Asian Cup, following an extra-time win over Korea Republic. An offensive-minded tactician, Postecoglou likes to employ an attacking brand of football built on high intensity, and is currently coaching Scottish powerhouse Celtic. He also achieved four caps for the green and gold as a player, and previously coached Australia at youth level for seven years.



### RALE RASIC

Rale Rasic was appointed Head Coach in August 1970, starting a run of success for the Socceroos that included an unbeaten 12-match streak in the 1972 world tour, an undefeated tour of Asia and a 2–2 draw with Pele's Santos. Rasic took the team through the 1974 rounds to line up matches against West and East Germany and Chile, culminating in Australia's first appearance in the World Cup Finals in Germany. In 2001, he was awarded the Australian Sports Medal and the Centenary Medal for services to soccer, and in 2004, the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to soccer as a player, coach and administrator. In 1999, he was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame.

## GOALKEEPERS



### JIMMY MCNABB

Jimmy McNabb started his football career as a fullback with Weston in Northern New South Wales until an injury to his right ankle turned him into an outstanding goalkeeper. Within two seasons, he was selected for the Northern New South Wales representative team and played for Australia on 17 occasions. McNabb's most notable effort occurred in July 1937 when he saved a penalty, enabling Australia to hold on and beat England 4–3. Australia took the series 2–1, a win that put Australia on the football world map. He was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame in 1999.

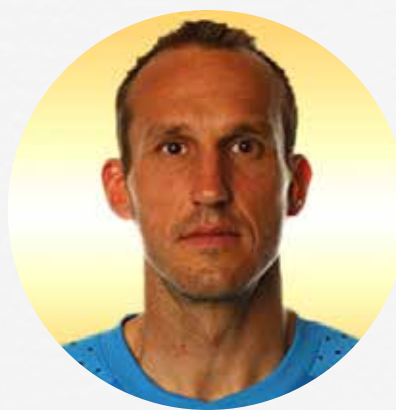




### MATHEW RYAN

The current Subway Socceroos captain, Mathew Ryan has been a regular goalkeeper for Australia since 2014. Ryan has represented his country at two FIFA

World Cups and two AFC Asian Cups and currently has 75 caps to his name, keeping 26 clean sheets, which ranks second behind only Mark Schwarzer. Since moving abroad from the Central Coast Mariners, Ryan has played in Belgium, Spain, England and Denmark.



### MARK SCHWARZER

Mark Schwarzer is one of the most decorated players in Socceroos history, and one of the stars of Australia's 'Golden Generation' that qualified for the 2006

FIFA World Cup in Germany. It was Schwarzer's two saves in the penalty shootout that helped Australia defeat Uruguay and reach the FIFA World Cup Finals after a 32-year drought. The goalkeeper is the Socceroos' most-capped player, making 109 appearances for his National Team between his debut in 1993 to his international retirement 20 years later. A Premier League stalwart, the shot-stopper made more than 500 appearances – mainly with Middlesbrough and Fulham – and bit-part stints at the end of his career with Chelsea and Leicester. In 2021, Schwarzer was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame.

## DEFENDERS



### SCOTT CHIPPERFIELD

Scott Chipperfield was a driving force in the Wolves team that swept up two back-to-back NSL titles in 2000 and 2001 and also won the Oceania Club Championship

in 2001. That club success and a growing international profile with the Socceroos, earned Chipperfield a move to Swiss Super League club FC Basel. It was the start of a prodigious trophy haul for Chipperfield, who won seven league titles and six Swiss Cups with Basel. The then 29-year-old was a part of the famous victory over Uruguay in 2005, breaking the Socceroos' 32-year World Cup hoodoo. He was selected to represent Australia at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany and again at the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa. After the final group game against Serbia, which Australia won 2-1, Chipperfield announced his retirement from international football after 68 matches and 12 goals. In 2012, he was inducted in the Football Australia Hall of Fame.



### JOE MARSTON

Joe Marston was a strong and agile central defender with an illustrious career in Australia and England.

He represented Australia and also coached the National Team, but made his name with famous English club, Preston North End. Marston was the first Australian to play in an English FA Cup Final when

Preston North End went down to West Bromwich Albion in 1954. Among the many individual accolades bestowed upon Marston was an MBE, the Australian Sports Medal, and induction into the Football Australia Hall of Fame in 1999. The best player in the A-League Men Grand Final is awarded the Joe Marston Medal.



### CRAIG MOORE

Craig Moore holds a unique place in Australian football having represented his country at every age level: under 17, under

19 and under 23 (Atlanta Olympic Games) – and two FIFA World Cup Finals (Germany 2006 and South Africa 2010). In Europe he played for Glasgow Rangers, Crystal Palace, Borussia Mönchengladbach and Newcastle United, while in Australia he played for Queensland Roar (later renamed Brisbane Roar) in the A-League as their captain and marquee player for three seasons. The central defender was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame in 2011.



### LUCAS NEILL

Lucas Neill captained Australia on 61 occasions, a record that still stands. He played a total of 96 matches between 1996 and 2013 and was involved in two

FIFA World Cups in 2006 and 2010, and two AFC Asian Cups in 2007 and 2011. Neill spent most of his club football period playing in England with Millwall, Blackburn Rovers and West Ham United.





### ALEX TOBIN

Alex Tobin amassed 522 appearances, most with Adelaide City before joining Parramatta Power and ending his playing career with Northern Spirit. He helped Adelaide City to three NSL titles and two Australian Cups, and made the most appearances for any player in Australian national domestic competition. Tobin gained 87 full 'A' caps for Australia and appeared for his country a total of 113 times. He captained the Socceroos from 1995 after Paul Wade retired, and was subsequently inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame Class of 2007.



### TONY VIDMAR

A versatile defender who can play anywhere in the defensive line, Tony Vidmar was part of four World Cup qualifying campaigns. He made 76 full 'A' internationals for the Socceroos over a 15-year international career and scored a vital goal during the penalty shootout against Uruguay, which put Australia into the World Cup. Vidmar represented some big clubs during his playing career, playing for the likes of NAC Breda (Netherlands), Rangers (Scotland), Middlesbrough (England), and Cardiff City (Wales), before returning to Australia to play for the Central Coast Mariners in the A-League. Since retiring from playing, Vidmar has moved into the coaching space and is currently (as of 2019) an assistant coach to Graham Arnold with the Subway Socceroos. In 2009, he was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame.



### PETER WILSON

A 1999 inductee into the Football Australia Hall of Fame, Peter Wilson is widely regarded as one of the toughest defenders in the modern era. He was a dominating figure in the Australia team during the 1970s. Between 1970 and 1979, Wilson made a then record 115 appearances for the National Team, and captained Australia from 1971, including the 1974 World Cup Finals.

## MIDFIELDERS



### MARK BRESCIANO

Mark Bresciano was one of the midfield stars of Australia's 'Golden Generation', which qualified for the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany. It was his equalising goal against Uruguay in the final qualifying match that led to the dramatic and historic penalty shootout. In all he played 84 matches for Australia and was part of the squad that won the AFC Asian Cup 2015. During his club career, the creative midfielder spent the bulk of his time in Italy with Empoli, Parma and Palermo. In 2018, Bresciano was recognised for his tremendous career by being inducted into Football Australia Hall of Fame.



### BRETT EMERTON

Brett Emerton was a dynamic player down Australia's right flank as he could operate either as a right-back or right midfielder. Four years with Sydney Olympic earned

him a move to Dutch giants, Feyenoord, before switching to Blackburn Rovers in 2003. In eight years with the Blue and Whites, Emerton recorded almost 300 appearances. Emerton made his Socceroos debut in 1998 and went on to feature at two FIFA World Cups and two AFC Asian Cups, all while amassing 95 caps and 20 goals.



### MILE JEDINAK

One of Australia's best defensive midfielders ever produced, Mile Jedinak captained his country at two FIFA World Cups in 2014 and 2018 as well as at the 2015 AFC Asian Cup, which the Socceroos won, and scored in each of these tournaments. Jedinak retired from international football in October 2018, registering 79 caps and 20 goals. At club level, some of the clubs he played for included the Central Coast Mariners, Crystal Palace and Aston Villa.



### HARRY KEWELL

Harry Kewell overcame more than his fair share of injury struggles to represent Australia on 58 occasions, scoring 17 goals. The forward is considered one of the greatest players Australia has ever produced. Boasting a famous left boot, he played an instrumental role in memorable upsets over England, Holland, Germany and Uruguay (on a couple of famous occasions), all the while providing for his country when they needed him most at the Asian Cup and World Cup. In the club arena, Kewell's notable overseas spells include Leeds



United, Liverpool and Galatasaray. He was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame in 2019.



### AARON MOOY

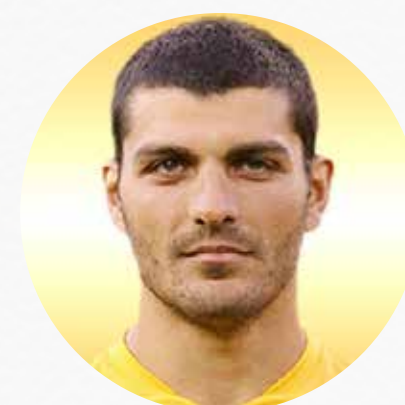
Aaron Mooy has more than 50 caps to his name for Australia. The creative midfielder is one of the best distributors in the team, with his passing vision and range. Mooy appeared at the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia, playing 90 minutes in all three group matches. Mooy, who plays his club football with Celtic, has also played in England with Huddersfield Town, and Brighton & Hove Albion.



### JOHNNY WARREN

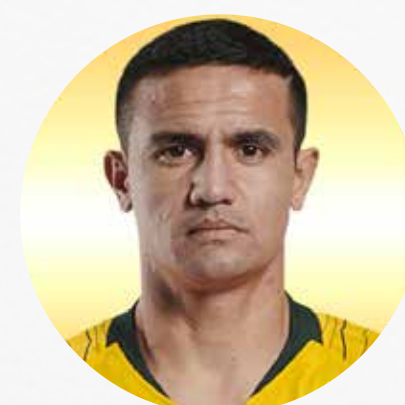
Having made his international debut in November of 1965 against Cambodia, Johnny Warren went on to make 42 appearances and score six goals. In 1967, he captained the Socceroos for the first time against New Zealand, and went on to captain the side a total of 24 times. Warren was also part of the first-ever Socceroos squad to go to a FIFA World Cup in 1974 in West Germany. In their opening match against East Germany, Warren and the Socceroos earned themselves respect globally, with their strong showing. Warren's infectious passion for the game made him the face of the sport and the unofficial spokesperson for football and its long fight for mainstream acceptance. Warren's commitment to the game at every stage of his career has left a long-lasting legacy for football in Australia.

## FORWARDS



### JOHN ALOISI

John Aloisi scored 27 goals in 55 matches for Australia between 1997 and 2008. The striker is best remembered for scoring the winning penalty in the shootout win over Uruguay in 2005 in Sydney – one of Australia's most memorable sporting moments. During his club career he represented Standard Liege and Royal Antwerp in Belgium before moving to Cremonese in Italy's top-flight league. In 1997, he moved to England and spent time with Portsmouth and Coventry City. In 2001, he signed for La Liga outfit Osasuna and later joined Alaves until returning to his homeland in 2007.



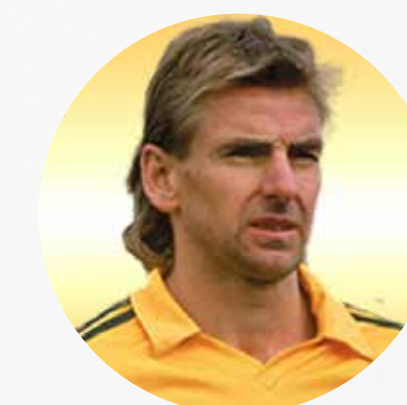
### TIM CAHILL

Australia's greatest goalscorer, Tim Cahill netted 50 goals in 108 caps between 2004 and 2018. Cahill was part of four FIFA World Cups, scoring five goals across three of the tournaments. Cahill built a reputation of being an aerial threat and popping up at key moments for his country, such as his two goals against Japan in the opening Group F game in 2006. He was also in the team that won the AFC Asian Cup in 2015. During his club career, he is best remembered for his time at Millwall, and even more so with Everton, where he spent eight years at Goodison Park.



### REG DATE

Newcastle local Reg Date is widely regarded as one of Australia's great goalscorers. He represented Australia six times at a time when international matches were few and far between. His most productive years were 1947, when he scored 72 goals in the season for Canterbury, and 1937, when he scored 204 goals for Plattsburgh Under 18s. Date was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame in 1999.



### JOHN KOSMINA

John Kosmina's career bloomed when he switched from Adelaide to the talented Sydney City in the National Soccer League – a move that led to national selection. He was one of the first Australians in the modern era to play professionally in England, where he made a handful of appearances for Arsenal. Between 1976 and 1988, Kosmina scored 25 goals and won 60 caps, while captaining the Socceroos in their appearance at the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games. In 1999, he was an inaugural inductee into the Football Australia Hall of Fame.



## JUDY MASTERS



James 'Judy' Masters was born in Balgownie, Southern New South Wales in 1898. He played 22 matches for the National Team, including 13 full internationals, scoring 12 goals and captaining from 1923 to 1925. Known as the 'Little Master', he was recognised in his centre forward role as one of Australia's best players before and during his time. Masters joined the army in World War I and led an Australian Imperial Force team formed in France in 1918. During a career spanning 400 club and representative games, Masters was never cautioned by a referee, and was part of the inaugural Football Australia Hall of Fame Class of 1999.

## ALF QUILL



A prolific scorer, Alf Quill scored 868 goals in senior games from 1927 to 1949, which still stands as an Australian record. He made seven national appearances for eight goals and took up coaching after he retired. He was in charge of Australia in the match against Yugoslavia's Hadjuk Split in late 1949. In 1999, Quill was inducted into the Football Australia Hall of Fame.



# COMMBANK YOUNG MATILDAS (U-20WNT)

**In March 2022, the CommBank Young Matildas learned that they would be returning to the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup™ for the first time since 2006. This began a period of activity for Leah Blayney's side, initially with training camps and then their first internationals since 2020.**

A two-match international series against New Zealand in Canberra started their preparations in April. Jjnaya Dos Santos, Sarah Hunter, Daniela Galic, Kahli Johnson and Sheridan Gallagher were on the scoreboard as Australia defeated New Zealand 5–1. The second match was a tighter affair as Hunter was again in the thick of the action in a 1–1 draw. New Zealand returned the hospitality in June, with a two-match series in Auckland. The two nations shared the spoils, with New Zealand winning the opening match 2–1 and Australia claiming victory 1–0 in the second fixture.

July saw Blayney select a travelling squad for a pre-camp in Mexico ahead of the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup Costa Rica 2022™. Warm-up matches saw a 1–0 win over Liga MX Femenil team, Pumas UNAM, a 3–3 draw with the Mexican U-20 women's national team, and a 3–2 win over Colombia.

Drawn in Group A of the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup™, the CommBank Young Matildas began their tournament against the hosts, Costa Rica, in front of over 22,000 fans at

the Estadio Nacional de Costa Rica. After going behind early, the Aussies silenced the crowd with goals from Sarah Hunter, Bryleeh Henry and Kirsty Fenton to record a 3–1 victory. The subsequent group matches saw the CommBank Young Matildas perform admirably before going down to eventual bronze medallists Brazil (2–0) and world champions, Spain.

## COMMBANK YOUNG MATILDAS SQUAD – FIFA U-20 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP COSTA RICA 2022™

- |                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Sally JAMES (GK) | 12. Miranda TEMPLEMAN (GK) |
| 2. Charli RULE      | 13. Jynaya DOS SANTOS      |
| 3. Naomi CHINNAMA   | 14. Paige ZOIS             |
| 4. Ella TONKIN      | 15. Alexia APOSTOLAKIS     |
| 5. Jamilla RANKIN   | 16. Jessika NASH           |
| 6. Sarah HUNTER     | 17. Sheridan GALLAGHER     |
| 7. Bryleeh HENRY    | 18. Chloe LINCOLN (GK)     |
| 8. Hana LOWRY       | 19. Greta KRASZULA         |
| 9. Cushla RUE       | 20. Kirsty FENTON          |
| 10. Daniela GALIC   | 21. Abbey LEMON            |
| 11. Kahli JOHNSON   |                            |



# COMMBANK JUNIOR MATILDAS (U-17 WNT)

**Rae Dower and the CommBank Junior Matildas returned to the international stage in 2022 for the first time since 2020, as a new cycle began for the U-17 Women's National Team. A succession of camps in Canberra, Adelaide, Wollongong and Brisbane culminated in participation at the AFF U-18 Women's Championships in Indonesia.**

Australia kicked off their campaign with a 4–0 win over the Philippines, with Avaani Prakash scoring twice and India Breier and Maya Lobo both finding the back of the net to send the CommBank Junior Matildas to the top of Group B. They followed up that convincing start with another dominant performance against Malaysia. Daisy Brown (x2), Ella O'Grady (x2), Jonti Fisher, Isabella Accardo, Sienna Saveska and Ella Abdul Massih all contributed to their 8–0 victory to win through to the knockout stages.

A semi-final place secured, the CommBank Junior Matildas looked to maintain their perfect group record in the final match against Myanmar. In a tight contest, Myanmar pushed Australia, but Daisy Brown and Ella O'Grady ensured the CommBank Junior Matildas would close out the group phase unbeaten following a 2–1 result. It proved to be the perfect tune-up for a hard-fought semi-final encounter with Thailand. It took a gruelling 108 minutes to separate two nations in the semis, with O'Grady's fourth goal in three matches sealing the CommBank Junior Matildas' spot in the final against Vietnam.

History was made for the side in the final as a 2–0 victory saw Australia raise the inaugural AFF U-18 Women's Championship Trophy. Goals from Sienna Saveska and Mary Stanic-Floody on either side of the break, and a stout defensive performance, resulted in the youngest side in the competition triumphing. Captain Shay Hollman was rewarded for a stellar tournament with the Player of the Tournament award.

## COMMBANK JUNIOR MATILDAS SQUAD – AFF U-18 WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Grace WILSON       | 15. Shay HOLLMAN       |
| 2. Ella ABDUL MASSIH  | 16. Zoe Karipidis      |
| 3. Isabella ACCARDO   | 17. Maya LOBO          |
| 4. Josie ALLAN        | 18. Tahlia FRANCO      |
| 5. Teagan BERTOLISSIO | 19. Megan MIFSUD       |
| 6. India BREIER       | 20. Silver Bell MORRIS |
| 7. Daisy BROWN        | 21. Georgia CASSIDY    |
| 8. Ella O'GRADY       | 22. Avaani PRAKASH     |
| 9. Alana CORTELLINO   | 23. Sienna SAVESKA     |
| 10. Leah DE OLIVEIRA  | 24. Peta TRIMIS        |
| 11. Jonti FISHER      | 25. Chloe WALANDOUW    |
| 12. Zara BOARD        | 26. Adelaide WYRZYNSKI |
| 13. Charlie GIBSON    | 27. Mary STANIC-FLOODY |
| 14. Erin GORDON       | 28. Aimee HALL         |



# AUSTRALIA U-23 MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM

**Following the nation's first Olympic Men's Football Tournament appearance in 13 years at Tokyo 2020, the Australia U-23s' new cycle commenced in October 2021.**

Australia's quest to qualify for the AFC U-23 Asian Cup Uzbekistan 2022™ took place in Tajikistan with a two-match series against Indonesia, following the withdrawals of China PR and Brunei Darussalam from Group G of Asian Qualifying.

The squad gathered for a training camp in Dubai before heading to Dushanbe, where they completed the job in professional fashion. Skipper Mark Tokich opened the scoring, before Patrick Wood tapped home a nice team move and Jacob Italiano curled home a stunner to help the green and gold to a 3–2 victory. The return tie proved to be a less eventful affair, as Wood scored early to help Australia to a 1–0 win, booking their place at the AFC U-23 Asian Cup™ in June 2022.

Ahead of the tournament, an Australia Men's Talent ID camp took place in the Netherlands in March, featuring 22 of Australia's best young talent in the United Kingdom and Europe. Mentored by Trevor Morgan, with input and support from Socceroos greats Paul Okon and Craig Moore, the Australia selection played two fixtures: the first, a 1–0 defeat to Jong FC Utrecht; and the second, a 2–2 draw with Netherlands U-19s thanks to goals from Alou Kuol and Ryan Teague.

In May, Football Australia announced that Barcelona 1992 Olympian Tony Vidmar will lead the Olyroos in their bid to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, taking charge of the Australia U-23 program, following the conclusion of Australia's FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ campaign. Trevor Morgan – who has been extensively involved with the group over the past 18 months – guided the side on an interim basis at the AFC U-23 Asian Cup™, assisted by former Socceroo Richard Garcia.







After a week-long pre-camp in Tashkent the squad headed south to Qarshi, where they started their campaign with a 2–0 victory over Kuwait, thanks to well-struck efforts from Louis D’Arrigo and Jay Rich-Baghuelou. In the side’s second match, they were forced to settle for a 1–1 draw with Iraq after a gutsy showing, following a straight red card shown to Kusini Yengi on 17 minutes. The game was highlighted by a moment of magic from Alou Kuol, who attracted global attention for a superb ‘scorpion kick’ scored on the stroke of half-time.

The U-23s approached their final group game knowing a win would seal top position in Group B, and they achieved exactly that as Ramy Najjarine kept his cool from a penalty retake to seal a 1–0 win over Jordan. The team then overcame a tricky Turkmenistan outfit 1–0 in the quarter-finals, thanks to a late own goal, which booked a meeting with Saudi Arabia in the final four.

After a positive start that saw Australia hit the woodwork, they were once again stung by an early red card – this time awarded to defender Rich-Baghuelou after a lengthy Video Assistant Referee (VAR) check. The 10-man outfit performed admirably; however, they suffered a 2–0 defeat against the nation that would go on to win the tournament. The third-place playoff offered an opportunity for the younger members of the squad to earn a start as Australia went toe to toe with a strong Japan outfit, with the match ending in a 3–0 loss.

With this edition of the tournament not serving in a qualifying capacity, it represented a beneficial experience for Australia’s next generation of men’s National Team players, with a top-four finish once again the minimum target when the next

edition of the AFC U-23 Asian Cup™ takes place in the lead-up to Paris 2024.

## AUSTRALIA U-23 SQUAD – AFC U23 ASIAN CUP UZBEKISTAN 2022

1. Joe GAUCI
2. Lewis MILLER
3. Jay RICH-BAGHUELOU
4. Jordan COURTNEY-PERKINS
5. Jordan BOS
6. Tyrese FRANCOIS
7. Lachlan BROOK
8. Patrick Yazbek
9. Alou KUOL
10. Ramy NAJJARINE
11. Kusini YENGI
12. Jacob CHAPMAN
13. Kai TREWIN
14. Joshua NISBET
15. Hosine BILITY
16. Louis D’ARRIGO
17. Cameron PEUPION
18. Nicholas BILOKAPIC
19. Patrick WOOD
20. Joshua RAWLINS
21. Bernardo
22. Tristan HAMMOND
23. Jacob FARRELL



# SUBWAY YOUNG SOCCEROOS (U-20 MNT)

## The Subway Young Socceroos program returned in late 2022, ahead of the AFC U20 Asian Cup Uzbekistan 2023™ Qualifiers.

In August 2022, Football Australia announced that Trevor Morgan had been appointed to a new role at the organisation, encompassing the Head Coach position of the Subway Young Socceroos (U-20s), Assistant Coach to Tony Vidmar's Subway Olyroos (U-23s), as well as the ongoing identification and development of emerging men's footballers.

In his new remit at Football Australia, Morgan will work closely with Chief Football Officer, Ernie Merrick, as well as existing and incoming technical and National Teams staff, as the organisation continues to address the issues identified in the Performance Gap Report.

Following his appointment, Morgan cast his eyes over 30 of Australia's best young footballers as an Australian youth cohort assembled at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) in Canberra for a Talent ID camp.

A month later, an exciting mix of domestic and overseas-based players were selected to represent Australia at the four continents U-20 Costa Cálida Supercup in San Pedro del Pinatar, Spain.

The squad faced Morocco, Chile and reigning U-19 European Champions, England, at Pinatar Arena, giving some of the country's best emerging players the chance

to pit themselves against elite international opposition during the September FIFA Window.

Each match was toughly fought, starting with a 1–0 defeat to Morocco, followed by Alexandar Badolato opening the scoring in a 3–1 loss to Chile, and then Jack Warshawsky saving a penalty and impressing in a 3–0 defeat to England.

The opportunity arose following the delay of Australia's Group H AFC U20 Asian Cup Uzbekistan 2023™ Qualifiers, which were due to be staged in Basra, Iraq, before being moved and rescheduled to play out in Kuwait a month later.

**“AN EXCITING MIX OF DOMESTIC AND OVERSEAS-BASED PLAYERS WERE SELECTED TO REPRESENT AUSTRALIA.”**

The Subway Young Socceroos successfully qualified after topping Group H in Kuwait City, Kuwait, during October. The side began their qualifying campaign with an impressive 4–1 victory over the host nation. Gabriel Popovic scored a first-half brace, while Adrian Segecic and Nectarios Triantis also got on the scoresheet. In its second group match, Australia defeated India courtesy of another 4–1 score. Garang Kuol

unleashed a stunning strike to break the deadlock, before an own goal helped double the lead. India struck after the restart, but late well-crafted goals from Adrian Segecic and Max Caputo sealed the three points.

Heading into its final match against Iraq, Australia knew just a draw would be enough to guarantee automatic qualification. After missing a few gilt-edged chances – including a penalty – Gabriel Popovic slotted a goal on 59 minutes, which ultimately proved decisive. The Aussies held on to win 1–0, booking a ticket to next year's tournament.

## SUBWAY YOUNG SOCCEROOS SQUAD – AFC U-20 ASIAN CUP UZBEKISTAN 2023™ QUALIFIERS

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Jack WARSHAWSKY    | 13. Joseph FORDE       |
| 2. Joshua RAWLINS     | 14. Kane VIDMAR        |
| 3. Kaelan MAJEKODUNMI | 15. Alexander BADOLATO |
| 4. Nectarios TRIANTIS | 16. Rhys BOZINOVSKI    |
| 5. Jordan PEREZ       | 17. Jayden GORMAN      |
| 6. Chris DONNELL      | 18. Taiga HARPER       |
| 7. Adrian SEGECIC     | 19. Archie GOODWIN     |
| 8. Gabriel POPOVIC    | 20. Matthew DENCH      |
| 9. Garang KUOL        | 21. Alexander MENELAOU |
| 10. Alessandro LOPANE | 22. Presley ORTIZ      |
| 11. Yaya DUKULY       | 23. Max CAPUTO         |



# SUBWAY JOEYS (U-17 MNT)

**After an almost three-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Australian U-17 Men's National Team – the Subway Joeys – returned to action in 2022, with three events of note taking place between April 2022 and October 2022 inclusive.**

Then Joeys' Head Coach – now Young Socceroos' Head Coach – Trevor Morgan, conducted an U-16 National Talent ID camp in Townsville, from April 11–15, which featured Australia-based players who were born in 2006, participating in five days of football-related activities at facilities across the North Queensland city, including the Cowboys' newly opened Community, Training and High-Performance Centre, with its elite multi-sport training spaces, sports medicine and sports science laboratories.

Over the course of the camp, the boys played an internal 11 versus 11 elite match at Queensland Country Bank Stadium, and against a local 'select' team at 1300SMILES Active Park – the Townsville home of Football Queensland. Both matches were streamed live across Australia to enable clubs, coaches and scouts to support their identification programs.

During July and August, an U-16 Australian Representative Team participated in the AFF U-16 Youth Championship 2022 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Australia was drawn in Group C and faced Myanmar, Cambodia and Malaysia in the

12-team tournament, which ran 31 July–12 August. The young Australian outfit finished fourth in their respective group.

On 4 August, Football Australia announced the appointment of former Olyroo, Socceroo, and Johnny Warren Medallist, Brad Maloney, to the role of Australian U-17 Men's National Team Head Coach.

**“AUSTRALIA TOOK FULL ADVANTAGE OF PLAYING AT HOME.”**

Maloney returned to Australian football following eight years with the Football Association of Malaysia (FAM), where from 2014 he was Assistant Coach of Malaysia Men's U-23 national team and over the past three years, his role expanded to include Head Coach of Malaysia Men's U-23 and U-20 national teams. During his time with FAM, Maloney was also elevated to Assistant Coach of the Malaysian senior national team for several qualifying campaigns and tournaments.

His first assignment as Subway Joeys' Head Coach was to select and prepare a squad to contest the AFC U-17 Asian Cup 2023™ Qualifiers held in Shepparton, Victoria from 5–9 October.

These AFC U-17 Asian Cup 2023™ Qualifiers mark the first time Australia has hosted an AFC Youth Tournament since 2009, with the Subway Joeys drawn against Cambodia, China PR, and Northern Mariana Islands.

Following a two-week training camp in Melbourne ahead of the Qualifiers, Australia took full advantage of playing at home, winning all three matches and in doing so, automatically qualifying for the AFC U-17 Asian Cup 2023™.

The Subway Joeys will now prepare for the AFC U-17 Asian Cup 2023™ scheduled for May 2023. The top-four teams from the AFC Asian Cup 2023™ will qualify for October's FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023™ as the AFC representatives.



# COMMBANK PARAMATILDAS

**For the first time in 22 years, Football Australia welcomed a new member to the Australia's National Teams' family with the launch of the CommBank ParaMatildas in March 2022. Australia's first national team for women and girls with cerebral palsy, acquired brain injury (ABI) or symptoms of stroke, and the first in the Asia-Pacific region, the CommBank ParaMatildas quickly began preparations for the International Federation of Cerebral Palsy Football (IFCPF) inaugural Women's World Cup to be held in Spain.**

Newly appointed Head Coach Kelly Stirton called up an 11-player squad for the first-ever national team training camp at the AIS in late March. Following the camp, the final selections were made for the IFCPF Women's World Cup with a 10-player squad named for the Salou tournament in May.

In its first-ever international match, Australia launched its IFCPF Women's World Cup campaign with a blistering 12-0 win over the Netherlands. Tahlia Blanshard, Lainee Harrison, Katelyn Smith (GK), Eloise Northam and Georgia Beikoff made up the history-making starting five. Co-captain and CommBank ParaMatildas cap #1, Beikoff, would make history just three minutes into the fixture, scoring the CommBank ParaMatildas first-ever international goal. The former Paralympian would go on to net six goals in the match, with her co-captain Eloise Northam recording a brace with Harrison, Smith, and substitutes Charlize Tran and Nicole Christodoulou contributing to the history-making win.

Australia took on AFC compatriots Japan in their second group-stage match, looking to build on the success they achieved in the opening match. Harrison (x2), Northam and Beikoff made it a perfect start for the CommBank ParaMatildas as they overcame a stubborn Japanese squad 4-0. The team continued their goalscoring blitz in the third group match against hosts Spain. Australia wasted no time in this encounter, as Beikoff scored the quickest goal in the tournament – just 10 seconds into the match. From then on it was goals at regular intervals as the formidable ParaMatildas striker finished the match with six goals, with teammates Harrison (x2), Northam and Christodoulou all joining in as Australia cruised to an 11-0 win.

With a place in the final secured, Australia faced an equally impressive USA in the final group match. The USA proved too strong for the CommBank ParaMatildas in the match, recording a 4-0 win. However, there were plenty of positives for the Aussies, which they would take into the rematch in the final. The final was a different encounter between the two nations as they went head to head. In a pulsating match, Australia and the USA traded blows, with the match finishing 2-2 at the end of regulation time, with Northam and Smith doing the damage for Australia. Extra time was equally as tight, but in the end, the Americans found a little extra to edge out Australia with the CommBank ParaMatildas winning a historic silver medal for Australia.

Katelyn Smith was recognised for her efforts between the sticks with the Goalkeeper of the Tournament award, and the

prolific Georgia Beikoff claimed the Golden Boot prize for her 13 goals in five matches.

## COMMBANK PARAMATILDAS SQUAD – IFCPF WOMEN'S WORLD CUP 2022

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Holly SAUNDERS (GK)  | 6. Katelyn SMITH    |
| 2. Nicole CHRISTODOULOU | 7. Eloise NORTHAM   |
| 3. Tahlia BLANSHARD     | 8. Matilda MASON    |
| 4. Charlize TRAN        | 9. Rae ANDERSON     |
| 5. Lainee HARRISON      | 10. Georgia BEIKOFF |



# COMMBANK PARAROOS

From Cromer Park on Sydney's Northern Beaches to the Futbol Salou Sports Centre, south of Barcelona, the CommBank Pararoos played their first fixture in 887 days, at the IFCPF World Cup in May 2022.

The tournament saw Australia's Men's National Team for footballers with cerebral palsy, ABI or symptoms of stroke, take on the world's best, with a squad that boasted a mix of youth and experience.

Led by the team's iconic 42-year-old captain, David Barber, and supported by rising stars such as 19-year-old Daniel Campbell and 18-year-old Connor Bunce, Kai Lammert's side were drawn in Group C alongside world number four, Iran, and world number six, the USA.

In their first match since November 2019, the side suffered a slim 2-0 defeat against Iran, before completing their group stage with a 5-1 defeat to the USA. The match did not lack a moment for the highlights reel, however, with Connor Bunce opening the scoring for Australia in spectacular fashion.

Despite the pair of positive performances ending in defeat, a shot at single figures remained a possibility, with Canada set to be the CommBank Pararoos' next opponent in a rematch of their 2019 encounter, on Australian soil.

While youngster Daniel Campbell stole the headlines with a spectacular hat-trick, unfortunately for Australia it would prove to be not enough, as Canada prevailed in an epic

encounter. Australia led 2-0 until the final two minutes of regulation time, before a late fightback from Canada sent the match into extra time. Canada scored next and looked on course to advance, before Campbell slotted home a penalty with the last kick of extra time to send the match to penalties.

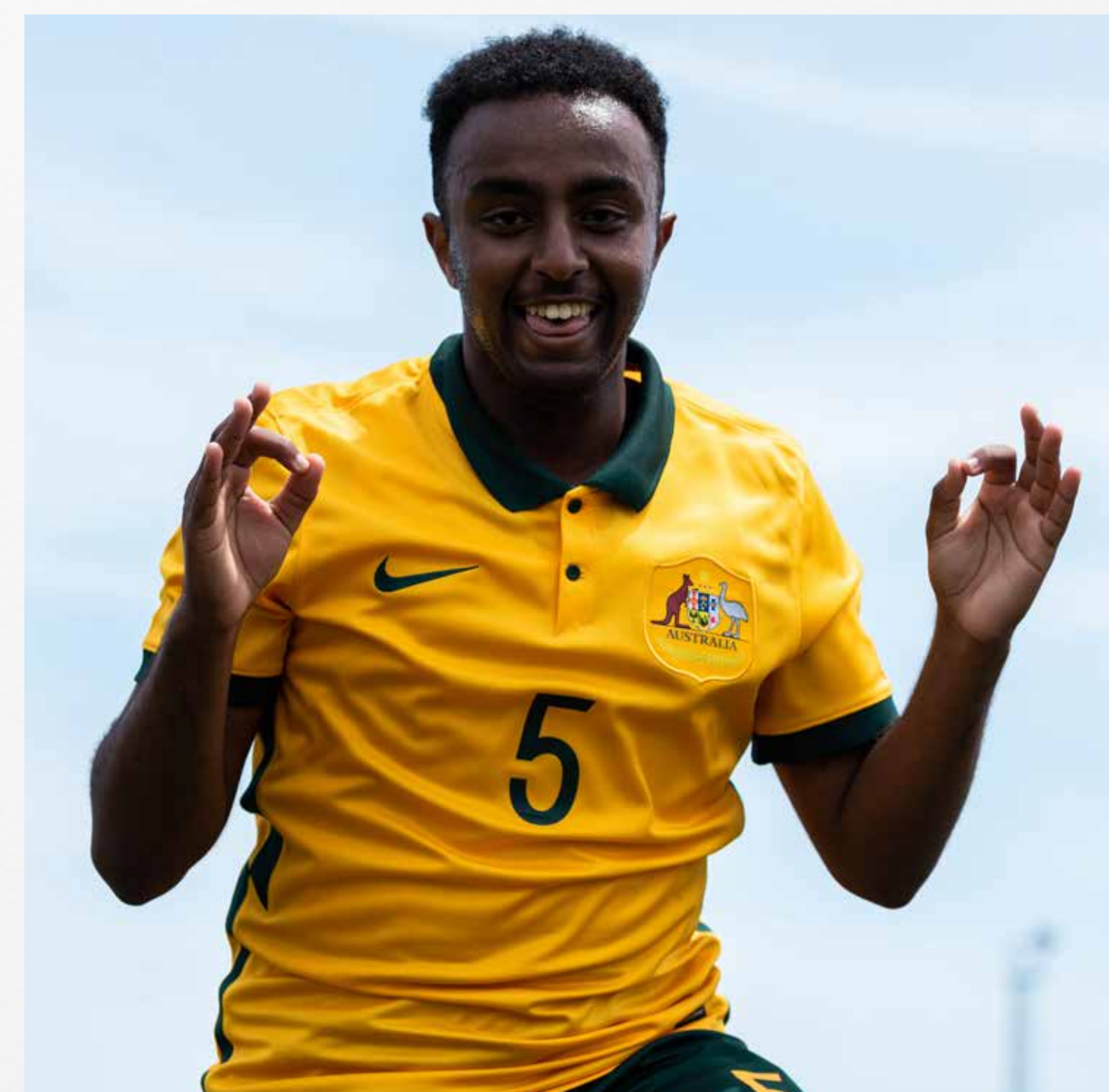
There it was. Canada, prevailing 5-4 in a sudden-death match to book a date with hosts Spain in the ninth versus tenth shootout, while Australia would play for eleventh against Germany.

In that match, the side closed out their World Cup with a spirited 2-1 victory, as Connor Bunce and Daniel Campbell popped up in a come-from-behind finish that saw their tournament conclude on a high.

The result secured an eleventh-place-place finish. The same outcome as in 2019.

## COMMBANK PARAROOS SQUAD – IFCPF WORLD CUP 2022

- |                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Cosimo CIRILLO    | 8. Connor MARSH             |
| 2. Ben ROCHE         | 9. Ben ATKINS               |
| 3. Taj LYNCH         | 10. Connor BUNCE            |
| 4. Timothy BLOWES    | 11. Jeremy BOYCE            |
| 5. Daniel CAMPBELL   | 12. Christian TSANGAS       |
| 6. Christopher BARTY | 13. Alessandro LA VERGHETTA |
| 7. David BARBER      | 14. Augustine MURPHY        |



# FUTSALROOS

**The FutsalRoos made their long-awaited return in April 2022, competing at the AFF Futsal Championship 2022 in Thailand. The squad travelled to Bangkok under the tutelage of Miles Downie, who was appointed Head Coach in March.**

Downie, who has extensive experience in Australian and Asian futsal, has been appointed initially through to the end of 2022, in a role that will drive the development of futsal in Australia to ensure that futsal is more deeply integrated into Football Australia's technical strategy and vision.

The 17th AFF Futsal Championship served as the ASEAN qualifying tournament for the AFC Futsal Championship in Kuwait. Australia was drawn in Group B alongside Timor Leste, Myanmar and Vietnam. The team's first competitive outing since 2019 took place against Timor Leste, and while trailing by a goal at half-time, a strong second-half showing secured the side a 7–4 victory. A double from captain Shervin Adeli and Scott Rogan, alongside goals from Daniel Fornito, Nicholas Rathjen and Jordan Guerreiro, sealed a positive return to the international stage for the FutsalRoos.

The following two group games would end in defeat for Australia, both unfolding in a similar fashion. Anthony Haddad's smart finish from a tight angle had the FutsalRoos level with Myanmar, before a flurry of late goals from Myanmar saw the FutsalRoos suffer a 6–1 defeat.

A result against Vietnam, a nation that qualified for the 2021 FIFA Futsal World Cup, would have been enough to secure advancement to the knockout stages. With the game remaining a tough tussle early, Vietnam worked their way into a 2–0 lead before Daniel Fornito gave the FutsalRoos hope with a penalty inside the final 14 minutes. However, as Australia pushed on looking for the result they needed, the score line would once again blow out late, ending in 5–1 and bringing the curtain down on the FutsalRoos' tournament.

## FUTSALROOS SQUAD – AFF FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2022

1. Mark BRACKENRIG
2. Nicholas RATHJEN
3. Emmanuel TZANAKES
4. Jacob BASDEN
5. Daniel FORNITO
6. Wade GIOVENALI
7. Scott ROGAN
8. Jordan GUERREIRO
9. Anthony HADDAD
10. Shervin ADELI
11. Ahmed SWEEDAN
12. Dylan NISKI
13. Jonathan BARZEL
14. Robert EZEKIEL



# COMPETITIONS



# AUSTRALIA CUP

**For the Australia Cup, formally known as the FFA Cup, 2022 was a record-breaking year that saw Isuzu UTE A-League Men side Macarthur FC crowned 2022 Winners following a 2–0 win over NSW National Premier Leagues outfit Sydney United 58 FC.**

The Australia Cup 2022 Final, played in front of a near-record Cup crowd of 16,461 passionate fans at CommBank Stadium in Sydney on Saturday 1 October, was the culmination of a highly successful knockout tournament featuring a record 742 record club entries from across the country, record crowds, record broadcast audiences, and a tournament that captured the imagination of the Australian football community throughout 2022.

After the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cup moved to an open draw for the final rounds in 2022, with the view to increase competitive tension and uncertainty.

This approach delivered plenty of magic moments plus multiple Cupsets, including two by Sydney United 58 FC, who defeated 2021–22 A-League Men Champions Western United FC, and Brisbane Roar FC, en route to the final, while Victorian NPL side, Oakleigh Cannons FC, claimed a 2–1 win over Sydney FC in the quarter-finals.

The open-draw concept also led to two semi-professional clubs reaching the semi-finals of the Cup for the very first

time, with both Sydney United 58 FC (NSW) and Oakleigh Cannons FC (VIC) hosting A-League Men opposition.

The 2022 the Australia Cup will long be remembered as the year that Adelaide City FC (SA) finally met Adelaide United FC in a competitive fixture. Facing off in Round 16 at ServiceFM Stadium in Adelaide, the match – which was played in front of 3327 passionate fans – went the distance, with Adelaide United FC prevailing 4–1 on penalties after scores were locked at 2–2 after extra time.

The Magic of the Cup was on display in Perth during Round 32, with Andres Angel Junior and Senior creating history, becoming the first father and son to run out in the final rounds of the Australia Cup/FFA Cup, when they represented Armadale SC (WA).

Also in Round 32, Mindil Aces FC (NT) midfielder Barnaby Wood became the youngest player to compete in an Australia Cup/FFA Cup match, when the Darwin side hosted Avondale FC (VIC). However, this record was later eclipsed during the semi-finals, when 13-year-old reserve goalkeeper, Ymer Abili, was subbed on late for Oakleigh Cannons FC against Macarthur FC, attracting worldwide attention.

The Australia Cup 2022 again provided player progression opportunities for NPL players, with two footballers who participated with an NPL club in the Australia Cup 2022, earning A-League Men contracts for season 2022–23:

Joseph Knowles – played for Oakleigh Cannons FC (VIC) – signed with Brisbane Roar FC; and Jacob Dowse – played for Broadmeadow Magic FC (NNSW) – signed with Perth Glory FC.

During the final rounds, 55 officials were appointed to matches, with South Australia’s Daniel Elder selected to referee the 2022 final, assisted by Andrej Giev (NSW) and Andrew Meimarakis (VIC), with Kurt Ams (NSW) and Brad Wright (NSW) selected as fourth and fifth official, respectively.

Oakleigh Cannons FC attacking midfielder Joe Guest was crowned 2022 Mike Cockerill Medallist for the best non-A-League Men Player. Guest netted four times on Oakleigh’s run to the final four, which saw him finish equal-second on the competition’s top scorer charts, just one shy of Golden Boot winner Al Hassan Toure.

In winning the Cup in 2022, Macarthur FC secured their first-ever trophy in their club’s young existence, and for former Premier League star and Bulls’ Head Coach, Dwight Yorke, it marked the first trophy in his managerial career. Macarthur FC Captain, Ulises Davila, was voted the 2022 Mark Viduka Medal Winner for the Player of the Australia Cup Final.

All games of the Australia Cup 2022 Final Rounds were broadcast live and free on Network 10 via 10 Play, with the final broadcast in prime time on Network 10’s primary channel (10 Bold in WA).







The Australia Cup 2022 attracted commercial support from partners Mitre 10, Qantas and Subway.

Key Numbers Australia Cup 2022 Final Rounds:

- 20,409,9922 minutes viewed of Network 10's coverage
- 69,849 total number of fans that attended matches
- 121 goals scored
- 8 weeknight match days
- weekend match days
- 4 matches went to penalties, 3 featured NPL vs. A-League Men's sides
- 3 Cupsets
- 2 NPL players gained 2022-23 A-League Men contracts
- 1 winner, Macarthur FC



# IN MEMORIAM



# IN MEMORIAM

- **Vale Donato Di Fabrizio**, former Australian Soccer Federation (ASF) Commissioner, Morwell Falcons President, and Football Australia Hall of Fame inductee
- **Vale Des Miles**, former NSL and FIFA referee, and Football Australia Hall of Fame inductee
- **Vale Cliff Sander**, Socceroo cap #130 and Football Australia Hall of Fame inductee
- **Vale Jim Milisavljevic**, 1974 FIFA World Cup squad member
- **Vale John Dimtsis**, former ASF Director, Football Victoria Hall of Fame inductee
- **Vale Colin Kitching**, Socceroo cap #133 and Melbourne Olympian
- **Vale Anton Boskovic**, FIFA World Cup referee and Football Australia Hall of Fame inductee
- **Vale Karen Harris**, Matildas cap #60
- **Vale Peter Stone**, Socceros cap #258
- **Vale Sean Collins**, former Football Tasmania President
- **Vale John Roche**, Socceros cap #215



VALE DONATO  
DI FABRIZIO



VALE DES MILES



VALE CLIFF  
SANDER



VALE JIM  
MILISAVLJEVIC



VALE JOHN  
DIMTSIS



VALE COLIN  
KITCHING



VALE ANTON  
BOSKOVIC



VALE KAREN  
HARRIS



VALE PETER  
STONE



VALE SEAN  
COLLINS



VALE JOHN  
ROCHE



# HALL OF FAME



# HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2021



**Mark  
Schwarzer**

Mark Schwarzer is one of the most decorated players in Socceroos' history, and one of the stars of Australia's 'Golden Generation' that qualified for the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany. It was Schwarzer's two saves in the penalty shootout that helped Australia defeat Uruguay and reach the FIFA World Cup Finals after a 32-year drought.

The goalkeeper is the Socceroos' most-capped player, making 109 appearances for his national team between his debut in 1993 and his international retirement 20 years later.

Schwarzer was born and raised in Sydney, New South Wales, and made his professional debut with National Soccer League club Marconi Stallions in 1990. Across his playing career, Schwarzer donned the jerseys of Dynamo Dresden and FC Kaiserslautern in Germany, and Bradford City, Middlesbrough, Fulham, Chelsea and Leicester City in England.

He made over 500 appearances in England's Premier League and was part of title-winning squads at Chelsea (2014/15) and Leicester City (2015/16).

After making his international debut in 1993 in a FIFA World Cup Playoff against Canada, starring in a penalty shootout win, Schwarzer went on to become the Socceroos' longest-serving player, playing at two FIFA World Cups (2006 and 2010) and winning the OFC Nations Cup in 2004, and he still holds the record for most clean sheets (44) in Socceroos' history.

After his playing career, Schwarzer forged a path in the football media industry, covering the FIFA World Cup, UEFA Champions League, Premier League and more, for Optus Sport.



**Kate  
Gill**

New Zealand-born and Newcastle-raised, Kate Gill represented Australia as a member of Australia's U-20 Women's National Team (Young Matildas) squad for the 2002 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup. Two years later, Gill earned her first senior cap for the Matildas in 2004 debuting against New Zealand.

A technical striker, Gill added an extra dimension to Australia's attack with her adept aerial presence. Settling into the squad, she represented Australia in the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup and the 2008 AFC Women's Asian Cup. In that timeframe, she became a reliable goalscorer, including a remarkable run of goals in the Beijing 2008 Olympics Qualifying games, where she scored five goals each against both Taiwan and Hong Kong.

In 2010, Gill created history as the first Australian to be awarded the AFC Women's Player of the Year off the back of her assisting the Matildas in claiming the AFC Women's Asian Cup for the first time. She would also go on to represent Australia at the 2014 AFC Women's Asian Cup, helping the nation to silver, and in that same tournament, she surpassed Cheryl Salisbury to be the highest goalscorer at that time. Gill went on to record 41 goals for the Matildas and currently sits third on the all-time goalscorers list for the women's national team.

In club football, Gill is a two-time W-League Golden Boot winner with Perth Glory. She also represented the Newcastle Jets and three different clubs in Sweden – Sunnana SK, LbD Malmo and Linkopings – between 2009 and 2011.

Selected in the National Team for 12 years, including as captain, Gill is as much of a leader off the pitch, being a long-serving member of the Professional Footballers Association (PFA) Matildas Committee. Always a committed advocate for women's sport, Gill became the first woman to be appointed to the PFA Executive Committee and the first female CEO (jointly held). In her roles she has championed the push to collectively organise for better remuneration and conditions for female footballers as well as being a strong role model and mentor for those transitioning to life after football.





## Heather Garriock

Heather Garriock is one of the highest appearance holders for the Matildas, amassing 130 caps for Australia between 1999–2011.

The former midfielder won an AFC Women's Asian Cup in 2010, as well as the 2003 OFC Women's Championship. She also featured in three FIFA Women's World Cups (2003, 2007 and 2011), scoring in both 2003 and 2007, and represented Australia at the Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004 Olympic Games.

Sydney-born and raised, Garriock played top-tier club football in Australia, Europe and the United States. She won six domestic trophies in Australia, Denmark and Sweden, and received the highest individual honour for a women's footballer in Australia by taking out the Julie Dolan Medal in 2003. Two of the Championships won were W-League titles with Sydney FC, as well as a National Women's Soccer League title with the NSW Sapphires.

Off the field, Garriock has been a major advocate for women's football, including fighting for players to have maternity support.

Garriock has also served as a coach in the National Premier League's, winning multiple titles with Sydney University. She has also coached Canberra United in the W-League, and was an assistant coach for the Matildas. She has pushed for greater recognition of coaching through her role as Vice-President of Football Coaches Australia.

Her media work includes broadcasting with Optus for the Men's European Championships, Men's UEFA Champions League and FIFA World Cups. She has commented on the ABC and Fox Sports for the W-League and Matildas.

In September 2021, Garriock was appointed as a director on the Board of Football Australia.



## Joseph Huxley Honeysett

The Honeysett family is synonymous the establishment of football in Tasmania, with JJB Honeysett inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2003. But the member of the Honeysett family who arguably had the largest impact on football in Australia, is his son, Joseph (Joe) Huxley Honeysett. Joe played a significant role in the establishment of two Member Federations of Football Australia: those in Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

Born in London before moving to Australia, Joe became a committee member of the Tasmania British Football Association (Now Football Tasmania) in 1910, when he was just 20 years old.

Prior to World War I, Joe played as a centre forward in many significant games, including the first matches for South Hobart FC, Southern Tasmania, and Tasmania (scoring a goal against New South Wales in this match). In the second-ever intrastate match in 1912, Joe scored seven goals for Southern Tasmania against Northern Tasmania, a record that still stands today despite over 70 intrastate games having been played since.

With the outbreak of World War I, Joe joined the Australian Army in 1916, earning numerous military honours, including a Military Cross for his daring attempted escapes from German POW camps. Returning from military service, Joe continued to advance the cause of Tasmanian football both on and off the field, including captaining Tasmania to a famous victory over a touring Chinese side in 1923 – Tasmania's first-ever victory over international opposition.

After moving to Canberra in 1925 to pursue work opportunities, Joe convened the inaugural meeting of the Federal Territory Soccer Football Association (Now Capital Football) and acted in numerous roles throughout the 1920s, including secretary, referee, player and manager.



# HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2022



**Moya  
Dodd**

Moya Dodd's playing career spanned almost two decades with the South Australian state team, and with the Matildas from the mid-1980s to mid-1990s, including as vice-captain. She finished with 12 full 'A' international appearances, scoring one goal for her country. Since retiring as a player, Dodd has been a fearless advocate for gender equality in football, campaigning for women to have their voices heard at decision-making levels in the game.

In 2013, Dodd was one of the first of three women elected to the FIFA Executive Committee, a term she served for four years. Globally, she has successfully campaigned to give hundreds of millions of girls access to the game, with the overturning of the hijab ban, and campaigned to have women received at the FIFA Executive Committee for the first time. In 2018, Dodd was ranked seventh in Forbes' Most Powerful Women in International Sports list.



**Brendan  
Schwab**

Brendan Schwab is an architect of the global and Australian player association movements, and is a co-founder of the World Players Association, FIFPRO Asia/Oceania, the Australian Athletes' Alliance, and Professional Footballers Australia. He has played an instrumental role in the transformation of Australian football over the last two decades. Throughout a 25-year career, Schwab has represented and worked with multiple teams and athletes in several sports, including the Socceroos and Matildas. Over the past five years, Schwab has helped pioneer global sport and human rights movements by negotiating major human rights commitments with international governing bodies, including FIFA.



**Walter  
Pless**

Tasmania's 'Mr Football' Walter Pless moved to Hobart from Austria as a child. His love for football grew playing for Glenorchy Knights where he rose to the senior side in the mid-1960s. After a long-playing career, Pless initially focused on coaching, and since 1978 has written and photographed prolifically on the game in Tasmania. Despite retiring from full-time work in 2009, he continues to write extensively. In a region where football struggles for national prominence, Pless is an institution and his tireless work in promoting the game for over four decades makes him widely known and loved by the Tasmanian football community.



**Edward 'Ted'  
Smith**

Raised in Melbourne, Ted Smith played for the Victorian Colts and in the Laidlaw Cup against New Zealand Youth, and was in Australia's historic 1956 Olympics squad, where he played in both games in Melbourne as a 21-year-old. Smith was a foundation member of the committee appointed by then Soccer Australia, to create the national Hall of Fame in the mid-1990s. After retiring he worked extensively to organise functions for the Socceroos, especially when touring teams visited. Despite his advancing years, he is still actively promoting the sport, in particular the men's National Team, including its Centenary celebrations.





## Collette Gardiner, née McCallum

Widely considered one of Australia's greatest female footballers, Gardiner (née McCallum) played for almost a decade with the Matildas. Born in Scotland and raised in Perth, Gardiner recovered from two ACL injuries as a teenager, to become a regular senior Matildas player by age 20. As a youth player her experience was prolific before moving to the senior team, where she was the key piece in the Matildas midfield for many years, featuring in three AFC Women's Asian Cups and two FIFA Women's World Cups.

After making her debut in January 2005, Gardiner would go on to accumulate 81 senior caps.

Gardiner played an instrumental role for Australia at the FIFA Women's World Cup 2007, as the green and gold reached the quarter-finals for the very first time. The then 21-year-old scored an equaliser in the final group game against Canada, as they advanced to the knockout stages.

Gardiner was also an influential player during Australia's victorious AFC Asian Cup 2010 campaign, after Australia defeated North Korea 5-4 in a dramatic penalty shootout. The FIFA Women's World Cup 2011 would be Gardner's final major tournament, starting all four matches before a quarter-final exit to Sweden. She was also one of the first Australian women to win club titles overseas. Gardiner retired in 2015 due to the re-emergence of the same knee issues that so nearly threatened her career before it got started.



## Ange Postecoglou

Australia's highest-profile international male football personality in 2022, Ange Postecoglou, has recently enjoyed coaching success in Scotland with Celtic, the next step of a prolific career that has mostly been in Australia. Postecoglou grew up in Melbourne, initially making his name at South Melbourne, including as captain and coach, and winning national championships. His international coaching career started at a young age, initially with the Australian Men's Under 17s and Under 20s youth teams.

Club coaching success continued at Brisbane Roar and later in Japan, with Yokohama F. Marinos. At the Roar he was lauded for implementing an entertaining, attacking brand of football, which culminated in two A-League Men championships and one premiership. In 2013, Postecoglou was appointed Head Coach of the Socceroos, a role he assumed for just over four years and was credited for bringing several young players into the team, rejuvenating an ageing squad. He won over fans at the FIFA World Cup in 2014, for the team's fearless approach in a 'group of death' involving Spain, the Netherlands and Chile, laying the foundations for what was to come six months later. In January, he led the Socceroos to the AFC Asian Cup 2015 on home soil, Australia's most prominent international men's title victory to date, following an extra-time win over Korea Republic.

After qualifying for the FIFA World Cup 2018, Postecoglou left his post and signed with J1 League outfit Yokohama and in just his second season, delivered a first title for the club in 15 years, while also becoming the first Australian coach to clinch the league title in Japan. More silverware followed after becoming the new Celtic boss in June 2021, reclaiming the Scottish Premiership back from fierce rivals Rangers in his first season in charge, and a plethora of accolades along the way.







# HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

## 2022 (6)

- Moya Dodd
- Collette Gardiner (née McCallum)
- Walter Pless
- Ange Postecoglou
- Brendan Schwab
- Ted Smith

## 2021 (4)

- Heather Garriock
- Kathryn Gill
- Joseph Huxley Honeysett
- Mark Schwarzer

## 2019 (4)

- Leigh Wardell

- Harry Kewell
- Branko Culina
- Sir Frank Lowy

## 2018 (3)

- Sonia Gegenhuber
- Mark Bresciano
- Andrew Dettre

## 2016 (3)

- Tammy Ogston
- Peter Raskopoulos
- Sacha Wainwright

## 2015 (2)

- Lisa Casagrande
- John Moriarty

## 2014 (5)

- Sandra Brentnall
- Stefan Kamasz
- Damian Mori
- Tom Sermanni
- Mark Viduka

## 2013 (2)

- James Fraser
- Linda Hughes

## 2012 (3)

- Alison Forman
- Scott Chipperfield
- Alan Vessey

## 2011 (4)

- Craig Moore
- Dianne Alagich
- Ted Simmons
- Mike Cockerill

## 2010 (5)

- Ned Zelic
- Joanne Peters
- Stan Lazaridis
- Martyn Crook
- Mark Shield

## 2009 (5)

- Tony Vidmar
- Cheryl Salisbury
- Paul Okon

- John Economos
- Sam Vella

## 2008 (11)

- Tracey Wheeler
- George Keith
- Cliff Almond
- Julie Murray
- Aurelio Vidmar
- Mike Wells
- George Dick OAM
- Donato Di Fabrizio
- John De Witt
- Peter Desira
- John Thomson



### 2007 (9)

- Alex Tobin
- Terry Greedy
- Steve Blair
- Anissa Tan
- Eddie Lennie
- Heather Reid
- John Barclay
- Ted Rowley
- Trixie Tagg

### 2006 (9)

- David Mitchell
- Charlie Stewart
- Peter Sharne
- Ernie Campbell
- Robert Zabica
- Fred Villiers
- Raul Blanco
- Andre Kruger
- Ray Sandell

### 2005 (11)

- Mike Petersen

- Robbie Slater
- Allan Maher
- Alec Cameron
- Craig Johnston
- Bruce Morrow
- Roger Lamb
- Vic Dalglish
- Harry Hetherington
- Phil Murphy
- Gary Wilkins

### 2004 (11)

- Graham Arnold
- Jack Hughes
- Jack Reilly
- Todd Clarke
- Ian Gray
- Sue Monteath
- Peter Thorne
- Jane Oakley
- Roy Druery
- Gordon Dunster
- Fred Hutchison

### 2003 (18)

- Wally Savor
- Percy Lennard
- William 'Bill' Henderson
- Milan Ivanovic
- Colin Bennett
- Gary Cole
- Steve O'Connor
- Roy Crowhurst
- Theresa Deas
- David Harding
- Betty Hoar
- Les Murray
- Peter Gray
- Ken Allen
- Vito Cilauro
- Denis Harlow
- Joseph J Honeysett
- Peter Van Ryn

### 2002 (15)

- James Wilkinson
- Cindy Heydon
- George Harris

- Branko Buljevic
- Stan Ackerley
- Peter Ollerton
- Joanne Millman
- Norman Conquest
- Fred Robins
- Eddie Thomson
- George Vasilopoulos
- Allan Crisp
- Siri Kannangara
- Dennis McDermott
- Rodney Woods

### 2001 (24)

- Bill Vojtek
- Cecil Drummond
- Alan Davidson
- Frank Farina
- Tony Henderson
- Pat O'Connor
- David Ratcliffe
- Jim Tansey
- Leo Baumgartner
- Gary Byrne

- Robert Dunn
- Ken Murphy
- John Constantine
- Basil Scarsella
- Charles Caruso
- Doug Rennie
- Bill Vrolyks
- George Wallace
- Les Broadbent
- Sid Grant
- Eric Heath
- Bob McShane
- Arthur Roberts
- Bill Turner

### 2000 (19)

- Adrian Alston
- Eddie Krncevic
- Paul Wade
- Oscar Crino
- Doug Utjesenovic
- Murray Barnes
- Ron Corry
- Alex Gibb



- Kevin O’Neill
- Joe Watson
- Chris Bambridge
- Les Scheinflug
- Don Sutherland
- Charles Valentine
- Barry Bainbridge
- Jim Connell
- Charles Perkins
- Emmanuel Poulakakis
- John Taylor

**1999 – INAUGURAL  
INDUCTION (84)**

- George Smith
- Cliff Sander
- John Perin
- Frank Parsons
- Jeff Olver
- Gordon Nunn
- Sergio Melta
- Gary Marocchi
- Allan Johns
- Tom Jack

- William ‘Bill’ Henderson
- Jack Evans
- Michael De Bruyckere
- William Coolahan
- Jim Armstrong
- Ron Adair
- John Watkiss
- Ray Richards
- Graham Jennings
- Col Curran
- Charlie Yankos
- Harry Williams
- Manfred Schaefer
- John Nyskohus
- James McNabb
- William Maunder
- Jimmy MacKay
- Frank Loughran
- Bob Lawrie
- Julie Dolan
- Ray Baartz
- Peter Wilson
- Johnny Warren, MBE

- Jim Rooney
- Alf Quill
- James ‘Judy’ Masters
- Joe Marston MBE
- Ron Lord
- John Kosmina
- Reg Date
- Bob Bignell
- Attila Abonyi
- Ron Wright
- Sir William Walkley
- Joe Vlasits
- William Thomas
- Ron Smith
- Martin Royal
- Peter Nikolich
- Des Miles
- Graham McMillan
- Frank Mclver
- Zoran Matic
- Jack Logan
- Brian Lefevre
- Tony Kovac OAM

- Tom Grimson
- Keith Gilmour
- Pam Gilbert
- Harry Croft
- Donald Campbell
- Fred Barlow
- Eric Worthington
- Laurie Schwab
- Les Scheinflug
- Julius Re
- Sam Papasavas OAM
- Dieter Klose
- Brian Corrigan
- Ian Brusasco AM
- Giacomo “Jim” Bayutti OA
- Frank Arok
- Michael Weinstein AM, BEM
- Elaine Watson OAM
- Vic Tuting MBE
- Robert Telfer
- Rale Rasic
- Theo Maramaris MBE
- Arthur Gibbs

- John Walter Fletcher
- Harry Dockerty
- Tony Boscovic
- Connie Selby
- Sir Arthur George AO



# BOARD & MANAGEMENT



# BOARD & MANAGEMENT



**Mr Mark Bresciano**

**DIRECTOR**

Mr Bresciano was appointed to the FA Board in October 2019 and re-appointed for a further two year term in September 2019. Born in Melbourne, Mr Bresciano played youth football for Bulleen Lions, before moving into the National Soccer League with Carlton. In 1999, he moved to Italian Serie B side Empoli, beginning a twelve-year stay in the country. In 2002, he moved to the Serie A with Parma, later playing for Palermo and S.S. Lazio. From 2011, he spent the final four years of his career in the Middle East, first with UAE Pro-League side Al Nasr and then Qatar Stars League club Al-Gharafa where he last played in 2015. Mr Bresciano made 84 appearances for Australia, scoring 13 goals. He played in three FIFA World Cups, two AFC Asian Cups (one victorious) and the 2004 OFC Nations Cup winning team. His goal against Uruguay in the 2006 World Cup qualification play-off sent the match to a penalty shootout which Australia won to qualify for the first time in 32 years. He previously represented Australia frequently at youth levels, including the 2000 Summer Olympics in Australia and the 1999 FIFA U-20 World Cup. Mr Bresciano is a member of the Football Development Committee.



**Mr Joseph Carrozzi, AM**

**DIRECTOR**

Mr Carrozzi, AM was elected to the FA Board of FA in November 2018 and is the Chair of Finance, Risk and Audit Committee. Mr Carrozzi is a member of several Boards including: Chair of Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, Chair of the Centenary Institute for Medical Research, Chair of Angus Knight Group and Board member of Western Sydney University. He is formerly the Managing Partner at PwC Australia. Mr Carrozzi is a Fellow of the Tax Institute of Australia (FTI) and Member of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Law from the University of New South Wales and is admitted as a Barrister at Law in NSW.



**Ms Amy Duggan**

**DIRECTOR**

Mrs Duggan was appointed to the FA Board on 1 October 2019 and became an elected director in 2021. She is the Chair of the Football Development and Nominations committees and a member of the Board's digital sub-committee. Mrs Duggan has 25 years experience in various roles in football and is a former Matilda. Mrs Duggan holds a Commerce degree from the University of Wollongong and serves on several committees and sports' boards including NSW government agency Venues NSW. A communications and broadcast professional, Mrs Duggan is a Journalist and Presenter for Optus Sport and has worked in the media industry for 20 years, and is especially fond of her time covering the Matildas, Socceroos, the Westfield W-league and the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup.



**Ms Robyn Fitzroy**

**DIRECTOR**

Ms Fitzroy was appointed to the FA Board on 21 November 2019. She is a member of FA's Finance, Risk and Audit Committee, Chair of the Congress Nominations Committee and Chair of the Constitution Review Group. An experienced financial services executive, she is a former Executive Director of Macquarie Bank Group. She is currently principal of a governance consultancy which she founded. Ms Fitzroy is an independent non-executive director on the boards of Diversa Trustees Limited, Gateway Bank and the Self-Managed Super Fund Association. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Macquarie University, a Master of Arts from the University of Technology, a Diploma of Information Technology Business Application, Harvard University and a Diploma in Marketing Management, Macquarie University. Ms Fitzroy is a Master Coach with the International Coaching Federation and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors where she also writes and teaches on various governance courses.



# BOARD & MANAGEMENT



**Mrs Heather Garriock**

**DIRECTOR**

Mrs Garriock was appointed to the FA Board on 3 September 2021. She has spent over 25 years in football with various roles across all levels of the game, and is a member of the Starting XI advisory panel. Mrs Garriock is one of the most decorated Commonwealth Bank Matildas in history with appearances at three (3) FIFA Women's World Cups, three (3) AFC Women's Asian Cups, two (2) Olympic Games and a national championship in the Westfield W-League. With a Masters in Education (Coaching) from Sydney University and an AFC A Licence, she has held coaching positions at National Premier Leagues, Westfield W-League and Commonwealth Bank Matildas level, as well as an appointment as the Vice President of Football Coaches Australia. Mrs Garriock is the CEO of Australian Taekwondo, has been a television commentator and analyst for several broadcasters and held other sports management positions.



**Mr Stefan Kamasz**

**DIRECTOR (retired in 2022)**

Mr Stefan Kamasz was appointed to the Football Australia Board in November 2020 and was a member of the Football Development Committee, and the Referees Committee. Mr Kamasz arrived in Australia from England in 1969 to play for Northern NSW club, Weston Bears. This was followed by a distinguished career as a football administrator, resulting in his induction into the Australian Football Hall of Fame in 2014. The many positions held in football have included President and Treasurer of Northern NSW Football, Director, Australian Soccer Federation; Team Manager, Socceroos; General Manager, National Soccer League; Acting CEO, Soccer Australia; Chief Executive, Sydney FC; General Manager and Director, Sydney Olympic; General Manager, Johnny Warren Football Foundation; and Interim CEO, Football NSW. He was also General Manager of the Australian Baseball League. Currently retired, Mr Kamasz has a background in accountancy, having been a registered tax agent, Chief Accountant and Company Secretary of Tyrrell's Wines, Director of Chateau Douglas Vineyards, and Managing Director of CSS Australia (a subsidiary of the UK sports marketing company subsequently acquired by the Stellar Group).



**Mr Chris Nikou**

**CHAIR**

Mr Nikou was appointed to the Football Australia Board on 16 October 2014 and elected Chairman in November 2018. Mr Nikou is a senior partner of global law firm K & L Gates in the position of Global Practice Area Leader Corporate and Commercial. He is currently a member of the AFC Ex-Co, Deputy Chair of the AFC and ASEAN legal committees respectively and was formerly the Chair of the Women's Football Council and the Referees Committee. He was a director of the Local Organising Committee AFC Asian Cup Australia 2015 Ltd until resigning on 19 June 2015 following the conduct of the tournament in January 2015, and was Co-Chair of the Australia - New Zealand FIFA Women's World Cup Bid Committee. Mr Nikou is currently a member of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Steering Committee. Mr Nikou was previously a Director of Football Victoria and Company Secretary of Melbourne Victory FC.



**Ms Catriona Noble**

**DIRECTOR (appointed Sept 2021)**

Ms Noble was appointed to the FA Board on 3 September 2021. She is a member of FA's Finance, Risk and Audit Committee. Ms Noble is the Executive General Manager Retail at Australia Post and her career has seen her lead significant growth and major restructures at some of Australia's largest organisations including ANZ Bank and McDonald's. During her time with ANZ, Ms Noble was responsible for key Retail Distribution channels to customers including the Australian Branch Network. Ms Noble's 20 year career with McDonald's saw her play an integral role in the transformation of the McDonald's brand in Australia, holding various positions including CEO and Managing Director for McDonald's Australia and Chair of Ronald McDonald House Charities. Ms Noble has completed the AMP (Advanced Management Programme) at INSEAD business school, Fontainebleau, MGSM (Macquarie Graduate School of Management) Strategy & Business, MIT Boston Digital Business Transformation Programme and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



# BOARD & MANAGEMENT



**Mr Spiro Pappas**

**DIRECTOR (appointed June 2022)**

Mr Pappas was appointed to the Football Australia Board in June 2022 to fill a Casual Vacancy. He is a member of the Board's digital sub-committee. Mr Pappas is a senior executive with over 30 years of international business experience. He is currently Chair of Atlas Iron, Open Learning (ASX listed) and OpenInvest. Mr Pappas is also a non-executive director of BrewAI, DataMesh and Cognian Technologies. Prior to his current board roles, Mr Pappas had a long career in banking. He served at NAB in a number of senior leadership roles including CEO of Asia (based in Singapore) and was responsible for all of NAB's International Operations and their Global Institutional Bank. Prior to NAB, Mr Pappas worked in London and New York for Deutsche Bank and then London with ABN AMRO Bank. Mr Pappas has participated in a number of G20 forums as a member of the Australian B20 Taskforce. He was also a Corporate Board Member of the Australia Japan Business Cooperation Committee and the European Australian Business Council. Mr Pappas also served as part of an Australian Federal Government Digital Taskforce.



**Ms Carla Wilshire OAM**

**DIRECTOR, VICE-CHAIR**

Ms Wilshire, OAM is the CEO of the Migration Council Australia (MCA), Australia's national research and policy institution on migration, settlement and social cohesion. She has a background in policy development and Government Relations. She has worked as a public servant and advisor to Government, principally in the area of migration and resettlement, including as Chief of Staff to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Ms Wilshire is Deputy Chair of the Migrant and Refugee Health Partnership, board member of The Australian Centre for Social Innovation and a member of the Judicial Council on Cultural Diversity and the Harmony Alliance Council. Ms Wilshire was previously on the Settlement Services Advisory Council and the National Anti-Racism Partnership and co-founded the Friendly Nation Initiative, which aims to link corporate Australia with the settlement community to improve employment outcomes for refugees. Ms Wilshire is the Chair of the Board's digital sub-committee.



**Mr Stuart Corbishley**

**COMPANY SECRETARY (appointed May 2022)**

Mr Corbishley was appointed as Company Secretary in May 2022. He is an experienced sports and major events lawyer, company director and company secretary who advises high profile national and international governing bodies, major events, domestic leagues, clubs, athletes and sponsors on a range of legal, commercial, governance and integrity matters. Mr Corbishley's in-house experience across a wide range of sports and major events has given him a deep understanding of the sports industry and, having advised clients at every level of sport, he brings a unique perspective to his advice. Mr Corbishley was General Counsel & Company Secretary for AFC Asian Cup Australia 2015 and for FA's successful bid for FIFA Women's World Cup 2023, and has also acted as General Counsel & Company Secretary for Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games, Invictus Games Sydney 2018 and the 2022 UCI Road World Championships. He has also advised Cricket Australia on the establishment of the Men's and Women's Big Bash League, Netball Australia on the establishment of the Super Netball League, Hockey Australia on the establishment of Hockey League One and Athletics Australia on the establishment of Nitro Athletics. Currently, Mr Corbishley is the Vice-President of Triathlon Australia and also acts as the Company Secretary for Invictus Australia and Netball NSW.



**Mr Tim Holden**

**COMPANY SECRETARY (retired in 2022)**

Mr Holden joined Football Australia in March 2009. He acted as the Head of Legal, Business Affairs and Integrity and was appointed company secretary in February 2019. Prior to joining Football Australia, Mr Holden worked at Allens as a lawyer in the firm's Litigation and Intellectual Property department. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of British Columbia and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Sydney. Mr Holden has been a member of the AFC's Disciplinary and Ethics Committee since June 2019.



# BOARD COMMITTEES

## BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES

Committee	Director Members	External Members	Football Australia Staff
<b>Finance, Risk and Audit Committee</b>	Joseph Carrozzi (Chair) Robyn Fitzroy Catriona Noble	Ernst & Young representatives	James Johnson Mark Falvo Christine Bishay (Secretary)
<b>Football Development Committee (FDC)</b>	Amy Duggan (Chair) Mark Bresciano	Starting XI advisory panel to the FDC: Mark Bosnich, Heather Garriock, Joanne Peters, Frank Farina, Vicki Linton, Paul Okon, Clare Polkinghorne, Connie Selby, Josip Skoko, Ron Smith and Mark Viduka	James Johnson Ernie Merrick Trevor Morgan Rae Dower Paddy Steinfort Tom Bragg (Secretary)
<b>Referees Committee</b>	N/A	Ray Olivier (Chair) Graham Scott Allyson Flynn Nia Southwell Jim Ouliaris Adam Fielding Eleanor Hayes Greg O'Rourke	Nathan Magill Mathew Cheeseman Tom Bragg (Secretary)
<b>Digital Committee</b>	Carla Wilshire (Chair) Spiro Papas Amy Duggan	N/A	James Johnson Alex Davani Jenny Simpson (Secretary)

## CONGRESS STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee	Director Members	External Members	Football Australia Staff
<b>Nominations Standing Committee</b>	Amy Duggan (Chair)	Gino Marra Beau Busch John Sugunananthan Ben Richardson	N/A
<b>Finance and Risk Standing Committee</b>	Joseph Carrozzi (Chair)	Sherif Andrawes Bob Gordon Simon Pearce Tim Pullman	Mark Falvo (Secretary)
<b>Women's Football Council Standing Committee</b>	N/A	Leigh Russell (Chair) Ally Green Caroline Carnegie Elise Kellond-Knight Helena Dorczak Erin Clout Janette Spencer Jo Smith Damaris Treasure John Sugunananthan	Sarah Walsh (Secretary)





# EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM



**James Johnson**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**Alex Devani**

HEAD OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OFFICE AND STRATEGY



**Mel Mallam**

GENERAL COUNSEL



**Mark Falvo**

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER



**Sarah Walsh**

HEAD OF WOMEN'S  
FOOTBALL, WOMEN'S WORLD  
CUP LEGACY & INCLUSION



**Peter Filopoulos**

HEAD OF MARKETING,  
COMMUNICATIONS,  
CORPORATE AFFAIRS



**Tom Rischbieth**

HEAD OF COMMERCIAL  
AND EVENTS



**Paddy Steinfort**

PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR



**Jenny Simpson**

CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER



**Will Hastie**

HEAD OF MEMBER  
FEDERATION RELATIONS  
AND COMMUNITY



**Ernie Merrick**

CHIEF FOOTBALL OFFICER



**Nina McDonnell**

HEAD OF PEOPLE & CULTURE



# FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA WISHES TO THANK THE MEMBER FEDERATIONS, CLUBS & PARTNERS THAT HAVE SUPPORTED OUR GAME OVER THE PAST YEAR

## MEMBER FEDERATIONS



## A-LEAGUE MEN & A-LEAGUE WOMEN CLUBS



## PARTNERS

