



# 2020 GRAND FINAL SERIES PRESENTED BY BORAL UNFINISHED BUSINESS SERIES PROGRAM



FOOTBALL  
SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA

**BORAL**

# WELCOME

On behalf of Football South Australia I would like to welcome all clubs, officials, players and spectators to the 2020 Senior Men's Grand Finals, proudly presented by Boral

Firstly, I would like to thank the Football community for their efforts in what has been a challenging year for all. The football community has rebounded very strongly following our temporary suspension of activities in the wake of COVID – 19 back in March this year, as well as overcoming additional challenges in recent weeks, which illustrates great resilience and love for the game.

This week's NPL, State League 1 and State League 2 Grand Finals will be played across three nights. For a second consecutive year, Adelaide Comets will battle it out with Campbelltown City, where Comets will be out for redemption while the Red Devils are eyeing off what would be an astounding three-peat. Sturt Lions face White City where the victor will earn themselves the remaining place in South Australia's top tier competition for 2021, while Cobras will be gunning for a League/Grand Final double against Eastern United, who will join them in State League 1 next season. I wish all participating teams the very best for their respective matches.

Finally I would like to extend a thank you to Football South Australia's valued corporate partners for their continued support in what has been a challenging year for all.

On behalf of the Football SA Board and Staff, I hope you enjoy what is sure to be a great week of finals football.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Carter

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

# NPL GRAND FINAL

FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER | COOPERS STADIUM

Adelaide Comets v Campbelltown City

Kick-Off 7.20pm



# STATE LEAGUE 1 GRAND FINAL

PLAYED THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER

VALO FOOTBALL CENTRE

Sturt Lions 2 - 0 White City



# STATE LEAGUE 2 GRAND FINAL

PLAYED WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER

VALO FOOTBALL CENTRE

Adelaide Omonia Cobras 0 - 1 Eastern United (AET)



**BORAL**®



# **MATCH OFFICIALS**

## **NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE**

**Referee: Daniel Cook**  
**Assistant Referee: Daniel Goodwin**  
**Assistant Referee: Henry Day**  
**Fourth Official: Isabella Blaess**  
**Assessor: Michelle Smith**  
**Shadow Referee: Nicholas Frangiskos**

## **STATE LEAGUE 1**

**Referee: Christian Verdicchio**  
**Assistant Referee: Andrew Kite**  
**Assistant Referee: Liam Miller**  
**Fourth Official: Jonathan Hunter**  
**Assessor: Matthew Cream**

## **STATE LEAGUE 2**

**Referee: Curtis Wordsworth**  
**Assistant Referee: Nick Elagin**  
**Assistant Referee: Alexander Diamond**  
**Fourth Official: Gary Mooney**  
**Assessor: Raymond Grima**



2020 NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE GRAND FINAL  
ADELAIDE COMETS V CAMPBELLTOWN CITY  
FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER | 7.20 PM  
COOPERS STADIUM



**#RETURNTOCOOPERS**



FOOTBALL  
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NATIONAL  
PREMIER LEAGUES



## Adelaide Comets

- 14 Andijanto, Nathan
- 3 Barnett, Manley
- 16 Beric, Ninko
- 6 Bladen, Jack
- 77 Christofilos, Chris
- 18 Dimou, Nathan
- 4 Dittmar, Tom
- 21 Ikonomopoulos, Nikolas
- 5 Le Cornu, Adam
- 11 LoBasso, Jayden
- 10 Mavrolambados, Anthony
- 23 Nagel, Scott
- 17 Smith, Lansana
- 1 Torresan, Julian
- 15 Tsalamangos, Konstandinos
- 31 Vaughan, Daniel
- 22 Welsh, Allan (C)
- 9 Wiens, Andreas
- 8 Yates, Ryan
- 7 Yengi, Tete

Coach: Barney Smith

Assistant: Kon Antoniou

Manager: Evangelo Katsambis

Trainer: Elsie Kenny

Physio: Emma Gericke

Team Staff: Antonios Galanopoulos

Matthew Bates



## Campbelltown City

- 7 Allwright, Joel
- 11 Barresi, Joshua
- 3 Carpenter, Blake
- 4 Centofanti, Connor
- 10 Ditroia, Luigi
- 12 Francese, Nicholas
- 23 Halliday, Jake
- 20 Harpas, Nicholas
- 2 Harvey, Shaun (C)
- 6 Kirk, Dion
- 9 Marino, Marc
- 8 Mullen, Alexander
- 16 Mullen, Daniel
- 5 Mullen, Matthew
- 14 Piscioneri, Adam
- 15 Piscioneri, Antony
- 1 Signorello, Jamie

Coach: Iain Fyfe

Assistan: Corey Artone

Manager: Panfilo Ciccocioppo

Trainer: Elio Bria

Team Staff: Les Pogliacomì

David Cavaiuolo

# NPL | ROAD TO THE FINALS



**Week 1**

**Campbelltown City 0 - 0 Adelaide**

**Week 2**

**Adelaide Comets 3 - 0 Campbelltown City  
(Yengi 45, Wiens 71, 75)**

**Week 1**

**Campbelltown City 0 - 0 Adelaide**

**Week 2**

**Adelaide Comets 3 - 0 Campbelltown City  
(T.Yengi 45, A.Wiens 71, 75)**

**Week 3**

**Campbelltown 4 - 0 Adelaide City  
(B.Carpenter 23, A.Mullen 29, M.Marino 37, L.Ditroia 79)**



# MATCH PREVIEW

And just like that, it all comes down to this. After a season that has lasted almost ten months from start to finish thanks to a once in a lifetime pandemic, Adelaide Comets and Campbelltown City are the two teams left standing in the race to claim South Australian football's top prize: The NPL **CHAMPIONSHIP**.

Neither of these sides are strangers to Grand Finals, having contested the decider last year at the same ground. Campbelltown were victorious on that night, running out 3 – 0 winners and claiming their second consecutive league title, but this season looks much harder to predict.

As the top two sides at the conclusion of the minor round, separated by a solitary point after 22 rounds of NPL football, we're all set up for an immense, action-packed night at Coopers tonight!

## **ROAD TO THE GRAND FINAL - ADELAIDE COMETS**

Comets were crowned minor premiers of the NPL after another strong season of top-flight football where they managed to hold firm at the top of the table throughout the second half of the season.

Boasting the second best attack and defence in the competition (behind only MetroStars and Adelaide City respectively), Comets became known for their powerful attacks supported by resolute defending.

This was no more apparent than during their seven-match winning run between Round 19 and Round 7, where they netted 19 times at almost three per game, conceded just four goals and claimed the scalps of fellow top six sides Raiders, Croydon Kings and MetroStars.



Their path to the Grand Final was the shortest of any side, claiming a 3 – 0 win in the second leg of their semi-final against tonight's opponent to clinch a berth in the decider and mark their first win against Campbelltown since the first leg of the same final last season.

The men in blue and black enter this contest with added motivation from their heavy defeat on the big stage in 2019, a fire that is sure to have been burning in the bellies of their players throughout this season and particularly the lead-up to tonight.

## **ROAD TO THE GRAND FINAL - CAMPBELLTOWN CITY**

Life hasn't quite been as smooth sailing for Campbelltown as it was last season, when they were comfortably crowned minor premiers before going on to claim their second championship in as many seasons.

Nevertheless, they have been consistently impressive during 2020, recovering from a lean patch after the pandemic-enforced break to shoot back up the table and into premiership contention.

Despite registering their leanest season in front of goal since 2017, which saw them finish ninth on the ladder, their strong defensive record combined with a knack for late goals kept them towards the top for the majority of the year.

Campbelltown were comfortably beaten in their semi-final against Comets, ending their impressive unbeaten run against their rivals and ensuring that they would have to face another test to make it to Coopers Stadium in the form of a cut-throat preliminary final.

They passed that test with flying colours, dismantling a red-hot Adelaide City outfit 4 – 0 thanks to a 15-minute first-half blitz that saw the home side find the back of the net three times, and move onto the huge match tonight with a point to prove and a third consecutive title on the line.

# PLAYER TO WATCH

## ALLAN WELSH - CAPTAIN FANTASTIC (Adelaide Comets)

The Comets skipper has had a season to remember, winning his third Sergio Melta Medal in the space of five seasons after clinching the NPL Golden Boot.

Having started his career in defence, the former Newcastle Jet has been a revelation for Comets further up the ground in recent seasons, his 18 goals from midfield testament to his incredible presence on the pitch.

Welsh is one of the most pivotal players on the park for Comets week in, week out and could prove to be the X-factor in his side's hunt for the top-flight championship that has eluded them for so long.



# PLAYER TO WATCH

## MARC MARINO- THE MAN FOR THE BIG STAGE

(Campbelltown City)

Marino is no stranger to Coopers Stadium under lights, with his hat-trick in last year's Grand Final ensuring his side came home with the chocolates against Comets.

Eight goals in 17 matches represents the former Adelaide United and Melbourne City man's biggest haul in a home and away season for Campbelltown, leading the Club's scoring chart alongside Blake Carpenter and being ably supported by Joshua Barresi and Luigi Ditroia.

Marino's ability to pop up in the right place at the right time, and score the occasional worldie, could prove vital to Campbelltown's championship hopes as he prepares to set the big stage alight once again.



# HEAD TO HEAD



**SEMI FINAL 2 (13/11/20):**

**Adelaide Comets 3 - 0 Campbelltown City**

**SEMI FINAL 1 (6/11/20):**

**Campbelltown City 0 - 0 Adelaide Comets**

**R9 (19/9/20):**

**Campbelltown City 3 - 2 Adelaide Comets**

**R18 (18/7/20):**

**Adelaide Comets 0 - 1 Campbelltown City**

**2019 NPL GRAND FINAL (14/9/19)**

**Campbelltown City 3 - 0 Adelaide Comets**



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**THANK YOU** FOR YOUR SUPPORT

