

# SPORT NEWS



## Robbie Kruse named in A-League team of the year

MELBOURNE Victory striker Robbie Kruse has won a place in the A-League Team of the Year dominated by Brisbane Roar.

After losing just once in 30 games, Roar's season of excellence was recognised with seven places in the team, including the captaincy for midfielder Matt McKay.

Brisbane boss Ange Postecoglou was named coach. The Brisbane players in the team, which was picked in a 4-3-3 formation, were goalkeeper Michael Theoklitos, defenders Ivan Franjic, Matt Smith and Luke De Vere, midfielders McKay and Thomas Broich, and striker Kosta Barbarouses. Import striker Jean Carlos Solorzano was named on the bench. The team of the year, which is voted on by all A-League players, has three Adelaide United players — Cassio, Marcos Flores and Sergio van Dijk — making Kruse the only player outside Adelaide and Brisbane to gain a starting spot. With 11 goals this season, despite missing a month while at the Asian Cup with the Socceroos, Kruse had an outstanding campaign and deserved his nomination, although Victory teammate Carlos Hernandez being named on the bench was a surprise.



Brisbane boss Ange Postecoglou was named coach

### A-LEAGUE TEAM OF THE SEASON

**Goalkeeper** - Michael Theoklitos (Brisbane Roar) **Defenders**, Ivan Franjic ((Brisbane Roar), Matt Smith (Brisbane Roar), Luke De Vere (Brisbane Roar), Cassio (Adelaide Utd), **Midfielders**, Marcos Flores (Adelaide Utd), Matt McKay (Brisbane Roar, Captain), Thomas Broich (Brisbane Roar), **Forwards**, Kosta Barbarouses (Brisbane Roar), Sergio van Dijk (Adelaide Utd), Rob-



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bie Kruse (Melbourne Victory), Subs, Glen Moss (Gold Coast Utd), Josh Rose (Central Coast Mariners), Kasey Wehrman (Newcastle Jets), Carlos Hernandez (Melbourne Victory), Jean Carlos Solorzano (Brisbane Roar)

**Coach**, Ange Postecoglou (Brisbane Roar), **Referee**, Matthew Breeze  
Who plays who in the A-League finals

### FIXTURES for the A-League finals series:

**WEEK 1, Friday, February 18,**  
**Semi-final B,**  
Adelaide Utd v Wellington Phoenix (Hind-

marsh Stadium),

**Saturday, February 19,**  
**Semi-final A,** 1st leg, Central Coast Mariners v. Brisbane Roar (Gosford),

**Sunday, February 20,**  
**Semi-final C,** Gold Coast United v Melbourne Victory (Skilled Park),

**WEEK 2,**  
**Saturday, February 26, Semi-final A,**  
2nd leg, Brisbane Roar v Central Coast Mariners (Suncorp Stadium),  
**Sunday, February 27,**  
Winner Semi-final B v. Winner Semi-final

## Doing it the Spartan way...

## Hawthorn SPARTANS ready for the VAFA competition

Who said SPARTANS can't play football? The Hawthorn "Spartans" Football Club, an affiliation of the Hawthorn Amateur Football Club, will compete this year in the VAFA competition. The Spartans will form the HAFC's Club 18 team. The concept was started by a group of friends. It started as a throwaway conversation, but soon gathered legs that this group could indeed start an Australian Rules football team. In its most primitive form, the Spartans was born out of casual Sunday training sessions in Camberwell. In the early days it consisted of 15 or so mates having a kick. This soon grew to a weekly ritual. Fast forward 6 months and the Spartans army grew to a playing list of approximately 40 people, going through the rigours of a solid pre-season.

The team will play all matches on Saturdays. The home ground is Rathmines Reserve (Melways reference 45-H10) in Hawthorn East. This venue will be our ground for 2011 and the place where we play our home matches. All subsequent matches will be played at our opposition's ground.

The team trains every Wednesday night and display SPARTAN spirit - intense, ruthless, united and strength. The group's skills have improved immensely since the team was formed.



### The Spartan DNA

These group of Spartans have come together from a number of different backgrounds. Some have an existing Australian Rules background, others have been sons of the round ball while others have ventured from the basketball court. The Spartans have been fortunate enough to have a number of special guests involved with

the club. Their role is to assist with training this team into understanding the AFL culture and making each member of the team a better footballer and person. One of them was Collingwood legend Peter Daicos who helped get this group of Spartans to where they are today. **The Spartans are sponsored by** The Greek Deli, GDF Partners Bill Papastergiadis,

Colombo's Family Restaurant Judson & Co Albert Park Deli, Impact Football Solutions, and supported by 3XY Radio Hellas and Ta Nea Newspaper.

Anyone interested in sponsoring the club can contact George Demetriou CPA the team's Accountant, on one of the following: george@gdfpartners.com.au,