



CAPITAL FOOTBALL
MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 13th January 2010

31st FFA Futsal National Championships
11-15 January 2010, Canberra

Thunder move clear at top of ladder

NSW Thunder underlined their credentials as tournament favourites by moving four points clear at the top of the ladder in the men's open competition after day three of the FFA Futsal National Championships.

Thunder were two from two after winning highly tricky matches against fellow finals contenders ACT Colts and NSW Lightning in convincing fashion with identical 3-0 wins without being forced into top gear.

In an ominous warning to the rest of the opposition the Thunder were almost invincible at the back, repelling every attack that the Colts and Lightning were able to send their way. The Colts were perhaps the most unfortunate with Antoni Jagarinec hitting the woodwork twice, but goals from wily old campaigner Simon Keith, Daniel Fogarty and Chris Zeballos was enough for the Thunder to win the day.

Fogarty was at the double in the NSW derby clash with the Lightning. His brace, along with a goal from Marino Musumeci ensured there would be no upset in the AIS Arena. The loss left the Lightning in fourth place on the ladder knowing that the final round match against the ACT Colts could hold the key to the semi-final place.

The Colts desperately need to rediscover the form shown on Tuesday if they are to progress. Back-to-back losses to the Thunder and, perhaps more costly, to Southern NSW has left the ACT team with a lot to do in tomorrow's final league fixtures. Peter Gaffney scored twice for Southern NSW as they beat the Colts 5-3 adding to his goal in the 4-2 win over Northern NSW earlier.

There was better news for the ACT Cobras though as the hosts turned on the style to see off NSW Lightning 4-2. Elia Salloum gave the Cobras the early lead only for Anthony Tow to hit back with a quick double to give the Lightning the advantage. But it was the Cobras who ended strongly, equalising through a deflected Trent Flanigan shot, before scoring twice in the last minute through George Cattanach and Matt Menser to take the win.

Cattanach was in good form in front of goal with two more to his own total in an amazing 5-5 draw with Victoria. The Cobras raced into a 3-0 lead and appeared to be cruising until the Victorians staged a miraculous comeback. Adelson De Melo, Simon Lamanda, Manny Karas and Dimi Vithoulkes got them back into the match and a final second own goal earned them a deserved draw.

It was much needed boost for Victoria who had fallen to a solitary goal loss to South Australia when looking for their first win of the competition. A highly tense, fraught encounter was settled by a scrambled Anthony Solagna winner as the South Australians celebrated a first win. Anthony Fowler had the chance to extend the lead but saw his penalty saved.

The men's competition takes centre stage at the AIS Arena tomorrow with all matches from round six and seven back-to-back on the international court from 8.30am, leading to the semi-finals at 8.10pm and 9.00pm respectively.

DAY THREE RESULTS

Men's Open Round 4

NSW Thunder 3 (Simon Keith, Daniel Fogarty, Chris Zeballos) defeated ACT Colts 0 Southern NSW 4 (Shane Soutter, Sahand Mehrkhvari, Peter Gaffney, Darrell Fernandes) defeated Northern NSW Hunter 2 (Shannon Mangovski, Haken Canley) ACT Cobras 4 (Elia Salloum, Trent Flanigan, George Cattanaach, Matt Menser) defeated NSW Lightning 2 (Anthony Tow (2)) South Australia 1 (Anthony Solagna) defeated Victoria 0

Men's Open Round 5

Southern NSW 5 (Peter Gaffney (2), Mojtaba Mohebbbee, Denny Dutra, Shane Soutter) defeated ACT Colts 3 (Mishko Naumovski, Kole Aitken, own goal) ACT Cobras 5 (George Cattanaach (2), Matt Menser, Adrian Dowling, Pat Ross-Magee) drew with Victoria 5 (Adelson De Melo, Simon Lamanda, Manny Karas, Dimi Vithoulkes, own goal) NSW Thunder 3 (Daniel Fogarty (2), Marino Musumeci) defeated NSW Lightning 0 *South Australia v NNSW Hunter played late last night

Men's Open After Round Five

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	NSW Thunder	5	5	0	0	16	4	+12	15
2	ACT Cobras	5	3	1	1	21	12	+9	11
3	Southern NSW	5	3	1	1	20	11	+9	11
4	NSW Lightning	5	3	0	2	12	14	-2	9
5	ACT Colts	5	2	0	3	16	16	0	6
6	Sth Australia*	4	1	0	3	5	13	-8	3
7	Victoria 5	0	2	3	12	21	-9	4	
8	NNSW Hunter*	4	0	0	4	7	18	-11	0

LEADING SCORERS

5 George CATTANACH (ACT Cobras), Maxime JACQUIN (ACT Colts), Peter GAFFNEY (Southern NSW)

3 Matt MENSER, Tom ROGIC, Pat ROSS-MAGEE (all ACT Cobras), Mishko NAUMOVSKI (ACT Colts), Daniel FOGARTY, Simon KEITH, Chris ZEBALLOS (all NSW Thunder), Anthony TOW (NSW Lightning), Darrell FERNANDES, Sahand MEHRKHVARI (South Australia), Oner SIMSEK (Victoria)

2 Trent FLANIGAN, Marcel MUNOZ, Elia SALLOUM (all ACT Cobras), Kole AITKEN, Victor YANES (both ACT Colts), Shervin ADELI, Ediz ALPKAYA, Tuan CAO, Daniel FULTON (all NSW Lightning), Danny MARTINEZ (NSW Thunder), Haken CANLEY, Luke DRINKWATER, Shannon MANGOVSKI (all NNSW Hunter), Anthony SOLAGNA (South Australia), Denny DUTRA, Joseph FOTI, Mojtaba MOHEBBEE, Shane SOUTTER (Southern NSW), Adam HUSSEINI, Manny KARAS, Dimi VITHOULKES (all Victoria)

END

Contact for this release

Russ Gibbs

Media & PR Officer

Capital Football

Mob: 0408 690 245

E-mail: media@capitalfootball.com.au