



SUNDAY

16

JULY

**3.00PM KICK OFF,
MCFETRIDGE PARK**

NORTHERN LEAGUE | ROUND 16



Harcourts Cooper & Co



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LAWYERS

weston design



Harcourts Cooper & Co

LUNDQUIST

www.teamlundquist.com

Dianne Lundquist

027 482 0335

dianne.lundquist@harcourts.co.nz

Daniel Lundquist

021 875 001

daniel.lundquist@harcourts.co.nz

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



WELCOME TO ANOTHER "HOME" GAME AND A RETURN TO MCFETRIDGE PARK AFTER A COUPLE OF GAMES THAT WERE SIMULTANEOUSLY BOTH AWAY, AND AT HOME, AT ALLEN HILL STADIUM.

Now we are "back" at McFetridge Park, for the return (reversed) fixture against Western Springs. And if that isn't enough Home & Away, Reversed and Returned for you, it is probably time for a little afternoon television. It has been that kind of a season. At 18 weeks into this season, we can only claim the one genuine "at-home-at-Shepherds-Park" game, which was the Chatham Cup game against Franklin. Around that one small pinprick of light, the Men's Premier team have managed to maintain a relatively even keel as they have battled the various slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, that this season has presented them to overcome. To arrive here today, a day that pits 5th against 6th and shapes as a proverbial "6-pointer" of a game!

Of course, Western Springs are coming off that dramatic extra-time win over perennial victors, Auckland City, while we are coming from the reverse emotional rollercoaster, with a hard-fought loss to Eastern Suburbs, also in the Cup. With a game in-hand, a win today for Hobbo's boys ties them with Manurewa in 4th place in the league, on points... but with a better goal difference. The slowly emerging dawn of a (potential) National League spot teases us into its orbit. But it is WAY too early to indulge in too much conjecture, and all we can hope is that our team play to their best and that that "best" is enough.

The Women's Conference team, who are in a titanic arm-wrestle of a season with Metro, currently occupy 1st place on the table, but that position is under threat from a Metro team only 1-point behind, but with 2-games in hand. The Birko Women have a better goal difference, but it remains to be seen how this season will travel the bumps and pitstops

still to be experienced to find out who sits atop the table come the conclusion of the regular season, just 7-weeks hence. A massive game against Metro looms large on the horizon, with Sunday 30th of July at Phyllis Street Reserve a date to mark in and underline on the calendar. I hope to see you all there!

The Italian Women's team, Le Azzurre, arrived into Aotearoa / New Zealand on Friday 7th of July at 11am, and were at Shepherds Park for their first practice at 2.30pm that afternoon. Coming from temperatures in Europe in their mid-to-high-30s the shock of a wet (did we say there was and had been some rain?!) and windy southerly was an embrace probably all together less than inviting. Not that that deterred them, but it stills seems a helluva way to get rid of jetlag! They are now training daily at Shepherds and building to their first game of this FIFA Women's World Cup, against Argentina at Eden Park on Monday 24th.

After the incredible journey of the last couple of years, to have an upgraded facility at Shepherds, capable of hosting an international Women's team, it seems almost incredible to think that we are looking at returning to hosting and playing once again at Shepherds in only 4-week's time....and I for one am looking forward enormously to that occasion!

"Courage, sacrifice, determination, commitment, toughness, heart, talent, guts. That's what little girls are made of; the heck with sugar and spice."

—Bethany Meilani Hamilton

David Williams

Birkenhead United AFC President

Harcourts Cooper & Co





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PAUL HOBSON COACH'S COMMENTS



WELCOME TO SCOTT AND HIS WESTERN SPRINGS TEAM TODAY.

And a massive congratulations to you for your win over Auckland City in the Cup last weekend.

Thanks once again to Northern Rovers for hosting us this weekend.

Our last game was a 1-2 loss to Suburbs in the Chatham Cup, and although not coming away with a win, I thought we gave a really good account of ourselves. On another day it could have been very different, which has been the story of our season, we seem to concede when we're on top, and then as we all know, goals change games and momentum flows the other way. Suburbs have a great winning mentality and a couple of exceptional players within their squad.

We say a farewell to a couple of players today, Rayhan Carlson-Du Toit and Dylan Hobson, as today marks their last home game for us.

Rayhan was a member of our 2020 U19s National winning team and he returns to Regis University in

Denver. We've been really impressed with Ray, he's led the line so well for us, scoring 5 goals this season so far, and offering a huge threat with his fitness and work rate, which has been a huge contribution. The door is always open for you here Ray, when you come back on your next university break.

Dylan will also be leaving us to take up a scholarship at Colorado Mesa University. Dylan has been at Birko since the age of 4, with this 2023 season being his 17th consecutive year here at Birko. Dylan was a member of the 2018 Chatham Cup winning team, and also in the 2017 U17s, and the 2019 and 2021 U19 National winning teams. While set pieces have been his trade mark, he has also turned in some outstanding defensive performances over the last couple of seasons.

We thank both players, and wish them the very best on their university journeys!

Paul Hobson

Birkenhead United Men's First Team Coach

kemps weir
LAWYERS

ROUND 16 PREVIEW



FIRST TEAM FIXTURE



VS



BIRKENHEAD UNITED VS WESTERN SPRINGS

Sunday 16th July, 3pm,
McFetridge Park

Matchday Sponsored By:

Harcourts Cooper & Co

OTHER FIXTURES

RESULTS

		AUCKLAND CITY VS AUCKLAND UNITED	Friday 14th July, 3.00pm, Kiwitea Street	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
		MANUKAU UNITED VS MELVILLE UNITED	Saturday 15th July, 3.00pm Walter Massey Park	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
		BAY OLYMPIC VS WEST COAST RANGERS	Saturday 15th July, 3.00pm Crum Park	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
		MANUREWA VS EASTERN SUBURBS	Saturday 15th July, 3.00pm Manurewa War Memorial	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>
		HAMILTON WANDERERS VS TAKAPUNA	Saturday 15th July, 3.00pm Ashurst Park	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>

westondesign

ROUND 15 REVIEW



FIRST TEAM FIXTURE



3 - 0

	5 - 2		MELVILLE UNITED VS MANUREWA AFC
	3 - 0		AUCKLAND UNITED VS MANUKAU UNITED
	0 - 3		TAKAPUNA FC VS WESTERN SPRINGS
	0 - 3		WEST COAST RANGERS VS AUCKLAND CITY
	6 - 1		EASTERN SUBURBS VS HAMILTON WANDERERS

LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Auckland City FC	14	12	2	0	45	5	40	38
Eastern Suburbs AFC	14	12	2	0	33	9	24	38
Auckland United	15	9	3	3	31	15	16	30
Manurewa AFC	15	7	3	5	35	29	6	24
Western Springs	15	7	1	7	25	24	1	22
Birkenhead United	14	6	3	5	34	25	9	21
Melville United	15	6	3	6	24	29	-6	21
Hamilton Wanderers	14	4	5	5	25	33	-8	17
West Coast Rangers	15	5	1	9	19	33	-14	16
Bay Olympic	15	2	1	12	21	40	-19	7
Takapuna FC	14	1	3	10	11	31	-20	6
Manukau United	14	1	3	10	18	47	-29	6



2023 MENS SQUAD



**ALEX
CONNOR-MCCLEAN**
FORWARD



**ARDRI
MCARTHUR**
MIDFIELDER



**BYRON
HEATH**
FORWARD



**CAMERON
MACKENZIE**
FORWARD



**CODEY
PHOENIX**
WINGER



**DANE
SCHNELL**
FORWARD



**DANIEL
MORGAN**
FORWARD



**DINO
BOTICA**
DEFENDER



**DYLAN
HOBSON**
DEFENDER



**EVERTON
O'LEARY**
WINGER



**FINN
MCKENLAY**
MIDFIELDER



**HAMISH
JARDINE**
DEFENDER

**ABSENT FROM PHOTOSHOOT:
NICHOLAS FORRESTER, JORDAN TOY, SHIVAM NAIR**

2023 MENS SQUAD



**JACK
DUNCAN**

WINGER



**CURTIS
HUGHES**

FORWARD



**LEON
VAN DEN HOVEN**

MIDFIELDER



**LUKE
COSTELLO**

DEFENDER



**LUKE
JORGENSEN**

MIDFIELDER



**NICK
PETHERICK**

FORWARD



**SAMUEL
PEPPER**

WINGER



**SILVIO
RODIC**

GOALKEEPER



**TROY
TAYLOR**

GOALKEEPER



2023 MENS SQUAD



**PAUL
HOBSON**

HEAD COACH



**KEITH
LESSLIE**

ASSISTANT COACH



**SHAFEIK
DU TOIT**

U23 HEAD COACH



**JASON
HIGGINS**

TEAM MANAGER



**HAYATO
YONETO**

**STRENGTH AND
CONDITIONING**



**GRAHAM
ROUTLEDGE**

KIT MANAGER



**KYLE
HENDRICKS**

ANALYST



**BEN
SIMMS**

PHYSIO

PLAYER PROFILE

DYLAN HOBSON

PLAYER BIO

Nickname	Dyl
Age	21 Years
Place of Birth	Auckland
Playing Position	Centre Back
Right / Left Footed	Right Foot
Previous Clubs	Waitakere United
Honours / Trophies	2018 & 2020 U19s Nationals 2018 Chatham Cup Winner 2017 U17s National Winner



DID YOU KNOW

My favourite pro club is: Liverpool

If I wasn't a footballer I would be: Playing social basketball

One thing people may not know about me is:
I get my height from my dad

The country I haven't been but want to visit:
Japan

The item on top of my bucket list is: Mount Fuji

Most underrated TV show is: Yu-Gi-Oh

My favourite movie or TV show is: The Mandalorian

Favourite place to dine out is: Dianne's diner

Favourite day of the week is: Saturday (Game Day)

I was starstruck when I met: Andrew Cromb

I've been told I look like: Michael B. Jordan

Q & A SESSION

Q: What's your best footballing memory and why?

A: Winning the 2020 u19s as the captain because I had been going down to watch since 2010 when my brother Jack won it and wore his number 11 shirt.

Best advice you have ever been given?

A: If in doubt, get it out

Q: What do coaches often tell you?

A: Don't think I'm allowed to say what I get told

Q: What advice would give you any young players playing your position?

A: Work hard, be aggressive and keep your head up

Q: What is your pre-match routine? Do you have any lucky charms / superstitions?

A: Not that I know of

Q: What are your goals and ambitions for the season?

A: Help the team reach the top 4 before I go to US

Q: How would you describe yourself as a player?

A: Only in the team for set pieces and long balls

Q: Which team do you most look forward to playing?

A: Taka

Q: Toughest individual player you've played against and why?

A: Playing against Dan Bunch from Suburbs in the cup, he's fast, strong and has great technique. had some good battles

Q: What non-football accomplishment are you most proud of?

A: Signing a scholarship with Colorado Mesa University

Q: If you could go to dinner with any 3 people (past or present), who would it be?

A: Jamie Carragher, Roy Keane, Thierry Henry. top class punditry



PLAYER PROFILE

LEON VAN DEN HOVEN



PLAYER BIO

Nickname	Le, Le GM
Age	22 Years Old
Place of Birth	Auckland, NZ
Playing Position	Centre Mid
Right / Left Footed	Right
Previous Clubs	Auckland United Eastern Suburbs
Honours / Trophies	NZ U17s NZ U20s

DID YOU KNOW

My favourite pro club is: Arsenal

If I wasn't a footballer I would be: Punting on the NFL

One thing people may not know about me is:
I'm half Dutch, quarter Samoan

The country I haven't been but want to visit:
Italy

The item on top of my bucket list is: Football Boots

Most underrated TV show is: Normal People

My favourite TV show character is: Santiago Munez

Favourite place to dine out is: Mamma Rosa

Favourite day of the week is: Game day

I was starstruck when I met: Alexandre Lacazette

I've been told I look like: An Amigo

Q & A SESSION

Q: What's your best footballing memory and why?

A: Playing for NZ U17 against England u17 in a warm up game before the U17 world cup in India. England had Phil Foden, Connor Gallagher, Morgan Gibbs White, Emile Smith Rowe etc

Best advice you have ever been given?

A: Never give up!

Q: What do coaches often tell you?

A: Stick to the game plan, outwork the opposition

Q: What advice would give you any young players playing your position?

A: Get on the ball lots, learn to check your shoulder and scan

Q: What is your pre-match routine? Do you have any lucky charms / superstitions?

A: I go for a morning walk on gameday to get the legs moving. Always wear skins to bed night before a game.

Q: What are your goals and ambitions for the season?

A: Making top 4 to qualify for the National League

Q: How would you describe yourself as a player?

A: Calm

Q: Which team do you most look forward to playing?

A: Auckland City

Q: Toughest individual player you've played against and why?

A: Orkun Köckü. He was always 3 or 4 steps ahead, read the game sublimely well & never lost the ball.

Q: What non-football accomplishment are you most proud of?

A: Doing an electrical apprenticeship

Q: If you could go to dinner with any 3 people (past or present), who would it be?

A: Johan Cruyff, Arjen Robben, LeBron James



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ITALY AT SHEPHERDS PARK IN 2023**



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AKORANGA DR

McDonald's has been supporting junior football in New Zealand for nearly 20 years. With the 2019 season about to start, we're working with New Zealand Football, the regional federations and clubs to help kick start the dreams of junior footballers around the country. A big thanks to you for the role you play in helping your child enjoy the beautiful game.

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MATCHDAY SQUADS



BIRKENHEAD UNITED AFC

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 SILVIO RODIC | 14 JORDAN TOY |
| 2 EVERTON O'LEARY | 15 JAYLEN RODWELL |
| 3 CODEY PHOENIX | 16 DYLAN HOBSON |
| 4 DINO BOTICA | 17 DANIEL MORGAN |
| 5 NICHOLAS FORRESTER | 18 HAMISH JARDINE |
| 6 LEON VAN DEN HODEN | 19 TROY TAYLOR |
| 7 ALEX CONNOR-MCCLEAN | 20 CAMERON MACKENZIE |
| 8 LUKE JORGENSEN | 21 XAVIER MADDOX |
| 9 DANE SCHNELL | 22 LUKE COSTELLO |
| 11 BYRON HEATH | 23 CURTIS HUGHES |
| 12 JACK DUNCAN | 25 FINN MCKENLAY |
| 13 SHIV NAIR | 27 SAM PEPPER |



PAUL HOBSON
Head Coach

KEITH LESSLIE
Assistant Coach

JASON HIGGINS
Team Manager

WESTERN SPRINGS AFC

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 REGAN DIVER | 17 MATT ELLIS |
| 2 FAITALIA HAMILTON-PAMA | 18 CASPAR MCGAVIN |
| 3 CAMPBELL MCINTRYE | 19 TUYI BYAMANA |
| 4 KENTA NAKASHIMA | 20 JACKSON MANUEL |
| 5 PATRICK TOBIN | 21 KOFI DWAMENA |
| 6 MATT THOMAS | 22 DEAN LAUSEV |
| 7 OSCAR RAMSAY © | 23 JOEL PATERSON |
| 8 ADAMA COULIBALY | 24 JOSH MARGETTS |
| 9 KEEGAN KELLY | 25 LEO ROBINS |
| 10 WAN GATKEK | 26 BRAD THOMAS |
| 11 OSCAR BROWNE | 27 REID DRAKE |
| 12 TADHG COLLIE | 28 YUTA KOMURA |
| 14 WILL MCKEE | 29 MAX BEULLENS |
| 15 NIKO STEINMETZ | 30 WADE MALONY |
| 16 BROOKLYN HEATH | |



KANE WINTERSGILL
Head Coach

STEPHEN HOYLE
Assistant Coach

SUNZ SINGH
S&C COACH

LUKE GARVAN
PHYSIO

DANI BRIGGS
TEAM MANAGER