



The Hon. Andrew Stoner MP

Deputy Premier of NSW

Minister for Trade and Investment

Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 6 June 2012

SYDNEY AND NSW SCORE HUGE FOOTBALL GOALS ON THE ROAD TO BRAZIL

The NSW Government and Football Federation Australia (FFA) today announced that Sydney will host two of the Qantas Socceroos four home games, including the final group match, in the 4th phase of 2014 FIFA World Cup Asian Qualifiers.

Both matches will be played at ANZ Stadium in Sydney's west, with the Matchday 7 qualifier against Oman to take place on Tuesday 26 March 2013 and the Matchday 10 qualifier against Iraq to take place on Tuesday 18 June 2013.

Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner said this is another major events win for Western Sydney.

"I'm pleased to also announce today that Sydney and ANZ Stadium will host two of the Qantas Socceroos' four home qualifiers," Mr Stoner said.

"As Australia's global tourism and events city, Sydney is a fitting destination for these 2014 FIFA World Cup Asian qualification matches.

"Given the tough competition in Asia, the Socceroos' chances of securing qualification to the FIFA World Cup could once again all come down to the final group game, and just like in 2005 it will be happening at Sydney's major event showpiece venue."

The Qantas Socceroos are aiming to secure direct qualification to the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil by finishing in the first two places in their group that includes Japan, Iraq, Jordan and Oman.

FFA CEO Ben Buckley thanked the NSW Government, Destination NSW and ANZ Stadium for their wonderful support of Australian football and urged all Socceroos fans to make the Sydney matches special occasions.

"The home matches are crucial on the road to Brazil and we know the Socceroos get a real lift from vocal and passionate football fans across Australia," said Mr Buckley.

"With so much at stake I know the supporters will make Sydney's ANZ Stadium a green and gold cauldron for these qualifiers."

The Qantas Socceroos played three qualifiers at ANZ Stadium in the 2010 FIFA World Cup campaign, attracting an aggregate audience of over 190,000.

Current Qantas Socceroo Brett Emerton, who's also an FFA and ANZ Stadium ambassador, welcomed the confirmation of the two FIFA World Cup Asian qualifiers for Sydney.

"The Socceroos get a fabulous reception everywhere, but it's special for me to be able to play in my home town in front of family and friends," said Emerton.

"Sydney and ANZ Stadium will always have that special history with that unforgettable night against Uruguay in 2005, but we need to do it all again to make sure Australia qualifies for Brazil in 2014."

ANZ Stadium Managing Director, Daryl Kerry, said he was thrilled that Sydney would get to host two of the Socceroos' important World Cup qualifiers on the road to Brazil.

"These games will enthral the Australian sporting public as the Socceroos strive for a third successive World Cup finals appearance," Mr Kerry said.

"ANZ Stadium at Sydney Olympic Park is a venue steeped in Australian football history. It's where it all began in terms of modern-day Socceroo milestones.

"Who will ever forget that John Aloisi penalty and the historic shootout against Uruguay in 2005 – and who will be the hero this time as the Australian Socceroos strive to seal a place in Brazil?"

Ticketing details for the ANZ Stadium matches will be announced shortly.

Sydney Match Details

Qantas Socceroos vs Oman

Tuesday 26 March, 2013

ANZ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park

Kick-Off: TBA

Qantas Socceroos vs Iraq

Tuesday 18 June 2013

ANZ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park

Kick-Off: TBA

2014 FIFA World Cup Asian Qualifiers – 4th Phase fixtures

Match Day	Date	Fixture	Venue
1	Sunday, 3 June 2012	Jordan v Iraq	Amman International Stadium
1	Sunday, 3 June 2012	Japan v Oman	Saitama Stadium 2002
1	Sunday, 3 June 2012	Australia - Bye	
2	Friday, 8 June 2012	Oman v Australia	Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex
2	Friday, 8 June 2012	Japan v Jordan	Saitama Stadium 2002
2	Friday, 8 June 2012	Iraq - Bye	
3	Tuesday, 12 June 2012	Australia v Japan	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane
3	Tuesday, 12 June 2012	Iraq v Oman	Al Arabi Stadium
3	Tuesday, 12 June 2012	Jordan - Bye	
4	Tuesday, 11 Sept 2012	Japan v Iraq	
4	Tuesday, 11 Sept 2012	Jordan v Australia	
4	Tuesday, 11 Sept 2012	Oman - Bye	
5	Tuesday, 16 Oct 2012	Oman v Jordan	
5	Tuesday, 16 Oct 2012	Iraq v Australia	
5	Tuesday, 16 Oct 2012	Japan - Bye	
6	Wednesday, 14 Nov 2012	Iraq v Jordan	
6	Wednesday, 14 Nov 2012	Oman v Japan	
6	Wednesday, 14 Nov 2012	Australia - Bye	
7	Tuesday, 26 March 2013	Australia v Oman	ANZ Stadium, Sydney
7	Tuesday, 26 March 2013	Jordan v Japan	
7	Tuesday, 26 March 2013	Iraq- Bye	
8	Tuesday, 4 June 2013	Japan v Australia	
8	Tuesday, 4 June 2013	Oman v Iraq	
8	Tuesday, 4 June 2013	Jordan- Bye	
9	Tuesday, 11 June 2013	Iraq v Japan	
9	Tuesday, 11 June 2013	Australia v Jordan	Melbourne
9	Tuesday, 11 June 2013	Oman- Bye	
10	Tuesday, 18 June 2013	Jordan v Oman	
10	Tuesday, 18 June 2013	Australia v Iraq	ANZ Stadium, Sydney
10	Tuesday, 18 June 2013	Japan- Bye	