



Brisbane Mens Soccer Inc.

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Great Soccer  *Great Fun*  *Great Day Out*

MEDIA RELEASE – Monday 18 April 2005

Palm Beach sit proudly on top of the Premier League table after the next three sides all dropped valuable points in last weekend's matches. They are undefeated with a maximum of 6 wins from 6 and get the chance to further that lead this weekend before all the teams have a week off to participate in the Premier Cup. Round 7 has the following matches scheduled.

Sat 23 April	5.30pm	Stadium Toowoomba	Toowoomba Raiders	v	Palm Beach
Sat 23 April	6.00pm	Teralba Park, Mitchelton	Mitchelton	v	Brisbane City
Sat 23 April	6.00pm	Heath Park, East Brisbane	Eastern Suburbs	v	Rochedale Rovers
Sat 23 April	7.00pm	Wendy Allison Park, Strathpine	Pine Rivers	v	Brisbane Wolves
Sat 23 April	7.00pm	Wakerley Park, Runcorn	Souths United	v	Brisbane Strikers
Sun 24 April	3.00pm	Oval 3, Uni of Qld, St Lucia	Uni of Qld	v	Taringa Rovers



On Saturday afternoon, leaders Palm Beach take the trip up to Toowoomba looking to extend the two-point lead they currently have. Coach Karl Herdle knows that it is exactly this sort of game when they are expected to win that could prove their undoing if they do not have the right attitude and commitment that has marked their play to date. Toowoomba have not been the best of travellers but have a solid record at home and would love nothing better than be the first team to upset the coast side. They were on the end of a sound beating last weekend at Rochedale and they will need to plug up the defensive frailties they showed or run the risk of letting players of the undoubted quality of Daniel Fung and Russell Miner add to their impressive goal tally.

Brisbane City showed a much stronger resolve last week to get their first point of the season against the previous co-leaders Souths United and will look to build on that in this match against a Mitchelton side that went down to Taringa Rovers. Jaspal Benning showed the way for City last week with a coolly taken goal and coach Salvatore Sotille will look to him again to lead the way going forward. Mitchelton on the other hand had their good run come to an end with an display that would not have pleased coach Greg Brown and he will be sure to have the side better organized this weekend. Andrew Balzat, Damien Pilat and Michael Christiansen created plenty of opportunities that were not converted and will be key figures in the midfield battle in this match.

Rochedale Rovers have hit a rich vein of goal scoring form over the last two weeks but will travel to Heath Park on Saturday night to take on a rejuvenated Eastern Suburbs who determinedly took full points from Brisbane Strikers last weekend in an upset result. Paul Brownlie has settled in well up front for Easts and will likely prove a handful for the Rochedale defence who have not really been at their best this season. Jason Parks also was outstanding last weekend in goals and will face the inform Rochedale attack led by the competition's leading goal scorer Alex Panic. He has been getting great support from Cole Stojakovic, a young player recently promoted to the first team after impressing all with his potential. This is a match in which both sides will take the offensive to the opposition and certainly not sit back and wait for something to happen.

Pine Rivers have had very little luck go their way this season and have lost by a single goal twice and will be keen to set that record straight when they host Brisbane Wolves on Saturday night. Tim Smits has been on the score sheet recently and has probably benefited from the close marking other teams pay to his strike partner Josh Rose, allowing him some extra room in which to show his ability. Anthony Roche played up front for his side last weekend and showed some cool finishing to get Wolves their first points of the season against Uni of Qld although some ill discipline from others nearly cost them the game. They will likely find it difficult to break down the Rivers defence but in Jack Samani do have exactly the sort of player who can turn a game with some individual skill.

The match of the round is undoubtedly between Souths United and Brisbane Strikers and after poor performances last week by both sides, they will both be out to show that this was only a temporary lapse. Strikers missed the midfield influence of Jamie Lowndes and Stewart Drinkeld and relied too much on Greg Di Losa to create and finish chances. They come up against arguably the best midfield combination in the competition in Craig Collins, Craig Slaughter and Terry Hughes and must at least match this trio if they are to be a show here. This task will be harder with the suspension of Damian Waugh and the relative inexperience of the players that Coach Bobby Hamilton has at his disposal to fill these absences. He will look towards the experience of players such as Adam Webber and Matt Bell to help his youngsters along and match it with Souths, who are always difficult to beat at Runcorn.

On Sunday, a new derby rivalry is started when Uni of Qld take on neighbours Taringa Rovers for the first ever time in the Premier League. Uni were desperately unlucky not to get a point from their match against Wolves last weekend, conceding an own goal in the last few minutes to lose. They will have taken heart from recent matches but would rather have the points rather than any credit. Lance Wilson and Will Sommerville were on the score sheet and amongst the best for Uni last weekend and they will be needed to reproduce that form again to match up against a Taringa side who will be buoyed by their win over Mitchelton. Josh Evans was outstanding for them last week and will once again marshall the young defence who have quickly adapted to Premier League pace. Teams have found Uni hard to break down at the campus and the lure of local bragging rights to the winner will ensure an interesting clash.

This weekend is the last round before Round 1 of the Premier Cup which is scheduled for the long weekend of 30 April / 1 May / 2 May. The Premier Cup is for all clubs in the Premier competitions in a random draw knock out style competition.

For further information, please contact Bruce Dinsdale, General Manager at 3324 0888 or 0422 441 851.

For all fixtures, results and news on the 2005 season log on to www.brisbanemenssoccer.com.au