

# KICKOFF



## 2022 GRAND FINAL



**SATURDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2022**  
**UNDER 20S - 12PM • VALENTINE SPORTS PARK**  
**FIRST GRADE - 6PM • SYDNEY UNITED SPORTS CENTRE**

# MATCH PREVIEW

After 26 weeks of one of the most thrilling seasons in recent history, the League Two Men's competition reaches its climax this Saturday night at Sydney United Sports Centre.

It all comes down to this as the reigning premiers Inter Lions face-off against Macarthur Rams in the League Two Grand Final.

After finishing on opposite ends of the top five, Inter Lions and Macarthur Rams cap off the 2022 season in what is sure to be a thrilling encounter.

Inter Lions will be looking to secure their second piece of silverware this season with a win in the Grand Final, against a side they haven't lost to all season.

The Lions have only played one game in the last three weeks, after earning a bye in week one of the finals before defeating Rydalmere to secure their spot in the big dance.

Although the lack of games in the last couple of weeks may be a negative for their overall performance, Inter come into the biggest game of the season with what should be their strongest and most fit side of the season.

The Lions will likely welcome back Daniel Georgievski for this game, bringing with him a wealth of big game experience which includes two A-League Grand Final appearances.

The keys for an Inter win will seemingly come from a strong game from their defensive line, that has only conceded four goals in the last six games – keeping four clean sheets in the process.

Inter's attacking pieces including, Sam Armson, Giuseppe Tillio, Owen Duke and Ollie Green will be

looking to continue their good form that saw the Lions score an unprecedented 66 goals in League Two this season.

The biggest talking point heading into this game is undoubtedly the most recent meeting between the two sides, where Inter walked away with a stunning 8-2 victory.

Although the score line may not reflect it, both sides have publicly admitted eight goals to Inter was not a fair reflection on the game and that the Rams were the better side for the opening half hour.

Inter will be full of confidence knowing what they have done in the past to open the Rams defence up, but Macarthur will be using this as motivation prove the doubters wrong.

One of the more interesting storylines for this game is the age difference between the opposing captains, as Rams' skipper John Fahmi possess a wealth of FNSW Leagues experience at 29-years-old. Whereas Lions' captain Sam Armson is seven years his senior, but has taken a massive leap in his first season with the armband.

Now onto the Rams who have gone on a four-game unbeaten run since their last game with Inter and fought their way into the Grand Final.

Macarthur's never say die attitude has defined their finals run thus far, coming from behind in an impressive fashion in two of the three games.

It's clear to see the difference from the regular season to the finals for the Rams, after being a consistent side that grinded out results they've turned a page and now find themselves 90 minutes away from a grand final win.



The Rams' physicality in defence along with their new found form in front of goals has given them the upper hand in the three finals games.

After goals in consecutive games, Christian Torelli and Anthony Vastag's connection in attack has become one the Rams' biggest weapons.

Macarthur's youthful side has been lead all season long by their skipper, John Fahmi who has brought a much needed element of experience in the centre of the field.

When these sides met for the first time in the regular season, Macarthur conceded two-late goals to Inter after holding a comfortable lead for the majority of the game.

This along with the aforementioned 8-2 loss against Inter will still be fresh in their mind as the Rams look make it a third time lucky in 2022.

The Rams haven't tasted Grand Final success since 2014 and will be looking to cap off a storybook finals run with a trophy come Saturday night.

As the reigning premiers, Inter will enter this game as the favourites, but with one game left to decide the 2022 Champion of League Two anything can happen.

*By Football NSW Men's League Two Writer, Dominic Criniti @DominicCriniti*



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# UNDER 20S

## TEAM LISTS



8	Emmanuel	Zervas
19	Jonathon	Monserrate
20	Jonathon	Whitehead
22	Luka	Arnavotic (GK)
23	Jose	Navarro
24	Adam	Semhat
25	James	Isaac
26	Jacob	Palamidas
27	Peter	Salachoris
30	Musti	Jallah
32	Elliot	Hunt
35	Jamison	Power
37	Liam	Spiropoulos
38	William	Durant
39	Benjamin	Hayes
40	Elias	Zaidan
	Pascal	Jungo (GK)

Coach: Tony Valavanis

Assistant Coach: George Zervas

Team Manager: George Zervas



12	Gianni	Costantino
15	Noah	Harris
21	Benjamin	Wrigley
23	Jackson	Fredericks
24	Olivier	Beltran-Woodward
25	Miles	Cole
26	Ethan	De Melo
27	Robbie	Fraser
28	Luca	Gool
29	Keanu	Harris
33	Benjamin	Klackin
34	Maxwell	Mackinder
35	Luke	O'Malley
36	Aiden	Poswell
37	Copper	Squares
38	Thomas	Van Gool
41	Timothy	Scott

Coach: Charles De Souza

Club Td: Christian Soares

Team Manager: Amanda Fraser

Referee: Eric Saba

Assistant Referees: Samuel Quinn and Mitchell Renton

Fourth Official: Joel Crawford

# FIRST GRADE

## TEAM LISTS



1	Daniel	Axford (GK)
2	Liam	Flack
4	Alex	Becerra
5	Benjamin	Morrison
6	Evan	Patramanis
7	Nathan	Rayner
8	Patrick	Scibilio
9	Oliver	Green
11	Fikret	Berisha
12	Sam	Armson (C)
14	Lawrence	Hanna
15	Owen	Duke
16	Ellis	Bellos
19	Giuseppe	Tilio
20	Daniel	Georgievski
21	Anthony	Costa (GK)
25	Daniel	Lister

Coach: John Theodoropoulos  
Assistant Coach: Anthony Skoulos  
Manager: George Paradisis  
Manager :George Korizi  
Club Physio: Petar Peric



1	Stevan	Savacic
2	Michael	Martin
3	Nikola	Pintur
4	Jacob	McDonald
7	Mitchell	Brooker
9	Anthony	Vastag
10	John	Fahmi
13	Kye	Soare
14	Mark	Symington
15	Christian	Torelli
16	Michael	Osei Adomako
18	Giovanni	Pannuccio
19	Brendan	Berkeley
20	Anthony	Haddad
21	Zubayd	Allie
22	Daniel	Blachura
45	Amir	Ajaj
47	Bailey	Miles

Coach: Brett Hewit  
Assistant Coach: Andy Lancaster  
Team Manager: Darren Kermond  
Trainer: James Kermond  
Physiotherapist: Brad Donnelly

Referee: Kelly Jones  
Assistant Referees: Patrick Teleki and Ivica Covic  
Fourth Official: Owen Ferguson

# INTER LIONS

## SAM ARMSON READY FOR GRAND FINAL CHALLENGE WITH INTER

At just 21-years of age, Inter Lions captain Sam Armson has shown maturity well-beyond his years, as he prepares to culminate a historic season at this Saturday's League Two Grand Final.

After finishing the 2022 regular season in first place, Inter entered the finals series with plenty of confidence and continued their stellar form when they secured a spot in the grand final.

Going into this weekend's clash as the favourites, Inter will look to its young captain Sam Armson to help the club secure its second piece of silverware this season.

Armson, who was only named the Lions' captain at the start of the season, admitted that Inter's preseason form couldn't of foreseen them making a Grand Final appearance.

"The last few years we were just a mid-table side, this year we made a few good signings with Ollie Green, Patrick Scibilio, Evan Patramanis and Danny G [Daniel Gerogievskij] that took us to another level", he said.

"In our first few training sessions we were flying, then in our first ten preseason games we lost seven of them and alarm bells were ringing, we were a bit nervous.

"We were still working hard and all the boys were putting in work, in the last few weeks before the season we really put it together, then to start the season we went ten-games unbeaten.

"It was a little unexpected, but once we really got moving with our training intensity, all the boys were really lifting and we started on a high and rode that the whole way".

Armson noted that he had only starting playing u/20's for Inter in 2019 and began to grow his game in the years to come under coach John Theodoropoulos.

At the start of the 2021 season, Theodoropoulos selected Armson as the new captain of Inter, something that he admitted he strived to step-up to.

"At the start of this year, the captain from last year moved on and I stepped and said I wanted it, the coaches trusted me and it's worked out pretty well this year.

"I played alongside the former captain Domenico Tripodi in the midfield for the last three years and he was such a good mentor to me, he always told me that I would be the next captain.

"When he moved on he told me that I should go for it and that it was something that I deserved, he really helped me step into that next role".

Armson noted the level of talent that Daniel Georgievski has brought to the team since joining

mid-way through the season.

"He had been in and around the club in the years prior and I remember the first training session where John told me that Daniel was coming to play with us, I was nervous," he said.

"He's came into the team with international and A-League experience, I wasn't sure if I was allowed to tell him what to do, but he has been such a great teammate on and off the field.

"He said he was here to help and do his role, off the field he is really funny and helpful, on the field he brings so much experience and advice, he's really giving it 100% even though he's played at the highest level, he took it seriously which pushed us further".

The 22-year-old credited his coach, John Theodoropoulos for his success in recent years.

"We joined Inter at the same time and I went from a kid playing park soccer to the captain, he kept trusting me and we were worked together all this time.

"I have so much respect and appreciation for what he has done, he is terrific on and off the field, off it he can be a great mate and he commands respect in an indirect way, you just appreciate what he's doing because he wants to win and has so much passion".

Looking ahead to this weekend's grand final, Armson is way of the motivation that the Rams will have heading into this.

"The 8-2 game was not quite reflective of the game, the first thirty minutes of that game was the toughest of any game all year, we just had the minor premiership in reach and nothing was gonna stop us," he said.

"It's going to give them a lot of motivation to come through and they've won three elimination games in a row so they'll be full of confidence, but we are looking forward to it and we'll be ready.

"It's been a while since any of us have played in a grand final, but I am going to instil that we have to keep working hard and use it as motivation to play with excitement instead of nerves".

*By Football NSW Men's League Two Writer,  
Dominic Criniti @  
DominicCriniti*



# MACARTHUR RAMS

## FAHMI MOTIVATED TO CONVERT THE RAMS' STELLAR RUN INTO A CHAMPIONSHIP

Macarthur Rams captain John Fahmi has his eyes firmly set on leading his young side out to a win this Saturday's League Two Grand Final against Inter Lions.

At 29-years of age, Fahmi linked up with the Rams at the start of last season after a near eight-year spell at SD Raiders.

Speaking to Football NSW, Fahmi noted that as the season progressed he began to believe that his side could achieve big things in 2022.

"We have a lot of young players, so preseason this year was mainly about preparing the team physically for the season and promoting youth, our goal was always on promotion so our focus was building these players up for next year," he said.

"During the season we had moments we were had good runs and we didn't have any bad runs, but there was certain games where we thought we could of got better results.

"Our expectation as the season progressed was making finals and having a good run, but we dropped some points and with the squad being so young we sometimes struggled to see out games.

"As the season went on we dropped off from the top five, but we won the final four games of the season and made it through."

Fahmi praised his coach Brett Hewit for the strong relationship they have built in their short time at the club.

"Being at the same club for eight years at Raiders I went through a lot of coaches, but my relationship with Brett has been very good," he said.

"To be named the captain and have that expectation put on you, he's got to have some sort of trust in you, I respect him as a coach, he's definitely brought in good players.

"He's also brought his own philosophy in and it really suits a club like Macarthur, moving forward into next season and beyond having such a young player base, I think we can be very competitive as they grow.

"He's all about youth, but he knows that he has to have some older heads around the changeroom, I'm still looking to play at a decent level, so we get along really well and have a good footballing relationship.

After the well-documented 8-2 loss to Inter a month ago, Fahmi is eager to avenge that result.

"It's funny because we were in the lead for the first half an hour of that game, I thought we were playing very well, we conceded a couple of sloppy goals and it was a domino effect from there," he said.



"Those mistake compounded and we went into the break down 4-1, we knew it was going to be tough to comeback from that so maybe our attitude wasn't where it needed be, but the score line wasn't a true reflection of the game or us as a team.

"Going into a game like the grand final or a semi-final, playing against teams like Inter, Rydalmere and Central Coast, we've shown the last two weeks that we can beat those types of teams, there's no reason why we can't do the same on Saturday.

"New team, new players and combinations take time to build and we're coming into a purple-patch of form because the of the type of games we are playing.

"We are full of motivation and adrenaline, I think in the back of our minds we are all stepping up to the plate and as the season has gone we have gotten better playing alongside each other.

"It was just a matter of time and we've settled in, not just for this game but for next season we will be a different type of team."

*By Football NSW Men's League Two Writer, Dominic Criniti @DominicCriniti*



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