

Island Bay Team Fixtures:

Team	Opponent	Venue	Time
Champs Premier	Western Suburbs	Wakefield 1	2.30pm
Capital 1	Olympic	Wakefield 1	12.30pm
Capital 3	Kapiti Coast Utd	Wakefield 3	2.30pm
Capital 4 HHH United	Wairarapapa Utd	Park Sports 2	12.30pm
Capital 4	Uni Scarfies	Wakefield 3	12.30pm
Capital 5 Massey	Tawa Devilz	Kura	12.30pm
Capital 10 Reds	Brooklyn Northern	Happy Valley 2	12.30pm
Capital 10 JJs	Petone Chuggers	Wakefield 4	12.30pm
Capital 14 Angry Piglets	Karori Kittenz	Karori 1	12.30pm
Capital 14 Rampage	Uni Honey Badgers	Wakefield 2	12.30pm
Capital 15	Wainui Halfbaked	Prouse 1	2.30pm
Capital 16 Vauxhalls	Seatoun	Miramar 3	2.30pm
Masters 1 Originals	Porirua City	Adventure 2	2.30pm
Masters 3	Tawa Grizzlies	Wakefield 4	2.30pm
Sunday:			
Womens Premier	Marist	Wakefield 1	1.00pm
Womens 3	University 3XI	Wakefield 3	11.00am

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WELCOME

Welcome everyone to today's games that see the Premier & Cap 1 teams looking to pick up their first points of the season against Western Suburbs and Olympic respectively. The Women's Premier side will also be looking to pick up their first points of the season tomorrow 1pm against Marist.

Better results last weekend saw the 3rd team, the two Cap 4 sides and Cap 5 Massey picking up hard fought victories. Our 2 Cap 10 sides both lost by 1 goal and the Piglets defeated the Rampage for early club bragging rights.

Our only new team this season saw Andrew Jessett's mob in Cap 15 beating our friends from Brooklyn 5-2. The Vauxhalls in Cap 16 went down 2-4 to Stokes Valley. The Masters 1 team won at Marist and the Masters 3 side suffered a heavy defeat v Tawa.

On Easter Sunday our Women's Premier team lost away to Upper Hutt and our Women's Div 3 team drew 3-3 with Karori. Tomorrow both Women's teams are playing at home; Div 3 @ 11am and the Premier team @ 1pm so get along and support them.

Remember all teams to keep track of your goalscorers during this season for the prestigious 'Golden Shark Fin' for the clubs top goal scorer. Rumour has it big money has been put on John Chemo to win this award and he started off by scoring the winner for the Masters at the weekend.

We're looking forward to an entertaining day of football and we hope to see the players and supporters of both sides in the clubrooms afterwards.



Island Bay United Committee

Salvi Gaeta (Patron)
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Gary Oosterbaan (Vice President)
Nigel Lawton (Junior Club Captain)
Carl van der Meulen (Club Captain)
Lisa Gibson (Secretary)
Peter Lye (Treasurer)
Jan Chmielewski
Nick Goodall
Dave Graham
Kate Hutchison
Vikki Mills
Jamie Milne

Formed: 1931

Ground: Wakefield Park,
Adelaide Road, Island Bay

Colours: Black / Gold Shirts,
Black Shorts & Black Socks

Honours:

Central Premier 1999
Central One 1995 & 1997
Central Two 1983
Central Three 1998
Central Three South 1982
Hilton Petone 1998
Venus Shield 1996

CHAMPS PREMIER

Cool Moves Island Bay vs. Waterside Karori @ Wakefield Park (03/04/10) - Result: Lost 1-3

Cool Moves Island Bay vs. Marist @ Kilbirnie Park (05/04/10) - Result: Lost 1-2

Easter Weekend was a very frustrating weekend of football for all concerned at Island Bay Football club.

First, let me say a huge THANK YOU to all the supporters, coaching staff and, most of all, the players for making themselves available on a public holiday weekend for back-to-back games.

The 2010 campaign has started, and we welcome a number of new players into our first and second team squads.

Along with this, a number of existing players have shown their true colours regarding their commitment to Island Bay AFC, and have chosen to ply their trade elsewhere.

This has resulted in another year of re-building, although it has not been as drastic as last year when a total of seven 1st team players left the club for various reasons - police charges, deportation, retirement, and 3 or 4 who went to seek "glory" in a Central League campaign.

After a very successful preseason, where in the final three games of the Hilton Petone we scored 7 goals, we entered the season with high expectations.

I was a little apprehensive with a week turn around from a disappointing Hilton Petone Final loss where we finished the better team, and there were signs of that stress during the week at training.

Hopefully this is the last bit of critical analysis I will need to do for the rest of the season, however:

The first question is, "are we fit enough?"

I think the best way to address this question, is to look at our opposition.

The Karori match report from our Saturday game has the following to offer:

1. One of their players pulled up lame in their warm up.
2. A second player pulled up with a hamstring injury in the 52 min, who was replaced by an already injured player.
3. Another was replaced on 68mins as he "struggled to continue".
4. With 15 mins to play, their goal keeper needed to be replaced, and his on-field replacement was "struggling with cramp".

We had Richard Steel start to struggle, with an existing niggle that we have been managing since pre-season, in the final 5 mins of injury-time.

That, coupled with a significant "mental" failure, was our only issue, physically, during both games.

Next question, "have we been creating chances?"

Another statement from the Karori match report is most pertinent:

"However, to the lads credit, those on the park worked extremely hard and though Island Bay did get themselves in dangerous areas they failed to test Darren in goal."

We have scored first in our last three games.
We have created a plethora of scoring opportunities.

However, we have not converted these opportunities into enough SHOTS ON TARGET to be deadly.

This final point has resulted in simply emboldening the resolve of our opposition, when they should be struggling at 2-3 goals down.

Today against Wests we must continue to work hard for each other, we must continue to strive to play attacking football, we must continue to strive to create quality chances, and we must make those chances count.

We have the quality and the spirit, and we believe that we will.

See you out there.

CHAMPS PREMIER LEAGUE – RESULTS & TABLE 05/04/10

Marist	2	Cool Moves Island Bay	1
Western Suburbs	1	Upper Hutt City	4
Kapiti Coast United	3	Naenae	4
Waterside Karori	2	Miramar Rangers	1
Stop Out	3	Wellington United	1

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
Upper Hutt City	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Waterside Karori	2	2	0	0	5	2	6
Miramar Rangers	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Naenae	2	1	0	1	5	6	3
Western Suburbs	2	1	1	0	4	5	3
Stop Out	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Marist	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Kapiti Coast United	2	0	1	1	6	7	1
Wellington United	2	0	1	1	4	6	1
Cool Moves Island Bay	2	0	0	2	2	5	0



Champs Premier League Fixtures:

Today's Fixtures:

Naenae	v	Stop Out
Upper Hutt City	v	Kapiti Coast United
Wellington United	v	Miramar Rangers
Marist	v	Waterside Karori

Next Week's Fixtures:

Kapiti Coast United	v	Cool Moves Island Bay
Waterside Karori	v	Wellington United
Miramar Rangers	v	Naenae
Stop Out	v	Upper Hutt City
Western Suburbs	v	Marist



469 Adelaide Road, Berhampore
3894605

WESTERN SUBURBS

Central/Federation League Record against Western Suburbs

Year	League	Venue	Result	Goal Scorers
1992	Central Region Div 2	A	0 - 4	
1992	Central Region Div 2	H	1 - 1	Waszak
1996	Central Region Premier Div	A	0 - 2	
1996	Central Region Premier Div	H	0 - 5	
1998	Central Region Premier Div	H	1 - 4	Michaels
1998	Central Region Premier Div	A	0 - 0	
2000	Federation Premier Div	H	1 - 3	Vinaccia
2000	Federation Premier Div	A	2 - 5	Varga, Muollo
2001	Federation Premier Div	H	2 - 1	Satos, Basile
2001	Federation Premier Div	A	1 - 4	Satos
2002	Federation Premier Div	H	0 - 3	
2002	Federation Premier Div	A	2 - 3	Hannah, Vinaccia (pen)
2003	Federation Premier Div	A	0 - 7	
2003	Federation Premier Div	H	1 - 5	Porteous
2004	Federation Premier Div	H	1 - 3	Polaschek
2004	Federation Premier Div	A	3 - 3	Ure, Porteous, Terry (pen)
2006	Capital Premier	A	5 - 2	Lupi P, Paterson D, Lupi J 3
2006	Capital Premier	H	1 - 1	Colwell
2007	Capital Premier	A	1 - 0	Whitburn
2007	Capital Premier	H	0 - 0	
2008	Capital Premier	H	3 - 1	Lancaster, Own Goal, Kamri
2008	Capital Premier	A	0 - 1	
2009	Capital Premier	A	0 - 3	
2009	Capital Premier	H	3 - 0	Terlau 2, Paterson I



COOL MOVES ISLAND BAY PREMIER FIXTURES/RESULTS 2010

<u>Date</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Result</u>
03/04/10	Waterside Karori	Home	1 - 3
05/04/10	Marist	Away	1 - 2
10/04/10	Western Suburbs	Home	
17/04/10	Kapiti Coast United	Away	
24/04/10	<i>(Chatham Cup)</i>		
01/05/10	Miramar Rangers	Away	
08/05/10	Wellington United	Home	
15/05/10	<i>(Chatham Cup)</i>		
22/05/10	Upper Hutt City	Home	
29/05/10	Waterside Karori	Away	
05/06/10	Marist	Home	
13/06/10	Western Suburbs	Away	
19/06/10	Naenae	Away	
26/06/10	Kapiti Coast United	Home	
03/07/10	Stop Out	Away	
10/07/10	Miramar Rangers	Home	
17/07/10	Wellington United	Away	
24/07/10	Naenae	Home	
31/07/10	Upper Hutt City	Away	
07/08/10	Stop Out	Home	



CAPITAL 1

Island Bay United vs. Karori Dreamers @ Wakefield Park (03/04/10) - Result: Lost 1-3

Island Bay vs. North Wellington @ Alex Moore Park (05/04/10) - Result: Lost 0-3

First game up for the season and as is fairly common for a reserves team we looked a fair bit different from the year before. Being Easter weekend didn't help either, but we had worked hard pre-season and were happy for the season to be underway.

We were up against a Karori Dreamers side who we know are quality (finishing 3rd in 2009) and are a team who should be near the top come the business end of the season. But that didn't daunt us, and we started strongly, on a typically wind-swept Wakefield no1 whose rock hard cricket blocks posed quite a hazard.

We created chances-a-plenty and probably should've been in the lead, after some nice work down the wings from Oli and Fred resulting in dangerous crosses in to the area. Some dazzling footwork from Andy and Ronald in particular had Karori lads in trouble in the middle. The finishing touch wasn't quite there but we continued to push, and held on to the ball well.

Unfortunately 10 seconds of disorganisation cost us, as the Dreamers tidily converted from a corner. And even more unfortunately it wasn't long till we were two down after a very unlucky own goal.

Still, we knew we weren't out of it, and that was exactly the message at half time.

And when Ryan nodded a cross from young Sam into the back of the net we knew we were a chance to get a well earned draw if not kick on for a win. We became more attacking, through substitutions and endeavour, as the Dreamers scrambled for their life, but we just couldn't find that clinical finish.

Then, in the last 30 seconds, another long ball from the Dreamers was latched onto and after the initial blocked shot came back off the post, the ball wasn't cleared properly and their striker calmly squared the ball to an unmarked team mate to easily side foot home.

It was great to see all the support on the sidelines and sorry we couldn't notch a win for you all!

We had competed well though, both physically and tactically, so it was an encouraging start to the season...

But that made it all the more disappointing on Monday when we really never 'turned up' against North Wellington's (NW) first team.

Again we had quite a few changes and just couldn't seem to gel. On what was a beautiful day for football in J'ville, NW were putting us under pressure and dominated the game. They were probably unlucky to not be in the lead at half time after a lot of last ditch saves, including at least two off the line by man of the match Karl. But that was fine by us and

while we were frustrated at things not going our way, so was NW as they couldn't find the goal they probably deserved and we went in to half time at nil-nil.

We continued to battle away but around 60 minutes after a wayward pass, ex-shark Kevin Provis pinched it on half way and ran 30 meters before calmly chipping Russ in goal.

We still tried in vain to get into the game and started to play with the ball a bit more, but NW had their tails up and were harassing well. We showed some gritty defence, but NW's domination of possession and field position told when a couple of defensive lapses cost us a couple more goals. Working on our support play and improving our vision to enable quicker ball movement are two key lessons from Monday.

It was certainly not the opening weekend we were hoping for but it's very early days and with the keen young squad we've got lots of energy and motivation to change things around. You could sense the will to learn from the weekend's experiences in the attitude and intensity at training on Tuesday so bring on Saturday and Olympic...

CAPITAL 1 – RESULTS & TABLE 05/04/10

North Wellington	3	Island Bay United	0
Olympic	6	Petone	1
Wainuiomata	2	Lower Hutt	1
Brooklyn Northern	0	Wellington Utd	2
Karori Dreamers	4	Miramar Rangers	2

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
Olympic	2	2	0	0	10	1	6
Karori Dreamers	2	2	0	0	7	3	6
North Wellington	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
Wainuiomata	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Wellington Utd	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Miramar Rangers	2	1	0	1	5	6	3
Brooklyn Northern	2	0	0	2	2	5	0
Island Bay United	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Lower Hutt	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Petone	2	0	0	2	3	9	0

CAPITAL 3

Island Bay United vs. North Wellington @ Wakefield Park (03/04/10) - Result: Won 2-0

Lots of phone calls and texts on Friday night saw a makeshift international team (7 nationalities involved) assemble for the opening match of the Capital three season on the Wakefield cricket pitches. Very difficult conditions with a strong northerly, and two cricket pitches more suited for Olympic figure skating – as Juan (Argentina) demonstrated to good effect. We played into the wind in the first half, with most of our team still introducing themselves to each other at kick off. North Wellington used the wind to get the ball into our half with good effect, but as the half progressed, it was clear that we were definitely the

better footballing team when we were able to keep the ball on the deck. Four very good saves by Xavier (Klingon) in goal (and the same by their keeper) kept it scoreless at the half.

Second half was all Island Bay (apart from Xavier who fell asleep with nothing to do). The scoring was opened when Dom (AYM) swung in an excellent corner that bounced of Bryce's (USA - who plays "stopper-defenseman") knee and into the net. A second goal followed when Carlo (Italian - who unlike Bryce, knows what his position is called) tripped over the ball, bobbled it onto his shin, and toe-poked it into the net from 25 yards (he was trying to cross). Anton (the Dutch Apprentice) came close when his header hit the crossbar, followed by the Dutch Master (you know who) hitting the cross bar from an in-swinging corner.

Boy of the Match - Xavier for keeping the only clean sheet in Cap 3 over the weekend

CAPITAL 3 - RESULTS & TABLE 03/04/10

Island Bay United	2	North Wellington	0
Douglas Villa	4	Petone Armanis	1
Lower Hutt	1	Brooklyn Northern	1
Seatoun	2	Kapiti Coast United	1
Waikanae	2	Karori Cougars	1

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
Douglas Villa	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Island Bay United	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Seatoun	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Waikanae	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Brooklyn Northern	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Lower Hutt	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Kapiti Coast United	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Karori Cougars	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
North Wellington	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Petone Armanis	1	0	0	1	1	4	0

CAPITAL 14

Island Bay Angry Piglets vs. Island Bay Rampage @ Wakefield Park (03/04/10) - Result: Won 2-1

This year, the IBU Angry Piglets celebrate their fourth since inception. Continuing on from the introduction of black shirt with pink numbering, 2010 sees the addition of pink socks and black/pink shorts to put fear into the very souls of our Cap. 14 opposition.

Changes haven't been just superficial. It sees some Piglet stalwarts take early retirement (Si, Ben, CC, Billy et al), which has made way for new Piglets to don the pink & black. A warm welcome to Banger, Wok, Mark and Greg - who slotted in nicely to the existing lineup.

The season opener was a repeat of the 2009 season - a local derby versus the IBU Rampage. Last year saw us go down 4-1 to them, which in fact follows a familiar pattern, having lost our first game every season so far. Would the new decade bring new hope to the Angry Piglets?

The Rampage showed up one man short, leaving one of our new guys to fill their gap, and one of us to ref. It was Piglet kick-off with a curly tail wind. At first, it was reckoned to be a 5-goal wind, but alas the Rampage defence held it to only 1 by end of the half; and even then it was a ping-pong battle right in the goalmouth to get the bugger in. Dinga eventually won out and opened the Piglets scorecard for the year.

For most of the game we surprised ourselves, showing little off-season rust and stringing together some nice passing and even managing several intercepts. This was marked by a good second half into the wind where we still maintained periods of good possession. The Piglets second goal of the season came via Nathan who finally, after some Fred Astaire work in the penalty box, put it in the back of the net.

To their credit the Rampage never gave up, with their strikers working hard up front. Their goal came via a penalty spot kick, which Dan Mac got some glove to, but couldn't keep out. 2-1 and that was the way it stayed until the final whistle. Nice work Piglets - our first ever, first game victory!

CAPITAL 14 – RESULTS & TABLE 03/04/10

Island Bay Rampage	1	Island Bay Angry Piglets	2
Karori Kittenz	5	Nth Wgtn Sinners	3
Uni Honey Badgers	1	Karori Stevedores	2
Stokes Valley	4	Marist Loaded	3

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
Karori Kittenz	1	1	0	0	5	3	3
Stokes Valley	1	1	0	0	4	3	3
Island Bay Angry Piglets	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Karori Stevedores	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Island Bay Rampage	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Uni Honey Badgers	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Marist Loaded	1	0	0	1	3	4	0
Nth Wgtn Sinners	1	0	0	1	3	5	0

WOMENS 3

Island Bay United vs Karori Classics 04/04/2010 Drew 3-3

Sunday's match against Karori Classics was a tough one to start the season.

The game started strong with a goal off a corner from Jodie that gave us that one up we needed. Effective passing, spreading the game out wide and lots of talking from the backline were great strategies. Well done to Kadia and then Jodie for the next two goals. A Karori goal off of an Island Bay deflection turned the game around. Waterside stepped up their game while the rain poured down and we conceded 2 more goals for a 3-3 draw to open the season.

3-2-1 this week went to Jess (1), Christie (2) and Man of the Match for Hannah for excellent hustle in both attacking and defending.

WOMENS 3 - RESULTS & TABLE 04/04/10

Karori Classics	3	Island Bay United	3
University 3XI	1	Kapiti Coast United	9
Porirua City	3	Naenae	0
North Wellington	-	Nth Wgtn Angels	-

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
Kapiti Coast United	1	1	0	0	9	1	3
Porirua City	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Island Bay United	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Karori Classics	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Nth Wgtn Angels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Wellington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Naenae	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
University 3XI	1	0	0	1	1	9	0

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Payment is by cheque, cash or credit card at the end of your move, or internet transfers (by prior arrangement). A receipt will be given when payment is received.

CLUB HISTORY FROM 1966

Club was formed in 1931 as Wgtn Technical College Old Boys changed name to Island Bay in 1966.

Season	League	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	Points	Position	Chatham Cup
1966	Wgtn 3	14	8	3	3	39	33	19	3rd of 8	DNE
1967	Wgtn 3	14	4	2	8	28	38	10	7th of 8	DNE
1968	Wgtn 3	14	6	2	6	31	36	14	3rd of 8	DNE
1969	Wgtn 2	18	1	1	16	23	98	3	10th of 10	DNE
1971	Wgtn 8	10	4	0	6	38	36	8	7th of 12	DNE
1972	Wgtn 3C	17	10	2	5	64	26	22	4th of 10	DNE
1973	Wgtn 3B	14	10	1	3	66	21	21	2nd of 8	R1
1974	Wgtn 3B	14	13	0	1	79	13	26	1st of 8	R2
1975	Wgtn 2	18	9	4	5	32	30	22	3rd of 10	R2
1976	Wgtn 2	17	9	3	5	36	22	21	3rd of 10	R4
1977	Wgtn 2	16	11	3	2	50	20	25	2nd of 9	R1
1978	Wgtn 1	18	3	1	14	26	46	7	9th of 10	R3
1979	Wgtn 2	18	7	3	8	40	37	17	6th of 10	Qualifying
1980	Wgtn 2	18	15	2	1	63	16	32	1st of 10	Qualifying
1981	Wgtn 1	18	12	3	3	40	16	27	2nd of 10	R2
1982	Central 3 South	18	14	3	1	40	11	31	1st of 10	R2
1983	Central 2	22	13	6	3	37	17	32	1st of 12	R3
1984	Central 1	22	5	8	9	37	41	23	8th of 12	Qualifying
1985	Central 1	22	7	2	13	29	57	23	9th of 12	R1
1986	Central 1	22	2	2	18	21	52	8	12th of 12	R5
1987	Central 2	22	9	4	9	38	39	31	6th of 12	R3
1988	Central 2	22	14	2	6	46	23	44	3rd of 12	R2
1989	Central 2	22	10	4	8	38	28	34	3rd of 12	R4
1990	Central 2	22	9	5	8	30	28	32	7th of 12	DNE
1991	Central 2	22	13	3	6	38	21	42	3rd of 12	R2
1992	Central 1	22	6	6	10	26	32	24	7th of 12	R5
1993	Central 1	20	11	6	3	46	22	39	4th of 11	R4
1994	Central 1	22	8	8	6	43	37	32	4th of 12	R4
1995	Central 1	22	18	1	3	72	17	55	1st of 12	R2
1996	Central Premier	22	7	5	10	38	55	26	8th of 12	R4
1997	Central 1	22	18	3	1	48	18	57	1st of 12	R6
1998	Central Premier	22	7	3	12	37	53	24	11th of 12	R3
1999	Central Premier	22	16	4	2	59	24	52	1st of 12	R3
2000	Fed Premier	20	5	7	8	34	32	22	8th of 11	R5
2001	Fed Premier	18	10	5	3	52	25	35	2nd of 10	R2
2002	Fed Premier	18	6	2	10	26	27	20	8th of 10	R2
2003	Fed Premier	18	7	3	8	42	42	24	5th of 10	Qtr Finals
2004	Fed Premier	18	2	3	13	23	49	9	9th of 10	R2
2005	Cap Premier	18	9	5	4	30	14	32	4 th of 10	R2
2006	Cap Premier	18	6	5	7	28	28	23	6 th of 10	R2
2007	Cap Premier	18	7	5	6	20	24	26	6 th of 10	R2
2008	Cap Premier	18	7	6	5	36	32	27	3 rd of 10	R3
2009	Cap Premier	18	10	2	6	29	31	32	5 th of 10	R3

AWFUG

A Word From GÚnez (AWFUG)

Kia ora all and welcome back to Shark Park, Just one week ago it was since we provided seven minutes worth of bog reading, and since then all teams have had at least one round of 2010 football action, many more to go! Welcome to those recent or new readers to AWFUG's tongue-in-cheek pages, and 'what up' to those who have endured many a line of prose or IBUAFC friends from out of town or overseas. Martinhó of gue, we salute you!

For the senior two IBUAFC sides, two rounds saw two losses, hardly the start required and the harsh reality of being on 0 points stares us blankly in the face. However we are no Portsmouth and like Lazarus AWFUG predicts a rise in points, morale, goals, spectators and streakers in coming weeks.

Let's start with what has been a cracker last 7 or so days in which the world witnessed what every neutral football purist wanted to see. The UEFA Champions League matchup between Barcelona and Arsenal football clubs.

Similar in epic-ness to the Mediterranean clash between IBUAFC and Olympic AFC, this was the fixture that the future footballers of the world will aspire to being good enough to be part of.

With its incredible resources, the Catalan giants prevailed against a team who in these reaches of the world are seen on a far more regular basis. We get to witness, what, around 10 years ago, was put into place. Two clubs who scouted for the best local and international talent available in the style of play they believed in.

The last few years have seen some cracker latter rounds of the UEFA Champions League, and it must rival the upcoming World Cup for the quality of the game played. Not the tension however as we will soon see....

To spout out the big names playing in Barça vs. Gooners would be doing the game a disservice, both teams were at times marvellous with the movement off the ball and the jet fast passing. The letter P: pre-set, pre-programmed phenomenal passing phases with the ball travelling so sharply, it was precise, punctual and had wow factor.

On TV we are used to seeing Arsenal carve up opposition English teams, and to see the running committed to their cause to try and earn the ball back was something indeed. As you readers will know, in our games, we often have our best games versus strong opposition who want to play football as well.

It would be great to purchase that matchup on DVD. Oh yeah

What can we learn from this matchup? With coffers that for once contain something, the powers that be in Aotearoa have an opportunity to make the biggest impact on football it ever has.

AWFUG feels this decision would change the nature of the game here, forever, and for the good.

Spend the money and get Spanish Primera or *La Liga* replays on free to air TV. At a reasonable timeslot on one of the stations all, even our rural cousins, can see.

Unprecedented, but what is the impact of 5 years worth of these spectacles on our football youth? Watching that league is entertaining, even the 'mingin' clubs have awesome players. Other sports here in NZ would also benefit, the current youth footballing numbers nationally are huge, and neither the sport nor the infrastructural resources (especially in our region) is robust enough for these people all to stay in the game. Flair acquired would stay with them in the other codes they play, would it not?

This week the IBUAFC 1st team welcomes Western Suburbs in Capital Premier action. A world away from our previous topic....

A Wests side with strong IBUAFC connections heads to the south coast, often young with good technique who like to get the ball down and knock it around. Welcome to Wakefield Park lads ;-)

Former sharks Dave 'Judas' Plowright may be in goal and Nate 'wee willy' Winkel is the executive director of Ole Academy, which basically runs/is Wests.

Nate was a fine player for the sharks a few seasons back and everyone knows Plow, indeed he has challenged himself to step up and really, AWFUG can't blame him, he is good enough. What we must do is challenge hard to earn the right to be in Central League, and bring back these players, plus others originally from the 'Bay who would don the shark suit if we were in that league. It is however nice to have Dave, Nate and the team here, good games usually ensue.

Finally, and how could we forget? Lomu.

Not our giant Polynesian rugby winger, but Island Bay's version, Josh 'Lomu' Notman. Josh scored what was quite conceivably the most notoriously awful/spectacular/crushing own goal, likely ever seen at Wakefield Park. Ever. It was from 40 feet away....

But if anyone has the ability and courage to put that behind him, have a laugh (in retrospect!) and make up for it, then Josh Lomu, it's you bro!

Good luck to all teams this weekend and check out the food and drink available while you read this again in the clubrooms ☺

GÚNeZ