

# 1971 Newspaper Articles

## Frankston

Seven clubs, nearly 600 junior players, more than 100 seniors, 16 grounds and 44 teams.

These are the bare facts of soccer's explosive development in the city of Frankston during the last few years.

With a population of approximately 60,000, Frankston is 25 miles from Melbourne G.P.O.

It claims, with justification, to be the fastest developing soccer area in Victoria.

In 1951 a group of soccer lovers started the Frankston City club, which is now playing in the Metropolitan first division.

Prominent among this group was Frankston's popular president, Mr. "Nippy" Prior.

### BUSY MAN

Mr. Prior has served in every administrative capacity with the club, becoming president four years ago.

He retired from his position as administrative officer with the Naval Department at HMAS Cerberus.

This has given him time to devote more of his energy to the development of the Frankston set-up.

The parent club has been responsible for starting six others.

First came Frankston Pines, followed by Langwarrin.

In addition to junior teams, both clubs figure

## set to go

the stocks" are Mount Eliza and Frankston Hibernians.

These should be in action at the start of 1972 season.

At present there are 16 soccer grounds in the city, but such is the growth of the game that more are urgently required.

Fortunately, Frankston City Council are kindly disposed to the international game.

They have given considerable assistance and more is promised.

Frankston City is tied in with the Baxter Greyhound Project. A combined stadium with initial seating capacity for 8000 is envisaged.

### COACHING

Alive to the needs of all aspects of the game, the Frankston City Club formed a branch of the Victorian Coaches'

Victorian Referees to start a referees' course.

These moves can only lift the standard of soccer in the area and create interest in the game at all levels.

### PRESSURE

It is interesting to note that one man who attended the coaching school did so under great pressure from the youngsters in his class at school.

He is, of course, a teacher and should be commended for learning how to teach the sport his pupils want.

Soccer is really gaining momentum down the Peninsula.

Great credit is due to the devoted followers of the game who freely give time, money and effort in building for the future.



in the Premier Division of the District League.

## TWO MORE

This pair were followed at intervals by the formation of Karingal, Frankston Seaford, Peninsula S.C. and Overport.

Clubs currently "on

Association:

Bill Curran and Jim Adam have just completed the first coaching school.

Twenty-five people have now gained their junior coaching certificate.

Negotiations are in progress with the

# JIM ADAM NOW AT FRANKSTON

New coach of Metro division one club Frankston, is Jim Adam, who gained wide experience of the game as a professional player in England for many years.

Adam played with Hellas when he first came to Australia and later had spells as coach with several State League clubs.

have strangleholds on their divisions.

With a long way to travel, they could yet be unseated.

Altona City, Kellor City, Preston Makedonia and Essendon Slavia, all on 14 points, will go in to the second half of the season full of determination, skill and fight, with promotion to State League the glittering goal.

Altona, with solid backing from supporters and a second string running away with the Division One Reserves competition, seem to be best equipped to challenge Elwood.

Kellor City, well balanced and with a wealth of junior talent, may still make the grade.

Preston Makedonia, under the guiding hand of ex-Croatia star, Frank Bot as player-coach, has the biggest support in the league.

They are probably the wealthiest club in Metro soccer and dead keen to return to top company.

Essendon Slavia loom as a big threat. Without a win for six games, they were victorious in the next five.

From bottom position they have risen to equal second top and undoubtedly will be a thorn in the side of promotion aspirants.

## BACK AGAIN

They could bounce back at the first attempt.

An indication of the thin line dividing success and failure in Metropolitan circles is the fact that such solid and accomplished clubs as Sunshine City and Dandenong City, currently in the middle of the table, could be involved in promotion OR relegation.

Both are unpredictable. Both can unseat top clubs and fall against the less distinguished.

Ringwood United has abundant talent, yet somehow slips at crucial moments.

Lairaba Valley club Yalourou found the step-up to division one a big one.

Being a club of substance and maturity they took up the challenge and are steady down to a real consolidation effort.

In the cellar at the half way mark are Springvale, Prahran City and Frankston City.

Prahran has made a sudden upsurge. They thrashed Preston 6-2 and narrowly defeated Dandenong in May. Last week they had a powerful Kellor City to a 2-2 draw.

They will not relinquish division one status without a tremendous fight.

## NEW BOSS

Springvale obtained the coaching services of ex-English first division goalkeeper, Ron Levin, from Doncaster Rovers.

Last week they divided the spoils with second top club Altona City. Can they avoid the drop?

Frankston City leaders in that great soccer area, are in trouble.

Desperately aware of team weaknesses, the committee has recently signed ex-State League players John Docherty (goalkeeper), David Higgins (South Melbourne Hellas defender) and Jim McMinane (Juventus attacker).

Contact has also been made with ex-Scottish international Duncan Mackay, of Croatia.

The paramount problem still remains — lack of a goal-scoring spearhead.

Green Gully Ajax have set a cracking pace in division two.

At the half-way stage, only Western Suburbs spoiled a 100 per cent record by holding them to a draw at Deer Park.

Wily old fox Tony Vella is their master tactician and, even at this early stage, Green Gully seems set for promotion.

Coburg United could emerge as dark horses in this division.

Successive narrow victories over St. Albans and Mooroolbark have brought them into equal second spot.

Mooroolbark, strongly challenging for promotion two years in succession, is one of the liveliest and healthiest clubs in Victoria.

Probably more aware of the value of and need for publicity than any club in the State, they are reaping the benefits of a lively publicity program in much increased attendances at home games.

ALBION ROVERS, well organised and with a load of junior talent, cannot be overlooked.

This club, highly respected, well disciplined and with an enclosed ground and good facilities in building for the future.

St. Albans are making a determined bid to reverse last year's disastrous experience.

The Western Suburbs I.C.F. combine is skilful and determined. Calling on plenty of support in the area, they are making strides towards division one.

Richmond have had mixed fortunes since falling from the top sphere, but this well-behaved football-loving club will rise again.

Out Waverley way, things are humming. The City soccer club is regaining top form and confidence. Successive defeats of Western Suburbs and Sandringham lifted them to seventh in the table.

The present team has five members not in their original first-team squad.

Reserve keeper Bob Houghton made the first against Western Suburbs and has yet to taste defeat.

Inside-Right Claude Lucchesi, a member of the Victorian U18 squad, has established himself as a regular in the senior side.

Centre-half Ray Johnson, from Moorabbin and Derek Fairhurst, playing for Waverley Jrs. three weeks ago, are starring in the first team.

TOUGH GO

One of last season's more successful teams, Princes Park Hezules, are having a tough time in 1971, and only collected seven points out of a possible twenty two.

Although carrying the banner for one of the largest migrant associations, Moreland are getting very poor backing from the United Kingdom Settlers' Association, whom they claim to represent.

One of our oldest and



**JACK REILLY**

# DUNCAN IS BACK

Division one club Frankston City, still team-building, recently signed a veteran who is sure to play a big part in stiffening their defensive set-up.

He is former Scottish international Duncan Mackay, who last played as a defender with Croatia in the State League.

Mackay, who in his younger days played many

games for Scotland, reckons it won't take him long to get to peak fitness. When he does he will be a power to contend with.

He should link well with former Slavia and Hellas man David High, another battler in defence.

Another Frankston signing is Jim Mc-Minamee, a forward from Juventus.

## FIGHTING

Yallourn, Prahran, Frankston and Springvale are fighting out the relegation battle. The Latrobe Valley club has collected only one point in the last three games.

They are sadly missing the skill of George Szabo, who's work has taken him to Tasmania.

Frankston, current wooden spooner, is dogged with bad luck.

Playing only his second game since transferring from Polonia, Cierpicz broke his leg, soon after half-time, in the relegation battle with Springvale.

Promoted clubs Yallourn and Frankston City found the going tough but just managed to preserve their top division status for another year.

This year's experience should help them to improve in 1972.

Both clubs set heavy store on juniors. Frankston's initiative and colossal work with youngsters is well known on the peninsula.

They also found time to help fourth division Rosebud, to a better season.

Frankston is a shining example of the truly dedicated Soccer club which has helped to raise the status and importance of Metropolitan Soccer.

It is tragic, to see that lively young club, Springvale, and one of Victoria's oldest clubs, Prahran, relegated this year.

Both have the resilience to make swift comebacks.