

Ange Postecoglou

Socceroos Head Coach

Former Socceroo Ange Postecoglou was appointed head coach of the Socceroos in October 2013 and charged with the task of regenerating the stagnating national team. He had been their head coach for less than 18 months when they won the 2015 AFC Asian Cup in front of 75,000 delirious football fans at ANZ Stadium in Sydney. It was Australian soccer's finest moment, with victory coming in extra time to shut out South Korea 2-1.

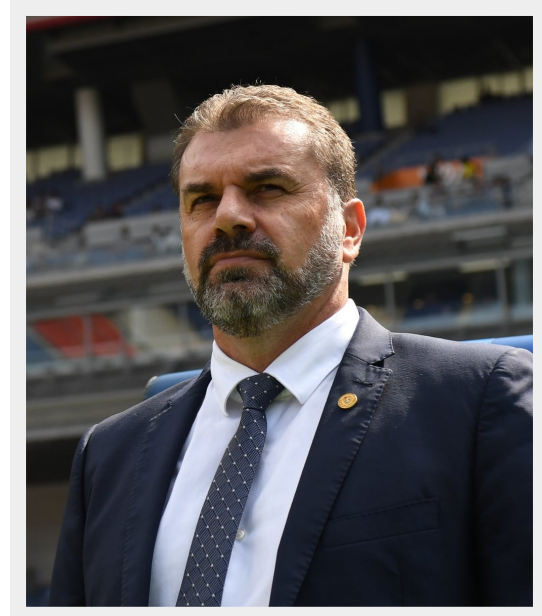
For Ange, who was born in Athens and migrated to Australia with his parents Jim and Voula aged five, the history-making victory provided a clear signal that the new generation Socceroos had begun an emphatic march forward to win international recognition.

Ange played 193 senior games for South Melbourne between 1984 and 1993 and was appointed captain aged 22. With South Melbourne, he figured in two National Soccer League championship victories - in 1984 and 1990-1991. Having played for Australia at youth level in 1985, he graduated to the Socceroos in 1986, winning four caps in the next three seasons.

His coaching career began at the age of 30 and he won two back-to-back National Soccer League titles with South Melbourne (1997-1998; 1998-1999) as well as the Oceania Club Championship in 1999. He was appointed coach of Australia's youth teams in 2000 and, in 2009, took charge of the new Brisbane Roar team in the A-League, going on to claim back-to-back championships in 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. During his time at the helm of Brisbane Roar, he established the longest undefeated sporting streak of 36 matches, passing the Sydney Roosters' 19 game undefeated run in their 1974-1975 rugby league premiership triumphs.

Ange Postecoglou was appointed Australia's national coach in October 2013 on a five-year deal, taking on the immediate challenge of re-energising the Socceroos squad for the 2014 FIFA World Cup. With the Socceroos drawn in Group B alongside reigning champions Spain and 2010 runners-up Netherlands and Chile, the task was daunting. Even though Australia lost all three matches, the Socceroos were widely praised for their competitive efforts in an exceptionally tough group - providing belief that better days certainly lay ahead.

As well as being Australia's most successful club coach with two premierships, four championships and a continental title to his name, Ange Postecoglou is also a very highly regarded speaker on leadership, risk, team culture, strategy, and how to get the best out of a team.



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