



18 October 2024

NGU Cup 2024: A Day of Football and Cultural Celebration for South Sudanese Australians

The highly anticipated NextGen Unite (NGU) Cup is returning for its second year on Saturday, October 19.

This exciting event will feature six teams from across the west and east of Victoria competing in a thrilling day of AFL football.

The NGU Cup has been created with several important goals in mind. Firstly, it aims to unite different sections of the South Sudanese community in Melbourne by providing a platform for connection and fostering a sense of unity and community spirit.

As Mamuch Chuol, NextGen Unite Founder and CEO, remarked, this event is about bringing our community together, celebrating our shared experiences, and showing the strength of our culture through sport.

“In addition to promoting unity, the NGU Cup seeks to showcase the vibrant integration of the South Sudanese community into Melbourne,” said Mr Chuol.

“By highlighting the extensive participation of South Sudanese men and women in Australian Rules Football, the event will demonstrate their positive contributions and achievements within the broader local community.”

The event also serves as an educational opportunity for the wider Australian population, raising awareness about South Sudanese culture, diversity, and the challenges faced by the community.

“Cultural education is essential. We hope to promote understanding and respect among all attendees, fostering cross-cultural appreciation,” Mr Chuol said.

The NGU Cup will address mental health awareness, an increasingly crucial topic within the South Sudanese community. The event will raise awareness of prevalent mental health issues and highlight the available support and resources.

The day will feature matches, including an U18s match at 10:00 AM, a women’s match at 12:00 PM, and a men’s match at 2:00 PM. In addition to the football action, attendees can look forward to delicious South Sudanese food stalls, an Aussie BBQ, exciting games, prizes to be won, and performances by dancers and a DJ.



The event will feature notable Australian sports figures as special guests, including Mac Andrew from the Gold Coast Suns, Majak Daw (Ex AFL), CJ Jiath and Mabior Chol from the Hawthorn Hawks, and Tew Jiath from the Collingwood Magpies.

NextGen Unite would like to express its gratitude to its presenting partner, Hoppers Motor Group, and valued supporters, including Nick Johnstone, SKOB, SKFF (SKOB Football Foundation), the Centre for Multicultural Youth, St Kilda FC, Western Bulldogs, Hawthorn FC, Melbourne FC, VAFA, StarSub Apparel, PRX, AFL, and Rotary. The mental health partner for the event is the Nas Recovery Centre.

Join us for a day filled with thrilling football action, great food, and community fun, as we celebrate the vibrant South Sudanese-Australian community together!

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