



**Diary notice: 31.07.2023**

***The Ball*** – a symbol of gender equality and climate change awareness across the world – with 11,700 signatures, arrives in Melbourne. To be hosted by City in the Community (Melbourne F.C.).

Using the motto *One Ball, One World*, the project is run by non-profit organisation *Spirit of Football (SOF)*, promoting gender equality through football in 21 countries in 13 months and investigating how people around the world have been dealing with the consequences of climate change.

**What is The Ball?** It's a special fairly-made football that has made its way from the home of modern rules football (Battersea Park, London), running education workshops through Europe, North America, the Middle East, Asia and Oceania on its way to the co-host nations of the 2023 Women's World Cup. It's a ball with a mission: to unite people around football to engage in conversations about the impacts of climate change and gender inequity and the ways in which we all can make a difference. Whoever meets (and usually heads) The Ball is invited to make a pledge: I am going to [take this action] to make my [family, community, planet] stronger.

Former Australian **Matildas Captain and current Melbourne City F.C. Goalkeeper Melissa Barbieri** is supporting The Ball in Melbourne:

*"Football has the power to inspire and the upcoming FIFA Women's World Cup is a huge moment in Australia and New Zealand's history. To have the best women's footballers on our shores for a month will inspire so many girls and boys to take up the game. By having City in the Community working closely alongside the team from Spirit of Football, we are able to use our great game as a vehicle to discuss important issues around gender equity and climate change. This will help leave a lasting legacy for young people across Melbourne long after the final whistle has blown."*

To get a glimpse of The Ball in action -- and a few of the many people who have played and pledged as part of its journey - check out this short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWc2j3-LgAM>

So far approximately 11,280 people have signed *The Ball* and pledged to use the power of football to take action to make their communities stronger and to take better care of the environment. Liverpool F.C. manager **Jürgen Klopp** is amongst the *Spirit of Football* Ambassadors supporting the project.

As The Ball travels, Spirit of Football runs education workshops in football clubs, schools and football for good organisations. The FIFA Foundation supported SOF's education resource development and testing.

### **The Ball's Schedule in Australia (tbc)**

The Ball in Australia is supported by the U.S. Embassy (Canberra) and U.S. Consulates (Sydney, Melbourne and Perth). Australian schedule and partners:

1. **The Ball in Melbourne – Monday 31st of July to Thursday August 3<sup>rd</sup>** in cooperation with **City in the Community**, the charitable arm of Melbourne City Football Club: <https://melbournecityfc.com.au/community/city-in-the-community>:  
**Monday, 31st of July:** 6:30pm - The Lions of Afghanistan Women's National Team in Exile at Robert Barret Reserve Maribyrnong, Melbourne.

**Tuesday, 1st of August:** 1:00pm - Casey Fields (Melbourne City F.C.). Meet the MFC players and have Socceroo Matt Leckie sign the ball. 160 Berwick-Cranbourne Rd, Cranbourne  
 + 3:00pm to 4:15pm - Casey Fields Primary School outdoor workshop. Age group: 10 - 12 years of age. Chapelton Rd, Cranbourne East VIC 3977.

**Wednesday, 2nd of August:** 8.30am to 11am - Port Phillip Prison rehabilitation project workshop. Group Camp, 451 Dohertys Rd, Truganina VIC 3029  
 + 2pm to 4pm - North Melbourne Street Soccer Program workshop. North Melbourne Community Centre, Boundary Rd, North Melbourne Victoria 3051  
 + 8pm to 10pm - Jamaica vs Brazil - FIFA World Cup match. Melbourne Rectangular Stadium - AAMI Park

**Thursday, 3rd of August:** 1:00pm to 3:00pm - Visit and workshop with The Big Issue Women's Street Soccer Program (supporting disadvantaged and marginalised women - using the sport to tackle homelessness and mental illness). Women's North Melbourne Community Centre, Boundary Rd, North Melbourne Victoria 3051  
 +3:00pm - Visit the Melbourne City Powerchair Team. Melbourne Sports Centres - Parkville 4.3(355) Sports complex, 10 Brens Drive Parkville.

2. **Sydney - August 6th to 13th:** Workshops with youth leaders from football for good organisations from across the globe and middle managers from Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) as part of FIFA Foundation supported Festival 23: <https://www.festival23.org/> that Football United is organising in Sydney.
3. **Vasse – August 14th to 19th:** Workshops at Vasse and Cape Naturaliste College (green ambassadors, drama classes, soccer workshop) and Vasse Primary School. <https://www.cnc.wa.edu.au/> and <https://www.vasseps.wa.edu.au/> Discussion panel on climate change within Vasse community and what methods we are looking at to combat them. Vasse Playing Fields - Undalup Association. Ocean linked activity including community ocean swim.
4. **Sydney – August 20th: World Cup Final:** Sydney Olympic Stadium.

For more information about The Ball and its schedule in Australia please contact Andrew Aris or Iris Alibulet, email: [andrew@spiritoffootball.de](mailto:andrew@spiritoffootball.de), [iris@spiritoffootball.de](mailto:iris@spiritoffootball.de) or visit 'The Ball' website at <https://www.theball.tv/2022>

### Broadcast quality footage

Download rights-free video of The Ball Journey **HERE:** <https://f.io/-oUyrSwt>

### Photos

For rights-free photography cleared for media usage **HERE:** <https://mab.to/t/L59Sb74JB6v/eu1>

### SHOT LIST FOR VIDEO CONTENT

LOCATIONS	
10:00:00:00	London
10:00:46:06	Germany
10:01:40:12	Turkey
10:02:31:15	USA
10:03:28:12	France
10:04:37:21	Kenya

10:05:04:23	UAE
10:05:45:23	Vietnam
10:06:48:14	Cambodia
10:08:15:16	Thailand
10:09:17:18	Malaysia
10:09:55:12	Philippines
10:11:25:02	Singapore
10:12:03:21	Indonesia
10:13:08:07	Fiji
10:15:57:06	Kiribati

#### TRANSCRIPTIONS OF SOUNDBITES INCLUDED IN THE FOOTAGE

TIMECODE	SOUNDBITES
10:00:01:00	<b>ANDREW ARIS, FOUNDER &amp; PRESIDENT SPIRIT OF FOOTBALL</b>  This is the ball that's going all the way to New Zealand and to Australia on a 12 month journey. And everyone this time is gonna be invited to do a header or to kick and then to sign the ball.
10:00:38:10	<b>KATIE ROOD, NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL HEARTS FC</b>  I'm Katie Rood, and my pledge is to sign up for renewable energy for my home.
10:02:54:12	<b>ADRIANNA FRANCH, US NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM</b>  I pledge to play for gender equality.
10:03:02:11	<b>ALEX MORGAN AND CRYSTAL DUNN, US NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM</b>  We've been fighting for gender equality now, probably our whole careers  Whole careers. We'll keep fighting for it. And, uh, women deserve to belong in the game just as much as men.
10:03:42:04	<b>UNKNOWN SPEAKER</b>  This is our time, this is our game.
10:03:45:11	<b>UNKNOWN SPEAKERS</b>  One Ball. One World.
10:04:00:19	<b>CAPUCINE JOURDAIN, GRAINES DE FOOTBALLEUSES</b>  Hi, I'm Capucine from Graines De Footballeuses and my pledge to this ball is to keep working for gender equality on the pitch.
10:04:11:13	<b>STEVE MARLET, FORMER FRENCH PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER</b>  <i>[Speaking in French] I pledge to wash all my clothes at 30 degrees which is very simple. But personally, I sold my car, so now I'm looking for a new type of transportation.</i>
10:04:20:23	<b>GERALDINE BEAUSIVOIR, CITY OF SAINT-OUEN, PARIS</b>  <i>[Speaking in French]</i>
10:07:53:17	<b>W. PARTRICK MURPHY, US AMBASSADOR TO CAMBODIA</b>

	<p>I'm Patrick Murphy, the ambassador of the United States to Cambodia. I'm here to make a pledge to fight climate change. I pledge to lead my US mission of 1000 workers and family members to turn it off. We're going to reduce our electricity use to help save the planet. That's our pledge to fight climate change. One ball, one world.</p>
10:09:06:05	<p><b>ANNA RODRIGUEZ, PLAY ONSIDE</b></p> <p>My name is Anna Rodriguez. I work for Play Onside and we pledge to keep working for gender equality with Burmese women &lt;inaudible&gt; through football trainings. One Ball, One World.</p>
10:09:37:15	<p><b>LEE YOON, HARA MAKERS MALAYSIA</b></p> <p>I pledge to reimagine plastic to save the planet earth.</p>
10:09:43:04	<p><b>SUE YEE, ZERO WASTE MALAYSIA</b></p> <p>On behalf of Zero Waste Malaysia, we pledge to continue to, uh, work on climate actions and also increase the awareness of sustainable living, uh, among the Malaysian citizens.</p>
10:11:01:02	<p><b>ALISHA DEL CAMPO, PHILIPPINES WOMENS NATIONAL TEAM</b></p> <p>Hi, I am Alisha del Campo and on behalf of the &lt;inaudible&gt; University and the Philippine Women's National Team, um, we fight for gender equality and climate change. Um, we want to empower women, children, and all races to fight for these changes.</p>
10:11:58:09	<p><b>MIRAY ALTUN, LION CITY SAILORS, SINGAPORE</b></p> <p>Hi, I'm Miray and I'll fight for equal play for a women's football. One ball, one world.</p>
10:13:01:01	<p><b>FOOTBALL PLAYERS IN BALI AND JAKARTA</b></p> <p>So get up from the bench because this is: Our World. Our Time. Our Game.</p>
10:13:30:00	<p><b>ANDREW ARIS, FOUNDER &amp; PRESIDENT SPIRIT OF FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>Sign it and pass it on.</p>
10:14:13:05	<p><b>U19 FIJI NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAM</b></p> <p>We play for gender equality and action on climate. One Ball. One World.</p> <p><i>[One Ball One World in Fijian and Hindi]</i></p>
10:14:29:14	<p><b>U19 FIJI NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAM</b></p> <p>We pledge for gender equality. One Ball. One World.</p>
10:14:53:16	<p><b>FILIMONI VOSAROGO, FIJI MINISTER FOR LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES</b></p> <p>For us, here in Fiji, we are promoting mangrove preservation and everywhere else around the world, particularly in Pacific, that's what we want to do is to remind everybody that we all belong to one ecological system. And so we all need to make our little contribution preserving the one earth we have. Thank you.</p>
10:15:25:03	<p><b>TAVUA DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL</b></p> <p>We're from Tavua District Secondary School from the Fiji Islands. We believe in gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow. Ensuring the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. One Ball, one World.</p>
10:15:39:17	<p><b>JOE ROKOCOKO, ALL BLACKS RUGBY LEGEND</b></p>

	<p>My name is Joe Rokocoko, uh, from Nadi Fiji living in France, coaching a bit rugby and I pledge, especially with the spirit of football, to bring our communities to a better, uh, living family and making sure that we all work together.</p>
10:17:23:00	<p><b>TAABETA TEAKAI, KIRIBATI MINISTER OF EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES</b></p> <p>Our pledge to the woman all around the world, women let's pledge to create a world where everyone has the opportunity to thrive and to be successful.</p>
10:17:34:09	<p><b>MARIAJOSITA TIAO, OFC JUST PLAY VOLUNTEER</b></p> <p>My name is Mariajosita Tiao. I am from one of the Just Play volunteers and I pledge to empower women to play soccer and to end violence against women.</p>
10:17:49:05	<p><b>ANDREW ARIS, FOUNDER &amp; PRESIDENT SPIRIT OF FOOTBALL</b></p> <p>We're here with Martin Tofinga. He's the president of KIFF, it's the Kiribati Island Football Federation. We're just about to get the 10,000th signature</p>
10:18:00:21	<p><b>MARTIN TOFINGA, PRESIDENT OF THE KIRIBATI ISLAND FOOTBALL FEDERATION</b></p> <p>One Ball. One World.</p> <p><i>[One Ball One World in Kiribati language]</i></p> <p>Thank you.</p>