

Nothing friendly for Ange

DAVID DAVUTOVIC

IT may only be a friendly, but Ange Postecoglou won't upset a winning formula, declaring a full-strength squad will travel to Germany to face the world champions.

The Socceroos coach conceded defence was his main concern ahead of the double-header that includes a trip to Skopje to play Macedonia on March 30.

UK-based defenders Bailey Wright and Ryan McGowan are back in contention, while stoppers Connor Chapman (Melbourne City) and James Donachie (Brisbane Roar) are knocking on the door.

However, preferential treatment will be given to the Olyroos for the concurrent 2016 Olympic qualifiers.

Melbourne City's Aaron Mooy looks set to be one of the inclusions.

"Coming so close after the Asian Cup we want to build on that form — we won't make too many changes," Postecoglou said.

GERMANY V SOCCEROOS: INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY, THURSDAY, MARCH 26, FRITZ-WALTER STADIUM, KAISERSLAUTERN, 6.30AM. LIVE ON FOX SPORTS

Roar's double agent



CARLY ADNO
PREVIEW

JEROME Polenz has been surprised to see the Wanderers drift away from their defensive structure this season and is determined to help his new team exploit that weakness.

Western Sydney travel to Brisbane today, giving Polenz his first opportunity to play against his former club.

It's a fixture the German defender admits he took special note of when he signed for the Roar in January after a brief stint in Norway.

Polenz was an integral part of the Wanderers' success in their first two years and they have found it hard to replace him. It was his choice to leave, but the 28-year-old endured a miserable time with Sarpsborg 08 and is pleased to be back in the A-League.

"I'm a good spy," Polenz joked, and he will be looking to heap more misery on his old team in the rematch of last season's grand final.

HUTCHINSON TO RIGHT THE SHIP

AFTER a dramatic week in Gosford, John Hutchinson says it's time for the Central Coast Mariners to move forward — starting today against Melbourne City.

The club's skipper, who has stepped into a player-coach role following the departure of Phil Moss, has been reinstated into the starting line-up under interim coach Tony Walmsley.

"Hopefully, I can stay with this club for a long time, 10 or 20 years, and be the manager one day," Hutchinson said. "I don't want to be head coach yet, too much pressure and I don't have the experience."

Hutchinson said the players were disappointed to learn of Moss' sacking and believes everyone must take responsibility for what's been a miserable season at the club. **-CARLY ADNO**

The Wanderers are anchored to the bottom of the ladder, with a just a single win, and Polenz can't understand why they have changed their style.

"In the past, the Wanderers have always been solid in defence, this has changed this year and I don't know the reason behind it," he said. "Maybe it's the change of players or maybe they've tried to implement another style of football. I think they've got a bit more attacking fire this year — instead of defensive stability they have the offensive power. So they have a defensive structure that we have to exploit."

Both the Wanderers and the

Roar played midweek Asian Champions League games, but Brisbane will be buoyed by their win in Japan while the defending Asian Champions went down to Guangzhou Evergrande at home.

Polenz isn't part of the Roar's ACL squad, but he knows how tough it is to juggle the two competitions.

"It is very important to have good depth and it's also very important to have good preparation," he said. "Of course I would have been happy to be a part of the ACL squad, but the fact is it's not like that and you have to accept it. Life goes on and I'm very happy to play in the A-League."

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