

## **EVA AIR Queensland Champions Cup to be contested by two Premiership Clubs this July**

*Premier League clubs West Ham United and Crystal Palace to contest the inaugural EVA Air Queensland  
Champions Cup*



**London (6 March, 2020)** – The inaugural EVA Air Queensland Champions Cup, due will see Premiership football clubs, Crystal Palace and West Ham United, hosted in Queensland alongside A-League team, Brisbane Roar F.C. this July. Due to be contested between 11 and 18 July 2020, the EVA Air Queensland Champions Cup will see each club participate in two games, with the side amassing the most points becoming the eventual winner of the inaugural title.

The EVA Air sponsored tournament will kick-off at Townsville’s brand-new Queensland Country Bank Stadium on Saturday 11 July when Brisbane Roar F.C. play Crystal Palace. On Wednesday 15 July, the Roar will then travel to Cbus Super Stadium on the Gold Coast to tackle West Ham United, before the two London clubs face off at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane on Saturday 18 July.

Pre-sale tickets will be available via Telstra Plus™ from 10.00am AEST Friday 6 March before the general public on-sale at 12.00pm AEST on Wednesday 11 March from [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au). Official corporate hospitality and VIP fan packages are available from today through TEG Live Hospitality, VIP NOW, including suites, boxes and VIP functions head to [www.vipnow.com.au](http://www.vipnow.com.au).

Delivered to Queensland by the Queensland Government via Tourism and Events Queensland in conjunction with TEG Live and 2020 EVA Air Queensland Champions Cup partners, City of Townsville and City of Gold Coast, football fans from around the world will be able to watch in person the only EPL clubs currently confirmed to be coming to Australian shores this year.

Mr. Bruce Wang, General Manager of EVA Air’s London branch said: *“EVA Air is proud to be sponsoring this event with two of the UK’s most high-profile football clubs, which are both steeped in football history with their origins dating back well over a century. High profile events like this helps us to raise awareness of the EVA Air brand around the world.”*

Approaching their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer, West Ham United, an EVA Air sponsored club with community at its heart and boasting a passionate fanbase - has won the FA Cup three times; in 1964, 1975 and 1980, while they have also been runners-up twice; in 1923 and 2006. The east London club, who are

currently managed by David Moyes, have reached two major European finals, winning the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1965 and finishing runners-up in the same competition in 1976. The Hammers return to Australia this July, 25 years after making a Centenary tour of Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane in May 1995.

On the south side of the river Thames in London stands Selhurst Park, the home of Crystal Palace F.C., which is world renowned for its incredible atmosphere created by the club's passionate fanbase. The Eagles, who wear their famous red and blue striped home shirt, are in their seventh consecutive season in the top flight of English football. Crystal Palace is currently mid-table on the English Premier League table under the stewardship of former England manager, Roy Hodgson.

The two London clubs also have strong modern day connections to Australia with Mile Jedinak (2011 – 2016) and Tony Popovic (2001 – 2006) having represented Palace, and Stan Lazaridis (1995 – 1999), Robbie Slater (1995 – 1996), Richard Garcia (1999 – 2004), Lucas Neill (2007 – 2009) and Dylan Tombides (2012 – 2014) pulling on the claret and blue of West Ham in recent years.

These games mark a special occasion for Crystal Palace F.C., as it will be first time the club has played in Australia. On the announcement of the EVA Air Queensland Champions Cup, **Crystal Palace F.C. Chairman Steve Parish** said: *"We are absolutely delighted to be visiting Australia for the first time in the club's history. It will be fantastic to witness Crystal Palace play against two excellent teams in these wonderful stadiums in front of our Australian fans."*

*"The tour comes at a crucial stage of our pre-season so the fitness programme and the games are important, but we also look forward to spending time exploring stunning Queensland and meeting as many people as we can."*

**West Ham United F.C. manager David Moyes** said: *"It's a great opportunity for the people of Australia to watch games involving two of London's biggest clubs but it's also a great opportunity for us to see a beautiful part of the world."*

*"I've had the pleasure of going to Brisbane before and it was a fantastic place with warm and friendly people. I'm very much looking forward to going back with West Ham United for what I know will be an important part of our preparations for the 2020/21 season."*

Coached by former England striker and Liverpool F.C great, Robbie Fowler, three-time A-League Champions and two A-League Premiers Brisbane Roar will be looking to make a statement in front of the own fans when they line up against some of Europe's best players as part of the EVA Air Queensland Champions Cup.

**Brisbane Roar F.C. CEO David Pourre**, said: *"Brisbane Roar prides itself on being a football club for all of Queensland and we are looking forward to playing two exciting fixtures in Townsville and the Gold Coast in July. It is a unique opportunity for Brisbane to also be hosting a fixture featuring two of England's most famous Clubs."*

**TEG CEO, Geoff Jones** said promoter, TEG Live, looked forward to delivering this marquee event involving three exciting teams.



*“The EVA Air Queensland Champions Cup is an exciting opportunity for fans and major event goers to witness live two current clubs from the world’s leading and most popular football league, the England Premier League,”* said Jones.

*“We are delighted to be staging this event in three of Queensland’s premier venues and in three different cities through our event partners Tourism and Events Queensland, Stadiums Queensland, Suncorp Stadium, City of Gold Coast and City of Townsville. We’d like to thank the Queensland Government for their role in facilitating the opportunity.”*

EVA Air, an international airline based in Taiwan, is the naming-rights partner for the inaugural Queensland Champions Cup, with **General Manager of EVA Air's Australian branch, Victor Hsiao**, saying: *"EVA Air is proud and excited to be the naming-rights partner for the first ever Queensland Champions Cup, extending the company’s relationship with football as the current airline partner of West Ham United.*

*“The three competing clubs and EVA Air share a strong alignment across our respective brands to deliver the very best services and unique experiences, whether in aviation or the sporting arena. EVA Air looks like forward to being part of the first ever Queensland Champions Cup and bringing football fans from across the globe to Brisbane for this exciting event.”*

#### **2020 EVA AIR QUEENSLAND CHAMPIONS CUP SCHEDULE**

*Note – kick off times are subject to change*

Saturday 11 July (6.30pm AEST)  
Queensland Country Bank Stadium, Townsville  
Brisbane Roar F.C. vs Crystal Palace F.C.

Wednesday 15 July (7.30pm AEST)  
Cbus Super Stadium, Gold Coast  
Brisbane Roar F.C. vs West Ham United F.C.

Saturday 18 July (7.30pm AEST)  
Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane  
Crystal Palace F.C. vs West Ham United F.C.

#### **TELSTRA PLUS™ PRE-SALE**

10.00am AEST, Friday 6 March – 9.59am AEST, Monday 9 March 2020

#### **GENERAL PUBLIC ON-SALE**

12.00pm AEST on Wednesday 11 March from [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au)

**Official corporate hospitality and VIP fan packages are available from today through TEG Live Hospitality, VIP NOW, including suites, boxes and VIP functions head to [www.vipnow.com.au](http://www.vipnow.com.au).**

*\*Ticket purchasers should note that the final coaching and playing talent selected for the 2020 Queensland Champions Cup may not be from the current squad and are subject to change for reasons including player availability and injury.*



*^A game won in regulation time counts for two points and a game won on a deciding penalty shootout (no tied games are permitted) counting for one, with traditional methods of ranking – goal difference, goals scored – determining the order in case of two teams having the same points total.*

Information about EVA Air's routes and services is available at [www.evaair.com](http://www.evaair.com).

## **ENDS**

### **About EVA Air:**

[EVA Air](http://www.evaair.com) is a Star Alliance member and one of only 10 [SKYTRAX-rated](#) 5-Star airlines worldwide. Readers voted it one of *Travel + Leisure's* World's Best "[Top 10 International Airlines](#)" and [TripAdvisor](#) awarded it top spots in five categories in its annual [Travelers' Choice Awards for Airlines](#). The carrier was established in 1989 as Taiwan's first privately owned international airline. It is part of the respected Evergreen Group and a sister company to global container-shipping leader Evergreen Line. It flies a fleet of more than 80 Boeing and Airbus aircraft to over 60 international destinations throughout Asia, Oceania, North America and Europe where gateways are Amsterdam, London, Vienna and Paris. Travellers can learn more about EVA and schedule, book and buy tickets at [www.evaair.com](http://www.evaair.com).

### **About TEG Live:**

TEG Live is wholly owned by TEG, Asia Pacific's leading ticketing, live entertainment and data analytics company. TEG Live is a dynamic and diverse promoter of live content in music, sport, family entertainment, eSports and exhibitions. TEG Live connects millions of fans every year with unique live experiences and adds value to events with hospitality and sponsorship services. For more information: <http://www.teglive.com.au>

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