

LEVEL UP! 2023

Thursday 25 May 2023				
Time	Activity	Speakers		
10am	Introduction and Acknowledgement of Country	Kerry Harris Chair, Women Onside Conference Host – Nicki Bowman, Leadership Consultant and Non- Executive Director		
10.08am	Conference Opening	Hon Anika Wells MP Minister for Sport and Minister for Aged Care		
Session 1: Ripe for Investment				
10.15am – 11.45am	Women's football has shown astonishing recent growth, with top-level football attracting large crowds, valuable new audiences, and a heart-warming matchday vibe. But too many still regard the women's game as a cost burden to be managed, rather than an investment opportunity to be maximised. Why is there still an unspoken reluctance to invest in women's football with purpose and belief? Hear from those on the cutting edge of a new vision for our sport. From capital investment to purpose-driven sponsorship to digital distribution and engagement, this session will explore global perspectives and new ways of thinking about our sport's future.	Kara Nortman – Co-founder and Board Member, Angel City FC; Managing Partner, Monarch Collective Rebecca Sowden – Founder, Team Heroine; Founder, Correct The Internet; former NZ Football Fern Jackie Lee-Joe – Director, Football Australia and Global Sisters, former Global Chief Marketing Officer, Netflix Moderator – Moya Dodd, Former Matildas vice-captain; former FIFA Council member		
	11.45am – 11.55am Break			
Session 2: Reaping the Rewards				
11.55am	Session welcome	Women In Sport and Exercise Unit Deakin University		
12.00pm – 12.15pm	Women are in the house! In recent years we've seen an increase in the number of women who have broken through the grass ceiling to hold leading roles in football on a global stage, notwithstanding many challenges and obstacles along the way in achieving their success.	Moderator – Nicki Bowman Keynote Speaker - Ebru Koksal – Board Member, Australian Professional Leagues; Chair, Women in Football UK; Director, Doublepass BV		



	While women have gained traction by being in the right spaces to have their voices heard, there's still a long way to go before others can join them in a collective chorus for further reform in football. We'll hear from leading women about their personal journeys and get their tips for survival and success in areas such as governance, refereeing, competition management and technical development. Moderated panel discussion and Q&A session moderated by Nicki Bowman on investing in women to reap the rewards of dedication and commitment to change.	Moderator – Nicki Bowman Panellists – Ebru Koksal
12.15pm – 1.10pm	Panellists invited to each speak about their journey as global leaders in football.	Kate Jacewicz – FIFA Referee Jo Fernandes – FIFA WWC23 Competition Manager; FIFA General Coordinator Rae Dower – Football Australia Technical Director Women's Football; U17 Matildas coach
1.10pm – 1.20pm	One on one interview with Dr Johanna Wood about the road she's taken from being a teacher and dairy farmer, to managing a men's first division team, leading New Zealand football as president for the past five years and being appointed as the Oceania representative on the FIFA Council. We'll also hear about her role in ensuring the legacy of the Women's World Cup in New Zealand will benefit women and girls at all levels of the game.	Introduction – Nicki Bowman Dr Johanna Wood – President, NZFA; Oceania FIFA Council Member; Women's World Cup Legacy Working Group; Northbrook Enterprises Director Pre-record interview with Cheryl Downes, Board Member Women Onside
1.20pm – 1.50pm	Break-out session Participants will be placed in to break-out groups to discuss and individually commit to taking one action to either invest in women's football or a woman in football.	Kerry Harris
1.50pm – 1.55pm	Conference wrap	Nicki Bowman
2pm	Conference close	Kerry Harris