

Herald Sun

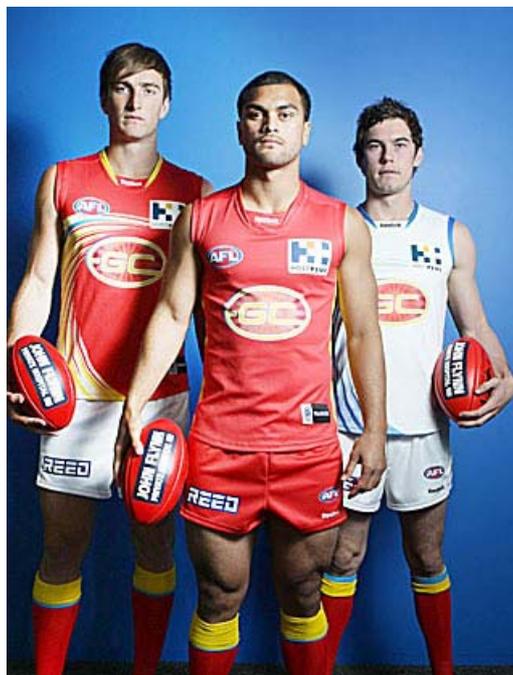
Here comes the Suns on the Gold Coast

- Michael Wamer
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Gold Coast's Charlie Dixon, Karmichael Hunt and Marc Lock parade the new club uniforms. Picture: Tim Marsden

Source: The Courier-Mail

FOOTY'S newest team finally has a name - the Gold Coast Suns.

Club chiefs tonight unveiled the identity of the AFL start-up side that will rise up next season wearing the red and yellow colours of the iconic Queensland lifesaver.

Three "Suns" jumpers have been selected – one for home games, a slightly modified away version and a white and blue clash strip.

A new club song, approved by the existing playing group and the king of footy tunes Greg Champion, was also rolled out at a gala Gold Coast function amid bold claims it was almost better than Richmond's.

(http://www.goldcoast.com.au/article/2010/07/22/241191_gold-coast-afl.html)

Gold Coast chief executive Travis Auld said the Suns nickname had beaten a field of 100 alternatives including the Sharks and the Stingrays.

"We love the Suns name for all the reasons we love the Gold Coast – it's full of energy, it's warm, and it makes you happy. It also rewards those who take a risk and are relentless in their endeavour," Auld said.

"The Gold Coast is a place where you feel alive and energised, so the sun is a fitting symbol that sets us apart from other teams."

Auld revealed the club had recently signed its 7000th member, with fans to be given the option of choosing their own vantage point at the new \$126 million stadium at Carrara.

Gold Coast recruit Karmichael Hunt said the playing group had a big input on selection of the club colours, jumpers and song.

"It looks great and I can't wait to start playing in it next year," the NRL convert said.

The distinctive red home strip is slightly different to the current VFL jumper with yellow panelling on the sides, while the away and clash strips feature a wave emblazoned across the chest.

“We wanted to take some of the Gold Coast with us when we play away,” Auld said.

The Gold Coast clash jumper will be used in games against Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide.

Auld also revealed the catchy club song *The Suns of the Gold Coast Sky* was modelled on a tune sent in to the club by a Melbourne-based fan last year.

The AFL Commission has approved the club’s new identity and will turn its focus to finding a new name for the Greater Western Sydney franchise.

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