**May 2022 – Women’s CP Football World Cup Special**

**Georgia Beikoff**

1. How old are you and what school/university do/did you go to?
I'm 29 years old. I completed an undergraduate degree in Primary Teaching at the University of Newcastle

2. What sports have you participated in and with which clubs?
Growing up I played lots of different sports including football, athletics, tennis, cricket, swimming just to name a few. Football was my main one that I played for many years until I made the switch to athletics, track and field. I love playing touch football and tennis with friends.

3. How are you feeling after being awarded the Golden Boot and being a captain of the ParaMatildas team that came second at the first ever Women’s CP Football World Cup?
It is really hard to put into words. It's absolutely surreal that all of those wonderful things happened at one competition, and our very first international meet too! I am still pinching myself; it still feels like a dream.

4. What was your favourite moment of the tournament?
I think my favourite moment of the tournament was sharing the experience with my teammates. Competing at an elite level and being in that kind of environment can be very stressful and can feel like you're in a pressure cooker. However, I loved seeing my teammates rise to the occasion! There were some absolutely golden moments that happened that we as a whole team, players and staff could celebrate together! Eg. When Katelyn Smith our goalkeeper not just scored once, but twice!

5. What is your next sporting goal and plans for the next few years after taking a break after the World Cup?
I'm really excited about seeing what the future holds for the ParaMatildas and CP Football for women and girls! I'm really keen to keep promoting and advocating what football can do for the younger generation, especially girls with CP, ABI or symptoms from stroke. I'd also love to keep working hard to make the team for the next World Cup.

6. What is your proudest sporting moment/achievement?
I think it is really special to be able to say that I have now represented my country in two separate sports - athletics and now football. But I would say a proud moment was to have the amazing honour of captaining the first ever national team for CP Female Football and the first ever IFCPF World Cup!

7. What was it like for you to train from home during the COVID lockdowns? What did you do to stay active? Was it much different from your normal program?
Training during lockdown was very difficult. I spent my time walking at the beach and in the bush. I also did some kayaking down at the lake.
It was very different compared to my normal program, I didn't get to train with my team mates and I focused more on the leisure side of being active - I think this very much helped the mental side of training as well.