

= Daniel McBreen =

Daniel James McBreen (born 23 April 1977) is a professional footballer who plays as a striker for Edgeworth Eagles in the National Premier Leagues .

Born in England , McBreen moved to Australia with his family when he was six weeks old and started his career in local football with Toronto Awaba Stags and Edgeworth Eagles . He earned a professional contract with National Soccer League side Newcastle United in 2000 , where he played for two seasons before joining Universitatea Craiova of the Romanian Divizia A. He left them amid a dispute over wages in 2004 , when he joined Falkirk , where he won the Scottish First Division title and the Scottish Challenge Cup in his first season . McBreen spent one season with them in the Scottish Premier League before being released , when he joined English League One club Scunthorpe United in 2006 . He played sporadically in their 2006 ? 07 League One title @-@ winning season , and was loaned to Conference Premier side York City in 2007 before having a short spell with St Johnstone in the Scottish First Division . McBreen rejoined York permanently in 2008 and played one season for them , with his last match in Europe coming in their defeat in the 2009 FA Trophy Final at Wembley Stadium .

He returned to Australia to play in the A @-@ League for North Queensland Fury , but mid @-@ season agreed to join division rivals Central Coast Mariners for the next two seasons . McBreen completed 2009 ? 10 with another A @-@ League side , Perth Glory , and his good form with them resulted in a call @-@ up to the Australia national team . He was part of the Mariners side that finished in second place in the 2010 ? 11 A @-@ League but was beaten in the 2011 A @-@ League Grand Final . The Mariners were the Australian Premiers in 2011 ? 12 , but were knocked out of the finals series in the preliminary final . McBreen scored one of the Mariners ' goals in the 2013 A @-@ League Grand Final as they were crowned A @-@ League Champions , and for his performance he was awarded the Joe Marston Medal . He had already won A @-@ League Golden Boot as the division 's top scorer with seventeen goals . He then went on loan with Shanghai East Asia , before joining them permanently for the 2014 Chinese Super League and having a spell with South China for the remainder of the 2014 ? 15 Hong Kong Premier League .

= = Club career = =

= = = Early life and career = = =

McBreen was born in Burnley , Lancashire , England to Jim and Kathy . The family moved to Australia six weeks later after his father took up an offer to play football for Edgeworth Eagles . He was raised in Newcastle , New South Wales and started his career playing local football for Toronto Awaba Stags before joining Edgeworth Eagles in 1999 . McBreen scored over twenty goals for them in the 1999 Northern NSW State Football League before being the league 's top scorer the following season with twenty @-@ three goals . However , he was dropped for the grand final , when Edgeworth were beaten 3 ? 0 by Hamilton Olympic .

McBreen earned his first professional contract aged 23 with Newcastle United of the National Soccer League in July 2000 , and he later credited Edgeworth coach Bobby Naumov for the move , saying " He set me on the road to a pro career " . He made his debut that year , and scored six goals from twenty @-@ three appearances as Newcastle finished in fourteenth place in the 2000 ? 01 National Soccer League table . Newcastle turned full @-@ time the following year , and McBreen played thirteen matches and scored three goals with Newcastle improving their league position by ranking second in the 2001 ? 02 National Soccer League table . Despite playing less frequently he enjoyed working under new coach Ian Crook , saying " you can speak to him as a human being and he can man manage . He made training enjoyable " .

= = = Spells in Europe = = =

After being offered a trial with Universitatea Craiova by an agent , McBreen signed for the Romanian Divizia A club on a three @-@ year contract in July 2002 . He made his debut in 3 ? 1 win over Astra Ploie?ti on 17 August 2002 , and scored only once in thirteen appearances for a Craiova side that ranked seventh in the 2002 ? 03 Divizia A table . However , the players ' wages were continually paid late throughout the season and McBreen came close to a move to Norwegian Tippeligaen club Lillestrøm , only for Craiova to twice raise their asking price for him on transfer deadline day . He played more regularly the next season , making twenty appearances and scoring twice as Craiova finished fourth in the 2003 ? 04 Divizia A table . He finally left Craiova during the summer of 2004 after the club 's president Pavel Badea , a former teammate of McBreen 's at the club , signed a letter releasing him from his contract . He took his case to FIFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sport with the help of Professional Footballers Australia , and only received the money he was owed after the club was given a three @-@ point deduction and was threatened with automatic relegation .

McBreen was prepared to return to Australia before being offered a trial with Falkirk of the Scottish First Division . He also played for English Conference South club St Albans City in pre @-@ season before Falkirk received international clearance to play him in September 2004 . McBreen made his debut as a seventy @-@ third minute substitute for Andy Thomson in a 3 ? 0 home win over Gretna in the Scottish Challenge Cup on 14 September 2004 . He came on as a seventy @-@ second @-@ minute substitute for Thomson in the 2004 Scottish Challenge Cup Final , in which Falkirk beat Ross County 2 ? 1 at McDiarmid Park on 7 November 2004 . His first goal came on his first start for the club , with a shot from eight yards seconds before half @-@ time , as Falkirk beat Raith Rovers 2 ? 0 away on 13 November 2004 . This marked the start of a run of nine goals from seven matches , and come the end of the season McBreen and his strike partner Darryl Duffy had scored a combined total of forty goals . He finished 2004 ? 05 with thirteen goals from twenty @-@ six matches as Falkirk were promoted to the Scottish Premier League as Scottish First Division champions . His thirteen league goals saw him ranked as the division 's fourth highest scorer .

McBreen signed a new one @-@ year contract with Falkirk in June 2005 , and manager John Hughes predicted " With a good pre @-@ season under his belt , I 'm sure he 'll get even better " . He scored his first goal of the 2005 ? 06 season in the eighty @-@ third minute of a home match against champions Rangers on 10 September 2005 , with a header from an Alan Gow cross that secured Falkirk a 1 ? 1 draw . McBreen scored the only goal in Falkirk 's 1 ? 0 win over Livingston on 6 May 2006 with a header from Gow 's free kick , which was only the team 's second victory at home all season . He appeared more frequently in 2005 ? 06 , making thirty @-@ eight appearances but only scoring eight goals , with Falkirk ranking in tenth place in the Scottish Premier League table . Despite taking over the main striking role after Duffy 's transfer to Hull City in January 2006 , McBreen was released by the club in May .

He went on trial with English League One clubs Northampton Town , Brighton & Hove Albion and Scunthorpe United , signing for the latter on a two @-@ year contract on 30 August 2006 . He made his debut two days later starting a 2 ? 0 away victory over Gillingham , but due to a hamstring injury that kept him out of action for ten months his last appearance of the 2006 ? 07 season came in November 2006 . He made ten appearances for a Scunthorpe team that won promotion to the Championship as 2006 ? 07 League One champions . At the end of the season , McBreen was told by Scunthorpe manager Nigel Adkins that he was free to look for a deal with another club , despite having a year remaining on his contract .

McBreen joined Conference Premier team York City on a one @-@ month loan , with the option of a possible extension , on 5 October 2007 . His York debut came in a 4 ? 1 home defeat to Histon a day later and scored his first goal in the following game against Stafford Rangers , with a header from a Martyn Woolford cross in a 2 ? 0 home victory . After making five appearances and scoring two goals he was recalled by Scunthorpe on 5 November 2007 due to the departure of on @-@ loan Millwall striker Ben May . Despite this , York manager Billy McEwan was interested in bringing McBreen back to the club for another loan spell . He bought out the remainder of his Scunthorpe contract to join St Johnstone of the Scottish First Division on 2 January 2008 on a deal until the end of the season . His debut came the same day in a 1 ? 1 home draw with Dundee , which he entered

as a sixty @-@ second @-@ minute substitute for Liam Craig . He suffered a knee injury during this match , and this hampered his progress at the club . On 20 April 2008 , McBreen scored the opening goal with a back @-@ post header from Paul Sheerin 's cross in St Johnstone 's Scottish Cup semi @-@ final against Rangers at Hampden Park in extra time , which they eventually lost in a penalty shoot @-@ out . St Johnstone finished in third place in the 2007 ? 08 Scottish First Division table as McBreen made seven appearances and one goal before being released by the club in May 2008 .

McBreen held talks with A @-@ League side Adelaide United before being handed a trial with their divisional rivals Wellington Phoenix . He returned to former club York City on a one @-@ year contract on 25 June 2008 . His first game back at the club was a 1 ? 0 away victory over Crawley Town and in his third appearance he scored his first goal of the 2008 ? 09 season with a left @-@ footed shot from seventeen yards in a 1 ? 1 home draw with Histon . McBreen was played primarily as a lone striker in away matches during 2008 ? 09 , a decision which York manager Colin Walker defended in September 2008 ; Dave Flett of The Press commented that he " [led] the line lazily " . During February 2009 it was reported in the Australian media that he had agreed join A @-@ League newcomers North Queensland Fury , although York were unaware of any transfer taking place . It was later confirmed that he would join the Fury in August 2009 for the 2009 ? 10 A @-@ League , following the expiry of his York contract in June . He had scored in every round of the 2008 ? 09 FA Trophy leading up to the final , bar the first round when he was an unused substitute , and ahead of the final commented that : " I couldn 't ask for anything more than a Wembley final to end my career in Europe and it ? s also a great finale to a disappointing season for the fans and players " . He started in the match at Wembley Stadium on 9 May 2009 , which York lost 2 ? 0 to Stevenage Borough . He made forty @-@ eight appearances and scored ten goals with York finishing in 17th place in the 2008 ? 09 Conference Premier table .

= = = Return to Australia = = =

McBreen made his debut for North Queensland Fury in a 3 ? 2 home defeat to Sydney FC on 8 August 2009 as an eighty @-@ second @-@ minute substitute for Paul Kohler . He soon established himself in the starting line @-@ up , and scored his first goal for the Fury after heading in a Fred Agius cross in the eighty @-@ seventh minute of a 3 ? 3 draw with Adelaide United on 28 August 2009 . He went on to sign a two @-@ year pre @-@ contract with A @-@ League opponents Central Coast Mariners , for the 2010 ? 11 and 2011 ? 12 seasons , in December 2009 . McBreen was used mostly as a substitute after the move was announced , before signing an interim deal with Perth Glory for the remainder of the 2009 ? 10 season in a swap for Jimmy Downey on 12 January 2010 . He had scored three goals in twenty @-@ one appearances for the Fury .

McBreen 's debut for the Glory came when he entered a 6 ? 2 away loss to Melbourne Victory as a thirty @-@ eighth @-@ minute substitute for Chris Coyne on 16 January 2010 . He started and scored in the next match three days later , a 3 ? 2 away win over Adelaide United , with the winning goal in the seventy @-@ seventh minute . This marked the start of a run of five goals from four matches , helping the Glory finish fifth in the 2009 ? 10 A @-@ League table and thus qualify for the finals series . McBreen played in their 4 ? 2 penalty shoot @-@ out defeat to Wellington Phoenix in the fourth v fifth semi @-@ final on 21 February 2010 , which followed a 1 ? 1 draw after extra time . He had scored five goals in seven appearances for the Glory , and with eight goals altogether he was the 2009 ? 10 A @-@ League 's eighth highest scorer . His good form was rewarded with his first call @-@ up for the Australia national team .

McBreen made his debut for the Mariners in 1 ? 0 away win over Melbourne Heart on 5 August 2010 , in which he was substituted for Nik Mrdja in the ninetieth minute . His first goal came nearly a month later when heading in Matt Simon 's cross in the fiftieth minute of a 2 ? 0 home win over Melbourne Victory on 3 September 2010 . McBreen was sent off for the first time since returning to Australia with a second yellow card during the stoppage time of a 5 ? 1 home defeat to Brisbane Roar on 28 November 2010 , and returned from suspension as a fifty @-@ second @-@ minute substitute for Adam Kwasnik in a 1 ? 1 draw away to Perth Glory on 12 December 2010 . With a

second @-@ placed finish in the 2010 ? 11 A @-@ League table the Mariners qualified for the finals series , and he started in their 4 ? 2 aggregate defeat to Brisbane Roar in the major semi @-@ final and their 1 ? 0 win over Gold Coast United in the preliminary final . McBreen came on as a seventy @-@ second @-@ minute substitute for Simon in the 2011 A @-@ League Grand Final at Lang Park on 13 March 2011 , and after a 2 ? 2 extra time draw he missed one of the penalty kicks as the Mariners lost the shoot @-@ out 4 ? 2 . He made 31 appearances and scored five goals for the Mariners in 2010 ? 11 .

Early into the 2011 ? 12 A @-@ League season he was deployed as the focal of a midfield diamond , and this contributed to the team 's improving form . McBreen scored his first goal of the season in a 3 ? 1 home win over Melbourne Heart , with an eighty @-@ second @-@ minute penalty kick , and his only A @-@ League goal scored in normal play came after converting Pedj Boji? 's cross in a 3 ? 2 home victory over Adelaide United on 21 January 2012 . The Mariners became the A @-@ League Premiers after finishing in first place in the 2011 ? 12 table , also qualifying for the finals series . He appeared as a substitute in the first leg of their 5 ? 2 aggregate defeat to Brisbane Roar in the major semi @-@ final , and as a substitute in the preliminary final against Perth Glory , in which the Mariners were beaten 5 ? 3 in a penalty shoot @-@ out after a 1 ? 1 extra time draw . McBreen made five appearances and scored twice in the 2012 AFC Champions League , as they were eliminated from the tournament after finishing third in their group . He scored four goals from thirty matches in 2011 ? 12 , and was handed a new contract with the Mariners for the 2012 ? 13 A @-@ League in April 2012 .

McBreen 's first goal of 2012 ? 13 came seven minutes after entering the Mariners 's 1 ? 0 win at home to Perth Glory as a sixty @-@ third @-@ minute substitute , in what was his first appearance of the season . He recorded the first hat @-@ trick in the Mariners ' history in their 7 ? 2 home win over Sydney FC on 3 November 2012 , scoring in the first @-@ half with a penalty kick and in the second half with a close range finish and a header from Joshua Rose 's cross . This marked the start of a run of fourteen goals from fifteen matches , helping the Mariners to second place in the 2012 ? 13 A @-@ League table and thus a place in the finals series . With seventeen goals McBreen won the A @-@ League Golden Boot , awarded to the division 's top scorer . In the semi @-@ final of the finals series he scored the only goal in the Mariner 's 1 ? 0 win over Melbourne Victory on 14 April 2013 with a powerful shot in the forty @-@ second minute . One week later he scored the second goal with a sixty @-@ eighth @-@ minute penalty kick as the Mariners beat Western Sydney Wanderers 2 ? 0 at Sydney Football Stadium in the 2013 A @-@ League Grand Final . This was the first time the Mariners had won the A @-@ League Championship , and McBreen was awarded the Joe Marston Medal , given to the man of the match of the Grand Final , before being named as a substitute in the PFA A @-@ League Team of the Season . He made six appearances in the team 's run to the round of 16 of the AFC Champions League , when they were beaten 5 ? 1 on aggregate by Guangzhou Evergrande Taobao of the Chinese Super League . McBreen signed a new contract with the Mariners for the 2013 ? 14 A @-@ League in May 2013 , having scored nineteen goals from thirty @-@ three appearances in 2012 ? 13 .

= = = Spells in Asia = = =

On 8 June 2013 , McBreen joined Chinese Super League side Shanghai East Asia on a five @-@ month loan lasting until 31 October , joining his former teammate Bernie Ibini @-@ Isei who completed his transfer four days earlier . His debut came a month later after starting Shanghai 's 3 ? 0 home defeat to Beijing Guoan on 7 July 2013 , and a week later scored his first goal in the tenth minute of a 3 ? 0 away victory over Guizhou Renhe . He scored three goals in thirteen appearances for Shanghai before returning for the Mariners when starting their 1 ? 0 home defeat to the Brisbane Roar on 10 November 2013 . McBreen 's first goal for the Mariners in the 2013 ? 14 A @-@ League came with a close @-@ range backheel with the only goal in a 1 ? 0 victory at home to Sydney FC on 7 December 2013 .

McBreen scored twice in twelve appearances for the Mariners in 2013 ? 14 before signing for Shanghai East Asia permanently on a one @-@ season contract for a fee of \$ 250 @, @ 000 on 31

January 2014 . His second debut came when starting their 1 ? 1 away draw with Liaoning Whowin on 9 March 2014 , before scoring his first goal of the 2014 Chinese Super League with a left @-@ footed volley from outside the penalty area in a 1 ? 1 draw at home to Shanghai Greenland Shenhua on 26 April . He went without scoring in the final three months of the season , which he finished with five goals from twenty @-@ eight appearances as Shanghai ranked in fifth place in the 2014 Chinese Super League table . McBreen stated his desire to stay for another season , but admitted he might not be retained after the club was taken over by new owners .

He signed for Hong Kong Premier League club South China for the remainder of the 2014 ? 15 Hong Kong Premier League on 21 January 2015 . McBreen debuted four days later as a seventy @-@ seventh @-@ minute substitute for Yuto Nakamura in a 4 ? 2 away win over Sun Pegasus , before scoring twice in their 6 ? 1 away victory against Global in the 2015 AFC Cup group stage on 25 February 2015 . He started for South China in their 4 ? 0 defeat to Kitchee in the 2014 ? 15 Hong Kong League Cup Final at Mong Kok Stadium on 22 April 2015 . McBreen scored both of the team 's goals in their 2 ? 0 victory over Eastern Sports Club in the AFC Cup play @-@ off semi @-@ final , and started their 1 ? 1 extra time draw with YFCMD in the final , but was substituted before the 4 ? 2 penalty shoot @-@ out win . South China finished fourth in the 2014 ? 15 Hong Kong Premier League table , and McBreen scored eleven goals from seventeen appearances before his contract expired in May 2015 .

= = International career = =

Australia national team coach Pim Verbeek selected McBreen in an extended squad of twenty @-@ five players for the 2011 AFC Asian Cup qualifier against Indonesia in Brisbane on 3 March 2010 . He was an unused substitute as Australia beat Indonesia 1 ? 0 .

= = Style of play = =

McBreen was good in the air , and adept at holding the ball up and bringing teammates into play . At 6 ft 1 in (1 @.@ 85 m) he provided a threat at set pieces . North Queensland Fury coach Ian Ferguson commented on his physicality , describing him as " an aggressive player ... who will give centre halves a hard time " .

= = Coaching career = =

McBreen was appointed the head coach of the Newcastle Jets U15 team in October 2015 .

= = Personal life = =

Before turning professional McBreen worked a number of jobs along with playing football , saying " I did everything ? too many jobs to mention ? and I know I would rather be on the training ground than sat in an office or hauling concrete all day " . He married Gabrielle Stockton in Sydney , New South Wales during December 2014 and the couple have two sons , Noah and Leo .

= = Career statistics = =

= = Honors = =

Falkirk

Scottish Football League First Division : 2004 ? 05

Scottish Challenge Cup : 2004 ? 05

Central Coast Mariners

A @-@ League Premiership : 2011 ? 12

A @-@ League Championship : 2012 ? 13

Individual

A @-@ League Golden Boot : 2012 ? 13

Joe Marston Medal : 2012 ? 13

PFA A @-@ League Team of the Season : 2012 ? 13