

# THE Daily Telegraph

## **A Sydney soccer hooligan travelled to Melbourne where he pelted rival fans with beer glasses court told**

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• HERALD SUN  
• APRIL 24, 2014 6:07PM  
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### **A SOCCER hooligan who travelled from Sydney's western suburbs to Melbourne pelted rival soccer fans with beer glasses during a wild riot outside a popular hotel, a court has heard.**

Western Sydney Wanderers supporter Adrian Basso, 23, faced court today on charges of recklessly engaging in dangerous conduct, discharging a missile to cause injury and affray over the December 29 incident last year.

The Melbourne Magistrates' Court heard Mr Basso had travelled to Melbourne to attend the Wanderers V Victory game at AAMI Park when he became embroiled in a riot between rival fans outside the Royal Melbourne Hotel in Melbourne's CBD.

The brawl began when a dispute broke out between supporter groups.

Tables, chairs, coins and flares were all thrown at each other during the melee. Police allege Mr Basso was caught on camera throwing a beer glass at Melbourne fans before making his way to the front of the pack and throwing another glass.

The riot then spilt out onto the street where it continued until police arrived.

Police identified Mr Basso using CCTV footage and watched him throughout the game.

He was arrested at the end of the drawn match and formally interviewed.

The court heard he made full admissions to throwing the beer glasses during the brawl

Outside court, Balot Reilly's George Balot, for Mr Basso, claimed his client felt threatened by the patrons outside because of the absence of any visible security.

"He acknowledges that he reacted irresponsibly and dangerously by discharging two beer glasses in the direction of the crowd outside who were closing in on the patrons inside the hotel," he said.

"My client is relieved that his actions did not cause anyone an injury. He genuinely and wholeheartedly regrets his dangerous conduct in the midst of alcohol fuelled and misconceived allegiance to those inside the venue on the day of the soccer match.

"The incident would simply not have happened in ordinary circumstances."

The matter is set to return to court on May 9.