



Karl Hampton

MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

09 February 2009

Imparja Cup Cricket Carnival Begins

Minister for Sport and Recreation Karl Hampton has welcomed players to the Imparja Cup cricket carnival which is being played in Alice Springs this week.

The Imparja Cup is Australia's National Indigenous Cricket Carnival which caters for participants at state and community level.

"The Northern Territory Government is providing \$10 000 in financial assistance to Northern Territory Cricket in support of activities associated with the 2009 Imparja Cup," Mr Hampton said.

"This funding will assist NT Cricket to conduct cricket clinics in Central Australian communities and host the Australian Cricket Association Masters Game as the curtain raiser for the Grand Final.

"Last year the ACA Masters Game in Alice Springs attracted a crowd of approximately 1500 spectators and this year will see former Australian players Matthew Elliot, Brad Hogg, Terry Alderman and Ashley Mallett playing against an Indigenous All Stars team picked from the tournament.

"Australian cricket legend, Matthew Hayden will be spending several days at the event working with communities and players.

"All States and Territories will be represented at the Cup in 2009 with 26 teams expected to compete in the competition.

"Various competition formats will be played during the week long event including 20/20, 40 overs per side and Super 8's matches."

NT Cricket has welcomed the Northern Territory Government's support for Indigenous cricket.

"The NT Government's support is greatly appreciated by all involved. The Imparja Cup has grown rapidly in the past few years, particularly now that it is televised by NITV, and this funding helps to keep the event affordable for its participants," said CEO Andrew Ramsay.

The Imparja Cup will be held in Alice Springs from 9 to 14 February 2009 and spectators can watch the Carnival Cup games free of charge at various venues.

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