Hall Takes Her Place In Hockey History

NTIS Hockey Head Coach Melissa Hall is primed to take the mantel as the first female coach of a men’s team at the 21 and under level in Australia.

Sports Minister Matthew Bonson said Melissa will don the ochre and black next month when she steps out as the Northern Territory Men’s 21 and under Coach at the National 21 and under Championships in Darwin.

“This is a great achievement, and just shows the Territory is making real milestones in supporting and fostering women’s involvement in sport,” Mr Bonson said.

“How fantastic that Melissa gets to step out as the first female coach at this level - made all the sweeter that it will be in Darwin.”

Ms Hall said she was looking forward to the challenges that coaching a home tournament brings.

“Anytime you are given the opportunity to coach a Northern Territory side is a privilege,” Ms Hall said.

No stranger to representative duties, Ms Hall took the reigns of the NTIS Hockey in June 2007, coached the Territory Pearls in the 2006-2008 Australian Hockey League and has been involved with several under age national teams.

Melissa will be joined in the dugout by former NT Stinger and NTIS athlete John Anstess, and Wayne King, ex Australian Institute of Sport, NT Stinger player, and former Executive Officer of NT Hockey.

The Northern Territory Men’s 21 and under team will hold trainings Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6–7pm at the Marrara Hockey Centre in the lead up to the National Championships.

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