Budget 2016 supporting sport and active recreation for all Territorians

24 May 2016

Budget 2016 has provided a treasure chest of long and short term benefits for Northern Territory sports and active recreation participants, clubs and fans across all genres.

Tennis benefitted from a big serve of the Country Liberals Government budget via a $16 million cash injection to build a state-of-the-art tennis centre at Marrara and the swimming fraternity is now looking forward to a world-class aquatic establishment at Parap Pool with a contribution of $5 million to ensure the facility achieves FINA accreditation to host international events.

A further $2 million has been invested to upgrade sporting facilities and lighting infrastructure in regional and remote areas as an extension of the successful $2 million remote oval upgrades that was invested in the 2015 Budget.

The rapid growth of women’s football has been acknowledged by the Country Liberals Government with $2.3 million to upgrade change room facilities for female teams and lighting at TIO Stadium which is a clear commitment in supporting the pathways and grass roots participation for female football.

Minister for Sport and Recreation Nathan Barrett said the Budget 2016 funding was fundamental to the Giles Government’s commitment to enhancing our great Territory Lifestyle by developing grass roots sport, securing the future for Territory clubs and associations and creating clear pathways for the next generation.

Rugby league’s growing participation and links to the national game will be further enhanced with the continued partnership with the Parramatta Eels valued at $1 million annually to deliver an extensive community engagement program, pathways for aspiring NRL players and a NRL Premiership Game in the Territory.

Mr Barrett said the Country Liberals Government had reinforced its commitment to the development of all sporting genres throughout the Territory in Budget 2016.

“This investment supports all participants, the coaches, the officials, the parents and the volunteers,” Mr Barrett said.
“The Giles Government has listened to the invaluable feedback we received through our Master Plan process and we are putting that plan into action that will benefit all Territorians that love sport and being active.

“The Country Liberals Government has an unprecedented record of investing in sport and recreation infrastructure. This focus has a direct impact on the local economy creating work for local businesses and local jobs while providing Territorians with the best possible facilities to play sport and be active.”

Grants have already been released across the following areas:

- $250,000 in promoting Women and Girls in sport
- $250,000 in improving sport and rec facilities in remote areas
- $100,000 in developing our Volunteers

**Budget Highlights**

**Confident Culture**

- $8 million additional funding to support the construction of an international competition standard regional tennis centre in Darwin, for a total Territory Government contribution of $16 million to the $16.7 million project.
- $3 million for a grant to fund utilities, roads and lighting upgrades at Freds Pass Reserve.
- $17.6 million for grants to sporting and active recreation organisations including the delivery of the Sport Voucher scheme, peak body funding, active remote communities, active recreation organisations, grass roots development, and facility and equipment grants.
- $1 million to continue to hold a National Rugby League premiership game in Darwin and pre-season game in Alice Springs.
- $6.25 million, including $4.25 million from the Territory Government, $1.5 million from Alice Springs Town Council and $0.5 million from a private contributor, for the Alice Springs netball facility redevelopment.
- $5 million for a capital grant to redevelop the pool at Parap Leisure and Sports Centre.
- $2 million for a grant to Motorsports Northern Territory to upgrade various facilities across the Territory.
- $1 million for community football competition development.
- $2 million for grants to upgrade sporting facilities in regional and remote areas of the Territory.
- $4 million for sports infrastructure grants as part of the Boosting our Economy package.

**2016-17 New Capital Works**
- Motorsports infrastructure upgrade – water reticulation $8.99 million
- TIO Stadium upgrades $2.3 million

Media contact:
Grant Stockwell, 0447 917 632