Registration forms for the 9th Alice Springs Masters Games are being mailed out with Minister for Central Australia Peter Toyne playing a central role in their distribution.

Minister Toyne, Masters Games Advisory Committee chairman Peter Hoey, and Ambassadors Bev Camp and Shauna Hartig oversaw the initial mailout of registration forms for the Red Centre’s premier sporting event on Friday.

Already competitor’s interest in the Alice Springs Masters Games has stretched far and wide with a potential entrant from Port Moresby contacting the Master Games last week inquiring about registration forms for next year’s event.

The Masters Games, to be held between 19 and 26 October 2002, attracts thousands of athletes and officials to Alice Springs every two years and brings millions of dollars into the local economy.

Dr Toyne said almost 13,000 people from the Master Games database will receive entry forms to contest the event, also known as the 'Friendly Games', with the majority located in Alice Springs, the wider Northern Territory and South Australia.

These potential participants will receive an entry form covering 38 different sports or events and an accommodation guide for the best places to stay in the Red Centre.

Students of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College in Alice Springs are helping organisers place the forms in envelopes and preparing them for posting.

"Organisers expect a flood of entrants before Christmas for the best games yet," Dr Toyne said.

"Organisers have received a lot of interest from interstate teams and hopefully, there will be many overseas teams joining our Port Moresby inquiry to experience the fun of the Alice Springs Masters Games."

If you would like to receive a entry form, please contact the Alice Springs Masters Games on 1800 658 951, or check out the website on www.alicespringsmasters.nt.gov.au.

Organisers are expecting a blockbuster event for 2002 with a locally-based committee overseeing its direction to ensure Alice Springs provides the best event for competitors, officials, spectators and the local community.