Minister for Sport and Recreation Karl Hampton today congratulated local AFL identity Wally Gallio on his appointment as AFL Head Coach at the Northern Territory Institute of Sport (NTIS).

“Wally is a pillar of AFL in the Northern Territory and I congratulate him on his appointment, which is excellent news for our young footballers,” said Minister Hampton.

“Wally was NTIS head coach from 1997-2001 and has a sterling coaching pedigree which includes stints in the Central Australian Football League, with SANFL clubs Glenelg and Woodville-West-Torrens, NSW/ACT Rams and most recently with the Territory Thunder,” the Minister said.

Wally replaces former NTIS AFL Head Coach Brett Hand, who was appointed the Development Coach for the Great Western Sydney Football Club in January 2010.

Gallio’s playing career started with the Goodwood Saints in the SA Amateurs and took him to the Federal Football Club in Alice Springs, Southern Districts Football Club in the NTFL and Banks Football Club in the TEAFA. Along the way he has represented Central Australia and TEAFA.

Wally’s role is to nurture the development of young AFL talent in the Territory and help them achieve at the highest possible levels in sport and in life.

“The Northern Territory has a strong reputation for producing elite AFL players including Andrew McLeod, Peter and Shaun Burgoyne, Daniel Motlop, Cameron Stokes, Cyril Rioli and 2009 NAB Rising Star nominee Liam Jurrah,” said Minister Hampton.

“Wally is a first class choice for this very important role and we wish him the best of luck in moulding our young athletes into upstanding adults, and unearthing the next generation of Territory superstars.”

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