



Karl Hampton
MINISTER FOR SPORTS AND RECREATION

7 February 2012

\$200,000 Boost to Imparja Cup

Sports Minister Karl Hampton announced Territory Government funding of 200,000 over 4 years, adding support to the Imparja Cup cricket tournament in Alice Springs.

Mr Hampton said the Territory Government is boosting its support of Australia's National Indigenous Cricket Carnival to make it even better and more affordable.

"I'm pleased to say that Cricket Australia have guaranteed the Imparja Cup will stay in Alice Springs as a result of this Government's funding until, and including 2015," Mr Hampton said.

"Now into its 19th year, the Imparja Cup is Australia's National Indigenous Cricket Carnival, catering for participants at state and community level.

"This year, we've see the Australian Cricket Masters Games featuring players such as Jimmy Maher, Mick Lewis, Greg Matthews, Wayne Holdsworth, John Davison and Graeme Vimpani, accompanied by Alice Springs' most promising players in the exhibition match.

"A record 34 teams and 500 players across five divisions will converge on Alice Springs this week for the 2012 Imparja Cup.

"NSW are aiming to defend their men's and women's State and Territory titles this year, which will be contested in Twenty20 format for the second time after the successful adoption of the shortened form last year.

"We are really beginning to see growth in participation numbers reflected at the elite level through Dan Christian's selection in Australian squads, and Imparja Cup products, Josh Lalor and D'Arcy Short making their state debuts this season for NSW and WA respectively.

"As seen in these cases, the Imparja Cup gives Indigenous cricketers the chance to advance their development and complements cricket's elite pathways and grassroots participation programs.

"This government understands the amazing opportunity that sports provides to Territorians, both for entertainment and participation, and encourages a healthy and active lifestyle in keeping with our Great Territory Lifestyle initiative.

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