ALICE WELCOMES AFL STARS

29 May 2014

The Melbourne Demons Football Club has arrived in Alice Springs ahead of Saturday’s historic Indigenous Round AFL premiership match at TIO Traeger Park.

Minister for Sport, Recreation and Racing Matt Conlan welcomed the Demons to the Territory and wished them all the best for the clash against top of the table Port Adelaide on Saturday.

“It is fantastic to have the Demons and Port Adelaide in Alice Springs for such an exciting and important occasion,” Mr Conlan said.

“This AFL game, the first played for premiership points in Alice Springs, is a very proud moment for the town. It will put Central Australia on the national stage; showcase our wonderful region and our ability to hold national sporting events in first-class facilities such as TIO Traeger Park.

“An enormous amount of effort has gone into making this historic game possible and I’d like to thank the AFLNT and Alice Springs Town Council for their assistance.

“The Country Liberals Government is determined to make this AFL premiership game a huge success for the town so we can continue to lobby the AFL and other major sporting codes to stage more national sporting events in Alice Springs in the future.

“It’s an incredibly exciting time for the town and I encourage everyone to attend this historic occasion and what will be a great day of entertainment for the whole family.”

As part of the Territory Government’s close links with the Melbourne Football Club, Mr Conlan today attended one of the many community engagement activities in the lead-up to the big game, visiting Sadadeen Primary School with injured Demons, Mitch Clisby and Matt King.

“It was terrific to visit Sadadeen Primary School today and help launch a new program by Coles and the Melbourne Demons that will see over 1000 lunchboxes provided to community children across the Territory.

“The aim of the program is to educate children on the importance of proper nutrition and healthy eating and lifestyle choices.

“This is another great initiative by the Demons in addition to the club’s work with the Fred Hollows Foundation and Trachoma elimination in the Territory, which the club will continue with a visit to Ti Tree students tomorrow.”

Tickets to the Round 11 game between Melbourne and Port Adelaide in Alice Springs are on sale at: www.ticketdirect.com.au or can be bought at the gate. Gates open at 10:30am on Saturday with the game starting at 1:10pm.

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