Peddle power for new cycling alliance

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Top End cycling organisations have joined forces to form a new alliance to help boost the sport further in the Northern Territory.

The new alliance will be called the Peddle Alliance and includes representatives from BMX NT, Cycling NT, Darwin Off Road Cyclists, and the group Bicycle NT.

“This new alliance will help promote all varieties of the sport of cycling and its benefits to the community,” said Minister for Sport, Recreation and Racing Matt Conlan.

“Cycling is hugely popular in the Top End; whether it is competitive cycling, for recreational purposes or just commuting into work. That’s why the Government is providing a total of $525,000 over three years to the new alliance, which includes new funding of $83,000 a year.

“This new collaboration is designed to centralise some of the common time-consuming tasks of those sporting groups such as administration, education, communication and events. Making the Alliance responsible for those tasks, frees up the cycling groups and allows them more time to deliver on their sports and activities.

“The Territory Government is determined to grow sport at the grassroots level and increase participation to build healthier communities and a confident culture and supporting initiatives like this will help achieve that goal.”

The Peddle Alliance and will be overseen by a joint management committee made up of representatives from each of the four groups, with an independent chair, operating under a Memorandum of Understanding and working to an agreed strategic plan. An executive officer reporting to the management committee will manage the Alliance ensuring joint services are delivered to the cycling community.

Darwin Off Road Cyclists vice president, Paul Edwards, said the alliance will combine resources, freeing up organisations to focus on increasing participation in cycling.

“We can save on resources so that rather than each group having to promote events that they are running, the Alliance could take this on and manage and promote the events for them,” he said.
“This will help open up new avenues to get more people on bikes and allow each of the groups to focus on running the events.”

The Alliance is based on similar models in the Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia and is not the creation of a new peak sporting organisation. The Alliance is expected to begin operating early in the New Year. Expressions of interest for the independent chair and executive officer can be found at: www.sportspeople.com.au

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