Lauren Moss
Minister for Tourism and Culture

NT Government brings Aussie cricket heroes to Darwin

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The Territory Labor Government, in partnership with Cricket Australia, will host the Australian test cricket team in Darwin today as they prepare for their upcoming Test series against Bangladesh.

The highly anticipated seven-day training camp will be based at Darwin’s Marrara Cricket Ground and include a three-day inter-squad match.

Minister for Tourism and Culture Lauren Moss, said that the NT Government continues to invest in bringing top-class sporting events to the NT, because they provide a great boost to the Territory lifestyle, which is so important in keeping people living in the NT.

“Sporting events are great for the economy, they provide a boost to the tourism industry by increasing visitor numbers and help keep people living in the NT,” Minister Moss said.

“Images of the training camp will be beamed all around the world and will be another fantastic opportunity to showcase the NT to Australia and the world.

“This training camp is an exciting opportunity for Territorians to see their cricket heroes up close.

“The training camp is a great opportunity for our local cricketers to learn from their heroes. Test players will visit local cricket clubs in Darwin and Palmerston during the week-long training camp.

“I have no doubt the entire Australian cricket team and support staff will relish their time here in Darwin. If they’re anything like Matthew Hayden, they’ll keep coming back again and again for our famous Territory lifestyle.”

The Australian 20-man squad includes Captain Steve Smith, and fan favourite David Warner as well as a full support team. The squad will depart Darwin direct to Bangladesh.

Cricket Australia’s Executive General Manager of Team Performance Pat Howard said he was extremely grateful for the support received from the Northern Territory Government and NT Cricket for assisting in facilitating this camp ahead of the Test tour of Bangladesh.

“The facilities at Marrara Cricket Ground are first-class and the squad is looking forward to the camp,” he said.

“We’ve been working closely with NT Cricket to replicate conditions in Bangladesh, as we did in Dubai for the Indian Test tour earlier this year, so the squad gets the best preparation possible before departing from Darwin directly to Bangladesh.”

Northern Territory Cricket CEO, Troy Watson, encouraged Darwin sports fans to head to Marrara Cricket Ground from Monday to Wednesday next week to see the Aussie superstars in action in the inter-squad match, which will also feature Northern Territory talent.
“This is a fantastic opportunity for Northern Territory products like Jake Weatherald, Tom Andrews and Kane Richardson to return and be part of the inter-squad match,” he said.

“It’s a rare chance for us to see our country’s best talent on show in our own backyard and we hope Territory cricket fans and players take advantage of the benefits of hosting a camp like this.

The three-day practice match will be held at the Marrara Cricket Ground from 14-16 August with play from 10am-5pm each day. Entry is free.

A signing session and Milo T20 blast session for children aged 5-12 years will be held after the conclusion of play on Wednesday 16 August.

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