Territorians love watching and playing sport and Budget 2006 ensures both pastimes can be enjoyed into the future, Minister for Sport Delia Lawrie announced today.

“Budget 2006 includes $16.3 million for sport,” said Ms Lawrie.

“Sport is an important part of the Territory lifestyle and we are providing more funds for community grants and better sports infrastructure.

“We are also investing in major sporting events so Territorians can enjoy watching world-class athletes compete in our own backyard.”

BUILDING OUR SPORTING FUTURE

Since 2001, the Martin Government has distributed around $41 million in sports grants to the community.

Budget 2006 continues that support, with $6 million in sporting grants, allowing clubs to buy more sporting equipment, improve their facilities and assist with the running of their clubs.

The Government is further underpinning the future of sports in the Territory with:
- $6.8 million for the Thoroughbred Racing industry to support racing in Darwin, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and rural areas
- $3.5 million for the Northern Territory Institute of Sport
- $500 000 for continuing the Hidden Valley upgrades
- Completion of the Home of Darwin Football

WORLD CLASS EVENTS FOR THE TERRITORY

Budget 2006 continues the Territory Government’s push to bring world class major events to the Territory.

In 2006-07 the Government will support:
- International Cricket at Marrara from June 30 to July 14, 2006
- High quality AFL matches, including an August 2006 fixture between the Western Bulldogs and Port Adelaide, and an Aboriginal All Stars match early in 2007
- $550 000 for the Alice Springs Masters Games from 21 to 28 October, 2006
- A National Basketball League match in 2007
- $2.3 million for the Arafura Games from 12 to 19 May 2007
- $1.05 million for V8 Supercars from 30 June – 2 July 2006
“The Martin Government is investing in a strong sporting future for Territorians, whether they are competing or cheering on their favourite team,” Ms Lawrie said.

Contact: Nikola Lekias 0438 323 660