Country Liberals support motorsports

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The Country Liberals have revved up their election campaign with today’s announcement that over $40 million will be invested in motorsports if the government is re-elected.

Chief Minister Adam Giles made the announcement at the official opening of Hidden Valley’s new corporate facility today.

“A returned Country Liberals Government will commit nearly $42.55 million in capital works and grants for motorsports across the Northern Territory over the next term,” Mr Giles said.

“This funding package is part of a broader plan aimed at supporting our great Territory lifestyle.

“Our investment in motorsports is huge because motorsports in the Territory is huge.

“There are 18 clubs across the Territory affiliated with MotorSports NT running around 265 events annually. There are some 10,500 licensed competitors, pit crew, officials and volunteers attracting in excess of 180,000 participants and spectators each year.”

Last week, Labor announced $13.05 million for motorsports after Mr Giles posted on Facebook the Government would provide more than $40 million.

Mr Giles said the Country Liberals were focused on maintaining and improving the Territory’s unique lifestyle.

“When the Country Liberals came to government in 2012, we identified motorsports as bringing a great economic and social benefit to the community,” he said.

“Labor’s motorsports announcement last week was a hollow, feeble attempt at catching up after the previous Labor government neglected motorsports for 12 years,” he said.

"If you look at Hidden Valley, for example, Labor allowed the track to fall into disrepair.

“The Country Liberals have spent the last three years cleaning up Labor’s mess and we now see the motorsports industry thriving.

"It was the Country Liberals who first secured the V8 Supercars round at Hidden Valley in 1998 and it’s because of the Country Liberals that Supercars will be in the Territory until 2030.”

Chief Minister Adam Giles said the Country Liberals Government has a plan that will further support sporting clubs and venues and recreational fishers.

“We also have a plan to utilise our fantastic location to attract international level sporting fixtures, national and international training camps and world-class events to the Territory.
“These announcements are in addition to nearly $100 million already announced in Budget 2016 for sport and recreation, motorsports, recreational fishing and other activities and events that support our great Territory lifestyle.”

Chief Minister Adam Giles said he would be making further announcements in the coming days.

List of projects for the Top End include:

- $8 million over four years to Motorsports NT for ongoing motorsports event and infrastructure funding.
- Replace Motorsports House at Hidden Valley with a contemporary structure that includes a viewing balcony, corporate meeting area, administration facilities and up graded office systems
- Install lighting at Hidden Valley Complex for night racing and other public events
- Upgrade the computer race timing system for the Hidden Valley Drag Racing Association
- Top End Motor Cross Club (Palmerston) to complete track lighting to Motor Cycling Australia standards
- Hidden Valley Drag Racing Association to replace existing track lighting with LED and provide an extended cover braking area
- Darwin Karting Association to cover open drains within the track confines, replace the sewerage system, and improve the lighting system to meet new Karting Australia standards
- North Australian Motor Sports to upgrade computer and timing systems
- Top End Mud Racing Association for electrical and track lighting upgrades
- DSDRA (Northline Speedway) to fence off the stairs near the pit office and for pit lighting, and a new canteen for the back straight.
- Mobile canteen for Darwin Motor Cycle Club
- Territory Quads Association to provide fencing, a water supply and toilets; and a tractor, slasher and rotary hoe to be share with Top End Mud Racing Association
- Top End Road Racing Association for air fence deploying and a trailer
- Katherine Motor Sports Complex to install ring main and separate mains and toilet facilities
- Katherine Motor Sports Complex to fence the complex and provide a new entry
- Katherine Off Road Motorcycle Sport Club to improve safety standards to meet the minimum national requirements for MotoX racing events and to upgrade existing club facilities to benefit members, competitors and visitors.

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