Sports Minister John Ah Kit today announced that the Sabah Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport has invited young Territory athletes to participate in the 9th SUKMA Games 2002.

"The Northern Territory and Malaysia have built very close sporting ties with Malaysia sending 261 athletes and officials to the 2001 Arafura Games," Mr Ah Kit said.

Mr Ah Kit has accepted the invitation for the NT to participate in the SUKMA Games – to be held from 5 to 14 September 2002.

Mr Ah Kit said the Northern Territory was invited to participate in five sports for SUKMA 2002. These are optimist class sailing, golf, cycling, tenpin bowling and athletics.

SUKMA Games 2002 is generally for athletes under 21 years of age. However, for the optimist class sailing competition, eligibility for competitors is 15 years and under.

"This invitation allows Territory athletes to be part of international competition and also extends the promotion our very own Arafura Games overseas in developing and promoting sport in the south east Asian region," Mr Ah Kit said.

"Under the Office of Sport and Recreation’s special assistance grants program the government will consider helping with travel costs.

"The government is committed to providing sport and recreation opportunities for all Territorians, from elite sportspeople to grassroots sporting groups across the Northern Territory.

"Staff from the Office of Sport and Recreation will soon contact the relevant sports and commence preparations for the games."

Current News
News archive