



Media Release

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Dubbo hosts National Indigenous Touch Football Knockout June Long Weekend

The Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service's *Quit B Fit – Tackling Indigenous Smoking Program* and Manly Warringah Sea Eagles in conjunction with NSW Touch Football & Touch Football Australia will host the 2017 National Indigenous Touch Carnival Knockout.

The smoke-free Event will be staged from Friday 9 June 2017 to Monday 12 June 2017 at Caltex Park, Dubbo NSW. The first of its kind to be held in NSW, the Knockout will be open to men, women's, mixed and junior grades and will feature a prize pool of up to \$40,000 for winners and runner's up.

"The aim is to create a flagship event for the Dubbo region with a strong focus on promoting the tackling indigenous smoking message and other positive health messages for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across the country," said CEO of Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service, Darren Ah See.

"We have a strong organising committee with representatives from Quit B Fit, Manly Warringah Sea Eagles, NSW Touch Football, Dubbo Regional Council, Touch Football Australia and Black Money Enterprises."

"Dubbo is a great central location for the event with exceptional playing facilities, accommodation and transport options and a proven track record for hosting similar large-scale indigenous events," said Mr Ah See.

The Knockout will be held across the June Long Weekend kicking off with a draw and gala dinner on the Friday evening.

"We have been very fortunate to receive the support of the Manly Warringah Sea Eagles who have jumped on board to support the Quit B Fit team and the Tackling Indigenous Smoking program as ambassadors and we are very appreciative of Darcy Lussick's involvement at our launch today in Dubbo," said Mr Ah See.

"Our vision is for the National Indigenous Touch KO to become a fixture in the calendar of events for Dubbo for many years to come. We hope that it will become an iconic modern day corroboree for Aboriginal people similar to the long-running and successful Rugby League KO and with a particular focus on promoting healthy lifestyle choices," said Mr Ah See.

"We have already received commitment of support for the event from Dubbo Regional Council, the Western NSW Local Health District and the peak Touch bodies but we would welcome any further support from local businesses and organisations," he said.

The details about how to register a team in the KO and how to become an event partner are available on the KO website www.indigenoustouchknockout.sportingpulse.net or follow @quitbfit on Facebook and #quitbfit on Twitter and Instagram.

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