



Alison Anderson

ACTING MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

19 February 2009

First Run For Central Australian Footballers

Acting Minister for Sport and Recreation Alison Anderson today congratulated the Alice Springs members of the Territory Thunder AFL squad on completing their first training session.

“This is an important step in the Territory Thunder’s progress towards competing in the AFLQ competition which begins in April,” Ms Anderson said.

The Territory Thunder side has a training squad of 21 players from Alice Springs all hoping to make the final travelling team to compete in this inaugural Territory side.

“It is pleasing to see such a strong representation from Central Australia in this squad and I encourage all our local players to train hard,” said Ms Anderson.

“We will see four of the Territory’s nine home matches played here in Alice Springs with the first match against Western Magpies at Traeger Park on May 23rd.

“The Northern Territory Government is supporting the Territory Thunder team by providing funding of \$200 000 a year for the next five years.”

The squad was put through its paces by Head coach Michael McLean, General Manager Stuart Totham and High Performance Manager Murray Davis.

The Alice based players all from local clubs will train regularly in Alice Springs under the guidance of both local club coaches and Territory Thunder officials.

Territory Thunder has also advertised for an Alice Springs based member of its board.

“It is critical to have a local person on this board to represent Central Australia and I encourage anyone interested in this role to apply through the AFL,” Ms Anderson said.

Minister Anderson also congratulated incoming General Manager of AFL Central Australian Jake McCauley on his recent appointment.

“Mr McCauley brings a great deal of experience to this role and I welcome him to the position,” Ms Anderson said.

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