



The Hon Graham Annesley MP

Minister for Sport and Recreation

MEDIA RELEASE

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SPORTS MINISTER SWINGS BY TO SUPPORT NSW GOLF CHAMPIONS

Minister for Sport and Recreation, Graham Annesley, will be a member of the official cheer squad at Sydney Airport tomorrow in support of the NSW golf teams who will be competing in the annual Interstate series in Perth from 13-16 September 2011.

Mr Annesley said, "The Interstate Series is one of Golf Australia's premier amateur events and it's a great opportunity for these outstanding young NSW golfers to showcase their talents.

"I'm honoured to personally wish them the best of luck for this premier national competition and hopefully they will return with the trophy for their state.

The Australian Men's and Women's Interstate Teams Matches are Australia's pinnacle Amateur Team Golf Championships, with the men's event having been played since 1894 and the women's since 1897 (the Women's teams play for the *Gladys Hay Memorial Trophy*).

States play each other in a singles match play round robin format, with the top two teams playing off in the final.

The Men's team consist of eight players, while the Women's team has six players.

The New South Wales team will start warm favourites for the competition and the squad includes Australian Amateur Champion and National Squad Member Matt Stieger, Smith's Nomura Cup team mates Jake Higginbottom, winner of the 2011 Jack Newton State Age title, and Daniel Bringolf, and Julia Boland who has returned to Australia after completing her studies in the United States.

The annual Interstate Series will be played at the prestigious Royal Perth Golf Club.

Mr Annesley will join the Chairman of Golf NSW Chris Allen and members of the New South Wales golf teams at the Qantas terminal at Sydney Airport on Saturday 10th September at 7am, before the teams depart on a flight to Perth.

"We are experiencing a golden period for Australian golf with a number of Australians including Adam Scott and Jason Day performing well on the world stage with the Australian Open and President's Cup just around the corner.

"I'm hopeful members of the NSW teams competing in Perth next week will continue on that path, starting with winning the State titles next week," Mr Annesley said.

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