



The Hon Graham Annesley MP

Minister for Sport and Recreation

MEDIA RELEASE

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KARATE GETS A WORLD CUP KICK

Minister for Sport and Recreation Graham Annesley said the NSW Government has provided \$15,000 in funding to assist the International Sport Karate and Kickboxing Association (ISKA) host the 16th Australian ISKA World Cup which starts today.

Mr Annesley said, “The ISKA World Cup Martial Arts Championships is the most popular and exciting event on the Australian calendar for Martial Arts enthusiasts.

“This funding will help organisers meet event costs including venue hire and sports equipment and accommodation for members of the sport’s USA sanctioning body.”

To be held at the Whitlam Leisure Centre in Liverpool the ISKA 2011 World Cup is expected to attract more than 1500 competitors from up to 18 nations.

In addition to the international competition, local players have the opportunity to attend seminars hosted by top international coaches. There are also a number of referee and coach accreditation seminars, conferences and symposiums being offered.

The ISKA organisation hosts 5-20 tournaments a year in Australasia and predicts the 2011 World Cup will be the ‘largest and most prestigious martial arts tournament held in the Southern Hemisphere’.

“This is an excellent event to showcase NSW and also provides the public the opportunity to see some of the world’s finest martial arts athletes whilst giving local athletes some much needed international experience,” Mr Annesley said.

“It enables local participants and coaches to see the level of training required for international competition.”

Mr Annesley added the \$15,000 in funding was granted through the NSW Government’s International Sporting Events Program.

“This program aims to help NSW sporting organisations attract and stage international events in our State.

“International sporting events provide elite level competition opportunities for NSW athletes, coaches and officials, while also creating valuable economic spin-offs for the wider community,” Mr Annesley said.

For more information on the International Sporting Events Program, please visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/grants.