



The Hon Graham Annesley MP

Minister for Sport and Recreation

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT TAG TEAMS WITH OLYMPIC WRESTLING HOPEFULS

Minister for Sport and Recreation, Graham Annesley, today announced the NSW Government has awarded \$10,000 to assist Olympic hopefuls battle it out at the 2012 Oceania Wrestling Championships in Sydney this weekend (27 – 29 January).

“Australia is currently ranked first in Olympic wrestling in the Oceania region, and this weekend’s event includes a qualification tournament for the London 2012 Olympic Games,” Mr Annesley said.

The Oceania Wrestling Championships have attracted a high proportion of international competitors, which will provide healthy competition for the locals.

Male and female wrestlers will compete in Freestyle, Greco and Grappling competitions over three days.

As well as benefitting athletes, this event is also a valuable opportunity for NSW coaches and officials.

International coaches will conduct coaching clinics in conjunction with the tournament, providing local officials with the opportunity to gain or upgrade their international accreditation.

Mr Annesley said the NSW Government funding was awarded through the International Sporting Events Program (ISEP).

“The International Sporting Events Program helps local sporting organisations to attract and stage international-level sporting events on home soil in NSW.

“I’m delighted Sydney is hosting this important qualification tournament which will help boost the profile of wrestling locally and also showcase our State on the world sporting stage,” Mr Annesley said.

The 2012 Oceania Wrestling Championships, including the London Olympic Qualification Tournament, will be held at the University Sports and Aquatic Centre, Darlington Rd, Darlington from Friday to Sunday this week.

For more information visit www.wrestling.com.au.