

MEDIA RELEASE

Sporting clubs and associations in Broome have a great opportunity to secure their future through a unique operational and financial planning workshop program and awards scheme.

Three tiers of government – federal, state and local - have come together in Broome to assist sporting clubs and associations in a project that involves attendance at two workshops by two representatives of sporting groups prior to the organisation being able to enter an awards process that is considered to be unique within Australia.

The three levels of government have formed a partnership to hold workshops for local sporting groups in order to have each participant produce a 12 month operational plan and cash flow budget for their organisations.

The rationale for these workshops is that local sporting groups, like any small business, need to plan and budget for their futures.

As an additional incentive to encourage Broome sporting groups to participate in these workshops, they will be able to enter their completed operational plans and cash flow budgets for the period of 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 in an awards scheme.

Cash awards of \$1500 for best judged submission and \$750 for the second-best judged submission have been funded by the Small Business Field Officer Program and the Department of Sport and Recreation.

Michelle Chafin, the Federal Government's Kimberley Small Business Field Officer said that her program is involved with delivering free general advisory services to small businesses and provides a resource for the many small businesses who want to know where and how to access relevant information and support.

“Sporting groups are very similar to any business, and the planning and budgeting workshops that will be held in April and May here in Broome are intended to help these groups operate more efficiently and to maximize their effectiveness,” Ms Chafin said.

The Western Australian Department of Sport and Recreation's Regional Manager, Dean Holder said local sporting groups who attend these workshops will be assisting their membership to help with the continued growth of their sport within the Broome community.”

Broome Shire Community Services Director Chris Jackson welcomed the partnership of the three government bodies in this project.

“Anything that will assist sporting clubs and associations to become sustainable is great for the community,” Mr Jackson said.

At the first workshop to be held on Monday 7th April, representatives of local sporting groups will learn how to produce a 12 month operational plan.

At the second workshop to be held on Monday 5th May, organisational representatives will be trained in cash flow budgeting and then linking their budgets to their organisations' 12 month operational plan.

Both two hour workshops will be held in the Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre meeting room starting at 5.30pm.

Ends

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