



MATT CONLAN MLA | **Member for GREATOREX**
MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

MEDIA RELEASE

SPORT VOUCHERS A WINNER WITH JUNIORS

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The Northern Territory Government's Sports Voucher Scheme has led to an increase in Territory children participating in sport.

Minister for Sport and Recreation, Matt Conlan, said feedback from the scheme introduced on February 1st this year had been very positive.

"The purpose of the Sports Voucher Scheme was to get more Territory kids involved in organised sport at the grassroots level and we're now seeing this occur," Mr Conlan said.

"I'm delighted to report that the Palmerston Power Basketball Club alone has seen a 33 per cent increase in their junior ranks in the under 10 age group this year, with around 100 new members signing up.

"The \$75 Sports Vouchers are for all Government and Non-Government school children and allow children to sign up and try a sport like basketball without the normal significant financial outlay for fees and uniforms to parents.

"The Palmerston Power Basketball Club also runs an Aussie Hoops basketball program for 5-8 year olds which has seen a major increase in participation as well.

"By attracting more children into organised sport, the Sports Vouchers are helping keep children fit and healthy while benefiting families and the community as a whole."

Palmerston Power Basketball Club Senior Registrar, Peter Thorne, said the Government's Sport Voucher scheme was a great initiative.

"In addition to more juniors signing up, we've also seen a major increase in families paying their club fees upfront for the entire year because of the assistance of the vouchers," Mr Thorne said.

"This has given the club certainty in its player numbers and the ability to have some funds in the bank at the start of the season to purchase equipment and pay training facility hire fees."

Clubs can still register for the Sport Voucher Scheme at www.sportvoucher.nt.gov.au. To register a club, association or registered business must be affiliated with a recognised Territory Peak Sporting Body which has a National Sporting Organisation recognised by the Australian Sports Commission.

If families have not received their child's Sport Voucher please request a replacement one at www.sportvoucher.nt.gov.au

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