



## **Stars Set to Hoop in the Centre**

Alice Springs will play host to some of Australia's most exciting basketballers, when the Hoops 4 Health Challenge returns to the red centre on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Featuring Anthony 'The Man' Mundine, Cairns Taipans' Deba George and Kerry Williams, and arguably one of South Australia's greatest basketball exports, NBL Legend Brett Maher, the Hoops 4 Health All Stars are back to take on the Alice Springs Senior Men's Basketball Team.

Alice Springs will be bolstered by the return of local NBL prodigy, Cairns Taipan Gary Boodnikof, who returns to Traeger Park Basketball Stadium to suit up for his home team.

For the Hoops 4 Health Aboriginal Corporation, the game is the culmination of a series of events in and around Alice Springs promoting awareness of healthy lifestyles, and this year, encouraging participation of women in sport. Hoops 4 Health will host a breakfast in conjunction with The Smith Family with special guest and 2004 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Female Athlete of the Year, Bo De La Cruz, on the morning of the big match.

"The support of the Northern Territory Government has ensured that we are able to bring Hoops 4 Health back to the Alice Springs region. It's a great opportunity to promote our message and encourage people of all ages to participate in sport. We want to see a big crowd out there supporting their local team against these stars of the game" said Timmy Duggan, Director, Hoops 4 Health.

Hoops 4 Health Patron and sporting icon Anthony 'the Man' Mundine said "As patron of the organisation, I encourage the people of Alice Springs to attend and support the event and possibly a game of one on one. I am certainly one for pushing the community to lead healthy lifestyles and wouldn't be the champ if I didn't. I will be there to promote healthy lifestyles to our youth and deliver the Hoops 4 Health message."

Entry into the game is free with the first match between The Girls of the Centre Program and Role Models commencing at 5:30pm followed by the Hoops 4 Health Womens Challenge at 6:30. Tip off for the main event between the Hoops 4 Health All Stars and the Alice Springs Senior Men is at 7:30pm.

This will be the 6<sup>th</sup> Hoops 4 Health Challenge held in the Northern Territory since 2006.

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