

22 June 2009

Media Alert

MORE TOP AUSSIES TO COMPETE ON WORLD STAGE

WHAT On the back of the Socceroos thrilling win last week, Australia's WorldSkills team (the Skillaroos) is training with some of our most talented up-and-coming athletes and future Olympians at the AIS in Canberra.

The Skillaroos, representing Australia's best and brightest young trainees and apprentices, will compete at the 2009 International WorldSkills Competition, known as the 'Trade Olympics'.

Representing the Prime Minister of Australia will be The Hon. Senator Arbib, Minister for Employment Participation, who will present the Skillaroos with their official competition uniforms while giving words of advice from his days as a metal trades assistant.

The Skillaroos will then get some valuable tips from some of Australia's most promising young AIS athletes in the hope that some of their winning spirit rubs off.

WHO The WorldSkills Australia team consists of a group of 26 elite tradespeople who qualified from a pool of over 5000 young trainees and apprentices to represent Australia in their chosen trade category at the International WorldSkills Competition to be held in Calgary, Canada in September, 2009.

Senator Arbib, AIS future sporting stars and other distinguished guests will be present at the event to bid them a successful campaign and share some of their secrets for competition.

PHOTO Senator Arbib will present the official uniforms and will be available for photographs with the Skillaroos and future Olympians. The Senator will also get a chance to see some of our young tradies in action as they demonstrate why they are the best in their field.

Photo opportunities:

- Athletes and Skillaroos lined up kneeling on the track starting blocks
- Group shot of athletes and Skillaroos with their tools and sports equipment
- Skillaroos in a mock relay handing over their tools (wrench, hairdryer, secateurs etc.) to athletes
- Athletes stretching against a car with Skillaroo mechanics under the hood
- Athlete hurdling over a short brick wall that Skillaroo bricklayer is building
- Athlete and Skillaroo lighting a mock Olympic flame with an oxy torch

WHEN Monday 22nd June
10:00am to 11:00am – Official proceedings, including The Hon. Senator Arbib, Minister for Employment Participation
11:00am to 12:00pm – Photo opportunities with AIS athletes and Skillaroos

WHERE Australian Institute of Sport, Marathon Room
Leverrier Street, Bruce
ACT 2617

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