

Friday, 9 May 2008

PORTABLE FLOOR TO BOOST INDOOR SPORTS

The State Government has announced it will purchase a Portable Sports Floor to enable indoor sports such as netball to attract more major competitions and larger crowds to South Australia.

Recreation and Sport Minister Michael Wright says the portable floor will be a great asset for indoor sport in South Australia and will be ready for use by September.

“The Rann Government wants to ensure South Australia has the capacity to host high calibre women’s sporting events such as international netball tests,” he said.

“Organisations including Netball SA will use the floor for major competitions at venues like the Distinctive Homes Dome and Adelaide Entertainment Centre.

“This will increase netball’s crowd capacity for marquee events from 3100 at its home at ETSA Park to 7000 at the Dome or 12,000 at the Entertainment Centre.

“The Government has been talking to Netball SA in recent months about its move into the new Trans-Tasman competition, and the need for increased spectator capacity if South Australia is to host finals and international matches.

“We also want to make sure the floor is accessible to other indoor sports, allowing them to host major competitions, boost spectators and encourage greater participation in their sports.

“Sports such as badminton and volleyball will be able to use the floor for competitions at venues including the Adelaide SuperDrome, Adelaide Convention Centre and Adelaide Showgrounds,” said Mr Wright.

The Office for Recreation and Sport will manage the storage and maintenance of the Portable Sports Floor.

The State Government has contributed \$163,000 to the project with Netball SA providing \$20,000.