



John Barilaro MP

Minister for Small Business

Minister for Regional Tourism

MEDIA RELEASE

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FUTURE STARS KICKING GOALS AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Minister for Regional Tourism John Barilaro announced Australia's best young footballers will converge in NSW to compete in Football Federation Australia's (FFA) National Youth Championships, with the NSW Government securing the event for the next three years in Coffs Harbour.

"The FFA National Youth Championships are expected to contribute more than \$2 million in overnight visitor expenditure each year and will showcase Coffs Harbour's fantastic sporting facilities to a national audience," Mr Barilaro said.

"The FFA National Youth Championships has been based in Coffs Harbour since 2006.

"I'm delighted this event will return for an additional three years with the NSW Government committing funding through to 2017.

"The competition also plays a strategic role for the sport, developing youth talent and recognising the gifted young players that may eventually go on to play for Australia, perhaps even as future Matildas or Socceroos."

Member for Coffs Harbour Andrew Fraser said the FFA National Youth Championships are expected to attract more than 2,500 visitors from outside the region to Coffs Harbour each year.

"Coffs Harbour boasts a wealth of family-friendly attractions, making it a perfect fit for a youth event such as the Championships," Mr Fraser said.

"From one of the most recognisable and visited attractions, there's no shortage of things to do with the whole family."

The National Youth Championships are FFA's primary national football competition for the under-13 and under-14 boys', and under-13 and under 15 girls' age groups. The competition will see teams from each of the State Federations of the FFA compete over five days, with the girls' competition taking place in July and the boys' competition in September.

For more information about the FFA National Youth Championships, click on <http://www.visitnsw.com/>