



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Wednesday 14 November, 2012

### **MUNDINE v GEALE – RIVALRY SET FOR SYDNEY**

Minister for Tourism and Major Events, George Souris, welcomed the announcement that Sydney will host the IBF World Middleweight Title Fight between bitter rivals Anthony Mundine and Daniel Geale on Wednesday 30 January, 2013, at the Sydney Entertainment Centre.

“Today’s announcement reinforces Sydney’s position as a global events city, with the NSW sports events calendar fast becoming the benchmark for other states,” Mr Souris said.

“The IBF World Middleweight Title fight between Anthony Mundine and Daniel Geale is expected to draw more than 2000 interstate visitors and generate almost \$4 million in overnight visitor expenditure.”

Minister for Sport and Recreation, Graham Annesley, said: “This is the first time two Australians have fought for the IBF World Middleweight title.

“Daniel is the current IBF World Champion and Anthony is a former WBA and IBO world champion in middleweight and super-middleweight divisions.”

“Everyone is aware of the intense rivalry between the pair and it promises to be an adrenaline-charged match between two great champions,” Mr Annesley added.

Anthony Mundine said he was honoured to be fighting in his home town in front of “my fans”.

“I’d like to thank Destination NSW for their assistance in ensuring this fight remains in Sydney and look forward to putting on a show for everyone to see on January 30.”

Daniel Geale said this was the fight Australia wanted to see and having the NSW Government’s support was a huge coup for this event and more importantly, for boxing in this country.”

Match co-promoter, Gary Shaw, described it as “the biggest fight in Australian boxing history”.

“We are delighted to be able to bring it to Sydney which has a proud history of staging big fights and let me assure you they don't get bigger than this. Daniel is the hottest prospect in world boxing right now and will be desperate to avenge his controversial loss to Anthony in 2009.”

“For Anthony, this is an opportunity to not only claim a fourth world title, but also put on a show for the millions of fans who will be watching this fight around the globe. This is a once in a life time fight that will captivate not only fans in Sydney, but across Australia and the rest of the world.

“I'd like to thank the NSW Government, through Destination NSW, for their support in bringing this fight to Sydney and look forward to working together to ensure the event becomes a truly memorable sporting event.”

Destination NSW CEO, Sandra Chipchase, said: “The fight between Anthony Mundine and Daniel Geale will be a ‘cannot miss’ contest. Boxing fans across the country will be eager to seeing this extraordinary fight between two world champions held in NSW, the home of world class sport.”