

Kevin Greene MP
Minister for Gaming and Racing
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MEDIA RELEASE



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NSW GOVERNMENT WELCOMES AFC ASIAN CUP BID 2015

Minster for Sport and Recreation and Major Events Kevin Greene today congratulated the FFA on the presentation of its Asian Cup Bid Book to the Asian Football Confederation in Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Greene said the FFA is bidding to host the AFC Asian Cup 2015 finals, which are played over 3 weeks in January. The AFC Asian Cup 2011 finals are to be held in Qatar 7- 29 January 2011.

“The AFC Asian Cup is the biggest sporting event in Asia and will be a fantastic opportunity to showcase Australia to Asia and the rest of the world,” Mr Greene said.

“And with the world class sporting facilities that we have here, it is a wonderful opportunity to showcase Sydney in particular.

“In an added bonus for New South Wales and Sydney, if the bid is successful, the event would be held at the same time as the Sydney Festival, providing a wonderful opportunity to lift the profile of the Festival internationally, particularly into some of our key regional arts, cultural and tourism markets.

“The AFC Asian Cup 2015 finals, and the Sydney Festival running in conjunction with the event, will make New South Wales event central in January 2015,” he said.

Mr Greene said the Bid has full Federal Government support and also the backing of the NSW government and other Australian government partners Queensland, Victoria and the ACT.

“We have a tremendous track record of staging major sporting events in Sydney and NSW, from Rugby World Cups to Olympic Games and more recently World Youth Day and the World Masters Games,” he said.

“The AFC Asian Cup 2015 finals would be a wonderful addition to this list, and Sydney would be a wonderful place for the final.

“The Qantas Socceroos showed in the FIFA World Cup finals in South Africa recently that on their day they can match it with the best in the world and it would be fantastic if they could deliver the first piece of international silverware for the national team on home soil in 2015.”

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