



Creating Champions
Highlighting Indigenous Hockey Programs
3rd December 2009

There has been much work done through-out Australia in particular in Queensland to advance and increase indigenous and Torres Strait Islander participation in the sport of hockey.

Hockey Qld Remote and Indigenous Hockey Program (Remote Hockey) approached Hockey Australia to look at involving the Kookaburra's at Champions Trophy to highlight and promote the programs being delivered through-out Australia.

Remote Hockey was established in 2002 and offers opportunities to expand horizons of thought, self awareness and self development through Hockey Art, Education and Player Development. Following extensive community consultation and a greater understanding of Indigenous culture and traditions, programs combining the positive benefits of sport with cultural traditions were designed and delivered to members of these communities.

Hockey Art is one of these programs and it is designed to combine sport and culture through the painting of images reflecting indigenous traditions, culture and dreaming on hockey equipment in an effort to use this equipment as a form of "Message Stick"

Kevin Edmonstone is part of the Idindji people of the Cairns and surrounding region. He is an artist working with the Remote Hockey Program in Queensland not only creating unique artwork but also assisting in art clinics for young people.

Kevin did not play hockey but through the Program he has become involved and has attended the Kookaburra games when they play in Cairns with his family. He is one of the stolen generation and has worked very hard to achieve recognition for his work.

Kevin was asked to create an original image representing the relationship with the people and programs involved in indigenous and Torres Strait Islander communities and its connection to the Kookaburras



This design represents the role the family and the country plays in the journey to become a Kookaburra. The dots on the handle represent the initial journey each of us take when we play hockey, the diamond image on the stick represents family and country. The dots and lines outlining the Kookaburra represent the challenges and the stages you need to achieve before becoming a Kookaburra.

This design will be included on warm up shirts which we hope the Kookaburras will wear on 3rd December 2009 on the day scheduled as Indigenous Day at Champions.

The title of the artwork is “Creating Champions” – Highlighting Indigenous Hockey Programs.

A hockey stick has also been designed from this artwork to be used by Des Abbott to further promote and highlight the programs.



We hope the members of the Kookaburras will support this promotion. Presentations of Hockey Art will be made to each team competing on Thursday 3rd December 2009. The Presentation Sticks

include images of traditional headdress from the Torres Strait and animals and sea life that is integral to the remote communities of the Torres Strait Islands.



We are hoping Hockey Australia will make a presentation of a Hockey Ball representing Indigenous Participation in the sport with the helping hands the Hockey Australia community.



Hockey Queensland Remote and Indigenous Hockey Program will be exhibiting original pieces of Hockey Art within the Hockey Australia Game Development Marquee together with photographic images of hockey programs in the remote communities.

For more information see www.remotehockey.com

Any comments you have on these design, artwork and programs would be sincerely appreciated, please send to julie.mcneil4@bigpond.com

The program wishes each member of the Kookaburra future success.