



The Hon. Andrew Stoner MP
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for Trade and Investment
Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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**GREEN LIGHT FOR FOOTBALL GROUNDS AT SPEERS
POINT PARK**

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services Andrew Stoner today confirmed a lease that will enable the development of a regional soccer centre at Speers Point Park.

Mr Stoner visited Speers Point today with Member for Lake Macquarie Greg Piper, Member for Charlestown Andrew Cornwell, Member for Maitland Robyn Parker and Member for Swansea Garry Edwards, to announce the lease to Northern NSW Football Limited, manager of the proposed football grounds.

“The Lake Macquarie Regional Football facility will be located on Crown land and freehold lands owned by Lake Macquarie City Council,” Mr Stoner said.

“The Crown land involved forms part of the reserve managed by council as the Speers Point Recreation Reserve Trust.

“The proposed facility will be a major football event centre for the Hunter, bringing in teams from around the region to compete on ten five-a-side synthetic football courts and two international-size synthetic football fields.

“A multi-purpose administration building and a sealed car park with 120 car parking spaces will also be constructed as part of the facility.

“The project is costing \$11.3 million in a partnership between the NSW Government, Lake Macquarie City Council, Northern NSW Football and Macquarie Football.

“The NSW Government has provided \$7.3 million of funding under the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund with the remaining funds provided by Northern NSW Football.

“Northern NSW Football aim to have construction completed by mid-November to enable Lake Macquarie City Council to host the football component of the 2014 International Children’s Games in December.

“Once the football grounds are developed, they will provide talented football players with access to quality training facilities for high skills development in the world’s biggest sport.”