



****Media Release****

16th July 2024

PCYC Nations of Origin Promotes Reconciliation and Cultural Identity through Sport

PCYC NSW is excited to announce the 10th annual Nations of Origin tournament, taking place from July 16th-19th, 2024, in Western Sydney. This four-day sporting event follows NAIDOC Week, further enriching the celebration of First Nations culture and heritage. The tournament will bring together over 900 youth from across NSW, representing 25 Aboriginal Nations, to promote reconciliation, cultural identity, education, and sport.

Nations of Origin aims to empower both Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth by celebrating the rich tapestry of Aboriginal culture, acknowledging its impact on our shared history. As part of the tournament young people represent their local Aboriginal Nation in rugby league, netball, football fives, basketball and gymnastics competitions and teams must consist of a 70:30 ratio of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal young people. To be eligible to play participants must have 80% school attendance and teams must be engaged with and endorsed by their local Elder/s. This competition builds skills, character, leadership, and encourages cultural respect and connections among young people.

"The Nations of Origin tournament is more than just a sporting event; it's a celebration of cultural identity and a powerful platform for promoting reconciliation," said PCYC NSW CEO Ben Hobby. "As the competition follows the celebration of NAIDOC Week, it is especially significant as we honour the history, culture, and achievements of Indigenous peoples. This event fosters leadership and lasting friendships, leaving a legacy that honours the elders whose custodianship of the land and culture we respect and acknowledge."

The annual Nations of Origin tournament is a multifaceted program offering youth the opportunity to develop leadership skills, forge lasting friendships, and honour the elders who have guided them. **For further information please contact Jeanette Lasorsa, Media, and Communications Officer on jlasorsa@pcycnsw.org.au or 0482 163 885.**

PCYC NSW is a charity delivering a broad range of youth and community activities and programs. Our belief in people channels their energy, creates positive change, and builds healthy habits. With 66 clubs across the state, PCYC provides a safe and engaging environment helping each generation find a positive pathway forward. To learn more about PCYC NSW, visit www.pcycnsw.org.au.



Tournament Schedule:

Rugby League	Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th July 8:00am - 4:30pm	Whalan Reserve, Catlin Close Whalan
Football Fives	Wednesday 17th July 8:00am - 4:00pm	PCYC Hawkesbury, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor
Mixed Team Gym & Free G	Wednesday 17th July 8:00am - 4:00pm	PCYC Hawkesbury, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor
Basketball Male & Female	Thursday 18th July 8:00am - 4:00pm	PCYC Hawkesbury, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor
Mixed Netball	Friday 19th July 8:30am - 4:00pm	PCYC Hawkesbury, 16 Stewart St, South Windsor