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Stars in push for Masters

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SOME of the biggest names in Territory sport have united in encouraging locals to participate in the upcoming Australian Masters Athletics Championships.

NT Athletics yesterday announced their ambassadors and team members for the meet, who are from a variety of sporting backgrounds.

"No More" campaign founder Charlie King joined Commonwealth Games and World Championships representative Crystal Attenborough in marking the three-month countdown until the over 30s event.

They were joined by fellow ambassador and Indigenous Marathon Foundation representative Emma Cameron, who said she was thrilled to be involved.

"I'm really excited and it means a lot. Being a Darwin

girl and a Territorian, to be able to show my family and friends that you are able to do this past 30, it's about having a go," Cameron said.

Basketball's Travis Ellis, Netball's Tara Everett and Peta Trahari, as well as AFLNT umpires' manager Mark Noonan, joined Brothers rugby league coach Michael MacLean, triathlete Jo Duncan and hockey's Julie Hoare in promoting the meet.

NT Athletics encourage Territorians to participate, no matter their sporting history.

Chairperson of the Darwin AMA Championships Steve McGugan said momentum was building nicely for the event, to be held over the queen's birthday long weekend from June 9-12.

"It's great to see "other sports" people embracing the once in every eight year opportunity for the NT," he said.



Crystal Attenborough, Charlie King, and Emma Cameron are ambassadors for the National Masters Championships to be held in Darwin

Picture: MICHAEL FRANCHI

"We are really hopeful of bringing many of the "other sports" and health minded people together through the opportunity to represent the NT at a National Championship, which is going to be like an old school athletics carnival."

Competitions will run in five-year age blocks from 30-34, 35-39, up to 90 plus.

Registrations close on May 1 and no late entries will be accepted. They can be completed online at the NT Masters athletics website.

Support for new athletes is

available in training and come and try meets, beginning this Friday from 6.30pm at Marra-ra.

Both Nova Peris and Patrick Johnson will act as team mentors for the Championships and are both chances of competing.