

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Could you be Australia's next sporting champion?

The Australian Sports Commission's National Talent Identification and Development (NTID) program is still searching for Australia's next Olympians.

UTAS is one of 28 NTID Testing Assessment Centres (TAC) established across Australia to help discover whether young athletes have what it takes to participate at the elite level.

The next free testing session will get underway next week (**4.30pm Monday 16 November 2009**) at the Human Movement Gym at the UTAS Newnham Campus, for male and females who have a natural sporting ability aged between 12-24.

At this testing session participants will be tested on standing height, sitting height, body mass, arm span, bench pull, vertical jump, 40m sprint and 20m shuttle run.

Dr James Fell, from the UTAS School of Life Science said the program is designed primarily to identify those with the potential to achieve sporting status.

"However, we also use the testing centre as a means of teaching protocols to give students experience in how to conduct testing.

"I am also looking forward to increasing the number of clients using the Talent Centre by making it available to sporting clubs too," he said.

Nine NTID athletes were chosen as part of the 2008 Beijing Olympic team, while 89 NTID athletes were selected on national teams in the last year.

Currently 497 athletes are being supported by NTID scholarships.

Athletes must book into the session online. For bookings and more information on the NTID program please logon to www.ausport.gov.au/eTID and follow the prompts.

For further information/interviews, please contact Dr James Fell, Phone: 03 6324 5485

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