

13 August 2012

Suncorp Bank Celebrates Queensland Rail Bulls Masters Partnership with a Cricketing Legends Challenge at the Ekka

Australia's leading regional bank, Suncorp Bank, has announced a three-year major partnership with the Queensland Rail Bulls Masters, celebrating the partnership with the Suncorp Bank Cricketing Legends Challenge, a free community event to be held on Saturday 18 August 2012 at the Brisbane Ekka.

Suncorp Bank Community Ambassador Adam Gilchrist, Australian Year of the Farmer Ambassador Glenn McGrath together with Queensland Rail Bulls Masters cricketing greats Jimmy Maher, Ian Healy and Andy Bichel will be giving visitors the chance to participate in a range of interactive cricket activities, chat to the cricket legends and have merchandise signed.

Suncorp Bank CEO David Foster said the Bank was proud to partner with the Queensland Rail Bulls Masters, who were equally as committed as Suncorp Bank in engaging with and supporting rural and regional Queensland communities.

"This partnership represents our shared recognition of the importance of fully supporting and developing these Queensland communities," Mr Foster said.

"Queensland remains the heartland for Suncorp Bank, and we've been supporting rural and regional Queensland communities, local businesses, producers and families for more than 110 years.

"We're always looking for ways to add further value and to ensure the needs of our communities are met well into the future, and our partnership with the Queensland Rail Bulls Masters is a perfect way to demonstrate this, providing them with a wonderful opportunity to interact with these cricketing legends and benefit from fundraising activities to improve local facilities.

The Queensland Rail Bulls Masters will be heading to Gladstone in mid-September, followed by visits to Ipswich and the Gold Coast. In 2013 they'll make their way to towns including Charters Towers, Chinchilla, Townsville and Cairns. Local communities can look forward to events including sportsman's dinners, hospital visits, and charity fundraisers to name just a few.

Suncorp Bank CEO David Foster said the Suncorp Bank Cricketing Legends Challenge was a terrific way to celebrate the partnership, and was very fitting to be held at the Ekka, an iconic event that prides itself on bringing together city and country folk from all over Queensland each year.

"We've been long-time supporters of the Ekka, and celebrating the best of rural Australia remains important to us. That's why we're also a Major Partner of the Australian Year of the Farmer in 2012, another way we are helping highlight the importance of our producers and their contribution to our daily lives," Mr Foster said.



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Details of the Suncorp Bank Cricketing Legends Challenge to celebrate the Queensland Rail Bulls Masters partnership as follows: (media welcome)

Date: Time:	Saturday 18 August 2012 4.30pm – 6.00pm
Venue:	Main Arena, RNA Showgrounds (Ekka)
Cost:	Free
MC:	Billy J Smith
Talent:	Suncorp Bank Community Ambassador - Adam Gilchrist
	Queensland Rail Bulls Masters - Jimmy Maher, Ian Healy and Andy Bichel
	Australian Year of the Farmer Ambassador - Glenn McGrath
	Suncorp Bank CEO David Foster
Activities:	'Classic Catches', 'Hit Glenn for a Six', Meet and Greet the cricket Celebrities
	(NOTE: children between the ages of 10 – 16years only for the interactive
	cricket activities)

<u>Read here</u> for more information about Suncorp Bank. <u>Read here</u> for more information about Queensland Rail Bulls Masters. <u>Read here</u> for more information on the Australian Year of the Farmer.

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About Suncorp:

Suncorp Group includes leading general insurance, banking, life insurance, superannuation and investment brands in Australia and New Zealand. The Group has around 16,000 employees and relationships with nine million customers. It is a Top 25 ASX listed company with over \$95 billion in assets. Today Suncorp is Australia's leading regional bank, largest domestic general insurance group, and second largest in New Zealand and has representation in 450 offices, branches and agencies throughout Australia and New Zealand.

About the Queensland Rail Bulls Masters:

The Queensland Rail Bulls Masters is a not-for-profit organisation which was formed in 2010 by exinternational cricketers Jimmy Maher, Andrew Bichel, Martin Kent, Michael Kasprowicz and Ian Healy. The organization aims to foster and develop cricket throughout Queensland, provide community support and assistance to charities, and promote sport in Indigenous communities. Queensland Rail came on board as naming rights sponsor in late 2010 and since then, tours have been held across the state in places like Chinchilla, Mount Isa, Charters Towers, Townsville, Cairns, Port Douglas, Toowoomba, Kingaroy and Murgon.



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