



MWARFC



**10th Asian Australian Football
Championships 2009**
Kuala Lumpur

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10TH ASIAN AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2009

**Action packed event on September 5, with 400 Aussie expats flying in for the championship.
Malaysia as hosting country and first time participation from local secondary school (U18).**

Kuala Lumpur, August 12, 2009 – If you're looking for a weekend event that combines speed, action and agility, you should check out the 10th Asian Australian Football Championship 2009, happening this September 5, 2009 (Saturday) at the Royal Selangor Polo Ground, in Kuala Lumpur.

Australian Football, or commonly known as *Aussie Rules*, is a fast, action packed, body contact sport, which is similar to rugby, but with its own distinctive features.

"Aussie Rules has grown increasingly popular throughout the world, especially Asia. With Australian expatriates and locals alike, we work together to keep the "love of the game" going – by organizing a yearly championship regionally," said Mr. Peter Habel, Tournament Director of the Asian Australian Football Championship.

This year, Malaysia has the honour of hosting the 10th anniversary of the championship. The Malaysian Warriors, or Malaysian Warriors Australian Rules Football Club (MWARFC), will be hosting close to 400 players, participating in 27 games.

"12 teams from around Asia will be flying in to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the game. They include teams from Dubai, Singapore, Bali, Hong Kong, Japan, Indonesia, Philippines and more," added Habel.

The teams that will be competing for the title of "Asian Champions" include: Dubai Heat, Singapore Wombats, Bali Geckos, Hong Kong Dragons, Japan Goannas, Jakarta Bintangas, China Reds, Vietnam Swans, Laos Elephants, Thailand Tigers, Philippine Eagles and hosts, the Malaysian Warriors.

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The teams will be flown in by main sponsors, Air Asia, and will be residing at the Crowne Plaza Mutiara Kuala Lumpur.

“With close to 400 Australian expatriates flying in just before the tournament on September 5, it’s a great way of promoting Malaysia as a choice location for both tourism, and as an expatriate friendly country,” mentioned Habel.

Starting at 8.30am all the way till 6.30pm, the teams will all play four preliminary games, with the top four progressing to the semi-finals. The winning semi-finalists will contest in the Grand Final. The triumphant team will be acknowledged as the 2009 Asian Australian Football Champions.

The Asian All Star Team, made up from best twenty four players from the day’s action, will be selected following the Grand Final.

There will also be two Asian junior competitions held on the day involving teams from Singapore, Jakarta, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

“We foresee large crowds of Malaysians as well as expatriates, who will be coming to support the game. Big blokes flying high in the air would certainly be a huge draw!” commented Habel.

This year, will also be special for the hosting organizer, Malaysian Warriors, as they will be fielding an Under 18 team for the first time. The team has been largely recruited from St John’s Institution.....all Malaysian boys!

“We’re really proud of the 40 local secondary school players, who have been training hard, and learning ropes of the Aussie Rules game. It’s our first real effort to spread the Australian code of football to a wider Malaysian community,” he further added.

All are welcomed to the 10th Asian Australian Football Championship 2009, at the Royal Selangor Polo Ground, in Kuala Lumpur, this coming September 5, 2009 (Saturday) from 8.30 am – 6.30 pm. Entrance is free. Kindly visit: www.malaysianwarriors.com for more information.

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About the Malaysian Warriors Australian Rules Football Club

The Malaysian Warriors Australian Rules Football Club (MWAFC) was founded in the late 1980's by Aussie expatriates working and living in Kuala Lumpur, who carried with them a love of the "Great Game".

Since 2000, the club has continued to grow in strength and the Malaysian Warriors have carved out a reputation for their fierce grit and determination to establish a very strong position as one of the most formidable playing clubs in the region. For more information visit: www.malaysianwarriors.com

About Australian Rules Football

Australian Rules Football is a fast moving, hard-hitting brand of football renowned for its draw as a spectator sport Down Under. Played in an oval field, players must continually run and contest for the ball in rules similar to rugby, but with its own distinct features.

Now, gaining momentum in Malaysia and throughout Asia, Australian Rules requires agility, strength, endurance and quick decision making. The professionalism of the sport and its wide appeal have made Aussie Rules a multi-million dollar industry in Australia and given rise to leagues through out the world. For more information visit: www.afl.com.au

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