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MEDIA RELEASE

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SYDNEY SET FOR SUPER 2019 NRL GRAND FINAL

Anticipation is building as the 2019 NRL Grand Final at ANZ Stadium draws closer, with the Finals Series launched today ahead of the opening matches this weekend.

Captains from the league's leading men's teams gathered in Sydney today, eager to return to the Harbour City for the NRL Telstra Premiership Grand Final on 6 October.

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said Sydney would welcome NRL enthusiasts from around the country next month.

"The Grand Final is certainly the holy grail for the country's rugby league fans, and in the past five years more than 400,000 people have seen the action unfold live at ANZ Stadium," Mr Ayres said.

"More than a quarter of these have been visitors to Sydney, who have stayed for a night, putting heads on beds, and spending in our restaurants, bars and precincts.

"Over \$108 million in tourism related expenditure has been generated for our State's economy through the NRL grand final in the past five years."

NSW is the home of major rugby league events, with a stellar line up of matches and tournaments still to come in 2019 including the inaugural Rugby League World Cup 9s and the Trans-Tasman Test, both in October.

Minister for Sport John Sidoti said the 2019 Grand Final would offer spectators a full schedule of entertainment.

"For the first time the women's and men's Grand Finals will be played back-to-back following the Intrust Super State Championship Grand Final," Mr Sidoti said.

"I can't wait to see the best women's and men's teams competing for Grand Final glory on October 6. This will be a rugby league feast showcasing the best this brilliant game has to offer."

NRL chief executive officer Todd Greenberg said while it's been a brilliant season so far, the past 25 rounds don't matter.

"Nothing is certain, and the fate of every team could change in a moment. All of our teams have so much going for them," Mr Greenberg said.

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