Friday 6th May 2011

**NSW CRICKETERS ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO SLOW DOWN**

Members of the RTA SpeedBlitz Blues squad are visiting Port Macquarie High School today to teach students about the importance of slowing down on the roads.

The visit is part of the ongoing RTA SpeedBlitz Blues *On the Road* program with sessions at 10.10am, 11.25am and 1.50pm.

NSW players Beau Casson and Joe Mennie will visit the school to take part in addressing the students on the importance of slowing down.

Member for Port Macquarie, Leslie Williams said "*On the Road* involves members of the New South Wales cricket team – the RTA SpeedBlitz Blues – travelling to schools and TAFEs around the state to take students through interactive and educational activities to demonstrate the importance of being responsible on the road.

“Educating young drivers on road safety is a priority for the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government,” Mrs Williams said.

“Speeding related crashes continue to be the biggest killer on NSW roads – particularly among young drivers.

“That’s why it is important to get out to schools across the state and educate the next generation of drivers about the importance of responsible driving and the need to drive within the speed limit,” Mrs Williams said.

Beau Casson said the team was proud to be out in the community speaking about the importance of safe driving.

“Unfortunately, nearly everyone knows someone who has been involved in a crash,” Beau said.

“That’s why we are at Port Macquarie High School today to help teach young drivers the serious consequences of speeding. We hope leading by example will encourage others to follow.”
The *On the Road* program was launched in 2003 and has seen cricketers visit more than 200 schools around NSW and speak to more than 50,000 students about the consequences of speeding.

Players will be joined by a member of the local police force and an RTA representative who take the students through a series of educational activities including:

- An anti-speeding DVD illustrating the consequences of speeding
- A bowling activity demonstrating how accuracy is gained by slowing down and controlling speed to reinforce the ‘Slow down. Take control’ message, and;
- Presentations from both the RTA and police force emphasising the importance of being responsible on the road.

NSW Cricketers also support the RTA’s Slow Down Pledge: [www.slowdownpledge.com.au](http://www.slowdownpledge.com.au)

The Slow Down Pledge is an initiative encouraging drivers and passengers, through social networking site Facebook, to take the pledge to slow down on the road.