

16 April 2026

Penrith Panthers Touch Down in Darwin Ahead of NRL Clash with Dolphins

Airport Development Group (ADG) has officially welcomed the Penrith Panthers to Darwin ahead of their highly anticipated Round 7 NRL showdown against the Dolphins at TIO Stadium on Friday 17 April.

Arriving through Darwin International Airport, the NRL heavyweights received a warm Top End welcome as excitement builds across the Territory for what promises to be a fierce championship contest.

The match forms part of the National Rugby League's ongoing commitment to bringing elite sporting events to the Northern Territory, delivering economic, tourism and community benefits while inspiring the next generation of rugby league fans.

Airport Development Group Executive General Manager Commercial, Tristan Cribb, said major sporting events play an important role in connecting communities and showcasing Darwin on the national stage.

"Sport is deeply embedded in Australia's social fabric, bringing communities together and creating shared experiences that extend far beyond the field," Mr Cribb said.

"We are thrilled to welcome the Penrith Panthers to Darwin and proud that Darwin International Airport continues to play a gateway role in delivering world-class sporting events to the Territory."

NRL NT General Manager Tony Crowe said the Round 7 clash highlights rugby league's strong and growing presence in the Northern Territory.

"Hosting NRL matches in Darwin gives local fans the opportunity to experience elite rugby league firsthand while strengthening pathways and participation across the Territory," Mr Crowe said.

"The energy around this game reflects the passion Territorians have for rugby league and the positive impact these events bring to our community."

Fans can expect an electric atmosphere when the Panthers and Dolphins face off under lights at TIO Stadium, with thousands set to attend the blockbuster encounter.

-ENDS-