# Transcript - NDIS visits the National Cricket Inclusion Championships

AARON DRAGWIDGE: The National Cricket Inclusion Championships (NCIC) came about because we had three groups of cricketers with disabilities.

Blind and low vision had national championships every two years, the Deaf and hard of hearing cricketers every four years, and cricketers with an intellectual disability didn’t have an opportunity. So, we brought it all under the one umbrella as a great celebration of cricket.

BRENDAN: It’s happened for the last three years now and it’s amazing. I come down and see guys performing each year, getting better each year.

AARON: NDIS has helped me get here to represent Queensland.

ALEX: It’s an absolute honour. I never thought it would happen.

JOHN: This is my third time that I’ve competed in the NCIC. I played last year and the year before. We won the shield last year, which was very, very exciting and I really enjoyed my time.

AARON DRAGWIDGE: This is about celebrating ability and talent in cricket. Lots of people walk past the games and ask, “what’s this game?”, so it’s really fantastic to be part of that and seeing the impact that has in a broader sense in the community.

HAYDEN: It’s probably more about the mates you make. You’ve still got that competitive streak in you but it’s more about the friendships you make. I’ve been on the NDIS for probably just under a year now and the support it’s given me has been unbelievable. I wouldn’t be where I am today without numerous people behind me back at home through the NDIS.

AARON DRAGWIDGE: I think it’s really important to have sports at a national level to be inclusive. The impact this has had on the players has been really huge. In a lot of cases it’s changed their lives.

BRENDAN: Well I come from a small town in Gympie, so it’s a big, big thing for me.

AARON: I feel really proud.

ZAC: You wouldn’t find many guys that have come out of regional Victoria that play not just for their state but also for their country.

TYSON: With my twin brother here by my side, I feel like anything’s possible.

AARON DRAGWIDGE: Anyone who is keen to get involved in cricket, no matter what your ability is, you should contact your local cricket club or go on playcricket.com.au

And if you’re interested in being involved in the National Cricket Inclusion Championships, jump on NCIC.cricket.com.au