

MEDIA RELEASE:

Territory Excels at National Awards

17 September 2019

The very best hotel and accommodation venues from across Australia took to the field at National Awards for Excellence hosted on the Gold Coast today. Our Territory winners were:

- **The Beachfront Hotel – Best Sporting Entertainment Venue**
- **SKYCITY Darwin – Best TAB Licensed Venue**
- **Curtin Springs – Best Tourism Initiative**
- **Mick Burns – Johnnie Walker Hall of Fame**

After considerable investment and redevelopment, the iconic Nightcliff foreshore pub has been crowned 'Best Sportsbar' in Australia.

"The new look Beachfront Hotel has undergone a complete transformation. It has the look and feel of an upmarket beachside hotel, with a state-of-the-art sports bar, modern facilities and customer focus," said Des Crowe, Chief Executive Officer, Hospitality NT.

The sporting theme continued for NT businesses, with SKYCITY Darwin being named the Best TAB Licensed Venue.

"Clearly the nation thinks there is no better place for a punt than up in the Territory, with SKYCITY Darwin leading the charge," Mr Crowe said.

One of the NT's most iconic wayside inns, Curtin Springs, took out the 'Best Tourism Initiative' National Award, which is a true testament to the hard work of the Severin Family.

"A great accolade for a true pioneering family who have done a great deal to open up our Red Centre, and who continue to be leaders of our local industry," Mr Crowe said.

Also announced at the National Awards for Excellence was the induction of the NT's Mick Burns into the National AHA 'Johnnie Walker Hall of Fame'.

"This award recognises the significant contribution of Mick Burns to advance our local hospitality industry on a national stage, including being on the National AHA Board for over 15 years. Mick's advice and championing of all things Territory continues to pay dividends to the local NT hospitality industry to this day," Mr Crowe said.

The AHA National Awards for Excellence are annual awards contested by the winners of Awards for Excellence from every state and territory.

"I congratulate all Territory nominees and winners, tonight's strong showing puts us in a good position to ensure we continue to lead the nation in offering the very best product in the very best part of the country," Mr Crowe said.