



AUSTRALIAN STEELERS BUTCHER TEAM POWERED BY PORK

Australia's top butchers will be powered by pork when they head to the TriNations international butchery competition this September.

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Australian Pork Limited will be the major sponsor of The Australian Steelers when they take on New Zealand and Britain in Auckland.

The Tri-Nations butchery competition pitches teams of six butchers against each other in a three-hour test of skills, innovation and presentation.

Representing Australia this year will be:

- Michael James, Carina North Quality Meats, Queensland
- Matthew Papandrea, Joe Papandrea Quality Meats, Bossley Park, NSW
- Adam Stratton, Tender Gourmet Butchery, NSW
- Ben Barrow, head butchery teacher South Western Sydney Institute, NSW
- Tom Bouchier, Peter Bouchier Butchers of Distinction, Victoria, and
- Paul Brady, Tender Gourmet Butchery, NSW

Michael James will captain the team for the third year, after representing Australia for four years.

"We have a great team and we've been working hard to develop our skills and products every year," Mr James said.

"It can be challenging to source the right ingredients when we compete overseas and the time pressure is always a factor but we spend a lot of time training to ensure we've done all the preparation possible. This is our chance to showcase how skilled Australian butchers are and the diversity of skills required in this field. We're hoping this year the Australian Steelers will blunt the run of the Sharp Blacks."

Australian Pork Limited marketing manager, Peter Haydon, said for the first time pork would be used in the competition.

"Pork is the most-widely consumed meats in the world so we're pleased these world-class butchers will be showcasing its diversity this year," he said.

"We're pleased to sponsor the Australian Steelers because these butchers are leaders in their field and we know they love Australian pork. We're looking forward to seeing the products they create and getting some pork on their customers' forks!"

The Australian Steelers will head to Auckland on 5 September and compete for the TriNations title on 10 September. The Kiwi team, the Sharp Blacks, are not only hosting the 2015 competition, but also defending their back-to-back titles. The British team are expected to step up their skills after losing at home in 2014.

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