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hile many of Australia's youth were online gaming or playing on their Wii Consoles, 80 cadets went head-to-head in demanding activities as part of the Chief of Army's Cadet Team Challenge.

Team Challenge. Held at Kokoda Barracks in Canungra from March 4 to 6, the event featured quick-decision exercises, ceremonial drill, field navigation, first aid, radio procedures, engineering tasks, leadership and teamwork.

This was the first year the CA Cadet Team Challenge was held in Queensland and, after the recent deluge of rain, the wet, muddy conditions only added to the challenge of competing.

After a hotly contested competition, Australian Army Cadets Commander Brigadier John Withers announced the champion team as South Queensland, closely followed by South Australia in second place. North Queensland won the RSM-A's ceremonial drill trophy.

Cadet Under Officer Andrew Scott-Mackenzie, from the winning South Queensland team said winning the challenge had been a relief and it felt fantastic.

"We trained very hard as a team to achieve this result." Chief of Army Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie was impressed with the cadets' enthusiasm, saying the future of Australia was in good hands.

"The Army cadets are performing really well and they are delivering what will be Australia's next generation of leaders, whether that's in uniform or in other walks of life," he said. Cadet Under Officer Cody Preston said he had looked forward to this event after four years of developing his skills in his unit.

"It's great to represent NSW and I am hoping to take away good experiences, such as the ability to make quick decisions and participate in a team," Cadet Under Officer Preston said.



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