

Deaf Sports Australia E-News

Passion Through Sport



November 2010

A background photograph showing a person in a white shirt and dark trousers standing at a podium on a stage. The podium has a banner with the Deaf Sports Australia logo. The person appears to be speaking or presenting. The audience is visible in the foreground, seated in rows of chairs.

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It has been a very busy month for Deaf Sports Australia. We successfully held our 29th Annual General Meeting on 20 November, attended by 13 of our 16 Full Members. It was a straight-forward AGM, with Phil Harper and I re-elected for three-year terms. Paul Grogan of the Australian Sports Commission was a guest at our AGM. As per our Constitution, the Board of Directors elect their President and Vice President annually at the first Board Meeting following the AGM, which will take place on 8 December.

Congratulations to DeafACT and Deaf Volleyball Australia - they were endorsed as DSA's 17th and 18th Full Members at our AGM. DeafACT brings the total of State/Territory Members to five (along with Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia) and Deaf Volleyball Australia is the 13th National Deaf Sporting Organisation to be affiliated to DSA. Their contact details can be found on our website - DSA looks forward to working with them!

Richard Pearce delivered an information session about the 2012 Australian Deaf Games that was well-received by our Members. Draft registration fees, sport venues and key details were shared with Members for consultation ahead of the official One Year to Go launch in January 2011.

In the evening, we successfully launched the inaugural Deaflympians Club in front of over 100 former Deaflympians, friends and family at Rydges on Swanston. Led by Cindy-Lu Bailey OAM and starring Andrew Swan MBE, two of our greatest-ever Deaflympians, each attending Deaflympian received a commemorative pin and there was a display of past memorabilia dating back to the 1965 World Games for the Deaf, which was the first Games that Australia participated in.

We also held our annual Sports Awards that evening. Congratulations go to the following winners of the 2010 Deaf Sports Awards who are outlined on page 4.

We received several nominations for each category, which were then whittled down to three finalists presented on the night. The above winners were very worthy winners - with Reece and Melinda receiving recognition for their outstanding efforts at the Taipei 2009 Deaflympic Games.

Check out the photos of the events from 20 November elsewhere in this eNews! Many thanks to Irena Farinacci for putting on the entire program of events, ably supported by Craig Dodson and the Board. Also, thanks to Auslan Services for sponsoring the events - very much appreciated!

On Friday 26 November the Minister for Sport, Sen. Mark Arbib, made an announcement regarding participation funding packages for Australian sport, one of the outcomes of the Crawford Report. Disappointingly, Deaf Sports Australia (and no other disability sport organisation for that matter) received new funding. The announcement can be found here:

[http://www.ausport.gov.au/news/releases/story_405631_government_invests_record_\\$11m_to_boost_participation_in_sport](http://www.ausport.gov.au/news/releases/story_405631_government_invests_record_$11m_to_boost_participation_in_sport)

DSA submitted a comprehensive proposal for participation funding, aligning with the *Active Deaf Australians* Proposal that we submitted to Minister Ellis in April, and again to Minister Arbib last month. To receive zero dollars is extremely disappointing and DSA is now taking immediate action on this with the Minister's Office and ASC. Further details and updates will be shared with our Members and via this eNews.

A reminder to our readers - if you have not yet registered your details on our new National Participation Database. If you visit www.deafsports.org.au and click on Subscribe, you will be able to enter your participation details.

Yours in deaf sports, Brent Phillips



With the recent DSA Annual General Meeting and Sports Awards being held last week it is an opportune time to stop and reflect on the last 12 months at DSA. My immediate thought is that it has been a year of innovation and development for the organisation. I am proud of the fact that we have implemented a number of new programs, improved our existing communication material and developed a blueprint for the future of DSA.

A great step forward for DSA was developing and implementing our schools education workshop series which saw us visit 11 schools and over 300 deaf and hard of hearing children. The workshops enabled DSA to connect with the next generation of the deaf sporting community and promote the health and social benefits of sports, sporting opportunities available and profiling deaf role models.

Earlier this year we broke new ground by holding our Women in Sport Workshop (supported by the Australian Sports Commission) to help identify and support more female leaders in deaf sport. Each DSA Member organisation sent representatives to attend the workshop and DSA has identified a further 5 -10 potential young females to attend. The workshop saw much important discussion and it is hoped that many of those who attended the workshop will become future leaders.

Over the last year DSA has made a number of changes to our monthly newsletter (e-news) to make it a more relevant and enjoyable newsletter to read. Some of the main changes include a monthly focus on a DSA member sport, interviews with athletes (past and present), more photos and an easier to read layout. In addition to E-news DSA undertook a major review and overhaul of our Facebook page. Facebook is becoming increasingly important as a communication mechanism and also can provide opportunities to connect with new people who may not access more traditional communication mechanisms. DSA's current Facebook page has over 500 members from all over the globe, which illustrates how important it is to us. Keeping up with the times DSA also entered the world of twitter.

We have also improved our website which now has an integrated National Participation

Database. This is crucial for DSA as it finally allows us to gather data and statistics on participation rates and levels amongst deaf and hard of hearing Australians. Importantly, it provides us with the necessary evidence when approaching Government for further targeted support.

Much work has also been done on looking at DSA's future in Australian sport and we prepared a comprehensive response to the Federal Government Commissioned Crawford Report into Australian Sport, submitted a participation funding proposal to the ASC and developed the Active Deaf Australians Program - a new 3 year program developed to help tackle the health crisis facing deaf Australians, which we presented to the former Minister for Sport, the Hon Kate Ellis. We are now discussing the proposal with the Sport Minister Senator Mark Arbib and we are hopeful of receiving a positive response in the new year.

I am proud of the new innovations we have implemented over the last year and look forward to trying new things in 2012 to help keep DSA relevant in what is a forever changing sporting landscape in Australia.

Until next month I hope you enjoy reading this month's edition.

Yours in sport,

Craig Dodson

If your family and friends wish to receive the Deaf Sports Australia eNews, all they need to do is email to dsa@deafsports.org.au to subscribe

DSA Deaflympians' Club Launched!

Deaf Sports Australia recently launched the Deaflympians' Club for the first time, which was held in conjunction with their annual Sports Awards. This special occasion was hosted by our six time Deaflympian Champion, Cindy-Lu Bailey (nee Fitzpatrick) OAM.

The event was attended by over 100 guests, including former Deaflympian Andrew Swan MBE who won several gold medals at Winter Deaflympic Games, Joanne Lambert a former World Record holder in Athletics, Reece Van Beek 2 time medal winner at the Taipei Deaflympic Games and Life Member, Lauren Johns and Anne Bremner.

The event was to recognise and honour all Deaflympians on their contribution to deaf sports over the many years, since the first Australian competed at the Deaflympic Games in Washington DC in 1965. A selected array of memorabilia was displayed on the night which brought back memories for many of our Deaflympians. They were also presented with a Commemorative Pin by Jill Lovett, the late partner of John M. Lovett, former ICSD President.

Also marking the Deaflympians Club launch was the annual DSA Sports Awards. Both Cindy-Lu Bailey and Andrew Swan presented the trophies to the winners as outlined:

Female Athlete of the Year: Melinda Vernon, Athletics

Male Athlete of the Year: Reece Van Beek, Cycling

Volunteer of the Year: Tony Clews, Deaf Cricket Australia

Organisation of the Year: Cricket Australia

Media of the Year: Network Ten

Deaf Sports Australia warmly congratulates all the winners for their outstanding contribution and performance to deaf sports over the past year.

The Deaflympians' Club will be managed by DSA and selected Deaflympians to assist with yearly functions and fundraising activities to assist future aspiring Deaflympians to participate in Deaflympic Games.



Deaflympians' Club Launch Photo Gallery



DSA Female Athlete of the Year - Melinda Vernon

Melinda Vernon was the star performer for the Australian Team at the 2009 Taipei Deaflympic Games and this combined with a number of other outstanding performance in Open competitions throughout the year helped her claim the DSA Female Athlete of the year award.

Melinda won Australia's first Gold medal of the 2009 Taipei Deaflympic Games producing a breathtaking performance to win the women's 10,000 metres. Melinda set a cracking pace early in the race and jumped out to an early lead after the first lap with the rest of the field struggling to match her intensity. The conditions were energy sapping and Melinda had to dig deep with her superior fitness and condition showing in the end as she finished 18 seconds ahead of the second place getter from Russia.

In another emphatic victory breaking Melinda won her second gold in the 5,000 metre, also breaking the world record, held by Deaflympic legend and current Australian Athletics team manager Joanne Lambert by almost 45 seconds to claim the Gold in a time of 16:23. In a similar fashion to her 10,000 metres victory Vernon went out hard and opened up a commanding early lead in the hot and humid conditions and was never headed finishing almost one minute ahead of the silver medallist Russian Olga Yakubovskaya.

The victory was a gutsy win by Vernon who has struggled with illness following her energy sapping performance in the extreme heat and humidity in the 10,000 metres, which caused her to pull out of the 1,500 metres.

In addition to her Taipei heroics Melinda has continued to perform strongly in Open National Competitions although in the later half of 2010 she has struggled to overcome some injuries which hampered her attempts to qualify for the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games. Melinda's focus is now on overcoming her injury concerns and attempting to qualify for the 2012 London Olympic Games.



DSA Male Athlete of the Year - Reece Van Beek

Cyclist Reece-Emerson Van Beek had a stellar year which was highlighted by claiming silver and bronze medals at the 2009 Taipei Deaflympic Games and he was a worthy winner of the 2010 DSA Male Athlete of the year award.

In his first event at Taipei Reece was defending the individual time trial gold medal that he won at the 2005 Melbourne Deaflympics and in a fantastic performance he won the Bronze medal in a time of 48.05 minutes, missing the silver medal by an agonizingly tight margin of .0001 of a second.

In the Individual Road race at Taipei Reece placed 15th in what was arguably the best and closest road race seen in the history of the Deaflympics with at least 26 riders being in contention until the last few kilometers.

In the last race of his Taipei campaign Reece produced one of the finest efforts of his career to claim the silver medal in the 50km Points race. In stifling heat of around 40 degrees Reece mounted a brave solo attack late in the race to claim the silver medal.

In addition to his fine performances in Taipei Reece recently competed in the Tour de Formosa tournament for the deaf in Taiwan. Reece had to fight a lot against the larger teams during the Tour De Formosa in Taiwan with the strongest nations (Russia and USA) had a four rider team each, our Aussie team had to defend themselves with just two cyclist. Nevertheless Reece finished overall of 9th on the tour in what was another top performance on the world stage.

Reece has also continued to race in National Open Competition and in 2011 his attention will turn to the 2011 World Deaf Cycling Championships in Canada.



Subscribe to the DSA Participation Database to win a \$200 voucher!

Deaf Sports Australia has launched its new Online National Participation Database and if you sign up to the new DSA Database by 12 November you will go into the draw for a chance to win a \$200 Rebel Sport voucher.



The voucher can be redeemed at any rebel sport outlet in Australia and is DSA's way of saying thanks for taking the time to sign up and help. We certainly appreciate the effort. You have to act quick though as the winner will be drawn at 5pm on Monday 6th December at the DSA office by President Brent Phillips.

To sign up to the database simply visit www.deafsports.org.au and click on the subscribe icon on the main page and follow the instructions.

By joining the DSA National Participation database you will help compile accurate data on deaf sports participation rates that we can use this information to lobby Government, the corporate sector and other stakeholders for greater support for deaf sport in Australia.

The database will capture information about contact information, demographics, what sports are the most popular, levels of activity and where support is needed. Your personal details will be strictly confidential and not passed on to other organizations. The only information that will be made available will be sport participation and general demographic information.

Thanks for your support and if you have any questions please contact DSA manager Craig Dodson at craig.dodson@deafsports.org.au

SO GO AHEAD AND SUBSCRIBE TO THE DSA PARTICIPATION DATABASE TO NOT BE IN TO WIN A \$200 REBEL SPORTS VOUCHER BUT TO ALSO RECEIVE REGULAR UPDATES ABOUT DEAF SPORTING NEWS AND EVENTS!



Deaf Sports Australia has launched their new-look website!

www.deafsports.org.au

Your Chance to Give Feedback on Live Captioning on Fox Sports

On October 1, 2010, FOX SPORTS launched live captioning on their flagship programming on FOX SPORTS 1HD/1, FOX SPORTS 2HD/2 and FOX SPORTS 3HD/3, providing greater access to deaf and hearing viewers and to sports lovers in bars and public spaces.

Deaf Sports Australia strongly supports this initiative and congratulates FOX SPORTS on providing this service to the sports loving Australian deaf community. As we know deaf Australians are great supporters of sport and this service will also a greater

Australian company Ai-Media provides the live captioning for FOXSPORTS and to assist them in providing a quality service, Ai-Media would really welcome feedback on the quality of our captions from interested DSA members with access to Foxtel or Austar.

If you would like to take part in the Ai-Media Captioning Quality Survey, please go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TR23YTN> to complete the survey.

This is your chance to have your opinion and feedback taken on Board so please take a few minutes of your time to complete the survey.

Announcement from ISCD President - Craig Crowley

Dear ICSD Members,

ICSD wishes to inform its member countries that CEO Tiffany Granfors will make a 3rd, and final, site inspection in Slovakia--focusing on their preparedness to host the upcoming Winter Deaflympics in February 2011.



This trip--scheduled for next week--is beyond the usual one site inspection typically necessary to confirm a country's readiness to host a Deaflympics.

This visit is necessary in order to ensure that logistics are in place for the Games--including hotel, ice hockey and curling venues, and transportation, among others.

The host committee has also been having difficulty, to date, in securing necessary funding to pull off a successful Winter Deaflympics.

A final decision will be made by November 30th regarding the status of the 2011 Winter Deaflympics in Slovakia. ICSD always strives to ensure the best Games experience for its participants and fans and will therefore continue to work hard with the Slovakian hosts to see that nothing less than the best is offered.

Craig A Crowley MBE
President



Dates

The 2012 ADG GOC and DSA are currently in the process of finalizing the dates for the Games. Subject to final discussions with the various sports stakeholders we will be able to make an announcement of the final dates on Thursday December 9th.

We appreciate your patience on this matter but as you will appreciate there are many factors that go into this decision and we need to be 100% certain before a final announcement can be made.

If you require any further information regarding the dates please contact craig.dodson@deafsports.org.au



Accommodation

With the Games being held from Saturday 14th to Saturday 21st January 2012 this will be a very busy time for accommodation providers in Geelong with many people holidaying in the area at the time. We encourage you to book your accommodation early so that you do not miss out.

Accommodation is abundant and varied throughout the Geelong region and by visiting the official Geelong visitor information website www.visitgeelong.org you can search, review and book accommodation online.

Volunteers Wanted

Put your hands up if you are interested to volunteer for the 2012 Australian Deaf Games! The Volunteers Coordinator, Melissa Bryson and her team are looking for enthusiastic volunteers who would like to contribute to the success of the Games. It is now the time to gather all people to ensure the event is a success for everyone!



Volunteers will be required to assist with Registrations, sports, logistics, and so on. Volunteer forms will be released soon so keep your eyes peeled for future announcements in the meantime.

For further information about volunteering or to express your interest, please contact Melissa on melissa.bryson@austdeafgames.org.au

Melinda Vernon Promotes Disability Rights

The Blue Mountain Gazette

17 Nov, 2010

Springwood athlete and Blue Mountains Ambassador for International Day of People with Disability Melinda Vernon has overcome numerous personal and physical challenges to become a world-class runner.

Despite being born profoundly deaf in both ears, Melinda was up and running at a young age. She persisted with running throughout her late teens and early 20s, despite a jaw defect which obstructed her breathing. Her list of sporting achievements is extensive and remarkable from winning two gold medals in the 2009 Taipei Deaflympics to winning the women's division of the City2Surf in 2009.



Melinda is competitive at a world level against athletes both with and without a disability.

The distance runner will complete her Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at the University of Western Sydney this year. Upon graduating she has an interest in working in community settings in paediatrics, intellectual disabilities and occupational rehabilitation.

Melinda's sporting achievements should not overshadow her ceaseless promotion of the disability rights in the community. Melinda strongly believes "together we can do more to raise awareness of the issues people with disability face in our local region".

As part of the celebration of International Day for People with Disability (IDPWD) on December 3 a range of community events have been organised.

Blue Mountains City Council in partnership with the IDPWD committee has produced a brochure of events. These calendars can be picked up from council offices, local libraries and neighbourhood centres.

Deaf Sports Australia

Festive Season Trading Hours

The DSA Office will be closed from Thursday 23rd December and re-open on Monday 3rd January 2011

The DSA Board and staff wishes you a happy and safe Festive Season!



Tour de Formosa Deaf Cycling Championships

Recently, Reece Van Beek and Justin Dunn competed at the Tour de Formosa Cycling Championships that was held in Taipei, Taiwan, home of the 2009 Deaflympic Games. The Tour De Formosa (TDF) is a biennial invitation stage race for the deaf that included 7 mountainous stages up to 170kms. The TDF took place from October 29 to November 7. The Chinese Taipei Sports Association of the Deaf organizes the Tour de Formosa based on the idea of a one week European stage races and the liking of the Tour De France. Participation to the race is based on invitation to national teams composed of up to a maximum of four deaf and hard of hearing cyclists.

<p>31 Oct - 1st Stage: Taipei to Dajia, Taichung - 142km</p> <p>1st Rozanov RUS 3:34'54"40 2nd Kosa USA 3:34'55"81 3rd Makarov RUS 3:34'57"24 4th Schrieber USA 3:35'33"51</p> <p>5th Dunn AUS 3:35'33"99 11th Van Beek AUS 3:38'05"69</p>	<p>1 Nov - 2nd Stage: Taichung to Tainan - 166km</p> <p>1st Schrieber USA 4:40'34"44 2nd Carruthers NZ 4:40'43"72 3rd Makarov RUS 4:40'52"48 4th Pestov RUS 4:44'28"92</p> <p>6th Dunn AUS 4:44'33"88 7th Van Beek AUS 4:44'38"75</p>
<p>2 Nov - 3rd Stage: Tainan to Pingdong - 166km</p> <p>1st Rozanov RUS 4:43'07"60 2nd Carruthers NZ 4:43'40"99 3rd Schrieber USA 4:43.41"35 4th Makarov RUS 4:43'41"72</p> <p>6th Dunn AUS 4:47'35"98 8th Van Beek AUS 4:48'28"78</p>	<p>3 Nov - 4th Stage: Pingdong to Taidong - 138km</p> <p>1st Rozanov RUS 4:42'31"83 2nd Kalinkin RUS 4:44'17"85 3rd Carruthers NZ 4:46'25"83 4th Schreiber USA 4:46'26"19</p> <p>5th Dunn AUS 4:46'27"33 8th Van Beek AUS 4:48'46"48</p>
<p>4 Nov - 5th Stage: Taidong to Hualien - 169km</p> <p>1st Rozanov RUS 5:06'27"47 2nd Schrieber USA 5:06'48"20 3rd Makarov RUS 5:06'48"84 4th Kalinkin RUS 5:09'49"87</p> <p>5th Dunn AUS 5:09'50"09 DNF Van Beek AUS</p>	<p>The total points over 5 stages were:</p> <p>1st Rozanov RUS 20pts 2nd Schrieber USA 12pts 3rd Carruthers NZ 8pts 4th Makarov RUS 7pts</p>



L-R: German Eslava, Justin Dunn, Reece Van Beek, Lance Hately

4 - 9 October 2010

Palmerston North, New Zealand

MEN	
Peter Walters (AUS)	Mark Friend 3 - 0 11/7 11/3 11/1
Mark Friend (AUS)	
Jamie Mathews (ENG)	Jamie Mathews 3 - 0 11/3 11/8 11/7
Philip Thomas (ENG)	
WOMEN	
Ronel van Coller (SA)	Ronel van Coller 3 - 0 11/6 11/6 11/7
Tegan Blanch (AUS)	
Theresa Greenwood (SA)	Christine Ferreira 3 - 0 11/8 11/6 11/2
Christine Ferreira (SA)	



Winners:

Men: Jamie Mathews (ENG)

Women: Christine Ferreira (SA)



Want to Play Golf?

THE 2011 AUSTRALIAN DEAF GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

LINKS LADY BAY

NORMAVILLE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

MAY 6-8, 2011



Deaf Golf Australia are proud to be the hosts of the 19th Australian Deaf Golf Championships to be held at Links Lady Bay, South Australia - see website : www.linksladybay.com.au

The proposed programme for the Championships includes

Thursday 5th May 2011	3pm	Official Pick Up Transfer from Adelaide Airport
Friday 6th May 2011	9am	Official Pick Up Transfer from Adelaide Airport
	11am	Stableford Competition
Saturday 7th May 2011	8am	Round 1 of Australian Deaf Golf Championships
	5pm	Annual General Meeting of Deaf Golf Australia
Sunday 8th May 2011	8am	Round 2 of Australian Deaf Golf Championships
	2pm-4pm	Presentation Lunch
	5pm	Official Departure Transfer to Adelaide Airport

Anyone wishing for transfers to airport separate to above times, will need to arrange for own transfers.

Entry Form attached on next page.

Please send to 2 Holly Court, Mitcham, Victoria

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES : 28 FEBRUARY 2011



THE 2011 AUSTRALIAN DEAF GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

LINKS LADY BAY

NORMAVILLE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

MAY 6-8, 2011

ENTRY FORM

PLAYER NAME	
ADDRESS	
EMAIL ADDRESS / FAX	
HANDICAP	
GOLF LINK NUMBER (IF HAVE)	
SHARE ROOM WITH ?	
TWIN BED OR DOUBLE BED	

		I Enclose
CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FEE (Includes 3 Rounds of Golf + all competition prizes + presentation lunch)	\$170	
2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION (FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS) - GRAND MERCURE LINKS LADY BAY (4.5 STAR) INCLUDING CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST		
...TWIN SHARE (PER PERSON)	\$190	
...DOUBLE (PER PERSON)	\$170	
EXTRA NIGHT ACCOMMODATION (IF ARRIVE THURSDAY)		
...TWIN SHARE (PER PERSON)	\$95	
...DOUBLE (PER PERSON)	\$85	
AIRPORT TRANSFERS	\$50	
TOTAL		

DSA Affiliated Members

National Deaf Sporting Associations (NDSO)	State Deaf Sporting Organisations (SDSO)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Deaf Darts Association • Australian Deaf Lawn Bowls Association • Australian Deaf Squash Association • Australian Deaf Tenpin Bowling Association • Deaf Aquatics Australia • Deaf Basketball Australia • Deaf Cricket Australia • Deaf Eight Ball Australia • Deaf Football Australia • Deaf Golf Australia • Deaf Tennis Australia • Deaf Netball Australia • Deaf Volleyball Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DeafACT • Deaf Sports Recreation Queensland • Deaf Sports Recreation South Australia • Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria • Western Australia Deaf Recreation Association

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Next E-News Submission date

10 December 2010



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission