

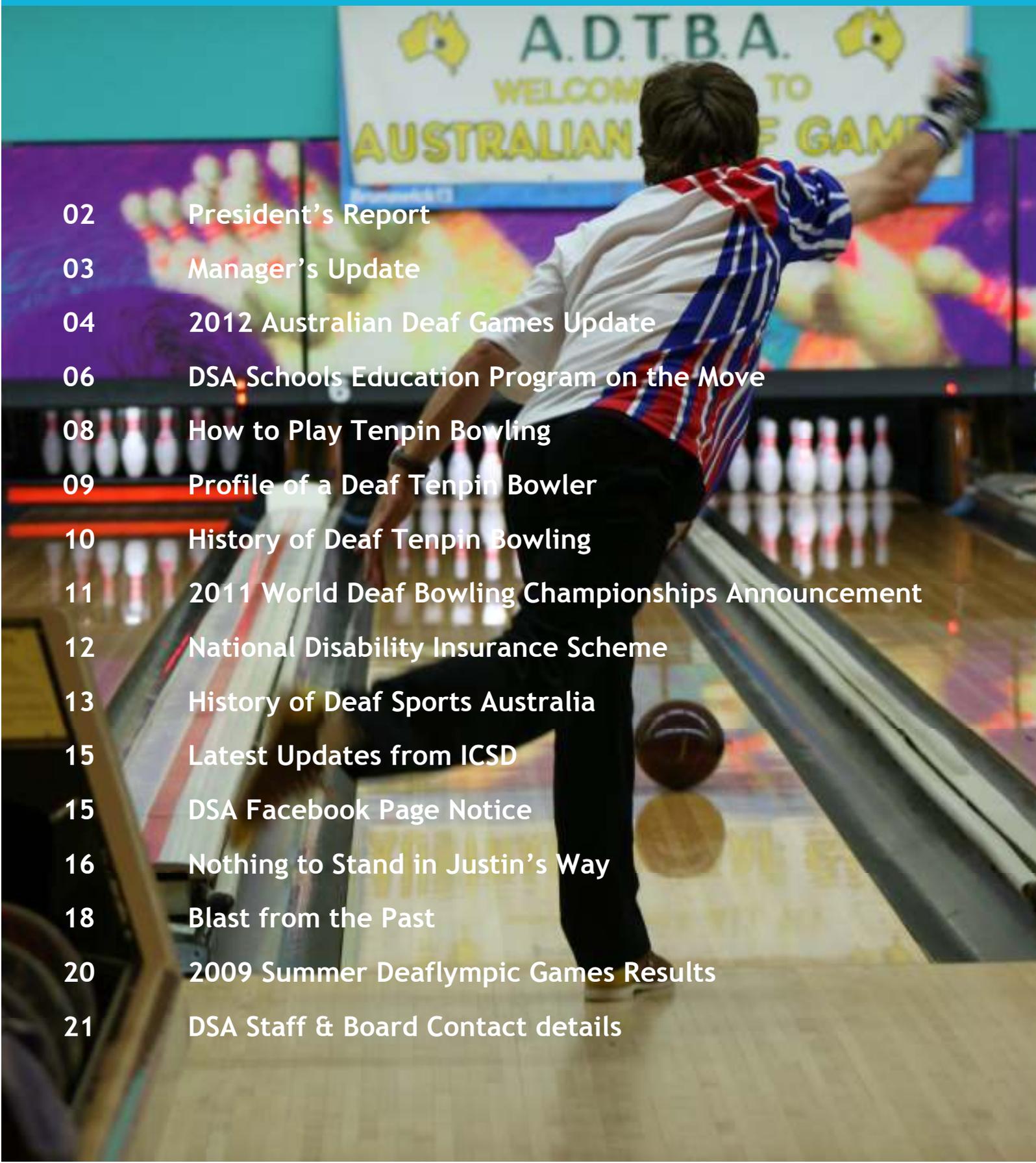
# Deaf Sports Australia E-News

*Passion Through Sport*



July 2010

## What's On In This Edition?

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- A photograph of a person bowling in a tenpin bowling alley. The person is seen from the back, wearing a white shirt with a red and blue striped pattern on the sleeves and black pants. They are in the middle of a bowling motion, with their right arm extended forward. In the background, a banner reads "A.D.T.B.A. WELCOME TO AUSTRALIAN DEAF GAMES". The bowling lane is visible, with bowling pins at the end and a bowling ball on the lane. The scene is brightly lit with colorful lights on the walls.
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Greetings and welcome to the July edition of our eNews.

Having just returned home from a five-week holiday around Africa, Asia and Europe I am certainly feeling refreshed and looking forward to tackling the second half of the year!

The Federal election, set for 21 August, has forced the Australian Sports Commission to postpone funding allocations to National Sporting Organisations, to enable the incoming Government to review funding programs and allocations following recommendations from the Crawford Report.

As mentioned in Craig Dodson's report on the following page, DSA has submitted a comprehensive funding proposal to the Federal Government in line with the "*Deaf people playing sport more often*" philosophy, focusing on four key areas: a schools education workshop series, development of a national participation database, targeted marketing and promotional campaign and a research study in partnership with Monash University. Recently, I had the opportunity to present the proposal to Minister Kate Ellis at her electorate office in Adelaide, along with our Patron, Kevan Gosper. While the election has delayed their formal response, we look forward to discussing our proposal further with the incoming Government as soon as possible following the election.

You will find a detailed update on the Australian Deaf Games in this edition - I had the opportunity to sit in a recent Games Organising Committee meeting and was impressed with the level of energy and enthusiasm within the committee. While there is a lot of work to be done over the next 500 odd days, the groundwork has been laid. Ensure you read the details in this eNews and spread the word! Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria has organised a fun run fundraising event to coincide with the 500 day to go milestone - I encourage other State bodies to organise similar events.

Continuing our monthly focus on each sport, this eNews focuses on the sport of Tenpin Bowling, which remains very popular in Australia with annual championships during Easter, attended by as many as 120 bowlers. Interestingly, Tenpin Bowling is one of two sports on the Deaflympic sports program that is not part of the Olympic sports program, which makes it a unique sport in the deaf sports world. I have had many fun experiences playing Tenpin - from birthday parties when I was a kid, to team bonding activities at work. My personal high is 201 when I was in Canada, but unfortunately I have never been able to replicate that effort ever since! Enjoy learning about the sport.

Recently, ICSD released a video statement by President Craig Crowley announcing that the 2011 Winter Deaflympic Games has been reinstated. The Games will take place during 18-26 February 2011 in High Tatras, Slovakia. For further information visit the official Games website at [www.deaflympics2011.com/en/en/news](http://www.deaflympics2011.com/en/en/news) - DSA is currently liaising with our interested athletes to re-evaluate the feasibility of sending athletes given the late notice.

On a happy note, DSA would like to extend our congratulations to our Director, Richard Pearce and his partner (and former DSA President) Rebecca Adam on the arrival of their baby daughter, Remi Lily. Furthermore, we extend our congratulations to Manager Craig Dodson on his engagement to Sophie Ibbott!

Enjoy this E-News and keep active!

Brent Phillips

President



As you may have seen in the news recently, the Australian Government announced an injection of \$195 million in new funding to sport in the recent budget. As a result the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) has invited all National Sports Organisations, including DSA, to submit funding proposals to demonstrate why they should receive extra funding and to outline what new projects they are proposing to implement. Much of our time over the last month has been spent putting together this important document.

DSA has proposed to the ASC to deliver a four-year targeted health and education participation program with the following four main components:

### **1. Schools Education Workshop Series**

DSA will target 1500 deaf students across 100 schools in Australia, delivering educational programs outlining the health and social benefits of sports participation, sporting opportunities available through the Australian sporting network and profiling deaf sports role models.

### **2. Targeted Marketing & Promotional Campaign**

DSA proposes delivering a targeted marketing campaign to promote the benefits of sports participation. This will involve a series of workshops, development and distribution of promotional and educational resources and advertising in targeted publications.

### **3. Development of a National Participation Database**

DSA intends to develop a National Participation Database to capture key information and statistics and engage with deaf Australians to allow direct communication about sporting opportunities and events available to them.

### **4. Research Study - Health Levels & Sports Participation Trends**

DSA proposes partnering with Monash University to develop a comprehensive research study to measure health and sports participation levels amongst deaf Australians.

The commitment of new funding is a watershed moment for Australian sport and DSA will put its best foot forward to lobby for recognition of our important role in Australian sport and for funding to allow us to deliver the programs above. The ASC is currently reviewing all the proposals from the National Sports Organisations and we hope to have further information regarding the success of our proposal in September.

This month's e-news features the popular sport of ten-pin bowling which has been a key sport for the deaf community over many years. I hope you enjoy reading all about it and the other happenings in the world of deaf sport.

I hope you enjoy this month's e-news.

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](mailto:dsa@deafsports.org.au) to subscribe**

# 2012 Australian Deaf Games Update

It is now less than 18 months to go before the 2012 Australian Deaf Games and preparations are in full swing from the Games Organizing Committee as we work towards putting in place the foundation for what we hope will be the biggest and best games yet!

As always we want to share with you the most up to date information as we know many of you have already begun planning your trip. Below is the most up to date information on key topics and hopefully will answer any questions you might have at this stage.



The key information for the 2012 Australian Deaf Games is:

**Location:** Geelong

**Date:** 12-21 January 2012

**Opening Ceremony:** The final date is to be confirmed, however, the most likely opening ceremony date at this stage is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January and it will be held at The Arena (110 Victoria Street, North Geelong). You can check the Arena at: <http://www.geelongcity.vic.gov.au/Leisure/venues/item/thearena.aspx>

**Closing Ceremony:** The final date is to be confirmed, the venue will be Costa Hall which is situated at Deakin University's Waterfront campus in the Geelong CBD. You can check it out at:

[http://www.gpac.org.au/content/Public/VENUE/Costa\\_Hall.aspx](http://www.gpac.org.au/content/Public/VENUE/Costa_Hall.aspx)

**Games Hub:** The venue for the Games Hub is yet to be confirmed, however we are well just yet in advance in our negotiations and we can confirm that the hub will be in central Geelong incorporating the waterfront.

**Accommodation:** There will not be an official Games accommodation location or provider, rather we encourage you to source your accommodation needs with one of the many quality providers which cater for all budget needs. For all the up to date information on where to stay and what to do in Geelong go to the Visit Geelong Website:

<http://visitgeelongbellarine.com/great-ocean-road/destinations/geelong/>

**Website and Registrations:** The hard work is currently underway to finalize the Games program and build the official website. **Registrations and the ADG website will be launched on January 12<sup>th</sup> 2011 - officially 1 year prior to the Games.** In the meantime please stay tuned to the Deaf Sports Australia website [www.deafsports.org.au](http://www.deafsports.org.au) for all the latest information.

**Games venues:** The following is the latest information on all the sports venues:

- Kardinia Aquatic Centre is the venue for the Swimming, Diving and Waterpolo competitions (Park Lane, South Geelong);
- John Landy Field will be the venue for Athletics which is located on Barwon Terrace in Geelong;
- Kardinia Park and South Barwon Reserve will facilitate the cricket competition.
- West Oval Velodrome will host the cycling event. The Velodrome is on the cnr of Weddell Road and Midland Highway, North Geelong. The time trial and road race is yet to be confirmed.

- Squash will be held at the Leisuretime Centre - 262-282 Anakie Road, Bell Post Hill.
- Soccer will be played at Myers Reserve - Creamery Road, Bell Post Hill.
- Golf is yet to be confirmed, however we are currently in discussion with Thirteenth Beach to be the venue for Golf (Barwon Heads Road, Barwon Heads) and hope to have an announcement shortly.
- Discussions are currently in the final stages for Shooting, Darts/8-ball, Lawn Bowls, Ten Pin Bowling, Tennis and Table Tennis and we hope to have an announcement shortly.

Please see map below for venue locations.

Over the coming months we will provide further information as it becomes available and as always you can contact the DSA office directly if you have any queries.



- |                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Football   | <b>4</b> Cycling            |
| <b>2</b> Squash     | <b>5</b> Aquatics & Cricket |
| <b>3</b> Basketball | <b>6</b> Athletics          |

## DSA's Schools Education Program on the Move

Deaf Sports Australia has been leaving their mark on several schools and inspired many young deaf and hard of hearing youths by encouraging them to emulate the success of many Deaflympians in their chosen sports.

Not only DSA asked them to reach for the stars, the workshops have also provided the students with the opportunity of understanding the healthy benefits by participating in sporting activities. They were also given the opportunity to meet current and former Deaflympians, Renee D'Offay and Sam Quinn who spoke about their experiences being elite athletes. They also explained the benefits of good exercise and healthy eating in order to stay in top form.

Additionally, many of the students had no knowledge of Deaflympic Games and were inspired by many deaf athletes who achieved their goals in their chosen sport. DSA believes this program will be beneficial for all young deaf and hard of hearing students.

“It gives them the chance to feel like they can achieve anything in life, not only in sports but also in many other areas” says Irena Farinacci “They have walked away from the workshop feeling as if they are not that different from the mainstream community as it really comes down to communication barriers and challenges for many of them”.

We have now held 5 Schools education workshops at the following Schools:

- Victorian College for the Deaf
- Furlong Park School
- Forest Hill Secondary College
- St Albans East Primary School

The formats of the workshops varied, depending on the ages of the students. DSA also offered fun activities that included prize giveaways and showbags. Many of the students were very excited to receive their showbags which included a DSA cap.



Renee D'Offay & Irena Farinacci with students at Furlong Park School for the Deaf



Students checking out the 2005 Deaflympic Games Medal

Irena Farinacci & Renee D'Offay presenting at Victorian College for the Deaf



Sam Quinn demonstrating basketball handling skills

# How To Play Tenpin Bowling

The aim of tenpin bowling is to knock down 10 pins by rolling a heavy ball down an alley or lane towards them.

You get 10 turns to try and knock down the pins, called frames. In each frame you can bowl at the pins twice - unless you get them all down with your first go, called a strike. If you get some down with your first ball and the rest with your second it's called a spare.



Depending how many pins you get in a frame you score points. The bowler with the most points at the end wins.

If you knock nine pins down in a frame you score nine points, if only knock down five you score five points.

The scoring gets a bit complicated when you get strikes and spares.

If you score a strike you get 10 points to start with. You also get a bonus score of how many pins you knock down with the next frame.

So if you get a strike and then knock down seven pins in your next frame your strike is worth 17 points. The seven pins then also count for the second frame too, so your score for the two frames is 24 points.

A spare is scored in a similar way.



If you get a spare you get 10 points. You also get a bonus of how many pins you knock down with your next ball.

So if you get a spare and then knock down five pins with your next ball your spare is worth 15 points. The five pins are then counted again for their own frame.

In the final frame of a game you can earn an extra ball if you get a strike or a spare.

The maximum score for a game of bowling is 300. To score that you have to get strikes in the first nine frames, and then three more in the final frame for a total of 12.

## Profile of a Tenpin Bowler

**Name:** Sylvia Gusts

**Where you were born?** Budapest in Hungary.

**When did you first participate in tenpin bowling?** I was very younger to play bowling for fun with my neighbour in Sydney. That's how I like to play bowling. When I met Danielle Shaw in Melbourne, she established the tenpin bowling club and I have joined with her. I still remain with VDTBC since then.



Wendy Devlin, Sylvia Gusts, Jina Chapman

**Did you have a coach?** Yes, I had Matt Garvin from Tiffany Lanes, who assisted me with my preparations for the 2005 Deaflympic Games that was held in Melbourne.

**How did you both communicate?** Matt was able to sign however we had volunteer Auslan Interpreters on hand to assist with the communication processes.

**What are your achievements in bowling?** I have won many games at National Deaf Tenpin Championships in the Individuals and Masters sections. My highest game is 247 - twice!

**What are your future goals in bowling?** To perfect game and to recruit many young deaf people for bowling events.

**What is your advice for new bowlers?** Stay positive, be happy and have fun!

**Have you participated in tenpin bowling events overseas?** Yes, I have travelled overseas eight times. I enjoyed the experience as well as made many new friendships.

**Have you participated at the Deaflympic Games?** Yes twice, at the 2001 Games in Rome and 2005 Games in Melbourne! It was great experience and unbelievable!

**Who do you get inspiration from?** Australian Tenpin Bowler Danielle Shaw.



Back, L-R: Jina Chapman, Sylvia Gusts, Patricia Loje.

Front, L-R: Wendy Devlin, Glenda Smeaton, Patricia Oxenham

## History of Deaf Tenpin Bowling

The Australian Deaf Tenpin Bowling Association Inc (ADTBA) was established in 1978/79 by Danielle Shaw and Sylvia Gusts. The main reason for the establishment of the Association was to run the regular National Deaf Tenpin Bowling Championships.

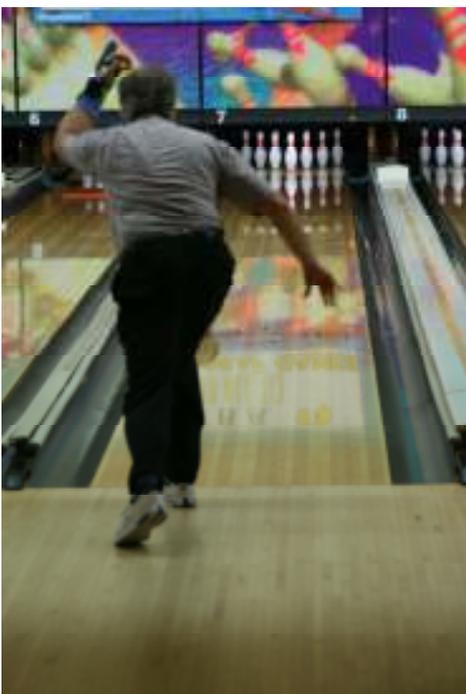
The ADTBA is responsible for the selection of National representatives who participate at sanctioned international events. The organization also assists Deaf Sports Australia with preparation and planning for tenpin bowling events for Australian Deaf Games that are held every four years.

Team selections are based on the athletes' playing experience, skill levels and achievements.

Their future plans include sending an Australian team at the 2013 Deaflympic Games to be held at Athens, Greece, as well as assisting DSA with the Tenpin Bowling event at the 2012 Australian Deaf Games to be held in Geelong, Australia.

For the past 31 years, they have been hosting the annual National Deaf Tenpin Bowling Championships across Australia during Easter. The annual event involves up to 120 participants. Occasionally, participants from USA and New Zealand would register at the events as well. The Championships also consists of Delegate Meetings where officials of National and State Deaf Tenpin Bowling Associations meet to discuss current and future plans.

Their main goals are to ensure all participants have the opportunity to be involved in the sport of tenpin in both social and competitive environments. ADTBA welcomes new participants of any age to join the sport.



# 2011 World Deaf Bowling Championships

Deaf Sports Australia received an announcement that the Argentinian Deaf Sports Confederation will be hosting the 2011 World Deaf Bowling Championships.

If you are interested to participate in the tournament, please email Australian Deaf Tenpin Bowling Association:

Sandra Keir - [sjkeir46@gmail.com](mailto:sjkeir46@gmail.com)

Sylvia Gusts - [svgusts@bigpond.net.au](mailto:svgusts@bigpond.net.au)

Letter from Argentina Deaf Sports Confederation:

To: All ICSD Members  
From: Confederación Argentina Deportiva de Sordos  
E-mail: [bowling2011@cades.org.ar](mailto:bowling2011@cades.org.ar)

Dear Friends,

We were the only one country that submitted the bidding documents in the ICSD Congress held in Taipei 2009 to host the Second World Deaf Bowling Championships in 2011. We are now undergoing preparation for this international deaf sports event. This coming August, the ICSD's bowling Technical Director, Kazimierz Chodak, will visit our country to inspect the bowling venues for approval.

We are aware of many ICSD country members are anxious to obtain details concerning this World Deaf Bowling Championships. We will soon provide you this information within two more months. The followings are some information that we would like to bring to your attention at this stage.

1. Second World Deaf Bowling Championships, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 21 to September 4, 2011
2. Arrival and check-in date: August 21, 2011.  
Competition Dates: August 22 to September 3, 2011.  
Sight-seeing Date: September 1, 2011.  
Departure Date: September 4, 2011.
3. Accommodation expense for each person is US\$120 daily at official Four-Stars hotel which include accommodation, breakfast, one meal and city sightseeing. We have made agreement with hotels and preparing many packages at different ranked hotels for lower costs which include accommodation, breakfast, one meal and City sightseeing (as well as accommodation at Five-Stars hotel).
4. Registration fee is US\$ 20 per athlete and official.
5. Competition events includes: Singles, Doubles, Trios (team of three), Five Players team (team of five), and Master Finals.
6. Maximum numbers of players are six (6) men and six (6) women for each team. There is no maximum number of officials.

We will be responsible to provide transportation between airport/hotel and bowling venue/hotel. More details will be provided to you soon as well as will be published on our webpage:  
[www.deafbowling2011.com](http://www.deafbowling2011.com)

You will be welcome to Buenos Aires, Argentina!

Sincerely Yours,

Horacio Aleva  
President

Rubén Torre  
Secretary General  
Confederación Argentina Deportiva de Sordos



## What Is National Disability Insurance Scheme?

It is a proposal put forward to the Australian Government. The idea of the scheme is to support an individual with a disability accessing services of own choice. It is also to provide support and assistance to all people with a disability no matter how or when they got the disability.

## What is this inquiry about?

For a long time, many people with a disability and their families or carers have been frustrated with the system and how it works.

Currently the Australian Government asked Productivity Commission to have a look at this system on improving care and support for all people with a disability and their families.

This inquiry is to find out what kind of system should be used to improve services and support for people with disability and how this system can be organised, funded and administered.

Deaf Australia has received funding to consult with the Deaf Community to find out what is important so barriers to everyday life are removed. Deaf Australia believes this is a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity for changes in the system and it is very important for the Deaf Community to have a big say about what type of system they would like to see.

Please take a few minutes to answer this survey. This is your chance to contribute your ideas.

**A submission will be sent to the Productivity Commission, due on 16<sup>th</sup> August.**

The questionnaire can be completed online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YXM272J>

Thank you!

For more information on Deaf Australia, go to their website at:

[www.deafau.org.au](http://www.deafau.org.au)



## History of Deaf Sports Australia

Interstate deaf competition in Australia began with a friendly cricket match between South Australia and Victoria in 1895. The competition expanded to include tennis, table tennis, chess and draughts every two or three years in major capital cities in rotation. There was no official national organisation and the 'carnivals', as these competitions were called, were conducted on an ad hoc basis. At the end of World War II nearly all states were taking part in more than one sport at the 'carnivals'.

In December 1954, during the carnival at Adelaide, a meeting was held between hearing and deaf leaders of the Australian deaf community, delegates of state organisations of the deaf and representatives from National Deaf Sporting Associations (cricket, tennis and table tennis). At the second meeting it was unanimously agreed to form a body to control all aspects of interstate sports competitions. This body was named the "Australian Deaf Sports Federation" (ADSF).



ADSF logo

The ADSF affiliated in 1955, with the International Sports Committee for the Deaf (ISCD). The ISCD is responsible for all International competitions, including the Deaflympic Games (previously known as World Games for the Deaf).

The Australian Deaf Sports Carnival resumed in Sydney in 1964/65 - ten years since the previous carnival. This became the forerunner of the Australian Deaf Games now held every 3 or 4 years.

In August 1965, Australia was, for the first time, represented at the World Games for the Deaf, the quadrennial 'Olympic Games for the Deaf' at Washington D.C., winning one gold and one silver medal. Since then, Australia has participated in every Summer World Games for the Deaf. Please feel free to look through our Roll of Honour for our wonderful achievement and success by our athletes.



VIIIth Deaflympics, Lake Placid USA 1975 - Brian Bernal - Delegates, John Coles - Skier, Andrew Swan - Skier, Thomas Swan - Coach, Matthew Veale - Skier, John Lovett - Team Manager.

For the first time, in 1975 Australia participated in the World Winter Games for the Deaf, held at Lake Placid, USA, by sending a team of three skiers and three officials.

The first Trans-Tasman Games for the Deaf took place during December 1975 / January 1976, when the New Zealand team toured the Eastern States of Australia, playing a series of matches against state teams and concluding its tour with matches against national teams. Unfortunately this competition has not continued.

In 1982, the ADSF became a company limited by guarantee and was retitled as the Australian Deaf Sports Federation Limited.

On 1st March 1985, with funding from the Federal Government, the ADSF Ltd employed a part time administrator to manage the secretariat.

Formal establishment of an Asia-Pacific Deaf Sports Confederation occurred in 1988 in Melbourne. Australia is an affiliated member body of this Confederation.

In 1995, ADSF invited cities to submit an expression of interest to bid for the 20th World Games for the Deaf in 2005. Two cities submitted an interest and the right to bid was awarded to Melbourne with its impressive bid submission.

1999 was an exciting year for the Australian deaf sports community when it was announced to the world that Australia won the right to host the 20th World Games for the Deaf. The bidding was conducted during the 14th Winter Games for the Deaf in Switzerland. Additionally, the ADSF Ltd started trading as Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) in 1999.



In 2001, CISS announced, with approval from the International Olympic Committee, a change of name from the World Games for the Deaf to the Deaflympics.

In 2003, DSA revealed its new image and logo. This indicated a change of direction and moving forward toward its vision. DSA started working very hard to prepare the biggest ever Australian Team for the 2005 Deaflympic Games and early in 2004, DSA received, for the first time ever, significant funding for the Australian Deaflympic Team. This support provided great motivation for DSA and the Australian athletes to strive for success on home soil at the Melbourne Games.

During 2003/2004, DSA underwent significant transformation that saw the establishment of a portfolio-based board with each director responsible for identifiable areas including: Finance & Administration, Sport, Events, Members & Community, Funding and Communications & Public Relations. The DSA board is comprised of a team of skilled and committed directors; who are also experts in their respective fields.

Australia hosted its first Deaflympic Games in Melbourne during January 2005 where over 5,500



athletes and visitors converged on the city to celebrate the history and sportsmanship of the Games that has travelled around the globe since 1924. Deaf Sports Australia provided its largest team of 225 athletes at the event. The Melbourne Games left a lasting legacy on those who were involved from many aspects including increased awareness of deaf and hard of hearing people participating in sports. The late John M. Lovett, former ICSD and DSA President, was honoured at the event.

For the first time in DSA history, two full-time staff are implementing the strategic intents. Currently, DSA has the largest number of innovative services that have been established for the direct benefit of our members. We thank you and look forward to your continued support at a time of a dynamic growth at DSA!

*Note: We thank Anne Bremner for assisting with the historical facts!*

## Latest Updates from ICSD

### 2011 Winter Deaflympic Games Back On!

The ICSD has reversed their decision to cancel the 2011 Winter Deaflympic Games. Further information can be viewed on the link below:



<http://www.deaflympics.com/videos/video.asp?ID=9>

For further information about the Deaflympic Games, go to [www.deaflympics.org](http://www.deaflympics.org)

### Vale - Charalampos Grammatoglou

On behalf of ICSD Board and Staff, we send our sincerest heartfelt condolences to Hellas Athletics Federation for the Deaf, Deaf Basketball community and the Grammatoglou family for the sudden loss of Charalampos "Lampis" Grammatoglou.

## DSA Facebook Page Notice

Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) has become aware that there are a number of unofficial and outdated DSA Facebook pages currently operating. We would like to remind everyone that the **CORRECT** link to the Official DSA Facebook page is:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/edit/?id=126469597373520#!/pages/Deaf-Sports-Australia/126469597373520>

The unofficial pages we are currently aware of are:

Deaf Australia - <http://www.facebook.com/DeafSportsAustralia#!/DeafSportsAustralia?v=info>

DSA Group Page - <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=31433183583>

Please do not accept invitations or join the incorrect groups or profiles as identified above. DSA is currently working with Facebook administrators to delete the unofficial pages. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the DSA office.

*Congratulations to Craig Dodson (DSA Manager)  
on his engagement to Sophie Ibbott!*



*Congratulations to Richard Pearce (DSA  
Director) and his partner Rebecca Adam  
(former DSA President) on the birth of their  
daughter, Remi Lily Pearce.*

## Nothing to Stand in Justin's Way

*Victor Harbour Times News - by Elizabeth Sweetman*

Cyclist Justin Dunn, 26, is powering through adversity to find success in the sport he lives for. The former Finnis resident has taken his love of cycling to new heights, competing state wide and qualifying for the Tour De Formosa racing circuit in Taiwan and nothing can stand in his way.



Profoundly deaf, Justin spent years battling with depression and anxiety before being reacquainted with his childhood passion of cycling in his late teens, through joining the Fleurieu's Coast Cruzers Cycling Club. Life began for Justin as it does for most baby boys. Born into a loving family, Justin was developing well before tragedy struck.

Before his first birthday, Justin fell ill and was diagnosed with meningitis. Although recovering from the deadly virus, the meningitis left its mark on Justin, rendering him completely deaf. Throughout his younger years, Justin believed he coped well with his disability and used sign language as his doorway to the outside world.

On his third birthday came the present that would ignite Justin's lifelong passion - a red and yellow bike.

"Every spare chance I jumped on that bike. Sound was replaced by the refreshing sensation of wind on my face. On my bike I felt free," he said. "Later I rode to school from our farm in Finnis and on the weekends to Milang with the local lads. "There was never a happier time for me than when I pushed those pedals over and over."

At 19, Justin took his riding to the next level after being inspired by the Tour Down Under. Saving his money, Justin bought a racing bike and even began to don the lycra. "There were plenty of giggles from family and friends but I didn't take the digs to heart," he said. "I just said 'I can't hear you!'".

Justin carried on riding as much as possible and felt as though life was going well. But then things took a turn for the worse. Justin began to be ridiculed and abused by a group of locals over a period of time, an experience that had a devastating effect on him.

"I'd always been pretty lucky with the way people had treated me. Mostly, they were not bothered by the fact I was different, so this bullying had a devastating effect. I began to drink heavily and lost interest in everything," he said. "In time, I was diagnosed with anxiety, panic attacks, depression and post-traumatic disorder. "My doctor prescribed me medication and it helped, but I still tried to shut the world out."

Justin's cycling ground to a halt as he hit rock bottom. However, an opportunity came to Justin that offered him a way out of his situation. Justin's cousin Geoff Rose, a member of the Coast Cruzers Cycling Club, suggested that Justin join the group for a ride.

"I didn't think I'd handle a group of people very well, but then I remembered the great feeling that cycling had given me and the freedom I had felt," he said. "Eventually, I decided to take a chance."

Justin was welcomed into the group and after cycling around the south coast, he felt happier than he had in a long time. He eventually joined up as a member and in the process, found a second family and a happier, healthier way of life.

"I began to train harder than ever before. And as my cycling improved, so did my mental health. Eventually I stopped taking my medication all together."

Moving forward to the present Justin is on top of the world. From riding 300 kilometres a week to joining competitions with the (Adelaide) Norwood Cycling Club, Justin's achievements continue to pile up. Revelling in the nickname 'Superman' he has had several podium finishes and qualifying for the Tour de Formosa will see Justin representing Australia's deaf cycling team - "a dream come true."

Justin only recently found out that he has been selected for the Australian Deaf Cycling team for the Tour of Formosa and said he is very excited about this opportunity, and will be seeking help from community groups and individuals to assist him with the considerable expenses. To top off his success, Justin is now receiving some assistance from esteemed cycling brand Rodman. Through his darkest days and great successes, Justin has appreciated the support from those around him.



### Rodney Adams - Surfer

I became deaf through a bout of meningitis when I was 2 years old and have a 88dB lost in my right ear and nothing in the other. Like most deaf people I didn't learn sign language until 18 when I left high school. Spoken English has always been my primary language through both primary and high school. Communication was easiest for me in a formal situation rather than an informal one. I had the support of an itinerant teacher for the deaf who would visit me through my primary years but not in high school. As long as the environment was controlled I could get by communicating one on one. Anything less than this was often a disaster! Now I work as an itinerant teacher of the deaf as well as a lecturer at the University of Newcastle and loving it!



#### My family

Having two older sisters and one brother I grew up in a family that was active in sports or busy enjoying the outdoors though camping, bushwalking and swimming. My brother and I used to play soccer during winter and then tennis and swimming through the summer. Mum and Dad encouraged us to participate in a number of different sports as they were both involved in sport in some capacity themselves.

Every summer holidays was always spent camping down the beach on the South Coast surfing and it was here that I was introduced to the joys of surfing when an older friend would take me out on his longboard. I was not yet 9 years old when I first stood up while my friend guided me from behind surfing all the way to the beach. From there I progressed to Colonel Sanders KFC foam board which I would, in due time snap in half, trying to ride it through the dumpy shore break. Colonel Sanders wasn't very happy.

It wasn't until I was in high school that I took surfing seriously. I entered the scholastic championships and local board riding competitions but did not really enjoy the competitive aspect of surfing. Most of the competitions do not have beach permits so not only did you have to hassle against 3 other competitors in your heat but you also had to fight for waves against local surfers. Communication was also a barrier as



L-R: Rodney Adams, Stephen Ashley, Mitchell Robinson & Carl Hansen

well. So I decided to only surf for recreational reasons. However in the last few years I began to be more involved in surfing competitions mainly because there are now Deaf Surf Competitions held biannually at Crescent Head (7 & 8 August of this year) and the World Deaf Surfing Championships, which are also held every two years.

I now have two daughters Tara and Lily with my partner Cindy-Lu Bailey. I am hoping that one of the girls becomes the next Stephanie Gilmore with a nice juicy contract from either Rip Curl, Quiksilver or Billabong and buy me a home at a world class surf break.

## Riding the Waves

I am still surfing. Probably more so now than before because I am mostly experimenting by riding all sorts of different boards longboards, fishes, quads, etc and it is this aspect of surfing I am really enjoying. Riding different boards for different waves keeps my surfing fresh and fun. Surfing is in a good phase right now as everyone is experimenting and riding a wide diversity of boards. A retro movement of boards that were similarly designed in the 70s and 80s is now fashionable and now everyone is riding all sorts of equipment rather than what the pros are. I can easily get bored of riding the same board so to have variation makes my surfing more enjoyable. Surfing has a fun element to it because it is never a monotonous activity. The surf conditions always change, the board you take out can depend on your mood and it is like a natural therapy when all the natural elements come together to make it session you will always remember. I am also looking to do more surfing in pristine conditions such as in Pacific Islands and take the family with me.

## My dreams

Apart from being a professional surfer, my dreams were always to surf some of the most famous surf breaks in the world. I have always enjoyed the romantic aspect of surfing of good waves all around the world like an 'Endless Summer'. In 1997 I did an 8 month tour around the world surfing Jeffreys Bay in South Africa, Europe (where I met Cindy-Lu in Denmark) and in Indonesia - G-Land, Uluwatu and Padang. In Hawaii I will never forget surfing at the infamous Pipeline on a 6-8 feet swell, waiting for wave, when a Brazillian female body boarder with a G - String snaked me on a big set wave, dropped from top to bottom and got the best barrel of her life! This is what makes surfing such a great lifestyle. I have just come back from Bali surfing great waves.

## My Sporting Achievements

My proudest sporting achievement is definitely my results (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>) in the 2009 World Deaf Surfing Championships in Hawaii. It was very rewarding as it was the first time I seriously trained for the competition and now I am eager to improve both my surfing technique and results for the next WDSC in Brazil in 2011. I am hoping that there will be bigger waves than the flat like conditions we encountered last year in Hawaii.

Probably my biggest disappointment is not competing at the WDSC in Australia in near perfect conditions at Phillip Island. Unfortunately, I had already made a commitment to the Australian Waterpolo team for the Melbourne 2005 Deaflympics which sadly were held at the same time as the WDSC. I didn't go to Japan in 2007 as it is not renowned for producing world class waves but you can never predict mother nature. So hopefully she comes up with some good waves in Brazil.



Rodney Adams  
(right) at the  
2009 World Deaf  
Surfing  
Championships

## 2011 World Deaf Surf Championships



## 2009 Summer Deaflympic Games Results

The 2009 Summer Deaflympics Organizing Committee has posted full detailed results in electronic copy which can be obtained online.

Click below to go to 2009 website. Then read the instructions to save the file for your future reference:

<http://en-mediazone.2009deaflympics.org/files/14-1053-6223,r72-1.php>

2009年臺北聽障奧林匹克運動會  
21<sup>st</sup> Summer Deaflympics Taipei 2009

## DSA Affiliated Members

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

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## 2010 E-News Submission dates

18 August, 17 September, 15 October, 18 November, 15 December