

The XVI ADG Wrap Up

The 2012 Australian Deaf Games finished in spectacular fashion in Geelong on Saturday night with a Gala closing ceremony at Deakin Universities Costa Hall. Close to 1000 people attended the event and they were entertained by a fantastic dance performance and the presentation of the major Awards for the evening.

Eight days of fantastic competition were brought to a close by DSA president Brent Phillips who made the announcement that South Australia and the city of Adelaide would host the 2016 Australian Deaf Games with DSRSA President Tim Morgan accepting the ADG flag from DSRV president Grant Roberts.

The coveted John M Lovett Cup (formerly the ADSF Cup) was won by host State Victoria with DSRV president Grant Roberts accepting the trophy from Jill Lovett to the applause and cheering from Victorians in the crowd. The official placings for the Cup were:

1. Victoria
2. New South Wales
3. Queensland
4. South Australia
5. West Australia
6. ACT

Victorian Sports Minister Hugh Delahunty presented the Athlete of the Games Trophy to Jack Besley who dominated the ADG Golf event with an 8 under par tournament which

featured a sizzling 66 on the final day at the tough 13th Beach Golf course. Geelong Mayor John Mitchell presented the NSW Men's Golf team with the team of the Games trophy in recognition of their outstanding team performance in taking out the ADG team golf event.

Brent Phillips presented the 2011 DSA sports awards to the following recipients:

- 2011 DSA Male Athlete of the year - Brian Lockyer
- 2011 DSA Female Athlete of the year - Jamie-Lee Lewis
- 2011 DSA Media Award - Network Ten
- 2011 DSA Organisation of the Year - Swimming Australia
- 2011 DSA Volunteer of the Year - Anne Jeavons

Another highlight of the evening saw DSA Vice President David Peters presented with DSA Life Membership which was presented by DSA President Brent Phillips. David was a humble and worthy recipient of the award which is due recognition of his over 30 years contribution to Deaf Sports Australia.

Congratulations to Games chairman Phil Harper, the GOC team, City of Geelong, Volunteers and everyone who was involved in the 2012 Australian Deaf Games.

We look forward to seeing you all in Adelaide in 2016!

David Peters Awarded Life Membership



DSA Vice President David Peters was presented with DSA Life Membership by DSA President Brent Phillips at the closing ceremony of the 2012 Australian Deaf Games.

David was a humble and worthy recipient of the award which is due recognition of his over 30 years contribution to Deaf Sports Australia.

David's first involvement with sports was humble, where he played football at his school, Victorian School for Deaf Children.

He also enjoyed playing Cricket, Basketball and Squash. David became involved with the Jolimont Deaf Basketball Club Committee at 18 years of age while he also played basketball at the same time. This was the start of his contribution to deaf sports where he became involved with Victorian Sports for the Deaf (now called Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria) and Deaf Sports Australia.

His experiences over the years saw him become the Sports and Venues Manager for the 2005 Deaflympic Games which was a very successful event that was held in Melbourne.

David mentioned that while he enjoyed playing sports, he mainly enjoyed being part of working with a team of athletes and people especially during his roles as Chef de Mission for the Australian Teams at the 1997, 2001 & 2009 Deaflympic Games.

Congratulations David on behalf of everyone at DSA and the Deaf Sport Community!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What a success the 2012 Australian Deaf Games was!

Over 1,100 accredited people participated in the Games across 15 sports and the city of Geelong turned out to be an incredible host.

I was fortunate enough to witness some terrific sporting competitions over the eight days of competition, and everyone I spoke to were having the time of their lives.

It was special to see a lot of the young athletes experience their first Games - I can see many have already formed new friendships.

The Fiji, Samoa and New Zealand athletes added to the Games experience and I know they went home rich with experience, and a few medals!

Congratulations to the NSW Golf Team and Victorian golfer Jack Besley for taking out the Team and Athlete of the Games awards respectively. Jack shot a Games record 66 on day 3 of competition to take out the men's individual championship!

Also, congratulations to the Victorian Team for winning the John M Lovett Cup.

I must acknowledge the outstanding efforts of Phil Harper, the GOC Team and the 100+ volunteers who made the Games special and memorable.

We must also not forget the hard yards that former GOC Chair, Richard Pearce, put in since 2008. The Games Manual and Bid Process are testament to his vision and dedication for the Games.

The support we received from the City of Greater Geelong, the Victorian State Government, Vicdeaf, TAC and ACE - our major sponsors - were invaluable and enabled us to deliver a quality Games.

We now look forward to Adelaide 2016!

The South Australian Government, through EventsSA, submitted an outstanding bid and will be worthy hosts for the 17th Australian Deaf Games, the third Games in Adelaide, after 1976/77 and 1993/94.

We cannot sit on our laurels.

A final report and recommendations are being put together by the GOC, and will form a key part of a comprehensive review of the Games this year, a commitment DSA made at our AGM last month.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to James Ashley and Kathryn O'Brien as our new Board Directors, as we say farewell to Peter Folan, who has stepped down from the Board.

Thank you Peter for your contribution over the years.

The new Board will meet in Melbourne during 30 & 31 March to plan for the years ahead. A portfolio reshuffle and review of DSA's strategic plan will be key topics of discussion, as well as endorsing a plan for the ADG Review and other commitments we have made at the AGM.

We have a busy year ahead of us with the continuation and expansion of the Schools Education Program, the Asia Pacific Games in Seoul in May and preparing for the 2013 Summer Deaflympic Games. At the time of writing, we are still unsure whether the Games will go ahead but it is 'business as usual' at our end.

David Peters is our newest Life Member, and a very deserving one. It was a honour to announce this at the Closing Ceremony in Geelong. David has contributed to deaf sports in Victoria, Australia, Asia Pacific and globally for over 30 years and is a long serving Board Director of DSA. Congratulations David!

As you can see, we have revamped our eNews - I hope you enjoy this new format.

Happy reading!

Brent Phillips



A rare moment was caught by our President Brent Phillips at the ADG this year! Six DSA Life Members and spouses in one spot at the ADG.

Top row: Bruce Muller, Anne Bremner, John Webb

Bottom Row: Jill Lovett (spouse of John Lovett), Beryl Taylor (spouse of Benjamin Taylor), Cindy-Lu Bailey

Photo by Simon O'Neill

Sam Cartledge to play in Australian deaf men's basketball team

TEENAGER Samuel Cartledge has never let anything stand in his way and has vowed to follow his dream to compete in the 2013 Deaf Olympics.

Cartledge, 18, of Narellan, who was profoundly deaf until he was two, has secured sponsorship with Cochlear Ltd so he can compete in the seventh Asia-Pacific Deaf Games in May, with the Goannas, the Australian men's national deaf basketball team.

The game plan is to perform well at the South Korea games, which will lead to qualification for the Deaf Olympic Games next year. "I think we've got a good chance," Cartledge said. "We just need to focus on our training."

Off the court, the young athlete has overcome many obstacles already, saying without his cochlear implant at the age of two he would have been forced to live in a world of silence.

He served as Broughton Anglican College's school captain last year and he has started a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture at the University of Canberra.

Cartledge, who began playing the sport as a year 5 student at school, said without the support of Cochlear Ltd, which will cover travel and accommodation costs around Australia and to South Korea, he would not be able to compete.

"It feels amazing (to have their support)," he said. "They've given me a chance." The young basketballer said he was dedicated to working hard to achieve his ambition.

Article originally published in the Macarthur Chronicle



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Swimming Australia Recognised for Inclusion Efforts

In an awards ceremony at the conclusion of the Australian Deaf Games, the President of Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) Brent Phillips announced Swimming Australia as the Organisation of the Year for 2011.

Swimming Australia was recognised for its outstanding contribution to deaf sports and its innovative and ongoing commitment to inclusion.

Swimming Australia, along with Swimming Victoria recently combined the swimming events from the Australian Deaf Games (ADG) and the Multi Class events from the Victorian State Championships, giving the ADG swimmers the chance to compete against some of the best Multi Class swimmers from around Australia.

The integration of the two competitions reduced costs, increased participation numbers and set an example to other sporting organisations that mainstream swimming was able to support and deliver a competition that could adapt to suit the needs of a specific group without compromising the integrity of the competition.

The annual awards are a chance for DSA to recognise and publicly acknowledge the successes of individuals and organisations that have contributed to deaf sports.

Adam Pine General Manager of Community Sport said that increasing inclusion opportunities within sport is vital.

“Providing opportunities for all Australians to get in and swim is a priority for us and our success is dependent on strong collaborative partnerships with organisations such as Deaf Sports Australia. This award is affirmation that the work we are doing is making a difference,” Pine said.

Pine is aware there is still a lot of work to be done, but added we are already seeing an impact on the number of opportunities in swimming for people with hearing impairment.

[Click here to read the full article on Swimming.org.au](#)



The Australian Deaf Games swim team, competing at the Victorian State Swimming Championships in January 2012

Coastal trio strike bronze at Games

COASTAL ten-pin bowlers John and Tania Russell and Clayton Hanson have returned home from last week's Australian Deaf Games with bronze medals.

Tania secured two bronze medals in the teams and triples events, while brother John and Hanson picked up a bronze medal in the triples, playing alongside a South Australian ten-pin bowler.

It was the first time the trio, who bowl at Devonport Ten Pin Bowl, had collected medals at the Games.

Thrilled with the outcome, John said it was a nice reward after so many years in the sport.

“We (have) all played for a long time,” he said.

“We all played very well.”

John finished the Games, which were held in Geelong, with an average of 160.

Tania, 36, has been playing since high school, while 27-year-old John followed in his older sister's footsteps, taking up the sport in 1994.

John first started playing alongside Hanson in 1996.

The Australian Deaf Games are the pinnacle of deaf sporting events in Australia and owned and managed by Deaf Sports Australia.

They involve up to 20 sports and are held every four years.

The Games attract competitors from all over Australia and, for the first time in 2008, from New Zealand.

The next Australian Deaf Games will be held in South Australia in 2016 and with four years to improve his game, John is confident he can go return home with a medal of the gold variety next time around.

“Yes, I will,” he said when asked if he thought he could win gold.

“I will spend more time practising so I improve before 2016.”

“We would like to see more deaf people from Tasmania involved in deaf sport,” he added.

The trio are also gearing up for the 30th National Deaf Championships in Alice Springs from April 5 to 10.

[Click here to read the full article, originally published in The Advocate.](#)



DSA congratulates Vicdeaf President Mac Adam on the receipt of his Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the General Division in the Australia Day Honours List ‘for service to people who are deaf or hard of hearing through executive and administrative roles.’

Congratulations to both Tony Clews and Cindy-Lu Bailey on their new appointments as Technical Directors for the upcoming 2012 Asia Pacific Deaf Games in Seoul.

Cindy-Lu will be representing our Swimming team while Tony represents Football.

ICSD Message



In an email sent January 30 to all federation countries, ICSD President Craig Crowley stated that a final decision on the 2013 Summer Deaflympics would be made no later than May 2012.

"The economic crisis is felt in Hungary like many other places in Europe and around the world," said Crowley in his email. "ICSD remains confident we can make a good economic case for hosting the Deaflympics. We continue to work with our Hungarian friends and their government on a solution for the budget."

Crowley stated that ICSD has assured that a final answer will be given from Budapest by the end of February, and "if Budapest fails to secure a budget, ICSD expects to have a final answer on the 2013 Deaflympics by the end of May," added Crowley in the email.

Two days earlier, The German Deaf Sports Association sent an open letter to ICSD urging the Committee to cancel the 2013 Summer Deaflympics for the sake of all the international deaf and hard of hearing athletes.

"It goes without saying that the German Deaf Sports Association would prefer the Summer-Deaflympics 2013 to be held as scheduled," said the Association in its letter. "However, we want to avoid at all costs that our athletes prepare for a major sports event that has to be cancelled at short notice because the organisers cannot secure financing again. Another disaster like the cancellation of the Winter-Deaflympics 2011 must not happen."

"We are aware of the fact, that this would be no compensation for cancelled Deaflympics. But we would like you to keep in mind that insufficient Deaflympics or a cancellation at short notice would do more damage to deaf sports than a long range decision to declare the games as not feasible and cancel them," added the Association.

[Click here to read more.](#)



Elite athlete Melinda Vernon recently had the chance to meet one of her idols and role models, Melinda Gainsford-Taylor.

Nick Watkins facilitated the meeting which came ahead of Vernon's March tryout for the London Olympics. She will be running on March 2 at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park, Melbourne in the 5000m event. Good luck Melinda!

Photo by Nick Watkins

Teen ADG Medalist Helping Raise Money for Local Cause

ADG athlete & medalist Elise Goodwin, 13, in conjunction with 24 other local Port Macquarie celebrities, has been invited to put together an art piece which will be auctioned on the 9th March at the Panthers Club to raise funds for the local Port Macquarie Music Eisteddfod.

Elise's painting was inspired by her passion for track, field and swimming, highlighting the many medals the artist has achieved with the shadows of grey being for movement and portrays being hearing impaired as quite often a feeling of living in a grey area.

Congratulations to this young athlete who clearly has many talents! We look forward to seeing more of her fantastic art work and sporting prowess in years to come.

[Click here to see the painting and full description](#)



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