



## Greetings from the Manager

In what is a busy time of the year the following is snap shot of some of the activities and programs that are occurring around Australia:

### **A. 2016 Australian Deaf Games – the following is brief update of the exciting developments:**

\* Empower Golf Australia have agreed to sponsor the Games – their support is specifically for the Golf Championship – click [here](#) for the media release

\* There are now over 100 registered volunteers who are from all over Australia and overseas

\* An updated Heat Policy and associated guidelines are available for reading or downloading from the DSA and ADG websites

\* State eligibility rules for teams competing for the John M Lovett AM Cup are currently being reviewed

\* Over 500 registered participants have confirmed their attendance at the Games

### **B. Key tasks that the Board are currently working on:**

\* Opening of the Australians at the Deaflympics display cabinet at the National Sports Museum is set to occur on Thursday 15 October 2015

\* The updating of the Five Strategic DSA Goals document that is linked to the Government's National Disability Strategy

\* Approval of the DSA Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015

\* Risk Analysis Review

\* Updated marketing and sponsorship template

\* The bid process for the next Australian Deaf Games has commenced

\* Entering into a working partnership with Bowls Australia

\* Working with the Australian Sports Commission on the Annual Review

### **C. Agreements that have been recently signed off on:**

\* DSA and TasDeaf have entered into a partnership to jointly represent the interests of all Deaf and Hard of Hearing sporting groups on Tasmania

\* DSA and NSW Deaf Society have agreed to update the current MoU so as more emphasis is placed on developing the new NSW Deaf Sport Committee



## D. Active Deaf Kids Program:

\* Visit to Gold Coast has occurred where 50 deaf and hard of hearing kids participated in Basketball, Golf and Touch Football

\* Visits to Canberra and Sydney have occurred where 34 deaf and hard of hearing kids participated in AFL, Netball, Touch Football and Soccer

\* Visits to Alice Springs and Darwin will occur on the 5th and 7th September respectively

\* A two day workshop to be held in Canberra (October) is being finalised that will see teachers, coaches, volunteers, students and representatives from local SSO's and NSO's learn about best practice inclusion processes both in a class set up as well as out on the fields.

Lastly, and most importantly, we warmly welcome Sam Cartledge into the DSA team who has recently been appointed Membership Support and Development Officer! Welcome Sam!

**Garry West-Bail, General Manager**

## Active Deaf Kids to visit NSW again

Once again, Deaf Sports Australia will be running Multi Sports Clinics at the following locations: Dubbo, Central Coast, Sydney and Wollongong.

Kids aged 5 - 17 years are welcome to register for the clinics. For further information about the events and on how to register, click on the link below:

### [ADK Multi Sports Clinics in NSW](#)

See you there!

## Aussies Bring Home Bronze from Tennis Worlds

In mid-July the Australian Men's Deaf Tennis team embarked on their trip to the 1st World Deaf Tennis Championships in Nottingham, England, to take on the world's best from twenty one countries. Arriving four days early enabled the boys to recover from the long flight and adapt to the tournament's hardcourt surface, official balls and the typically fickle English weather which ranged from sunny warm days to chilly overcast conditions.

After several days solid training under the guidance of team coach Dan Norris play got underway on Monday 20th July with Stephen and Jamie getting the Aussie campaign off to a flying start with comfortable wins in their first round matches. Meanwhile Glen and John had first round byes courtesy of their seedings. Second round matches were a step up in standard as expected with Jamie going down in straight sets against his more fancied German opponent while Stephen fought gallantly against Germany's top player and gave him a fright in the second set only to fall short in the end. John took on Japan's top player who used to be a highly regarded junior and unfortunately lost in two tight sets despite having opportunities to take a first set lead. Glen comfortably accounted for his lower ranked Japanese opponent to remain the sole Aussie left in the singles draw. Next up for Glen was a solid opponent from Austria which he won in straight sets to advance to the quarter final. The singles campaign



came to an end as Glen went down in straight sets against his in-form French opponent who then went on to claim the silver medal.

The doubles draw saw Jamie and Stephen team up for the first time and face off against a solid Belgian pair in their first match. After a few momentum shifts and three closely fought sets they scored a confidence boosting victory. On a nearby court Glen and John paired up and easily accounted for their British opponents. Up next for Stephen and Jamie in the quarter final were the Americans who had scored a big upset by defeating the Deaflympics doubles gold medallists however this did not deter the Aussies as they fought to the death only to lose in two tight sets in a fine doubles display. Meanwhile Glen and John continued their successful doubles campaign by accounting for their Indian opponents in straight sets which saw them through to the semi final. Awaiting them were the highly fancied French who proved their class in defeating the Aussie pair in straight sets after a closely fought second set. All was not lost as Glen and John still had the play off for Bronze (3rd place) to come against the Americans. Glen and John adopted some aggressive doubles play to convincingly sweep aside the Americans in straight sets and claim the bronze medal and ensure the Aussie team didn't return home empty handed.

Coach Dan Norris and the players were in agreement that it was one of the best ever run deaf tennis tournaments in all aspects and very professional in how the organisers went about it. Deaf Tennis Australia would like to acknowledge Tennis Australia's support for the team's campaign and looks forward to further success in coming years.

The 2015 Asia-Pacific Deaf Games and the 2017 Deaflympics are the next major international deaf tennis events where Australia will compete. If you'd like to find out more please check us out on the Deaf Tennis Australia website: <http://www.deaftennisaustralia.org/>

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