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Message from the General Manager

There are a number of exciting activities and developments that are in the process of being finalised or indeed are up and running.

These include:

1. The completion of the National Junior and Youth Participation Overview which connects to the new Active Deaf Kids Strategic Plan – click [here](#) to view both documents. We are indebted to a number of organisations who helped in the development of these documents but in particular I would like to thank Professor Simon Darcy from the University of Technology - Sydney for his advice, support and understanding. It has been much appreciated. Please see elsewhere in this eNews a brief overview of the activities past and planned of the ADK program.
2. We are now working with Australasia Sports Timing and Latrobe University (Research Focus Area – Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation) in looking at new mobile compact and affordable Deaf Starting Systems (DSS). Whilst the current DSS is ideal for a major athletics venue it is not suitable to being transported around the country and it is costly to purchase. The aim of the research is to develop individual DSS's that are user friendly, that they are at a cost that an individual can purchase, they are mobile and they can connect to current photo finishing systems.
3. During August and culminating in Hearing Awareness Week there will be a number of activities that will highlight the positive connection between sport, lifestyles and healthy outcomes. Watch out for the National Ear Selfie campaign and Silent games of Touch Football that will be held in Adelaide, Melbourne, Canberra and on the Gold Coast. In addition Canberra will see a number of the Federal Politicians playing Basketball, Golf, Tennis, Touch Football and Netball alongside with some deaf/hard of hearing Deaflympians and World Champions.
4. Discussions have commenced that will see basketball and netball be played prior to or just after the 2018 Commonwealth Games – more details involving locations and confirmation of the sports will be available shortly. It is hoped that these two sports and other identified sports will showcase deaf competitions in 2018 as a prelude to the 2019 Asia Pacific Deaf Games on the Gold Coast which DSA is planning on bidding for.
5. During July we are hopeful of finalising a number of three year Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) with the following National Sporting Organisations - Athletics, Basketball, Cycling, Cricket, Netball, Rugby and Touch Football. Completed MOUs are confirmed with Swimming, Tennis and Golf. With each MOU the National Deaf Sport Organisation has or will complete a yearly operational plan.
6. The DSA New Membership Structure is continually being developed - please click [here](#) to view the powerpoint presentation under the title 'DSA Membership Structure' – thank you to the sub

committee of Phil Harper, Gavin Balharrie and Bryn Davies for their work.

7. The 2014 DSA Annual General Meeting will be held on the 29th November 2014 at the offices of Deaf Community Sports SA at 23 – 25 Famechon Crescent Modbury North South Australia. The AGM will be followed by the Members Workshop which will have included on the agenda the New Membership Structure and the opportunity for Members to present case studies of "how to "an item which will allow all Members to learn from each other.

8. Vic Deaf has sold their building in Albert Street East Melbourne - they have decided to lease back a number of floors from the new buyer which will see VicDeaf located at the same address for up to the next five years. However this decision means DSA is now located on the 3rd Floor.

9. The 2016 ADG GOC are working very hard on setting up an exciting program and further details will be announced soon.

Editor's note: In last edition of the Active Hands it was noted Bruce Muller was the inaugural President of SADSOC - this should have read Treasurer.

Active Deaf Kids Rollout Continues

Since 2011, the Active Deaf Kids program continues to make good progress around Australia through visits with schools and sporting groups.

A recent visit to Perth was conducted where Basketball & Tennis clinics were held at Belmont City College for over 30 students.



We will also be running ADK Clinics in Canberra on 27th August during Hearing Awareness Week, Darwin on 11th September, Central Coast on 18th September and Sydney on 19th September.

The 2nd Deaf Athletics Meet will be held in Melbourne on Sunday 21st September - this event is open to anyone who wish to participate in Track & Field events. For more information on this event, please click [here](#).

Jack Besley Crowned World Champion!

While Golf fanatics were fixated on the British Golf Open Championships, Jack Besley quietly took the crown to win the Men's Tournament at the World Deaf Golf Championships that was held in Michigan, USA.

Jack Besley not only took the crown, he also scored the lowest under-par 68 in history!

For more details on the event including results, click [here](#).



Tennis Championship a Success!

During the weekend of 14 and 15 June, Deaf Tennis Australia hosted their annual championship event in Brisbane. The event was held at the Queensland Tennis Centre.

Singles:

Group A Winner: G. Flindell R/Up S.Swann

Group B Winner: T. Marchant R/Up C. Hutchesson

Doubles

Winner: C. Hutchesson/G. Flindell R/Up D.Edwards/S. Swann

Allen Mann Encouragement Award: Christabel Webber (NSW)

It was an enjoyable weekend with everyone getting plenty of matches thanks to the round robin format adopted. All players were privileged to have the opportunity to play a game on the centre court at the QLD Tennis Centre otherwise better known as Pat Rafter Arena.

Deaf Tennis Australia would like to thank Tennis Australia, Tennis QLD and DSA for their support of the event.



Doubles Runners Up: David Edwards & Stephen Swann



Doubles Winners: Cameron Hutchesson & Glen Flindell



Allen Mann Encouragement Award: Christabel Webber (middle) Dan Norris (left) & Glen Flindell (right)

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