

[Web Version](#) | [Update preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)[Like](#) [Tweet](#) [Forward](#)

Greetings from the DSA office

We hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break.

The past few months have been busy in the DSA office especially with the appointment of Sherrie Beaver as Administration and Communications Coordinator. Sherrie works on a part-time basis providing administration support as well as managing DSA's social media and marketing tasks. Welcome Sherrie!



With the 2017 Deaflympic Games edging closer, our athletes have been devoting their time in training, competing and fundraising on top of their routines to prepare for the main event. An update regarding the preparations for this event is outlined in our Chef de Mission Bryn Davies' report in the next section.

In addition, DSA continues to lobby the Federal and State Governments to obtain funding to support the Australian Deaflympic Team. Having represented Australia in two Deaflympic Games and one World Championships events in Basketball, I understand too well the struggles our deaf and hard of hearing athletes face to stay in top form. I recall working two jobs, training, competing and fundraising on top of it all to compete at both the Deaflympic Games and World Championships. My personal costs amounted to \$40,000 so that I could achieve my goals. I was not prepared to give up just because my team and I were not able to receive sufficient financial support. However, I was fortunate to be part of a team who shared the same determination and struggle to achieve altogether, and to give Australia the best results with pride.

These days with the rising costs of living, and the reduction of support from Government, this places additional pressure on our athletes to compete at international levels. The fact that our Olympians and Paralympians are funded by the Government, the view of our deaf and hard of hearing athletes are of course, dismay and disappointment. I sincerely hope that with continued lobbying, we will change the Government's attitude to ensure inclusion of ALL disabilities in sports.

In saying this, we need your help in nudging the Government to extend their hands to support the Australian Deaflympic Team by signing our petition [HERE](#). The more people sign the petition, the better. Our Deaflympians deserve to receive support on the same level as the Olympians and Paralympians. If you would like to provide a tax deductible donation to the Australian Deaflympic Team, you can click here: [Deaflympic Games Fundraiser](#).

On another note, the DSA Board will meet at the end of May in Sydney for their regular Board meeting. While DSA's funding remains critical at the time of writing, the Board and staff continue to work hard to find ways to ensure that our programs and events remain sustainable in the many years to come.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Irena Farinacci, Sports Development Manager

2017 Deaflympic Games update

It is now under 3 months to go and the excitement levels are starting to increase! We are very close to finalising the ADT, having made a couple of appointments to team support roles - Mark Quinn as Team Interpreter and Daniel Vukovic as Team Physiotherapist. Mark is well known to many in Australia, and has experience in this role from 2009 Deaflympics as well as the 2015 Asia Pacific Games. Daniel's experience at an elite level across a number of sports as sports physiotherapist, as well as travelling with the AIS mens basketball team on an USA tour holds the ADT in good stead and we congratulate both Mark and Daniel on being appointed!



Despite the recent news arising from the Syria situation and the Turkish referendum, there are no concerns in attending the Deaflympics as the travel advice from DFAT still remains as it was from my visit in February.

The 3 months leading up to the Deaflympics is typically one of the busiest times for a Chef de Mission - confirming final team numbers, finalising logistical issues and ensuring athletes, officials and supporters are kept up to date with any developments relating to the Deaflympics. All signs so far have indicated that this Deaflympics will be one to remember!

There is a TeamApp where supporters can download for free on Apple and Android devices and keep up to date with the ADT - <https://australiandeaflympicsteam.teamapp.com/> - it is a great way to see how the ADT is going in their preparations and a good way to show your support for the ADT!

Bryn Davies, Chef de Mission, Australian Deaflympic Team

Kids get active on the Gold Coast

Last month, DSA hosted the Active Deaf Kids Multi Sports Day at Mt Warren Park State School. It was the 3rd time that this event was held at the facility.

It was a successful day that saw 70 deaf and hard of hearing kids participate in Basketball, Soccer and Touch Football. Several players from the Brisbane Bullets team came along to teach the kids how to play basketball. Nikolas Schlie ran the soccer clinics whilst Nathan McDonald taught Touch Football skills.



While inclusion is a strong theme of the Active Deaf Kids program, the Brisbane Bullet players introduced themselves using Auslan. As you can see the photo on your right, Tom Jervis was spelling out his name using Auslan as part of the introductions.

Deaf Sports Australia warmly thanks Michelle Klump for her involvement and ensuring the Multi Sports Day event went smoothly.

Big thanks also goes to CJ Bruton and the Brisbane Bullet players, Nathan McDonald and Nikolas Schlie for their wonderful contribution.

Photo note: L-R; Shaun Bruce, Mitch Young, Adam Gibson, Tom Jervis, Tyrell Harrison and CJ Bruton.

ADG Early Bird Registrations Extended!

Due to the impact of Cyclone Debbie in Queensland and Northern NSW, and recent Easter break, the Games Organising Committee has extended Early Bird Registrations for the 2018 Australian Deaf Games until 30 May 2017. The extension will give participants, spectators and their families more time to register for the Games.

If you wish to register for the Games, please visit the website at

<http://www.austdeafgames.org.au/>

For registration enquiries, please contact Phil Harper – Registrations Coordinator at registrations@deafsports.org.au

For media enquiries, please contact Sherrie Beaver – Media & Communications Coordinator at sherrie.beaver@deafsports.org.au

Whether you want to participate in competitions or visit this exciting event, there are **17 sports** available including U23 T20 Cricket and Women's Indoor Cricket. Tickets for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies are also available. Get in early now!



AUS Deaflympic Team "Good Luck" event

DSA will be hosting a "Good Luck" event for the AUS Deaflympic Team to be held in Melbourne on Sunday 18th June 2017.

The event will commence at 12:30pm for lunch which includes a 4 course authentic Turkish style canapé course, and drinks will be on offer at bar price. The costs are: \$35 Adult, \$30 Concession, and \$15 for under 12 year old.



It is a great opportunity for you to join us to wish the team all the best for the Deaflympic Games. For more information and how to purchase tickets, please click [HERE](#).

Upcoming events

Australian Deaf Golf Championships

This event will be held in Wollongong in NSW from 23 - 25 April 2017. For more information about this event, please click [here](#).

National Deaf Bowls Championships

The Bowls Championships will be held in Perth, Western Australia from 29th April to 6th May 2017. For more information on this event, please contact Anthony Gorringer via email gorr95@bigpond.net.au

17/07/2018

<https://majorleague.createsend.com/t/ViewEmail/j/AC142FC4F786E9CB/C67FD2F38AC4859C/?tx=0&previewAll=1&print=1>

[Edit your subscription](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Deaf Sports Australia
Level 3,
340 Albert Street,
East Melbourne
Victoria, 3002