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## DSA announces new-look Board

At the recent Board meeting, Deaf Sports Australia voted to elect the President and Vice President.

Kathryn O'Brien was elected President, and Ricky Bryan was elected Vice President. Other Board members include: Darren Howell, Tracey Corbin-Matchett, Alex Jones, Hannah Britton and Katie Kelly.

You can check out the bios of each Board Member to get to know them more by clicking [HERE](#).

The DSA Board looks forward to continuing the hard work to ensure that all deaf and hard of hearing people enjoy equal access to all levels of sports around Australia.

Congratulations Kathryn and Ricky!

## 2017 Deaflympic Games update

The 2-day visit to Samsun by Australia's Chef de Mission, Bryn Davies proved to be a very worthwhile exercise in gleaning important and necessary information to plan for the Deaflympics in July. Over the 2 days, several sport venues such as athletics, basketball, badminton, volleyball, swimming and football were inspected as well as the official accommodation venue of the Deaflympics, Ondokuyuz Mayis 19 University which is located 20 mins west of Samsun by car. These visits gave Bryn a very good understanding of the lay of the land and how the transportation system will work during the Deaflympics.



The trip also presented an opportunity to meet members of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) who are responsible for a variety of areas in organising the Deaflympics - security, transport, accommodation, sport venues, volunteers and so forth. Meeting them, as well as attending a presentation by the Chair of the LOC provided a smorgasboard of information that will be passed on to the Australian Deaflympics Team and the public in due course.

At the conclusion of the trip, Bryn left Samsun feeling very impressed with how the Samsun municipality and Turkish Government have embraced the responsibility of organising the Deaflympics and the way it has been set up in the current climate - security, transport, accommodation and sport venues - are of a high standard which augurs well for our athletes, officials and spectators who look forward to the July trip with renewed motivation!

A short video that summarises the venue inspections can be viewed [HERE](#). Please note the video is not captioned.

## DSA partners with Vicdeaf to get clubs active!

Recently, both DSA and Vicdeaf have partnered together to promote the Active Deaf Sports Club program.



The aim of the Active Deaf Sports Club program is to encourage sports clubs and association to accessible to all including deaf and hard of hearing participants.

The program includes a workshop and a 6 week sports specific Auslan course that is tailored for clubs and associations to ensure coaches and sports administrators gain the benefits so that they can communicate with their deaf and hard of hearing participants.

Deaf Sports Australia is excited to have Vicdeaf as their partners for the program which will cover the Victorian region.

For further information about the program, click [HERE](#).

## Register for the Games now!

As Mark Twain quoted "The early bird gets the worm", it is now a good time to register for the 2018 Australian Deaf Games.

Whether you want to participate in competitions or visit this exciting event, there are 17 sports on offer as well as tickets for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies that are available. Get in early to get the best deal!



To register, click here: [Games Registration](#)

## Upcoming events

### National Deaf Volleyball Championships

Deaf Volleyball Australia are hosting the National Deaf Beach Volleyball Championships at St Kilda Beach in Melbourne from 1 to 2 April 2017.

For more information about the event, click [HERE](#).

It is open to all ages and skill levels. Come along and have fun at beach volleyball!

### Australian Deaf Golf Championships

This event is being held in Wollongong, NSW on 23 - 25 April 2017. For more information on how to register, please email Therese Pierce at [dgasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:dgasecretary@gmail.com)

### National Deaf Bowls Championships

The Bowls Championships will be held in Perth from 29th April until 6th May. If you are keen to register, please email Anthony Gorringer for further details on [gorr95@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gorr95@bigpond.net.au)

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