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## Greetings from DSA

Happy 2017! We hope you all had an enjoyable and safe start to 2017.

While many of you were appreciating the Festive Season break, the engines for the 2018 Australian Deaf Games were still running and have picked up more grunt in readiness for the main event which will get the green light on 20th January in 2018 in Albury Wodonga.

The 2018 Australian Deaf Games Organising Committee have been busy putting together plans and preparations to ensure that the event will go smoothly and successfully. One of the first promotions for the Games was a 1 Year to Go Launch that was held recently in Albury at the famed Lauren Jackson Sports Centre. It was a successful event and an update on this is provided in this edition.

Not only is DSA busy preparing for the 2018 Australian Deaf Games, our athletes have also devoting their time in training, competing and fundraising on top of their routines to prepare for the 2017 Deaflympic Games to be held in Samsun, Turkey this year. Our Chef de Mission, Bryn Davies will attend an upcoming Chef de Mission meeting in Samsun to obtain updates on venues, security, accommodation and other Games related information. In addition, DSA has been lobbying with the Federal and State Governments to obtain funding to support the Australian Deaflympic Team. We are hopeful that these efforts will be rewarded.

The DSA Board will meet at the end of February to focus on planning for the next 12 months and beyond. This will include discussing the changes to the Active Deaf brand, fundraising and ongoing membership structure support. While DSA's funding remains critical, 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.

We hope you all had a good start to the year, and see you in the next edition of the DSA eNews!

***Irena Farinacci, Sports Development Manager***

## 2017 Deaflympic Games update

The Australian Deaflympics Team (ADT) is taking shape as we edge closer to the 2017 Deaflympics, with selections being made for basketball, swimming, badminton and tenpin bowling. Athletics, cycling and tennis are the other sports that are finalising selection to the ADT at this stage, and we will have the ADT confirmed by early April. There will also be support staff positions advertised in March, so keep an eye out if you are interested to be involved as team interpreter or team medico.



I will be going to Samsun between 18th-21st February for the 2nd CdM seminar. This seminar will consist of a day and half of visiting sports venues, the Athletes Village and important places, and

one afternoon to meet with members of the organising committee and ICSD, and gain more information on how the Deaflympics will operate. An update from this visit will be in the next eNews.

We continue to monitor the security levels for Turkey in liaison with Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and at this stage we do not have any hesitation in travelling to Samsun for the Deaflympics.

**Bryn Davies, Chef de Mission, Australian Deaflympic Team**

## 2018 Australian Deaf Games Launch

Recently on Friday 3rd February, Deaf Sports Australia, together with AlburyCity and Wodonga City Council launched the 1 Year to Go event at Lauren Jackson Sports Centre in Albury.

The event was a success which also saw an Active Deaf Kids Multi Sports Day event for 12 deaf and hard of hearing kids participating in Basketball and Touch Football clinics.

Alex Jones, Chairperson of the 2018 GOC led the opening of the event along with the AlburyCity Deputy Mayor, Cr Amanda Cohn, and Wodonga City Council Mayor Cr Anna Speedie.



Click here to read the full article regarding the Launch by The Border Mail: [Countdown Continues](#)



The kids having a go at Touch Football



Alex Jones (left) announces the launch of the Games along with Cr Speedie (middle) & Cr Cohn (right).



Confirming the official launch of the Games with the cutting of the ribbon

## 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](#)



## WA wins trophy at inaugural NCIC tournament

For the first time, Cricket Australia hosted the National Cricket Inclusion Championships event in Geelong, Victoria which saw the Deaf, Blind and Intellectually Disabled teams participate.

There were 5 teams in the Deaf section comprising of Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia.

It was an excellent tournament which saw the Western Australian defeat Victoria to clinch the inaugural trophy.



The full article on this event can be read here: [WA Wins NCIC](#)

Deaf Sports Australia warmly congratulates the Western Australian team on their win!

## Upcoming events

### AUS Deaf Swimming Team Fundraiser

A fundraiser will be held at Mountain View Hotel in Glen Waverley for the AUS Deaf Swimming Team as they prepare for the upcoming 2017 Deaflympic Games. Click [here](#) for further information. It will be a great night!

### Goannas VS Eagles Basketball match

Goannas Team takes on Diamond Valley Eagles in a pre-2017 Deaflympic Games competition this Saturday 18 February in Eltham. For more information about this event, click [here](#) to view the Goannas Team facebook page for details.

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