



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018







Building and strengthening opportunities for all.

- Integrity we act honestly, morally and ethically
- Excellence we strive to be outstanding
- Passion we are committed to being the best we can be
- Equality we offer status, rights and opportunities
- Nurturing we strive to care for an encourage growth and development



# OUR OUTCOMES

- We will oversee commitment, relationship building
- We will have a sustainable and effective management structure overseen by a strategic-driven Board
- We will create agreed outcomes
- We will have concise and up to date policies that will drive the business mode
- We will develop encompassing pathways

- We will foster leadership and mentoring
- We will consult, listen and be transparent
- We will develop a governance framework that will support the business
- We will have a risk analysis procedure
- We will advocate, educate and inform sports on the needs and wants of the deaf and hard of hearing communities
- We will host, conduct, manage and oversee National competitions and participate in International competitions

# **OUR PRIORITIES**

Our Stakeholders – Our Services – Our Resources – Our Communication



Welcome to Deaf Sports Australia's Annual General Report. Another year for Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) has ended and as the Chair, it has been my honour to lead this organisation with many like-minded and hardworking people. We have seen initiatives being adopted and recognised by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) which we endeavour to deliver to the wider Deaf Sports Community in Australia. My report is a snapshot of the last financial year which continues on from 2016/2017.

### 1. Ensure Effective Leadership and Management of Business Enterprise Outcomes:

- Monitoring our Risk Appetite and Risk Management and Assessment Plan.
- Monitoring our financial sustainability plan which has been trimmed due to the shifting landscape of the ASC's commitment in funds (our core funding source), and ASC's Sporting Schools Program which gained traction in early 2018 in various States in touch football, cricket and basketball.
- Establishing business strategies to maintain and retain staffing levels.
- National Deaf Sports Committees' financial reports being audited and included in the DSA's financial report.
- State Deaf Sports Committees' financial reports being audited and included in the DSA's Financial Report.

### 2. Encourage and Contribute to the promotion and growth of Deaf Sports in Australia

- Second year of all National Deaf Sports Committee under the DSA internal membership structure.
- State Deaf Sport bodies becoming branches under the DSA umbrella to ensure financial sustainability long term such as NSWDS, DSRV and DSRQ.
- Developing digital and social media plan to support promotion of sporting events, updates of significant deaf sport event outcomes including innovation in technology.

- Continuing to maintain and grow the Active Deaf brand
- Maintaining eNews to our stakeholders with our own contribution to various other news outlets to provide a balanced view on communication tools for children and older people.
- Conducting surveys with the Deaflympic Australian Deaf Team and participants in the Australian Deaf Games to ensure an improved plan for the next Deaflympics / Australian Deaf Games as well as an annual survey for DSA member as incentives for improvement.

### 3. To Oversee, Manage and Coordinate participate of Australian Deaf Sports people in National and International Deaf Sports Events

- The 2018 Australian Deaf Games Organising Committee has completed the management and organising of the Albury/Wodonga ADG event held in January 2018. DSA appreciates the significant contribution from those stakeholders in providing funding and liaison opportunities between the Deaf Community and the local community.
- Managed and ensured the Australian Deaf Team (29 athletes) competed at the 2017 Deaflympics in Samsun, Turkey.
- Projecting ahead and planning for the 2021 Deaflympics with our monitoring of possible future venues and collaborating closely with the ICSD and other stakeholders with a stronger highperformance program, fundraising, participation pathways and organisation requirements.

• DSA continues to work with the Oceania Australia Foundation to establish a sport development program in Oceania and using ADG as a stepping platform.

### 4. To Foster and Develop ongoing and meaningful relationships with all Stakeholders

• DSA continues to attend regular meetings and forums with the Australian Sports Commission, ANZLSA, various governmental departments on a federal and state level, corporate organisations, and our own members.

• Partnering with various organisations such as Deafness Forum, Australian Hearing, Connexu Foundation, Ai-Media, Expression Australia, NSW Deaf Society, State Deaf Sports Organisations, Llewellyn Communications, Latrobe University and Caulfield Grammar School who support and share the same objectives that DSA does in a broader sense, empowering the Australian Deaf Community.

• Working with both NDSCs and SDSOs as well as their hearing counterparts to ensure sustainability and KPIs are being met.

• Together with current and prospective new DSA members highlight the use of the associate membership category as a means of support in staying or entering DSA membership

### 5. To continue to oversee growth and management of the Australian Deaf Games

• To develop a management and operational plan to oversee all aspects of ADG requirements – we endeavour to establish a 2022 ADG GOC by end of January 2019.

• Inclusion of emerging new sports such as triathlons

- Bid processes beyond 2022
- Including profile of ADG in the media

# 6. To ensure DSA increases its reach via digital expansion and technological developments

• Develop community connect methods, digital awareness programs and database tools

• Increase all social media reaches by 10% pa



This year has seen us continue with the strengthening of our innovative membership structure, and the re-introduction of our associate membership to encourage emerging sports such as sailing, chess and mountain cycling. This year is the second year for all the National Deaf Sport Committees going forward with a view to working more closely with their hearing counterparts or as a standalone Committee under Deaf Sports Australia, focusing more on members and sporting programs. Further, this is the first year for State Deaf Sports bodies such as NSWDS, DSRQ and DSRV to be rebranded as branches of DSA and the first time their financial reports are included in our DSA financial report as well as the National Deaf Sports Committees.

With the Deaflympics 2017, I would like to thank the Australian Deaf Team for their dedication to their respective sports, the administrators and the Chef de Mission, Bryn Davies for leading the Team. While the Australian Deaf Team did not come home with medals, I am sure they are enriched by the experience and this will give them the motivation and determination to lead active and inspiring lives. Special mention goes to Brent Kirchner for his hard work securing corporate sponsorship with Chemist Warehouse. Deaf Sports Australia recognised this at the Australian Deaf Games 2018 in Albury/ Wodonga with the Volunteer of the Year award which was accepted by his lovely wife, Libby. Alex, their son, won the respect of his older opponents in the pool and around the world with a very impressive personal best, placing 4th in the 50m and 100m backstroke at the age of 14.

Further, I would like to congratulate Judy Buehow from Queensland, who represented Australia in Ten Pin Bowling at the Deaflympics. She is special because she was the oldest participant and went into the Deaflympics history as the oldest athlete at 80 years of age. She is the epitome of determination, good sportsmanship, courage and endurance. Indeed, the youngest athlete from India at 13 years old, attending the Deaflympics said this of Judy, "I hope to have a long career in sport as long as Judy Buehow's." Congratulations to an inspiring lady. She also attended the 2018 Australian Deaf Games in Albury/Wodonga and won gold, which I was proud and honoured to bestow on her personally being a fellow Queenslander.

I would like to thank the Board and staff for their energy and dedication throughout the year. Our staff, Garry West-Bail(DSA), Julie Lyons (DSRQ), Nikolas Schlie (DSRQ), Jamie Howell (DSRQ), James Hale (DSRV) and Sherrie Beaver (DSA) have demonstrated innovation, passion and energy to an organisation that is gaining momentum as a wellrespected national organisation. I give thanks to our Patron, Kevin Gosper for his continued interest in the organisation with salient advice upon request.

As I come to my conclusion, I would like to congratulate the Australian Deaflympics Team upon their attendance at the Deaflympics held in Samsun, Turkey and hope that their experience has empowered themselves to realise that Deaf people can achieve a lot in sport. I would like to congratulate the 2018 ADG GOC for their contribution to make the 2018 ADG a success in Albury/Wodonga. For all the participants in the Deaflympics and Australian Deaf Games, (first timers and returning participants) I hope you realise that the Australian Deaf Sports Community is proud of your achievements as is the Deaf Sports Australia Board.

A special mention for our esteemed past staff member, Irena Farinacci. After 9 years with Deaf Sports Australia, Irena decided to take up employment with Tennis Australia in December 2017. With her DSA role, she was the acting manager from 2008 to 2009 before DSA was able to find a full time manager in which Irena was able to move her focus to what we consider her greatest achievement in DSA which was the DSA School Education Program which evolved into the Active Deaf Kids program. This made a significant impact on the wellbeing of young children and gave parents insight into what deaf/hoh people can do. Irena was able to obtain a grant to kickstart this program and it has gone from strength to strength under Irena's guidance with Irena obtaining \$500K over the years to maintain this program. It is certainly Irena's initiative with this program that DSA wishes to continue with Irena's legacy.

It is not only the ADK that Irena has managed in her role as Sports Development Manager for DSA. She has also started the Active Deaf Sports Club concept which is to work with sport clubs who have deaf members to establish deafness awareness training for coaches and players. Irena has been a big factor in the Australian Deaflympics Team for 2009, 2013 and 2017. She has helped organise the administration, considered the practical aspects and boosted the morale for the Australian Deaf Team for the Deaflympics. She was the first to think of establishing a Deaflympics Club for the alumni, and was a participant herself in the 2005 Deaflympics. Irena had delivered the sports and logistics program for the 2012 Australian Deaf Games.

She was a tireless campaigner for women to be included in sports and obtained funds to host Deaf Women in Sports Leadership workshops as well as attending numerous mainstream women inclusion seminars and forums. Deaf Sports Australia wishes to thank Irena for her faith, passion and energy put into her own work with Deaf Sports Australia. We hope to carry through your legacy of the ADK and the Active Deaf Sports Clubs from success to success. Personally, I have learnt a lot from you over the years I have been a Board Director for DSA and often, your insights have provided invaluable guidance for me.

To all our wonderful volunteers and staff, your tireless work is so much appreciated and one of the key reasons this organisation functions as well as it does. Thank you so much for your support. The key areas of management, secretarial responsibilities, committee, finances, etc - I would like to acknowledge all your contributions. Thanks to our wonderful support base consisting of parents, members and people interested in supporting their sport. You are an important part of our organisation and we always appreciate your support.

Upon this note, I wish all the Board, staff and members all the best for the future.

Kathryn Armfield Chairperson







# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONI



It has been a watershed year for the Australian Sports Commission. We've launched a new public-facing brand - Sport Australia – with a renewed vision for Australia to be the world's most active sporting nation, known for its integrity, sporting success and world-leading sports industry.

This aligns with the Australian Government's long-term vision for sport in this country, outlined in Sport 2030, released in August 2018 by Minister for Sport Bridget McKenzie. Sport Australia will be central to delivering the priorities outlined in this national sport plan.

At the fundamental level, Sport Australia's focus will be on getting Australians moving through sport and, more broadly, physical activity. We want to inspire and activating people across every age, race, gender, cultural background and physical ability. We will continue to build partnerships in the health and education sectors to ensure physical activity is a national priority.

We need to ensure sporting organisations are equipped to make the most of a renewed interest in physical activity, and so we will continue working with sports to improve the workforce capability, governance and partnerships. We want to help sports innovate, connect with existing and new participants in the digital era and provide products that meet current expectations.

The AIS is redefining its role too, leading a united and collaborative high performance system for Australian sport. Success will be measured by Australians consistently winning medals at major international events, but also in the national pride and inspiration generated by our athletes.

Working in partnerships, the AIS will be focused on doing the big system-level things on the frontiers of ethical sporting performance that no other body is naturally positioned to do.

The AIS has launched a new Athlete Wellbeing and Engagement team, focused on supporting athletes to transition through their sporting careers and connect with their communities. We want sporting champions to be positive influences.

Australia enjoyed genuine sporting success in 2017-18. In challenging times, the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games helped restore Australia's faith in our sports and athletes.

Positions on the podium are wonderful to celebrate, but the narrative is incomplete without humility, generosity of spirit, confidence in what our athletes stand for and how they carry themselves. At the Gold Coast Games, we saw the very best in our athletes, and this display of spirit and integrity is sure to give them the best start to their preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We also had some outstanding performances at the PyeongChang Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. Australia equalled its most successful Winter Olympics haul of three medals in PyeongChang, two silvers and one bronze medal matching the result in Sochi 2014. It was also our best result at a Paralympic Winter Games in 16 years.

Sport integrity has justifiably gained additional focus in the past year, and is a very important priority for Sport Australia and for Australian sport more generally. We, and everyone involved in sport, owe it to the athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, fans and the public at large to ensure that Australian sport is fair and clean, and is seen to be fair and clean.

We thank all of our partners – including athletes, coaches, board members and administrators – for your effort and contribution to Australian sport, and your enthusiasm for building a more active Australia. We look forward to continued success and progress together.

John Wylie AM Chair Sport Australia



2017/18 was an exciting and successful year on many fronts and measures but it has occurred under the uncertainty of future Australian Sports Commission (ASC) funding. Again, Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) received a high positive rating for the 2017/18 year from the ASC (via the Annual Sports Performance Review) highlighting our sustainable and strong business model but our ongoing reliance on Government funding is our major weakness and indeed our greatest short-term risk.

### A. Governance

The yearly review of the Strategic Plan occurred with its key pillars discussed at each Board Meeting. Risk assessments, skill audits and board evaluations were completed.

The roll out of the National Deaf Sports Committee (NDSC) structure continued with DSA providing administration support as well as the financial reporting for the fifteen NDSCs. They are now able to concentrate on developing their sport, the pathways and overseeing their National Championships. A number of key issues that centre on financial reporting – controlling entity – and the ability of DSA to oversee and sign off on contracts that are required by NDSCs are now being worked through. A new more robust MOU between DSA and individual NDSCs is now being developed.

At State level DSRQ and NSW Deaf Sports (NSWDS) are now operating as State branches funding is now provided to DSA from the two State Governments to operate these branches with each State having their own strategic plan and KPIs with Government. In addition, the members of Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria (DSRV) in late 2017 agreed to wind up the DSRV legal entity and to become a branch of DSA. Pleasingly this occurred without too many issues. DSA now employs staff in Victoria and Queensland who run and coordinate DSA programs. These same programs occur in NSW under the supervision of DSA and a hardworking committee. DSA owns the DSRV and DSRQ business names. For these structures to operate more efficiently and to be more connected to local issues and Sate based members we need to have small State based committees in VIC and QLD.

Our national database is still a work in progress but the need for an effective base is very important to the overall success of the DSA business model.

Clearly our Active Deaf programs have a strong foundation and footprint that will be the cornerstone of the success of DSA in the future. This includes Active Deaf Kids via the ASC Sporting Schools Program (SSP) and the Active Deaf Sports Club program. The Active Deaf High-Performance Program is operating but there is a good deal of work required to ensure maximum results are achieved by developing an effective oversight committee and a clearly supported pathway for athletes to achieve at the highest level.

We thank the ASC for providing funds to work on pilot studies to incorporate the ADK programs into the SSP. It should be a good fit; we thank Cricket Australia, Basketball Australia and Touch Football Australian for their support in developing the linkages and programs. Time is required to achieve the required results; we will see whether we have enough time

### **B. 2018 Australian Deaf Games**

The 2018 Australian Deaf Games (ADG) that occurred in Albury Wodonga in January 2018 were a great success. Under a very hot sun over 920 participants were involved in the Games. A separate more detailed report is located elsewhere in this annual report, but I would like to specifically thank the following very much for their support and commitment to the Games:

- Destination NSW and the Victorian Government via Sport Recreation Victoria
- City of Albury and City of Wodonga
- Australian Hearing
- Key sponsors of the Games and Games Expo
- The Games Organising Committee led by Alex Jones
- Sport Convenors
- Volunteers
- The teams from New Zealand and Fiji
- The local media
- The many venues spread throughout Albury and Wodonga
- The local and regional communities of Albury and Wodonga who embraced the Games
- DSRV and NSW Deaf Sports for their support of the Games



# C. 2017 Deaflympics

- Planning for the Deaflympics commenced in early 2016, initially aiming to have a team of 50 athletes and officials. Under the Active Deaf High-Performance Plan individual and team training programs were put into place that included a camp at Caulfield Grammar. Bryn Davies was appointed as the Chef De Mission who oversaw all team logistics and management requirements;
- The team finally departed with 29 athletes and officials who competed in the following sports athletics, badminton, basketball, swimming and table tennis;
- With the team travelling to Turkey an extensive risk management plan was put into place for the 18 30 July 2017 event;
- The Victorian, NSW and Queensland Governments provided team grants and Chemist Warehouse provided a corporate sponsorship;
- A number of fundraising initiatives were developed by sports and team members in particular the swim team;
- Congratulations to the flag bearers and team captains who were appointed at the Games;
- Results were mixed but all team members performed to the best of their abilities;
- A number of recommendations for future Games have been provided by the Chef de Mission these cover the need for early and clear selection guidelines, media officials to attend the Games and travel and uniform suggestions;
- Congratulations to all team members for their commitment to be the best they could possibly be and thanks to all team officials led by CdM Bryn Davies a difficult job well done;



## **D. Initiatives, Challenges and Developments**

- The Queensland Government, Victorian Government and NSW Governments via their Sport and Recreation Departments now provide participation and development funding to DSA, enabling DSA to run programs in each State under the DSRQ, DSRV and NSW Deaf Sports banners. The funding will be used to achieve jointly set key performance indicators that are centred around Active Deaf programs that increase participation numbers throughout the States;
- The States' funding will now be included in the DSA audited financial statements;
- The DSA Strategic Plan was updated in early 2018 after feedback from the Members Forum;
- DSA is continually seeking opportunities to create partnerships with the corporate world, a difficult task but an absolute necessity as we continue to front uncertainties of future Government funding. DSA does have a number of properties under the Active Deaf brand that warrant a partnership, a relationship that can provide mutually beneficial outcomes;
- The suite of DSA policies are continually being reviewed, updated and addressed;
- Whilst there continues to be uncertainty regarding the funding dollars from the ASC, the ASC did
  acknowledge at the beginning of the year the success of the Active Deaf Kids program and provided
  funding to develop pilot for ADK Sporting Schools Programs; cricket, basketball and touch football were
  identified and each NSO has been a great support in rolling out the programs; Slowly at first but there is
  an increasing traction;
- There have been a number of developments in the AFL arena a number of discussions have occurred between DSA and Deaf Children and the AFL covering participation programs and promotion initiatives. In addition St.Kilda FC, Melbourne FC and Collingwood FC are now providing captioning and interpreters at their home games;
- A small window of opportunity developed just before the commencement of the 2018 Australian Deaf Games; discussions commenced with the Pacific Sports Partnerships supported by the Federal Government's Australia Sports Outreach Program – a possibility of being involved in sport development in the Oceania Region. At this stage limited resources have not allowed any developments but there are now connections;



# Acknowledgments

Thank you to the staff at the Australian Sports Commission for their support and commitment to our organisation.

Thank you to the hard working and commitment of 2018 Australian Deaf Games Organising Committee who oversaw the success off the Games.

Thank you to all our Members for the understanding, patience and the embracing of the new Membership Structure and their want to focus on their ability to provide improved deliverables.

Thank you to the Alan Mann estate for the kind donation – it is much appreciated.

Thank you to our State staff - Julie Lyons, Jamie Howell and Nikolas Schlie at DSRQ and James Hale at DSRV. Thank you for your patience and support.

The NSW Deaf Sports Committee – Cindy – Lu Bailey ( up to February 2018) David and Debbie Larkin, Leonie Jackson, Matthew Thornley and Gemma Galea have continued to develop a strong footprint in their State. Well done and thanks.

I would like to thank the DSA Board of Directors for their support and commitment through a difficult year in trying to develop and enhance our sustainable business model. Whilst we continue to develop a number of positive programs and initiatives and provide a strong advocacy for our members a number of uncertainties have a detrimental effect on our foundations and networks. The Board needs to maintain its commitment to pursing best practices overseen by good governance principles so the organisation can come out of these head winds.

Thank you to Sherrie Beaver for her understanding, hard work, passion and keen interest in ensuring the DSA brand and Australian Deaf Games social media, communication networks and the overall presentation of DSA to all our stakeholders is of a high standard.

After 9 years Irena Farinacci left DSA for a great work opportunity at Tennis Australia. I and I am sure many of our members and stakeholders would like to thank Irena for her great work, dedication and commitment to support the DSA programs and pathways. The Active Deaf brands are a great sustainable legacy that Irena has left at DSA.

Garry West-Bail General Manager Deaf Sports Australia



This was a huge, exciting and challenging year. The challenges of not having secured funding by the Australian Sports Commission did not stop us from seizing opportunities to pave the way for our young deaf athletes to reach their dreams.

We saw our Australian Team led by our Chef de Mission (Bryn Davies) trekking their way to Samsun, Turkey for the 23rd Summer Deaflympics. Our respective athletes represented Australia participated in swimming, basketball, ten-pin bowling, athletics and badminton. Fortunately, we were able to secure small grants to support some of our team members to attend Deaflympics and I would like to acknowledge and thank families and friends who have worked very hard towards fundraising initiatives to send our athletes abroad.

For the very first time we had amazing international sports media coverage on our social media platforms for families and friends in Australia and many thanks to Sherrie Beaver for making this happen. Coverage would also not have happened without the effort and support by our staff: Garry West-Bail, and Irena Farinacci who has now left to work with Tennis Australia. I also want to thank Bryn for leading the Australian Team to Samsun safely, all the managers for their support, and especially to each athlete representing Australia and competing at your best. Thank you.

I would like to also acknowledge that the Board supported three Australians as Deaflympics' Technical Directors for athletics, golf and shooting. Congratulations to Richard Pearce (Athletics), Gavin Balharrie (Golf) and Mac Adam (Shooting) and it makes us proud to see our counterparts obtain such a prestigious and important role in deaf sports at an international level.

In the same financial year, Albury-Wodonga hosted the 18th Australian Deaf Games (ADG) which saw over 1,000 attendees. These Games established a brand-new legacy by offering Deaf Awareness Training and Auslan courses for the local community. Everywhere we went, retailers and restaurant staff were able to communicate in sign language or able to communicate clearly. It was game-changing to see what the ADG can bring to cities such as Albury-Wodonga. The ADG also had amazing media coverage and exposure about the Games, deaf athletes, sign language, the deaf community, deaf culture and about Albury Wodonga as a deaf-friendly town.

The ADG had so many supporters and they cannot go unnoticed because without their support it would not be possible to have such a successful event: Destination NSW and Sports Recreation Victoria; both city councils of Albury Wodonga; Australian Hearing; and many other sponsors to ensure the Games ran efficiently. For the first time in the history of ADG, the Games Organising Committee was formed with representatives from two States (NSW and VIC) and both States supported the delivery of the Games. The Games saw 18 sporting events across the 7-days with less than 18 months to prepare. It was not possible without the commitment of the Games Organising Committees and their Sport Convenors, the team from each state and territory, team managers, and the Deaf community's support by attending the Games as spectators, volunteers, and interpreters.

Apart from the above amazing events Deaf Sports Australia have managed, the organisation is also focussed on national members and their activities. These activities range from state-wide competitions to national championship and creating opportunities for individual athletes and teams to participate in international events. It is critical we ensure the pathway to high-performing levels is well established across all sports, as well as encouraging our members to participate in sports for fun to lead a healthy lifestyle. The Board have commenced to establish an Active Deaf High Performing working committee to look at how this program can be made available for elite athletes. It is a new and exciting area the Board is committed to work on. Not only that, we are working hard with our members to incorporate a range of sports in various Active Deaf Kids activities with state-based organisations. Kids are our future. We are working very hard with our members to ensure information is frequently updated on our website and social media platforms as well as providing them support. We strive to improve this by re-sharing events and programs made available by our members.

The membership restructure and transition from legal entity to committee-based membership has had its own challenges where we require reporting structure to be improved. It is an area we are committed to improve on through memorandum of understanding, reporting structure, information sharing and more.

There are some very exciting outcomes such as providing Deaf Golf Australia support to win the bid for the World Deaf Golf Championship in 2022 and the 19th Australian Deaf Games in Lake Macquarie and Newcastle in 2022. These are some example of outcomes our members have achieved with Deaf Sports Australia's support. We are also working towards improving our national database collection by identifying a range of deaf and hard of hearing athletes in order to demonstrate to our funding bodies why we need financial support to ensure there is an equitable playing field for our members. This is about you, your future and our future generation.

Finally, it also inspires me to see that the Board have adopted a revised four-year Strategic Plan (2018 – 2021) by including two more pillars: the focus on the digital expansion and technological developments, and to oversee growth and management of the Australian Deaf Games. The Australian Deaf Games is a pivotal part of the Active Deaf High Performing program where selection of players occurs at ADG to represent Australia at international events such as Asia Pacific Deaf Games and Deaflympics. This is the pathway we aim to nurture, preserve, grow and excel. We also want to ensure deaf sports and participation leads to good life and good health for everyone. To create sporting fields into an inclusive and equitable field for all deaf and hard of hearing athletes. This is our passion.

Alex Jones DSA Board Director Sports & Membership



# During the year the DSA Board conducted a number of reviews, two of which are detailed below:

The following are the key outcomes from the 2018 Board Risk Analysis:

### A. Strengths

- Ongoing Corporate Policies and Plans including a governance overview
- Effective Strategic Plan and Board Committees terms of reference
- National Deaf Sports Committee (NDSC) and new State branch structures
- Adoption of the Active Deaf Brand provides properties and a platform that can be used to promote the DSA pathways and services

### **B. High Risk**

- Members having limited funds to develop and improve services
- DSA reliance on ASC funds
- Data collection of individual members that provides information on trends
- DSA responsible for contracts / finances of NDSCs

The DSA Board is working to improve and maximise the noted strengths and conversely it is developing new strategies and partnerships that aim at mitigating the highlighted risks



The following are key outcomes from the Board appraisal that was completed by each Board Member – the appraisal was evaluated by each member as how the individual saw himself or herself operating within the group plus how the individual saw the group dynamic work from an individual's perspective.

The following is a summary of the overall outcomes:

The Board evaluated the issues on the following rating:

- 0. Strongly disagree
- 1. Disagree
- 2. Somewhat disagree
- 3. Somewhat agree
- 4. Agree
- 5. Strongly agree
- 1. **STRUCTURE AND SKILLS** (rated 2017/18 av. 3.5/5) Training for directors needed/independent advice to be sought
- STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND PLANNING (rated 2017/18 av. 2.5/5) financial acumen for directors for succession planning/measurement for strategic direction to be implemented and understood by all directors
- 3. **POLICY** (rated 2017/18 av. 3/5) strong representation on Board regarding policy development and revision/adaption to changes made in legal field is well represented
- 4. **MONITORING AND SUPERVISION** (rated 2017/18 av. 4/5) Operational and Board direction is clear/ need to monitor company performance against like-organisation benchmarks
- 5. **GENERAL MANAGER AND SUCCESSION** (rated 2017/18 av. 4/5) Financial planning should be prioritised for succession and salary is appropriate/need to be more aware of requirements for future General Manager with mental health provisions in place
- 6. **LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK** (rated 2017/18 av. 4/5) Need to be clear about contact person on Board for portfolio and operational issues.
- 7. **MEETINGS** (rated 2017/18 av. 4/5) Calendar to be planned from the onset for meetings and deadlines adhered to.
- 8. **DILIGENCE** (rated 2017/18 av. 4/5) Financial strategies to be adopted/stakeholder management required/balance of workload to be monitored for Board members

General Comments: Financial acumen/strategic is greatly required. Board Directors with financial planning knowledge are necessary for organisation to function as well as staff who have financial/accounting background.

Networking with organisations is to be maintained and developed for new sports/dying sports for adaption / innovation

Deaf Sports Australia in accordance with its Strategic Plan has identified the following priority objectives and pillars to achieve the Vision of the organisation: "Building and Strengthening Opportunities for All".

### Short Term

• To foster, educate and promote deaf people's participation in sport.

**Strategy:** Achieved through the continued review and development of policies and plans directed at the Active Deaf Brands and DSA Members.

Continually advocate, educate and inform the mainstream sporting structure.

**Strategy:** Achieved through working with National Sporting Organisations (NSO) and developing practical deaf friendly and workable agreements and environments.

**Strategy:** Development of a DSA National Classification database together with sport specific databases with identified NSOs and the roll out of the Active Deaf Sports Club program.

Ensure effective leadership and management.

**Strategy:** Achieved through continual review of and update of the strategic plan and risk assessment plan.

Improve communication and promotion of the DSA services and programs.

**Strategy:** Achieved through the continue development, roll out and access to all forms of communication channels.

### Long Term

Oversee and host deaf sporting events.

**Strategy:** Achieved through the development of support policies, programs and guidelines for all stakeholders as well as securing State Government and Local City funding for the 2022 Australian Deaf Games. Support for NDSCs to host local international events

Foster relationships with mainstream sports and identified deaf organisations.

Strategy: Achieved by developing working relationships that create mutually beneficial outcomes.

 Achieve a sustainable governance and management approach that fosters leadership and mentoring in deaf sports.

**Strategy:** Achieved through monitoring and working towards best practice procedures and outcomes.

Management, monitoring and performance measurement of the objectives of Deaf Sports Australia occur through detailed operational plans, committee terms of references and budgetary processes that are directly linked to the plans of the organisation. The General Manager reports to the Board of Directors monthly whilst budgetary reports are supplied to the Audit Sub-Committee on a monthly basis to compare and monitor financial budgets to actual expenditure.



The principal activities of Deaf Sports Australia during the financial year were in line with the policies, regulations and constitution of the organisation and can be categorized in five main key result areas:

- 1. Governance
- 2. Participation
- 3. Development, Communication and Promotion
- 4. Competitions
- 5. Advocacy

The following activities were undertaken in pursuit of the strategies noted below:

- Continued review and updating of policies and including but not limited to a review of the Membership Structure, Membership categories and member agreements (Improved Governance).
- Pilot programs in the ASC Sporting Schools Program with at the same time trying to maintain the foundations and networks that have been developed under the Active Deaf Kids Program (Increased participation in the sport).
- Development of a connection from schools to clubs via a working relationship with NSOs and the new Active Deaf Sports Club Program (increase in participation and retention in sports).
- Continued development of the website and improved connection with all social communication mediums (Development Communication and Promotion).
- Overseeing and managing the team sent to the 2017 Deaflympics and the management of the 2018 Australian Deaf Games (Competitions and Development, Communication and Promotion)
- Development of the Active Deaf High-Performance Plan in preparation for future International events including the 2019 Asia Pacific Deaf Games in the short term and other World level events in the longer term. This plan incorporates programs for teams and individuals, together with forging relationships with various external stakeholders and the DSA National Members. (Competitions)

All above activities contributed to the short and long-term objectives of Deaf Sports Australia.



### **STATE MEMBERS:**

Deaf Sports Recreation Queensland Deaf Sports Recreation South Australia Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria Western Australian Deaf Recreation Association Deaf ACT NT Deaf Sports Committee NSW Deaf Sport Committee

### **NATIONAL MEMBERS:**

Deaf Athletics Australia Deaf Basketball Australia Deaf Bowls Australia Deaf Cricket Australia Deaf Darts Australia Deaf Eight Ball Australia Deaf Golf Australia Deaf Netball Australia Deaf Aquatics Australia Deaf Tennis Australia Deaf Tenpin Bowling Australia Deaf Volleyball Australia Deaf Rugby 7 Australia Deaf Rugby Australia Deaf Futsal Australia Deaf Touch Football Australia

### 2018 AUSTRALIAN DEAF GAMES COMMITTEE

**Chair** Alex Jones

Ceremonies and Social Program Debra Swann

**Sport and Venues** Cindy-Lu Bailey and Hannah Britton

**Registrations and Oceania Liasion** Phil Harper

**Transport and Logistics** James Hale

Volunteers Leonie Jackson and Carla Anderson

Media and Communications Sherrie Beaver

Board Member	No. of Meetings Held	No. of Meetings Attended
Kathryn O'Brien - Chair	5	5
Rick Bryan	5	4
Darren Howell	5	4
Tracey Corbin - Matchett	5	5
Alex Jones	5	5
Hannah Britton	5	5
Katie Kelly ***	5	4

\*\*\* - Available online at all meetings

Two further offline meetings were held during the year where all Board Members were involved in discussions and approvals



# 🔊 ATHLETICS

Andrew Green (Athletics Manager) Jamie Howell Sekou Kanneh



Ben Robins Callan Brooks Halil Durnaoglu Jordan Woolmer Lachlan Jackson Mark Bilyj Morgan Williams Patrick Lane Samuel Cartledge Samuel Quinn Shane Crick

Brent Reid (Coach) Ramunas McRae (Assistant coach) Rodney Crick (Basketball Manager)

# SWIMMING

Alex Kirchner Hannah Britton Henry Hughes Monique Beckwith (CC FLAG BEARER)

Brent Kirchner (Swimming Manager) Melissa Klamt (Coach)

# **TENPIN BOWLING**

David Hayward (OC FLAG BEAER) Judith Buehow



# BADMINTON

Mitchell Davis

# SUPPORT TEAM

Bryn Davies (CdM) Daniel Vukovic (Physio) Mark Quinn (Interpreter)



as of 31st June 2018 5,744 likes (123% increase)

# Y

TWITTER

as of 31st June 2018 1,303 followers (100% increase)

Since the upgrade of DSA website, we have seen better engagement with users who have found the new website easier to navigate and to find information. This has resulted in an increase of 1,200 visits compared to previous statistics associated with the old website.



### 2018 AUSTRALIAN DEAF GAMES

Reach – 45,933 people (an increase of 40% since prior to the Games) Engagement – 73,172 people Videos – 44,824 views Likes – 2,427 as of 1st February 2018



DEAFLYMPICS

**2017 Deaflympic Games** Reach – 117,026 people Engagement – 65,702 Videos – 74,017 views



Renee Ford Thankyou for the coverage. It's been amazing and inspiring. We have a 14 year that has the next Deaflympics in her sights and has loved this. Like · Reply · Message · O 2 3 · July 31 at 6:50am



Janelle Bressow Congrats to all team members. Extra special thanks to the coverage and reports throughout the past few weeks Like · Reply · Message · 1 · July 31 at 6:54am

Melissa Hale It's working though- in all my years in the deaf community, I've never really seen this much detail on our deaflympics team (apart from 2005 when it was on our doorstep!) so I hope that the young ones are seeing all this, and those who haven't been a part of deaf sports, to join up and aspire to become a part of the Australian team of the future! When it's all over, let your hair down and be proud! Like · Reply · Message · O 2 · July 25 at 7:37am

Deaf Sports Australia | Annual Report 2017 - 2018

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	Note	2018 (\$)	2017(\$)
Revenue	2	701,992	697,257
Event expenses (direct costs)		(321,583)	(180,252)
Employee benefits expense		(164,504)	(57,274)
Travel expense		(33,213)	(321,645)
Fundraising and marketing expenses		(21,733)	(10,933)
Insurance expense		(15,801)	(29,672)
Interpreting services		(14,500)	-
Rental expense		(9,195)	(12,431)
Grants to NDSC's and SDC's		(8,539)	(15,072)
Auditor's remuneration		(8,500)	(5,200)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(5,089)	(8,000)
Other expenses		(30,017)	(9,390)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(69,318)	8,701
Total comprehensive income for the year		(125,366)	8,701

# ABN: 18 006 071 147 As at 30 June 2018

ASSETS	Note	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	117,869	174,913
Trade and other receivables	5	14,733	30,471
Financial assets	6	227,923	274,475
Other assets	9	4,746	110,711
Total current assets		365,311	590,570
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	15,615	5,096
Intangible assets	8	-	200
Total non-current assets		15,615	5,296
TOTAL ASSETS		380,926	595,866
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	19,868	43,573
Employee benefits	11	10,894	31,111
Other liabilities	12	85,596	325,932
Total current liabilities		116,358	400,616
TOTAL LIABILITIES		116,358	400,616
NET ASSETS		264,568	195,250
EQUITY			
Reserves	14	188,892	149,622
Retained earnings		75,676	45,628
TOTAL EQUITY		264,568	195,250

2018	Retained Earnings (\$)	Development Earnings (\$)	NDSC/SDSC Reserves (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2017	45,628	113,927	3,911
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	69,318	-	-
Transfers to/from reserves			
ADG reserves	(18,967)	-	-
SDC Reserves	(20,303)	-	-
Balance at 1 July 2018	75,676	113,927	3,911

2017	Retained Earnings (\$)	Development Earnings (\$)	NDSC/SDSC Reserves (\$)
Balance at 1 July 2016	158,236	113,927	15,773
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(125,366)	-	-
Transfers to/from reserves			
NDSC Reserves	11,862	-	(11,862)
Deaflympics & APDG Reserve	895	-	-
Balance at 1 July 2017	45,628	113,927	3,911

ADG Reserve (\$)	Deaflympics & APDG Reserve (\$)	SDC Reserves (\$)	Total (\$)
31,784	-	-	195,250
-	-	-	69,318
-			
18,967	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
50,751	-	-	264,568

ADG Reserve (\$)	Deaflympics & APDG Reserve (\$)	SDC Reserves (\$)	Total (\$)
31,784	895	-	320,615
-	-	-	(125,366)
-			
-	(11,862)	-	-
-	(895)	-	-
31,784	-	-	195,250

# ABN: 18 006 071 147

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	Note	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Receipts from donors and customers		468,370	502,968
Payments to suppliers and employees		(568,581)	(419,755)
Interest received		12,023	8,589
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	15	(88,188)	91,802
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			-
Redemption/(placement) of term deposits		46,552	5,096
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(15,408)	200
Net cash used by investing activities		31,144	5,296
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		(57,044)	101,937
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		174,913	72,976
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	4	117,869	174,913



### **1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The directors have prepared the financial statements on the basis that the company is a non-reporting entity because there are no users who are dependent on its annual financial statements. These financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the directors have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous periods unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised and approved for issue on the date stated in the Director's Declaration.

### (a) Revenue

Grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the entity obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably. If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to obtain control of the grant, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied. Grant revenue specifically related to future events is deferred until the event occurs except to the extent that there are directly attributable expenses expended against the grant revenue.

Refundable athlete registration fees are recognised in the period the games occur.

### (b) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

### **1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### (c) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. The company is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

### (d) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

### (e) Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables include amounts due from donors and any outstanding grant receipts. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

### (f) Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

### Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of property, plant and equipment are: Office Equipment 20-33%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An assets' carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised immediately in income or expenditure.

### (g) Intangible Assets

### Software

Software is recorded at cost. Software has a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. The company has applied an estimated useful life of three years.

### **1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### (h) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, directors review the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable is recognised in income or expenditure.

### (i) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled (undiscounted). Long service leave is accrued after five consecutive years of continuous employment. Long service leave has been measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

Contributions are made by the entity to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

### (j) Economic dependence

Australian Deaf Sports Federation Limited is dependent on the Australian Sports Commission for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the directors have no reason to believe the Australian Sports

Commission will not continue to support Australian Deaf Sports Federation Limited.

### (k) Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

2. REVENUE		2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Operating revenue			
- Australian Sports Commission grants		145,000	86,940
- Queensland Government grants		102,139	24,861
- Other government grants		60,061	5,606
- Interest revenue		7,976	8,558
- Donations		24,715	15,849
- Other income		339,891	141,814
Deaf Games' event income			-
- Australian Deaf Games		212,545	48,804
- Deaflympics		149,556	-
		190,618	190,618
TOTAL REVENUE		701,992	190,618
3. EXPENSES			
The result for the year includes the following specific expenses:			
Deaf Games' event expenses			
Australian Deaf Games		193,578	48,804
Deaflympics		155,349	-
		348,927	48,804
4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash on hand		500	500
Cash at bank		57,041	151,837
Cash at bank - NDSCs	13	47,111	19,382
Cash at bank - SDCs	13	9,985	-
Short-term bank deposits		3,232	3,194
		174,913	174,913

# ABN: 18 006 071 147

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	11,999	23,650
Interest receivable	2,774	6,821
	14,773	30,471
6. FINANCIAL ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Term deposits	227,923	274,475
	227,923	274,475
NON CURRENT		
Term deposits		
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		

At cost	55,040	39,632
Accumulated depreciation	(39,425)	(34,536)
Total office equipment	15,615	5,096
Total property, plant and equipment	15,615	5,096

### 8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Website development		
At cost	30,342	30,342
Less accumulated amortisation	(30,342)	(30,142)
Total intangible assets	-	200

### 9. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

CURRENT		
Prepayments	4,746	110,711
	4,746	110,711

10. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	Note	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
CURRENT			
Trade and other payables		19,868	43,574
		19,868	43,574
11. PROVISIONS			
CURRENT			
Employee benefits		10,894	31,111
		10,894	31,111
12. OTHER LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
Grant income received in advance		28,500	306,550
Funds held in trust for NDSCs	13	47,111	19,382
	13	9,985	-
		85,596	325,932

### **13. FUNDS HELD IN TRUST**

There are numerous National Deaf Sporting Committees (NDSC's) that are responsible for the administration of specific deaf sports in Australia. In order to streamline sports administration and reduce operating costs, a restructure has taken place during the year which has seen NDSC's become unincorporated sub-entities of the company. NDSC's have their own governing committee's independent of the company. Accordingly, assets of each NDSC party to a memorandum of understanding with the company (consisting of bank accounts held in the name of the company on behalf of each NDSC) have been recognised as an asset of the company. However, as the company does not assert control (as defined by Australian Accounting Standards) over these NDSC's, a corresponding liability has been recognised for funds held in trust, totalling \$47,111 at 30 June 2018.

As at 30 June 2018, an additional \$25,589 is held in NDSC bank accounts where the company does not currently have legal title over the accounts. As such, these have not been recognised as assets of the company.

A similar arrangement has arisen with a State Development Committee (SDC) under separate terms of reference, which operates a bank account established by the company. Funds held in trust totalled \$9,985 at 30 June 2018.

### **14. RESERVES**

### **Development Fund Reserve**

The Development Fund Reserve is used for the development of athletes in preparation for representative Deaf Games'.

### **NDSC Reserves**

National Deaf Sporting Committee ("NDSC") Reserves relate to the surplus funds received from the operations of individual sporting subcommittees. These funds are reserved for the use of individual subcommittees to run sporting events in future financial periods.

### **SDC Reserves**

State Development Committee ("SDC") Reserves relate to surplus funds received from the winding up of incorporated deaf sporting bodies overseeing deaf sports in a particular state. The company is continuing the work of these organisations and have set aside the funds for use by recently established State Development Committees in applicable states.

### Australian Deaf Games (ADG) Reserve

Australian Deaf Games Reserve relate to the surplus funds from previous Australian Deaf Games which are set aside for the organisation of Australian Deaf Games in future years.

### Deaflympics and Asia Pacific Deaf Games (APDG) Reserve

The Asia Pacific Deaf Games Reserve relate to surplus funds from previous Deaflympics and Asia Pacific Deaf Games which are set aside to support the participation of members in the future Deaflympics and Asia Pacific Deaf Games.



15 CASH FLOW INFORMATION	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with result for the year		
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	69,318	(125,366)
Non-cash flows in surplus		
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	-	1,944
Depreciation and amortisation	5,089	9,586
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	15,698	(4,508)
(Increase)/decrease in other current assets	105,965	(110,211)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(23,705)	14,197
Increase/(decrease) in other current liabilities	(240,336)	295,868
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(20,217)	10,292
Cashflow from operations	(88,188)	91,802

### **16. EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD**

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

### **17. COMPANY DETAILS**

### Registered office

The registered office of the company is: Australian Deaf Sports Federation Limited Level 3, 340 Albert Street East Melbourne Vic 3002

# PARTNERSHIPS PRINCIPAL PARTNER & SUPPORTING PARTNERS

# PRINCIPAL PARTNER



**Australian Government** 

**Australian Sports Commission** 

# SUPPORTING PARTNERS



















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# PARTNERSHIPS SPORTS PARTNERS































# Deaf Sports Australia

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