

CHRISTMAS 2003



AVF NEWSLETTER

AVF

Annual General Meeting

The 2003 AVF AGM was held on the Saturday Nov 15th at the Manly – Warringah Leagues Club. The following were elected as Interested Directors of the AVF Board for the following two years:

- Gary Gilchrist
- Kevin Dobson
- Tony Sprlyan

The AVF Board acknowledge the contribution of outgoing Director, Murray Mansfield. Also at the AVF AGM weekend a workshop was held to discuss the merging of the AVF and Member States into an Integrated National Governance System, with the Steering Committee to continue investigating the issue and to report to the wider Volleyball community in 2004.

AVF Annual Awards

The following AVF Awards were announced at AVF Annual Dinner held following the AVF AGM:

Ted Kalkhoven Trophy

Most Outstanding Male Player
Dan Howard (WA)

Most Outstanding Female Player

Priscilla Ruddle (VIC)

Most Outstanding Male Beach Player

Joshua Slack (SA)

Most Outstanding Female Beach Player

Natalie Cook (QLD)

Joe Hiller Coach of the Year

Heathfield High School Coaching Staff
2002 Australian Volleyball Schools Cup



Merit Award

Pauline Manser (WA)
Amanda Combes (WA)

Best Media Coverage

SBS – Toyota World Sport
2002 Women's World Champs - Germany

Outstanding Volleyball Event

2002 World Masters Games
Volleyball Victoria

Volleyball Events Organiser

Phong Nguyen & Kevin Lentin (Vic)
2002 World Masters Games

Bob Foot Referee of the Year

Stephen Giugni (NSW)

Congratulations to all the award winners and we once again thank them for their enthusiasm and contribution to Volleyball in Australia.

Australian Volleyball League

The 2003 Australian Volleyball League season, the biggest yet, concluded with the finals in Melbourne on the 6th and 7th of December, prior to the 20th Australian Volleyball Schools Cup.

Women

Gold	WA
Silver	AIS
Bronze	UTS

Men

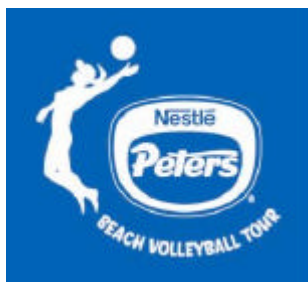
Gold	AIS
Silver	Melbourne Falcons
Bronze	Canberra Heat

Australian Volleyball Schools Cup

The 20th Australian Volleyball Schools Cup was held at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre and State Netball & Hockey Centre in Melbourne from Dec 6th to 12th (following the AVL Finals).

A record number of teams (353) participated in this year's event with Heathfield High School (SA) again being crowned Champion School.

PETERS ICE CREAM Beach Volleyball Tour



The 2003/04 National Calendar is as follows;

Round	Date	Venue
1	Nov 7-9	Manly, NSW
2	Nov 21-23	Coffs Harbour, NSW
3	Dec 12-14	St.Kilda, VIC
	Dec 29-30	Aust. Junior Masters, SA
4	Jan 2-4	Manly, NSW
	Jan 19-21	Aust. Junior Champs, QLD
5	Jan 23-26	Gold Coast, QLD
	Feb 23-24	Aust. Junior Masters, VIC

RESULTS SO FAR:

Round 1 – Manly, Nov 7 – 9, 2003

Men:

- 1st Josh Slack/Julien Prosser
- 2nd Alan Hinchley/Peter Jones
- 3rd Sascha Heyer/Mark Lucowicz
Martin Suan/John Byron

Women:

- 1st Summer Lochowicz/Kerri Pottharst
- 2nd Natalie Cook/Nicole Sanderson
- 3rd Angela Clarke/Kylie Gerlic
Olivia Orchard/Belinda Huff

Round 2 – Coffs Harbour, Nov 21 – 23, 2003

Men:

- 1st Josh Slack/Andrew Schacht
- 2nd Alan Hinchley/Peter Jones
- 3rd Chris Magill/Hans Stolfous
Tristan Boyd/Bo Soderberg

Women:

- 1st Natalie Cook/Nicole Sanderson
- 2nd Angela Clarke/Kylie Gerlic
- 3rd Summer Lochowicz/Sarah Maxwell
Stacey Kloeden/Renae Maycock

Round 3 – St Kilda, Dec 12 – 14, 2003

Men:

- 1st Josh Slack/Andrew Schacht
- 2nd Chris Magill/Hans Stolfous
- 3rd Richard Coles/Michael Croxford
Paul Bourne/Allister Lyne

Women:

- 1st Natalie Cook/Nicole Sanderson
- 2nd Angela Clarke/Kylie Gerlic
- 3rd Kerri Pottharst/Summer Lochowicz
Sarah Maxwell/Marie -Andre Lessard

Check your local guides for TV coverage of the 5 rounds of the Peters Ice Cream Beach Volleyball Tour on Channel Ten.

All the latest results can be found on the Tour website – www.abvtour.com.au

FIVB

US \$15 Million World League 2003



Prize Money

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 st Brazil | US \$1,433,800 |
| 2 nd Serbia & Mont. | US \$1,112,500 |
| 3 rd Italy | US \$1,020,300 |

Best Players of the Finals

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Best Scorer | Ivan Miljkovic – Serbia & Mont. |
| Best Spiker | Martin Lebl – Czech Republic |
| Best Blocker | Andrija Geric – Serbia & Mont. |
| Best Server | Andrija Geric – Serbia & Mont. |

World Women's Grand Prix 2003

Final Placings

- 1  CHINA
- 2  RUSSIA
- 3  U.S.A.

Best Players

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Best Scorer | Gamova Ekaterina - Russia |
| Best Spiker | Huurman Francien – Netherlands |
| Best Blocker | Belikova Anastasia – Russia |
| Best Server | Yang Hao - China
Tom Logan - USA
Staelens Kim - Netherlands |

FIVB World Cups – Japan November 2003

The Men's World Cup was held in Japan from 16th to 30th November. The Women's World Cup was held in Japan from 1st to 15th November.

The top 3 teams at the World Cups will qualify for the 2004 Athens Olympics.

The Men's and Women's 2003 World Cup tournaments, which have been hosted by Japan throughout the month of November, have been called "a truly remarkable success" by FIVB President Dr. Rubén Acosta

Women's World Cup

The battle for three Olympic spots, saw 12 countries, from around the world, compete in a full round robin competition in Japan. Only China was undefeated, with Brazil the second team qualified after only losing one match. The 3rd team went down to the wire with the USA eventually taking it ahead of Italy and Japan

Men's World Cup

Brazil capped off a fantastic 2003 with Gold in the World Cup, remaining undefeated for the 11-match round robin. The World cup, Brazil's 1st is in addition to the World League and South American championship. The remaining 2 Olympic spots went to Italy and Serbia & Montenegro.

The Continental Championships in Europe, Norceca, South America and Africa will be held over December & January with the World Qualification Tournaments in May 2004 to determine the remainder of teams for the 2004 Olympic Games in 2004.

To track all the results to the 2004 Olympics Games in Athens check out the FIVB web site at www.fivb.org.

FIVB World Rankings (as at 17 Nov 03)

The current rankings of the Australian teams are:

MEN: 21st Brazil 1st

WOMEN: 27th China 1st

Volleyball Team Australia Programs



VTAM/AIS Men

VTAM/AIS vs Brazil Youth Team

The young VTA/AIS Team competed in a six match series with the reigning World Youth Champions in June at the AIS in Canberra. Here are the results:

VTAM Youth lost to Brazil	1 – 3
VTAM/AIS lost to Brazil	2 – 3
VTAM Youth lost to Brazil	1 – 3
VTAM/AIS lost to Brazil	1 – 3
VTAM Youth lost to Brazil	0 – 3
VTAM Youth lost to Brazil	0 – 3

After this series the Brazilian Youth Team went on to win the World Youth Championships in Thailand. The Australian Youth Team played extremely well to win their pool and finish 8th.

VTAM/AIS vs China

VTAM/AIS hosted a six match home series against China in Canberra. The series was drawn 3 – 3. Here are the match results:

Australia def China	3 – 2
Australia lost to China	0 – 3
Australia lost to China	1 – 3
Australia lost to China	0 – 3
Australia def China	3 – 2
Australia def China	3 – 2

Asian Senior Men's Championships 2003

Volleyball Team Australia Men travelled to Tianjin, China in September to compete in the Asian Senior Men's Championships. The Team finished in 4th place. Here are the results:

Australia def Pakistan	3 – 2
Australia def UAE	3 – 0
Australia def Chinese Taipei	3 – 2
Australia def Kazakhstan	3 – 2
Australia lost to China	0 – 3
Australia lost to Korea	1 – 3
Australia lost to Iran	2 – 3
(Bronze Medal Match)	

Olympic Qualification Tournament

Volleyball Team Australia Men will travel to Tokyo, Japan from 22nd to 30th May 2004 to compete in the Olympic Qualification Tournament. Australia has been unofficially advised that the tournament winner and the top Asian team will qualify for the Athens Olympics.

Australian Volleyball League

The AIS Men's Team have entered into the 2003 AVL and following the home and away season was first on the table. However the finals series was tough with the AIS having to use their double chance after going down to Melbourne Falcons 3-0. The AIS then beat last years Runners Up, Canberra Heat in a 5-set battle to then play Melbourne Falcons in the Gold Medal Playoff. The Gold Medal Playoff was a reverse of their previous meeting against the Melbourne Falcons with AIS prevailing 3 – 1 (25: 17, 23:25, 25:13, 25:18). Best players for the AIS were Nathan Roberts, Travis Moran.

VTAW/AIS Women

VTAW/AIS vs Japan

Volleyball Team Australia Women competed in a four match series with the Japan Women's National Team. Australia won the series 3 – 1. Here are the match results:

VTAW/AIS def Japan	3 – 1
VTAW/AIS def Japan	3 – 0
VTAW/AIS def Japan	3 – 2
VTAW/AIS lost to Japan	3 – 0

International Volleyball Challenge – Hong Kong

Australia lost to China	0 – 3
Australia lost to Korea	0 – 3
Australia lost to Dominican Rep	0 – 3

Tournament placings:

1. China
2. Korea
3. Dominican Republic
4. Australia

Asian Senior Women's Championships 2003

Volleyball Team Australia Women travelled to Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam in September to compete in the Asian Senior Women's Championships. The Team finished in 9th place. Here are the match results:

Australia lost to Philippines	2 – 3
Australia lost to Korea	1 – 3
Australia lost to China	0 – 3
Australia lost to Kazakhstan	1 – 3
Australia def New Zealand	3 – 1

Australian Volleyball League

The AIS Women's Team have entered into the 2003 AVL and like their male counterparts finished the regular season in first place. The Finals however were a different story. The double chance match versus Nudie Sydney Uni Lions saw the AIS head straight to the Gold Medal Playoff with a 3 – 1 victory. The Gold Medal Playoff saw the AIS up against WA. The AIS competed strongly against a side chocked full of experience and it was the experience of players like Laurel Wentworth and Pauline Manser that led the WA to victory and their 1st AVL championship in their first year of competition, 3 – 1 (25:22, 22:25, 25:20, 25:13)

TABV

FIVB Grand Slam – Los Angeles 18-21 Sep 03

In the fourth Grand Slam event of the year, again it was Natalie Cook and Nicole Sanderson who provided the best result for Australia. Natalie and Nicole finished on the podium again defeating China's Tian Jia/Wang Fei in two sets to win the Bronze medal. They narrowly lost to the top USA pair of Kerri Walsh and Misty May in the semi-finals 11-21 21-19 8-15. Walsh / May also knocked out our second team of Angela Clarke and Kylie Gerlic who ended up finishing 9th.

In the men's competition Andrew Schacht and Josh Slack were locked in a close tussle with 3 time Olympic Gold medalist Karch Kiraly and partner Brent Doble when Andrew suffered a back injury and they were forced to forfeit the match. Unable to recover they were forced to forfeit their remaining two matches and finished 25th.

Julien Prosser and Mark Williams finished in 17th position. They went through their pool with one win and two losses (both tight three set losses to Switzerland and Portugal).

2003 Women's World Championships

Natalie Cook and Nicole Sanderson reinforced their position in the top four in the world with BRONZE medal result in the World Beach Volleyball Championships in Brazil over the weekend. After narrowly losing to eventual champions May/Walsh (USA) in the semi finals Natalie and Nicole defeated another US team, Jordan/Davis 21-16 21-17.

The semi-final was arguably the most exciting match of the tournament. Natalie and Nicole actually had two match points in the epic three set battle eventually going down 21-19 19-21 16-18.

Natalie and Nicole once again highlighted the fact that they will be a force to be reckoned with at the Olympic Games next year.

Australia's other representatives at the World Championships, Angela Clarke and Kylie Gerlic, finished in 17th position.

After successfully moving from pool play into the elimination bracket, Angela and Kylie were beaten by the Bulgarian team (Yanchulova/Yanchulova) 21-19 23-21.

2003 Men's World Championships

Australia's number one men's team of Andrew Schacht and Josh Slack was forced to withdraw from the World Championships due to a back injury sustained by Andrew Schacht. While competing in the Grand Slam event in Los Angeles Andrew hurt his back and was forced to forfeit. Despite an intense rehabilitation regime Andrew lost the race against time to be fit for the World Championships.

Julien Prosser and Mark Williams was the sole representative for the Australia men in Brazil. They finished in 9th place.

National Junior Program

Australian Youth Team Coaching Appointments

The **Australian Volleyball Federation** announced the following Head Coach appointments.

87 National Youth Boys Volleyball Team

Russell Borgeaud (VTAM) has been appointed as Head Coach for this Team. Russell is currently VTA/AIS Assistant Coach for the Men's Program and a former QAS/QVA Head Coach. Russell has a strong background as a player, having played with the Australian Men's Volleyball Team over many years. Russell was a member of the National Beach Volleyball Program coaching staff for the Sydney Olympics and an Assistant Coach with the National Junior Program from 1995-1999.

88 National Youth Girls Volleyball Team

Dan Higgins (Vic) has been appointed as the Head Coach for this Team. Dan has a very strong coaching background with appointments as Head Coach to the VIS, Bendigo Academy and Gippsland Academy Volleyball Programs, to his credit. Dan has undertaken numerous State, and State League appointments, over many years, coaching both men and women. Dan is a former National Youth and Junior Team Head Coach, having coached in the Program between 1995 and 2001.

85 Youth Boys

2003 U19 World Youth Boys Championships - Bangkok, Thailand

Australia was invited at the last moment (approx 3 weeks out) to provide a team to the World Youth Championships to replace Argentina. Because the Team's plan had been to qualify for the World Championships in the first place they already had in place a series of matches with the eventual Champions Brazil.

There is no doubt that the centring of the core of the Youth team, under the guidance of Jon Uriarte at the AIS, was the single biggest factor contributing to their success at the World Youth Championships. The tour to Thailand in preparation for the Asian Youth Championships was also invaluable. Having experienced the Thai food, transport, quality of hotel and training facilities meant there were no surprises when they arrived for the World Championships.

The eventual result of 8th was equal to the goal that the athletes set themselves going into the event. They set their goal to win their pool and guarantee the top 8 finish. In the pool matches, Venezuela was the silver medallist in this championships 4 years ago and Australia came from 2 sets to nil down to fight for a tough 5th set win. Puerto Rico while not being a famous Volleyball country defeated both USA and Canada 3-0 to qualify for the Championships. Australia's win from 2 sets to 1 down was again a display of the teams desire to win the tough, close matches. The final pool win against the host Thailand, in front of a huge home crowd for their opponents, was probably the best match Australia played, they won 3-0 in a great display of controlled attack and block.

The Australian Team finished the tournament in 8th place. Here are the match results:

Match 1	Australia def Venezuela	3 – 2
Match 2	Australia def Puerto Rico	3 – 2
Match 3	Australia def Thailand	3 – 0
Match 4	Australia lost to India	0 – 3
Match 5 (Quarter-Final)	Aust lost to Czech Rep	1 – 3
Match 6	Australia lost to Russia	0 – 3
Match 7	Australia lost to Puerto Rico	0 – 3

10th Junior 'Murray Mansfield' Trans Tasman Cup Series – Auckland, New Zealand

The 85 Youth Boy's Team travelled to Auckland from 29th Sep to 5th Oct 2003. This is the first time an Australian Youth side has won the Trans Tasman Cup in New Zealand. Here are the match results:

Match 1	Australia def NZ	3 – 2
Match 2	Australia lost to NZ	1 – 3
Match 3	Australia def NZ	3 – 1
Match 4	Australia def NZ	3 – 1
Match 5	Australia def NZ	3 – 2

86 Youth Girls

5th Junior 'Jenny Kirk' Trans Tasman Cup Series – Canberra, Australia

The 86 Youth Girl's Team won the Trans Tasman Cup 3 matches to 2. Here are the match results:

Match 1	Australia lost to NZ	2 – 3
Match 2	Australia lost to NZ	1 – 3
Match 3	Australia def NZ	3 – 0
Match 4	Australia def NZ	3 – 1
Match 5	Australia def NZ	3 – 1

87 Youth Boys

Training and selection camp
12th – 19th December 03

Bendigo

88 Youth Girls

Training and selection camp
12th – 19th December 03

Bendigo

Volleyball Australia is proudly supported by:



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