

**FEBRUARY 2003**



# **AVF NEWSLETTER**

**AVF**

**General Manager**

The Australian Volleyball Federation held a Special General Meeting last weekend, the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of Feb, in Canberra. The weekend explored the various options for a better delivery of Volleyball in Australia.

Late last year the Federation advertised for a High Performance Manager to replace Emery Holmik, who is now working at SpeedSkating Canada. Adam Sachs was selected recently for the position from a high quality field of applicants. Adam comes from a strong background in high performance management.

The Sport Development Manager's position, vacated by David Kearns, was also advertised and the AVF is pleased to announce the appointment of Tim Shannahan for this vital role. Tim has a strong background in sport development, with three years experience running his own company delivering management and consultancy to sporting organizations in New Zealand.

"Tim comes to the AVF with hands on experience at delivering sustainable development programs. Whilst there is a lot to do in Sport Development Tim's energy and passion will soon see the AVF delivering services back to the Volleyball community and building stronger partnerships with the States, it's clubs and associations and schools", said Andrew Scotford, General Manager.

The AVF has also appointed Phong Nguyen as the Administrator for the Indoor National Teams program based at the AIS. Phong comes to the AVF as the former Events and Competitions Manager for VVI and as the Manager for the extremely successful Beach and Volleyball competitions at the World Masters Games held last year in Melbourne.

## **Australian Volleyball League**

The AVL has been rescheduled for the second half of the year. It is planned to run the AVL from early September culminating with the Finals being played in Melbourne as a lead in to the 20<sup>th</sup> Australian Volleyball Schools Cup (AVSC to be held from Dec 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>). This brings our most important domestic indoor competition in line with Leagues all over the world, which begins after the international season has been completed, each year. It also allows athletes and officials to better involve themselves in both disciplines – beach and indoor.

**FIVB**



The FIVB are currently preparing for their two annual premier indoor events World League (Men) and World Grand Prix (Women.) The World League has been expanded for the first time since its inception to involve sixteen teams from all over the world. World Women's Grand Prix has also been expanded to twelve teams, with qualification tournaments in Europe and Norceca.

## **Beach Volleyball World Tour 2003**

The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour starts on June 4<sup>th</sup> in Rhodes, Greece. This years Tour has 12 Men's and 12 Women's event with the 2003 Tour finishing in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil with the World Beach Championships from October 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>.

Australia will be well represented on the World Tour, with Australia on track to qualify the maximum number of pairs to the 2004 Athens Olympics. The 2003 World Tour is an important part of the Olympic qualification process. With Kerri Pottharst still to make a final decision whether to continue her incredible career the TABV Elite Squad has been announced and includes Olympic Gold medalists Kerri Pottharst and Natalie Cook leading our Women's representatives and Andrew Schacht and Joshua Slack, together with Julian Prosser and Mark Williams leading the Men's representatives.

FIVB have recently reported that a study of world

sports in Germany has concluded that Beach Volleyball is one of the most injury free sports in the world.

### **Beach Volleyball 2003 World Championships Supporters Tour**

If you would like to be at the World Championships then Natalie Cook and Sandstorm invite you to the World Beach Volleyball Championships in Rio, Brazil, Oct 13-23, 2003. Gulliver's Travel has put together a package to enable you to watch the Aussie Men and Women take on the best in the World PLUS take in the amazing sights and culture of Brazil.

Highlights include a visit to Christ the Redeemer statue on Corcovado Mountain; Samba Show with BBQ dinner AND the chance to play beach volleyball with Natalie Cook on Copacabana Beach. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity.

Visit the website:

<http://www.sandstorm.com.au/2003worldchampionshipstour.html> or email [michelle@gulliverstravel.com.au](mailto:michelle@gulliverstravel.com.au) to find out more and book your seat to Rio.

## **Volleyball Team Australia Programs VTA Men**



The Men's Program has announced their AIS Scholarship holders for 2003.

### **AIS Scholarship Holders 2003 – Men**

- Shane Alexander (QLD)
- Phil Austin (SA)
- David Beard (ACT)
- Zane Christensen (QLD)
- Ben Daly (NSW)
- Phillip DeSalvo (VIC)
- David Ferguson (WA)
- Andrew Grant (QLD)
- Travis Moran (SA)
- Nigel Panagopka (NSW)
- Nathan Roberts (SA)
- Joshua Urbanski (SA)

### **Athletes Overseas**

- Brett Alderman - Belgian – Everbeur
- Luke Campbell – Spain – Cartagena
- Andrew Earl – Spain – Vigo

- Ben Hardy – Italy - Esse-ti Loreto
- Daniel Howard – Italy – Milano
- Steven Keir – Italy - Asti Grande
- Grant Sorensen – Austria - Innsbruck
- Hidde Van Beest – Italy – Ferrara
- Matt Young – Indonesia - Jakarta Sananta

### **VTA Women**

The Women's Program has announced their AIS Scholarship holders for 2003.

### **AIS Scholarship Holders 2003 – Women**

- Majella Brown (QLD)
- Jacinta Debnam (TAS)
- Anne Ehrenberg (VIC)
- Melanie Hopkins (SA)
- Tolotear Lealamanua (NSW)
- Adrienne Marie (QLD)
- Anna Maycock (SA)
- Christie Mokotupu (NSW)
- Rowena Morgan (NSW)
- Jessica Peacock (SA)
- Caitlin Thwaites (VIC)
- Christa Vogel (NSW)
- Rebecca Walter (VIC)

### **Athletes Overseas**

- Tamsin Barnett (VIC) – Spain (Div 1)
- Louise Bawden (VIC) – Netherlands (Div 1)
- Eileen Romanowski (SA) - Netherlands (Div 1)
- Priscilla Ruddle (VIC) - Netherlands (Div 1)

Rowena Morgan (NSW) – Spent Dec and Jan in a Korean Volleyball High School

### **International Hosting Opportunities**

2003 will see some of the World's top teams visit our shores. A number of opportunities exist to host international teams in the States. The key ones are:

#### **Men**

Tasman Cup, April 22-27  
(AIS v **New Zealand**) Confirmed

International Matches, 25 June - 2 July  
(**Brazil** Youth Team have accepted, Dates to be confirmed)

International Matches, 10 –17 July  
(**China** Senior Team) – Confirmed

International Matches, 18 –30 July  
(**Cuba** Senior Team) – Confirmed

International Matches, 11 –17 August  
(**Korean** Senior Team) – Yet to be confirmed

### Women

International Matches, June  
(**Mexican** Senior Team) – To be confirmed in Feb

International Matches or Tournament, July  
(**Puerto Rico** and **Thailand** Senior Teams) – To be confirmed in Feb

The contact person for these tours is the High Performance Manger.

### **Scholarship Coach Position 2003**

Amanda Fielding (QLD) has been appointed the Scholarship Coach for 2003.

### **Peter's Ice Cream Beach Volleyball Tour**



The fifth and final event on the Peter's Ice Cream Beach Volleyball Tour for 2003 was the Australian Championships, which were held in Surfers Paradise, Queensland from 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> January. The Australian Championships were expanded to a 24 team draw to reflect the increased commitment by athletes to the 2003 Tour. A number of matches were held under lights on the Friday and Saturday and provided a great spectacle for the large crowd present.

Thanks should go to the athletes, Frontiers Group Australasia, Channel Ten for their 5 hours of coverage and all sponsors but especially Peters Ice Cream. Peters Ice Cream has announced a 2 year deal worth over \$1million to the Australian Beach Tour.

The Australian Championships results and Tour Champions are:

Women's Final:

Pottharst/Cook defeated Lochowicz/Gerlic  
2:0 (21:16, 21:12)

Men's Final:

Prosser/Williams defeated Laciga/Laciga  
2:0 (21:15, 22:20)

Tour Champions for 2003 were:

Womens: Kerri Pottharst  
Natalie Cook  
Mens: Julien Prosser  
Mark Williams

For further information and complete results from the Tour please check out the website,  
[www.abvtour.com.au](http://www.abvtour.com.au).

## National Junior Program

**All Youth and Junior Teams are preparing for major Asian Zone events**

## Sport Development Report

**First report from our new Manager in the March edition of the AVF Newsletter**

Volleyball Australia is proudly supported by:



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