



# AVF NEWSLETTER

## WINTER 2004

### AVF

#### General Manager

The last few months have seen plenty of activity for Volleyball in Australia. Following the qualification of the Men's Volleyball team in Japan for the Athens Olympics the Men's team have been preparing with matches in Argentina and Poland. The final Women's Team for the Beach Volleyball was decided in the last round of the qualification process with Kerri Pottharst and Summer Lochowicz just beating Angela Clarke and Kylie Gerlic. Australia will also be represented by Natalie Cook and Nicole Sanderson in Women's and Julien Prosser/Mark Williams and Andrew Schacht/Josh Slack in Men's Beach.

Vodafone has signed a 3-year multi-million dollar with Volleyball Australia to support the following programs;

- Australian Beach Volleyball Tour
- State Beach Volleyball Tours
- Spikezone
- Australian Volleyball Schools Cup
- Australian Junior Beach events

This is an exciting partnership for Volleyball and will allow these initiatives to further grow and promote our sport.

On the National events front the full Australian Volleyball League (AVL) Draw and Calendar for the Vodafone Beach Tour will be released in early August. This year sees the return of TV for the AVL Finals with coverage of all the 4 finals matches being shown on SBS from Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, 2004 and then repeated on Fox Sports. As with last year there will be 5 hours of coverage on Channel Ten for the Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour which will also be re-aired on Fox.

Over the next few weeks you will see some changes on the AVF website as we implement some modifications to make the site more user friendly. The AVF is also implementing a new membership card program which will replace the existing service. There has been a delay in the implementation with a number of members having to wait for their cards. The backlog will be addressed by the end of August but I am confident that all members will find the new service far in excess of the previous system.

## SPORT DEVELOPMENT REPORT

### Spikezone

The national launch of the Spikezone programme occurred in Sydney on July 20<sup>th</sup>. The programme, sponsored by Vodafone and the Australian Sports Commission, is focused on increasing the number of primary school aged children participating in the sport through the modified game of mini-volleyball. At present the programme is being delivered in metropolitan and regional areas within South Australia, Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia, New South Wales and the Northern Territory. The two remaining states – Tasmania and the ACT – are set to begin delivering the programme in 2005. For more information about the programme, go to the Spikezone website: [www.spikezone.com.au](http://www.spikezone.com.au). The process of determining which locations will become delivery centres in 2005 will commence shortly, so if your association is interested in getting involved in this programme please contact your State Volleyball organisation.

### Coach Education

The current Volleyball Level 1 Coaching Course is set to expire later this year and the process of developing a revised course is underway. Following a review of the proposed curriculum by current coach educators the curriculum will be submitted to the Australian Sports Commission for endorsement, with delivery of the new curriculum expected to commence from the start of 2005.

Following the return of national coaches from the Olympics it is expected most States will deliver a Level 2 Coaching Course during the summer months. Anyone interested in gaining this accreditation should forward an expression of interest to their State Volleyball organisation. Any individuals interested in gaining this accreditation need to be aware that a Level 2 General Principles of Coaching Course is a pre-requisite. General Principles Courses are offered by State offices for Sport & Recreation.

States are always looking to run courses to cater for their members. If anyone wishes to attend a coaching course and gain a formal coaching accreditation should contact your respective State organisation and find out upcoming dates for courses.

### Referee Education

Over the past few months the Australian Volleyball Federation, in conjunction with the Australian Volleyball Referees Commission, has been delivering a national road show to educate course presenters and administrators in the use of newly developed resources and accreditation processes associated with the Level 1 and 2 courses for Volleyball and Beach Volleyball refereeing. All four of these courses were endorsed by the Australian Sports Commission through to March 2009 earlier this year and the road show has been focussed on ensuring a consistent national delivery of these courses. The road show heads to Adelaide on August 8<sup>th</sup>, with New South Wales the only other State yet to be visited. The details of the NSW leg will be communicated in a future edition of this e-newsletter.

In a further effort to improve the quality of referee education being delivered nationally, the first Volleyball-specific Course Presenters, Mentors and Assessors Training Program: Referees was delivered in Perth on July 10<sup>th</sup>. In excess of 30 senior referees attended this training program. Based on the apparent success of this program further courses will be delivered in the future as the validity of the referee education program is improved through an accreditation process for presenters and assessors.

As is the case with coaching courses, anyone who wishes to attend a refereeing course and gain a formal refereeing accreditation should contact your respective State organisation and find out upcoming dates for courses.

### **Member Protection**

The AVF adopted a Member Protection Policy earlier in the year, which outlines regulations and processes specific to member protection and providing a harassment-free sport environment. As part of this process the AVF aims to identify and train individuals from the Volleyball community as member protection officers (MPO). The role of an MPO is to provide support and guidance for someone who is the victim of harassment, ensuring that the matter is dealt with appropriately for the sake of the parties involved and the sport of Volleyball. If you would be interested in becoming an MPO or would like further information about the training involved or duties of an MPO, please contact the AVF.

### **Junior Sport Framework (JSF)**

The AVF is one of the initial three national sporting organisations to be involved in the Australian Sports Commission's new Junior Sport Framework initiative. Focussed on developing regulations and pathways for the provision of sport for adolescents, the development and implementation of a Volleyball-specific framework will improve the quality of participation opportunities for school children and will be implemented from 2005

### **Club & Association Development**

The ASC has a high quality web-based program that supports the development and management capacity of sporting organisations. This program is free, and provides access to a number of resources on any sport development and management topic. In addition, network members are eligible to win prizes each month, including cash prizes and development and management resources. To find out more about the Club Development Network go to: [www.ausport.gov.au/clubs](http://www.ausport.gov.au/clubs) or contact the AVF.

### **Deaflympics**

The 2005 Deaflympics will be held in Melbourne in January and for the first time Australia will have teams participating in both Volleyball and Beach Volleyball. Anyone wanting more information can contact the AVF.

**Tim Shannahan**  
**Sport Development Manager**

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## **National Junior Program**

### **General**

July has been a busy month for the National Junior Program. Both Junior Teams have been preparing for their respective Asian Junior Championships, which are held in September this year and the Youth Boys travel overseas for their first international competition, as a Team. The Youth Girls will also have their first taste of international competition, in September this year.

### **Chinese Junior Men's Team**

For the first time, the Chinese Junior Men's Team has taken on the Australian Junior Men's Team (85 Team) in a five match home series at the AIS in Canberra. The matches were played in the period 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July. It was significant that China requested the series and provides recognition of our place in Asia, as one of the leading volleyball countries.

Junior Team members:

- Jon Uriarta – Coach (ARG)
- Russell Borgeaud – Assist. Coach (QLD)
- Daniel Illott (VIC)
- Zane Christensen (QLD)
- Travis Moran (SA)
- Andrew Grant (QLD)
- Phillip DeSalvo (VIC)
- Philip Austin (SA)
- Paul Carroll (NSW)
- Shane Alexander (QLD)
- Nigel Panagopka (NSW)
- Nils Langford (ACT)
- Igor Yudin (VIC)
- Marcus Jones (SA)
- Tom Bawden (VIC)
- Nathan Roberts (SA)

### **Taiwan International Junior Volleyball Tournament**

Taiwan held their annual Invitation Junior Volleyball Tournament in Taipei, this month. The 86 National Junior Women's Team and the 87 National Youth Boy's Team represented Australia, in this prestigious event.

On Saturday the 19th of June, the 87-88 Australian Men's Youth Team travelled to Taiwan for a one week tournament against the best High school teams from Taiwan, Japan and Korea. This was the first competition experience for the 87 Youth Men's team who competed in the International Schools Volleyball Tournament (ISVT).

Australia has been sending Youth Men's teams to this tournament every second year over an 8 year period, during which time previous teams have succeeded in winning sets against their opponents but never managed to win a game. The reason for this being that the teams who compete in this tournament are all very good Asian high school teams, comprised of young players who have been playing and training for volleyball at a high level from the age of 8 or 9 years old. They have very good skills and well developed team systems of play. As such, they provide formidable opponents for their Australian counterparts, who by this age (15 -16) have had relatively short Volleyball careers and a limited training base.

The 87 Youth Men had prior to this tournament attended a series of development and selection camps, comprising a total of 3 weeks training, over the last 12 months. They entered the tournament with expectations and hopes of achieving a top 4 finish, which would mean winning at least 2 games and doing something an Australian Youth team had never done previously.

After a nervous start in their first match, the young Aussies created Australian Volleyball History for this age group by winning their second match against the Taiwanese National Champions, and becoming the first team ever to win a match at this tournament. They won a second match the next day and came within one set of making the play-off for 3rd and 4th, but were beaten by Korea in 2 close sets.

Unfortunately they finished off their last match poorly, and finished 6th.

Considering these were their first ever matches as a team, they played exceptionally well to win 2 matches and promise to be an exciting group of athletes for Australian Volleyball. The difference between the Australians and their opponents at this tournament was purely a function of training and competition time together. Had this group been training together at the AIS since the start of the year (Just 6 months) they would have very likely won the tournament.

It was a real affirmation that the current VTA strategy of providing young athletes with high potential, the opportunity to enter into a full-time high performance development program at the AIS is absolutely the difference between producing good volleyball players and world class players. It is also the difference between having youth and junior teams that are competitive as opposed to developing teams with a real winning mentality who are consistently beating their Japanese, Chinese and Korean counterparts and qualifying for World Youth and Junior Championships on a regular basis. We need to extend our commitment to this elite development pathway if we ever hope to be a consistent top 10 Volleyball nation.

The athletes involved in the Taiwan International Junior Volleyball Tournament include:

#### **86 Junior Women's Team:**

- Sue Jenkins – Coach (VIC)
- Boris Georgieff – Assist. Coach (QLD)
- Anne Ehrenberg (VIC)
- Rebecca Walter (VIC)
- Christa Vogel (NSW)
- Natalie Frostick (NSW)
- Jennifer Baldwin (NSW)
- Sian Percy (VIC)
- Megan Boromeo (VIC)
- Larissa Kozulin (WA)
- Karina Schaap (WA)
- Jo Healy (SA)
- Eliza Uren (SA)
- Ashley Dunlop (QLD)

#### **87 Youth Boy's Team:**

- Daniel Ilott – Coach (VIC) replacing Russell Borgeaud (QLD)
- Bill McHoul – Manager (VIC)

- Ken Thomson – Assist. Coach (QLD)
- Nigel Panagopka (NSW)
- Nils Langford (ACT)
- David Parsons (VIC)
- Steven Wallace (VIC)
- Nick Goldsbrough-Readron (VIC)
- Tony Valena (VIC)
- Igor Yudin (VIC)
- Travis Passier (QLD)
- Marcus Jones (SA)
- Matthew Hunt (SA)
- Joshua Thorpe (TAS)
- Alexander Rogers (NSW)

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Junior Men's Trans Tasman Series for the Murray Mansfield Trophy**

The 2004 edition of the Junior 'Murray Mansfield' Trans Tasman Series was contested this year in July (5 – 9) at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. The series saw a combined Junior (born 85 or later) and Youth (born 87 or later) Australian Team defeat the New Zealand Junior Team for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running. The young Australian's captured the series 4 matches to 1 whilst displaying a level of volleyball beyond their years to defeat an aggressive New Zealand side. Given the relative inexperience of the Team coach Russell Borgeaud played no more than two Junior age athletes in any given match to provide some on court leadership.

Match reports are available on the AVF website [www.avf.org.au](http://www.avf.org.au)

#### **Results:**

- Match 1: VTA def N. Z 3 sets - 0 : (25-15, 25-20, 25-11)  
Match 2: VTA def N. Z 3 sets - 0 : (25-17, 25-20, 25-13)  
Match 3: VTA def N. Z 3 sets - 0 : (25-20, 25-23, 25-16)  
Match 4:  
Match 5: VTA def N. Z 3 sets - 1 : (25-23, 22-25, 25-19, 25-21)

Athletes and coaches involve include:

#### **Junior athlete:**

- Andrew Grant (QLD)  
Paul Carroll (NSW)  
Shane Alexander (QLD)  
Philip Austin (SA)

#### **Youth athlete:**

- Nigel Panagopka (NSW)  
Nils Langford (ACT)  
Igor Yudin (VIC)  
David Parsons (VIC)  
Tony Valena (VIC)  
Travis Passier (QLD)  
Shaun Howard (QLD)  
Marcus Jones (SA)  
John Dekker (QLD)  
Jarryd Christensen (QLD)

#### **Coaching staff:**

- Russel Borgeaud (QLD) – C  
Daniel Ilott (VIC) – AC  
Steve Benson (VIC) – AC/Stats

#### **Upcoming Events**

##### **September**

85 National Junior Men – 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Men's Championships in Qatar

86 National Junior Women – 12<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Women's Championships in Sri Lanka

88 National Youth Girls - 6th Junior Women's Trans Tasman in New Zealand

# VTV CUP - Nam Dinh, Vietnam

## AIS wins "Best Blocking Team" of the tournament.

Melanie Tregenza finished second in the "Best Scorer" and won "Best Server" of the tournament.

Tea Lealamanua finished second in the "Best Blocker" of the tournament.

### Results:

Vietnam def AIS 3 - 2: (25-27, 25-16, 21-25, 25-23, 15-10)

Nak Rat (Thailand) def AIS 3 - 0: (25-19, 25-23, 28-26)

Honghe (China) def AIS 3 - 2: (25-23, 25-18, 21-25, 21-25, 15-5)

Donda (China) def AIS 3 - 0: (31-29, 25-17, 25-18)

Kazakhstan def AIS 3 - 0: (25-16, 25-23, 25-21)

Donda def Kazakhstan 3 - 0 to take out the VTV Cup

AIS starting line-up: Maycock (SA), Tregenza (WA), West (WA), Bawden (Vic), Marie (NSW), Lealamanua (NSW), Morgan NSW, libero)

Subs: Walter (Vic), Vogel (NSW), Hopkins (SA), Watts (QLD).

The introduction of prize money ensured a quality field for this years VTV Cup, including National Teams from Kazakhstan and Vietnam and leading league teams Honghe and Donda from China. The young AIS team were the underdogs but certainly impressed, with a top place finish as the "Best Blocking Team" of the tournament - a remarkable performance given the formidable blocking power of Kazakhstan in particular.

The underdog tag seemed to suit the Australians who rose to the challenge to play some of their best volleyball against the stronger opponents. 11 of the 19 sets played were decided by 4 points or less; a clear indication that the team has what it takes to be competitive at this level.

The AIS stunned the 2000+ crowd in the opening match of the tournament against Vietnam, overcoming the considerable home crowd support to fight their way into a match winning position late in the 4th set, only to falter at the final hurdle and be overrun in the deciding 5th set.

Similarly, no-one gave the AIS much of a chance against Chinese team Honghe. With their backs to the wall at 0-2 down the Australians fought back to level the match at two sets all, before Honghe regained control to take the match in the 5th.

The Australians lack of experience was exposed in these pressure situations, faltering at critical times. The match against tournament winner Donda being a case in point, where the AIS played superbly to be poised for a first set win at 23-16 but unable to deliver the knockout punch, eventually going down 29-31. Of the 7 sets decided by a two point margin, the Australians won only 1; the opening set of the tournament.

Also promising were the individual performances of Mel Tregenza, Tea Lealamanua and Louise Bawden, all of whom finished in the top 15 scorers (serve + block + attack) in the

tournament - quite remarkable for Louise who is more accustomed to setting than attacking. Mel finished second behind proven international Yelena Pavlova (KAZ) - a fantastic result. Mel also took out the award for the "Best Server" of the tournament. Tea finished 2nd in the "Best Blocker" having executed the most stuff blocks of anyone in the tournament. Not surprisingly, Tea lead the AIS in blocking and helped engineer Australia's dominance as the "Best Blocking Team".

Not many wins on the board but some very promising signs for the Australians. Watch out for them in the future!

### Sue Jenkins

Asst Coach

AIS Women's Volleyball

## Volleyball Team Australia Men

Volleyball Team Australia Men (VTAM) started its specific match preparation for the Athens Olympics, with its first match in a 4 test series on 16<sup>th</sup> July against the 8th ranked team in the world, Argentina. The first 2 matches resulted in a defeat by Argentina 3 sets - 1 in both matches. A detailed match report of the most recent Match 3 is below.

### Match 3 - VTAM Men Vs Argentina 20/7/04

Starting line-up: Alderman (points won - 5) (QLD), Hardy (12)( ACT), Campbell (1) (VIC), Van Beest (9) (QLD), Christensen (13) (QLD), Howard (Capt) (11) (WA), Libero - Moran (SA)

Substitutes: Ferguson (4) (WA), Beard (1) (ACT), Sorensen (0) (QLD)

Scores: VTAM were defeated by Argentina 3 sets - 1: (23 - 25, 25 - 20, 16 - 25, 21 - 25)

Volleyball Team Australia Men (VTAM/ AIS) were defeated 3 sets to 1 in the 3rd match of the series with Argentina in Lanus, near Buenos Aires, tonight. Australia started the match strongly with aces to Hidde Van Beest and Brett Alderman helping them to an 8 - 7 lead at the first technical timeout. Poor passing by the Australians allowed the Argentinean team take the lead. VTAM regained the lead with some better defence, including a block to Alderman and a transition kill by Ben Hardy. They lead 20 - 19 before some good serving and defence by the local team helped them to snatch back the lead and steal the set.

The Australians reacted well by lifting their performance particularly with some aggressive serving and better defence. Aces by Dan Howard and Alderman gave their team the early lead, while blocks to David Ferguson and Howard stretched the lead. Later in the set the Australians were able to transition the Argentine attacks, with Howard and Christensen both spiking for points. The result was a convincing 25 - 20 win to Australia.

The 3rd set was also a convincing win, this time for the Argentinean team. Their veteran Jorge Elgueta set up the win with a run of 7 serves. His powerful jump serving wreaked havoc with the Australian reception and the set was all but over by the time his run finished.

Australia fought well in the 4th set although they usually trailed by one or two points. Hardy and Howard were

attacking at over 70% kills and when Hardy killed a transition attack VTAM were within one point at 20 - 21. Unfortunately 2 passing errors at the end of the set were very costly and made it virtually impossible for Australia to win, Argentina finishing the match at the first opportunity for another 3 - 1 win.

The final match of the series is in Buenos Aires on Thursday night.

Best Players: Howard, Hardy, Christensen

## FIVB

### Olympic Games – Draw for men's & women's teams completed

The Drawing of Lots conducted by FIVB Sports Events Coordinator Mr. Lance Kelly determined the order of matches in the Preliminary Round of both the men's and women's competitions at the Peace and Friendship Stadium.

China v U.S.A will be the feature women's match on the opening day of the Olympic Games Volleyball competition in Athens, Greece following the Drawing of Lots ceremony held at the ATHOC headquarters.

The women's draw, which starts on August 14, the 12 teams qualified are split into two pools. In Pool A is Greece, Brazil, Italy, Japan, Korea and Kenya while in Pool B is China, U.S.A., Russia, Cuba, Germany and the Dominican Republic.

The men's draw, which starts on August 15, the 12 teams are also split with Pool A consisting of Greece, 2000 Olympic champions Serbia and Montenegro, France, Argentina, Poland and Tunisia. In Pool B, Brazil, Italy, U.S.A., Russia, the Netherlands and Australia are together.

## Beach Report – July 2004

### OLYMPIC GAMES

The Olympic qualification period is over and the teams qualified have been decided.

The teams and their final Olympic ranking:

#### WOMEN

Natalie Cook and Nicole Sanderson (5)  
Kerri Pottharst and Summer Lochowicz (19)

#### MEN

Josh Slack and Andrew Schacht (13<sup>th</sup>)  
Julien Prosser and Mark Williams (14<sup>th</sup>)

The men's teams and the top women's team were all but decided a few months ago but the women's second team position was uncertain right up until the last game in the last event.

Going in to the last qualifying event in Mallorca, Spain, it became a head to head battle between Pottharst/Lochowicz and Kylie Gerlic/Angela Clarke. Whichever team produced the best result would be going to the Olympics.

Despite having a team-best finish of 5<sup>th</sup> for Gerlic/Clarke it wasn't enough as Pottharst/Lochowicz finished one place better in 4<sup>th</sup> therefore securing the final position in the Australian Beach Volleyball Olympic team.

Congratulations to those successful in qualifying for the Olympics. We look forward to seeing some great matches and results in the games.

### WORLD TOUR RESULTS

In the past month our teams have travelled to Switzerland, Germany, Norway, Spain, France and Poland to compete in World Tour events.

The best results of the past month were:

Pottharst/Lochowicz	4 <sup>th</sup> (Spain), 5 <sup>th</sup> (Switzerland)
Gerlic/Clarke	5 <sup>th</sup> (Spain)
Schacht/Slack	7 <sup>th</sup> (Germany, Norway, Poland)

Complete results are:

#### SWITZERLAND

Cook/Sanderson	17 <sup>th</sup>
Pottharst/Lochowicz	5 <sup>th</sup>
Gerlic/Clarke	9 <sup>th</sup>
Schacht/Slack	9 <sup>th</sup>
Prosser/Williams	25 <sup>th</sup>

#### GERMANY

Cook/Sanderson	25 <sup>th</sup>
Pottharst/Lochowicz	9 <sup>th</sup>
Gerlic/Clarke	13 <sup>th</sup>
Schacht/Slack	7 <sup>th</sup>
Prosser/Williams	17 <sup>th</sup>

#### NORWAY

Cook/Sanderson	dnp
Pottharst/Lochowicz	25 <sup>th</sup>
Gerlic/Clarke	9 <sup>th</sup>
Schacht/Slack	7 <sup>th</sup>
Prosser/Williams	13 <sup>th</sup>

#### SPAIN

Cook/Sanderson	dnp
Pottharst/Lochowicz	4 <sup>th</sup>
Gerlic/Clarke	5 <sup>th</sup>
Schacht/Slack	dnp
Prosser/Williams	9 <sup>th</sup>

#### FRANCE

Cook/Sanderson	dnp
Pottharst/Lochowicz	dnp
Gerlic/Clarke	13 <sup>th</sup>
Schacht/Slack	9 <sup>th</sup>
Prosser/Williams	13 <sup>th</sup>

#### POLAND (men)

Schacht/Slack	7 <sup>th</sup>
Prosser/Williams	dnp

The final event on the World Tour before the Olympics is the players favourite event in Klagenfurt, Austria this week.



## 2004 Pan Pacific Masters Games

The Pan Pacific Masters Games is a multi sport event held every year alternating between the cities of the Gold Coast in Queensland, Australia and Sacramento in California USA.

Previously known as the Asia Pacific Masters Games (ASPAC) the change of name evolved from an alliance between the managers of ASPAC (Gold Coast Events Management Ltd) and the Sacramento Sports Commission.

In 2004 the Pan Pacific Masters Games is expected to attract more than 10,000 participants to the Gold Coast to compete in over 40 sports during a ten-day period. It is the biggest multi sport event in Queensland and is expected to attract competitors from all states of Australia and overseas including New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Japan, USA, Singapore, England, Sri Lanka, India, Fiji, Noumea and many more.

The Games Village, located at the Broadwater Events Parkland will once again become a hub of excitement at this year's event with free nightly entertainment for Games accredited participants, supporters, sports staff and volunteers. The line-up of entertainers has become legendary with great local and big named bands as well as a resident DJ providing a memorable evening of fun and frivolity for all who attend.

Beach Volley takes to the sand on Saturday 6 November at Parklands Indoor Sports Centre. Participants are expecting stiff competition with entries flooding in from all over Australian. The Beach Volleyball is open to participants over the age of thirty in the pairs and also the fours competition. Participants are urged to take advantage of the early bird fee before the August 6 deadline.

*For further information contact Brett at Gold Coast Event Management on (Int+ 61) 7 5564 8733 or [brett@goldcoastevents.com.au](mailto:brett@goldcoastevents.com.au).*

## Next Edition:

- Olympic Preparations
- Volleyball at the Olympics
- Our Olympians

## Upcoming Events:

Aug 13-29	Athens Olympics
Sep 28/29	AVL Commences
Oct 23	AVF AGM
Nov 19-21	Vodafone Beach Tour – 1 <sup>st</sup> event
Dec 4/5	AVL Finals
Dec 5-10	Australian Volleyball Schools Cup
Dec 29-31	Vodafone Junior Beach Champs
Jan 19 – 23	Australian Youth Olympic Festival
Feb 4-6	Vodafone Beach Champs

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