



Volleyball Australia Newsletter

September 2004

AVF

General Manager's Report

The weekend sees the start of the 2004 Australian Volleyball League in Perth (home of the current Women's Champions) against Sydney Uni Lions and University of Technology Sydney. This season sees 11 Clubs competing over the next 10 weeks across Australia, culminating with the Finals on December 4th & 5th at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre. The Medal matches will be broadcast by SBS from December 12th so check your local guides.

If you haven't already you should check out the revamped AVF website – www.avf.org.au. The AVF will continue to update the site to make it the one-stop location for information on Volleyball in Australia. Congratulations to Tim Shannahan and Bridget Bray on their work and if you have any suggestions then please contact Bridget (info@avf.org.au).

Volleyball NT have recently held their AGM and have elected a new Executive, with Mark Waterhouse, their new President. The AVF have been working with VNT to build one organisation for Volleyball in the NT and will continue this process with Mark and his team.

The AVF will be holding its AGM in October with a National Strategic Planning Workshop, facilitated by Russell Newman, on Sunday October 24th a key activity. The workshop will focus on identifying the key outcomes for Volleyball in Australia through to 2020 and how to deliver these. Volleyball received fantastic exposure from the Olympics and we need to build on that and to plan a long term strategy to compete in the very competitive media and sponsorship arena if we wish to achieve all our goals for Volleyball.

With the 'new' National Membership Card now available I hope you have had a chance to access the thousands of discounted services/products available throughout Australia. If not then please contact your Member State association.

ACT Sport Hall Of Fame

Congratulations to David Flatt who has been inducted into the ACT Sport Hall Of Fame for his extensive involvement in Volleyball throughout his coaching career.

A name that is so closely associated with Volleyball in the ACT, David's involvement in volleyball coaching began in 1976 at Melrose High School. Since guiding the school teams into the ACT Volleyball senior competitions, David has led a long and successful coaching career.

In a long and successful career, David has coached teams at the Australian Volleyball Schools Competition (AVSC) and the National School Cup, receiving the highest recognition for his coaching success with many different teams.

On behalf of the Australian Volleyball Federation I would like to thank David for his dedication to the sport and wish him the best of luck in the future.

Sport Development Report

ASC National Coaching Scholarship Program

Volleyball and Beach Volleyball coaches interested in spending at least twelve months within the Australian Volleyball Federation's High Performance Program on a coaching scholarship have until October 1st to submit their applications.

On Friday, September 17th the Australian Sports Commission advertised its National Coaching Scholarship program for 2005, inviting interested coaches to apply for a scholarship that will provide them with at least a twelve month intensive training opportunity under the guidance of a VTA coach and working within the VTA program.

Applications are due by Friday, October 1st. The Scholarship Application Pack and Terms and Conditions are available from: www.ausport.gov.au/coach/scholarshipapp.asp or will be posted upon request. For enquiries, or to request the pack by post, contact Murray Halls at the ASC on (02) 6214 1553. For further information regarding the Scholarship Program from the AVF, please email sdm@avf.org.au.

Referees for the Australian Volleyball League

This year's Australian Volleyball League commences in September and runs through to the first weekend in December when finals will take place in Melbourne. Referees interested in officiating in this year's League and with a current AVRC accreditation of National A or above should contact their State Volleyball office who can put them in contact with the appropriate AVRC State representative. Alternatively, email sdm@avf.org.au. A tentative draw can be accessed in the Competitions & Events – AVL section of the AVF website.

Referees for the Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour

A similar request for referees applies to this summer's Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour. Referees with a State AAA accreditation or above for Beach Volleyball are eligible to referee on the Tour. For further information, view the August 2004 Time Out E-Newsletter in the 'Newsletters' section of the AVF website or email sdm@avf.org.au.

Employment Opportunity

The Australian Overseas Aid Program, AusAID, has advertised a position for a Youth Ambassador to work for twelve months in Cambodia in a sport development role with the Cambodian National Volleyball League (Disabled) Organisation. Anyone wanting more information on this opportunity can find relevant information in the 'Employment Opportunities' section of the AVF website or by going to: www.usaid.gov.au/youtham/assign13/13COGO03.cfm.

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2004 FIVB Junior World Championships – Beach Volleyball

The Under 18 and Under 21 FIVB Junior World Beach Volleyball Championships for 2004 took place in the past few weeks in Italy and Portugal.

Under 18s

This tournament was situated in beautiful Termoli on the east coast of Italy. Australia was represented by the following athletes:

Women: Jillian McLeod and Alice Rohkamper
Men: Sam Boehm and Shaun Howard

Jill and Alice came into the tournament as the number 9 seeds. Their pool contained: Barbosa - Barry (USA) seed 4, Lukjanka - Cvetkova (LAT) 16, Zadorozhnaya - Stepanova (RUS) 21. Jill and Alice were dominant in their first two games, being too strong for the Latvians

winning 21-12, 21-15, and defeating the Russians 23-21, 21-18.

Alice and Jill were beaten in their final pool match by the American team Cynthia Barboza and Stephanie Barry - 2 : 0 (21-19, 21-16). This set up a round 1 single elimination match with Urban/Wiatr from Poland with the winner advancing to the quarter finals. Unfortunately, the Aussies lost to Poland (the eventual winners of the championships) 2 : 0.

The strength of the Under 18 women's competition this year can be highlighted by, Carolina Solberg-Salgado who came 2nd in this tournament and has just successfully competed in the FIVB Swatch Brazilian World Tour event (main draw) with her sister Maria. Jill and Alice finished 9th, equalling Australia's best ever result in these Championships. Alice will still be eligible to play in this event again next year.

In the men's division Sam and Shaun (seeded 5) were in a pool with: Dykstra/Van Zwieten (USA) 8, Papadopoulos/Kouzounis (GRE) 17, Fijalek/Pajak (POL) 20. In their first match the boys lost to the Polish team - 2 : 0 (14-21, 16-21). In the second day of competition Sam and Shaun lost to the Greek team of Kouzounis/Papadopoulos - 2 : 1 (22-20, 13-21, 11-15) and to the American team of Dykstra/Van Zwieten 2 : 0 (18-21, 17-21). With 3 losses in their pool Sam and Shaun finished in 19th position and will benefit from the experience.

AVF/TABV would like to thank Pauline Manser (WAIS) for coaching our Under 18 teams, not only in the tournament but also in the preparation phase. Pauline was ably supported by TABV Head Coach Steve Tutton (Head of Delegation).

Under 21s

Australia was represented by the following athletes in the Under 21 category:

Women: Belinda Huff and Olivia Orchard
Men: Stuart Maycock and Aden Tutton

This tournament was played on the Island of Porto Santo, Portugal. Olivia and Belinda came into the tournament seeded 13th and were drawn in a pool with: Couto/Moreira (POR) seed 1 (host Country), Gemise Fareau/Faure (FRA) 12, Tazama/Andissene (Moz) 24.

In their first match the Australians were beaten by the French team - 2 : 0 (16-21, 11-21). They regrouped and were convincing winners against the top seeded locals - 2 : 0 (21-18, 21-14) in their second match. Olivia and Belinda were far too strong in their final pool match for the Mozambique team of Tazama/Andissene winning 2 : 0 (21-6, 21-10). The team were then drawn against the French team of Castelli/Hamzaoui for the right to move into the quarterfinals. However, Olivia and Belinda were beaten by the French - 2 : 0 (16-21, 15-21).

The girls finished up 9th which equals Australia's best ever result in these Under 21 World Championships.

The men's team of Aden Tutton and Stuart Maycock were seeded 4th and had the following teams in their pool: Plavins/Samoilovs LAT (16), Sutter/Weingart SUI (9), Castro/Mussa VEN (21). Aden and Stuart lost their first match to Castro/Mussa (VEN) 2 : 0 (16-21, 20-22). In match 2 the Australians were narrowly beaten by the Latvian team of Plavins/Samoilovs 2 : 1 (26-24, 17-21, 10-15).

With a win necessary to have any chance of qualifying for the next round, Aden and Stuart were too strong for the Swiss team of Sutter/Weingart. After losing the first set 16-21, our guys stepped up the pressure and won the next two sets 21-19, 15-13. This win set up a first round single elimination showdown with Solberg-Salgado /Santos (BRA). The team lost this match by a score line of 19-21 & 15-21. Brazil ended up winning the bronze medal and Australia ended up taking 9th place.

AVF/TABV would like to thank Colleen Campbell for coaching our Under 21 teams during the tournament and the preparation phase. Colleen was ably supported by TABV Head Coach Steve Tutton (Head of Delegation).

SWATCH FIVB WORLD TOUR

While some of our athletes are enjoying a well earned rest after the Athens Olympics and a hectic 2004 World Tour calendar, there are still some teams competing in the last two World Tour events of the season.

Qualification Tournament – 1 – 5 Sept. Milan, Italy

Huff/Orchard (23) lost to Cordinier/Giordano FRA (10) 0 : 2 (9-21, 17-21)
Final Placing: 41st

Main Draw:

Pottharst/Sanderson

D Jaouen/Giaoui FRA [22] 2 : 0 (21-9, 21-10)

L Kadjo/Arjona FRA [6] 1 : 2 (19-21, 26-24, 8-15)

D Kusuhara/Teru Saiki JPN [21]
2 : 1 (18-21, 23-21, 15-10)

L Yanchulova/Yanchulova BUL [14]
1 : 2 (26-24, 19-21, 15-17)

Final Placing: 13th

20 – 25 Sept. Rio de Janeiro.

Main Draw:

Clarke/Sanderson

D Tokuno/Asao JPN [25] 2 : 0 (21-18, 21-14)

L Yanchulova/Yanchulova BUL [9]
0 : 2 (18-21, 14-21)

L Alcon-Cati Pol ESP [26]
1 : 2 (21-15, 19-21, 12-15)

Final Placing: 17th

85 Junior Men Finish 7th at Asian Championships in Qatar

Earlier this month (Aug 31 - Sep 12) the **85 National Junior Men's Volleyball Team** travelled to Doha, Qatar for the **12th Asian Junior Men's Volleyball Championships**. This instalment of the Championships saw a record number of participating teams (19) across Asia vying for the title of 'Asian Junior Champions'.

The travelling Team, which was coached by VTAM Assistant Coach, **Russell Borgeaud** (QLD), and was assisted by **Steve Benson** (VIC) and **Cameron Edwards** (WA) suffered a blow with the late withdrawal of Captain and 2004 VTAM Olympian, **Zane Christensen** (QLD), through a knee injury. **Derek Mansfield** (NSW) also accompanied the team in his capacity as the team physiotherapist providing much appreciated treatment to the Team, for the duration of the Championships.

In the absence of **Zane Christensen**, **Andrew Grant** assumed the captaincy of a determined young Team comprising of two Youth aged athletes competing with Asia's best Junior Teams. The National Junior Men's Team was represented by:

Andrew Grant - QLD (Capt)
Shane Alexander - QLD
Philip Austin - SA
Paul Carroll - NSW
Phillip DeSalvo - VIC
Travis Moran - SA
Nigel Panagopka - NSW (Youth)
Nathan Roberts - SA
Joshua Thorpe - TAS (Youth)

The format of the tournament was *Pool play*, followed by a *Classification* round and then *Crossovers* and *Finals*. In the pool play phase, **Australia** drew Pool A with Qatar (hosts - seed 1), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Chinese Taipei with the top two (2) teams progressing on to the 1 - 8 Classification round. By virtue of their seeding and the format of the competition, Qatar had a direct birth to the 1 - 8 Classification round as did all the other top seeded teams from each of the other pools (Iran, India and China). Given this, the

young Aussie Team had to win both their matches to be assured of a Top 8 finish in the tournament.

Australia's first match was against Saudi Arabia that followed the Opening Ceremony and understandably the Team was nervous in their play and this was reflected in the match score line of 3 sets to 2 in Australia's favour after being 2 sets to nil up. With a win under their belts, the Australian's approached their next match against Chinese Taipei with renewed confidence and belief in their ability and went away with a sound 3 sets to 1 win. With these victories, Australia progressed into the 1 - 8 Classification round and guaranteed themselves a Top 8 finish for the tournament.

In the Classification round, **Australia** was pooled with the tournament hosts - Qatar, and India and Japan from Pool C. Unfortunately, the young Australian's were outclassed by their more fancied opponents. The fatigue from having a reduced roster and limited substitution options may have contributed to the results.

Australia then drew China, in its crossover match. Australia had defeated China three months earlier back in Australia. In true Chinese style they came out hard with powerful jump serving and dynamic play which reflected in the 25-10 first set score line. The young Australian's came back taking the next set, but in the end the Chinese were just too strong and took the match in four sets. With this loss, Australia was relegated to the 7th - 8th play-off against Oman. Again the team started slowly with a couple of errors at the end of the first set costing them dearly. In true fighting spirit the Team came back to beat Oman in four sets.

Results:

Pool Play

VTAM Junior Team defeated Saudi Arabia Junior Men
3 sets - 2 : (25-20, 25-23, 23-25, 22-25, 15-13)

VTAM Junior Team defeated Chinese Taipei 3 sets - 1 :
(25-18, 25-27, 25-19, 29-27)

1 - 8 Classification Round

VTAM Junior Team were defeated by India
3 sets - 2 : (16-25, 25-19, 29-31, 25-18, 6-15)

VTAM Junior Team were defeated by Japan
3 sets - 0 : (20-25, 23-25, 22-25)

VTAM Junior Team were defeated by Qatar
3 sets - 0 : (18-25, 20-25, 21-25)

5 - 8 Crossover

VTAM Junior Team were defeated by China
3 sets - 1 : (10-25, 25-21, 18-25, 22-25)

7th Place Play-off

VTAM Junior Team defeated Oman
3 sets - 1 : (22-25, 26-24, 25-20, 25-19)

Complete match reports can be viewed on the AVF website – www.avf.org.au.

Important dates

Sep 17 th - 27 th	Asian Junior Women's Volleyball Championships
Sep 25 th - 26 th	AVL Commences
Oct 23 rd	AVF AGM & Annual Dinner
Nov 19 th - 21 st	Vodafone Beach Tour – 1 st event
Dec 4 th - 5 th	AVL Finals
Dec 5 th - 10 th	Australian Volleyball Schools Cup
Dec 10 th - 12 th	Vodafone Beach Tour – 2 nd event
Dec 29 th - 31 st	Vodafone Junior Beach Champs
Jan 1 st - 3 rd	Vodafone Beach Tour – 3 rd event
Jan 14 th - 16	Vodafone Beach Tour – 4 th event
Jan 19 th - 23 rd	Australian Youth Olympic Festival
Feb 4 th - 6 th	Vodafone Beach Champs
Mar 2 nd - 4 th	Our Sporting Future forums

Volleyball Australia is proudly supported by:



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

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