



Volleyball Australia Newsletter No.4 2005

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General Manager's Introduction

With the International season coming to its conclusion our focus is on the domestic season with the Australian Volleyball League already underway and the qualifiers for the Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour only a few weeks away. This year will again see our domestic competitions on TV with the AVL Finals on SBS (repeat on Fox Sports in 2006) and the Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour on Channel Ten (also on Fox Sports).

The AVF AGM will be held in Melbourne on the weekend of October 14-16 with the highlight being the AVF Annual Dinner where the awards for 2004/05 will be announced. For more information about how you can attend the dinner please contact the AVF Office.

It is also pleasing to see the return of a dedicated magazine – Spike Magazine that will help lift the profile of Volleyball & Beach Volleyball in Australia. Let's all get behind this initiative – please see the article later in this newsletter.

For all the latest information about Australian volleyball continue to check the AVF website:
www.avf.org.au

Andrew Scotford
General Manager
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Competitions & Events Program

Australian Volleyball League

The 8th edition of the Australian Volleyball League commenced in Sydney on Sept 17th with this season 10 Clubs participating for the right to be crowned national champions. The season will culminate at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre on Dec 4 & 5 with the Top 4 teams competing in the finals. For the full draw check out the AVL webpage in the Competitions & Events section of the AVF Website.

Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour

The 2005/06 season information is now available on the Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour website – www.beachvolleyballtour.com.au.

The Tour dates are:

Nov 25 – 27	Manly, NSW
Dec 16 – 18	Scarborough, WA
Jan 6 – 8	Glenelg, SA
Feb 3 – 5	St Kilda, VIC
Feb 17 – 19	Surfers Paradise, QLD (Australian Championships)

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Sport Development

ASC National Coaching Scholarship Program

In the past month the ASC released information regarding the 2006 National Coaching Scholarship Program. This information was forwarded directly to all coaches who had indicated an interest in the past twelve months, as well as to Member States for distribution to any potentially interested coaches. This year a total of five applications were received from interested coaches and the AVF has submitted an application to the ASC for two scholarships in 2006, one of which is the continuation of the existing scholarship of Steve Benson.

With regard to the current scholarship program of Steve Benson, in the past month Steve has traveled to Japan and China with the VTAW program performing the role of Assistant Coach with specific responsibility for performance analysis. Other experiences to date this year as part of the scholarship have included accompanying the VTAM program to the USA and the TABV program to an FIVB World Tour event in Switzerland.

It should be noted that the AVF philosophy with regard to the future use of the scholarship program is that coaches engage in a scholarship program across both disciplines of the sport and therefore any coaches interested in applying for this scholarship in the future should be actively involved in coaching both Volleyball and Beach Volleyball.

For further information about the scholarship visit the AVF website – www.avf.org.au (specifically the Coach Education & Development section within Sport Development).

2006 Sport Leadership Grants for Women

The Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Government Office for Women invite applications for the 2006 Sport Leadership Grants for Women. The program is aimed at providing women with an opportunity to undertake certified sport leadership training.

The 2006 Sport Leadership Grants for Women offers grants in five key categories:

- High Performance coaching and officiating
- Women in general sport leadership
- Women in disability sport
- Indigenous women
- Women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

The Program provides successful applicants with a one-off grant of up to \$5,000 for individuals (applications must be through an incorporated organisation) and up to \$10,000 for incorporated organisations. Anyone interested in applying and would like to use the AVF as the incorporated organisation supporting their application should contact Tim Shannahan (sdm@avf.org.au).

Applications for the grants close on Friday 28 October 2005. For grant application forms and guidelines please go to: www.ausport.gov.au/women/grants.asp.

Time Out Newsletter: The Quarterly E-Newsletter of the AVRC for Referees

Each quarter the AVRC produces the Time Out E-newsletter. This newsletter provides a full report on refereeing activities in Australian Volleyball. The latest e-newsletter was circulated at the end of August. To read this latest edition or previous editions, please go to the newsletter section of the AVF website – www.avf.org.au/news/.

Club Development E-Newsletter

The next edition of the AVF Club Development E-newsletter will be circulated at the end of this month. Anyone wishing to be included on the distribution list for this e-newsletter should email Tim Shannahan (sdm@avf.org.au).

OVERSEAS OPPORTUNITIES: ASC SPORT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

On behalf of the Victorian Government, the Australian Sports Commission is delivering an off-shore volunteering program linked to the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. This program aims to give long-term benefits to the sporting structures of a range of Commonwealth countries.

While individuals involved in this program will be volunteers, they will receive a living allowance and have all expenses related to the placement paid.

Further information about this program and details of how to apply can be accessed via our website www.avf.org.au

Tim Shannahan
Sport Development Manager
Email: sdm@avf.org.au



High Performance

Volleyball Team Australia Men (VTAM)

On September 8th, Volleyball Team Australia Men (VTAM) departed Canberra for a three-week tour of Japan and Thailand that will culminate in the 13th Asian Senior Men's Volleyball Championship in Suphanburi. As preparation for these Championships, VTAM traveled to Japan to contest a friendly series against the Japanese National Men's Team who will also be attending the Championships.

With the absence of a number of VTAM stalwarts like Dan Howard and Hidde Van Beest, VTAM Head Coach, Russell Borgeaud - a former Australian Captain himself, will rely on the experience of dual Volleyball Olympian, Ben Hardy, to captain the young Australian side that will take on the Philippines, Hong Kong and Uzbekistan in the preliminary round of the Championship in Thailand.

The players and officials to represent Australia on this tour are: -

- Benjamin Hardy (ACT)(Capt.)
- Shane Alexander (QLD)
- John Dekker (QLD)
- Phillip DeSalvo (VIC)
- Andrew Earl (SA)
- David Ferguson (WA)
- Andrew Grant (QLD)
- Nigel Panagopka (NSW)
- Nathan Roberts (SA)
- William Thwaite (QLD)
- Aden Tutton (SA)
- Matthew Young (QLD)
- Igor Yudin (VIC)

- Head Coach: Russell Borgeaud
- Manager / Assist. Coach: Andrew Strugnell
- Trainer / Statisticians: Daniel Illott
- Physiotherapists: Damian Oldmeadow
- Referee: Dean Turner

Also accompanying the team is FIVB Referee and AVRC Chairman, Dean Turner, who is partaking in his last official tournament as a referee. Dean as of the recent Asian Volleyball Confederation's (AVC) recent Board of Administration meeting was elected onto the AVC's Referees Commission and as such his status as an active International Referee will revert to "inactive".

Results to date from this tour:

Game 1: AUS lost to JAP 0 - 3 (15-25, 21-25, 17-25)

Game 2: AUS lost to JAP 0 - 3 (13-25, 23-25, 16-25)

Game 3: AUS def JAP 2 - 1 (13-25, 25-18, 25-20)

Volleyball Team Australia Women (VTAW)

Building on their five match friendly series with the Zhe Jiang Province in Brisbane in early July the Australian Women's Volleyball Team (VTAW) left Australian shores on July 28 for Ningbo, China and qualification for the 2006 World Championships in Japan.

The Australian Team to the World Championship Qualification Tournament was coached by Chinese Olympic Gold Medalist, Ying Jiang, and assisted by Boris Georgieff (QLD), Ross Sullivan (VIC) and Sally Bacon (NSW). 2000 Olympians Tamsin Barnett and Louise Bawden once again donned the Green and Gold for their country to qualify the team for the World Champs. The team was a blend of youth and experience from around Australia.

The players and officials who represented Australia on this tour were:

Anna Maycock (SA) *Captain*
Louise Bawden (QLD / QAS) *Vice Captain*

Megan Avery (SA)
Tamsin Barnett (VIC)
Lauren Bertolacci (VIC)

Senior National Team debut

Tolotea Lealamanua (NSW)
Rowena Morgan (NSW)
Justine Mowen (QLD)

Senior National Team debut

Jessica Peacock (SA)
Eileen Romanowski (QLD / QAS)
Rachel Rourke (QLD)

Senior National Team debut

Rebecca Walter (VIC)

Head of Delegation: *Adam Sachs*
Head Coach: *Ying Jiang*
Assistant Coaches: *Boris Georgieff / Ross Sullivan*
Manager / Assist Coach: *Sally Bacon*
Physiotherapist: *Ruth Lindsay*
Referee: *Cameron Olson*

Given the importance of the World Championship Qualification Tournament (WCQT) and the effect it would have on women's volleyball in Australia. VTAW traveled to the home of the Zhe Jiang Province Team and spent three days training and fine tuning the team's dynamics in the lead up to the WCQT. In their only game while they were there, and in front of a packed crowd, the Aussie girls enacted revenge for the 5 – 0 series lost back in Brisbane on their hosts with a 3 – 2 (16-25; 22-25; 25-21; 25-23; 16-14) victory. The come from behind victory meant a lot to the team leading into the WCQT and gave the team the much-needed self-belief that nothing was impossible.

At the WCQT, there were scheduled to be six teams (Afghanistan, China, Chinese Taipei, Jordan, Uzbekistan and Australia) contesting the two available tickets for the 2006 World Championship. However, Afghanistan withdrew prior to the tournament. In spite of this, the Aussie girls had to finish first or second on completion of the single round tournament should they want to go to the World Championships in Japan.

World Championship Qualification Tournament match results:

03/08/05
AUS def Uzbekistan 3 - 0 (25-10, 25-15, 25-14)
04/08/05
AUS def Jordan 3 - 0 (25-8; 25-5; 25-8)
05/08/05
China def AUS 3 - 0 (25-15; 25-11; 30-28)
06/07/05
TPE def AUS 3 - 1 (25-15; 24-26; 25-18; 26-24)

After a grueling three weeks of volleyball, the Australian Women's Volleyball Team returned from the 13th Asian Senior Women's Volleyball Championships (1 – 8 September) with a credible 10th place.

On August 23, Volleyball Team Australia Women (VTAW) left Australian shores on a three-week tour that encompassed a preparation tour in Japan and the 13th Asian Senior Women's Volleyball Championship in Taicang, China. As preparation for the Championships, Toyota Auto-Body hosted VTAW was for a week in Yokohama, Japan where the team trained and played a number of practice matches with the Japanese V-League side.

With the absence of five (5) VTAW athletes from the side that contested the World Championship Qualification Tournament that narrowly missed out on qualification in early August. VTAW Head Coach, Ying Jiang – '88 Olympic Gold Medalist with the Chinese Women's Team, selected a couple of up-and-coming Youth athletes to make their senior team debut as part of the rebuilding process of the VTAW program for this tour. Boris Georgieff as Assistant Coach / Team Manager ably assisted Ying with the following players and officials representing Australia: -

- Anna MAYCOCK (SA)(Capt.)
- Lauren BERTOLACCI (VIC)
- Jessica CULLEN ** (QLD)
- Tolotear LEALAMANUA (NSW)
- Rowena MORGAN (NSW)
- Justine MOWEN (QLD/QAS)
- Becchara PALMER ** (SA) - Youth Athlete
- Jessica PEACOCK (SA)
- Alice ROHKAMPER ** (NSW) - Youth Athlete
- Eileen ROMANOWSKI (QLD/QAS)

** Debuting athlete

- Head Coach: Ying Jiang
- Manager / Assist. Coach: Boris Georgieff
- Trainer / Statistician: Stephen Benson
- Physiotherapists: Steve Naylor
- Referee: Luke Yan

Results from 13th Asian Senior Women's Volleyball Championship:

Preliminary Round

01/09/05
AUS lost to TPE 0 - 3 (9-25, 9-25, 20-25)
02/09/05
AUS lost to KOR 0 - 3 (21-25, 18-25, 18-25)
03/09/05
AUS lost to JPN 0 - 3 (13-25, 16-25, 15-25)
04/09/05
AUS lost to VIE 0 - 3 (22-25, 15-25, 17-25)
05/09/05
AUS def IND 3 - 1 (25-19, 23-25, 27-25, 26-24)

9th - 12th Semi Finals

06/09/05
AUS def HGK 3 - 1 (25-17, 24-26, 25-17, 25-15)

9th & 10th Play-off

07/09/05
AUS lost to PHI 0 - 3 (23-25, 18-25, 18-25)

Final Rankings:

1st	China
2nd	Kazakhstan
3rd	Japan
4th	Korea
5th	Chinese Taipei
6th	Thailand
7th	DRP Korea
8th	Vietnam
9th	Philippines
10th	Australia
11th	India
12th	Hong Kong

Team Australia Beach Volleyball (TABV)

2005 FIVB World Tour

The following report covers FIVB World Tour events Austrian Grand Slam, Canada & Greece Open events, as well as the 2005 FIVB Youth (U/19) World Championships (St. Quay Portrieux, France).

In this phase of the tour several Australian Senior team members really challenged the top teams in the world, and produced some of our best results of the season to date.

It was also pleasing to see more and more young Australian's competing on the World Tour through the tough qualification tournament process. New teams during this phase of the tour were Busch/Kleverlaan (Canada) & Rohkamper / Frostick (Greece).

Australia earns 4 top ten places in Canada

After a two week break in the FIVB World Tour the Australian Beach Volleyball Team returned to 'the tour' in Canada with strong performances from all Main Draw teams.

Prosser – Richardson posted a great result a 9th, their highest finish of the 2005 tour to date.

"It is about time," said the 23-year old Richardson, who is competing full-time on the SWATCH circuit for the first-time this season. "We have been disappointed with our play as of late, and today we posted a pair of solid wins. I am still learning the game and it is a joy to play with Julien. He has been very patient with me." FIVB Press Release, Aug 25th, 2005.

Natalie Cook and Nicole Sanderson achieved their best result this season by gaining a 5th result in this event. This result was very encouraging and indicates the team is now fully recovered and ready to attack the concluding events on the 2005 FIVB World Tour.

Aussie Men Schacht/Slack defeat Olympic Champs on way to a Top 4 finish.

With the World's Elite Beach Volleyball returning to the home of the Modern Olympics (Athens), enthusiasm of returning to the Faliro Olympic Beach Volleyball centre 12 months after the 2004 Olympics was high. Along with this the 2005 Athens Open was the inaugural coaching 'test event'. With coaches being allowed to coach from the 'bench' during matches in official breaks of play.

Brazilian Olympic Gold Medallist Emanuel reflects on his team lose to the Aussies.

"They played well," said Emanuel. "The Australians are very competitive each time we play them. They don't have the overall size like some teams, but they are very skilled and they are always in the game. They are one of the more focused teams on the tour and they work very hard." FIVB Press Release, Sept 2, 2005.

Coaching in FIVB World Tour events for the first time (Athens Open 2005)

The Athens Open was a landmark event in FIVB history being the first World Tour event where coaching during a match was allowed. (Coaching has been allowed at the past two FIVB Junior World Championships). The rules and regulations were quite similar to the Vodafone Australian Tour in that, coaches were only allowed to speak to the team during official breaks 'in play' (time-outs and in between sets).

National Head Coach Steve Tutton suggested, having coaches coaching during the match breaks was 'certainly beneficial for Australian teams and for the sport, raising the level of professionalism overall.'

'Coaches on the court improved the standard of play and the professional 'look' of the tournament', said Australian Men's and SASI Head Coach Craig Marshall.

Coaches and teams were shown on local live TV during time outs and breaks between sets. The TV coverage was very similar to that of Basketball where the microphones were in the team huddles – these were used to help educate and provide an opportunity for TV viewing public to be more a part of the game.

WORLD RANKINGS

Australian Teams	World Ranking as at 5th Sept 2005
WOMEN	
Clarke / Gerlic	24
Cook / Sanderson	35
Cook / Lochowicz	49
Gerlic / Kloeden	56
Barnett / Kloeden	65
Busch / Mokotupu	71
Barnett / Lochowicz	72
Kloeden / Lochowicz	82
Rohkamper / Frostick	96
Busch / Kleverlann	104
MEN	
Schacht / Slack	14
Prosser / Richardson	39
Byron / Suan	79
Lyne / Bourne	102
Smith / Wyer	129
McCombe / Hill	149
Coles / Croxford	167
Schacht / Slack	14

RESULTS – Open Events

Austria – Austrian Grand Slam 2005

- 13 Schacht-Slack
- 33 Prosser-Richardson
- 25 Gerlic-Clarke
- 33 Lochowicz-Kloeden
- 41 Cook-Sanderson

Canada – Montreal Open 2005

- Men
- 7 Schacht-Slack
 - 9 Prosser-Richardson

Women

5	Cook-Sanderson
9	Gerlic-Clarke
25	Barnett-Lochowicz
33	Busch-Kleverlaan

Greece – Athens Open 2005

Men

4	Schacht-Slack
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Women

9	Cook-Sanderson
17	Gerlic-Clarke
25	Barnett-Lochowicz
33	Frostick-Rohkamper

2005 Under 19 FIVB World Championships

Australia's U/19 Men's and Women's teams both scored two wins a piece to finish 9th in the 2005 FIVB Youth World Championships, making this year's performance our best since the 'Youth' World Championships were inaugurated in 2002. All representatives are available for selection in this age group again in 2006, so all goes well for the future in not only this age group but our juniors for many years to come.

Members of the Australian U/19 Team:

Women

Alice Rohkamper (NSW) / Becchara Palmer (SAS)

Results:

Sude-Büttner GER [5] **def**
Palmer-Rohkamper AUS [18] **2-0** (21-14, 21-17)

Palmer-Rohkamper AUS **def**
Purtscheller-Gasser AUT [19] **2-0** (21-13, 21-15)

Palmer-Rohkamper AUS **def**
Clavreul-Larche FRA [6] **2-1** (23-21, 19-21, 15-9)

Van Iersel-Wesselink NED [7] **def**
Palmer-Rohkamper AUS **2-1** (21-14, 18-21, 16-14)

Final Result: 9th

Men

Sam Boehm (SAS) / Greg Sukochev (SAS)

Results:

Zbierski-Zurek POL [22] **def**
Boehm-Sukochev AUS [15] **2-0** (21-10, 21-18)

Boehm-Sukochev AUS **def**
Saxton-Pasieka CAN [3] **2-1** (19-21, 21-19, 15-10)

Boehm-Sukochev AUS **def**
Jankowski-Sutter SUI [10] **2-1** (15-21, 21-11, 15-9)

Dykstra-VanZwieten USA [18] **def**
Boehm-Sukochev AUS **2-1** (11-21, 21-13, 15-7)

Final Result: 9th

Coaches:

Richard Casutt / Colleen Campbell

In next month report we will cover the remaining events in the FIVB World Tour 2005 and the FIVB Under 21 World Junior Championships (Rio, Brazil).

National Junior Program

Since the completion of the July training and selections camps for the next group of Youth squads, '89 Boys and '90 Girls. The National Junior Program has been busy organizing the upcoming Junior Trans Tasman Series against the Kiwis in Canberra (25 – 29 Sept) for the "Jenny Kirk" Cup ('88 Youth Girls) and tour to New Zealand (30 Sept – 4 Oct) for the "Murray Mansfield" Trophy ('87 Youth Boys).

The following athletes and coaches will represent Australia on these upcoming activities;

'87 National Youth Boys Team:

- Jarryd CHRISTENSE N (QLD)
- John DEKKER (QLD)
- Nick GOLDSBROUGH-REARDON (VIC)
- Matthew HUNT (SA)
- Nils LANGFORD (ACT)
- Cedric LEGRAND (VIC)
- Ashley McBROOM (WA)
- Jason PALLANT (VIC)
- Alex ROGERS (NSW)
- Greg SUKOCHEV (SA)

'88 National Youth Girls Team:

- Amy ALLEN (SA)
- Eliza DEAN (NSW)
- Teresa DIXON (VIC)
- Petrice FATCHEN (VIC)
- Elisha GALIC (NSW)
- Kimberley MORTON (VIC)
- Jordan MOWEN (QLD)
- Becchara PALMER (SA)
- Alice ROHKAMPER (NSW)
- Rachel ROURKE (QLD)
- Danielle STOTT (VIC)
- Rhiannon TOOKER (QLD)

- Joshua THORPE (TAS)
- William THWAITE (QLD)
- Head Coach: Dan Ilott
- Assist. Coach: Roger Darkins
- Assist. Coach: Ken Thomson
- Head Coach: Dan Higgins
- Assist. Coach: Gary Roberts
- Assist. Coach: Jessica Vreulink

Upcoming activities:

- December training camps for '89 Boys and '90 Girls following the Australian Volleyball Schools Cup
- January training camp for '89 Boys for possible AIS scholarships

Adam Sachs
High Performance Manager
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Sustagen Sport Competition

Sustagen Sport is offering clubs and association an opportunity to win \$10,000. For further information, view the related article in the 'Latest News' section of the AVF website.

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ASC Sport Volunteer Program

On behalf of the Victorian Government, the Australian Sports Commission is delivering an off-shore volunteering program linked to the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. This program aims to give long-term benefits to the sporting structures of a range of Commonwealth countries.

While individuals involved in this program will be volunteers, they will receive a living allowance and have all expenses related to the placement paid.

Further information about this program and details of how to apply can be accessed via the AVF Website in the Latest News section.

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Spike Magazine is Australia's brand new volleyball magazine and it's on sale now!!

At just \$4.95 and with 68 glossy pages packed with volleyball action from both home and abroad it's exactly what the Australian volleyball community has been looking for.

From the National Junior Championships held in Adelaide in July through to the Vodafone National Schools Cup and the Vodafone Beach Volleyball tour, Spike Magazine will be there. In addition to covering major and minor events throughout Australia part of Spike's mission statement is to ensure that our readers are better educated about who our elite athletes are (both indoor and beach) and what they are achieving every week of the year.

With writers such as Olympic Gold medallist Kerri Pottharst and the USA's Hans Stofus, as well as regular updates from people such as Australian Mens Indoor head coach Russell Borgeaud you can be sure you'll be getting value for money.

So what are you waiting for get out there and get your copy of Spike Magazine now. They're on sale at all good volleyball centres. And if it's not on sale at your volleyball venue then get in touch with us at Spike and we'll see if we can change that! Even better why not subscribe, get every issue of Spike delivered straight to your door.

For details and more on what's in Issue 1 check out www.spikemag.com.au



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Important dates/events

September 17th
Australian Volleyball League (AVL) commences
For more details visit the website www.avf.org.au

October 15th – Melbourne
AVF Annual General Meeting

November 25th - 27th
Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour commences

December 4th - 5th – Melbourne
AVL Finals

December 6th - 10th – Melbourne
Australian Volleyball Schools Cup (AVSC)

February 17th – 19th – Surfers Paradise
Vodafone Australian Beach Volleyball
Championships

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Volleyball Australia is proudly supported by:



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission



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