



Volleyball Australia Newsletter – 2006/8

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Chief Executive Officer's Introduction

The recent Sweeney Sports Report indicates that Volleyball and Beach Volleyball has dropped in interest from its peak after the Athens Olympic and highlights how vital a position the recently appointed AVF Competitions & Events Manager will be in helping lift the profile of Volleyball through our events.

Continue to check out the AVF website – www.avf.org.au for the latest on what's happening in Australian volleyball, here and overseas.

Andrew Scotford
Chief Executive Officer

E: ceo@avf.org.au

Volleyball mourns the passing of Maureen Kostas

The Australian Volleyball Federation was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Maureen Kostas, wife of founding chairman of the Australian Volleyball Referees Commission, Jeffery A. Kostas. We wish to pass on our sincerest condolences to Jeff and his family at this most sad of times.

Women's Volleyball HP Steering Committee announced

The AVF Board has recently confirmed the following individuals on the newly formed Women's Volleyball High Performance Steering Committee:

Cameron Olson, AVF Board Member (Chair)
Andrew Scotford, CEO
Adam Sachs, HPM
Jenny Becker (QLD)
Amanda Fielding (NSW)
Boris Georgieff (QLD)
Sue Jenkins (ACT)
Pauline Manser (WA)
Ross Sullivan (VIC)

This Committee will meet shortly with the following key responsibilities:

- Preparation of a strategic plan for the VTAW Program;
- In conjunction with the AVF Board and staff, provision of a revised National League competition structure;
- Establishment of state-based intensive training centres (ITCs - i.e. which underpin the National League) for female athletes;
- Identification and ongoing case management of VTAW athletes;
- Coordination of and ongoing technical and administrative support for ITC coaches;
- Development of an annual calendar of National Team camps and international competitions (i.e. where appropriate);
- Overall management, review and evaluation of the VTAW Program against approved key performance indicators.

Sport Development Report

2007 ASC National Coaching Scholarship Program

Applications are now being called for under the Australian Sports Commission's National Coaching Scholarship Program (NCSP) for 2007. The AVF is keen to obtain a scholarship, preferably for a two year period, and encourages interested coaches to apply.

The program's primary objective is to provide opportunities for potential and current high performance coaches to develop skills and knowledge to coach effectively in high performance programs.

Background

The scholarship program is administered by the Australian Sports Commission's Coaching and Officiating Unit (C&O); in partnership with the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and national sporting organisations (NSOs). The scholarships provide potential high performance coaches with a structured, intensive learning program. This is achieved by placement with a recognised elite mentor coach and elite athlete sports program for a period of 12 months to two years.

Placements are usually made within a National, AIS, state institute or academy of sport program alongside the head coaches of these programs. To complement the practical learning, scholarship coaches undertake an educational component which may include post graduate coaching qualifications or other appropriate courses. The AVF will be basing its scholarship at one of its AIS programs in Canberra or Adelaide.

Scholarship coaches are expected to be integrally involved in the elite program in which they are placed. The mentor coach is central to the success of this program. These coaches are responsible for creating an environment where the scholarship coach can learn and develop in the theory and practice of high performance coaching. This enables the scholarship coach to develop a comprehensive understanding of elite athletes and the programs in which they train and compete.

Application Information

Applications will only be accepted from NSOs and therefore any interested coaches within Volleyball or Beach Volleyball will need to submit their application to the AVF. Any enquiries from individual coaches should be directed to Tim Shannahan (sdm@avf.org.au) in the first instance.

Coaches will need to submit an application on the NCSP Coach Application Form 2007 electronically to sdm@avf.org.au. It is also advisable to read the NCSP 2007 Terms & Conditions before submitting an application. These documents are available through the ASC's website at <http://www.ausport.gov.au/coach/scholarship.asp>.

Closing Date

The closing date for 2007 scholarship applications to the ASC is Monday, 4 September 2006. However, as the AVF needs time to prepare its sport application on the basis of the applications received from interested coaches within the sport, applications from coaches must be received no later than **Monday, 28 August 2006**. (It is expected that all interested coaches will already be aware of this information and the short turnaround before the submission of applications will not represent an issue.)

2007 ASC National Officiating Scholarship Program

Applications are now being called for under the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) 2007 National Officiating Scholarship Program (NOSP).

The NOSP aims to assist in the development of potential high performance officials. The program aims to provide a pathway for the official and 'fast-track' them, where appropriate, to officiate within the elite level of their chosen sport.

AIM

The NOSP is designed to provide potential high performance officials with an intense learning program. The structure for this program is based around the official undertaking three key elements:

1. Hands-on officiating under the guidance of an experienced mentor
2. Upgrading (or updating) their officiating accreditation
3. Professional development activities (for example, observation of other officials, attendance at seminars/conferences, exposure to high level officiating and related debriefings).

The individual program can be flexible and should meet the needs of the sport and the scholarship holder. It can vary from four to 52 weeks in duration.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The AVF is responsible for advertising the scholarship program to Volleyball and Beach Volleyball referees, taking applications, and selecting an appropriate referee(s) for the program to be identified in the final application submitted by the AVF to the ASC.

Selection Criteria - Scholarship Official

The AVF is required to use the following criteria when assessing applications from officials. Scholarships will only be available to those officials who meet the following criteria:

- Australian citizens or permanent residents that have lived in Australia continuously for a 12-month period prior to the scholarship year
- Hold a current NOAS accreditation within their sport
- Have an appropriate level of officiating experience, preferably within a high performance environment
- Demonstrate a commitment to officiating
- Have been identified as a potential high performance official within their sport.

Scholarships will NOT be available to those who:

- Have been appointed as a senior official on a national team
- Are employed in a full time officiating capacity
- Are regarded by the sport to be a "senior" official and not a "developing" official.

Ideally the scholarship program that will be put in place will be for a referee with a current AVRC accreditation of National AAA seeking to become an International Referee. This would incorporate a program similar to that undertaken by Phong Nguyen in 2004 and currently in place for 2006 recipient Carla Hoorweg. The major components of these programs were:

- Attendance at an FIVB International Candidate Course
- Attendance at an international tournament in an observational capacity
- Attendance at an international tournament as the Australian referee representative
- Participation at Australian national events in the capacity of Referee Delegate
- Attendance at international series hosted by Australia in both an observational and participatory capacity
- As well as other requirements to be developed.

Many of the dates of these commitments will not be known until later in the year when the FIVB announces its calendar for 2007. On this basis the AVF is requesting applications on the understanding that the full extent of any scholarship program will not be known at the time of submitting an application. It is worth noting that funding can be used to cover loss of income as a result of engaging in the scholarship program and therefore having to take leave from work.

It is also appropriate to note that if no suitable applications are received from referees with a current AVRC accreditation of National AAA, then the AVF will seek to support an application or applications from referees with an AVRC accreditation at any of the National accreditation levels, or even a State accreditation level if from one of the smaller Member States, to participate in a scholarship program focused on increased national level exposure and/or preparation for becoming an International Referee in the future. This is similar to the 2005 programs undertaken by Kevin Lentin and Russell Egan.

Further information about the NOSP can be viewed in the application package, with this document available through the ASC's website at www.ausport.gov.au/official/scholarship.asp or through the AVF office.

Closing Date

The closing date for applications from interested referees is Wednesday, 20 September, 2006. With the application from the AVF due to the ASC by Tuesday, 26 September, 2006, the identified date provides as much time as possible to referees to prepare their applications and enable the AVF time to consider the applications received, determine the preferred applicant, and prepare the application that must then be submitted to the ASC.

If you have any enquiries about the NOSP or the process for applying please contact Tim Shannahan, AVF Sport Development Manager (sdm@avf.org.au).

Commencement of ASC National Officiating Scholarship Program by Carla Hoorweg

At the time of circulating this newsletter 2006 ASC National Officiating Scholarship Program recipient Carla Hoorweg will be on her way to Bahrain to attend an International Volleyball Referee Candidate Course. This will mark the commencement of Carla's scholarship program which has the primary objective of attainment of an International Referee accreditation and will see her attend a number of international events and tournaments in the coming twelve months to meet the practical requirements of the accreditation process.

National Review of Coach Training Programs

This review is reaching its conclusion, with the likely content of the various training programs to form the coach education structure having been identified. The process of writing the various curriculum statements for these training programs will commence shortly.

The final question that has been posed to participants involved in the review deals with the appropriate quantity and quality of assessments activities to demonstrate competency and be awarded an accreditation at each level and also the expectations of coaches to warrant reaccreditation. Anyone that would like to be involved and contribute to the review, and is not already receiving the relevant emails, is invited to communicate this to Tim Shannahan (sdm@avf.org.au).

2006/07 Sport Leadership Grants for Women "Sport Needs More Women"

Leadership is the ability to influence group members so as to help achieve the goals of the group or organisation.

The Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Government Office for Women invite applications for the 2006/07 Sport Leadership Grants for Women. The program is aimed at providing women with an opportunity to undertake certified sport leadership training. This program builds on the grants program offered in the previous 4 years, open to all women in sport.

The 2006/07 Sport Leadership Grants for Women offers grants in five key categories:

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

Each category includes the following project areas:

- Coaching
- Officiating
- Management (including administration)
- Governance (board and committees)

The Program provides successful applicants with a one-off grant of up to \$5,000 for individuals and up to \$10,000 for incorporated organisations.

Applications for the grants close on Friday 15 September 2006.

For grant application forms and guidelines please go to: www.ausport.gov.au/women/grants.asp

If you would like to discuss the suitability or preparation of any potential applications, please contact your State Volleyball Association or Tim Shannahan at the AVF (sdm@avf.org.au).

AVF Club Development Newsletter

The latest edition of this newsletter was circulated at the end of July and can be viewed at: <http://www.avf.org.au/index.php?id=193>

This edition included:

- New 'Where To Play' section on the AVF website;
- 2006/07 Sport Leadership Grants for Women;
- The latest edition of ASC Club Development E-News;
- Your Questions answered;
- The opportunity to win a share of \$1000 worth of volleyball equipment from Madison Sport

Clubs and associations wishing to enter the next Madison Sport prize draw are reminded that they have until the end of August to submit their entries.

Where Can I Play

The new AVF website includes a 'Where Can I Play' map, viewable on every page, that can assist people in identifying their nearest affiliated Volleyball club or association. Initial information has been loaded to this map, with some States more complete than others, but hopefully in time this resource will become a complete reference point. If your club or association has not been listed or you would like to provide additional information for inclusion in your listing, please contact Tim Shannahan (sdm@avf.org.au) at your convenience. It is worth noting that a confirmed up-to-date listing is a mandatory entry requirement for each Madison Sport prize draw.

Advertising for Volunteers with Sportspeople

It is well established most non-profit organisations operating in the sport, leisure, fitness, coaching and aquatic sector could not sustain their service levels without the contribution of volunteers. This dependence is not restricted to non-profit organisations as many sport, leisure, fitness, coaching and aquatic businesses and events also rely heavily on volunteers. Recruitment of volunteers can be expensive, time consuming and difficult with limited options presently available to promote vacancies and find the right people.

Sportspeople, one of Australia's leading employment agencies in the sport sector, is pleased to announce Volunteer Positions can now be advertised at the Sportspeople Jobs Market free of charge.

Volunteer Position - Free of charge

- Position must be Voluntary (that is, with the exception of an honorarium, no remuneration must be paid to the volunteer.)
- Your position will appear on the Sportspeople Jobs Market for up to 30 days.
- You can link up to 5 documents, including Position Overview & How to Apply.
- You can include up to 3 logos.

To list or view a Volunteer Position

To list a Volunteer Position at the Sportspeople Jobs Market, you first need to register online at www.sportspeople.com.au/. Completing the on-line Registration Form takes around 2 minutes and registration is free.

Given the difficulties most clubs and associations can have in finding volunteers, advertising through this service may attract a range of interested individuals who are seeking some experience to aid them in their future job prospects.



National Junior Program

In the past month the National Junior Program has been quite busy with organising its upcoming tours to Iran and Thailand for the Junior Men's and Women's Asian Championships. In addition, the program will also be sending away the National Youth Girl's team for their first competitive outing against the New Zealand Junior Women's team in New Zealand to contest the "Jenny Kirk" Junior Trans Tasman series.

'87 National Junior Men's Team

Following their recent success in retaining the "Murray Mansfield" Junior Trans Tasman Trophy for a fifth straight year, the Junior Men's Team now face the might of China in a five match friendly series, September 3 – 8, in Canberra ahead of their assault at the 13th Asian Junior Men's Volleyball Championship in Tehran, Iran, September 10 – 22.

Congratulations to the following athletes and officials who have been selected to represent Australia in the upcoming series against China and tour to Iran for the Asian Championships:

- Benjamin BELL (AIS/QLD)
- John DEKKER (AIS/QLD)
- Nils LANGFORD (ACT)
- Fred MARSH (AIS/ACT)**

- Travis PASSIER (AIS/QLD)
- Michael SNART (WA)
- Greg SUKOCHEV (SA)
- Josh THORPE (TIS/TAS)
- William THWAITE (AIS/QLD)
- Adam WHITE (AIS/QLD)
- Igor YUDIN (AIS/VIC)
- Aidan ZINGEL (AIS/NSW)

** Debuting for Australia

- Head Coach: Dan ILOTT (VIC)
- Assistant Coach: Roger DARKINS (SA)
- Coach: Steve BENSON (VIC)
- Referee: Peter LUCAS (ACT)

For Head Coach, Dan Ilott, and the Team, this will be an opportunity to amend their disappointing result at last year's Asian Youth Championships where the team weren't able to capitalise on the opportunities that they had and unfortunately finished 8th.

The Asian Championship will see some of the best Under 20 male athletes around Asia competing in the championship and ultimately for a berth at the World Junior Championships in July/August 2007. Australia will need to finish top two to assure itself an automatic spot if it wants to go.

International Volleyball – Australia v China Series

As preparation for the teams assault on the 13th Asian Junior Men's Volleyball Championship in Tehran, the Australian Volleyball Federation will be hosting the China Junior Men's Team en route to the championship in a five match friendly series in Canberra.

The series will be contested at the National Training Centre at the Australian Institute of Sport with the following match schedule:

- Game 1 – 5.00pm – Sun, Sept 3
- Game 2 – 6.30pm – Mon, Sept 4
- Game 3 – 6.30pm – Tue, Sept 5 (Feature Match)**
- Game 4 – 6.30pm – Thu, Sept 7
- Game 5 – 6.30pm – Fri, Sept 8

Entry to the games will be \$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 15.

For further information contact: events@avf.org.au

88 National Junior Women's Team

Following a successful three day training and selection camp in July after the conclusion of the Australian Junior Volleyball Championships in Canberra, the following athletes and officials have been selected to tour Thailand to contest the 13th Asian Junior Women's Volleyball Championships in Nahkon-Ratchasima, Thailand at the end of September:

- Melinda CROSS (SASI/SA)
- Eliza DEAN (NSW)
- Angharad EVANS (NSW)
- Petrice FATCHEN (VIC)
- Elisha GALIC (NSW)
- Kylie GARLICK (QLD)
- Leigh McLENNAN (QLD)**
- Beccharra PALMER (SASI/SA)**
- Alice ROHKAMPER (NSW)
- Hannah ROSS (SASI/SA)**
- Rhiannon TOOKER (QLD)
- Victoria WRIGHT (SASI/SA)

** Debuting for Australia

- Head Coach: Dan HIGGINS (VIC)
- Assistant Coach: Gary ROBERTS (VIC)
- Coach: Jessica VREULINK (VIC)
- Physiotherapist: Colin FAULKNER (VIC)
- Referee: Liz POLLOCK (VIC)

Like the Junior Men these championships will see some of Asia's best Under 19 female athletes battling it out to be crowned Asian Champions and the right to represent the Asian Volleyball Confederation at the World Junior Championships next year.

To assure itself of a spot at the World Championships, the Team will need to better its 6th place finish in last year's Asian Youth Championships in the Philippines.

90 National Youth Girl's Team

With the announcement of the Team back in July at the Australian Junior Volleyball Championships. Congratulations, again, go to the following athletes and officials on their selection to the touring side to New Zealand to compete for the "Jenny Kirk" Junior Trans Tasman Cup, September 20 - 26:

- Katie BARTOLI (NSW)
- Ebony CAMILLE (VIC)
- Loren COREY (QLD)
- Holly COWELL (WA)
- Abby GARCIA (TAS)

- Tracey HASSELERHARM (WA)
- Danielle HORN (VIC)
- Grace LEO (QLD)
- Courtney MARTIN (QLD)
- Hannah MARTIN (VIC)
- Lena SKIPPER (VIC)
- Johanna YOUNG (VIC)

- Head Coach: Jenny BECKER (QLD)
- Assistant Coach: Allan YOUNG (QLD)
- Coach: Karl LIM (VIC)

For the Team, this will be the first time in which they will wear the Green and Gold for Australia against a much more experience New Zealand Junior side that has played together for the past two years. Though it will be a challenge, the series will a great learning experience for the Team ahead of next year's 6th Asian Youth Girl's Volleyball Championships in Thailand.

Full match reports for the above tours and series will be posted on the AVF website as soon as they are made available from the touring teams.

Upcoming Competitions in 2006

- Sep 3 – 8 Friendly Series with China Junior Men's Team – Canberra
- Sep 13 – 21 13th Asian Jnr. Men's Volleyball Championship – Iran
- Sep 20 - 26 "Jenny Kirk" Junior Trans Tasman Series – New Zealand
- Sep 29 – Oct 10 13th Asian Jnr. Women's Championship – Thailand

AIS/AVF Beach Volleyball, National Centre of Excellence

2006 SWATCH-FIVB U19 & U21 Beach Volleyball World Championship

The U21 teams departed a week ago and recently played in the FIVB satellite event held in Vaduz, Liechtenstein 16-20 August, as part of the team's preparation for the World Championships in Poland this week.

The Women's team of Alice Rohkamper and Becchara Palmer, who were given an automatic start into the Main Draw of the event, took on top seed Osheyko/Baburina from the Ukraine in round one.

Despite losing this game, Coach Simon Naismith was pleased with the way the team finished playing all their matches with aggression and confidence to finish ninth (9th) overall.

The Men's team of Sam Boehm and Brad Tutton had to commence in the qualifier. Although winning in round one, they drew third-seed Weingart /Sutter from Switzerland, who came through the country quota playoffs, and who took out the events bronze medal, and lost in a tough battle 2-1 (20-22, 22-20, 15-8).

The Aussie U19 & U21 teams touring schedule is as follows:

Liechtenstein FIVB Satellite event (Vaduz)

August 16 – 20

Alice Rohkamper (NSW) / Becchara Palmer (SASI)
Sam Boehm (SASI) / Brad Tutton (SA)

FIVB Under 21 World Championships - Poland (Mysłowice) August 22 – 27

Alice Rohkamper (NSW) / Becchara Palmer (SASI)
Sam Boehm (SASI) / Brad Tutton (SA)

Poland FIVB World Tour Event (Warsaw)

August 30 – Sept 2

Alice Rohkamper (NSW) / Becchara Palmer (SASI)

FIVB Under 19 World Championships - Bermuda Sept 5 – 10

Alice Rohkamper (NSW) / Becchara Palmer (SASI)
Sam Boehm (SASI) / Trent Irwin (QAS)
Chris McHugh (SASI) / Harrison Peacock (SASI)

SWATCH-FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour

Athletes back in Australia

All National team athletes have returned home to rest, reflect and rejuvenate. All are undergoing medical screenings, testing, debriefing and some time off before plans are implemented on teams either continuing on the last part of the women's world tour or the upcoming domestic summer.

We hope to have the national coaches' comments on this year's world tour in the next issue.

For the latest results on-line:

www.fivb.ch/EN/BeachVolleyball/index.asp

2008 Beijing Olympics - 713 Days to go!! (as at 25 August 2006)

Opening ceremony - 8 August, 2008
Closing ceremony - 24 August, 2008
Beach volleyball competition dates – 9 – 20 August, 2008

Special Event

Slack / Kerlin

AIS / National Men's Beach Volleyball athlete, Josh Slack and Queenslander Amelia Kerlin will tie the knot in early September. We would like to wish them all the very best for the future as husband and wife.

Birthdays

September

None

Injuries

Update

All athletes are going through medical screenings and no major issues with injuries at this point.

Next Competition Opportunities:

World Tour

August 30 – September 3 – Warsaw, Poland – Open – women

September 14 – 17 – Porto Santo, Portugal – Open – women

September 27 – 30 – Vitoria, Brazil – Open – women

September 28 – October 1 – Vitoria, Brazil – Open – men

October 25 – 28 – Acapulco, Mexico – Open - men

November 2 -5 – Phuket – Open - women

National Tour:

November 17-19 – Manly, NSW

December 15-17 – Port Macquarie, NSW

January 12-14 – Glenelg, SA

January 20-21 – St Kilda, VIC

February 2-4 – Perth, WA

February 16-18 – Surfers Paradise, QLD (Australian Championships)

Coming Events:

2006 U21 World Championships – Myslowice, Poland [Men & Women] August 23-27

2006 U19 World Championships – Bermuda [Men & Women] September 5-10

2007 World Championships – Switzerland [Men & Women] 19-24 June 2007

2008 Beijing Olympics

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AIS/Australian Senior Men's Team

World Championships Preparation Tour

(August Tour - Great Britain, Italy, Tunisia & Canada, 1-29 August 2006) For Full Tour Match Reports visit the AVF website

Great Britain (2-7 Aug 06)

- Match 1 - 4 Aug 06
AUS d GB 3:0 (25-22, 25-23, 25-15)
- Match 2 - 5 Aug 06
AUS d GB 3:0 (25-17, 25-14, 25-16)
- Match 3 - 6 Aug 06
AUS d GB 3:0 (25-20, 25-16, 25-9)

The team had a great game and series, not dropping a set throughout the three matches.

The Australian team won the series against Great Britain 3-0. The team then moved on to Varese, Italy for a training camp and then to Tunisia where they played a tough opposition loosing the five match series 3-2.

Tunisia (9-18 Aug 06)

- Match 1 - 11 Aug 06
AUS d TUN 3:1 (15-25, 25-16, 25-20, 25-21)
Australia beat Tunisia at home for the first time ever
- Match 2 - 13 Aug 06
TUN d AUS 3:0 (25-23, 25-17, 25-24)
- Match 3 - 14 Aug 06
TUN d AUS 3:1 (17-25, 25-16, 25-23, 25-18)
- Match 4 - 15 Aug 06
TUN d AUS 3-1 (17-25, 27-25, 28-26, 25-20)
- Match 5 - 17 Aug 06
AUS d TUN 3:0 (26-24, 25-22, 25-21)



Tunisia won the series 3-2 however the Australians did extremely well, coming back to nearly take the 4th match and then dominating in the final match of the series.

The team is currently in Canada for four matches before returning to Australia on the 29th August.

Canada (19-27 Aug 06)

- Match 1 - 22 Aug 06
- Match 2 - 23 Aug 06
- Match 3 - 25 Aug 06
- Match 4 - 26 Aug 06

What's next for the Senior Team?

The majority of the senior team will return directly to their professional contracts in Europe and America after the preparation tour, before returning to Australia early November for a training camp. This training camp will see Australia take on World Championships contenders, Argentina and Canada in a three nation series at the AIS Arena from the 9-11 November 2006. Australia will also play Argentina in preparation matches in Victoria prior to the series in Canberra in Melbourne on the 6th and Bendigo on the 7th. More information on the World Championships preparation matches will be posted on the AVF National Men's Program web page (<http://www.avf.org.au/index.php?id=49>) soon.

Ticketing and match schedules for Australia competing at the World Championships can be found on a newly dedicated page on the AVF site at <http://www.avf.org.au/index.php?id=204>.

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2006/07 Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour

The following dates have been confirmed for the 2006/07 Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour:

- Rd 1 17-19 November, 2006 Manly, NSW
- Rd 2 15-17 December, 2006 Port Macquarie, NSW
- Rd 3 12-14 January, 2007 Glenelg, SA
- Rd 4 20-21 January, 2007 St.Kilda, VIC (NEW 1 set tournament)
- Rd 5 2-4 February, 2007 Perth, WA
- Rd 6 16-18 February, 2007 Surfers Paradise, QLD (Australian Championships)

For the 2006/07 season there will NOT be pre-Tour qualifiers in the various States rather the Qualifier, for 4 spots, will be held on the Friday (Saturday in St Kilda) before each Tour event.

The Main Draw, commencing on Saturday (Sunday in St Kilda) will feature 16 teams, determined from;

- 8 teams from 2005/06 season
- 2 International wildcards
- 2 wildcards
- 4 from Qualifier event

Stay tuned to www.beachvolleyballtour.com.au for more information as it comes to hand.

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Queensland takes the President's Cup at the 2006 Australian Junior Volleyball Championships



AVF President Chris Schacht and most National level coaches of men's and women's indoor volleyball were on hand to see some of the most intense competition on the Finals day of the Australian Junior Volleyball Championships at the Southern Cross Stadium, Tuggeranong, Canberra. On a day of outstanding performances by both winners and losers, it is difficult to pick out the highlights, but the clinical victory of the Queensland Maroon under 17 men who did not loose a set all week, the gutsy comeback victory by the NSW under 19 women and the sheer power of the Victorian under 21 men are right up there.

National Coach Russell Borgeaud must have been satisfied with the dominant performances by his younger charges from the AIS squad, while National Women's Youth Coach Jenny Becker was also excited by the form of the female athletes.

Results were:-

Under 17 Men

- *Gold Medal Playoff* -
QLD Maroon def SA Red 3 – 0 (26-24, 25-22, 25-11)
- *Bronze Medal Playoff*
VIC Blue def WA Gold 3 – 1 (25-22, 13-25, 25-20, 27-25)

Under 17 Women

- *Gold Medal Playoff*
QLD Maroon def NZ 3 – 1 (24-26, 25-18, 25-22, 25-23)
- *Bronze Playoff*
VIC Blue def NSW Navy 3 – 1 (25-15, 17-25, 25-10, 25-21)

Under 19 Men

- *Gold Medal Playoff*
QLD Maroon def VIC Blue 3 – 0 (25-15, 25-18, 25-19)
- *Bronze Medal Playoff*
SA Red def WA 3 – 1 (25-20, 25-20, 17-25, 25-20)

Under 19 Women

- *Gold Medal Playoff*
NSW def SA Red 3 – 1 (20-25, 25-17, 25-23, 25-17)
- *Bronze Medal Playoff*
QLD def VIC Blue 3 – 1 (20-25, 25-22, 25-13, 26-24)

Under 21 Men

- *Gold Medal Playoff*
VIC def NSW 3 – 0 (25-19, 25-20, 25-22)
- *Bronze Medal Playoff*
NZ def WA 3 – 0 (25-22, 25-12, 25-20)

Under 21 Women

- *Gold Medal Playoff*
VIC def NSW 3 – 0 (25-17, 25-18, 25-7)
- *Bronze Playoff*
QLD def SA 3 – 0 (25-23, 25-23, 25-18)

Our friends from across the Tasman put in some fine performances also, and when the New Zealand under 17 women picked up their medal of recognition for second place in the tournament the boys gave a roof rattling haka to the delight of the thousand people at the closing ceremony.

The Allstar six selectors were given a tough task in all divisions, and their final decisions can be seen at the tournament website.

<http://www.inprocoproject.com/AJVC2006/index.htm>

Congratulations to Queensland for their first ever win in the President's Cup, the trophy came down to a count back with Victoria, but Queensland claimed three gold medals in an outstanding result for their junior development program. With a very close third place in the cup, New South Wales put the Nation on notice that they will be hard to beat at home next year.

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Sponsorship Opportunity

"Sportscover Australia in association with SBS is proud to launch the 2006 "Sportscover Sponsorship Fund (SSF)". For the remainder of 2006, a total of \$20,000 in \$1000 grants will be awarded to amateur grass roots sporting clubs throughout Australia."

Please find below a link to the application form:

<http://www.sportscover.com/sponsorship.asp?i=3>



Volleyball on TV

This summer will again see the AVL finals on SBS.

- 24 December 11am Women's Bronze medal
- 31 December 11am Men's Bronze medal
- 14 January 11am Women's Gold medal
- 21 January 11am Men's Gold medal

The Vodafone Beach Volleyball Tour will again be telecast on Network Ten.

- 24 December 4-5pm Round 1 (Manly)
- 31 December 4-5pm Round 2 (Port Macquarie)
- 21 January 4-5pm Round 3 (Glenelg)
- 18 February, 4-5pm Round 4 (St Kilda) - (Highlights)
- 25 February 4-5pm Round 5 (Perth) Surfers Paradise (Australian Champs)

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