



2017

ANNUAL
REPORT



This page and cover:
2017 Wheelchair
Aussie Rules National
Championship



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GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair
Rugby World Championship
Official Test Event

MESSAGE FROM THE ASC

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) thanks all of our partner national sporting organisations (NSOs) for your continued hard work and commitment to excellence. All of you understand innately the importance of sport in Australian life. It's much more than a source of national identity and pride, it's the fabric that binds us together - a common language for all, with multiplier benefits in health, education, social cohesion and the economy.

There were many great sporting events to celebrate during the course of last year - the launch of both the AFL Women's competition and the National Netball League with prime-time TV coverage, our most successful winter sports season ever on the world stage, and fairytale victories against the odds for Cronulla in the NRL and the Western Bulldogs in the AFL.

Last year's Olympic and Paralympic Games underscored the challenge however for Australia in retaining its status as one of the world's pre-eminent sporting nations, given rising competition from developed and developing nations alike. We must keep innovating, being bold and willing to change both on and off the field if we are to succeed, not just in Olympic and Paralympic sports but across the sporting spectrum.

We appreciate the willingness of NSOs to embrace this challenge. We commend athletes for their dedicated commitment to training ahead of the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games and, further ahead, the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

One of the most important long-term challenges for our country is to help our children be physically active, to participate in sport and enjoy its lifelong benefits.

The ASC's Sporting Schools program has now reached more than 5,600 primary schools around Australia and has already begun a targeted program for high schools. It is vital to ensure physical education is re-emphasised in the national school curriculum. To this end, the ASC has been doing ground-breaking work on physical literacy for children and youth and we look forward to rolling this out nationally in the year ahead.

As the national leadership organisation for sport in Australia, the ASC was delighted when our new Minister for Sport the Hon. Greg Hunt recently proposed a National Sports Plan, the preparation of which will be led by the ASC. This will create, for the first time, a comprehensive blueprint for Australian sport. It's an outstanding initiative and we thank the Minister for his leadership and vision. We hope all NSOs take the opportunity to contribute their views to the plan.

Most of you will know that this year the ASC welcomed a new CEO Kate Palmer, a talented sports leader, who has quickly built excellent relationships with sports and is embracing the challenges ahead with an inspiring enthusiasm.

Finally, I say a big thank you to the army of volunteers - parents, coaches, officials and administrators - who contribute their time and services for the good of Australian sport. You bring community strength, passion and great value to the identity, productivity, cohesion and health of our nation.

The ASC wishes you every success in the year ahead. We look forward to working closely with you for the common good of Australian sport.

JOHN WYLIE AM
Chair
Board of the Australian Sports Commission



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission



2017 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Participation in sport and activity can change lives.

The social, physical, mental and health benefits of being active are well documented and Disability Sports Australia's (DSA's) mission is to help people with a physical disability to develop and engage with the community through sports participation and recreational opportunities.

The past year has been challenging and rewarding for DSA as we have sought to deliver projects and programs beyond anything attempted in previous years with a determined Board, dedicated staff, amazing athletes and coaches, loyal sponsors and committed volunteers.

As host organisation for the GIO 2018 IWRP Wheelchair Rugby World Championship (2018 IWRP WRWC) to be held in Sydney on 5 - 10 August 2018, DSA is planning and preparing for an event that will highlight the incredible performances of wheelchair athletes and utilise the time to provide a platform for DSA to showcase programs and opportunities in sport from social level participation through to elite competition.

The 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship was also an Official Test Event for the 2018 IWRP WRWC with international teams joining our State representative teams to compete in an outstanding competition. Congratulations to the GIO NSW Gladiators for winning the National Championship and to Japan for victory in the Official Test Event competition.

This year, with the assistance of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, DSA undertook its first international program. In partnership with the International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRP), we conducted a wheelchair rugby training clinic for athletes and officials in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Thank you to the Australian / New Zealand team of Dr Cherie Harris (IWRP), Jon Corson (IWRP), Katie Bourke (IWRP), Sholto Taylor (NZ Paralympian) and Curtis Palmer (Paralympian, former NZ and AUS wheelchair rugby team member) and Jenni Cole (DSA CEO). The sessions delivered were well received and resulted in a substantial increase in knowledge and application across a range of areas including playing, coaching, refereeing and athlete care.

In other highlights of the past year, the sport of Wheelchair Aussie Rules continues to grow and an excellent National Championship saw South Australia once again emerge with the gold medal. A special mention to the team from Tasmania as they claimed the silver and the teams from the Australian Defence Force as they all continue to impress and improve in their performances

Outside wheelchair sport, DSA worked with Disabled Water Ski Australia as they hosted the 2017 World Disabled Water Ski Championships in Myuna Bay, Lake Macquarie, NSW and we remain intrinsically involved with Australian Defence Force Adaptive Sport in their programs and preparation of the Australian Team that competed in the Invictus Games across a range of sports.

This page:
2017 Multi-disability
Lawn Bowls National
Championships



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017

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2016 Invictus Training
Camp ACT



DSA continues to lead the development of the 'e-Sports Hub' that will enhance the information flow between sporting organisations and participants. This project is an innovative platform that is nearing its initial phase of completion. Thanks to the Australian Sports Commission for their partnership in funding this vital piece of work.

In the past year, the DSA Board had four Board members retire or resign. Best wishes and sincere thanks for their time on the Board and service to DSA to Peter Debnam, George Hucks and Jodie Baker. Particular thanks to DSA's past Board Chair, Paul Bedbrook. Paul's guidance and activity over many years on the Board saw a period of growth and stabilisation for the organisation ensuring a solid future. Paul's on-going support and interest in DSA is also much appreciated. Thank you to all our former Board members for making a difference in people's lives.

Two new Board members were appointed during the year, Liz Rushbrook and John Croll. On 1 July 2017, I took over as Board Chair from Steve Loader. Thank you, both for joining the DSA Board and providing your time, contribution, knowledge and expertise.

The organisation continues to be led by our CEO, Jenni Cole, for whom seemingly insurmountable obstacles merely represent challenges to be overcome.

Thank you to the DSA Board, CEO, staff, volunteers, partners/sponsors (particularly the Australian Sports Commission and GIO) and our supporters.

Through DSA, you are all actively and directly involved in changing lives through sport.



JOHN CROLL
Chairman



STEVE LOADER
Deputy Chairman

2017 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

1. OUR VISION

Sport and active recreation for all Australians with a disability

2. OUR MISSION

We provide leadership in sport and help people with a disability to get involved in sport and active recreation.

3. PRIMARY PURPOSES

Our primary purpose is to increase participation of people with a physical disability in sport and active recreation by:

- 3.1 Providing leadership in sport and active recreation for people with a physical disability
- 3.2 Promoting the benefits of sport for people with a disability to government, lead agencies, sporting organisations and the community
- 3.3 Performing the role of national coordinating body, providing a single point of contact between partner organisations (e.g. ASC, APC, NSO's) and our state and territory members (e.g. Wheelchair Sports NSW)
- 3.4 Being the National Sporting Organisation managing the Wheelchair Rugby National Program and Pathways in Australia, including providing opportunities for the development of athletes, coaches and sports officials from grassroots through to elite level.
- 3.5 Supporting our partner organisations in the provision of sport and active recreation opportunities for people with a disability throughout Australia.

4. OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Growth - to measure and increase participation of people with a physical disability of all ages in sport and active recreation
- 4.2 Engaged Stakeholders - to engage with key stakeholders to build collaboration to deliver on our primary purposes
- 4.3 One Voice - to provide one strong national brand and voice for members
- 4.4 Effective Partnerships - to work collaboratively with:
 - 4.4.1. Our members, the APC and IWRF on developing Wheelchair Rugby pathways and competition in Australia and the Asia Oceania zone,
 - 4.4.2. Other organisations (e.g. NSO's, Department of Defence) to increase the choices in sport and active recreation for people with a disability
- 4.5 Development Framework - to establish a framework to deliver sporting opportunities for people with a disability from grassroots to elite levels in Australia
- 4.6 Sustainable and increased revenue - to generate increased revenue and build an effective organisational structure to deliver effective services and programs into the future

This section highlights some of our key achievements in our five key strategic priorities during the 2016/2017 financial year, and many are further described in other sections of this report.

GROWTH

TO MEASURE AND INCREASE PARTICIPATION OF PEOPLE WITH A PHYSICAL DISABILITY OF ALL AGES IN SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION

Increasing the number and range of people with a disability that are able to get involved in sport and active recreation

- Increased participation in adaptive sport for more than 300 wounded, injured and ill Australian Defence Force personnel through a partnership with, and support to ADF Adaptive Sports. This included ongoing collaboration in Wheelchair Aussie Rules activities as well as supporting the delivery of training camps for Invictus Games teams for ADF and linking ADF adaptive sports participants with community-based sports programs delivered through our member organisations.
- Our foundation state member organisations continue to provide predominantly wheelchair sports to over 7000 Australians with a physical impairment. In many cases, each person is provided access to multiple sports, and our members are a critical starting point for people with a disability to get started in sport and active recreation. Programs introducing school children to wheelchair sport as part of leadership training, safety awareness and resilience training remains a key activity of many of our member organisations and reached over 70,000 school students every year.
- Expanding the reach for people with a broader range of physical impairments. This includes increased engagement with organisations that provide services to people with cerebral palsy and brain injury, supporting the development of sitting volleyball programs with the Cerebral Palsy Alliance and Scope, collaborating with funding and service agencies for amputees and increasing support for sport for people using power wheelchairs. This aims to set the foundation for an expansion in programs for people with a range of impairments, leading to increased sport participation for these groups.

Increasing participation through access to current and relevant information about sport and active recreation activities.

- Sports eHub project - through a funding grant by the Australian Sports Commission, and in collaboration with national and state sporting organisations and our members and partners, DSA has led a behavioural research program to determine exactly what information people with a range of disabilities, age ranges and geographic locations are looking for when they search for information about disability sport. These initiatives are aimed at working towards a centralised database with advanced search capabilities, and relevant information, making it easier for people with a disability to find out about and get connected with sport and active recreation programs.
- DSA continues to provide sport information through its website and social media platforms, by providing information about a range of sports, through sharing and promoting the events and programs of our members and partners via our website, newsletter and social media.

Increasing participation through training enablers - health professionals, coaches and officials.

- For people with a physical impairment that enabler' is most often a physiotherapist. Informed Physiotherapists who have had exposure to disability sport are more likely to recommend sport and active recreation to their clients who have a disability, so DSA continues to develop training programs for physiotherapists in disability sport, and is strengthening its engagement with University-based Physiotherapy training programs to increase the knowledge and awareness of graduating physiotherapists about disability sport.
- Officials and Coaches are a critical part of the delivery of sport programs, and the presence of properly trained and accredited officials and coaches leads to growth in participation in a sport. This year DSA also provided funding and other support for the training and accreditation of more than 50 classifiers, referees and score bench officials across 5 sports (Wheelchair Rugby, Wheelchair Basketball, Wheelchair Aussie Rules, Lawn Bowls, Powerchair Hockey) and has provided coach mentors to develop the specialist skills of ADF coaches in Wheelchair Rugby, Wheelchair Basketball and Sitting Volleyball.

2017 STRATEGIC REVIEW

ENGAGED STAKEHOLDERS

TO ENGAGE WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO BUILD COLLABORATION TO DELIVER ON OUR PRIMARY PURPOSES

- Ongoing and regular consultation with ADF Adaptive Sports as a key external partner
- Regular consultation and information sharing with the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) and the Australian Sports Commission (ASC)
- Participation in a range of forums led by the ASC, including National Sporting Organisation CEO Forums, collaborative workshops on the Digital Future of Australian Sport, and on Future Directions of Disability Sport
- Presentation to the National Disability Services (NSW) Conference about sport for people with a physical disability - more than 1000 carer and carer agencies in attendance.
- Regularly evaluate programs and events by surveying and interviewing athletes, coaches, officials and other stakeholders
- Annual 2 day CEO Forums for member CEO's reporting on national level initiatives and programs, and utilising excellent external presenters, focussed on capacity building, increased engagement and buildings strategic alignment and a shared vision for the future.
- DSA newsletter sharing news from DSA, state members and partners, sport events and announcements and other news of interest in the disability sport area
- Significantly increased social media activity, promoting both DSA and member events and programs, as well as sharing news and information about disability sport nationally and internationally

ONE VOICE

TO PROVIDE ONE STRONG NATIONAL BRAND AND VOICE FOR MEMBERS

- Strong focus on building brand recognition, trust and respect through excellence in delivery of events and joint initiatives with partners, through brand collateral, and through all communication channels
- DSA Website regularly enhanced and updated, providing a national 'shopfront' for our member organisations, partners and the sector
- Program of federal government engagement through written communication and face to face meetings with ministers and advisers on matters of national significance
- Advocacy and information sharing with respective national level sports, government departments and organisations to build engagement with disability sport, and to then build those partnerships at a state / local level with our members to enhance their growth and opportunities at a state level.
- Commissioned research into the benefits of sport and active recreation for people with a disability which was conducted in partnership with the University of Sydney

This page:
2016 Invictus
Training Camp ACT



STRATEGIC REVIEW 2017

EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH OUR MEMBERS, THE APC AND IWRF ON DEVELOPING WHEELCHAIR RUGBY PATHWAYS AND COMPETITION IN AUSTRALIA AND THE ASIA OCEANIA ZONE, AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS (E.G. NSO'S, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE) TO INCREASE THE CHOICES IN SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

- Regular communication and effective collaborations with International Federations of which DSA is the Australian Member, or with which DSA has an effective relationship, including International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF), International Wheelchair Basketball Federation, (IWBF), International Wheelchair and Amputee Sport Federation (IWAS)
- Ongoing collaboration with sport partners Australian Rugby Union and Australian Football League to work in partnership in development of Wheelchair Rugby and Wheelchair Australian Football respectively
- Recognised by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) as an approved national provider and successfully secured a grant to deliver Wheelchair Rugby Development Clinic in Bangladesh - building Australia's reputation as an effective and reliable partner in joint projects and activities in sport for people with a disability.
- Successfully completed Phase 1 of the Sports eHub project, bringing together National Sporting Organisations for the Disabled (NSOD's), National Sporting Organisations, state sport organisations, universities, hospitals, health professionals, people with a disability and their carers
- Delivery of a three round, high-quality Fierce 4 Rugby wheelchair rugby national league in partnership with state member organisations in NSW, Victoria and Queensland
- Delivery of a successful 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship in August 2017, which acted as the Official Test Event for the GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship
- Successful delivery of the 2017 MultiBowl in partnership with Wheelchair Sports NSW

- Successful delivery of the 2016 Wheelchair Aussie Rules National Championship, in partnership with ADF Aussie Rules and incorporated into their national carnival
- Supported the development of more than 50 classifiers, referees, coaches and score bench officials
- Successful planning and delivery of the sport component of the Invictus 2018 Hard Launch in June 2017 delivering exhibition and spectator participation across 6 sports
- Delivery of coach mentors and performance consultant for the preparation of the Australian Invictus 2017 team, and support of Training camps through the provision of equipment and expertise.

SUSTAINABLE AND INCREASED REVENUE

TO GENERATE INCREASED REVENUE AND BUILD AN EFFECTIVE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE TO DELIVER EFFECTIVE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS INTO THE FUTURE

- A four (4) year DSA Revenue Strategy has been developed showing the key goals and objectives. The Strategy includes sponsorship guidelines for partners, government grants, fundraising and donations.
- DSA has continued its engagement with major sponsors including GIO and ISC Teamwear.
- DSA has continued to implement the Supporters Club program. The Supporters Club provides tangible recognition of corporate or individual donors who have provided over \$1,000 p.a. to DSA. In addition, major donors (over \$5,000 p.a.) have access to further exclusive benefits. DSA has been provided with the opportunity to host guests at major sporting events in Sydney. This has resulted in the generation of new revenue for DSA via events and direct support
- DSA has achieved increased annual revenue, with more than 82% of revenue directly utilised in program delivery for people with a disability
- Increased staffing in preparation for the GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship, and to support increased sport program activation and delivery of programs with ADF Adaptive Sport



Disabled Sports Association NT



Rebound WA
(formerly Wheelchair Sports WA)



Disability Recreation and Sport SA

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

2017



Sporting Wheelies & Disabled Association QLD



Wheelchair Sports NSW



ParaQuad Association of Tasmania



Disability Sport & Recreation VIC



This page:

GIO 2018 IWRG Wheelchair
Rugby World Championship
Official Test Event

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY 2017

2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship and the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event

From 2-5 August 2017, six (6) of the world's finest wheelchair rugby teams clearly showed why 'wheelchair rugby is not your regular seat at the rugby'.

Two Championships were on offer - the 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship and the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event.

As DSA will host the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship; the Test Event enabled key event components such as accreditation, accommodation, competition, sports presentation and transport to be trialled.

The Event Patron, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales, opened the Championships at the Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre on Wednesday 2 August.

Over three (3) days, 2-4 August, Australia's top state teams battled it out on court with teams from Canada, Japan and New Zealand in the 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship. The 2016 champions - the GIO NSW Gladiators (68) defeated Victoria Protect Thunder (52) to retain their National Champions title.

The following day, all six (6) teams enthusiastically vied for the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event trophy at the Genea Netball Centre. A highlight of the day was the Celebrity Game between the Patron's Team, captained by His Excellency General, and the Australian Invictus Wheelchair Rugby Team.

The Bronze Medal Game saw the GIO NSW Gladiators take on Team Canada. At full-time, the score was 65 - 54, in favour of NSW. This game was followed by the Gold Medal Game between Japan and Victoria Protect Thunder. Japan was victorious (54 to 49) and were awarded the title of GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World

Championship Official Test Event Champions, with Victoria taking home silver.

All games were filmed and live-streamed which meant wheelchair rugby enthusiasts worldwide could watch all the action live.

Integral to the successful delivery of the event was the support provided by our event partners and the incredible commitment and willingness of some 50 civilian volunteers and 20 Australian Defence Force (primarily Royal Australian Navy) personnel.

GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship

In August 2018, DSA is proud to be hosting the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship. It will be the largest physical disability sporting event to be held in Australia since the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games.

The top 12 teams from around the world will travel to Sydney Olympic Park to compete for the coveted World Championship Trophy. The competition will commence on Sunday 5 August and continue until Friday 10 August when the World Championship title will be decided.

Reigning World and Paralympic Champions and currently the number one ranked wheelchair rugby team in the world - the Australian Steelers will be out to defend the World Championship title they won in Odense, Denmark in 2014.

Eight (8) teams have already qualified - Australia, Canada, France, Great Britain, Denmark, Japan, Sweden and the United States of America. The final four teams will be decided at the 2018 IWRW World Championship Qualification Tournament which will be held in the first quarter of 2018.

The logistics involved in staging a World Championship are significant and planning is well underway. Over 400 volunteers will be required to assist with: airport meet and greet, ground transport, accommodation, access control, medical and spectator services, and ceremonies and VIP events. More than 40 Australian and international officials will also be involved.



This page:

His Excellency General
The Honourable David Hurley
AC DSC (Ret'd) Governor
of New South Wales -
Championship Patron

2017 WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

In early 2017 the Local Organising Committee (LOC) was established. Chaired by Steve Loader, the LOC Members are Jenni Cole (DSA, CEO), Matt Kayrooz, Karen McBrien, Tracy Weller-McCormack, Kevin Reinert, Craig Sheridan and John Trevillian.

A long-term supporter of DSA - GIO is the naming rights sponsor and TcX Design is onboard as a Major Sponsor.

DSA is honoured to welcome His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) Governor of New South Wales as the Championship Patron.

DSA, in conjunction with our valued event partners, is committed to hosting a world-class event where the best wheelchair rugby teams in the world will showcase the unique and inspiring sport of wheelchair rugby.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre and Genea Netball Centre, 5-10 August 2018 for the GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship!

2017 Fierce 4 Rugby National League; 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship and GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event

2017 has seen a year of transition for Wheelchair Rugby in Australia. At the high-performance level, the national team comes off the success of Rio 2016 Gold and begins their preparation for defending the World Championship title in Sydney 2018. The sport is continuing the development of the exciting, high-intensity rugby format that is the Fierce 4 Rugby National League. At a state level, we see a transition through a period of significant change across many key partner stakeholder groups while we prepare for the exciting challenges and opportunities ahead.

The 2017 Fierce 4 Rugby National League consisted of rounds held in Canberra, Melbourne, and on the Gold Coast, contested by teams from NSW, QLD and VIC. 2017 marked the return of competitive Wheelchair rugby to Canberra and this was an experience enjoyed by all. Wheelchair Sport NSW and DSA hope to return to Canberra regularly into the future as it provides an exciting opportunity to increase the footprint of Wheelchair Rugby in Australia. Victoria was crowned the 2017 Fierce 4 Rugby National League champion at the conclusion of the season.

The 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship also doubled as the GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event. Both events enabled the showcasing of six quality teams - NSW, QLD, VIC, Canada, Japan, and New Zealand - across a week of high-quality competitive Wheelchair Rugby. Both events enabled all stakeholders within Australian Wheelchair rugby to experience first-hand, and be intimately involved in, the running of a world-class event. NSW was crowned 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Champions at the conclusion of an intense, exciting game against VIC. Japan prevailed over VIC to be crowned GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event winners.





This page:
2017 Wheelchair Aussie Rules
National Championship

WHEELCHAIR AUSSIE RULES 2017

Wheelchair Australian Rules Football (Wheelchair Aussie Rules) has continued to move from strength to strength this year. DSA, aided by its partners, has drawn from the strength of the inaugural Wheelchair Aussie Rules Championship in 2016 to continue to increase the profile of Wheelchair Aussie Rules.

In March 2017, DSA and the Australian Defence Force were proud to host the 2017 Wheelchair Aussie Rules National Championship held at the State Netball and Hockey Centre in Parkville, Melbourne. Seven teams, including state teams from South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, two Defence Force teams and a team of RSL Veterans competed for the title of Wheelchair Aussie Rules National Champions

The South Australian team took home the title of Wheelchair Aussie Rules National Champions for the second year in a row, with a final win against Tasmania 102 - 44, securing Tasmania the silver and Defence Force 2 defeated Victoria Cyclones to take the bronze. Building on the inaugural championship in 2016, the 2017 Wheelchair Aussie Rules National Championship saw the

best Wheelchair Aussie Rules action to date. The event continued to develop the profile of Wheelchair Aussie Rules and was a huge success for the sport.

DSA's partnership with the Australian Defence Force and the Australian Football League (AFL) continue to help in developing the profile of Wheelchair Aussie Rules to bring the sport to a wider audience and motivate people to get involved.

The coming year will see major developments for Wheelchair Aussie Rules with interstate and state-based club challenges being played, with the first in Hobart in October 2017. DSA will continue to work with the Australian Defence Force and the AFL to grow the sport in the coming year. Over the next twelve months, DSA will work with these partners to formalise the sport by creating a Wheelchair Aussie Rules Development Committee to spearhead the development and strategic direction of Wheelchair Aussie Rules for the future.

This page:
2017 Wheelchair Aussie Rules
National Championship



2017 LAWN BOWLS

The 2017 Multi-Disability Lawn Bowls National Championships were held at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club in Raymond Terrace, NSW from 21 - 26 May. The Championships welcomed 43 participants from South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, Australian Capital Territory and Queensland, matching 2016's record for the most competitors who have attended in the competition's history.

Across the six days of the competition, the players competed in Men's B5/6 Singles, Men's B7/8 Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Pairs, Women's Pairs, and Open Triples.

The competition saw some incredible bowls with extremely close finals being played.

The Clover/Lester Encouragement Award recognises players that are relatively new to the sport at a national level and who set a good example at all times on and off the green, displaying good sportsmanship, encouraging others and having the potential to become a good bowler. This year's recipient was Geoff Roberts of NSW.

The Interstate Aggregate Champions Trophy is awarded to the state who has the highest points on aggregate across disciplines and classes and divided by the number of players on the team. This year's Interstate Aggregate Champions Trophy was won by South Australia.

DSA would like to thank Wheelchair Sports NSW and Raymond Terrace Bowling Club for hosting the event, Port Stephens Council for their generous support, the Bowls Executive Committee and Mr Lennon Scott, Tournament Director for making the 2017 Multi-Disability Lawn Bowls National Championships a success.

In 2017, we also saw the retirement of the DSA Lawn Bowls Executive Committee Chair David Bailey. David joined the Lawn Bowls Committee in the 1990's and served as Chair from 2010 until his retirement in October 2017. David has worked tirelessly on the Committee to ensure the success of disability Lawn Bowls in Australia. We thank David for his years of leadership and guidance, which has seen Lawn Bowls go from strength to strength and wish him all the best with all his future endeavours.

Looking towards the future of Lawn Bowls, the 2018 Multi-Disability Lawn Bowls National Championships will be held in May in Perth, Western Australia. Multi-Disability Lawn Bowls will also be a part of the 2018 Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast, Queensland in April.



This page:

2017 Multi-disability Lawn Bowls National Championships

Wheelchair Basketball

Seven teams from around the country competed in the 2017 National Wheelchair Basketball League (NWBL), managed by Basketball Australia.

In August, after four months of competition, the Wollongong Roller Hawks capped off their dominant season defeating the Sydney Metro Blues side to win gold. The Queensland Spinning Bullets claimed bronze over the Kilsyth Cobras winning 81 - 78.

The 2017 Women's National Wheelchair Basketball League (WNWBL) saw six teams compete over four months for the chance to win gold.

The 2017 WNWBL season concluded with the Sydney Metro Blues improving on last year's silver medal to claim the gold over Sydney Uni Flame who secured the silver. The Be Active Western Stars defeated the Queensland Comets by 13 points to claim bronze.

Wheelchair Dance Sport

DSA is proud to be working to bring Wheelchair Dance Sport to Australia. Wheelchair Dance Sport is a Paralympic sport competed by over 30 countries all over the world. Disability Sports Australia is working with Daria Alforova, a previous World Championship winning Wheelchair Dance Sport coach, as the National Head Coach for Wheelchair Dance Sport in Australia, to bring this sport and art to the Australian public.

In the coming year, DSA will continue to develop the sport and engage with the community through come and try days across the country.

This page:
2017 NWBL
Red Dust Healers
vs Roller Hawks





This page:
2016 Invictus
Training Camp ACT

2017 PARTNERSHIPS

DSA deeply values the collaboration and contributions of our valued partners and would like to express our deep gratitude for their support and belief in the work we do. As we work towards our goal of changing lives through sport, we know that this would not be possible without the collaboration with, and contribution of, our valued partners. In the coming years DSA intends to further develop effective partnerships within the sport sector, and in the wider community, as these partnerships are critical to developing further programs and expanding the opportunities for people with a disability to participate in a variety of sports nationwide.

Government

Our major partner is the Australian Sports Commission (ASC). Their support enables DSA to operate day-to-day and carry out core program activities. DSA welcomes the leadership of the ASC in sport governance, sport research insights and best practice in the sector.

DSA successfully secured a grant from the ASC to for the initial Phase of development of a Sports eHub Project, which, once complete, aims to increase sport participation by developing a technical solution to help people with a disability connect and engage with sporting programs and initiatives across Australia. This year we engaged with more than 30 organisations, as well as people with a disability, their parents, carers and champions, to map the sector and to explore and document what people with a disability experience in trying to get involved with sport. The insights gained will inform the final piece of the preliminary design phase as we look to work with sport providers of all types to explore how the Sports eHub concept could help then reach out to potential participants, and do so in a way that meets the needs of those participants. Phase 1 is due for completion by early to mid 2018.

Member Organisations

Our member organisations are the heart and soul of disability sports in Australia. Our state members provide a range of sport and active recreation programs for around 7000 people with a disability in their state, as well as community engagement and advocacy. DSA aims to support their activities, providing one voice for advocacy, leadership in research, and in being the link between the growing number of national partnerships such as Australian Rugby Union, Australian Football League, ADF Adaptive Sports

and facilitating an expansion of that national partnership to the respective state bodies. Creating the state-based links between partner organisations provides greater opportunities to both our member organisations and our partners to collaborate, grow programs, deliver events, and increase sport participation for people with a disability across the country.

One of our key priorities over the coming 2 years is greater engagement with our members, bringing our collective thinking together to build strategic alignment, and ensure that we are best using available resources to achieve our common objective of helping Australians with a disability get involved in sport and recreation and enjoy the health and social benefits of sport

Corporate Partners

In an environment of very scarce resources for disability sport, our sponsors and corporate partners hugely amplify what we are able to achieve in changing lives through sport. Their support is more than financial, and includes staff engagement, volunteerism, promotion and championing the cause, and is very much appreciated.

In the 5th year of our relationship, GIO continues its remarkable support of DSA with particular emphasis on the GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championships, research and grass-roots development. Their partnership has enabled delivery of a wheelchair rugby program that continues to grow and strengthen the sport, providing competition and training for all participants including Australia's current World and Paralympic champions.

ISC Teamwear is our Official Apparel Supplier. We are proud to join an elite group of sporting organisations wearing ISC apparel.

University of Sydney

DSA's partnership with the University of Sydney has continued to allow research and education projects including the development and delivery of a pilot program training paediatric physiotherapists in disability sport and completion of a systematic literature review about the benefits of sport and active recreation for people with a physical impairment.

2017 PARTNERSHIPS

DSA Supporters Club

In line with its focus on building collaborative and enduring partnerships, Disability Sports Australia continued its DSA Supporters Club this year

Australian Defence Force

DSA continues to strengthen its partnership with the Australian Defence Force (ADF) through ADF Adaptive Sports including training camps and programs for the 2017 Australian Invictus Games team, the development of Wheelchair Aussie Rules, and ongoing advice and strategic input for ADF Adaptive Sports programs.

International Federations and National Sporting Organisations

DSA regularly communicates and collaborates with International Federations of which DSA is the Australian Member, or with which DSA has an effective relationship, including International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF), International Wheelchair Basketball Federation, (IWBF), International Wheelchair and Amputee Sport Federation (IWAS) and World ParaVolley (WPV).



This page:

2018 Invictus Launch



WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS 2017

Websites

Since relaunching the DSA website in early 2016, traffic to the website has continued to grow. The number of unique visitors to the site increased 47%, visits increased by 11% and page views increased 37%. August this year saw the most dramatic increase in unique visitors (3635) and page views (9653), seemingly due to traffic related to the 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship and the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event.

In May this year, DSA rebranded the Fierce 4 Rugby website as Wheelchair Rugby Australia and changed the URL to wheelchairrugby.com.au as the source of all key information regarding wheelchair rugby in Australia. We are growing the website to become a "one-stop shop" for anyone wanting to play, watch or get involved in the sport from grassroots to the elite level, where state and local organisations can list their own events and programs online for all to see.

The GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship's website and logo were officially launched in March at the 500 days to go event at Government House, Sydney, and we saw a spike in traffic to the website that coincided with the call for volunteers for the event, with nearly 600 unique visitors to the site. Since then, there has been an increase in traffic around the test event which continues to grow as we approach the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship

Facebook

Since the last annual report, Facebook likes have increased by 60%, from 1207 to 2000. The most popular content was the 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship and GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event promo video, which reached 67,000 users, 20,000 views, and 2,900 engagements. The next most popular piece of content was an interview with Dylan Alcott after his gold medal win at the Rio 2016 Paralympics that reached 40,000 users and engaged 2,200.

Over at the Wheelchair Rugby Australia Facebook page, we double our likes this calendar year up to 600 likes.

Our "One week to go" promo video for the 2017 GIO Wheelchair Rugby National Championship and GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Official Test Event reached an additional 10,000 on top of the reach garnered from the DSA Facebook page post, 3.6k views, and 900 engagements.

Since the launch of the GIO 2018 IWRW Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Facebook page last August, it has received 618 likes, and the most popular content was also the promo video and the call for volunteers reached 24.4k users and had 1.8k engagements.

Instagram

On the DSA Instagram page, we doubled our followers to 1038 and the post with the highest rate of engagement was Dylan Alcott being named GQ Australia's Sportsman of the Year with 655 impressions, 573 reach, and 24 likes.

The Wheelchair Rugby Australia account surged to 520 up from 192 followers the year before, and the highest engaged post was tip off at Nationals between NSW and JPN with 401 impressions, 294 reach, 173 views and 50 likes.

Since launching the @2018WRWC Instagram page, we've attracted 140 followers. More will be done to generate followers on this account once the event draws closer and

Twitter

Given Twitter's recent decline in popularity, we use the platform to merely echo posts from Facebook and Instagram. We find we have much more success engaging with users with these other platforms, but may use Twitter more during live events in future.

2017 GOVERNANCE

DSA is currently the National Governing Body and the international member for Wheelchair Rugby. DSA also more broadly serves its members at a national level.

DSA believes that governance structures can significantly affect the performance of sporting organisations and as such DSA's policy is to meet the ASC Mandatory Sports Governance Principles (MSGP). In support of its commitment to this policy, DSA has proposed a number of changes to its constitution to incorporate some of the core governance principles set out in the MSGP. These proposed changes remain subject to the approval of the members of DSA at the annual general meeting of DSA which is currently scheduled to be held on Tuesday 24 October 2017. DSA's compliance with the MSGP is set out in further detail in this report below.

STRUCTURE FOR SPORT

A single national entity for all forms of the sport - from junior through to high performance - with horizontal integration of sport disciplines.

Status: At the date of this report DSA and its members are responsible for participation, from junior to national level competition and the

Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) is responsible for high-performance outcomes at the elite international, Paralympic level. Discussions continue with the APC regarding the integration of participation and high-performance responsibilities for Wheelchair Rugby for the benefit of the whole sport.

Where sports have a federated structure, all parts of the federation must demonstrate they are working in cohesion and adhere to a strategic direction set by the national entity to maximise the interests of the sport

Status: Within the current federated structure DSA and its members have aligned objectives and purpose regarding Wheelchair Rugby. This has resulted in the achievement of positive sporting outcomes for the past few years. The sport's Development Pathway is driven by DSA to the national level and the APC to the international level. Regular Wheelchair Rugby Reference Group and Athlete's Commission meetings continue to facilitate cohesive planning and sport development across states.

The national body should be established as a company limited by guarantee

Status: DSA Limited is a company limited by guarantee, established in April 2003.

BOARD COMPOSITION AND OPERATION

A staggered rotation system for board members with a maximum term in office

Status: The DSA constitution currently provides that the DSA board may consist of up to a maximum of ten directors, all of whom are independent, non-executive directors. The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include lowering the maximum number of directors from ten to nine to more accurately reflect the current needs of DSA. At the date of this report, the board comprised seven directors.

The DSA constitution currently provides that directors are appointed for a period of two years. The proposed changes to the DSA constitution including replacing this two year appointment period with a staggered rotation system which requires one-third of the directors for the time being to retire at each annual general meeting in



This page:
2017 Multi-disability
Lawn Bowls National
Championships

accordance with requirements of this principle. This should effectively result in the directors holding a term in office for approximately three years. In the event of a vacancy occurring, the DSA board may elect a person to that office. Such directors only hold office until the next annual general meeting of the Company. The DSA constitution currently provides that at each annual general meeting two or more directors retire, being those directors who have been longest in office. Under the proposed changes to the DSA constitution, approximately three directors will retire at each annual general meeting, assuming a board of nine directors. All retiring directors are eligible for re-election subject to the maximum term in office restriction described below.

The DSA constitution currently provides that the retiring dates of the directors are staggered and the maximum tenure for a director is four terms of two years. The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include inserting a new rule which provides that a director must retire no later than the annual general meeting of DSA in the ninth year following the director's first election at a general meeting. This new rule is proposed to more accurately meet the requirements of this principle which provides that an entity should have a maximum term in office of its directors of no more than 10 years.

A nominations committee that nominates directors for vacancies upon which the members vote

Status: DSA has established a Nominations Committee, comprising two independent, non-executive directors, including the Chair of the DSA board. This Committee has responsibility for the maintenance of a board skills matrix and identification of prospective future directors.

The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include inserting a new rule which specifically provides for the establishment of a nominations committee which should consist of at least three persons (which may be a combination of directors and independent external appointments with significant business and governance expertise).

The CEO has a standing invitation to meetings of the Nominations Committee to provide clarification where necessary.

An audit and risk committee, including at least one external and independent Certified Practising Accountant or Chartered Accountant

Status: DSA has established an Audit & Risk Committee, comprising three independent, non-executive directors, all of whom are financially literate and at least one of whom has financial expertise. The committee includes an external, independent CPA. The Committee has responsibility for ensuring there are adequate controls and systems in place to alert management and the DSA board to potential risks associated with the operation of the company.

The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include inserting a new rule which specifically provides for the establishment of an audit and risk committee which should consist of directors and management with basic financial literacy and at least one external and independent Certified Practising Accountant or Chartered Accountant.

The CEO has a standing invitation to meetings of the Audit & Risk Committee to provide clarification where necessary.

Chair elected by the board

Status: In accordance with good business practice, the directors elect the chairperson. The position of chairperson is reviewed by the DSA board through a board evaluation process conducted annually. The normal term for the chairperson is a period of two to four terms, subject to satisfactory performance.

Annual board performance evaluation process involving external input

Status: The DSA board conducts an annual board performance evaluation to monitor and evaluate its performance and implement change as appropriate. The annual board evaluation occurred in the last half of 2016 and is scheduled to occur again in the first half of 2018. The results will inform board planning and a governance review.

Gender balance on boards

Status: The DSA board has a gender diversity target of 40 percent female representation. At the date of this report female representation on the DSA board was 57%.

2017 GOVERNANCE

All directors to be independent, regardless of whether elected or appointed

Status: All DSA directors are elected by members and are considered independent by the DSA board. Specifically, DSA directors:

- i. are not elected by members to represent any constituent body.
- ii. are not employed by the organisation.
- iii. do not hold any other material office within the organisational structure.
- iv. have no material conflict of interest as a result of being a director.

The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include inserting a new rule which requires each director of DSA to be independent as described above.

Board skills mix appropriate to meet strategic goals, including the ability for the board to appoint a minority number of directors to obtain an appropriate skills mix

Status: The DSA Nominations Committee, led by the Chairman, reviews and maintains the board skills matrix, determining future skill requirements and skill gaps. To ensure effective renewal of the DSA board, the Nominations Committee also maintains a Director Retirement Calendar, which includes the appointment date, maximum term date and projected retirement date of all directors. [NRF Note: Please confirm]

The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include inserting a new rule which requires the DSA board to have regard to the skills mix of the directors when determining whether or not to appoint a person as a director, either as an additional director or to fill a casual vacancy to reflect the requirements of this principle.

CEO not to be appointed to board after leaving role (for three years)

Status: All DSA directors are independent, non-executive directors. The CEO is not eligible to be a director of DSA during or after their employment for a period of three years. The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include inserting a new rule to reflect this requirement.

Conflict of interest register which is enforced

Status: DSA has a Conflict of Interest register which is included in the papers of every board meeting. DSA also has a process which governs a director's involvement in any decisions in which they have a conflict.

The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include inserting a new rule which requires the DSA board to maintain a conflict of interests register of all interests notified to the DSA board to reflect the requirements of this principle.

Minimum of five board meetings per year

Status: The current DSA constitution requires the DSA board to meet four times a year. The proposed changes to the DSA constitution include increasing the minimum number of DSA board meetings required to be convened in each year to five. In practice, DSA satisfies this requirement as the DSA board has historically on average met more than six times per year. In FY16/17 the DSA board met 9 times. Director attendance at DSA board meetings is detailed in DSA's audited financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2017.

DSA committees meet as often as necessary to undertake their responsibilities, but not less than three times per year.

Status: DSA committees usually meet more than three times per year.

SPORT TRANSPARENCY, REPORTING AND INTEGRITY

NSOs to publish annual reports consistent with Corporations Act requirements

Status: DSA produces audited financial statements with abridged accounts included in the Annual Report for members and key stakeholders. The full accounts are available on DSA's website and distributed annually for consideration at its annual general meeting, held in October/November each year.

NSOs to report consolidated national financial accounts annually to the ASC in addition to national entity information

Status: DSA provides audited financial statements and an Annual Report to the ASC annually, in addition to its annual Acquittal Statement.

NSOs to adopt rolling three-year strategic plans with clear and measurable targets, including a detailed operating budget for the next financial year

Status: DSA produces a rolling four-year Strategic Plan which addresses its strategic objectives and how they will be achieved.

The Strategic Plan is presented to and discussed with member organisations annually and is implemented by DSA. This Plan includes a detailed twelve-month operational plan and corresponding detailed budget.

DSA will include measurable objectives and a detailed forward financial model, with comparisons to previous years. Measurable objectives will include key performance indicators that are most relevant to the sport and by which its performance can be measured and trends shown.

Disclosure of administration expenses in the sport, including remuneration and associated expenses for key management personnel

Status: [In its Statement of Comprehensive Income set out in its annual report for the period ending 30 June 2017, DSA details employment costs. As DSA human resources include the CEO and up to four, part-time employees only, the remuneration of key management personnel is discernible.

Details of gross administration expenses are fully disclosed in notes to the Financial Statements set out in its annual report for the period ending 30 June 2017.

NSOs to provide in a timely manner all information requested by the ASC

Status: DSA has provided all information requested by the ASC in a timely manner, to enable the ASC to complete its Annual Sport Performance Review and effectively monitor the performance of DSA against the outcomes set in its funding agreement.

NSO meets the anti-doping requirements pursuant to the Sport Investment Agreement. This includes, among other things the implementation and compliance with ASADA approved anti-doping policy

Status: DSA and its members have adopted the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) policy.

DSA board is cognisant of its obligations under the sport's anti-doping policy, national anti-doping scheme and applicable international federation anti-doping requirements. It is, cooperating and liaising with ASADA, including in relation to the conduct of any investigation or committed to assisting hearing on any alleged anti-doping rule violations.

NSO needs to adopt and observe the AIS Sports Science and Sports Medicine Best Practice Principles

Status: DSA board is investigating:

- i. adoption of the AIS Sports Science and Sports Medicine Best Practice Principles, and
- ii. implementation of recommended investigation, supervision and reporting practices.

NSO will have an obligation to comply with the requirements of the National Policy on Match-fixing in Sport through enacting an NSO specific anti-match-fixing policy and code of conduct.

Status: DSA board is investigating enacting an anti-match-fixing policy and code of conduct.

NSO needs to ensure appropriate education has been provided to players, player agents, support personnel, officials and staff on their responsibilities under the sports anti-match-fixing policy and code of conduct.

Status: DSA board is also investigating the provision of appropriate education to athletes, agents, support personnel, officials and staff regarding their responsibilities under the National Policy on Match-fixing in Sport.

Financial and high-performance reporting requirements

Status: At the date of this report the APC is responsible for the provision of high-performance services and reporting with regard to the (it stops here)

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During the financial year, nine meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director were:

DIRECTORS NAME	TOTAL ELIGIBLE	NUMBER ATTENDED	DIRECTORS NAME	TOTAL ELIGIBLE	NUMBER ATTENDED
Mr Paul Bedbrook	4	4	Mr Stephen Johns	9	7
Mr Michael Lane	9	9	Ms Jodie Baker	5	5
Mr Peter Debnam	4	4	Mr Stephen Loader	9	9
Mr George Hucks	7	6	Mr John Croll	5	5
Ms Karen McBrien	9	9	Dr Elizabeth Rushbrook	5	4
Mrs Joan Steele-Mills	9	7			

Chairman, John Croll - John has worked in the media industry for more than 30 years and was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Isentia in 1999. He has led the company through private ownership, private equity with Quadrant Private Equity and finally an Initial Public Offering on the Australian Stock Exchange in 2014. John is a Life Fellow of the International Association for the Measurement and Evaluation of Communications (AMEC), a Life Fellow of the Public Relations Institute of Australia and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. John was previously the Vice President of the Australian Paralympic Committee.



Deputy Chairman, Steve Loader - Bus, GAICD - Steve has worked in sport for over 25 years in Australia and overseas. He has facilitated courses and presented to staff from international sporting federations on sponsorship, brand management, elite athlete and coach pathways, international federation integration, new media in sport and a wide variety of other topics. Steve is Chairman of the GIO 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Organising Committee. He is a recipient of the Australian Sports Medal and has served on the Boards of the Australian Paralympic Committee, Skiing Australia and Rowing Australia.



Stephen Johns - B. Laws. B. Sc - Steve is a Partner at Bird & Bird. Bird & Bird is an international law firm with offices in 29 countries. Steve advises clients on cross-border M&A and joint ventures. He has worked in the US and extensively throughout Asia. He advises clients across a number of industries but has a particular focus on the technology, media and entertainment sectors. He holds degrees in Law and Science from the University of Sydney and was admitted as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW in 2000.



Michael Lane - B. Sc. - Michael has over 25 years' experience in the retail and commercial property industry having worked for Coles Myer, Lend Lease and DEXUS Property Group. Michael has previously held senior roles in Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability and is currently GM of Developments at Vinta Property Group. Michael has experience in property and portfolio investment, asset management and capital transactions. Michael has held positions on various property committees at both State and National levels. He has also been a member of the City of Sydney Better Buildings Partnership Leadership Panel.



Karen McBrien - Karen is a professional currently employed in the Not-For-Profit sector with extensive experience in event management, media, marketing, communications and fundraising. She has held roles in government, private and the community sectors as well as managing her own business.

Karen has a long association with disability sport and athletes with a disability both in paid and volunteer roles including serving on the Board of Wheelchair Sports NSW and Business Manager to some of Australia's most elite and successful Paralympic athletes.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2017

Dr Liz Rushbrook - Liz is a registered Medical Practitioner with a speciality in Medical Administration. Her interests include sports medicine, clinical governance and disaster and operational management. With 25 years of experience in the Navy and Australian Defence Force, she reached the rank of Commodore and has provided services in the areas of Navy Operations, Sports Medicine and Disaster Management. Liz transitioned to Queensland Health in 2016 providing medical leadership at Metro North Hospital and Health Service and the Prince Charles Hospital. She also supports the Royal Australian Navy through board membership of the Fleet Command Board and is a Director of Team Rubicon Australia.



Joan Steele-Mills - B. Sc (Physiotherapy) - Joan is a physiotherapist with over 30 years' experience. After working in Amsterdam and the UK moved to Sydney in 1990. She is recognised for her expertise in neuro-rehab and para-sport involvement with people of all ages with complex movement disorders especially cerebral palsy and acquired brain injuries. She recently sold her practice but continues to work for "Rehab on the Move" and "Child First" and continues to be an international classifier for a variety of Paralympic sports. Joan is a recipient of a Sports Medal for promoting sport for athletes with Cerebral Palsy and Acquired Brain Injury.



RETIRED George Hucks - Dip Bus (Accounting) - George brings over 20 years of experience in health finance. George was a member of the Australian Wheelchair Rugby Team for over sixteen years from 1995-2008 competing in four Paralympic Games and four World Championships over this time. George represented his State of South Australia as a player and player-coach for over 20 years from 1994-2014.

George served as a director of Disability Recreation and Sports SA from 2010 to 2012, (formally Wheelchair Sports SA) and is currently the Asia Oceania Zone President for the IWRF.



RETIRED Peter Debnam - MBA, MAICD - Peter's experience began with Navy service, business development and general management in aerospace and rural service. He completed an MBA before being elected to NSW Parliament in 1994 and in 2005 became Opposition Leader and led the Coalition to the 2007 State Election. After leaving Parliament in 2011, Peter contributed his time and energy to helping charities. He is Chairman of NSW Kids in Need Foundation, Muscular Dystrophy Association NSW, Advisory Board of Our Big Kitchen Limited and Vice Chairman, Care Australia and Director of Muscular Dystrophy Foundation Australia, ParaQuad NSW, Disability Sports Australia and Soils for Life P/L.



RETIRED Jodie Baker - Jodie was a non-executive director with over 25 years' experience in investment banking and funds management. She specialises in developing and implementing strategy with a strong risk management and growth agenda. Formerly CEO of established fintech business, Morgij Analytics, Jodie was previously a senior risk executive at ANZ, Societe Generale and BT Financial Group. Earlier in her career, Jodie worked at Westpac, Macquarie Bank and Bankers Trust. Jodie is also a Director of Financial Executives Institute and Synergy & Taikoz, a Founding Patron of Australian Red Cross, Society of Women Leaders, a member of Social Enterprise Finance Australia Credit Committee and mentor at Tyro Fintech Hub.



RETIRED Paul Bedbrook, B Sc, FSIA, F FIN - Paul was a professional director who has had a career of over 35 years in financial services, primarily with the Dutch global banking, insurance and investment group, ING, retiring in 2010.

Paul is currently the Chairman of Zurich Financial Services Australia and the listed company, Elanor Investors Group. He is also a director of Credit Union Australia and the National Blood Authority. His connection to DSA is that his father, Sir George Bedbrook, was an early pioneer in using wheelchair sports in the rehabilitation of patients with spinal injuries.



2017 FINANCIAL REPORT



Auditors

Foster Raffan continued as Auditors in 2017.

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required is set out on page 8.

Members' Guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$100 towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2017 the number of members was 7.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Croll".

John Croll

Dated this 16 day of October 2017

DISABILITY SPORTS AUSTRALIA
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www.facebook.com/disabilitysportsaustralia

The Australian Government logo, featuring the coat of arms of Australia.

Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

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Full copy of Financial Report can be found on the ACNC website or upon request

FINANCIAL REPORT 2017



Partners:
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G Douglas Wood
Vivien H Tang

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Auditor's Independence Declaration

To the Responsible Persons of Disability Sports Australia Limited

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission Act 2012, as auditor of Disability Sports Australia Limited for the year ended 30 June 2017 I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012; and
- (b) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in respect of the audit.

Foster Raffan
Chartered Accountants

G D Wood, FCA
Partner, RCA 4479
North Sydney, 16 October, 2017

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Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

DISABILITY SPORTS AUSTRALIA LIMITED
ABN 96 104 461 814

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In the directors' opinion:

- a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 9 – 18 are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* including:
 - (i) complying with Accounting Standards, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date, and
- b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable, and
- c) at the date of this declaration, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the members identified in note 14 will be able to meet any obligations or liabilities to which they are, or may become, subject.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



Director

John Croll

Dated this 16th day of October 2017

FINANCIAL REPORT 2017



Partners:
Graeme J McLean
G Douglas Wood
Vivien H Tang

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DISABILITY SPORTS AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Disability Sports Australia Limited which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017 as set out on pages 9 to 19.

Responsible Persons' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The responsible persons of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the responsible persons determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the responsible persons' preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the responsible persons, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit we have met the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements. We have given the responsible persons of the company a written Auditor's Independence Declaration, a copy of which is included on page 8.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of Disability Sports Australia Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

FOSTER RAFFAN

Chartered Accountants

G D WOOD, FCA

Partner, RCA 4479



North Sydney,
16 October 2017



2017 COMMITTEES 2016 - 2017

Board Audit & Risk Committee

Chair	Michael Lane
Non-Executive Director	John Croll
Independent Member	Kevin Reinert (external)

Board Nomination and Remuneration Committee

Chair	Liz Rushbrook
Non-Executive Director	John Croll
Non-Executive Director	Steve Johns

Board Revenue Committee

Chair	Karen McBrien
Non-Executive Director	Steve Loader
Non-Executive Director	Steve Johns
Non-Executive Director	John Croll

Board AWARDS Committee

Chair	Steve Loader
Non-Executive Director	Joan Steele-Mills

Board Governance Committee

Chair	Steve Johns
Non-Executive Director	John Croll
Non-Executive Director	Steve Loader

Lawn Bowls Executive Committee

Chair	David Bailey (until October 2017)
Head Coach	Jan Palazzi
DSA CEO	Jenni Cole
Member	Bernie Wolland

Lawn Bowls Reference Group

Executive Committee	As above
SA Representative	Jacob Gracey (DRSSA)
VIC Representative	Scott Nicholas (Bowls VIC)
QLD Representative	Daryl Francey (Bowls QLD) / David Bartholomaues (Sporting Wheelies QLD)
NSW Representative	Mark Wilson (WSNSW)
ACT Representative	Kate Lyttle (Bowls ACT)
NT Representative	Jan Palazzi (DSANT)
TAS Representative	Kevin Faulkner (ParaQuad Tas)
WA Representative	Hayden Lewis (WSWA) / Denise McMillan (Bowls WA)

COMMITTEES 2016-2017

Wheelchair Australian Rules Football Advisory Committee

Chair	Kevin Faulkner
Member	Major General Matthew Hall
Member	Mark Rinne
Member	Jenni Cole

Wheelchair Rugby Executive Committee

Chair	George Hucks (until May 2017) Quentin Fleischfrasser (from June 2017)
League Commissioner	Darryl Wingard
Head Referee	Lloyd Whyte (until Jan 2017) Quentin Fleischfrasser (from Jan 2017)
Chief Classifier	Tracee-Lee Magginity
Ex Officio	Jenni Cole
Wheelchair Rugby Coordinator	Mark Leslie (until August 2017) Glen Lebeau (from Oct 2017)
Athlete Representative	Andrew Edmondson

Wheelchair Rugby Reference Group

Executive Committee	As above
Wheelchair Sports NSW Representative	Mark Wilson
Sporting Wheelies & Disabled Assoc. Rep.	Robyn Stephenson
Disability Sport & Recreation (VIC) Rep.	Jason Lees
Wheelchair Sports WA Rep.	Hayden Lewis
Disability Recreation & Sport SA Rep.	Jacob Gracey

Wheelchair Rugby Athletes Commission

Chairperson	Andrew Edmondson
VIC Representative	Jason Lees
QLD Representative	Ryan Scott
NSW Representative	Andrew Edmondson
WA Representative	Aaron Camm

Commonly used acronyms

ADF	Australian Defence Force
AFL	Australian Football League
APC	Australian Paralympic Committee
ARU	Australian Rugby Union
ASC	Australian Sports Commission
DSA	Disability Sports Australia
IF	International Federation
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
IWRF	International Wheelchair Rugby Federation
NSO	National Sporting Organisation
NSOD	National Sporting Organisations for the Disabled

2017 PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Major Partner



Australian Government

Australian Sports Commission

Sponsors

GIO

ISC Teamwear

Supporters

ANZ Stadium

Australian Defence Force Australian Rules

Knightsbridge Tax

Foster Raffan

Royal Australian Navy

ADF Adaptive Sports Program

Partnered National Sporting Organisations

Australian Paralympic Committee

Australian Football League

Australian Rugby Union

Basketball Australia

Bowls Australia

Volleyball Australia

Partnered International Federations

International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF)

International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF)

International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWASF)

International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD)

Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA)

DSA Supporters Club Foundation Members

DNW Group Elanor Investors Tracy Weller-McCormack Anonymous
John Croll John Hart Paul Bedbrook Jodie Baker Peter Debnam

The images contained in this document have been kindly provided by
Serena Ovens, Basketball Australia and Disability Sports Australia.

2017 CONTACT

Chief Executive Officer
Marketing and Communications Manager
Senior Manager Events & Sponsorship
Wheelchair Rugby Coordinator

Sports Coordinator
Finance Manager
National Wheelchair Dance Sport Coordinator
Accountant

Jenni Cole
Michaela O'Leary
Linda Smith (from March 2017 until Dec 2017)
Mark Leslie (until August 2017)
Glen Lebeau (from Sept 2017)
Kelsey Singh
Malcolm Beard (until March 2017)
Daria Alforova
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