

# SUMMER 2020 – AROUND THE COURTS



Welcome to 2020 and what a great year it promises to be - from the Canberra Cup in early February to the National Titles in late November and lots of great boccia in-between.

Other Highlights will include Coaching workshops with Korean coach Cheol Hyeon Kwon in March and the Paralympics in August.

Keep up with what's happening on Facebook, Instagram and our website!

## Hobart 2020!

BA and Para Quad Tasmania are very excited to announce the 2020 National titles will be held at the Kingston Sports Centre on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Tasmania regularly hosts great state titles and are a very friendly hospitable group – we look forward to fun and good boccia in November

See you there! *Richard*

## Save the date in 2020

### Canberra Cup

8-9 February 2020

### Tasmanian State Titles

Hobart  
29 February to  
1 March

### NSW State Titles & BA AGM

Sydney  
20 - 23 March  
Coaches workshop  
24-25 March

### Boccia Australia National Titles

Hobart  
12 -15 November



## Nationals Round-up!

The 2019 Australian National Titles were a wonderful experience for all our athletes and their supporters. It was 4 days of fun and strong competition in Brisbane. Our thanks must go to David and his team of volunteers at Sporting Wheelies for running such a great event.



	<b>GOLD</b>	<b>SILVER</b>	<b>BRONZE</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>BC1</b>	Chris Allerdice NSW	John Richardson Vic	Neil Dalton NSW	Zac Ahoy NSW
<b>BC2</b>	Scott Elsworth NSW	Lachlan Kavanagh Qld	Jason Mayweather Qld	Nic Milner Tas
<b>BC3</b>	Dan Michel NSW	Jamieson Leeson NSW	Spencer Cotie NSW	Siobhan Daley NSW
<b>BC4/5</b>	JP LaFontaine Qld	Phil Bates NSW	Lynn Mittendorf NSW	Minna Blaney TAS
<b>EMU</b>	Laura Dawson Qld	Trina Stewart Qld	James Morrison SA	
<b>BC1/2 Teams</b>	NSW	ACT/NSW/Qld	Tas/WA/Qld	
<b>BC3 Pairs</b>	NSW 1	NSW2	Qld	
<b>BC4/5/ EMU Pairs</b>	Qld	NSW1	NSW3	



*And the State Shield goes to NSW!*





## My Boccia Story

### By Amanda Langton from WA

Originally, I wanted to play lawn bowls with my mates, but they don't allow wheelchairs on the green. So, my Support Worker googled 'bowling for people with a disability' & Boccia came up.

I had played Boccia many years ago but was told I needed to use a ramp. When I went to a Boccia club they said I was a thrower, so I threw - not far at first but I improved with practice.

That was less than 18 months ago. I practiced once, then twice - sometimes up to 3 times a week at the Bowls Club then I was asked if I wanted to go to the National Titles in Brisbane. Bedford Bowling Club held a fundraising day for me & Boccia WA also contributed & loaned me a set of boccia balls.

It was my first Boccia competition & my coach told me to use this as a learning experience & there were no expectations apart from to enjoy myself - and maybe score a point!

To my surprise not only did I score a point (despite playing BC2 players when I was classified as a BC1) my team also got the bronze medal and we only had met the day the competition started.

To be given the New and Emerging Player Award totally surprised me, it was so unexpected. I had tears in my eyes when my name was announced & I went to collect the award. I was not expecting to come home with anything & now I have my own set of Boccia balls

I met so many great people I have learnt from and will continue to learn. I have my sights on next year's Nationals & aim to win at least one match, maybe using my own set of Maxwell Pro Boccia Balls!

### STOP PRESS

New Boccia club is starting in Sunshine Victoria! Interested?  
Contact Vicki at [chevy57kiwi@hotmail.com](mailto:chevy57kiwi@hotmail.com)

NSW	Siobhan Daley	0.5	0.5
VIC	Gavin Thorneycroft	2	0.5
NSW	Cal Rose	0.5	2
QLD	Nathan Langdown	0.5	0.5
NSW	Wendy Evans		0.5

## National Rankings

In December a new simplified national ranking system was introduced. It is based on attendance at the Boccia Australia National Titles over the previous 3 years regardless of an athlete's registration as an independent or as a member of a state team.

All athletes were awarded points ranging from 5 for the athlete who came first in their classification to 0.5 for those who attended.

Rankings are on the BA website at: <https://www.boccia.com.au/test/nationalranking/>



## Officials Prize Winner: Ro Blaney

Ro Blaney of Tasmania was the 2019 winner of the inaugural Officials Prize at the Nationals, a Referee Kit donated by Maxwell Pro. Ro is a great example of the terrific work carried out by the boccia officials around Australia, combining a range of roles within their club to grow the sport in their community.

Ro is the coach for Boccia with New Horizons Tasmania in Launceston. She loves coaching & being a Boccia Referee and so decided to complete the Level 2 of the BA Referees course in time to referee at the Nationals. She is now one of two Level 2 Referees in Tasmania and is hoping to help this sport grow and, in her role as State Delegate, help shape the future of Boccia in Australia. She was very surprised and felt quite humbled to be given the award because, as she said, "it was such a joy to be there & share the four days with the other Referees, Officials & the wonderful Boccia athletes."



## BA Boccia News

### BA Strategic Plan 2020 -2024

In January the Board of BA commenced developing our 4-year strategic plan for boccia for our Australian athletes. We held the first planning day in Sydney, now will go to each of the state asking for ideas.

The strategy will support our vision to make Boccia Australia's number one sport for those with significant movement impairment of all ages and ability, both recreational and competitively.



### How can you help?

Tell us

1. Where do you see the sport of Boccia being in 2024?
2. If you had a half a million dollars to spend on boccia in the next four years what would you spend it on?

Send Your Ideas for Your Plan to [admin@boccia.com.au](mailto:admin@boccia.com.au)



### BA Annual General Meeting

The 2020 BA AGM will be held on at the BNSW State titles between 20<sup>th</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Come along and have your say!

# Coaching Update

Glen Lebeau, our new coach coordinator, has been working hard the last few weeks on the new coaching framework. He has taken the opportunity to analyze boccia in details, especially coaches & athletes.

This review looked at the entire sport with a focus on the participation pathways, direct & indirect, for all underpinned by the FTEM Framework. It looks at participation pathways for the stakeholder groups – athletes, coaches, & officials - while providing development pathways for each group – Fundamental, Talent, Elite and Mastery. The Framework was based on over 30 years of practical learning gained from within the Australian sporting system & a review of existing frameworks, models, and concepts by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).



The document is currently under review with several stockholders like states representatives, board members and existing coaches. Once approved & distributed, work will start on the new coaching accreditations later this year

Glen has also created a coaching reference group, a monthly meeting where each state is represented. The main goal is working in collaboration all together for a better future in the sport, especially around coaching.

Contact Glen at [glen@boccia.com.au](mailto:glen@boccia.com.au)

## World Famous Boccia Coach to Run Workshops

Cheol Hyeon Kwon is recognized as the number one boccia coach in the world. Over the years he coached the South Korean Boccia Team to 13 Paralympic medals and his coaching expertise is renowned worldwide. Since his retirement from active coaching Cheol has travelled the world, sharing his coaching expertise generously with other boccia-playing countries.

The good news for Australian coaches, & aspiring coaches, is that Boccia Australia is bringing Cheol to Australia to offer two-day coaching workshops in both Sydney & Brisbane. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone interested in becoming a coach, particularly at the club level, to gain the very best available coaching tips & information.

The dates for these two-day workshops are:

- **Sydney** –Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March (following the BNSW Titles) at Dee Why, PCYC.
- **Brisbane** – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March, Redland

The Cost is \$75.00 per participant.

Places are limited to provide the best learning experience for all participants.

Contact Glen now on [glen@boccia.com.au](mailto:glen@boccia.com.au)



## Thank You

*Thank you to everyone who submitted items for this Newsletter from BA. We will keep any unused stories and photos for our next Newsletter. Please feel free to submit more – we want our members to know what happening in boccia across Australia. Photos are particularly welcome!*

*Send your stories and photos to [admin@boccia.com.au](mailto:admin@boccia.com.au)*

*Lucy*