

Winter 2019

AROUND THE COURTS



2019 Boccia Australia National Titles

1st – 4th November

Brisbane Entertainment Centre

The Boccia Australia National Titles will be held in combination with the Queensland State Championships at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre, 1 Melaleuca Drive Boondall.

States will enter athletes in the Individual and Teams/Pairs competition. There will be the opportunity for individual athletes to join in if places are available after the teams are chosen.

Details will be made available soon through email, the website and Facebook. Contact your club manager or state organiser if you wish to be a member of your state team.



Save the date in 2017

Hunter Cup

Morisset NSW

7th - 8th Sept 2019

Contact:
hunterboccia@bigpond.com

Boccia Australia National Titles 2019

Brisbane, Queensland

1st - 4th November 2019

Further details BA website <https://www.boccia.com.au/>

NSW Boccia Titles 2020

Sydney NSW

20th – 23rd March 2020



A word from the Chair

I'm pleased to say we are making progress on 10 of the 11 commitments identified in the Boccia Australia Strategic Plan 2019-2020. While many of the commitments are not highly visible to our members, they are important foundation steps for establishing boccia as a truly national sport of boccia. Our progress on the Strategic Plan:

1. The National Titles will be held in Brisbane in November
2. Improved the quality and quantity of social media both on Website, Facebook and Instagram.
3. Made BA Activity more open and visible by posting Board minutes on Facebook
4. Used the Website to double our membership
5. Manage the High-Performance Program with integrity and professionalism
6. Reviewed the Selection Criteria for the High-Performance Program
7. Applied unsuccessfully for 4 grants, 2 which were significant and included schools competent. We will keep trying!
8. Working to achieve compliance with regulatory bodies including Australian Charities, ASDA drug testing program, Sports Australia
9. Public Liability and Volunteer insurance reviewed, and valid and appropriate for BA members
10. Made membership free

Final Commitment: Work will now commence on the long and short term 2020 - 2028 Strategic Plan, with consultations to happen with our members.

See our website for more detail on our progress

Looking forward to talking to you at a boccia competition somewhere

– *Richard*



With fellow Chair Roger Massie of ParaQuad Tasmania



Queensland Changes

Farewell to much loved Joe Moynihan who returns home to Ireland with his wife and baby son. He will be missed both as an advocate for boccia in Queensland and as a valued member of the BA Board.

He will be replaced at Sporting Wheelies by David Bartholomaeus who has an extensive background in Wheelchair Rugby

High Performance

Hong Kong World Opens May

Congratulation to the successful Australian BC3 team, bringing home the Individual Gold Medal and Pairs Bronze Medal. Great effort from the entire team which consisted of experienced athletes Dan Michel, Spencer Cotie and making her international debut Jamieson Leeson. Also, their terrific ramp assistants: Ash McClure, Abi Pidgeon and Amanda Leeson and of course, Coach Ken Halliday

Individual

In the individual competition Spencer played strongly and won all his pool games but was knocked out in the quarter finals. Dan played an almost perfect final match winning 4-2 against Patrick Wilson of Great Britain to win the Gold Medal.

Pairs

The Bronze Medal Match was against Great Britain who were seeded 4th in the competition and ranked 5th in the world. It was a very tough match, however Australia won 5-2.

Valley v Hill

On the ANZAC weekend ACT Boccia staged its first "Valley v the Hill" trophy, a great competition between ACT Boccia and a team of local politicians. It's aim was to raise both awareness and funds for this great sport!

ACT Boccia players Corena, Dylan, James, Justy and Mohgamat were too good for the politicians, however all are keen to come back and make this an annual event. Well done ACT!



Featured Club: The Launceston New Horizons Boccia Club.



Tasmania has 2 thriving boccia clubs: Hobart which is linked to Paraquad and the Launceston New Horizons Club which provides many sporting opportunities, along with boccia.

Launceston has a mix of players representing all the classifications with serious athletes as well as social players. Like all good boccia clubs they come together for fun and competition, meeting weekly for training and games. Launceston is a club which is looking to the future with development planned for the next 12 months. They have brought in several new volunteers in the past 12 months, taking the support group to 8 players and 8 volunteers. In addition, Launceston has 2 qualified referees with more looking at undertaking the Referees training course.

Launceston were very successful in the recent Tasmanian titles with Nick Milner taking Gold in the BC1/2 and Scott Claridge Bronze.

Minna Blaney played very strongly in the BC4/5/EMU to bring home Silver with Ryan Stott winning Bronze.

Scott Claridge received the Sportsmanship Award – a great acknowledgement of the atmosphere of the club which values strong play, fun and sportsmanship.



Queensland development

Meanwhile in Queensland they have been busy working to grow their club base. They now have a club in Harvey Bay (called Wide Bay Boccia), who have even made a local TV debut. The Ipswich Boccia Club is working with the Spinal Injury Unit, which is very exciting. Ryan Finn and Ally Wood have been working with the Redcliffe Special School and hope to do more!

NSW School Knockouts

Boccia Comp gets going

Once again, the NSW CPA Sports Program is running the NSW School Boccia Knockouts in partnership with NSW School Sport, Boccia NSW and the Office of Sport & Rec. It's the 9th year of this very successful event which attracts schools from across the state.



Who Plays?

Over May and June sixteen competitions will be held across NSW; from Wagga to Ballina and out west to Orange, with the winner of each day going through to the Grand Final. Competitions have already been held in Young, Wagga, Sydney North and Coffs Harbour, and the schools of Young High, Parkview PS (Leeton), Killara High and Kororo PS have secured their places in the Grand Final to be held on the 8th August at Quay Centre, Sydney Olympic Park



New athletes

Some of NSW's top athletes, both throwers and rampers come from this great school competition. All the current members of Australia's world ranked number 2 BC3 Pairs team have played in this competition, and new talent is sure to emerge in 2019!



International Traveler!

Canada National Titles

Congratulations to James Morrison of the Salisbury Eagles, South Australia. James travelled to Montreal Canada as an independent athlete and took out Bronze in the Open section. A seasoned international player, James regularly travels to New Zealand to play in their National Championships



Our Referees Abroad

Congratulations to our Australian Head Referee Pam Johnson who will be the Assistant Head Ref at the 2019 Asia Oceania Competition in Seoul in July. Pam works hard to raise the level of boccia across Australia and is the Oceania Representative on the International Referees Committee.

Joining her will be Lisa Hanssens and Lucy Bates, both experienced International Referees.



BA Board

In March 2019 at the BA Annual General Meeting the Board introduced its new line-up.

- Richard Boele Chair chair@boccia.com.au
- Lucy Bates Secretary secretary@boccia.com.au
- Tait Jenkins Treasurer treasurer@boccia.com.au
- Allen Macourt Member allen.macourt@boccia.com.au
- Emily Finn Member emily.finn@boccia.com.au
- Chris Nunn Member

The Draft AGM minutes and Strategic Plan 2019 are on the BA website

[https://www.boccia.com.au /](https://www.boccia.com.au/)



Thank you to everyone who submitted items for this first Newsletter from the new BA Board. 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 – send your stories and photos to admin@boccia.com.au

Lucy and Emily