



Message from the Deputy Secretary

Welcome to our March edition of *Actively In Touch!*

In this edition we feature Sandra Speers who was recently inducted onto the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women for her significant contributions to sport. We also feature Ebony Altimira who is the first female President of Tasmania Rugby Union.

The 2019-20 Levelling the Playing Field Grants Program expression of interest stage has opened. This program offers financial assistance for sporting organisations to develop inclusive sporting facilities for women and girls.



Kate Kent
Deputy Secretary, (Communities, Sport and Recreation)

Honouring Women Contributing to Sport and Recreation

The Hon. Jacque Petrusma, Minister for Women has recently inducted 29 women and one organisation onto the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women.

The Honour Roll recognises women who have made a significant contribution to the State. The Honour Roll is important for preserving the stories of women and women's organisations.

Sandra Speers was one of the inductees on this year's Honour Roll for her contributions to sport. Sandra has been involved in the sporting community since 1974 (in both athletics and netball) as an athlete, coach, official, administrator and volunteer.



Sandra qualified as a Level 2 coach and is nationally regarded and graded as a starter, start area coordinator, track referee, start referee, out of stadium referee and umpire. Key appointments include: 2000 Olympic Games, 2000 Paralympic Games and 2001 Goodwill Games (Starter's Assistant), 2001 IAA Grand Prix Final (Starter), 2018 Commonwealth Games (Starting Panel) and annual roles at a range of national championships. Sandra received the Australian Sports Medal in 2000 and the Athletics Australia Gold Service Award for 30 years' service in 2008.

For more information please visit the [Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women website](#).

Photo: Sandra Speers (left) The Hon. Jacque Petrusma MP (right).

World Champions - Amy Cure and Georgia Baker

Tasmanians Amy Cure and Georgia Baker brought home gold and silver medals for their achievements in the 2019 UCI Track World Championships in Poland in February.

Amy and Georgia competed with fellow team mates Ashlee Ankudinoff (NSW) and Annette Edmondson (SA). The Australian team competed against Great Britain for gold in the Women's Team Pursuit final.



The Australian team pounced on the British team and secured a half second lead after the first kilometre. The margin between the two teams remained for the 16 lap race until the final lap. Despite a fightback by the British team, the Australian team won the race by two-tenths of a second!

Amy and Georgia also teamed up and won silver medals in a thrilling Women's Madison final. "It was a full on race, right from the start. There were many crashes but Amy stayed safe and rode at the front as much as she could" said Georgia. Amy commented that despite making some

mistakes, the team performed very well which is a promising sign for their upcoming races in Tokyo.

Photo: Amy Cure (left) Georgia Baker (right).

Nathaniel Atkinson Secures Place in Asian Football Confederation Under 23 Squad

Launceston born Nathaniel Atkinson has been selected to play for the Australian Olyroos Under 23 squad. The squad will play in three qualifying matches in the hope of securing a position at the fourth Asian Football Confederation Under 23 Championship in 2020.



The squad will travel to Kuala Lumpur and then Phonm Penh to compete against Cambodia, Chinese Taipei and the Korea Republic on March 23-26.

Nathaniel is a former Riverside Olympic Football Club player and current A-League Melbourne City player. Nathaniel has three Australian caps at the Under 23 level.

Photo: Nathaniel Atkinson.

Moments of Excellence - First Female President for Tasmania Rugby Union

This month Tasmania Rugby Union celebrated a major milestone with Ebony Altimira elected as the first female President on their Board.

The Tasmanian local grew up with a passion for sport, however it was the Australian Women's Gold Medal win at the 2016 Rio Olympics which sparked her love for rugby.

In the same year, Ebony joined the Glenorchy Rugby Union Club where she helped bring together several women's sevens teams from around the State.

Following a successful season with the Glenorchy Club, Ebony transitioned to the Taroona Rugby Union Club. Ebony was then offered the position of Head Coach of the women's side. This attracted dozens of new participants to the club.

In 2018, Ebony was appointed to represent the Board of Tasmania Rugby Union where she assisted in creating positive change and growing participation numbers.

Ebony's leadership skills and passion for rugby led her to be elected as the President of Tasmania Rugby Union.

"We've seen some exciting growth in Tasmania over recent months, particularly amongst female participation numbers and I am really looking forward to helping that expand" said Ebony.

"I am currently working with the Board and Rugby Australia to establish a structured plan for the next 12 months to ensure that there is a clear pathway for participants from the grassroots to the elite level" said Ebony.

Photo: *Ebony Altimira.*



Cricket National Inclusion Carnival 2019

The 2019 National Cricket Inclusion Carnival was held in Geelong this January, attracting a strong intellectual disability team co-ordinated by Cricket Tasmania and New Horizons Tasmania. The Carnival has intellectual disability, vision impaired and hearing impaired divisions for mixed gender teams.



Local Tasmanian player Sam McKibbon played in the cricket tournament for his first time. Both Sam and his family found the experience to be transformational. "Sam had never played competitive cricket before because he did not have confidence to play with the kids at his school" said Sam's father Dean. "He went from skills based training with New Horizons and showing competence using a softball, to using the full kit pretty quickly" said Dean.

Coaching staff noticed that Sam's bowling skills would be an asset to the Tasmanian team and encouraged Sam to join. "Joining the team was great for Sam's skills and for expanding his social group - a real surprise however was that this inspired a new yearning for knowledge about the technicalities of good bowling. Sam has really enjoyed learning about that" said Dean.

"Sam has found a new comfort zone through this cricket experience and after a week playing, Sam has built his confidence and made new friends. It is fantastic" said Dean. Sam was the youngest player in the tournament.

For more information about inclusive cricket and the Carnival please visit the [Cricket Australia website](#).

Photo: *Members of the Tasmania team.*

International Tennis Hall of Fame Inspires Huon Valley Youth

Evonne Goolagong Cawley shared her knowledge and passion for tennis at an Indigenous Come and Try Event in Cygnet on March 4.

One hundred Aboriginal children from Cygnet Primary School, Huonville Primary School and St James College learned basic skills such as, volley, forehand and backhand through to more advanced skills such as footwork and court awareness.



Evonne spoke at the event about the value of health and education for young people and the importance of persistence and overcoming adversity. Evonne shared her childhood memory of using a small wooden bat to hit tennis balls against a tin water tank and how she later did the same practice, only with a racquet and a wall in preparation for winning her second Wimbledon final. Evonne continues to bring the same wooden

bat to every Tennis Come and Try Event, showing students that determination and passion are the keys to success.

The Evonne Goolagong Foundation offers Aboriginal children across Australia opportunities to develop the technical skills needed to become elite athletes and also provides school scholarships.

The Come and Try Event was organised by the Evonne Goolagong Foundation and proudly supported by the South East Tasmania Aboriginal Corporation, Tennis Tasmania and hosted by the Cygnet Tennis Club.

Photo: *Indigenous Come and Try Event participants.*

Tasmanian State Canoe Polo Team Back in Business

When a Tamar Canoe Club junior polo player asked if he could try out for the State Team last year he was told that no team existed. Fortunately, after hearing about the 2019 Australian Canoe Polo Championships, committed members of the Masters Team decided to train weekly with junior members.



A generous neighbour of one team member has alleviated the financial barrier of pool fees, by allowing training to occur on his sheltered rural dam. Every junior player is now developing paddle and hand-roll techniques. Two junior players have been selected to play in the Oceania Sporting Championships.

Fundraising is now in place to assist with the purchase of gear that meets national standards. Team tops have been sourced from the tip shop, however vinyl is still required to wrap the boats and provide leak-proof decks for junior members.

Australian Opens Men's Team member Jade Kerber is volunteering to assist with coaching this month and is excited to see Tasmania return to the national competition. Tasmanian State Canoe Polo Team Manager Jenny Purtell says that the goal for the junior team is to represent good sportsmanship. Jenny commented that, "logistically and financially it is challenging, but socially, emotionally and at the community level, we are winning in every aspect".

Further information about canoe water polo can be found at the [Paddle Tasmania website](#).

Photo: *Tamar Canoe Club.*

Levelling the Playing Field Grants Program 2019-20

The 2019-20 Levelling the Playing Field Grants Program offers financial assistance for sporting organisations to develop inclusive sporting facilities for women and girls. Financial assistance can be used for upgrading change rooms, lockers, toilets, shower facilities, amenities and for safety measures to boost female participation in sport.



The Grants Program will be managed in two stages: an expression of interest stage and a full application process for selected projects. The 2019-20 expression of interest stage opened on Monday 25 March 2019 and closes on Monday 2 May 2019.

Applicants can apply for funding between \$15,000 and \$1 million dollars per project, with no limit on the amount of projects applicants can apply for.

Higher priority will be given to projects that have matched dollar-for-dollar funding and a funding commitment from the relevant State Sporting Organisation. Communities, Sport and Recreation will be looking for applications which demonstrate a broad commitment to inclusivity.

Further information about the Grants Program can be found at the [Communities Tasmania website](#). Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Communities, Sport and Recreation before preparing their application to ensure they understand the Program's requirements. Communities, Sport and Recreation can be contacted on 1800 252 746 or by email at sportrec@communities.tas.gov.au

Australian and New Zealand Sports Law Association - Good Governance

The Australian and New Zealand Sports Law Association (ANZSLA) is hosting good governance presentations in Launceston and Hobart in April. The sessions will be presented by Andy Gibson, who is a Senior Lecturer at Cross University. The presentations will cover the following:



- The role of an office holder or committee member of a club or association in 2019
- The Associated Incorporation Act 1964 and the 2017 Model Rules
- Reviewing Constitutions
- Common problems that can result in legal disputes
- How to avoid or minimise the risk of litigation

The presentations will be followed by a networking event. ANZSLA members gain free entry. The non-members fee is \$10. Please register at the [ANZSLA website](#). Event details are as follows:

Launceston - Tuesday 2 April at 6pm-8pm at the Law Society of Tasmania, Stafordshire House, 56 Charles St Launceston.

Hobart - Wednesday 3 April at 6pm-8pm at the Law Society of Tasmania, 28 Murray Street Hobart.

Parks and Leisure Australia State Conference

Registrations are now open for the Parks and Leisure Australia VIC/TAS State Conference. The conference will take place on May 15-17 2019 at the Cape Schanck Resort on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria.



The Conference is now in its sixth year and continues to provide professional development opportunities and networking events for people in the Sport, Leisure and Parks sectors.

A reduced registration fee applies to all delegates in Tasmania.

Conference program and registrations can be found at the [Conference website](#).

E-Safety - Start the Chat Campaign

A new eSafety campaign will commence this March with the launch of *Start the Chat*. The campaign encourages parents, carers and educators to visit esafety.gov.au for information about talking to 5-18 year olds about online safety.

To start the campaign, eSafety has updated their web content for parents and carers and will re-brand this information as 'eSafety for Parents'. The information includes up-to-date resources about online safety issues.



The campaign represents an incredible opportunity to reach a broader range of Australians and inform them of the resources available. eSafety is encouraging people to *Start the Chat* with family and friends.

More information can be found on the [eSafety website](#).

Sport4Everyone Grant Applications Open Soon

Sport4Everyone is a grants program run by the Australian Sports Foundation which increases participation in grassroots and community sport through small grants. The grants are provided to help individuals and communities increase sporting participation regardless of a person's background or ability.



Sport4Everyone provides grants of up to \$10,000 for projects and activities that will positively impact one or more of the four focus areas outlined below:

- Increasing female participation in sport
- Increasing physical activity amongst children
- Improving leadership and decision making through sport
- Diversity and inclusion: increasing the participation of minority groups in sport

Applications open 28 March 2019 and close 22 April 2019. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by email from 20 May 2019.

More information about the grants program can be found on the [Australian Sports Foundation website](#).

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