



DISABILITY
SPORTS
AUSTRALIA

2022

ANNUAL
REPORT



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DSA 2021/2022 HIGHLIGHTS

DSA 2021/2022 HIGHLIGHTS

DSA delivers 23 **Activate Inclusion Sports Day** events



Wheelchair Aussie Rules grows into NSW, NT, WA & QLD.

National Referral Hub launched getting more people with disability active



Activate Inclusion Sports Days delivered in **VIC** for the first time



Over **22,000** Australian's with disability serviced by DSA's member organisations

DSA has another **strong financial year**

Wheelchair Rugby Australia becomes beings official process to become independent through Sports Incubator



Activate Inclusion Sports Days delivered in **TAS** for the first time

DSA hosts **inaugural National Conference** in June 2022



Increase in DSA LinkedIn followers by **315.38%**

CHANGING LIVES THROUGH SPORT

MESSAGE FROM ASC

Sport has a place for everyone and delivers results that make Australia proud.

This is the Australian Sports Commission's (ASC) vision as we embark on a defining era in Australian sport over the next decade and beyond.

We are setting out to lead, support and provide opportunities for all communities to be involved in sport, while growing elite success and representation, inspiring future generations.

Our role, as the Australian Government agency responsible for supporting and investing in sport at all levels, is to increase involvement in sport and enable continued international sporting success.

We do this through leadership and development of a cohesive and effective sports sector, targeted financial support and the operation of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

We play a unique role in the sport ecosystem and tackle the big challenges and opportunities with and for the sector.

We're proud to do so and through our vision, we aim to bring out the best in everyone involved in sport as we establish Australia as the world's best sporting nation.

"A THRIVING AUSTRALIAN SPORT SYSTEM IS ENORMOUSLY INFLUENTIAL TO A THRIVING AUSTRALIA."

The 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games provided a perfect launch pad for our athletes to shine.

To finish on top of the medal table with 67 gold and cement our status as the most successful nation in the event's history sets us up brilliantly as we look to host the next Games in Victoria 2026.

These Games, uniquely hosted in regional areas, will be another opportunity to inspire Australians to get involved in sport, and to champion the role sport can play in engaging every Australian.

This is a defining era for Australian sport. We have begun the Green and Gold decade to Brisbane 2032, and we are focused on building sustainable success for decades to come.

The sporting strategies, programs and facilities we deliver now have the capacity to shape Australia's long-term prosperity, well beyond sporting boundaries. A thriving Australian sport system is enormously influential to a thriving Australia.

We will advocate for sport and its positive influence on Australia, promote and support inclusive and diverse sporting environments and drive thought leadership and innovation to inspire world's best practices.

We will build the capability of sport and the people involved through projects like our Sport Volunteer Coalition Action Plan which outlines a new approach to foster positive, safe and fulfilling experiences for sport volunteers, and our Women Leaders in Sport programs which champion equal representation in sport.

It has been great to see the AIS site buzzing with activity again after a challenging few years due to COVID-19. We continue to welcome sports and athletes back to the campus, who are all keen to use our facilities to prepare for major sporting events.

Our aim is for sport in Australia to be world's best so we will optimise our facilities to advance sport and use them to showcase sport at its best.

This is an incredible opportunity to unite and inspire Australia through sport as we capitalise on the

MESSAGE FROM ASC

calendar of major sporting events on the road to a home Olympic and Paralympic Games.

On behalf of the ASC, thank you to everyone who contributes to Australian sport with the aim of making it better for all.

JOSEPHINE SUKKAR AM
Chair
Australian Sports Commission



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I am pleased to report to our members that Disability Sports Australia (DSA) had another very successful year to June 2022. This is a credit to our team led by CEO, Murray Elbourn, our supporters and sponsors and the DSA Board Directors.

Success can be measured in the number of events delivered, the number of people with disability who had the chance to participate in sports and activities and the strong financial position that has been achieved. The success of all these areas means that DSA has continued momentum heading into the new year.

The careful management of our resources through the "Covid Era" and the planning of new areas for DSA to be involved in, has seen a year full of activities, with new programs delivered, more opportunities for people with disability and the diversification of our revenue streams.

This Annual Report will detail many of the activities of DSA, I would like to draw your attention to 2 areas that were delivered or enhanced through the year.

The NDSP National Referral Hub is an innovative online service that has been delivered through the championing of the CEO. It is a first in the Australian community that brings the NDIS partners, sporting organisations and people with disability together to deliver much improved sporting and participation outcomes. It has been rewarding to see the support from our partners to this program and will continue to see further services added over the years.

DSA has been active in the formation and managing of many sports, with the goal to ensure they are adapted for people with disability and are sustainable, we call it our Sports Incubator. It has been very gratifying to see the development of Wheelchair Rugby in Australia to the point of it becoming a stand-alone sport, Wheelchair Rugby Australia. The Australian wheelchair rugby team, the Steelers, have enjoyed great success over many years, and now with the incredible efforts of Chris Nay, and DSA, the sport is moving to an independent future in an extremely strong position.

There is a real momentum in the community around sport for people with disability and DSA has played an active role in the continued development of an alliance of sports called the Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability (ASAPD). All nine members are working to improve inclusion, participation in sport and physical activity for the nearly 20% of Australians with disability.

This is my last report as Chair of DSA, it has been such a rewarding experience. There have been many highlights with the World Wheelchair Rugby Championships, the development of the Sports Incubator and the delight of kids being given their chance to try an array of sports. There have been tough times as well, with very difficult financial circumstances and the navigation of the Covid era. Through the ups and downs, I have had the opportunity to work with an exceptional group of people, both management and Directors and this has made the journey most rewarding. I feel confident that DSA is in great shape and will continue to deliver amazing outcomes into the future.



JOHN CROLL AM
Chair (until May 2022)





MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

As CEO of Disability Sports Australia, I am pleased to report another strong financial year for our organisation, coming out of the Covid pandemic. This period has allowed our organisation to focus on building strong deliverable programs which centre around our NDSP National Referral Hub.

As events have been able to be re-established, our team has successfully delivered both the 2022 Wheelchair Rugby Australian Championships and our first Disability Sports Australia national conference in partnership with Sunshine Coast Council and University of the Sunshine Coast. These events have provided our organisation with increased partnerships, media and inter sector opportunities to collaborate.

DSA also led a \$30.5 Million dollar bid in collaboration with Blacktown City Council to establish Australia's first dedicated Disability Sports Centre of Excellence from the NSW Office of Sport grant. Within the bid, DSA collaborated with the Para sports of Badminton, Boccia, Fencing, Goalball, Judo, Taekwondo and Volleyball. This project due to be completed in December 2024, will enable these seven sports to fast track their paralympic programs with the assistance of DSA's Sport Incubation program and further be supported by cotenants Australian Catholic University and Western Sydney Health district. This is a ground-breaking project for disability sport in both NSW and Australia.

Following on from two previous years of successful growth and program delivery, our organisation has been able to reinvest in adding crucial staff at senior management level to further extend our capability to support our mission and vision. Our organisation has added key resources in finance, data systems, commercial, operations and governance to support the increased work from collaboration. I am pleased to welcome all of our new staff, who join an existing group of impressive employees who have delivered consistently through the growth of our organisation.

As always, we couldn't have had this success without our major partners, I would sincerely like to thank all our major partners being:

Australian Sports Commission, Northern Territory Government, Santos, NDSP Plan Managers, GIO, Lifestyle Solutions, Degnan, Coloplast, PCYC, Belgravia Leisure, Sport NSW, Variety - The Children's Charity, Mable, Playgroups NSW and The Levick Family Estate.

I would also like to thank our National Referral Hub Councils and Preferred Partners who have supported our vision for referrals to community to enable all Australians to be more active, more often.

Finally, I must thank all of our state and territory member organisations, as we move into large projects like the National Integrity Framework, it is imperative that DSA communicates and collaborates with our member organisations to deliver strong outcomes for participants.

This year has also seen our long time Chair Mr John Croll step down and Steve Loader become interim Chair. I would sincerely like to thank both John and Steve for their ongoing support with the entire board of DSA for supporting our organisation to adjust to my management vision.

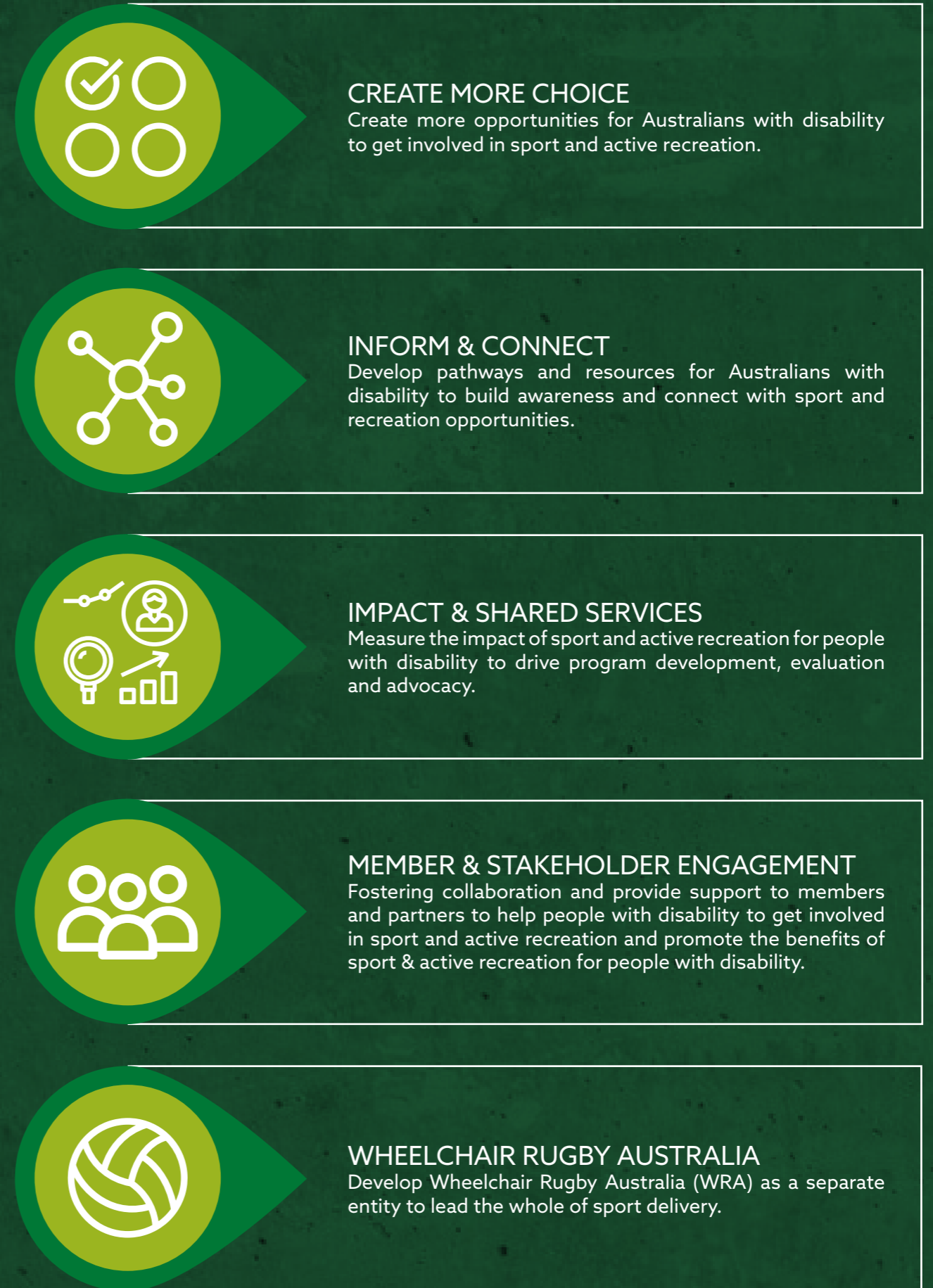
MURRAY ELBOURN
Chief Executive Officer



STRATEGIC DIRECTION



STRATEGIC PILLARS



CREATE MORE CHOICE

WHAT IS CREATE MORE CHOICE?

Create more opportunities for Australians with disability to get involved in sport and active recreation.

ACTIVATE INCLUSION SPORTS DAYS (AISD)

Our Activate Inclusion Sports Days (AISD), which provide the opportunity for children with disability to try multiple sports in a fun, safe and inclusive environment launched nationally in 2022. Launching the program across the country saw us deliver 54 events, with over 5000 children attending.

Delivering AISD in new locations has given children the opportunity to participate in sports who may otherwise have missed out and whilst we always knew what a huge impact our events can have, the feedback we have received this year has blown us away!



"My son attended yesterday with his dad and he had such a wonderful day!! Sports accessibility and inclusivity have long been things that he has craved and needed in his world, and up until recently, finding avenues to access inclusive sports for our son has been challenging.

These events have not only inspired him to give accessible & inclusive sports a go, they have also shown him what's possible and given him hope, inspiration, motivation, and drive"

"I'VE WORKED IN SPECIAL EDUCATION HPE FOR 10 YEARS IN TWO COUNTRIES AND THIS WAS PROBABLY THE BEST EVENT OF ITS KIND THAT I HAVE BEEN TO. I LOOK FORWARD TO ATTENDING MORE IN THE FUTURE"

"I've worked in special education HPE for 10 years in two countries and this was probably the best event of its kind that I have been to. I look forward to attending more in the future"

"It was a wonderful day, well run, with lots of fun activities and thoroughly enjoyed by all our students and staff. We would love to make this an annual event!"

Activate Inclusion Sports Days are giving children the confidence and inspiration to continue their sporting journey into their local community sports clubs.

Disability Sports Australia would like to acknowledge and thank Variety - The Children's Charity for their ongoing support of Activate Inclusion Sports Days and look forward to providing more opportunities for children with disability to participate in sport in 2023!



CREATE MORE CHOICE

SPORTS INCUBATOR

DSA aims to increase the range of sport and active recreation opportunities for all Australians with disability. Ensuring sustainable and effective inclusive and adaptive sport development is at the core of DSA's operations and the Disability Sports Incubator has continued to develop and grow to be the premier program assisting mainstream sports to develop their inclusive offerings.

Through further research and consultation with national sporting organisations, it was clear that further education, awareness and opportunities were required by mainstream sport to sustainably deliver inclusive and adaptive programs. DSA took this advice on board and re-worked the Disability Sports Incubator model to better create a stronger inclusive and adaptive Australian sporting landscape with increased participation and broader pathways.

The Disability Sports Incubator provides NSO's the skills and opportunities to effectively and efficiently develop and implement their inclusive and adaptive sporting goals in partnership with Australia's national peak sporting body for people with disability.

Disability Sports Australia thanks the Australian Sports Commission for their ongoing support of this program.

SPORTS INCUBATOR PARTNERS 2021/22



CREATE MORE CHOICE

SPORT & RECREATION PROGRAMS & DEVELOPMENT

Frame Running

Frame Running (formerly Race Running) continued to go from strength to strength in 2021/22. Local club development and participation has increased immensely.

Frame Running programs and initiatives are now being rolled out in each state and territory with opportunities to access equipment being provided.

The partnership with Athletics Australia has proven to be beneficial as internationally CPISRA continues to work with World Para Athletics. Athletics Australia has taken significant steps to integrate Frame Running into its classification and events. DSA and Athletics Australia will continue to work together in a formal capacity to develop the sport across the country.

DSA look forward to celebrating the first ever Australasian Camp and Cup in Queensland hosted by Dejay Medical in September 2022.

Wheelchair Aussie Rules

Despite the impact of COVID-19 on national competition, state and local development of Wheelchair Aussie Rules has proved to be an outstanding success.

Unfortunately, both the 2020 and 2021 Wheelchair Aussie Rules National Championships were cancelled due to COVID-19, however the 2022 Championship is due to go ahead in November.

Established programs in South Australia (lead by South Australia National Football League), Tasmania (led by member organisation, ParaQuad Tasmania) and Victoria (led by AFL Victoria) continued to grow with South Australia running the very first state league, the Novita SANFL Wheelchair Football League. The established states player pathways provide significant player funnels to interstate and national

competitions.

New South Wales continued to develop their state program after a strong start in 2019. Wheelchair Aussie Rules programs were also started in Western Australia and Northern Territory. NSW, WA and NT are all looking to be represented at the next National Championship. Come and try events are planned for Queensland in the next 12 months. This would bring a full national presence to the sport.

DSA continues to work closely with the Australian Football League (AFL) to partner and grow the sport nationally and increase the public profile of the sport. The Australian Defence Force (ADF) continues to champion the sport and the significant impact it has on the rehabilitation of current and ex-servicemen and women.

In the face of two cancelled National Championships, the next Nationals are looking to be the largest Championships on record with ten (10) team representation in 2 different divisions providing an invaluable opportunity to profile the sport to the wider Australian audience and get more people involved with the sport at a grassroots level.

“IN THE FACE OF TWO CANCELLED NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, THE NEXT NATIONALS ARE LOOKING TO BE THE LARGEST CHAMPIONSHIPS ON RECORD WITH TEN (10) TEAM REPRESENTATION”

CREATE MORE CHOICE

DISABILITY SPORTS NORTHERN TERRITORY



Since the establishment of the branch in 2019, Disability Sports Northern Territory (DSNT) has been able to get more people with disability across the Northern Territory more active more often. The financial year of 2021/2022 saw a steady development of pathways and programs supported by James Little, as well as a shift in staff with Jacinta de Niese coming into the Sport Coordinator role in April of 2022 continuing the development of DSNT's reach.

A key area of growth has been within sector engagement, via increased brand identity and awareness. An Instagram account was created in May 2022, gaining over 100 followers in its first month of engagement. Increasing presence on social media has helped to increase participation at local events and build relationships with members of the community, such the Being Mentors group. Stakeholder relationships have been re-established since April 2022, by actively connecting with Peak Sporting Bodies and facilitating the delivery of Come N Try events. DSNT was privileged to co-host Dylan Alcott in Darwin with Tennis NT and Somerville Community Services, where local students were given the chance to meet our Australian of the Year, hold his most recent Gold medal and have a hit on court with him. In addition, DSNT partnered with AFL NT to run a Wheelchair Football Come N Try clinic with the Gold Coast Suns Football Club. Social media posts from these events gained lots of traction, being shared by the likes of Dylan Alcott and the Gold Suns FC. DSNT has also supported local events such as the Be Inclusive Games program delivered by Clubhouse Territory.



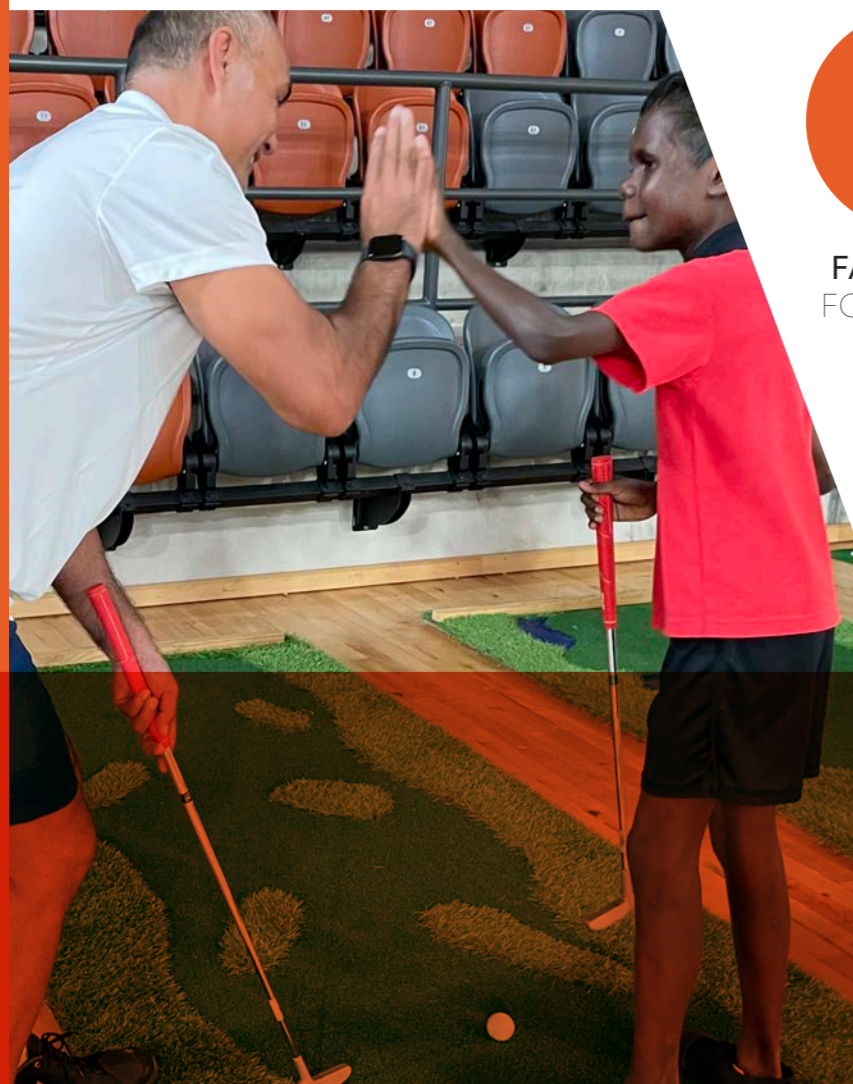
PHOTO CREDIT: TENNIS NT

CREATE MORE CHOICE

DISABILITY SPORTS NORTHERN TERRITORY

In partnership with Total Recreation, Variety Children's Charity - NT and Disability Sports Australia, Activate Inclusion Sports Days are now a fixed calendar event for Darwin. A total of roughly 90 students attended the first AISD for 2022, which was held in June. They participated in a mixture of inclusive sports delivered by Golf NT, Wheelchair Rugby League, Topend Zumba Crew, NT Cricket, Touch Football NT and Blind Sports Australia. Students from Charles Darwin University and SEDA College attended the event and supported the delivery of adaptive recreational activities by building rapport with the students and learning from the Peak Sporting Bodies present. DSNT is excited to deliver two more AISDs in Darwin for 2022, as well one returning to Alice Springs to repeat the success of last year and bringing the program to Katherine for the first time.

DSNT would like to thank the sponsors and partners who make providing sporting opportunities to Territorians with disability possible. DSNT would like to thank the Northern Territory Government for their ongoing contribution and support, Total Recreation for the continual cross-collaboration, Variety Children's Charity - NT for supporting Activate Inclusion Sports Days and all PSBs that have dedicated time and resources to increase opportunities for Territorians with a physical disability. AS DSNT looks to the future, the focus will be on increasing brand awareness, building partnerships with key stakeholders in the Territory and supporting regional areas to access inclusive sport opportunities. DSNT will continue to break down barriers to participation, helping to aid Territorians in access to sport equipment and programs.



FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 28%



WEBSITE
UNIQUE VISITORS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 158%



INSTAGRAM
LAUNCHED
+ 114
FOLLOWERS

INFORM & CONNECT

DISABILITY SPORTS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022

The Sunshine Coast Sports Symposium and DSA National Conference (the Conference) was held from Wednesday, 15 - Friday, 17 June 2022 at USC Stadium. The Conference was held in partnership with Sunshine Coast Regional Council and the University of the Sunshine Coast.

The three day event was headlined by the inaugural DSA National Conference. The theme for the Conference was: Runway to Brisbane 2032: Maximising collaborative participation for people with disabilities in sport on the pathway to Brisbane 2032.

Key highlights from the event included:

- Keynote address from newly appointed Australian Sports Commission CEO, Kieren Perkins OAM
- Attendees from across sport, government, education, allied health, disability and support services
- Successful delivery of hybrid model conference
- Positive feedback on content delivered
- Opportunity for networking beyond the conference

A total of 199 people purchased tickets and attended across the three day, both in person or online. Of this, 113 were from QLD while the remaining 86 were from the outside of the state.

While the stream was hidden from the main public, it received in total across the three breakout sessions and keynotes, 274 unique views with a total of 6,129 minutes watched.

A feedback survey was distributed after the event. The overall feedback on the event was extremely positive. Key takeaways from this feedback included:

- Overall average rating for the event being 8.1 out of 10 with 1 being unacceptable and 10 being outstanding.
- The quality and variety of speakers as well as the relevance and usefulness of the topics being covered were highlighted at the key positives from the Conference
- Participants provided a range of responses for areas to focus on for future conference and events, including: NDIS access, pathways structures, focus on program development for adults and practical, actionable steps for organisations to be more inclusive.



ATTENDEES
FACE TO FACE
199



WATCHED
MINUTES WATCHED ON LIVE STREAM
6,129



WHEELCHAIR RUGBY AUSTRALIA

2022 SANTOS WHEELCHAIR RUGBY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



The 2022 Santos Wheelchair Rugby National Championship was held from Friday 24 - Sunday 26 June 2022 at the Gold Coast Sport & Leisure Centre in Carrara. The event returned to the Gold Coast for a second year after the success of the 2021 Nationals.

The event was the most successful National Championship in history on a number of fronts. Both Division 1 and Division 2 had 4 competitive teams, the most teams to participate in a National Championship with the greatest number of athletes participating.

DIVISION 1

- NSW Gladiators
- QLD Cyclones
- Victoria Protect Thunder
- Drake Medox New Zealand Wheel Blacks

DIVISION 2

- SA Sharks
- Australian Barbarians
- ACT Buccaneers
- Melbourne Unicorns

The number of domestic teams competing at the Championship rose from six (6) at the 2021 event to seven (7) in 2022, with the return of the New Zealand Wheel Blacks after not being able to attend due to COVID-19.

The event was broadcast through Foxtel and Kayo Sports. The entire event was streamed live and free on Kayo Freebies with Saturday and Sunday's matches being broadcast on Fox Sports 505 and 507 respectively, providing a larger national platform for the sport than previously been seen.

The 2022 Nationals proved to be a great success and Wheelchair Rugby Australia are looking forward to the growth of the event in 2023.

WRA would also like to take this time to thank its partners and sponsors for the National Championship, in particular new Naming Rights Partner, Santos.

NAMING RIGHTS SPONSOR



BROADCAST PARTNERS



MAJOR SPONSORS



SPONSORS



PARTNERS



EVENT HOST



WHEELCHAIR RUGBY AUSTRALIA

2022 SANTOS WHEELCHAIR RUGBY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP - RESULTS

DIVISION 1

- Gold: NSW Gladiators
- Silver: QLD Cyclones
- Bronze: Victoria Protect Thunder

DIVISION 2

- Gold: ACT Buccaneers
- Silver: SA Sharks
- Bronze: Australian Barbarians

All Australian

- High Point: Hayden Barton-Cootes (NZL)
- Mid Point: Andrew Edmonson (NSW)
- Low Point: Jake Howe (VIC)

All Australian

- High Point: Josh Hanlon (ACT)
- Mid Point: Jayden Jackson (ACT)
- Low Point: Rubie Gallagher (SA)

- MVP: Zak Madell (QLD)

- MVP: Tai Martin-Page (SA)

Quentin Fleischfresser Spirit of the Game Award: Jamie Wilson (SA)



WHEELCHAIR RUGBY AUSTRALIA

2022 NATIONAL LEAGUE



2022 saw the return of the new look Wheelchair Rugby National League. The National League saw the establishment of six (6) new wheelchair rugby franchises with players being drafted into teams and competing across three rounds of competition between February and May in 2022.

Melbourne Rugby Club (VIC), Box Hill Rugby Club (VIC), University of QLD Rugby Club (QLD), Brother Rugby Club (QLD), Sydney University Rugby Club (NSW) and Tuggeranong Vikings Rugby Club (ACT) drafted over 60 players from across the country for the three-tournament league. The new model placed wheelchair rugby on the mainstream stage through partnerships with elite level rugby clubs across the country, allowing for fan bases, team colours, uniform alignments and media exposure to be developed.

There was an incredibly successful competition with increased player engagement and quality gametime for domestic athletes through the creation of a genuine player representative pathway.

Special thanks to the Rugby Club Foundation for their support of the Wheelchair Rugby National League, as well as to Disability Recreation & Sport (VIC), Sporting Wheelies & Disable Association (QLD) and Wheelchair Sports NSW/ACT (NSW/ACT) for their management of the National League teams and delivery of the tournaments.

PATHWAYS, PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT

This year saw consistent competition and pathways since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. After two and half years of inconsistent competition, the pathway through recruitment, local competition, National League and National Championship was successful in the lead up to the 2022 World Championship in Denmark. In collaboration with Paralympics Australia, new athletes were recruited into state programs, increasing participation rates and the ability for quality competition.

Similar to 2021, WRA offered support to the South Australian Sharks team for the National Championship, covering uniform costs and staff travel expenses for the team to compete, along with arranging staff and logistical considerations in support of the Australian Barbarians.

Wheelchair Rugby Australia would like to take this time to thank the state/territory programs for all their valued participation and collaboration on a number of items in the past twelve (12) months. The sport of wheelchair rugby is more aligned at present than it has been before.

WHEELCHAIR RUGBY AUSTRALIA

Coach and Referee Development

Wheelchair Rugby Australia in partnership with Paralympics Australia and Rugby Australia released a Wheelchair Rugby Foundations and Level One Coaching Course via Rugby Xplorer. The learning modules were launched at the start of 2022 and allows all new and existing wheelchair rugby coaches and officials to be educated on the foundations of the sport. Additionally, through hosting on the Rugby Xplorer platform, it allows for prospective officials and coaches to find more quality information and pathways for wheelchair rugby.

Referee recruitment and education continues to grow. Without the COVID-19 restrictions, education sessions and evaluations were able to be conducted at the National Championship in June with new referees given the opportunity to officiate at the highest domestic level in Division 2.

WRA looks forward to the continued growth and development of officials and coaches in the coming year.

SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 16%



INSTAGRAM
FOLLOWERS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 41%

FUTURE PLANS

Through the DSA Sports Incubator, Wheelchair Rugby Australia will officially become an independent organisation in August 2022. This will allow for WRA to act as primary organisation solely focused on the development and growth of wheelchair rugby in Australia.

- Key initiatives for the newly developed organisation will include:
- Applying for NSO status through the Australian Sports Commission
- Increasing domestic participation and recruitment pathways into the National League and Championship
- Development of coach and official pathways
- Centralisation of classification systems and development of best practice national classification process and procedures
- Delivery of the aligned national strategy for the sport from grassroots to high performance.





INFORM & CONNECT

WHAT IS INFORM & CONNECT?

Develop pathways and resources for Australians with disability to build awareness and connect with sport and recreation opportunities.

NATIONAL REFERRAL HUB



The National Referral Hub (NRH) is an easy to use, self-service and referral hub to help all Australian athletes with disability find the supports and programs they need to participate and compete in sport and active recreation activities.

Launching in October 2021 in partnership with NDSP Plan Managers, the NRH will be a simple and efficient platform for individuals, healthcare providers, teachers and parents to find activities and programs in their local areas. Providers of sport and active recreation programs will be able to be added to the national database and accessed by all Australians with disability.

Working closely through established partnerships with the Australian Physiotherapy Association, Occupational Therapists Australia, Sport Medicine Australia and Exercise Sport Science Australia, the NRH will ensure that even the most complex of enquiries can be managed expertly.

Disability Sports Australia thanks NDSP Plan Managers for the invaluable support of the NRH and look forward to being able to connect even more Australians with disability to sport and active recreation programs in 2022 and beyond.

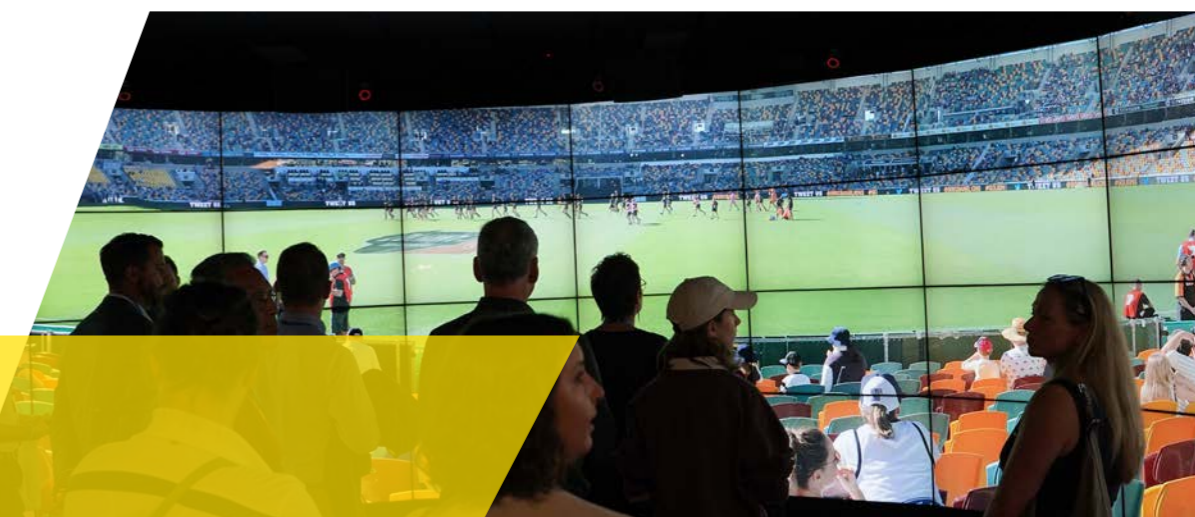
CPISRA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



DSA partnered with the Cerebral Palsy International Sport and Recreation Association (CPISRA) to deliver the inaugural 2021 CPISRA International Conference on Physical Activity and Health for People with Cerebral Palsy or Acquired Brain Injury (aka the 2021 CPISRA International Conference). The Conference provided a forum

for knowledge exchange and enhance interaction between researchers, healthcare professionals, sporting experts, individuals and families to address the unique matters in the interdisciplinary area of adaptive physical activity and sport for individuals with cerebral palsy and acquired brain injury. The CPISRA International Conference was held in partnership with the University of Sydney Institute for Musculoskeletal Health, Cerebral Palsy Alliance, Cerebral Palsy Sport and Recreation Association and the Cerebral Palsy Foundation online from 8 - 11 December 2022.

Disability Sports Australia was proud to be the event host for this first of its kind international event and being able to facilitate important and meaningful conversations about sport and physical activity for people around the world with cerebral palsy and acquired brain injury. The event saw attendees from around the world participating in a number of sessions and workshops facilitated by world leading voices in this space.



INFORM & CONNECT

CENTRAL INFORMATION SOURCE

Disability Sports Australia has continued to develop and utilise its digital channels to be a "one-stop shop" for information about sport and active recreation for people with disability. The DSA website houses an up to date database of thirty (30) sport and active recreation opportunities. Each sport listed on the website has key information about what the sport is, how to get involved, who can participate and the key contacts around the country. This will continue to grow as more opportunities and sports become available.

DSA has continued to use its social media channels to profile existing programs and opportunities with significant growth being made across all social media channels.

DSA's bi-monthly newsletter showcases DSA updates, community news stories, upcoming events and updates from member organisations. Similar to previous years, the DSA newsletter open and click-through rate continued to be well above both sporting and non-profit industry averages.



FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 7%



INSTAGRAM
FOLLOWERS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 24%



WEBSITE
UNIQUE VISITORS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 42%



LINKEDIN
FOLLOWERS
VS. FY 2020/21
+ 315%



NEWSLETTER
OPEN RATE
VS. INDUSTRY AVERAGE
+ 5.97%



PHOTO CREDIT: TENNIS NT

IMPACT & SHARED SERVICES

WHAT IS IMPACT & SHARED SERVICES?

Measure the impact of sport and active recreation for people with disability to drive program development, evaluation and advocacy.

RESEARCH & DATA

In 2021/22, DSA focused on improving the quality of data collection through its programs in order to measure the impact and behaviours around sport and active recreation.

Through the AISD program, DSA collected pre-event surveys from each participant. This survey focused on collecting the child's current participation in sport and recreation, access to equipment and funding and their interest level in future participation and specific sports. Key insights included:

28% of students currently participate in sport outside of school

72% of students currently would like to participate in community sport beyond an AISD event

With the implementation of the National Referral Hub in late 2021, data collection will form a key outcome of the success of the Hub, whilst also connecting these participants with their local sport and recreational activities.

In 2021/22, DSA is looking to expand this data collection as the AISD program rolls out nationally. DSA also continues to work with University partners to deliver and support quality research projects to better build understanding and capacity in the disability sports sector.

AUSTRALIAN SPORTING ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY (ASAPD)



As part of the National Sport Plan (Sport 2030), the Australian Government committed to sport and physical activity becoming more accessible to people with disability. Since 2019, nine National Sporting Organisations for people with a Disability (NSODs) have collaborated to create a collective vision to

represent the needs of individuals with disability, impairment, or limitation throughout Australia.

The NSODs formed a key peak agency for sport and physical activity for people with disability – the Australian Sporting Alliance for People with a Disability, ASAPD. Its vision is that all Australians have an opportunity to engage in sport and physical activity in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

The NSODs involved represent lead organisations whose participant numbers, members and volunteers involve millions of people across Australia, and include Blind Sports Australia, Deaf Sports Australia, Disability Sports Australia, Disabled Wintersport Australia, Paralympics Australia, Riding for the Disabled Association Australia, Special Olympics Australia, Sport Inclusion Australia and Transplant Australia.

The members' history is rich dating back to 1954, with a combined experience of more than 430 years and have countless examples of improving lives. The Australian Sports Commission has worked with the Alliance since its inception by providing funding and staffing support to enhance its development and sustainability.

IMPACT & SHARED SERVICES

Disability Sports Australia continues to work closely with the ASAPD with representation on the Oversight Committee and a number of key working groups.

The ASAPD, in partnership with the Australian Sports Commission, has achieved initial success:

- Developing a four-year strategic plan
- Developing a communications plan with joint ASAPD social media channels
- Identifying a clear plan for events and inclusion activities through to 2032 and beyond to ensure all of the people the nine Alliance groups represent have access to sport and opportunities
- Collectively lobbying and liaising with government departments: Health, NDIS/Disability and Sport to advocate for people with disability.
- Improved efficiencies between the agencies

DSA is looking forward to improving the Australian sporting landscape for people with disability in collaboration with the other eight NSOD's.





Rebound WA

WADSA

Western Australia
Disability Sports
Association



Horse Power



One Culture

DISABILITY SPORT
& RECREATION

Disability Sport &
Recreation VIC



ParaQuad
Association of
Tasmania



**SPORTING
WHEELIES**
& DISABLED ASSOCIATION
Sporting Wheelies &
Disabled Association
QLD



Wheelchair Sports
NSW/ACT



Cerebral Palsy Sport
& Active Recreation
Association



**Cerebral Palsy
ALLIANCE**

Cerebral Palsy
Alliance



**AUSTRALIAN
POWERCHAIR HOCKEY**
ASSOCIATION (NSW) INCORPORATED

Australian Powerchair
Hockey Association
(NSW)

DISABILITY SPORTS AUSTRALIA'S ELEVEN BRANCHES AND MEMBERS PROVIDE SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION SERVICE AND SUPPORT TO OVER **22,000** AUSTRALIANS WITH DISABILITY ANNUALLY.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



CHAIR (UNTIL MAY 2022)

JOHN CROLL AM

John has worked in the media industry for more than 30 years and is currently the Co-founder and CEO of Truescope, a media intelligence technology company. He was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Media Monitors in 1999, which subsequently became Isentia. He 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. He was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2019 for his services to people with disability.



CHAIR (FROM MAY 2022)

STEVE LOADER

Steve has worked in sport for over 30 years and is the Deputy Chair of DSA. He is currently the Director of Corporate Relations for Rex Airlines and was the Chief Executive Office of Sport NSW. Through his own consultancy, Steve has provided sport and major event-related consultancy in Australia and overseas and is a Visiting Fellow with the World Academy of Sport. Steve is Chair of the Advisory Board of Wheelchair Rugby Australia and a member of the DSA Governance Committee. He is also a Non-Executive Director of World Wheelchair Rugby and an Executive Board Member of the Association of Paralympic Sports Organisation (APSO). He is a recipient of the Australian Sports Medal and has previously served on the Boards of Paralympics Australia, Snow Australia and Rowing Australia.



LEEANNE GRANTHAM

Leeanne has over 35 years' experience in the sport and major event industries including 4 years as a global sports recruitment consultant. Leeanne's career includes roles as Advertising Sales Manager with Tennis Camp of Aust (now Tennis Aust); CEO, Women's National Basketball League; Melbourne World Masters Games; Adelaide 36ers (NBL), Aust Racing Museum, GM Australian Major Events (Events S.A.); and Community Football (SA) & Head of Women's Football for Football Federation Australia. As Head of EventsSA, Leeanne led successful bids for significant major events and oversaw events owned by the SA Government including the UCI Tour Down Under and many others. Leeanne has extensive Board experience and is a currently Vice President Commonwealth Games Australia, Board Director - Table Tennis Australia, FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup LOC 2022. Leeanne represented her country in her chosen sport.



DR LIZ RUSHBROOK

Dr. Liz Rushbrook is a registered Medical Practitioner as a specialist Medical Administrator. Her medical interests include sports medicine, clinical governance, disaster response and operational management. With 25 years of experience in the Navy and Australian Defence Force, she reached the rank of Commodore. Liz transitioned from Defence in 2016 and currently works within Queensland Health as the Chief Medical Officer at Metro North Hospital and Health Service in Brisbane. Liz is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators. She is also the Chair of Disaster Relief Australia. Her passions include Medicine, Sport and Governance.



KEVIN REINERT

(UNTIL MARCH 2022)

Kevin is a chartered accountant with extensive experience in strategic finance and business development as well as being responsible for financial and investment management topics across the real estate industry. Before being the Chief Financial Officer for Central Element, Kevin worked with the publicly-listed DEXUS Property Group in a range of senior roles. He is also a former Chief Financial Officer for DNW Group and a Director of Deloitte. He is a member of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is also Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee for Disability Sports Australia.



MICHAEL LANE

(UNTIL DECEMBER 2021)

Michael has over 30 years' experience in both retail and the commercial property industry having worked for organisations such as Coles Myer, Lend Lease and DEXUS Property Group. Michael is currently General Manager - Developments at Vinta Property Group. Michael has held positions on various property committees at both State and National level and has previously held senior roles in Corporate Responsibility, has been a member of the City of Sydney Better Buildings Partnership Leadership Panel and continues to lead corporate stakeholder and community engagement. Michael has completed various management courses with the Australian Graduate School of Management.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



ILONA MEYER

Ilona brings over 25 years of experience both as a general counsel and senior executive in healthcare & emerging technologies, with a focus on innovation and growth.

Ilona is currently the Head of Legal & Compliance (ANZ) at Boehringer Ingelheim; Non-Executive Director and Member of the Audit and Risk Committee of Micro-X Limited (ASX:MX1); Non-Executive Director and Chair of Hoxton Industries Limited and Independent Member of the Nominations Panel of the International Paralympic Committee.

Ilona is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD), has completed both a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) and Masters in Laws (LLM) and is admitted as Solicitor and Barrister to the NSW Supreme Court and High Court of Australia. Ilona was recently recognised by Australasian Lawyer as an 'Elite Woman' of 2021.



CHRIS BOND OAM

Chris has been a member of the Queensland and Australian Wheelchair Rugby team since 2011 and has tasted success with gold medals at the national championships, world championships and the Paralympic Games. In the past Chris has worked as a partnership manager with the Australian Sports Foundation to support in raising funds for Australian sport and now works as a senior sports coordinator with Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association. Chris has previously served as a director on the board of Canteen and is a current member of the QAS Athlete advisory group. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his partner Bridie, young daughter and new baby son on the Sunshine Coast and lends himself to various causes in an ambassador role to promote living an active life.



JOHN HART (FROM MAY 2022)

John is a Certified Financial Planner, a practising member of the Profession of Independent Financial Advisers, a registered Tax Agent and a designated Chartered Tax Professional of the Tax Institute.

John has over 33 years of experience as a financial services professional working across the wealth management and accounting professions. John owns and manages a boutique advice and funds management firm. Previous roles held include Head of the Financial Planning Division of Centric Wealth group, Chief Executive Officer of the Halliday Financial Group and tax partner of Ernst & Young chartered accountants, heading up its Australian business providing services to the wealth management industry and many leading corporate executives.

COMMITTEES 2021 - 2022

BOARD AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

Chair	Kevin Reinert (until March 2022)
Non-Executive Director	John Croll (until May 2022)
Non-Executive Director	Michael Lane
Independent Member (until May 2022)	John Hart
Non-Executive Director (from May 2022)	

BOARD NOMINATION & REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

Chair	Leeanne Grantham
Non-Executive Director	Liz Rushbrook
Non-Executive Director (until May 2022)	John Croll (until May 2022)
Non-Executive Director (from April 2022)	Chris Bond

BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Chair	Ilona Meyer
Non-Executive Director	Steve Loader
Non-Executive Director	Liz Rushbrook



FINANCIAL REPORT

**Disability Sports Australia Limited
Responsible Persons' Declaration
For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2022**

The Responsible Persons declare that in the Responsible Persons' opinion:

- a) the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:
 - i) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*; and
- b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.



Stephen Loader
Director – Chair
25 November 2022
Sydney, New South Wales

FINANCIAL REPORT

**Disability Sports Australia Limited
Responsible Persons' Declaration under the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*
For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2022**

The Responsible Persons declare that in the Responsible Persons' opinion:

- a) the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and associated notes gives a true and fair view of all income and expenditure of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals for the financial year ended 30 June 2022;
- b) the statement of financial position and associated notes gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals conducted by the organisation as at 30 June 2022;
- c) the provisions of the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and Regulations and the conditions attached to the authority have been complied with during the financial year ended 30 June 2022; and
- d) the internal controls exercised by the organisation are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received and applied by the organisation from any of its fundraising appeals during the financial year ended 30 June 2022.



Stephen Loader
Director – Chair
25 November 2022
Sydney, New South Wales

FINANCIAL REPORT



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W: www.sdja.com.au

**Disability Sports Australia Limited
Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Board of Directors of Disability Sports Australia Limited
For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2022**

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as lead auditor for the audit of Disability Sports Australia Limited for the year ended 30 June 2022, 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* in relation to the audit; and
- b) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

SDJA
SDJA
Simon Joyce
Simon Joyce
Director
25 November 2022
Sydney, New South Wales

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

FINANCIAL REPORT



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**Disability Sports Australia Limited
Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Disability Sports Australia Limited
For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2022**

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Disability Sports Australia Limited (the registered entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible persons' declaration.

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* (ACNC Act), including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Responsible Persons for the Financial Report

The responsible persons of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the responsible persons determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the responsible persons are responsible for assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible persons either intend to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The responsible persons are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

Disability Sports Australia Limited
Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Disability Sports Australia Limited
For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2022

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Report of the requirements of the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991

We have audited the financial report as required by Section 24(2) of the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*. Our procedures included obtaining an understanding of the internal control structure for fundraising appeal activities and examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting compliance with the accounting and associated record keeping requirements for fundraising appeal activities pursuant to the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Regulations 2015*.

Because of the inherent limitations of any assurance engagement, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. An audit is not designed to detect all instances of non-compliance with the requirements described in the above-mentioned Acts and Regulations as an audit is not performed continuously throughout the period and the audit procedures performed in respect of compliance with these requirements are undertaken on a test basis. The audit report expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Disability Sports Australia Limited
Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Disability Sports Australia Limited
For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2022

Opinion

In our opinion:

- a) the financial report of Disability Sports Australia Limited has been properly drawn up and associated records have been properly kept during the financial year ended 30 June 2022, in all material respects, in accordance with:
 - i) sections 20(1), 22(1-2), 24(1-3) of the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*; and
 - ii) sections 10(6) and 11 of the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Regulations 2015*.
- b) the money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by the entity during the financial year ended 30 June 2022 has been properly accounted for and applied, in all material respects, in accordance with the above-mentioned Act and Regulations.

SDJA

SDJA



Simon Joyce

Director
25 November 2022
Sydney, New South Wales

SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

GOVERNMENT PARTNER



SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS



PARTNERED INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

- World Wheelchair Rugby (WWR)
- International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWASF)
- International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD)
- Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA)
- International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) (until December 2021)

CONTACT

DISABILITY SPORTS AUSTRALIA
ABN 96 104 461 814

PO Box 828, Blacktown NSW 2148

Sports House, Level 2, Quad 1, 8 Parkview Drive, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127, Australia



DONATE TO DSA

Disability Sports Australia thanks our generous supporters for their continuous contribution to helping more Australians with disability be more active, more often.

Visit www.sports.org.au/donate to make a donation. You can donate one time or set up a recurring gift. As DSA is a Registered Charity and a Deductible Gift Recipient, all donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. An official receipt will be provided for your donation.

Donations can also be made in honour or memory of a friend or loved one.

Thank you for investing in Disability Sports Australia. Your contribution will make a difference in changing the lives for Australians with disability through sport and active recreation.



The images contained in this document have been kindly provided by Tennis NT, Disability Sports Australia, Karizmatik Productions & Stephen Tremain.



**DISABILITY
SPORTS
AUSTRALIA**