



TABLE TENNIS

National Participation Report 2012 - 2013

INTRODUCTION

The Active After-school Communities (AASC) program is continuing to provide sporting opportunities for primary school children across Australia. During the 2013 Financial Year, the AASC program invested approximately \$20m into grassroots sport with an estimated \$80,000 of that being allocated to table tennis programs. For the same reporting period, the AASC delivered over 28,000 programs and engaged approximately 760,000 participants.

With the importance of participation being pushed further up the sporting agenda, the AASC program is working closely with sporting organisations to identify opportunities that will attract children to sport and provide a platform for their ongoing participation in sport.

This report provides an overview of the key data that demonstrates the AASC's contribution to table tennis in Australia pertaining to the period July 2012 to June 2013. Although not as detailed as previous publications, this report outlines summary headline data which reflects the AASC's continued ability to signpost children to table tennis and provide support for the sport's grassroots participation objectives.

PERFORMANCE DATA

The data provided below depicts the overarching, national table tennis performance data and offers a comparison against the previous reporting period. Three performance areas have been selected:

1. Number of programs – a breakdown of the total number of AASC table tennis programs conducted in Australia;
2. Number of participants – a breakdown of the total number of participants who took part in AASC table tennis programs;
3. Number of coaches – a breakdown of the total number of coaches who delivered AASC table tennis programs, identified by coach category.

Programs

The table below shows the number of AASC table tennis programs conducted within each state or territory for the current reporting period.

State/Territory	2011/12 total	2012/13 total	Change +/-
NSW	74	66	-11%
VIC	31	78	+152%
QLD	40	38	-5%
SA	39	32	-18%
WA	27	27	0%
TAS	4	3	-25%
NT	7	10	+43%
ACT	2	0	n/a
TOTAL	224	254	+13%

(All data is correct at the time of grant application)

The total number reflects a 13% growth on the previous reporting period. In percentage terms, this was a relatively flat performance, year in year. Significant growth in VIC was mitigated by a drop in program levels in four other delivery areas.

Participants

The table below shows the number of children participating in an AASC table tennis program within each state or territory for the current reporting period.

State/Territory	2011/12 total	2012/13 total	Change +/-
NSW	1752	1417	-19%
VIC	721	1960	+172%
QLD	998	970	-3%
SA	915	702	-23%
WA	743	599	-19%
TAS	60	65	+8%
NT	194	335	+73%
ACT	150	0	n/a
TOTAL	5,533	6,048	+9%

The total number reflects a 9% growth on the previous reporting period. Participant results mirror the performance of the total program data but also provide a clear reflection of the impact the AASC has on the actual volume of participants with an increase of approximately 500 extra children exposed to the sport. The strong performance in VIC is further highlighted where an increase of approximately 1,200 children were exposed to the sport.

Coaches

The table below provides a breakdown of AASC community coaches who delivered table tennis during the current reporting period.

Category	2011/12 total	2012/13 total	Change +/-
Sporting clubs	60	53	-12%
Community members	41	59	+44%
Internal (e.g. teachers)	78	82	+5%
Private providers	4	9	+125%
Students	14	20	+43%
TOTAL	197	223	+13%

The total number reflects a 13% growth on the previous reporting period. Of concern is the growth in the number of private providers delivering table tennis – this result is contrary to the AASC’s goal to engage with sporting organisations and encourage table tennis coaches to deliver AASC programs, thus enabling a greater opportunity for participant transition into the sport.

SUMMARY

This report is intended to provide a summary of the relationship between the AASC program and table tennis in Australia. The data aims to show the value of the AASC program to Table Tennis Australia, in addition to demonstrating its potential for future participation opportunities.

Whilst it is acknowledged the data does not address key issues such as the number of AASC participants who have continued to play table tennis after taking part in the AASC program or the true number of participants who attended each table tennis session, it does show an increased appetite for primary school aged children to play table tennis. It also reflects the influence of the program to drive the sport at a grass roots level and provide access to a high volume of potential, long-term table tennis participants.

The AASC program is currently developing its data capture and reporting capabilities with an aspiration of collating more accurate performance information. The improved data collation will enable enhanced reporting and provide sports organisations a clear reflection of their grass roots growth. It is anticipated this will contribute towards participation objectives and support participation strategies.

The AASC looks forward to engaging with table tennis in the future as we look to align our participation objectives and begin to deliver shared sporting outcomes.