



# BOCCIA AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



# ABOUT BOCCIA

**Boccia is a unique sport, specifically designed to include people with significant physical disabilities, including the most severely affected.**

**BOCCIA  
CURRENTLY HAS  
16 ACTIVE BOCCIA  
CLUBS AROUND  
AUSTRALIA**

Boccia Australia is recognised by BISFed (Boccia International Sports Federation) as the organisation responsible for boccia in Australia. It is also recognised by Sports Australia as a National Sporting Organisation for People with Disability (NSOD) and is an ACNC registered charity with tax deductibility status.

Boccia is a unique sport, specifically designed to include people with significant physical disabilities, including the most severely affected, to get active in sport. It can be played by those able to throw or kick a ball (BC1, BC2, BC4, BC5 and EMU classifications) and those who cannot (BC3) who play using a ramp and ramp assistant. Boccia can be played sitting down or lying down, thus making it available to anyone, even those unable to leave their bed or using ventilators. Adaptations have been made to allow for various impairments, as the development of Blind Boccia demonstrates.

Making its debut as a Paralympic sport in 1984, boccia tests each competitor's degree of muscle control and accuracy. Competing in wheelchairs, athletes with severe impairments throw, kick or use a ramp device to propel leather balls on a hard flat surface as close

as possible to a white ball which serves as the jack (target). Athletes compete in team and individual events on an equal level.

Today boccia is played competitively at national and international levels. Boccia was originally played by athletes with cerebral palsy, but now includes athletes with other impairments which affect motor skills. Boccia is also widely played as an educational and recreational game, particularly in schools.

At Paralympic level, boccia is one of only two sports which do not have an Olympic counterpart (Goalball being the other.)

Boccia Australia (BA) recognises its athletes can be very vulnerable in terms of their safety, which is why BA is committed to member protection. Our National Member Protection Policy aims to assist BA to uphold its core values and create a safe, fair and inclusive environment for everyone associated with our sport. It sets out our commitment to ensure that every person involved in our sport is treated with respect and dignity and protected from discrimination, harassment and abuse. It also ensures that everyone involved in our sport is aware of their legal and ethical responsibilities, as well as the standards of behaviour expected of them.



## BOCCIA AUSTRALIA VISION

Boccia is Australia's number one sport for those with significant movement impairment – of all ages and ability, both recreational and competitively.

## BOCCIA AUSTRALIA MISSION STATEMENT

Australians with significant physical impairment are the most inactive section of our society. People with an impairment – whether congenital or acquired (through accident, service in police or defence forces, or ageing) are often held back by assumptions that their (level of) impairment means they can't play sport. Boccia, however, is one of the few sports open to anyone, regardless of their level of physical ability, age or gender.

It is Boccia Australia's aim to raise the profile of boccia so that all those who could benefit from playing the sport know about its existence. We know from both academic research and personal experience that participation in sports helps to improve the physical and social quality of life of people with impairment. BA will work to support the capability of local managers and other officials to run vibrant and sustainable boccia clubs. Recognising that long term engagement in boccia comes from both local, low cost access to clubs and competitions BA will support high quality competitions through identifying and maintaining pathways for officials including coaches, referees, ramp assistants, classifiers and others.

## CHAIR'S G'DAY

I'm very proud of our Boccia Family and what we have all achieved in 2019. There is an energy and optimism for boccia in Australia that many – from social players to our top athletes – tell me is truly exciting. My challenge for 2020 to all of us is to turn that excitement into momentum in 2020 and beyond.

I'm generally expected to call out key achievements for 2019. This is hard in a year where we achieved so much we wouldn't have thought possible at the end of 2018. For me there were three truly emotional moments that told me our efforts are starting to ripple and energize our great sport.

The first was announcing the Boccia Australia National Titles (BANT) 2020 on the last day of the BANT 2019. Even though personal reasons prevented me from being there myself, I loved hearing in the weeks after from different people the descriptions of the cheer that went up when my colleague Lucy Bates announced our co-host was ParaQuad Tasmania. I can confidently say that this is a new tradition for Boccia Australia – from now on we announce the next BANT on the last day of the current year's competition.

My second moment was hearing from long time boccia supporter, Vicky Edwards, who reached out in January 2020 for Victorian-



RICHARD BOELE, CHAIR

based players to get involved in helping her get a Boccia Sunshine Club up in Sunshine, Melbourne. It's been nearly two years since we have had an active club in Victoria and incredibly encouraging to all of us to hear of a club newly established or revived. Thank you Vicky, you'll get all the support we can give you.

And my third moment was watching our athletes compete internationally. Not only did it give me goosebumps, it seriously got my heart rate going at times! I've loved watching live matches from Hong Kong, Seoul and Dubai this year. Congratulations to all of you who travelled and thank you for your incredibly hard work and dedication. We are very proud of you and thank you for representing Australia. I give a special call out to those who came home with medals, achieving personal goals while showing others what Aussies can do.



## CHAIR'S G'DAY CONT...

In April 2019, the Boccia Australia Board released a strategic plan with 11 commitments for the year. I'm pleased to report that by the end of 2019 we had delivered on 10 of those 11 commitments. We have now started work on the 11th commitment which is to *Develop a long and short term Strategic Plan for 2020-2024*, based on the BISFed quadrennial cycle. We will modify this to produce a Strategic Plan to 2024. The foundations of this were begun with a strategy day in Sydney on Saturday, 18th January 2020.

In the How'd We Go section below you'll be able to read what we achieved on every one of our 11 commitments – but I would like to acknowledge here some of those achievements. The commitment that has taken the most significant effort from the largest number of people in our Boccia Family was to hold the National Titles before the end of 2019. This is despite the decision made in 2018, by the previous Board, not to do so. However not only did we deliver on that against all odds, the National Titles – for the

first time in almost 10 years was held outside of NSW. Thank you to our Queensland partner Sporting Wheelies for hosting a Nationals we can all be proud of, and we look forward to working with Sporting Wheelies again in the future for more competitions in Queensland.

As the Chair I am pleased that we held a Board meeting every month in 2019 and published the minutes from every meeting on our website. This contributed to us meeting our commitment to govern the sport inclusively and transparently. As a National Sporting Organisation, and a regional leader within the international boccia community we have significant compliance obligations. The Board spent significant time in 2019 on getting all those



In January 2020 the Board and a range of BA members came together in Sydney to start the strategic planning process

## CHAIR'S G'DAY CONT...

compliance obligations met. Unfortunately, because the backlog was large we were only able to secure an interim one year extension to our NSOD status in the middle of 2019. I'm pleased to say, at the time of writing this, we have secured a two year full extension from Sports Australia for our NSOD status.

All of this was achieved through largely volunteer efforts and with only four sources of very modest funding.

Paralympics Australia and Sports Australia support us with just over \$100k for the high performance program. Those who participate in the high performance and the high potential programs are the second largest source of funding, as the selected athletes pay significant parts of the costs for them to compete. The third most significant funding last year came from a private donor who committed \$50k a year for three years to fund a coaching coordinator. Finally, there is a board member who does regular public speaking and donates their speaker's fees of a few hundred dollars here and there to BA. And that's it folks. We have not had any significant income for some years. We make an enormous amount happen with very little cash – it's mostly time that's invested. Please remind anyone who asks how they can support boccia, that donations to Boccia Australia are tax deductible.

I do want to acknowledge the Paralympics Australia Equipment Fund. I know clubs and high performance athletes have benefitted from this funding program this year and received some boccia equipment.

Momentum for me in the coming years is making boccia available across Australia to those thousands of potential boccia players we haven't reached, whose lives could be transformed by playing our great sport. No other sport is as inclusive for people with a physical impairment. To play boccia is to develop as a person; grow socially and gain new physical skills. Playing those balls increases people's emotional well-being and physical health – and gives us a sense of belonging in our boccia family.

Let me finish with some heart-felt thanks. Caroline, Glen, Ken, Peter and Sue – thank you for all you do for Boccia Australia. What you contribute is well beyond what we recognise you for. Special thanks to all the other volunteers, too many to name, who actively contribute everyday for the love of our sport and our players.

May your balls roll true

*Richard Boole*

**RICHARD, CHAIR**

Contact: [chair@boccia.com.au](mailto:chair@boccia.com.au)

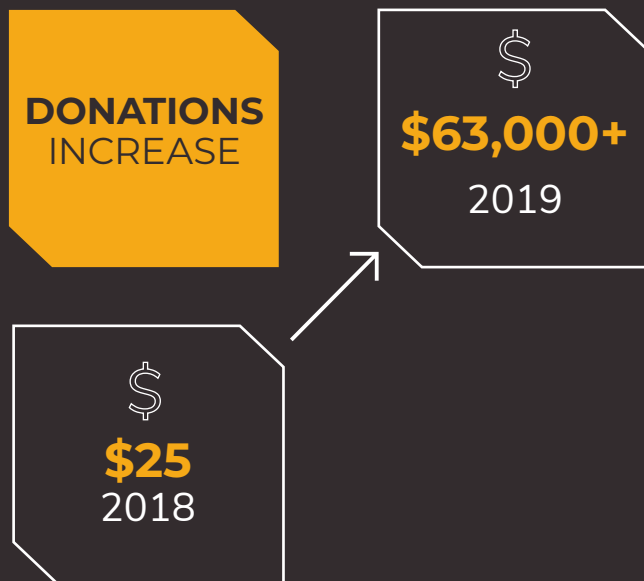


## TREASURER'S TALE

To encourage athletes to attend the National Titles, the decision was made not to charge an entry fee and run the event on a cost recovery basis only. This meant we had to forgo \$19,000 of revenue compared to the previous year.

Thankfully BA managed to cover that loss of revenue given the generous donation by a private individual. This meant our 2019 donations were \$63,000 compared to \$25 in 2018.

The individual donor specifically requested their donation to go towards a coaching coordinator. This means we will see a growing consultant cost in next year's profit and loss statement.



## INCOME STATEMENT

### BOCCIA AUSTRALIA LIMITED

For the year ended 31 December 2019

	2019	2018
<b>INCOME</b>		
Sales	1,000	–
Donations	63,330	25
Grants	2,000	(4,000)
Interest Received	235	380
National Championships	–	61,855
Membership Income	854	1,166
HP – Athlete Levy	78,818	44,000
AWE/HP – Income	129,550	112,256
Administration Support	–	9,091
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>275,788</b>	<b>224,773</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>275,788</b>	<b>224,773</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
National Championship Expenses	–	42,799
Administration Costs	13,463	7,852
Employment Costs	21,698	47,558
Travel and Conference Costs	864	12,515
Finance and Insurance Costs	7,669	6,839
Development Costs	1,784	–
Consultant Costs	3,294	–
AWE/HP - Travel and Conference Costs	141,081	126,630
AWE/HP - Training Costs	22,825	12,257
AWE/HP - Administration Costs	4,859	6,573
Loss on Disposal of Assets	–	958
Realised Currency Gains	123	3,683
Bad Debts	1,672	–
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>219,332</b>	<b>267,665</b>
<b>Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>56,456</b>	<b>(42,892)</b>

## TREASURER'S TALE CONT...

Much of 2019 was taken up with a necessary change of bank from Westpac to NAB, which proved to be complicated and time intensive. There was also a lot of work for our treasurer and accountants to ensure our compliance with legal requirements, and resolution of legacy accounting issues.

There are two key takeaways from this year's financial results.

- 1) Our decision to reduce staff costs in 2018 was a good decision.
- 2) Apart from the funds from Paralympics Australia, which is earmarked for the High Performance team, we are largely kept afloat thanks to a significant donation from one single donor, who was attracted to our registered charity status. This is obviously not sustainable. Please remind your family, friends and supporters that any donation to BA is tax deductible.

For the full audited financial report for 2019, please see the Boccia Australia website.

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

## BALANCE SHEET

### BOCCIA AUSTRALIA LIMITED

As at 31 December 2019

	31 DEC 2019	31 DEC 2018
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	149,971	86,690
Receivables	3,800	1,373
Other Assets	6,573	6,549
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>160,343</b>	<b>94,613</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	4,771	1,235
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>4,771</b>	<b>1,235</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>165,114</b>	<b>95,847</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade Creditors	4,473	–
Income Received in Advance	2,000	–
Provision for Annual Leave	1,447	763
Related Party Payables	1,588	1,028
GST Liabilities	4,807	169
Other Payables	455	–
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>14,770</b>	<b>1,959</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>14,770</b>	<b>1,959</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>150,344</b>	<b>93,888</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained Earnings	150,344	93,888
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>150,344</b>	<b>93,888</b>



## HOW DID WE GO?

### This section reports on what we achieved against each of the 11 commitments that were made in the Strategic Plan for 2019.

1

#### HOLD NATIONAL TITLES BEFORE THE END OF 2019

The 2019 Boccia Australia National Titles (BANT) were held, in Brisbane, combined with the Queensland State Titles or Boccia Battle. It was an exciting event which was enjoyed by both athletes and their supporters with many returning home with the feeling the future of boccia in Australia was looking bright. The standard of organization, the venue, the volunteers, referees and classifiers was exceptional. There were many positives to the event, from the outstanding games played to the new friendships forged and old ones rekindled. New athletes competed against older experienced athletes gaining confidence and skill, giving the High Performance selectors the opportunity to see all athletes in action. On the technical side of boccia, two referees achieved Level 2 status, and 13 athletes were assessed by four classifiers, with many lessons learnt on the management of a major sporting event in a new environment.

2

#### IMPROVE COMMUNICATION

Provide greater quality and quantity of information to athletes and those with an interest in the sport and its national body via the Boccia Australia Facebook page and website. This will include timely information on ideally all boccia related events in Australia – including state and national titles.

Three editions of Around the Courts Newsletter have been published and distributed to all BA members and made available through the BA Website.

They have been greeted with positive comments such as “great read”, “Thanks for all the Info” and “Good to know what’s happening”. Local items have been submitted by a range of BA Members including athletes, club managers, coaches, the High Performance Team and state delegates to ensure that the newsletter is representative of boccia across Australia.

Unfortunately we were unable to gain administrative access to the previous facebook page for Boccia Australia which is why we started a new one. Please remind family, friends and supporters that

#### AUTUMN 2020 – AROUND THE COURTS



##### From our Chair

In light of the rapidly changing situation involving Coronavirus (COVID-19) boccia clubs are closed down for a while. However, the BA board and club organizers are working hard to make sure that, when this pandemic is over, our sport will bounce back stronger than ever. In the meantime, keep those balls rolling at home and send us pictures of you in action for our Facebook page - I'm giving it ago but not happy with my efforts!

Email [admin@boccia.com.au](mailto:admin@boccia.com.au) for a chance to see your boccia story and photos on our Facebook page or the next newsletter!

##### National Titles Update

Plans for the 2020 Nationals titles in Hobart continue with the Tasmanian Organizing committee meeting soon for the first time. It's a great venue in a great city! The Nationals are 8 months away and will be a great celebration of boccia and friendship, so keep practicing! Keep up with what's happening on Facebook, Instagram our website!

##### Save the date in 2020

Queensland Boccia Battle Brisbane To be confirmed	NSW State Titles Sydney To be confirmed	Boccia Australia National Titles Hobart 12 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup> November
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they should 'like' the facebook page so that they see updates. The old page had 1200 followers when we stopped using it, after a year of working with the new one we are just under 300 likes, so we still have a way to go.

We have started a new Boccia Australia Instagram account and that has had a slow but promising start with over 300 followers at publication. The current board has no access to our Twitter account. We aim to solve this in due course.

For what we have achieved with the Boccia Australia website please see commitment 4.

## HOW DID WE GO? CONT...

### 3

#### GOVERN THE SPORT INCLUSIVELY AND TRANSPARENTLY

BA will make publicly available governance related information including Boccia Australia Board minutes.

Board meetings were held every month in 2019 and we made public on our website the minutes from February 2019 onwards. A number of board members took on individual accountabilities. Other examples of increasing transparency included consulting on the high performance program selection criteria early in 2019 and the process that was begun on consulting on the next four year strategy. For more on these please see the report under Commitment 6.



January 2020 Board meeting was combined with starting the strategic planning process.

DATE	RICHARD BOELE	LUCY BATES	TAIT JENKINS	CHRIS NUNN	ALLEN MACCOURT	EMILY FINN	JOE MONYNIHAN
9/1/19	NA	NA	Present	Present	NA	NA	Present
11/2/19	Present	Present	Present	Present	NA	NA	Present
6/3/19	Present	Present	Present	Present	NA	NA	Present
9/4/19	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	NA
7/5/19	Present	Present	Apology	Apology	Present	Present	NA
4/6/19	Present	Present	Apology	Apology	Present	Present	NA
2/7/19	Present	Apology	Present	Present	Present	Present	NA
6/8/19	Present	Present	Apology	Present	Present	Apology	NA
3/9/19	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	NA
22/10/19	Present	Present	Present	Apology	Present	Absent	NA
19/11/19	Present	Present	Present	Apology	Present	Absent	NA
18/12/19	Present	Present	Apology	Absent	Present	Present	NA
<b>Attended</b>	<b>11/11</b>	<b>10/11</b>	<b>8/12</b>	<b>7/12</b>	<b>9/9</b>	<b>6/9</b>	<b>3/3</b>

NA = Not a Director for that Board meeting

## HOW DID WE GO? CONT...

4

### REALISE MORE BENEFIT FROM THE REVOLUTIONISE SPORT PLATFORM/WEBSITE

We educated ourselves on how to update the site and are now able to ensure that it is updated regularly with upcoming events and recent news. We have also used the member database to distribute Around the Courts. That said, our most active channel for engaging with members remains Facebook.

We have systematically invited old members registered through the website to renew their membership. During the year we also renewed our contract with Revolutionise who continue to provide us with the service in return for marketing benefits.



5

### MANAGE THE HIGH PERFORMANCE BOCCIA PROGRAM WITH INTEGRITY AND IN A PROFESSIONAL MANNER

Our High Performance Program Manager, Caroline Walker, has managed the program with the highest integrity and professionalism during 2019.

Communication was ongoing during the year with athletes, organising committees, AIS, PA and BISFed. The feedback has been excellent from all stakeholders reflecting the respect, diplomacy and transparent approach underpinning the running of the program. Strong positive relationships were built with the program's key stakeholders as well as suppliers. Suppliers relationships are critical to the smooth running of the program and supporting the athletes in achieving their best. These included our travel agent, insurance broker, outfitting suppliers and sporting venues.

Key compliance requirements met during 2019 included ensuring deadlines for BISFed information requirements were met and ensuring athletes met their anti-doping requirements.

The High Performance Program's key governance documentations and procedures underwent a wholesale review during 2019 including the development of selection criteria, review of athlete contracts. This work was supported by pro-bono help from experts in sports law from KPMG Law.





## HOW DID WE GO? CONT...

6

### **CONSULT ON THE HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM SELECTION CRITERIA**

Early in 2019 the selection criteria for the High Performance Program were drafted. The draft criteria and procedure were widely circulated with feedback coming from a range of athletes. This feedback was considered and changes made to the draft criteria and procedure. The final criteria and procedure were then reviewed and approved by the Board.

7

### **APPLY FOR AT LEAST THREE SIGNIFICANT GRANTS**

Despite submitting a number of detailed and well prepared grant applications during 2019 all our applications were unsuccessful. The key grant applications we submitted were:

- Department of Health's Driving Social Inclusion through Sport and Physical Activity, 2019
- Sports Australia's Move It AUS Participation Grant 2019
- Sport Australia's Impact Funding 2019
- Jetstar's Flying Start
- Australian Sports Foundation's Sport4Everyone 2019

The Board continue to submit proposals and seek funding from individuals.

8

### **DEVELOP A LONG AND SHORT TERM STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2020-2028, BASED ON THE BISFD QUADRENNIAL CYCLE**

On January 18th 2020, we kicked off a process to develop our strategic plan for next four years, following the time-frame used by most National Sporting Organisations for people with Disability (NSOD). The board came together in Sydney with a wide range of input from players, club managers and officials. Further input was collected from those participating in the Canberra Cup and the Tasmanian State Titles, and ongoing feedback is being collected.

9

### **MEET OUR COMPLIANCE OBLIGATIONS AS AN NSO, AND AS A REGIONAL LEADER WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL BOCCIA COMMUNITY**

As an NSOD and in our representative role in the international boccia governance structure, we have significant compliance obligations. Unfortunately, in 2019 we only managed to secure an interim extension of our NSOD status until June because of a previous oversight that took some time to correct. All details and policies have now been updated, and all requirements have been met, and we have been granted an additional two years of recognition from June 2020 onwards.

10

### **CONTINUE TO PROVIDE PUBLIC LIABILITY AND VOLUNTEER INSURANCE FOR MEMBERS**

We undertook a review of our required insurances. As a result, we renewed a number of them, such as public liability and volunteer insurance. We also terminated some others, including property insurance we were paying for a property that no longer had any connection with Boccia Australia.

11

### **MAKE MEMBERSHIP FREE FOR THE COMING MEMBERSHIP YEAR**

At the time of writing we had 256 registered members, compared to under 70 members in January 2019. We have noted that there are spikes of registrations with each competition. We continue to remind all who participate in our competitions that our insurance only covers those who are registered members of Boccia Australia.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

### HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM UPDATE

#### HEAD COACH

Ken Halliday

#### PERFORMANCE MANAGER

Caroline Walker

#### BENCHMARK EVENT IN 2019

BISFed Regional Championships, Seoul, South Korea

#### TARGET

Podium finish in both BC3 Individual and Pairs events

#### RESULT

Finished sixth in the Pairs and outside the podium in the Individual events. Best-placed athlete finished seventh.

#### AIS INVESTMENT

\$113,700

#### ATHLETE CONTRIBUTION (LEVIES)

\$30,000 + \$42,000 BC1/2 Self Funded event

#### ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT

\$15,000 for classification outcomes



In 2018, BISFed ruled at least one female athlete is to be included in all Teams and Pairs. A primary focus for the HP Program in 2019 was the identification and development of female BC3 athletes. As a result, two female athletes were included into the High Performance Program. Both female athletes gained valuable international competition experience placing them on the Individual World Ranking List and underwent international classification ensuring they meet all eligibility criteria for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

2019 further saw the development and implementation of the High Performance Program Selection Criteria ensuring the Program maintained focus on Paralympic Games success targeting athletes capable of achieving medal-winning results at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM CONT...

The HPP consisted of the following athletes and officials who participated at various events across 2019.

ROLE	NAME
Athlete	Dan Michel
Athlete	Spencer Cotie
Athlete	Jamieson Leeson
Athlete	Siobhan Daley
Sport Assistant	Ashlee McClure
Sport Assistant	Zoe Dix
Sport Assistant	Abigail Pidgeon
Sport Assistant	Amanda Leeson
Sport Assistant	Matthew Ellis
Head Coach	Ken Halliday
Team Support/Carer	Kristy Tannebring
Team Support/Carer	Regan Lambert

Medal performances were attained at two of the three international events contested in 2019 with Dan Michel winning individual Gold medals at both the Hong Kong World Open and the Dubai Regional Open. Bronze and Gold medals were won for the BC3 Pairs in Hong Kong and Dubai respectively.

At the conclusion of 2019, the BC3 Pairs sat in fourth place on the World Ranking List, which will secure them a qualification slot for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

The BC1/2 Teams continued on their path towards Paris 2024 by competing at the Dubai Regional Open with a goal to increase their competition experience and exposure to Boccia at an international level.



### BENCHMARK EVENT RESULTS IN 2019

#### **2019 BISFed Boccia Regional Championships, Seoul, South Korea (2 – 9 July 2019)**

BC3 Pairs consisted of Dan Michel, Spencer Cotie and Jamieson Leeson. The Pairs finished third in their pool having only won one of their three matches. They did not progress through to the semi-finals, which was the first time in two years.

Dan Michel was top seed heading into this competition. After winning all his pool matches he progressed to the quarterfinals where he was defeated by third seed Howon Jeong (KOR). Dan's final placing was seventh.

Spencer Cotie finished 13th having placed third in his pool.

Jamieson Leeson's individual international competition debut went well. She took one win in her pool matches and placed 18th overall. This means Jamieson meets the Paralympic Games eligibility criteria of being internationally classified and placed on the individual world-ranking list

## HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM CONT...

### OTHER INTERNATIONAL EVENT RESULTS FOR 2019

#### 2019 BISFed Boccia World Open, Hong Kong (12 – 20 May 2019)

Daniel Michel maintained his winning streak by progressing through this competition undefeated to win GOLD in the individual BC3.

Spencer Cotie placed first in his pool to earn himself a place in the quarterfinals. He was knocked out by Ho (HKG) and finished eight overall.

Jamieson Leeson joined Dan and Spencer to form the BC3 Pairs for her international debut. They finished first in their pool however lost a tight match to Japan in the Semi-Finals 3-1. The Pairs finished the tournament with a BRONZE medal defeating Great Britain 5-2.

#### 2019 BISFed Boccia Regional Open, Dubai, UAE (14 – 20 December 2019)

This event saw the BC3 athletes compete side by side with the BC1/2 Team consisting of the following athletes:

- Christopher Allerdice (BC1)
- Corena Harrison (BC2)
- Scott Elsworth (BC2)

The BC1/2 Team self funded to attend and were supported by coaches Peter King and Sue Olsen.

While the BC1/2 Team gained more international competition experience their results fell short of expectations with the Team not progressing out of their pool. In the individual events, both Scott and Chris went through to the quarterfinals however they were knocked out ending their competition.

Siobhan Daley joined Dan Michel and Spencer Cotie as part of the BC3 Pairs for her international debut. The Pairs won all their pool matches and subsequently, in lieu of finals matches, they claimed GOLD over South Korea.

Dan Michel won GOLD in the individual BC3 event defeating teammate Spencer Cotie who in turn was awarded the SILVER medal.

This event also saw Siobhan meet the Paralympic Games eligibility criteria in being internationally classified and contesting the individual competition to be placed on the individual world-ranking list.

The High Performance Program outcomes for 2020 include:

- Further development of BC3 female athletes including international representation where available
- Increased BC3 Pairs training with a view to identify a dedicated training venue with a Taraflex floor in the lead up to the Paralympic Games
- Successful nomination process of athletes to the Paralympic Games Team including officials appointments that will best promote support and success at Games time
- Medal performances at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games in both the individual and Pairs events
- Review of the 2018-2020 high performance plan and subsequent development of the 2021-2024 High Performance Strategy.

These outcomes will be reviewed and reassessed periodically across the year. As identified, new goals will be included into the overall high performance plan.



**OUTCOMES WILL BE REVIEWED AND REASSESSED PERIODICALLY ACROSS THE YEAR**



## REFEREES REPORT

Currently, Boccia Australia has three active International Referees; ten Level 2s; seven Level 1s and two Trainee Level 1s (those who have completed the theory part of the course but not the practical).

One returning referee (those who have been inactive since the accredited courses were introduced) recently participated at BANT, however needs to complete a formal upgrade.

	INTERNATIONAL	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 1	TRAINEE LEVEL 1	TOTAL
NSW	2	5	2		9
QLD		3	1	2	6
TAS		2			2
ACT			1		1
WA	1				1
	3	10	4	2	19

### INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION 2019

- Australian Referee on the BISFed Referees Committee
- An Australian referee was chosen as Assistant Head Referee at the Seoul Asia-Oceania Regional Championships
- Australians refereed at International competitions including Dubai, Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Seoul
- The first ever Australian referee was selected for the 2020 Paralympics in Tokyo

### REFEREE TRAINING

Prior to 2015 referee training was piecemeal with one day programs offered irregularly with semi-trained people refereeing at State and National competitions. Most training was done 'on-the-job'.

In 2015, Boccia Australia piloted a new way to train referees with the aim of:

- Increasing the number of trained referees across Australia
- Ensure formal and consistent training with a clear pathway for those who wished to undertake training at a higher level

In 2016, BA started our two accredited Referee Training programs. They were developed to ensure new referees had basic and up-to-date skills training and assessment, and for experienced referees to keep their skills updated and to progress to a higher level if they wished:

- Level 1 accreditation enables referees to referee at social, local and state competitions
- Level 2 accreditation enables referees to referee at these competitions plus National competitions

There are clear job descriptions for both Levels. The on-line course is upgraded each year with changes made according to changes in procedures and rules.

Our referees are well trained and highly respected. The Referee Team at the National Titles was described as 'professional, hard-working and supportive' by the Australian Head Referee. However, we are clearly in need of more Level 1 referees, and would like to encourage people to sign up for our Referee Training program and gain accreditation.







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