



AUSTRALIAN  
PARALYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

# Australian Paralympic Committee

## Annual Report 2004/05



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# Australian Paralympic Committee



**APC Board Members**  
L-R Standing: Doug Denby; Paul Bird;  
Justin Holdforth; Joyce Parszos;  
Graeme Watts  
L-R Seated: Nick Dean; Ken Brown;  
Greg Hartung (absent: Steve Loader)

## APC Board

Greg Hartung OAM	President
Nick Dean	Vice President
Ken Brown AM	Vice President
Paul Bird	Director
Doug Denby	Director
Justin Holdforth	Director
Steve Loader	Director
Joyce Parszos	Director
Graeme Watts	Director
Darren Peters	Chief Executive Officer/ Non-voting Director

## APC Member Organisations

- Athletics Australia
- Australian Sports Organisation for the Disabled
- Australian Blind Sports Federation
- Australian Sport & Recreation Association for Persons with an Intellectual Disability (AUSRAPID)
- Basketball Australia
- Cerebral Palsy – Australian Sport & Recreation Federation (CP-ASRF)
- Cycling Australia
- Disabled Winter Sport Australia
- Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia
- Swimming Australia
- Table Tennis Australia
- Tennis Australia
- Wheelchair Sports Australia
- Yachting Australia

# President's Report



The APC has approached the year with renewed focus and vigour, in pursuit of the goals identified in its current business plan - "to double the size of our athlete base, to increase Paralympic awareness, to increase organisational revenues and to be the best at everything we do".



The year following a Summer Paralympic Games always presents a new set of challenges. Coming off a highly successful Games, and with the Beijing quadrennium stretching ahead, 2004/05 could have represented a slow period.

The APC, however, has approached the year with renewed focus and vigour, in pursuit of the goals identified in its current business plan - "to double the size of our athlete base, to increase Paralympic awareness, to increase organisational revenues and to be the best at everything we do".

Two major developments have long-term impact on fulfilling those goals: the new state structure; and the Talent Search program.

The newly created state branches are managed by professionals and have a structure focused on maximising support to our athletes, primarily through fundraising. The past year has seen a significant increase in fundraising revenue, one that must continue if we are to achieve our goals.

The Talent Search Program aims to actively recruit and then fast-track potential Paralympians, particularly in regional areas. In the longer term it may prove to be one of the most significant initiatives of the APC. It is further evidence of how the organisation focuses strategically on the future.

Meanwhile, mainstreaming continues to be a major success, with eight national sporting organisations managing the relevant Paralympic Preparation Program for the appropriate sports and a further two in the pipeline. I take this opportunity to thank our partners in these arrangements for their ongoing support of our elite athletes.

I also acknowledge the role played by the APC Board, which provides the support and foresight essential to allow the APC to operate as a dynamic and enterprising organisation. In this environment our CEO, Darren Peters, and his enthusiastic staff have picked up the baton from Athens and are driving towards Torino and Beijing.

While the impact of all our partners is important, none is more significant than that of the Federal Government. Its long term funding commitment is a vote of confidence in the APC and the directions we are pursuing. I extend my appreciation to all those from whom we receive heartfelt support, especially the Prime Minister, John Howard, the Minister for Sport, Rod Kemp and the CEO of the Australian Sports Commission, Mark Peters and his staff.

Although the APC's goals are based on the performances of Australian athletes, we are keenly aware of the importance of our role in the development and promotion of Paralympic sport internationally. The APC works closely with the International Paralympic Committee and continues to provide the secretariat and other support for the Oceania Paralympic Committee as it grows.

Earlier this year the APC commissioned market research company Woolcott to assess

the public's perception and awareness of the APC and Paralympic athletes.

The results were informative and very positive for the APC. The members of the public who were surveyed overwhelmingly recognised that the Paralympic Team in Athens was successful. They also predominantly believe that Paralympic athletes are dedicated and elite sportspeople who train just as hard as their able-bodied counterparts.

In March 2006 Australia will send a team to the Paralympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy. The quality of our Winter sports program is such that we have several potential medallists. In the same month, Australian athletes with a disability will compete as members of the Australian Commonwealth Games Team in Melbourne, with all disability events counting as full medal events. These two Games will again provide the chance for the success of our elite athletes with a disability to loom large in the public arena.

I believe that the APC as an organisation is better positioned than ever before to support and promote our highly respected athletes, their coaches and support staff.

Greg Hartung  
President,  
Australian Paralympic Committee

# CEO's Report

Whilst our Team was successful in Athens there are significant challenges for the future. We need to find more talented young athletes and generate greater public and corporate support.



and generate greater public and corporate support. To succeed we need to target and maximize our opportunities and to initiate and maintain partnerships with a wide range of groups each of which can complement our activities whilst, through their connection with us, enhancing their own.

## Finance

The operating surplus in 2004/05 was \$770,303. This was a pleasing result in a year that included the Paralympic Games and indicates that the strategy of government support, sponsorship and fundraising provided sufficient funds to participate in the Games and finish both the four-year Paralympiad period and the individual financial year with a surplus. However as we operate on a rolling quadrennium based around Paralympic Games, the current 'surplus' represents the APC policy of maintaining a base of funding from which to launch the fundraising program for the next Paralympiad.

As we move into the new Paralympiad, which will conclude with the Beijing Games of 2008, the APC has to focus on two fundamental issues in terms of revenue. Primarily \$3.5 million is required to send to Beijing the biggest ever Australian Paralympic "away" team. Secondly we must continue to promote paralympic sport in Australia. In addition we will work with our members - disability organisations and sports - in identifying grass roots, sub-elite, and elite sports programs and pathways.

## Income

In relation to the past Paralympiad [2001/02 – 2004/05] APC incomes were \$27.3 million

in total. This consisted of \$16.4 million [60%] from Federal and State Government Grants, of which \$14 million came through the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) to prepare Paralympians for the Paralympic Games in Salt Lake City and Athens. In addition the APC generated \$4.6 million from sponsorship and \$5.3 million from fundraising, totaling \$9.9 million [36%] from marketing; \$0.9 million from interest and \$0.1 million from other sources.

The APC is very appreciative of the Minister for Sport, Rod Kemp's support and interest. The Minister guides his department staff and also the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), through Chairman Peter Bartels and CEO Mark Peters, to achieve strategic results in sport on behalf of the Australian community. The ASC is the principal sponsor of the APC and the two organisations continue to develop a strong and productive relationship.

We also are proud of the ongoing relationship with our major sponsors Telstra and Toyota Australia. Telstra has agreed to commit for another four years while Toyota has signed on for another three years, both as major sponsor partners of the APC. This means our future is financially secure.

I would like to thank Jon Conomos, the Executive Chairman of Toyota Australia, for his commitment to the APC and our Team. Jon, through Scott Grant, provided an additional grant of \$75,000 just prior to Athens to ensure the APC Team income targets could be met and the resulting surplus could be achieved. He also ensured a media campaign entitled "ability not disability" was run on most TV stations in prime time during the Paralympic

This year the APC implemented a post Games sport review, an internal operational restructure and a national fundraising strategy. The organisation has also posted its third successive operating surplus addressing the financial inconsistency of the past. Ambitious changes have been made to set the organisation on its march to Beijing and beyond. As President Greg Hartung has said, rather than take some time off following Athens, we have executed plans for the next four Games – Torino, 2006; Beijing, 2008; Vancouver, 2010; plus London, 2012.

Whilst our Team was successful in Athens there are significant challenges for the future. We need to find more talented young athletes



Games thus raising public awareness of sport for athletes with a disability.

In addition Telstra, initially through National Sponsorship Manager Michelle Scalzi and recently Ben Houston, provided the APC with significant assistance in enhancing our sponsorship agreement to embrace key Paralympic team, community and promotional activities over the next four years. Technological advice and support has been provided to the APC which will enable us to better plan and operate using new media and digital platforms [integrated across Australia]. I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Michelle and Ben for their efforts in assisting our athletes and the APC.

During this past year we signed new partners Clayton Utz and also Healthe Australia. Clayton Utz, led by Chief Executive David Fagan, has provided tremendous support through pro-bono legal coordinator David Hillard who has orchestrated advice in some difficult areas of business. These have included: taxation [GST]; commercial [contracts]; and civil domains [selections]. We appreciate this wonderful support.

Healthe Australia, with Nathan Thynne as Managing Director, has supplied the APC with a medium with which to record, collate and disseminate medical records and classification information. This is a world first in the area and the APC has started defining the database and system technology required to supply this to every athlete with a disability in Australia over time. Healthe, through Director Cory Brown and Chief Executive David Young, also hosted the inaugural APC/Healthe Corporate Golf Day on the Gold Coast which raised almost \$47,000 net. This was in addition to their sponsorship of the APC.

Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association (Sporting Wheelies) managed by Ray Epstein and Wheelchair Sports, Western Australia managed by Bruce Walrod have both provided services to the APC in this past year. Sporting Wheelies again raised funds for the Team through a successful 'Go for Gold' Art Union and have also assisted in the sport and services domain in Queensland. Wheelchair Sports – WA assisted with some successful fundraising and also in management and sporting services, on behalf of the APC. We appreciate the partnership, advice and professionalism of both of these organisations and the people involved.

Finally I would like to acknowledge and thank two companies which have offered pro-bono services to the APC in the areas of public relations – 2iC Integrated Communications and media assessment - Media Monitors. I take this opportunity to thank both Catherine Stace [2iC] and John Croll [Media Monitors] for their contribution to the Committee.

## Expenditure

Expenditure over the past Paralympiad [2001/02 – 2004/05] was \$25.9 million. Of this expenditure, \$14.5 million was spent directly on athletes and international competition [56%], \$1.7 million on marketing and promotion [7%] whilst \$2.3 million was spent on fundraising [9%]. In addition \$7.1 million was spent on operations [28%] while \$0.3 million was expended in investment write-downs.

In relation to this past financial year [2004/05] the income generated was \$9.4 million and the total expenditure incurred was \$8.6 million. The APC spent \$2.8 million on the Athens Games which reflected 33% of the total expenditure. A further \$3.2 million was spent on sport programs representing 37% of the total expenditure. Therefore a total of 70% of expenditure was allocated to sport and the 2004 Paralympic Games over the past year. Marketing and sponsorship expenses totaled \$0.9 million [10%] whilst fundraising expenses totaled \$0.5 million [6%] and administration/operations \$1.2 million [14%].

## Sport

### 2004 Paralympic Games Statistics

While the details of the Athens Paralympic Games were included in the 2003/04 annual report we have now had time to analyse the results and identify trends and issues for the future.

In Athens 2004 Australia won 100 medals [26 gold, 38 silver, 36 bronze]. This placed Australia fifth in terms of gold medals and second nation in the overall medal tally. Australia was one of only two countries to win one hundred or more medals at the 2004 Paralympic Games.

Australia participated in 12 sports out of 19 in Athens, winning medals in 8 of those sports. This represents participation in 63% of the sports offered, with a strike rate of medaling in 75% of those sports entered by Australia. Australia competed in approximately 44% of the medal events on offer and won 6.4% of the available medals on offer, including 25.8% of the cycling medals.

Seventy six, of one hundred and fifty three, athletes medalled in Athens. This represents a 50% success rate in terms of medal selection.

### Mainstreaming

The APC has pursued its policy of 'mainstreaming' whereby the elite sports programs are managed by the relevant National Sporting Organisation (NSO). The shift towards mainstreaming has enabled the APC to focus attention on strategic sport development issues rather than solely operational matters.

In 2005 the new mainstreamed sports are football and table tennis with agreements

close to finalisation in shooting, equestrian and rowing which makes its debut at the Beijing Games. They join the following summer sports for which mainstreaming agreements were signed in 2003/04: athletics; basketball; cycling; sailing; swimming; and tennis. Wheelchair Rugby has been mainstreamed with Wheelchair Sports Australia as an interim step towards full integration whilst, in managing the Winter sport program, we continue to maintain relations with Disabled WinterSport Australia.

The APC is grateful for the relationships it has built up with the NSO's and for their ongoing commitment to providing the best possible preparation programs for Australia's elite athletes.

### Talent Search

As part of our stated aim of doubling our athlete base the APC has this year introduced a nationwide Talent Search Program. The program which is driven by the newly appointed Development Officers, all of whom are Paralympians, commenced in New South Wales, ACT, South Australia, and Victoria. It has also run in Queensland through an agreement with the Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association. There will be thirty eight talent search activities conducted by December 2006: eleven in New South Wales; five in South Australia; seven in Queensland; six in Victoria; five in Western Australia; two in Northern Territory and two in Tasmania. Athlete targets per State/territory are as follows: 70 New South Wales/ACT; 20 in South Australia; 40 in Queensland; 50 in Victoria; 25 in Western Australia; 5 in Northern Territory and 3 in Tasmania, with a retention goal of 70%.

This initiative is already reaping dividends. As of August 2005 there had been 103 participants with 23 tier one (Beijing 2008) and 51 tier two (London 2012) potential Games athletes identified. This is a success ratio of 72% and is generating considerable excitement amongst Paralympic Program coaches.

### Winter

During the 2004 World Championships Australia won 8 medals including 4 gold and was 3rd in the Men's Alpine skiing tally and 6th in the overall medal tally (with no female athletes).

A change in class system, however, has impacted upon Australia's performance potential at Winter Games. It is proposed to reduce the number of athlete medal classes from 14 to 3. This will reduce the number of medals awarded in male and female categories and will increase the level of performances required for medaling. A review of this change will occur following the Torino 2006 Games, scheduled for March next year.

Australia has received 8 male Alpine slots, 1 female Alpine slot plus 1 male Nordic slot, subject to athlete qualification and at the time of reporting 5 athletes are qualified for these Games.

### Operations

The APC Headquarters has evolved over the years, from being located at the home of past Officers to being centrally placed at Sydney Olympic Park. This location reflects our ongoing commitment to professionalism and high profile exposure for the organisation.

The key business units of the APC are: sport; marketing [sponsorship, fundraising and promotions]; and operations [finance and administration]. Staff members in all units have worked tirelessly over the past year and I thank them for their commitment, professionalism and ability to rise to each new challenge.

In 2005 the APC dissolved Branch Committee structures and contracted staff to work directly for the CEO, to the agreed National Business Plan. A new fulltime Manager was appointed in South Australia, for the first time, and changes to staff occurred in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales.

National Development Officers were appointed in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia and contracts were executed for sporting and/or management services with Sporting Wheelies and the Disabled Association in Queensland and Wheelchair Sport in Western Australia.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing state committee members and staff for their work, support and dedication to the cause of Paralympic sport. Their contribution has been invaluable in achieving the level of professionalism that the organisation now seeks to establish in all areas of operations.

### Computers and Data

Over the last 12 months the APC has focused on developing a first class technological base to its operations. We now run on an integrated Branch/National operating system with data maintained in three key sites. These are: fundraising [Donman]; athletes; and finance [Quickbooks]. The implementation of this system has contributed significantly to the professionalism and time efficiency of operations. There are still several stages to be implemented particularly in terms of the athlete database, which will greatly assist in the management of our teams when competing on the international stage.

### Website statistics 2004/2005

	January to April 2004	January to April 2005
Total Hits	313,506	564,793
Increase		180%
Total Visits	24,602	69,686
Increase		280%

### Communications

#### Brand focus

During the past year the brand focus has been "ability – not disability" with an underlying theme that Paralympic athletes are champions, worthy of support. The corporate brand focus has been that the Australian Paralympic Committee is the organisation responsible for Paralympians, separate to the Australian Olympic Committee, and is worthy of support aimed at assisting Paralympians. Research commissioned by the APC and conducted by Woolcott (2005) indicates that this position has been successfully adopted by the public.

#### Website

As reported last year, the APC website was re-launched ahead of the 2004 Games to incorporate new technology, visual design and presentation.

During the Athens Paralympics, SBS, which also had television rights to the event, maintained a dedicated section of their website with links into and from the APC site. The surge in interest created by the Games carried through into 2005 with the website traffic continuing in a steady upward trend.

During the period from July 2004 to June 2005, the website recorded 2,874,802 hits and 167,380 visits. The average number of hits per month is now 162,918 while an average of 17,737 visits are recorded monthly. A comparison of traffic during the first four months of 2004 and 2005 (see Box) indicates that visits to the site have almost trebled.

### Governance

The Board of the APC has met on six occasions and covered a wide range of complex and significant matters. The Board has again risen to the challenge, ensuring that the organisation has not rested on the success of Athens 2004 but rather worked to lay the best possible foundations for the Beijing Paralympiad.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Board members and in particular our dedicated President, Greg Hartung, whose support and guidance at both a professional and personal level is invaluable.

Darren Peters,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Australian Paralympic Committee

# Finance Report

## 30 June 2005

As always, we are extremely grateful to our sponsors and benefactors and especially to the Australian Federal Government through the ASC for its ongoing support of the APC.

The Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) operates in all States and Territories of Australia and the attached summarised financial statements reflect these operations.

The 2004/05 financial year included the very successful 2004 summer Paralympic Games in Athens. The overall costs amounted to \$2.8 million, which was within our budget of \$3 million.

During 2004/05, through various fundraising efforts and the generous support of our donors, we were able to net more than \$1.5 million towards the Athens Games. In addition, a further \$0.5 million (net) from fundraising has been raised for the 2006 Winter Paralympic Games in Torino. With the Torino Games being held in March 2006, the net amount raised (\$0.5 million) has been deferred to next financial year, 2005/06.

Our sponsors have contributed over \$2 million to the APC for the financial year which enabled us to secure television and media coverage for the athletes during the Games period. The opportunity to enhance the exposure of the athletes through commercial marketing channels has had a most positive effect.

The Australian Federal Government through the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) has commenced funding our summer team for Beijing 2008. During 2004/05 the APC received \$2 million towards Beijing from the ASC and this sum has been included in deferred income to be recognised in 2008/09.

As always, we are extremely grateful to our sponsors and benefactors and especially to



the Australian Federal Government through the ASC for its ongoing support of the APC.

The summarised financial statements for the 2004/05 year, with comparatives for the previous year, are given on the next page. For further detailed financial statements, together with the report of our auditors, Ernst & Young, I would invite you to apply to the offices of the APC.

Doug Denby  
Director, Finance



# Finance Report

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (in \$'000)

	2005	2004
<b>Income</b>		
Australian Sports Commission	3,750	3,775
Other grants and sponsors	3,237	1,347
Fundraising	2,078	713
Income from investments	356	182
Other	7	114
	<u>9,428</u>	<u>6,131</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Athletes and international competition	6,028	3,163
Promotions, marketing and media	913	669
Fundraising	469	791
Administration	1,248	1,155
	<u>8,658</u>	<u>5,778</u>
<b>Surplus for year</b>	<u>770</u>	<u>353</u>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (in \$'000)

	2005	2004
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash & investments	6,226	4,612
Other (receivables, assets, etc)	1,191	1,462
	<u>7,417</u>	<u>6,074</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors & provisions	654	606
Deferred revenue / grants	3,105	2,581
	<u>3,759</u>	<u>3,187</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>3,658</u>	<u>2,887</u>

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE PER BRANCH FOR 2005 (in \$'000)

	APC	ACT	NSW	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total
<b>Income</b>	6,948	139	813	505	239	3	459	322	9,428
<b>Expenditure</b>	6,701	56	654	454	145	24	347	277	8,658
<b>Surplus /(Deficit) for year</b>	<u>247</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>(21)</u>	<u>112</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>770</u>

# Marketing and Fundraising

The Australian Paralympic Committee thanks our Sponsors and Supporters.

## Major Sponsors



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission



## Official Sponsors/Supporters



## Suppliers

CLAYTON UTZ



# National Campaigns



## Sponsorship

Sponsorship in 2004/05 was \$2.2 million. Monies were derived from: Westpac [40%]; Telstra [23%]; Toyota [15%]; Australia Post [9%]; Healthe [2%]; Tab Limited [4.5%]; Addecco [1.8%]; Workcover NSW [4%]; and Tourism NSW [0.5%] sponsorships. In addition the APC received contra or pro-bono assistance from Christie Corporate, Clayton Utz, 2iC Integrated Communications (2iC) and Media Monitors. Pro-bono support is valued at \$200,000 in total.

## Fundraising

The national fundraising strategy set for 2003 – 2006 comprises four key elements: telemarketing; raffles [face to face]; direct mail; and cause related marketing campaigns.

During the Athens Paralympiad [2001/02 - 2004/05] the APC generated \$5.263 million from fundraising. This represents a significant increase [81%] in fundraising revenue since the Sydney Games Paralympiad.

## Donor Database

The APC has 173,831 listed donors [see Box] spread across Australia. This represents a 3.5% increase on last year. The majority of donors are in NSW [94,007] and WA [68,252] predominately due to face to face or 'raffle' campaigns and telemarketing campaigns respectively.

## Telemarketing

In 2004/05 the APC commenced a drive for membership of a Paralympic Supporters Club [cost \$69.00] using the telemarketing technique. A test was conducted by sponsor Healthe, over an initial three week period, resulting in 39,987 calls attempted, 12,470 connections, 7,200 correct contacts and a success rate of 342 sales. Average sales are running at 4.8%. Fundraising industry best practice is 2.5% to 6% depending upon the situation.

In Queensland an annual "Go for Gold" campaign is conducted through Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association. The net returns in 2004/05 were \$65,540.

## Direct Mail Campaigns

In May 2005 the APC conducted its first national direct mail from the APC database to raise funds for the Torino Paralympic Games in 2006. A mail-out to a sample of 31,096 was conducted with a response of 1,105 donors [3.55%]. This compares favorably to fundraising industry best practice which is between 0.5 to 1.5%. The best return on investment as at 30 June 2005 was in NSW with a cost of \$9,688 and a net return of \$29,056 with average donations of \$73.56. Few responses were received in Tasmania, ACT and WA. Two direct mail campaigns are planned for 2005/06.

As this direct mail campaign was conducted to raise funds for the Torino Paralympic Games, all income and expenses incurred in the financial year ended 2004/05 have been deferred to 2005/06.

## Face to Face Raffle

In 2004/05 the APC conducted face to face Raffle activities in ACT, New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia. The largest revenue was earned in Victoria where almost \$1 million worth of tickets were sold. However this activity was expensive and had a low profit ratio [23%].

## Major Events

Each year the APC conducts a car rally event, called the Desert Duel, through its joint creators the NSW Paralympic branch and external agents Belinda Green and Steve Mason. In 2005 the activity grossed \$139,726 with a net return of \$34,785.

In May 2005 the Healthe Golf Day event was conducted on the Gold Coast generating a gross of \$158,153 with a net return of \$46,760. A golf day is planned again in Queensland in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

In 2004/05 the Paralympian of the Year Awards were conducted in Sydney generating a gross of \$199,453 and net return of \$30,650. The event was outsourced to Grand Slam International and generated a surplus for the first time.

## Government Grants per State/Territory (in \$000)

	QLD	NSW	ACT	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT
01/02	148	33	Nil	Nil	5	20	Nil	Nil
02/03	123	183	Nil	175	5	50	Nil	Nil
03/04	204	33	Nil	Nil	16	15	Nil	Nil
<b>04/05</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>
Total	600	282	Nil	175	26	141	Nil	Nil

## Donor Database Table

	QLD	NSW	ACT	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	TOTAL
02 / 03		41,000					110,000		151,000
03 / 04	378	43,585	59	404	49	130	120,435	8	165,048
<b>04 / 05</b>	<b>1,632</b>	<b>94,007</b>	<b>6,861</b>	<b>1,976</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>68,252</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>173,831</b>
05 / 06	1,632	105,000	19,499	65,000	172	25,000	68,252	1	284,556

# State Campaigns

The APC gratefully acknowledges past and present Chairpersons in each State: Di Pass and Karen McBrien (NSW); Gerry Murphy and David Floyd (QLD); David Baker (SA); Leigh Collidge (TAS); and Max and Nicole Kirwan (VIC).

## New South Wales/ACT

### Operations

Following the implementation of a centralised APC Branch structure and the subsequent disbanding of the State Committees, Angela Kerr was appointed as Manager of the APC NSW Branch. Multiple-gold medallist, Amy Winters was the first National Development Officer appointed, taking responsibility for APC development initiatives in the NSW/ACT region.

### Partnerships

Funding for New South Wales under the NSW Department of Tourism, Sport & Recreation's Sports Development Program has been confirmed for the next 3 years. The NSW Branch will receive \$30,000 per year.

WorkCover NSW continued their sponsorship of five Paralympians. The Program reinforces workplace safety messages while helping these athletes achieve their sporting goals. The athletes are invaluable in providing inspirational presentations to workplaces, schools, colleges, conferences, media events or annual dinners.

The APC has applied to receive funding for 2006 from Sport & Recreation ACT under the Sport & Recreation Operational Program.

The NSW Department of Gaming and Racing has renewed the NSW Branch's "Authority to Fundraise" under the Charitable Fundraising Act until June 2010.

### Fundraising

#### Desert Duel Event

The 2005 Desert Duel departed from Cairns on Saturday 28 May. Fifty Desert Duellers

teamed up and navigated their way through the Daintree on the way to Cooktown, Coen, Weipa, Bramwell Station and then on to Bamaga.

The highlights of the trip included visits to local schools where the children sang and danced for the Duellers, swimming at Twin Falls and making it to the "The Tip" of Cape York.

The participants raised more than \$34,000 (net) for the Australian Paralympic Committee through donations and auctions held throughout the Duel.

### Face to Face Raffle

The APC is currently working with The Marketing Department Group on a model to trial a new face to face raffle campaign. The trial raffle will be conducted in NSW in late 2005.

### Direct Marketing

The NSW Branch conducted a successful direct mail campaign to raise funds for the Athens team. The appeal raised \$108,000 gross with a net result of \$40,000.

## Queensland

### Operations

The last 12 months have been challenging with the implementation of the APC Branch restructure and the roll out of the new National Business Plan which has been used as the basis for the Queensland Branch Business Plan. The APC Queensland Branch operations have been headed up by Branch Manager, Paul Ninness with additional support provided by staff at the APC National Office.

The close relationship between the APC and Sporting Wheelies has grown even stronger.

The two organisations entered into a service agreement that has seen Sporting Wheelies utilise their extensive network of Development Officers to deliver the Talent Identification and School and Community programs, identified in the APC Queensland Branch Business Plan.

Additionally it is important to acknowledge the ongoing generosity of Christie Corporate, whose support by way of our office accommodation within the Corporate Centre at 320 Adelaide Street in Brisbane, is invaluable.

### Partnerships

The APC Queensland Branch continues to enjoy strong partnerships across a number of different sectors: Government; corporate; media; and community.

The ongoing support from the Premier and the Queensland Government is greatly appreciated. Due to the support of the Hon. Terry Mackenroth MP, Minister for Sport, the first of a three year funding agreement through Sport and Recreation Queensland has commenced. Discussions with the Premier's Department and Disability Services Queensland are ongoing to continue programs that were established in the lead up to Athens.

Relationships with corporate partners such as AgForce Queensland, Queensland Rail, Queensland PGA and the Institute of Business Leaders established prior to Athens continue to be fostered, in addition to the regional supervision of national sponsorships (e.g. Westpac, Telstra, and Toyota).

Valuable media coverage of our Paralympians continues to be generated through good

relationships with key local media and the strong co-operation of athletes.

### Fundraising Healthe Golf Day

Through the generosity of new APC sponsor, Healthe and their valued supporters and sponsors, one of the APC's most successful single-day fundraising events was held at the Lakelands Golf Club and Sheraton Mirage Resort on the Gold Coast. Paralympians Chris Scott and Tim Matthews anchored the two APC golf teams. Kami Liddell was the guest speaker in a "fireside chat" with David Fordham at the Gala Dinner. The event raised just under \$47,000 net.

### "Go for Gold"

As they have done for several years, the Sporting Wheelies gave up one of their own regular fundraising Art Unions to conduct another "Go for Gold", with a net return of \$65,540. For the first time "Go for Gold" was promoted by the media with the kind assistance of Mike Rabbitt (NBN Television), Robby Snowden (Gold Coast Bulletin) and Alex Shaw (WIN Television).

The APC is in negotiations with several non-profit organisations to be the beneficiary of a number of "third party" events in 2006, at which proceeds raised will be shared between the APC and the nominated non-profit organisations. The re-establishment of key regional Fundraising Committees is also being considered, (similar to the successful model for North Queensland, based in Townsville and chaired by Dale Parker).

### South Australia

#### Operations

There has been significant change in South Australia this year due to the introduction of the new centralised structure.

Sue Shepherd was appointed APC South Australia Branch Manager in March 2005, while the previous state committee chairman, David Baker, agreed to stay on as a Support Chairman for the Branch. Paralympic Games champion, Katrina Webb, joined the Branch as National Development Officer.

A new Council has been established for the purposes of fundraising and profile awareness in South Australia and a new office location at Santos Stadium has been provided by the Department of Recreation and Sport.

#### Partnerships

A three year funding agreement for the amount of \$90,000 has been signed with the Department of Recreation and Sport associated with the Games Appeal Committee (GAC).

We are grateful for the funding received from The Office of Recreation and Sport for \$14,500 and from the Australian Hotels Association SA Branch for \$9,900. These funds were received in July 2005 and will be reflected in 2005/06. This funding will be used to assist with the new national, state-based Talent Search Program.

#### Fundraising

A new fundraising concept is being developed which will incorporate athletes, community and local businesses. Marketing students from the University of South Australia have volunteered their time to work on the project.

A contribution of \$70,000 was received from various fundraising schemes, including the Wall of Wine Lottery and the proceeds from the GAC.

### Victoria

#### Operations

The relationship between the Victorian branch of the APC and the central administration has undergone substantial changes over the past 12 months.

Under the new structure, National Sports Program Manager, Jason Hellwig, has assumed the management of the APC Victoria Branch as part of his overall APC role. Tim Matthews, a double-gold medallist at the Sydney Games, has recently been appointed as the National Development Officer for Victoria.

#### Partnerships

The Victorian operation is focused on building closer ties with the Victorian Government, state sporting organisations and state disability groups to create a more efficient

environment for the development, promotion and performance of sport for people with disabilities within Victoria.

Regular forums for the Paralympic fraternity in Victoria are now being conducted and proving successful in bringing together athletes, families, coaches, administrators, volunteers and supporters of the Paralympic cause.

New offices have been established in Collins Street. The support of Christies Corporate in providing these premises at reduced cost is gratefully acknowledged.

#### Fundraising

The Allsports raffle was the most significant fundraising activity undertaken in Victoria during the reporting period. While the net return to the APC has been substantial, changes to relevant legislation coupled with changes to the structure of the Victorian office will see a new fundraising strategy in place over the coming year.

#### Future

The business plan for the APC Victorian office has been completed as part of the APC's overall planning activities. Over the coming 12 months the focus will be to:

- Deliver an effective development program across the entire state in order to identify and engage new athletes and coaches in Paralympic sport;
- Introduce the Paralympic education program to Victorian schools;
- Establish a new fundraising program based on the national approach;
- Enhance the interface between the disability and injury rehabilitation providers and state sporting organisations to bring more athletes into sport and to increase the opportunities for athletes with disabilities to participate in sport and, if they so desire, pursue their talents to elite level; and
- Work effectively with Government to realise each of the above and in addition harvest the maximum legacy outcomes from Melbourne hosting the 2006 Commonwealth Games.



# Archery

Archery Australia (AA) have looked at including PPP athletes within the AA high performance pathway program.

**The Archery Paralympic Preparation Program (PPP) is managed by the APC.**

## Competition

PPP archer Natalie Cordowiner competed at the New Zealand Nationals only, in a rest year following the Athens Paralympic Games. Just one (non-PPP) Australian athlete entered the World Championships in Italy in September.

## Athletes

While just one archer is currently qualified for the PPP, there are encouraging signs of developing archers who may move into the program. Several enquiries have been received from archers interested in attending the 2006 FESPIC Games. There are also a junior and a senior archer, with scores close to level three scores, who are yet to undergo classification.

## Future Directions

Since Athens, Archery Australia has established a Disability Committee and is in the process of appointing state disability co-ordinators as part of a plan for the future.

Talks have been held with the AIS about opportunities for archers with disabilities to be included in the AIS program, while discussions with Archery Australia (AA) have looked at including PPP athletes within the AA high performance pathway program.

Manager: Vicki O'Brien



# Athletics

There have already been a number of exciting results from athletes who were not in Athens, who are on track to represent Australia.

## **The Athletics PPP is managed by Athletics Australia under a mainstreaming agreement with the APC.**

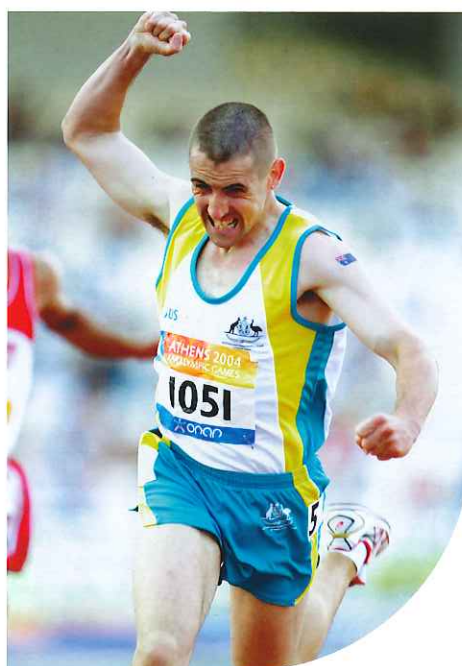
Athletics Australia (AA) has undergone major personnel and structural changes during this reporting period including a new CEO, Danny Corcoran, and a new High Performance Director, Max Binnington, as well as a major review of AA and a restructure of its High Performance Network.

## **Training and Competition**

The domestic season was relatively quiet among "established" squad members with many athletes taking a substantial break post-Athens. In the second half of the year, the program geared up, with a squad of 23 athletes to compete at the 2005 German Championships, followed by the European Open Athletics Championships, Helsinki in August. Other athletes will compete at the North Queensland Championships in late September.

These competitions will set the foundations for preparations for the 2006 IPC World Athletics Championships in the Netherlands.

Some AA-PPP squad members have their targeted events included on the program of the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games, while a few have adjusted their training to try to obtain selection in non-preferred events. The AWD events at the 2006 Commonwealth Games are women's T54 800m; women's T38 100m; women's F54-58 seated shotput; men's T12 100m; men's T46 200m; men's F55/56 seated discus. With significant support from the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA), the AA-PPP has put a program in place to assist the athletes preparing for these events.



Another significant event is the 2005 INAS-FID World Athletics Championships, in Canberra, from 26 September to 1 October, 2005. The Championships will be an important stepping-stone in the re-establishment of events for athletes with an intellectual disability on the international Athletics' program. With 22 athletes and 9 staff, Australia will have its biggest ever team to contest these Championships. The AA-PPP has assisted with preparation, selection and outfitting of the team in consultation with AUSRAPID.

## **Targeting Emerging Talent**

A major AA-PPP focus during this reporting period has been establishing an AA-PPP Emerging Talent Squad. Brett Jones is

coordinating this project, which aligns with the APC's Talent Search initiatives and also provides some Athletics specific targeting and identification.

There have already been a number of exciting results from athletes who were not in Athens, who are on track to represent Australia at the 2006 IPC World Athletics Championships.

## **Retirements**

The post-Athens period has seen the retirement of some of our "greats" including Paralympic champions, Louise Sauvage, Bruce Wallrod and John Lindsay. Various tributes have been implemented or are planned for these great athletes and we wish them all the best in retirement.

Head Coach and PPP Manager:  
Scott Goodman  
Wheelchair Track & Road Coaches:  
Andrew Dawes (Coordinator); Paul Angel;  
Louise Sauvage; and Greg Jones  
Throws Coaches: Alison O'Riordan  
(Coordinator) Gary Lees; and John Eden  
Sprints & Jumps Coaches: Brett Jones  
(Coordinator); Richard Bednall;  
and Iryna Dvoskina  
Distance Coordinator: Robbie Bolton  
Managers: Louise Mogg; Andrew Faichney;  
and Michael Thomson  
AA AWD Representative & AWD Statistician:  
Neil Fuller  
Physiotherapists: Luke Vladich  
and Rowena Toppenberg  
Massage Therapists: Kieran Cusack  
and Phil Power

# Wheelchair Basketball



The programs will continue to build on the initiatives introduced in 2004. A more defined elite pathway that encourages good integration and communication is still essential for the program to reach its potential.

**The Basketball PPP is managed by Basketball Australia under a mainstreaming agreement with the APC.**

### Overview of the Program

Following silver medals for both the men's and women's teams at the 2004 Athens Paralympics, Basketball Australia consulted with the program coaching staff, support staff, athletes and the APC to extensively evaluate both programs prior to appointments of coaching staff for 2005–2008.

The programs will continue to build on the initiatives introduced in 2004 including: the identification of new athletes; the conduct of low pointer camps; use of guest coaches; maintaining a strong focus on strength and conditioning programs (women); travelling to tournaments without a mechanic (men); and building on leadership and culture within the teams.

In 2005 financial support was provided to a mixed team to compete in the World Junior Championships in Birmingham in August. A more defined elite pathway that encourages good integration and communication is still essential for the program to reach its potential.

### Men's Program – The Rollers

Key outcomes from The Rollers' post-Athens evaluation were:

- The performance in Athens reflected the work done by the full team from 2001–2004;
- The team was well prepared, with camps, overseas competition and involvement of athletes in a US camp in San Diego;
- Support staff with the team should be retained;
- The team can still improve in the team leadership area;
- More low point athletes need to be identified;
- A strength and conditioning program with national co-ordination needs to be implemented;

- More able-bodied coaches should be involved in the program; and
- A more defined elite pathway for wheelchair basketball athletes needs to be developed.

### Training Camps

A squad of 25 athletes was announced in January 2005 with an emphasis on low pointers. The first camp of the new program was held in Adelaide from 11–13 March with 16 athletes. A number of Athens Paralympians were overseas competing in European Leagues.

### Competition

The team was invited to the Paralympic World Cup in Manchester, held 12–15 May. Competing teams were Australia, Great Britain, Germany and The Netherlands. Australia defeated The Netherlands, Germany and Great Britain on the way to the semi-finals. The Dutch were easily accounted for in the semi, but in the gold medal game Australia went down to the host nation by one point.

The team returned to Australia via Italy where they played two games against the Italian National Team on 16–17 May.

Unfortunately the 2005 Roosevelt Cup Tournament was cancelled.

Head Coach: Murray Treseder  
Technical Assistant Coach: Craig Friday  
Manager: Kelvin Browner  
Physiotherapist: John Camens

### Women's Program – The Gliders

Key outcomes from The Gliders' post-Athens evaluation were:

- The team won a silver medal - to win gold the team needs to develop its mental robustness;
- Athens saw a new Head Coach plus seven athletes experiencing Paralympic competition for the first time;

- The involvement in the program of coaches from mainstream basketball needs to be encouraged;
- A strength and conditioning program will be a focus for the next four year cycle;
- The team needs to play more games – the competition in Australia at Shellharbour was invaluable for the team in 2004;
- New athletes for the program should be identified by holding mini camps in all states;
- An NSWIS-style program should be extended to other states; and
- A more defined elite pathway for wheelchair basketball athletes should be developed.

### Training Camps

A squad of 20 athletes was announced in January 2005 with emphasis on low pointers. A camp was held with 19 athletes in Sydney on 8–11 April.

A skills day, which was very beneficial, was held on 29 April prior to a round of the National League in Sydney. Camp 2 was held in conjunction with the Brisbane Classic.

### Competition

Unfortunately, the team did not get an invitation to the Paralympic World Cup in Manchester in May. The squad split into two teams to compete in the Brisbane Classic, providing excellent competition to the new and young squad members.

The team competed in the Spitfire tournament in Toronto in August with 14 athletes again splitting into two teams. Canada and Germany also split their squads and entered two teams into the competition. Australia then played Canada and Germany with their full squads defeating Germany and recording a 1 win, 1 loss record against Canada.

Head Coach: Gerry Hewson  
Assistant Coach: Ben Ettridge  
Manager: Sonia Healy  
Mechanic: Michael Dowling  
Physiotherapist: David Spurrier

# Cycling

The focus in the past year has been on developing the next generation of Paralympic cyclists.

**The Cycling PPP is managed by Cycling Australia (CA) under a mainstreaming agreement with the APC.**

## Mainstreaming

Under CA's High Performance Manager, Kevin Tabotta, the Cycling PPP continues to make progress towards being an equal partner within Cycling Australia. The cycling program Head Coach and Program Administrator work from the Cycling Australia (CA) High Performance Centre in Adelaide under the APC's mainstreaming agreement with CA.

## Development

With some athletes taking time off after Athens and limited international rankings events on offer, the focus in the past year has been on developing the next generation of Paralympic cyclists.

Cycling has been involved in the new APC Talent Search program and a number of promising young riders attended the talent identification days conducted in Newcastle, Canberra and Adelaide.

## Training Camps

PPP squad athletes participated in the AIS Women's Road Camp in Canberra from 22-29 March, 2005. This camp provided the opportunity to expose targeted female Beijing athletes to the high performance benefits of the AIS facility and staff. The camp featured: biomechanical testing to determine optimal bicycle setups using power output on the stationary SRM ergometer; interaction with the National Women's Road team; and sessions on stretching, strength training, optimising bicycle set up, nutrition and sports psychology.

The national sports science and track camp, in Adelaide, from 25 to 29 April, provided national team interaction for targeted Beijing athletes; assistance in areas of bicycle set-up and athlete personal growth with sessions on nutrition, stretching (including Pilates), training heart rate zones, equipment, and specific athlete weaknesses. There were also opportunities to qualify for the CA PPP.

## National Competitions

The 2005 Australian National Track Championships (Adelaide, 7-12 February) were fully integrated within the able-bodied competition and provided the opportunity for athletes to qualify for the national team for the 2005 European Championships.

The 2005 Australian Handcycling Championships (Perth, 12-13 March) provided handcyclists with the opportunity to qualify for the national team for the 2005 European Championships.

The 2005 Australian Road Time Trial Championships (Lancefield, Vic, 21 March) were integrated with the Australian Masters Road Championships for the first time. A Time Trial event only was held at this year's championships, and due to its success, next year's program will include road race and road time trial events for all disability classes as per the Cycling Australia Technical Regulations.

## International Competition

PPP squad members participated in the following international events:

- 2005 Paralympic World Cup, Manchester UK, 10-15 May, 2005 (7 athletes, 1 athlete/coach, 1 coach).

- 2005 CP World Championships, New York and New London, USA, 29 June - 11 July, 2005 (2 athletes, 2 coaches).

Head coach: Kevin McIntosh  
Administrator: Elsa Lepore  
Scholarship Coach: David Short  
Trainee Coach: Noel Sens  
Hand Cycling Co-Ordinator: Andrew Budge  
State Co-Ordinators: Tom Skulander (NSW), Gary House (TAS)  
Sports Science Co-Ordinator: Mathew Rafferty  
Welfare Co-ordinator: Murray Lydeamore



# Equestrian

Internationally Paralympic equestrian has been mainstreamed as a discipline of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI).

**The Equestrian PPP is managed by the APC.**

## Mainstreaming

Internationally Paralympic equestrian has been mainstreamed as a discipline of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI) and talks have commenced between the APC and the Equestrian Federation of Australia, regarding mainstreaming in Australia. Coaches and Judges from EFA are already integrally involved in Paralympic dressage.

## Training Camps

In the period following the Athens Paralympic Games, Equestrian has concentrated on talent identification.

In late March 2005, a National Development Camp was held in Canberra at the Australian Institute of Sport and "Pegasus Farm" Equestrian Centre, for 12 riders and their horses from Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia.

This camp's objectives were:

- To educate participants on the requirements of international competition;
- To provide information to help aspiring athletes understand what is involved in pursuing the goal of international representation;
- To give riders the opportunity to ride their own horse under the observation of the National Coach and Assistant Coach and receive an appraisal of areas they need to improve; and
- For each athlete to take away a formal individualised training and competition plan.



Invited speakers, including Tony Naar (APC), Carolyn Lieutenant (former head coach), Athens medallist Jan Pike and AIS fitness and conditioning staff, talked about the commitments required to become a Paralympian. Feedback from the athletes, coaches and supporters was very positive.

As a follow up, a monthly series of training camps has been held in all four states and development and PPP squad athletes have had the benefit of regular feedback and assessment, whilst home coaches have also benefited from the opportunity to interact with national coaches.

## Competition

All athletes have been encouraged to compete regularly in mainstream dressage events, and RDA has held State Championships in several states, as lead up to their National Championships in October 2005. A new PPP squad will be selected following these National Championships. In the first six months of 2006 some athletes will compete at selected international events.

Head Coach: Gillian Rickard  
Assistant Coach: Anne Hall  
Chef d'equipe: Susan Cusack

# Judo

Anthony Clarke has continued to have some good results in the able-bodied competition.

## **The Judo PPP is managed by the APC.**

Following a somewhat disappointing Athens Paralympic Games both squad members took some time off to rest, before re-grouping again early in the new year. Subsequent illness forced Desiree Allan from the sport for a longer period.

While the development of vision impaired athletes continues at a slow pace, there is some potential for the future with extra male and female athletes, as well as some promising juniors.

## Competition

Anthony Clarke has continued with his training and competition, starting at the ACT International Open in Canberra in February 2005 and has continued to have some good results in the able-bodied competition as follows:

- February 2005: ACT International Open, Under 90kg - 5th;
- June 2005: JFA National Titles-Tasmania, Under 90kgs - 5th;
- July 2005: Kodokan National Titles – Queensland, Under 90 kg - 1st; and Under 100kg - 3rd.

Anthony also competed in South Australian State run competitions.

Head Coach: Trevor Kschammer  
Women's Coach: Lara Sullivan



# Powerlifting

The past year has been a rebuilding period following the 2004 Athens Paralympics.



**The Powerlifting PPP is managed by the APC.**

## Competition

The past year has been a rebuilding period following the 2004 Athens Paralympics. In March, the National Championships in Brisbane attracted 16 lifters, including two women, five PPP Squad members and several first time competitors.

The competition was followed by a training camp which enabled both squad members from interstate and local developing lifters to train together, share experiences and gain support from the national coaches.

On 21 May, 13 lifters including three PPP Squad members lifted in the NSW State Championships.

Due to injuries and sickness affecting preparation, Australia was unable to send a

team to the first Asian Championships held in Kuala Lumpur in July. However, through the APC, we were able to assist the PNG team of three lifters to compete there and win a bronze medal.

The next 12 months see a busy competition schedule for the National Squad with teams to attend the European Championships in Portugal in November 2005, the EAD Powerlifting event at the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games in March and the IPC World Championships in Korea in April 2006. The first stage in this preparation will be a competition, followed by a four day training camp, in Brisbane in September.

## Athletes

The Powerlifting Sports Advisory Committee recently finalised standards for a PPP Development Squad aimed at providing support and opportunities to new athletes.

It is likely that five athletes will qualify for the first intake, with the September training camp in Brisbane scheduled as their first national squad camp.

The focus of this Development Squad will be preparation for the FESPIC Games in November 2006 and, of course, future Paralympic Games. It is worth noting that IPC Powerlifting has now included a Junior division (under 23 years) and will be maintaining Junior results and records.

## Staff

The Powerlifting program thanks Mick Farrell for his enthusiastic and strong support as program manager over several years.

Head Coach: Ray Epstein  
Assistant Coach: Martin Leach  
Manager: Paul Ninness  
(replacing Mick Farrell)

# Wheelchair Rugby

With the program review completed, the APC concluded an agreement with Wheelchair Sports Australia (WSA) to manage the Wheelchair Rugby PPP from 1 July, 2005.

**The Wheelchair Rugby PPP is managed by Wheelchair Sports Australia under a memorandum of understanding with the APC.**

## Review

Following the Athens Paralympic Games the APC initiated an independent review of the Wheelchair Rugby program. The review concluded that several changes to the program were required to bring Australia back into medal contention for Beijing.

## Mainstreaming

With the program review completed, the APC concluded an agreement with Wheelchair Sports Australia (WSA) to manage the Wheelchair Rugby PPP from 1 July, 2005. As the umbrella body for wheelchair sports in Australia, WSA oversees the sport of Wheelchair Rugby and conducts the National Wheelchair Rugby League.

The APC consulted with WSA in commencing the implementation of program changes

in line with the recommendations of the review. The first of these was the decision to end the position of full-time head coach. As the incoming program manager, WSA advertised all team staff positions, with staffing to be reviewed following the Asian Zonal Championships in November/December 2005.

## Competition

During the review period the then Head Coach, Terry Vinyard, took an Australian selection "low-point" team to the annual New Zealand Low Pointer Tournament, conducted this year from 8-10 April. National team players Scott Vitale (1.5), Ryan Scott (0.5), and Nazim Erdem (0.5) led Australia's attack. They were supplemented by Queenslanders Gary Read (0.5) and Rob Trinder (1.0) who also played on Australia's 2004 victorious team at the same tournament. Newcomer Brad Hall was a welcome addition to the team which played a gruelling seven game schedule over three days. Australia successfully defended its title, defeating Manawatu in the final to complete a clean sweep.

## Staff

During the year Terry Vinyard concluded his period of employment with the APC as Head Coach for the Rugby Program. Terry played a significant role in improving the quality and profile of Wheelchair Rugby in Australia and was a catalyst for significant improvements in the standing of the Australian team at the international level.

Head Coach: Terry Vinyard  
Manager: Kim Elwood



# Sailing

In 2005 the International Paralympic Committee announced an increase, from two to three, in the number of sailing events at the 2008 Paralympic Games.

**The Sailing PPP is managed by Yachting Australia under a mainstreaming agreement with the APC.**

## Competition

It has been a very quiet post-Paralympic Games period for the sailors, with no major international regattas scheduled until late 2005, and the Paralympic Games team members having a break from competition.

In January 2006, Perth will host the IFDS World Championships for the 2.4mR and Sonar classes. Most Australian sailors are focusing their training and resources towards this event.

## Development

Following the 2004 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Yachting Australia undertook a review of its high performance programs. This review led to the development of a plan for medal success at the 2008 and 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, as well as for the ongoing development of the sport to ensure continued success at the highest levels.

The plan emphasises the full integration of Yachting Australia's Olympic and Paralympic programs, with a focus on building the Australian Sailing Team and the sharing of information and technologies across all facets of the Team (Olympic, Paralympic and Youth).

Over the Australian summer the Australian Ranking List for the 2.4mR class was compiled, based on the results at the Australian Championships, Sail Melbourne and the ACT Championships. Victorian youngster Aaron Hill emerged as the number one 2.4mR sailor this year with consistent performances across the summer.

## Paralympic Games events

In 2005 the International Paralympic Committee announced an increase, from two to three, in the number of sailing events at the 2008 Paralympic Games. The new event will be a double-handed keelboat, to join the single-handed (2.4mR) and triple-handed (Sonar) events already on the Paralympic program.

The International Federation for Disabled Sailing (IFDS) has appointed an Evaluation Committee to recommend the most suitable class for the new event in time for a decision in November 2005. Australian Paralympian Jamie Dunross (2000 and 2004) was appointed to this committee.

**Head Coach: Lachlan Gilbert**  
**Sonar Coach: Geoff Chambers**



# Shooting

Ashley Adams has been selected in the Australian able-bodied team to compete in the prone event at the Oceania Championships.

**The Shooting PPP is managed by the APC.**

## Competition

This year saw most of the shooters take a break after Athens, with competition not commencing until February 2005.

In the first ranking shoot of 2005, Ashley Adams shot an Australian record of 594/600 in the Air Standing Men's SH1 event. Libby Kosmala followed up at the All States competition in May, with an Australian record of 570/600 in the 3 x 20 Sport Rifle SH1 event.

The National Championships were the largest experienced in the past five years with ten rifle shooters and five pistol shooters vying for team selection for the European Championships. This event, to be held in Poland in July, is expected to be one of the largest ever held for shooting with 34 countries and approximately 180 athletes scheduled to compete.

The team selected to travel to Poland was Ashley Adams, Libby Kosmala, Steve McCormack, Jason Maroney and Peter Shannon.

Ashley Adams has also been competing in the able bodied competition, gaining the number one ranking in the prone rifle event in April 2005. Ashley has been selected in the Australian able-bodied team to compete in the prone event at the Oceania Championships in Brisbane in November 2005.

## Training Camps

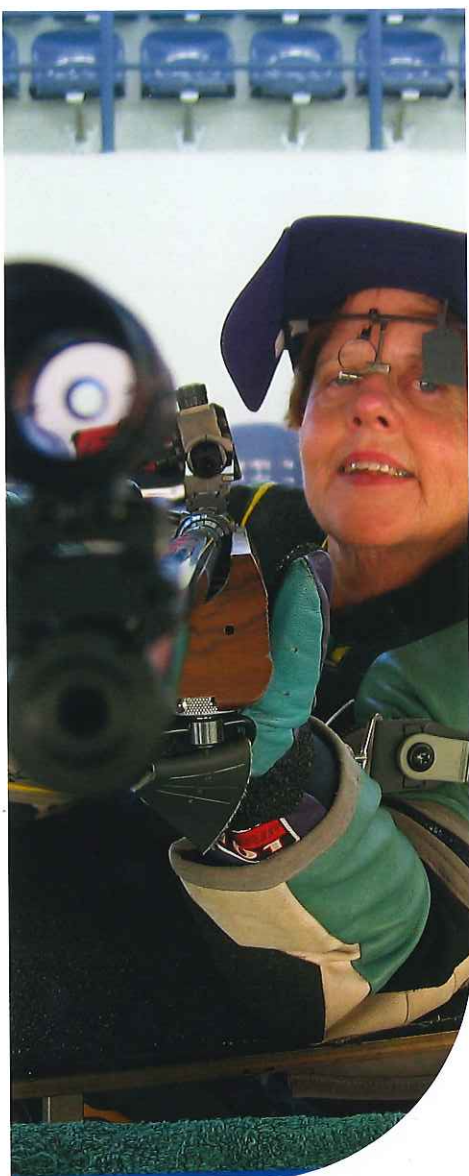
To more efficiently utilise resources and provide access to the national coach for the greatest number of athletes, a series of state-based camps has been introduced in conjunction with able-bodied activities conducted by the Head Coach. These camps reduce the need for centralised camps and give athletes more opportunities with the Head Coach in their home environment.

## Future events

Over the next 12 months the competition focus of the program will be the Para-Oceania event in October in Brisbane and the World Championships in Switzerland in July 2006.

Coach: Miroslav Sipek

Manager: Michelle Fletcher



# Swimming

Athletes now have a pathway within Swimming Australia from the grassroots level through to the elite.



**The Swimming PPP is managed by Swimming Australia under a mainstreaming agreement with the APC.**

## Mainstreaming

Mainstreaming continues within Swimming Australia, with the State Swimming Associations in the process of setting up Disability Development Squads and running "Come and Try" days.

Athletes now have a pathway within Swimming Australia from the grassroots level through to the elite.

This year has been important for the Swimming program as the squad continues to develop with more young athletes on the

PPP and many more around Australia striving to reach the elite level. Post Athens many athletes chose to take time away from the pool. This has proven successful for many swimmers as now they are rested and can focus their efforts towards Beijing. Swimming is looking forward to 2006 and the challenge of a Commonwealth Games and IPC World Championships in the same year.

## Training Camps

This year the Swimming Program has run state camps in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia. These camps were run in conjunction with the State Swimming Associations, and saw State Development Squads also participate.

The State Swimming Associations have also run "Come and Try" days for interested swimmers with a disability. These days have been very useful, not only for the swimmers and their parents but also for Swimming Australia, which has been able to identify talented athletes across Australia.

## AIS Camps

This year the AIS/APC Swimming program has 13 scholarship holders. A number of camps have been held to assist the athletes reach their swimming goals. The camps have focused on various areas including performance psychology, nutrition, athlete and career education and performance analysis.

## Competition

Five of Australia's top swimmers attended the British Disability National Championships and the Paralympic World Cup. The team medalled in 16 of the 23 events they competed in at the British Nationals. The Paralympic World Cup was also very successful with Sarah Rose winning the S6 50m Butterfly, Daniel Bell the S10 100m Butterfly, while Matthew Cowdrey smashed his own world record to take out the SM9 200 IM and placed third in the multi-disability 50m Freestyle.

Swimming Australia also sent a team of 12 athletes and seven staff to compete in the USA Paralympic National Swimming Championships, Portland, Oregon in July 2005. The athletes performed extremely well, winning 43 medals, including 14 gold.

Head Coach: Brendan Keogh  
Program Coordinator: Melanie Jenkins.

# Tennis

The men's team finished fourth, with a loss to the French in the play-off for third place. The junior team was runner-up, defeated by the Belgians in the final.

**The Tennis PPP is managed by Tennis Australia under a mainstreaming agreement with the APC.**

## Training Camps

PPP Squad members attended a High Performance Training Camp at Melbourne Park on 7-8 May 2005 in preparation for the World Team Cup. The players received training and guidance from the National Coach, Greg Crump.

At the camp, Daniel Horner from the Australian Institute of Sport (Tennis) tested the players on sprinting, agility and endurance. An elite coaching seminar was conducted in which all players contributed by taking part in drills and discussions on specific requirements of wheelchair tennis coaching.

Prior to the Victorian Hardcourt Championships, 21-22 April 2005, a development camp was conducted for



emerging junior and female athletes. The junior squad received training and guidance from National Junior Coach, Kathy Fahim, while training for the female squad was taken by National Coach, Greg Crump.

Members of the junior squad were also reviewed for World Team Cup selection during the camp.

## Competition

The World Team Cup 2005 was held in Groningen, the Netherlands from 21-26 June 2005.

The men's team finished fourth, with a loss to the French in the play-off for third place. The

junior team was runner-up, defeated by the Belgians in the final.

Due to the retirement of Daniela Di Toro, a female team was not sent to compete.

Head Coach: Greg Crump  
Junior Coach: Kathy Fahim  
Manager: Steven Lock



# Winter Sports

The Winter program is currently in the middle of the last year of the 4 year cycle in preparation for the 2006 Paralympic Games to be held in Torino, Italy.



**The Winter program is jointly managed by the APC and Disabled WinterSport Australia (DWA) under a memorandum of understanding.**

The Winter program is currently in the middle of the last year of the 4 year cycle in preparation for the 2006 Paralympic Games to be held in Torino, Italy.

## Competition

Australians competed in the 2004/05 World Cup Series events held at Fendels, Austria and Klosters, Sweden. Michael Milton was again the best performer, placing 2nd in the Giant Slalom; 4th in the Super Giant Slalom and 5th in the Slalom events in Austria. Toby Kane gained a 2nd in the Super G at Klosters, where Cameron Rahles-Rahbula finished 3rd in the Slalom and Shannon Dallas 4th in the Downhill.

The APC Cross Country athlete James Millar has not been in the sport long but has made significant progress and looks to have a great future. He gained valuable experience on the World Cup circuit during the northern winter and has recently completed training in both NSW and Victoria this Australian ski season in preparation for the up coming Paralympic Games.

## Training Camps

The program has been making good progress with two on-snow camps held in the Australian winter. The second camp ran for 3 weeks and included the National Championships, where many of the talented development athletes really showed how much progress they are making. The lessons learnt from taking the elite and development athletes away together overseas are paying dividends.

These on-snow camps followed an extremely successful physical training camp held in early July for the program's four elite athletes. A further two physical camps will be held after the Australian Winter season prior to the team's departure for the Northern Hemisphere.

A final three week on-snow camp for the Australian season will begin in late August. This camp will be used to challenge the athletes in all areas of their skiing and preparation. The early part of the camp, a high intensity environment will be created to expose any weaknesses. The latter part of the camp will be used to work on the areas exposed ahead of our overseas World Cup campaign leading into Torino.

Head Coach: Steve Graham

# Acronyms





AA	Athletics Australia
APC	Australian Paralympic Committee
AIS	Australian Institute of Sport
ASC	Australian Sports Commision
ATFCA	Australian Track and Field Coaching Academy
AWD	Athlete with a Disability
BA	Basketball Australia
CA	Cycling Australia
CAD	Coaching Athletes with a Disability
FESPIC	Far East South Pacific
HPU	High Performance Unit
INAS-FID	International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
IBSA	International Blind Sports Association
IFDS	International Federation of Disabled Sailing
ITF	International Tennis Federation
NSWIS	New South Wales Institute of Sport
OPC	Oceania Paralympic Committee (formerly SPPC)
PB	Personal Best
PPP	Paralympic Preparation Program
QAS	Queensland Academy of Sport
RDAA	Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia
SASI	South Australian Institute of Sport
SB	Season's Best
SPPC	South Pacific Paralympic Committee
VIS	Victorian Institute of Sport

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