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MESSAGE FROM SPORT AUSTRALIA

John Wylie AM

IT HAS BEEN A WATERSHED YEAR FOR THE AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION. WE’VE LAUNCHED A NEW PUBLIC-FACING BRAND - SPORT AUSTRALIA - WITH A RENEWED VISION FOR AUSTRALIA TO BE THE WORLD’S MOST ACTIVE SPORTING NATION, KNOWN FOR ITS INTEGRITY, SPORTING SUCCESS AND WORLD-LEADING SPORTS INDUSTRY.

This aligns with the Australian Government’s long-term vision for sport in this country, outlined in Sport 2030, released in August 2018 by Minister for Sport Bridget McKenzie. Sport Australia will be central to delivering the priorities outlined in this national sport plan.

At the fundamental level, Sport Australia’s focus will be on getting Australians moving through sport and, more broadly, physical activity. We want to inspire and activating people across every age, race, gender, cultural background and physical ability. We will continue to build partnerships in the health and education sectors to ensure physical activity is a national priority.

We need to ensure sporting organisations are equipped to make the most of a renewed interest in physical activity, and so we will continue working with sports to improve the workforce capability, governance and partnerships. We want to help sports innovate, connect with existing and new participants in the digital era and provide products that meet current expectations.

The AIS is redefining its role too, leading a united and collaborative high performance system for Australian sport. Success will be measured by Australians consistently winning medals at major international events, but also in the national pride and inspiration generated by our athletes.

Working in partnerships, the AIS will be focused on doing the big system-level things on the frontiers of ethical sporting performance that no other body is naturally positioned to do.

The AIS has launched a new Athlete Wellbeing and Engagement team, focused on supporting athletes to transition through their sporting careers and connect with their communities. We want sporting champions to be positive influences.

Australia enjoyed genuine sporting success in 2017-18. In challenging times, the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games helped restore Australia’s faith in our sports and athletes.

Positions on the podium are wonderful to celebrate, but the narrative is incomplete without humility, generosity of spirit, confidence in what our athletes stand for and how they carry themselves. At the Gold Coast Games, we saw the very best in our athletes, and this display of spirit and integrity is sure to give them the best start to their preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We also had some outstanding performances at the PyeongChang Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. Australia equalled its most successful Winter Olympics haul of three medals in PyeongChang, two silvers and one bronze medal matching the result in Sochi 2014. It was also our best result at a Paralympic Winter Games in 16 years.

Sport integrity has justifiably gained additional focus in the past year, and is a very important priority for Sport Australia and for Australian sport more generally. We, and everyone involved in sport, owe it to the athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, fans and the public at large to ensure that Australian sport is fair and clean, and is seen to be fair and clean.

We thank all of our partners - including athletes, coaches, board members and administrators - for your effort and contribution to Australian sport, and your enthusiasm for building a more active Australia. We look forward to continued success and progress together.

John Wylie AM
Chair
Sport Australia
REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF BASKETBALL AUSTRALIA

Ned Coten

IT’S A GREAT PRIVILEGE TO PROVIDE THIS REPORT AS CHAIR OF BASKETBALL AUSTRALIA (BA).

The 2017 / 2018 year has seen the sport grow in many ways, with some exciting developments that will underpin the sport for many years. We have built on the important foundations of the prior year and focused on building assets, resources and capability for the significant opportunities we have as a sport.

In the past two years BA has been able to deliver a small surplus after two years of significant losses. It’s pleasing to report that we have again delivered a surplus of $136,152 for the 2017/2018 Financial Year.

This outcome is important and not a small achievement. While we have been able to realise some long held ambitions and are working on others for the future, they have come with costs in terms of the human and capital resources required. As a result of the increased activity we are seeing, particularly the Boomers games against Team USA in August 2019, the revenue of the organisation will increase significantly; but so will the expenditure.

Prudent financial management is critical in this environment and is now more important than ever in the fast-changing environment in which we find ourselves. We have a stated objective of having $1.7M in operating reserves for the organisation by 2020 and are now closer to that mark. We are ever conscious that this has meant some pain in some areas of the sport over the past two years but remain committed to strong and responsible financial management.

This is also the last time that BA will report to a July to June Financial Year (FY). To line up with the majority of our State and Territory Members, we will commence a January to December Financial Year from January 1, 2019.

This means that we will be running a ‘6 month’ FY from July 1 to December 31, 2018 as a ‘changeover’ step. While this adds significant workload, requiring two ‘annual’ reports and Audit processes within a 6-month period, it is a really important step in aligning the organisations within basketball. Our Board and management have spoken about Unified Behaviour within the sport on numerous occasions and so it’s important we also demonstrate this with changes we can make.

Achieving this outcome has not been simple and I want to again thank our executive leadership team, headed by CEO Anthony Moore, for the work that has occurred. We have numerous challenges and ‘curve balls’ come our way and these addressed professionally and passionately by the team.

Our Finance and Risk Committee (FARC) is chaired by BA Deputy Chair, David Reid. David was assisted by Board Members Brian Delaney and Ian Silk, former BA Board Member Martin Cleaver, Anthony Moore and our CFO, Greg Hill during this period.

Of particular importance to this group has been the management of our transition into the FIBA Asia Zone for Men’s World Cup and Olympic qualification. While this started in the previous Financial Year, significant change and expense occurred during the 2017 / 2018 period.

The FARC is responsible for finance and risk; the latter being a significant focus as we realise the vast challenges brought about by the opportunity to participate in the new FIBA qualification process for Senior Men. We have also had an increased amount of activity in most other competition categories. Between July 2017 and June 2018, we had 17 national teams participate in regional or global events and with some teams competing in multiple tournaments, we had 18 medal-winning performances.
To manage these risks and ensure that our finances are efficiently and effectively managed, the Board and management have continued to develop tools, systems and processes to ensure transparency and visibility. This includes a travel register providing full detail of all international travel undertaken on BA activity and continued refinement of the Risk and Compliance Red Sheet, to ensure visibility of our risk status on a monthly basis.

In this exciting but challenging period, FARC is central to ensuring the planned and sustainable growth of both the organisation and to some degree the sport. I join these meetings as often as possible on an ex-officio basis and am consistently impressed and re-assured with the depth of detail, thinking and concern that goes into the work of the FARC. It is so ably Chaired by David Reid who epitomises the level of dedication that so many people in our sport make. Thank you again David for another year of considerable work.

The National Integrity Framework implemented in the previous FY has continued to develop and has been implemented in a wider range of areas across the business. We have appointed Simon Bishop as Integrity Manager. Simon previously assisted BA with the implementation of the Framework, so having him on the team has been important to the full implementation of the program.

The rollout of the National Registration System (NRS) continued. The pilot program started in New South Wales in the previous year continued and has been a good source of information and insight for BA and the wider sport. As at June 30, 2018, we were at a point where approximately 70% of the registered participants in the sport undertook their registration through the SportsTG platform which is the technology behind the NRS.

This has been challenging and often frustrating work and I want to thank our internal team, along with the State and Territory leaders who have put in hours of work to bring about the change required to develop the system. In particular Basketball NSW CEO Maria Nordstrom has driven this change and we are thankful for her collaboration and work.

We are of the very strong view that technology, in all its forms, is going to play a central role in the future of every pursuit in the world. Basketball is no exception to this and we are very focused on becoming a digital leader within basketball and within sport. The NRS is one example, but virtually every area of the game will change in some way through technology. This includes everything from stadium admission, player tracking, integrity, nutrition through to areas such as high performance and administration.

So much has been done to drive the sport forward over the past year, but I’d like to highlight some areas that I believe will have a long-term impact on the game.

We have worked hard to develop an open and engaging relationship with the Australian Basketballers Association (ABA) Chaired by Greg O’Neil with Jacob Holmes as CEO. The ABA is the ‘union’ that represents players in the Boomers & Opals, NBL and WNBL. Greg and Jacob are both ‘basketball people’ but more importantly are passionate about ensuring that the players contribute to the game as well as being great ambassadors on the court.

We are close to finalising our formal agreement with the ABA that will see increased engagement from our elite players and the opportunity to undertake a range of activities that would have been difficult in the past. Many of our players are now stars on the world stage, not just here in Australia. As such, like it or not, we need to act as a global business, considering how we ensure best practice to give the sport here the best chance of success.

I want to particularly thank Greg and Jacob for the way they are leading the ABA. So often in other sports the relationship between the players and the peak body is fractured, but I genuinely feel we are now in a position to demonstrate the many benefits of a true partnership.

During the year, the BA Board agreed to the establishment of Basketball Australia Pathways Pty Ltd. This business, a joint venture with former players Darren Smith and Adrian Newall, is focused on providing detailed and accurate information to players considering a University scholarship to continue their basketball. While much of the focus is on the US College system, we are also keen to ensure that the Australian University system is part of the consideration set. Increasingly, Australian Universities are offering good opportunities for athletes to maintain both their athletic and academic careers.
The real driver for developing BA Pathways was to ensure that Australian players and their families have access to accurate, realistic and unbiased information about their futures. There are many privately owned businesses offering services in this area, but the Board felt that we needed to set a new standard in looking after the players and not focus solely on profits. In time, the business will provide a support network for our overseas athletes and also better insights for our national coaches at all levels, who are not always able to engage with players once they leave the country.

Thanks to both Darren and Adrian for their commitment, along with Board Member Brian Delaney and CEO Anthony Moore who sit on the Board of BA Pathways and have all contributed to its early success.

I want to highlight the sheer number of national basketball teams in Australia and the relative success they have had. Including our Wheelchair teams, Junior teams and intellectually disabled teams, BA has 22 national teams and they have enjoyed a great deal of success over the 12 months, including a number of regional and world-level tournament wins.

For a country with just 0.3% of the world’s population, Australia continues to perform exceptionally well. While we have always been seen as a strong basketball nation, we are now consistently delivering strong outcomes in nearly every event we play as a nation in every discipline. Thank you to both our athletes and the coaching and support teams, who play such a critical role in delivering the results and ensuring that we are well represented on the world stage.

We continued to nurture our relationships with our key sports partners during the year.

The Australian Sports Commission (recently re-launched as Sport Australia) continues to be our major funding source. We are working hand in hand with Chair John Wylie, CEO Kate Palmer and AIS Director Peter Conde to ensure that basketball remains as a ‘Jewel in their Crown’. While we are working to reduce the financial reliance on the organisation, our relationship is as strong as ever.

The focus in Canberra is now on delivering world class support for athletes and less on having centralised programs run at the Bruce campus. This has a double benefit for our sport; we continue to operate our Centre of Excellence (CoE) program while having access to improved and world class services. The CoE now has 12 male and 12 female scholarships, in addition to a further 12 offered by the NBA Academy, 7 of which have been offered to Australian athletes.

In the past 12 months a number of international visitors have toured the CoE and continue to be amazed at the program that we are able to deliver there. The NBA have made a large capital investment in technology that now allows any of the training sessions and games played at the AIS Training Arena to be seen live and in high definition anywhere in the world. We are indebted to the NBA and particularly Chris Ebersole and Brooks Meek who continue to support our team at every turn. I’d also like to thank Jan Stirling and her High-Performance team in Canberra. Their work is never-ending and there is no-one more dedicated to their work than Jan.

We have continued our strong association with the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), President John Coates and CEO Matt Carroll. While the Olympics are held every 4 years, there is so much more that happens in the background. BA is a beneficiary of this work and we are fortunate to continually receive advice and information from the AOC that helps us plan ahead.

During the year and with the AOC’s support, our High-Performance team spent time in Tokyo, planning for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Despite the games being two years off, planning is already in full swing. The Opals, Boomers, Gliders and Rollers all have genuine medal chances in Tokyo and we are determined to give them every chance of winning. The AOC have been central to this and I would particularly like to thank John, Matt and their team for the ongoing support we receive.

Burton Shipley (President) and David Crocker (Regional Director) continue to lead FIBA Oceania with purpose and integrity. With our entry into the FIBA Asia Zone for the men’s qualifying process, their guidance and support has been appreciated. They have both been of considerable...
support to our Board and management team and we’re thankful that they are able to provide the leadership that sees the sport continue to develop in the Oceania region.

In the past 12 months, we have had another outstanding season in our leagues. The WNBL, NBL and SEABL competitions were again a showcase for the talent that we have in this country. The National Wheelchair Basketball League and Women’s National Wheelchair Basketball League highlighted that this occurs in every facet of the game.

Thank you to all of our partners in these leagues. In particular, I want to recognise the incredible financial and personal contribution of NBL Executive Chairman Larry Kestelman. Larry, along with NBL CEO Jeremy Loeliger is totally committed to making basketball Australia’s ‘game of the future’. The NBL bring passion, commitment and drive to the top level of our game and its inspiring to work along-side them. During the year, Larry and I held regular meetings and we established a formal working group to develop further co-operation and partnerships. I have no doubt that these will pay dividends for our sport in the future.

Our States and Territories are to be commended on the work they have done to deliver the game across the country. I have said on a number of occasions that we have excellent leadership at the State and Territory level. The Boards are balanced, strategic and supportive, having a good blend of basketball and commercial experience. The Chairs and CEO’s are highly committed and work together to determine how resources and knowledge can be shared for the betterment of all. I would like to commend their work and thank them for the ongoing support and engagement we at BA have received in the past 12 months.

Our Management team, led by CEO Anthony Moore, are to be congratulated on a year of great achievement, underpinned by hard work, passion and integrity. With offices in both Canberra and Melbourne, along with individuals around the country, this group ‘leaves nothing on the floor’ and I am thankful for the results that could not have been contemplated, let alone achieved, without you.

Thank you to each of my fellow Board members for their work during the year. We are so fortunate to have an incredibly talented and dedicated Board who consistently go above and beyond what should reasonably be expected of them. Thank you for your hard work, guidance and support in me as Chair.

Lastly, I would like to thank the ongoing and tireless contribution of the many people who contribute to our sport, including volunteers, players, coaches, and officials. It is a great honour to lead knowing that we have an army that marches on relentlessly, come rain, hail or shine. Your work can never be repaid and my thanks for all that every one of you does.

Ned Coten
CHAIR
Basketball Australia
REPORT FROM THE CEO OF BASKETBALL AUSTRALIA

Anthony Moore

IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE THAT I WRITE THIS REPORT IN MY FOURTH YEAR IN THE ROLE AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF BASKETBALL AUSTRALIA.

As we all know the wheels of business turn at an often unrelenting pace and it is helpful for the organisation to momentarily pause to reflect on what we have achieved in this past 12 months.

The 2017/18 year may well be recognised as a turning point for Basketball Australia, both reputationally and financially, as we completed the biggest commercial partnership in our history.

After two years of hard work I was delighted to conclude our partnership with Visit Victoria, working on behalf of the Victorian State Government, to stage games for our Australian National Men’s Team, the Boomers, in Victoria between 2017 and 2020.

This partnership is a foundation stone for Basketball Australia as it creates a home for the Boomers to play national team games in the new FIBA World Cup Qualification system on the road to the 2019 FIBA World Cup in China in late August 2019.

I thank Peter Bingeman and Damien de Bohun at Visit Victoria for sharing our vision to bring national team basketball to Australian fans. The Victorian Government, notably The Hon John Eren MP, Minister for Sport, Racing, Events and Veterans Affairs in the Andrews Government continues to be a great supporter of basketball in Victoria.

Our focus on major national team events is not possible without the commitment of Geoff Jones and his team at TEG:Live. Geoff has been a wonderful partner of Basketball Australia since staging the FIBA Oceania Championships at Rod Laver Arena in August 2015.

The most pleasing management achievement in 2017/18 is that for the third consecutive year, Basketball Australia has posted a healthy profit and all financial indicators during the year were improved. The profit result of $136,152 has ensured that our financial reserves target of $1.7m by 2020 is within striking distance.

This result has been driven by a 28% increase in revenues which has passed $16m in operating revenue, up from the $10m when I started four years ago.

From a national team perspective, this 2017/18 year represented a significant shift as we move to the FIBA Asia Zone for qualification competitions. Importantly though, we remain a member of FIBA Oceania.

Our 22 national teams are adjusting to the considerable travel associated with this change but across a multitude of regional and global events, amassed a total of 18 medals during this time. In August 2017 our Boomers won the Gold Medal beating Iran at the 2017 FIBA Asia Cup in Beirut, Lebanon and then our Opals won the Silver Medal in a thrilling one point loss against Japan at the 2017 FIBA Asia Cup in Bengaluru, India. This Silver Medal for the Opals successfully qualified the team for the 2018 FIBA World Cup.

The highlight of the year for our senior national teams was participating in a home Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in April 2018. Our teams performed wonderfully well going through the tournament undefeated and impressing fans around the nation with their skill and professional approach. I thank Sandy Brondello and Andrej Lemanis for the significant work they do in leading our national senior team programs.

Basketball has been in the Commonwealth Games twice now; Melbourne in 2006 and Gold Coast 2018. Our sport owes a huge debt of gratitude to Perry “Rocky” Crosswhite for his steadfast commitment to having basketball in the Commonwealth Games program. I would like to acknowledge the significant work of Commonwealth Games Australia led by CEO Craig Phillips and President Sam Coffa. It has been both a joy and a great honour representing Basketball Australia on Commonwealth Games Australia Board of Management over the past four years.

Our national men’s and women’s wheelchair teams, the Australian Rollers and Gliders respectively, booked their spots at the 2018 IWBF World Championships in October 2017 at the A02 qualifiers.
The Gliders went on to claim a silver medal at the AOZ qualifiers while the Rollers won gold and I commend coaches David Gould and Craig Friday for their performances as they lead the team back to international contention after the results of the Rio Olympics in 2016.

Basketball Australia continues to lead an outstanding national system that produces incredible talent. I congratulate Jan Stirling, Adam Caporn and Kristen Veal for their relentless pursuit of excellence at our Centre of Excellence which sets the standard internationally in the development of our elite emerging stars.

Our junior national teams performed exceptionally well in 2017/18 with the following achievements:

The Australian Emus won the gold medal at the Under-18 Asia Cup in August 2018 and qualified for the 2019 FIBA Under-19 World Cup.

The Australian Sapphires won the bronze medal at the Under-17 World Cup, fighting back from a six-point deficit at three-quarter time to defeat Hungary 57-51 while Shyla Heal was named to the All-Star Five.

The Australian Gems finished sixth at the Under-19 World Cup but finished with a 4-3 record and their combined total in those defeats tallied just nine points.

The Australian Crocs also finished sixth at the Under-17 World Cup, equating their third best result in tournament history.

3x3 basketball continues to grow and during the year we announced a partnership with the NBL to promote and develop this form of the game. Australia has been a late adopter of 3x3 and was ranked outside the top 50 in the world but with a number of events at various levels established around Australia, the new version of the sport has been exposed to thousands of players.

Importantly, 3x3 attracts many players that are not currently part of the ‘basketball system’ in Australia. We have found that up to 60% of players in 3x3 tournaments are not registered in any other area of the sport; demonstrated evidence that the game is growing at every level. 3x3 will be included as a full sport at an Olympic Games at Tokyo 2020, and with new events being established regularly, we are now well placed to have even more exposure for basketball.

Andy Crook from the NBL along with Paul Maley from BA have been instrumental in ensuring the success of this partnership and I’d like to thank them both for their continued efforts. I would also like to recognise Matt Hollard and his CLB organisation, who were instrumental in getting our world rankings off the ground and have continued to conduct events and build engagement in 3x3.

One of the pleasing aspects of 2017/18 is the relationship between Basketball Australia and our State Association members. I want to take the opportunity to thank my CEO colleagues around the nation for their outstanding work advancing our great sport.

Our partners at the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Institute of Sport, Australian Olympic Committee and the Australian Paralympic Committee have been wonderful to work with again this year. The road to Tokyo 2020 went through the 1,000 days to go barrier this year and our partnerships with these sports agencies will propel our senior national teams back to the podium. We thank them once again for their invaluable insight in the areas of high performance space, participation and organisational support.

Thank you to all our commercial partners for continuing to support Basketball Australia. We cannot do what we do without partnering with great people and great companies.

It continues to be my great pleasure to lead Basketball Australia and the professional staff that we have assembled. Working in sport is incredibly rewarding however it comes at a great cost working long hours and many weekends. I thank you sincerely for all that you do as your efforts continue to enhance the reputation of our organisation.

I conclude this 2017/18 Annual Report by thanking our national team athletes, our WNBL & NBL athletes and our athletes playing in the SEABL & various State Leagues. There is no Basketball Australia or State & Territory Associations without our athletes. Your hard work and toil remain an inspiration to all of us.

Our role at Basketball Australia is to ensure that we continue to provide a platform for you to achieve your best.

Anthony Moore  
CEO  
Basketball Australia
THE YEAR SAW OUR SENIOR NATIONAL TEAMS EMBRACE THE NEW QUALIFICATION PROCESS OF ASIA CUP INVOLVEMENT WHICH HAS PROVIDED MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ATHLETES, COACHES, AND SUPPORT STAFF. ACTIVITY IN THE NEW FORMAT OF THE GAME 3X3 ALSO RESULTED IN NATIONAL TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN BOTH ASIA AND WORLD CUPS AT THE UNDER 18 LEVEL AND OPEN AGE GROUPS.

FIBA's new World Cup Qualification (WCQ) system with set windows for competition saw the Boomers compete on home soil for two of their first four games. The process of national team selection, access and availability of athletes has seen genuine and authentic collaboration between BA and the NBL. There is an intrinsic value of NBL athletes competing on behalf of the nations and NBL clubs during these international which enriches our sport on many levels.

Basketball was included in the Commonwealth Games for only the second time in Games history. Our Opals and Boomers delivered on the expectation of Gold Medal outcomes.

Our Para programs have focused of enhancing the depth chart of athletes for both our senior teams and underpinning national junior programs. There has been encouraging growth in the number of athletes joining our programs. The support provided by the state sports institute’s framework has been of immeasurable value enabling our para athletes to access an elite daily training environment.

UNDER 17 WOMEN (SAPPHIRES)

The main competition for the Sapphires was the Asia Cup representing phase two of the new qualification pathway to the FIBA 17 World Cup. Participating in their inaugural Asia Cup Gold Medal win sent them through the World Cup in August 2018.

Under 17 Sapphires Bronze Medal winners at the U17 World Cup.
UNDER 19 MEN [EMUS]
The Emus embraced the new preparation phase for World Cup participation competing in the Asia Cup competition. Their dominant performances saw them undefeated winning their way to a Gold Medal outcome.

UNDER 17 MEN [CROCODILES]
Our U17 Men also transitioned to FIBA’s new qualification system through Asia Cup involvement.

The Crocodiles Gold Medal victory was the culmination of an undefeated campaign and gave them right of passage to the World Cup.

Australia’s junior national teams are well placed to compete with confidence in the Asian Zone as demonstrated by the success.

UNDER 19 WOMEN [GEMS]
The year was focused on squad and team preparation for their World Cup campaign having already qualified through the Asia Cup in 2017.

An injury setback eliminating an athlete following the third game impacted on the team’s ability to achieve a medal outcome, however their efforts were highly commendable.

WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES
[EMERGING OPALS AND EMERGING BOOMERS]
Basketball Australia utilises the timing of this bi-annual event to engage Australian athletes based in the US college system, maximising the opportunity to assess and determine the progress they have achieved.

The Emerging Opals on the back of a 5-1 win-loss record stood tall on the podium achieving a Gold Medal outcome, a fantastic result.

Our Emerging Boomers 6-2 win-loss record was highly commendable and delivered intrinsic benefit with the exposure to international competition for six athletes from the US collegiate system.
OPALS

The Opals inaugural Asia Cup campaign resulted in a Silver Medal outcome which was commendable but, of greater significance the result progressed the team to qualify for the 2018 World Cup.

Head Coach Sandy Brondello utilised the European Training Centre (part of the AIS) in Varese, Italy with a dual-purpose incorporating Commonwealth Games team selection and identifying athletes likely to progress to the World Cup squad.

The City of Mackay, Sandy Brondello’s home town, hosted the Opals for their final preparation camp leading into the Commonwealth Games preliminary rounds in Townsville. Winning a Gold Medal at the Commonwealth Games was a terrific result and set up a strong process for athletes to stake their claim for a World Cup squad opportunity.

Further opportunity for athletes striving for Opals World Cup selection was provided when an Opals team was selected to attend a Four Nations Tournament in China which would provide critical tournament play exposure.

Footnote:
FIBA advised National Federations the format for the Women’s World Cup competition would be revised and take effect in November 2019.
BOOMERS

The Boomers competed in the Asia Cup for the first time and achieved the ultimate outcome of a Gold Medal. This represented the start of a new era for international basketball under a revised qualification process for World Cups and Olympic Games. Travelling to new destinations as Australia embraces being a part of the Asian region stimulates excitement and challenges.

A Gold Medal podium outcome at the Commonwealth Games reflected the Boomers deep pool of talent and the authentic desire for athletes to wear the Boomers uniform with pride.

Two World Cup Qualification windows were completed during the year. The Boomers accomplished a perfect winning streak in their first four games. The methodology of accruing points for each game, with the focus of progressing to the World Cup combined with the fact Australia’s NBA-based athletes can only compete in one of the designated windows will remain an ongoing challenge.
SENIOR NATIONAL MEN’S WHEELCHAIR TEAM

AUSTRALIAN ROLLERS

The Australian Rollers have had a successful 2018 calendar year to date, with the culmination of taking home the Bronze medal at the IWBF World Championships in Hamburg, Germany in August.

The Rollers only defeat at the championship was in the semi-final against the powerful USA men’s team. The Rollers were taking aim for a three-peat of World Championships gold medals, but Great Britain and USA teams were too strong. The result has elevated the Rollers back up to number three in the world having dropped to 6th at the Paralympic games in Rio 2016.

Earlier in the year they took part in the Tokyo World Challenge Cup in Japan and played very well, and came away with a silver medal, dropping only the final game to the local hosts that played very well, but provided some good insight to the Rollers men in preparations for the August World Championships.

Craig Friday has done a wonderful job since taking over the role post the Rio Paralympics, rebuilding the work ethic and accountability throughout the pathway. An overall assessment is that the Rollers are on track for a podium finish at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. Leading the challenge now for the Rollers into 2019 and 2020 include Tom O’Neill-Thorne, Bill Latham and Jannik Blair who are all stepping up to support Captain Shaun Norris.

SENIOR NATIONAL WOMEN’S WHEELCHAIR TEAM

AUSTRALIAN GLIDERS

The Australian Gliders did not have the success for they were aspiring for at their World Championship campaign in Hamburg, finishing 9th of 12 teams. Since missing the Rio Paralympics in 2016 the team has been on a rebuild phase, with some athletes being exposed to World Championship level for the first time. This impacted on the team’s ability to close out games when competing in the elite competition of a benchmark event.

Head Coach David Gould and the coaching staff applied a strategic focus to ensure the team accessed quality international games in the lead up to the Worlds. Achieving twenty-six internationals including hosting the German team at Basketball Australia’s Centre of Excellence for six of those games was a great result.

The program assessment is that the Gliders have managed to fast track some of the less experienced athletes by exposing them to teams ranked globally in the top five including the Netherlands and USA. There is a collective confidence this will see them compete well in the 2019 Asia Oceania Zone qualifying event for the Tokyo Paralympic Games in 2020.

Clare Nott and Leanne Del Toso have advised David Gould that they will be retiring from the Gliders.
U25 AUSTRALIAN DEVILS WOMEN
The Devils are preparing for their World Championships campaign in Thailand next May. This young developing group will be headed up by Gliders Assistant Coach; Stephen Charlton (WA) in the head coach role and supported by Dave Hegerty (QLD) and Sarah Graham (NSW). Jane Kyle will be Team Manager and Bonnie Kerr the Physiotherapist.

The U25s attended an Australian Development Camp held at the Centre of Excellence which had both our Para head coaches David Gould and Craig Friday in attendance to oversee the program. Athletes aged 13 -19 years including Glider Annabelle Lindsay (ACT), one of our stand-outs at the recent World Championships, embraced a volume of learning and team building activities as they prepare for the World Championships to be held 21-31st May 2019 in Thailand.

U23 AUSTRALIAN MEN SPINNERS
The Spinners are in building, talent identification and development mode, with their next major campaign not on the calendar until 2021 for their World Championships.

Brad Ness from our successful Rollers program will lead this young group with the squad building currently to around 30 athletes. Our Rollers Head Coach attended the January Australian Development Camp (ADC) where both he and Brad were able to assess the potential talent of the squad. The combination of the depth of the squad and the time to prepare them for the 2021 World Cup has led to an exciting environment.

Footnote
The Frank Ponta Cup, re-instated following a hiatus, will be held in November at Basketball Australia’s Centre of Excellence. The focus will be to have some of our best U23 men and U25 women group actively compete with and against Gliders and Emerging Rollers in a Draft Camp style competition.
The CoE Women graduated five athletes at the end of 2017. All five athletes signed with either a WNBL program or have commenced their scholarship at a USA College Division 1 program:

- Ezi Magbegor – Melbourne Boomers WNBL
- Abby Cubillo – Canberra Capitals WNBL
- Sam Simons – St Mary’s University
- Emma Clark – Colorado University
- Jazmin Shelley – Melbourne Boomers [Development Player] WNBL

Midyear graduation athlete Taylor Mole signed with Colorado State, a Division 1 college.

Five new scholarships who commenced in January 2018:

- Adelaide Fuller – Queensland
- Ashlee Hannan – Queensland
- Elissa Brett – South Australia
- Kelsey Rees – South Australia
- Suzi-Rose Deegan - Western Australia

CoE Scholarship Athletes commencing August 2018:

- Sara-Rose Smith – Victoria
- Lily Scanlon - Victoria

The CoE Women graduated one athlete in August 2018, Taylor Mole who signed with a USA Division 1 College, Colorado State.

The new partnership arrangement between Basketball Australia and the NBA (NBA Global Academy) has provided a benefit to the CoE Women’s program by way of an additional scholarship taking the total on offer to thirteen. This scholarship is fully funded by the NBA.

CoE Athletes competed in the NBL’s 3X3 Big Hustle held in Canberra in March 2018, with the strategic focus of enhancing individual athletes’ skill development.

Competing for a full season for the first time in the SEABL provided valuable senior experience and competition to the Women’s program. 13 Athletes made their SEABL debuts in 2018. The teams 4-16 win-loss ratio reflected the inexperience of the group collectively.

CoE Athletes have sustained consistent representation into Australian National Junior Camps, and selection to World benchmark events in their respective age groups.

The CoE Men graduated only 2 athletes at the end of 2017:

- Matthew Johns (Geelong SEABL & University of South Dakota)
- Callum Bread (Rockingham SBL)

The impact of international basketball has seen June – August become the preferred graduating window, offering a value-adding component for incoming athletes of that window gaining an extended introduction period.

The program graduated seven athletes through the June – August period:

- Callum Dalton (Brisbane Bullets NBL)
- Daniel Grida (Wollongong Hawks NBL)
- Samson Froling (Creighton University NCAA D1)
- Alexander Mudronja [St Mary’s College NCAA D1]
- Owen Hulland (University of Hawaii NCAA D1)
- Aiden Krause [UC Irvine NCAA D1]
- Kody Stattman [Virginia NCAA D1]

CoE has welcomed incoming scholarship holders:

- Luke Travers (WA)
- Banjo Talbot (NSW)
- Lucas Schmidt (QLD)
- Josh Bannan (VIC)
- Wani Swaka (WA) - graduated from NBA Global Academy
- Hunter Clarke (TAS) - graduated from NBA Global Academy

A number of the CoE athletes delivered dominant performances for their home states at the U20 National Junior Championships which had a flow on effect with the majority of the group achieving a Silver Medal in the prestigious, biannual Albert Schweitzer Tournament in Mannheim, Germany.

Callum Dalton was named in the All Star Five which was a fantastic achievement.
NBAGA AT THE CoE

The rise and partnership of the NBA Global Academy has played a part in improving outcomes of the CoE. Operating in close partnership the daily training environment comprises of 24 athletes (17 Australians), 5 full-time basketball coaches and a full-time S&C Coach. The talent, competitiveness and diversity of the personnel has significantly enhanced the training environment.

Two new athletes’ scholarship holders to the program were:

- Taran Armstrong (TAS) - incoming NBA Global Academy scholarship
- Blake Jones (QLD) - incoming NBA Global Academy scholarship

Collaboration from all States and Territories saw the NBA Global Academy participate at the Australian U20 Championships for the first time. This provided:

- a positive development opportunity for the athletes
- a cohesive calendar for all athletes based in Canberra
- opportunity for athletes to be performance tested and undergo a subsequent review

The joint CoE and NBA Global Academy participated in their first complete SEABL season in over 10 years. Losing five senior athletes to NCAA colleges prior to the playoffs, resulted in a highly commendable 6th place after hosting a home final against Bendigo.

Footnote

During the year the AIS notified BA of organisational changes to their operational structure. Extensive collaboration has ensured that our CoE and NBAGA programs, considered of intrinsic value to the AIS, will continue to retain the highest level of multi-disciplinary service provision SSSM (Sports Science Sports Medicine) for which the AIS is internationally recognised as world best.
LEAGUES AND COMPETITION REPORTS

WNBL

THE CHEMIST WAREHOUSE WOMEN’S NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE (WNBL), ESTABLISHED IN 1981, IS AUSTRALIA’S LONGEST RUNNING ELITE WOMEN’S NATIONAL SPORTING COMPETITION.

The WNBL is unique as a professional league in that it remains community oriented. Our globally elite players are accessible to fans, and clubs continue to deliver brilliant game-day activations that fans love. WNBL game days are the perfect opportunity for families to attend world class sport and get up close and personal with the league’s stars. Women and children are crying out for real role models and that is what the WNBL delivers - real, amazing and accessible Aussie women!

The 2017/18 WNBL season saw the league enter its 37th consecutive season. In 2017/18 the league featured eight clubs from across Australia; Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Queensland:

- MAC Adelaide Lightning
- Bendigo Bank Spirit
- Jayco Dandenong Rangers
- Deakin Melbourne Boomers
- Perth Lynx
- Brydens Sydney Uni Flames
- JCU Townsville Fire
- University of Canberra Capitals

Continuing to exist as a breeding ground for the nation’s best international female basketballers, the WNBL was delighted to welcome FOX SPORTS Australia (FSA) as the league’s exclusive broadcast partner for three years, televising one game per week as well as every finals clash.

Shortened to a three-month regular season, teams played 21 games across 13 rounds before the playoffs that were held in January, 2018. The Semi-Final and Grand Final series’ were both played over a best-of-three series.

A number of Australian icons made their way back to the WNBL including Opals Liz Cambage and Jenna O’Hea (Deakin Melbourne Boomers), Abby Bishop (MAC Adelaide Lightning), Cayla George (JCU Townsville Fire), Katie Ebzery (Brydens Sydney Uni Flames) and Rachel Jarry (University of Canberra Capitals). In addition, Kelsey Griffin (Bendigo Bank Spirit), Sara Blicavs (Jayco Dandenong Rangers), Natalie Burton and Alice Kunek (Perth Lynx) as well as Adelaide’s Laura Hodges all returned to ensure every team included Opals-calibre talent.

International stars such as Spanish Olympian Laia Palau (Jayco Dandenong Rangers) and Americans Rachel Banham (Bendigo Bank Spirit), Courtney Williams (Perth Lynx), Laurin Mincy (JCU Townsville Fire) and Jordan Hooper (University of Canberra Capitals) also ensured fans had a plethora of talent to watch each week on game day.

At the end of the regular season the top four teams were finalised and headed into what would be one of the most hotly contested finals series in league history:

1. Perth Lynx
2. JCU Townsville Fire
3. Madison Sydney Uni Flames
4. Deakin Melbourne Boomers

In semi-final series one, the Deakin Melbourne Boomers defeated the Perth Lynx in two games and in semi-final series two the JCU Townsville Fire defeated the Madison Sydney Uni Flames in two games, taking the Fire and the Boomers through to the 2017/18 WNBL Grand Final series.

The Grand Final series certainly lived up to the hype and went to three games. Game one in Townsville the Fire defeated the Boomers 69 - 64, followed up by a thrilling one-point win for the Boomers in game two at a sold-out State Basketball Centre in front of 3,500 fans. It was back to Townsville Stadium for game three where the Fire defeated the Boomers 70 - 57 and Suzy Batkovic was announced the Rachael Sporn medallist as MVP of the Grand Final. Suzy averaged 23.3 points and 12 rebounds for the Fire over the three-game Grand Final series, including 28 points in the deciding game, seeing Townsville clinch its third WNBL title in four seasons.

WNBL Award winners for the 17/18 season were:

- Most Valuable Player Award – Suzy Batkovic (JCU Townsville Fire)
- Coach of the Year – Andy Stewart (Perth Lynx)
- Robyn Maher Defensive Player of the Year – Kayla Pedersen (Jayco Dandenong Rangers)
- Betty Watson Rookie of the Year – Ezi Magbegor (University of Canberra Capitals)
- All-Star Five:
  - Courtney Williams (Perth Lynx)
  - Sami Whitcomb (Perth Lynx)
  - Asia Taylor (Brydens Sydney Uni Flames)
  - Liz Cambage (Deakin Melbourne Boomers)
  - Suzy Batkovic (JCU Townsville Fire)

We’d like to thank our Commercial Partners for another season of invaluable support: FOX SPORTS Australia, Qantas Assure, Spalding, the Australian Sports Commission and our new apparel partner, iAthletic.
The league has a strong community engagement and features teams from Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania and South Australia. The SEABL is a proven pathway for many basketballers, with 6 of the 8 Australians playing in the 2017/18 NBA season all having developed their games in the strong interstate basketball league.

After the addition of Sydney Uni Sparks and Melbourne Tigers Women in the 2017 season, the league continued to expand with the addition of the Diamond Valley Eagles for the 2018 season.

Following is a list of all the competing teams in 2018.

- Albury/Wodonga (Men & Women)
- Ballarat Miners (Men) & Ballarat Rush (Women)
- BACOE (Men & Women)
- Bendigo Braves (Men & Women)
- Canberra Gunners (Men) & Canberra Capitals Academy (Women)
- Dandenong Rangers (Men & Women)
- Diamond Valley Eagles (Men & Women)
- Frankston Blues (Men & Women)
- Geelong Supercats (Men & Women)
- Hobart Chargers (Men & Women)
- Kilsyth Cobras (Men & Women)
- Launceston Tornadoes (Women)
- Melbourne Tigers (Men & Women)
- Mt Gambier Pioneers (Men)
- Nunawading Spectres (Men & Women)
- NW Tasmania Thunder (Men)
- Sandringham Sabres (Men & Women)
- Sydney Uni Sparks (Men & Women)

Mt Gambier were clearly the best mens team in the 2017 competition, recording a 21-3 regular season record, including a 12-0 home record. The Pioneers secured the South Men Conference title with a 79-76 victory against arch rivals Nunawading. Dandenong Rangers secured the East Men Conference Title despite finishing 3rd on the ladder. The Rangers travelled to Ballarat for the Conference Title and secured a 102-94 overtime victory.

Mt Gambier, led by coach Richard Hill then secured their 3rd National Title in four years the following week at Kilsyth Stadium with a comfortable 92-85 victory in front of 1800 spectators. Dynamo point guard Tom Daly was awarded the Hugh McMenamin Medal for his outstanding Grand Final performance, recording 22 points, five rebounds and six assists.

Despite losing Australian Opal Alex Bunton prior to the playoffs, the Geelong Supercats claimed their first ever Womens SEABL Championship with a stunning 76-67 come from behind victory against favourites Bendigo Lady Braves. Ellen Kett won the Barb Barton Medal for her Grand Final performance. The Supercats defeated minor premiers Kilsyth Lady Cobras 62-43 in the East Conference Final, and the Bendigo Lady Braves defeated Launceston Tornadoes in the South Women Conference Final game.

The full list of 2017 SEABL Award Winners:

**MVP:** Simon Conn (Nunawading Spectres) and Angela Beadle (Kilsyth Cobras)

**Coach of the Year:** Richard Hill (Mt. Gambier Pioneers) and David Herbert (Geelong Supercats)

**Defensive Player of the Year:** CJ Aiken (Bendigo Braves) and Kathleen Scheer (Hobart Chargers)

**Australian Youth Player of the Year:** Tom Wilson (Melbourne Tigers) and Chloe Bibby (Bendigo Braves)

**All-SEABL MEN First Team:** Peter Hooley (Ballarat Miners), Mathiang Muo (Hobart Chargers), Daniel Alexander (Mt. Gambier Pioneers), Craig Moller (Ballarat Miners), Simon Conn (Nunawading Spectres).

**All-SEABL MEN Second Team:** Tom Daly (Mt. Gambier Pioneers), DeMarcus Gatlin (Geelong Supercats), Nathan Herbert (Geelong Supercats), Tom Garlepp (Hobart Chargers), TJ Robinson (Albury/Wodonga Bandits).

**All-SEABL WOMEN First Team:** Marena Whittle (Nunawading Spectres), Sara Blicavs (Geelong Supercats), Kathleen Scheer (Hobart Chargers), Chloe Bibby (Bendigo Braves), Lauren Scherf (Dandenong Rangers).

**All-SEABL WOMEN Second Team:** Lauren Mansfield (Launceston Tornadoes), Tahlia Tupaea (Sydney Uni Sparks), Angela Beadle (Kilsyth Cobras), Monique Conti (Melbourne Tigers), Chantel Horvat (Geelong Supercats).

**Leading Scorers:** Sara Blicavs (Supercats) with 23.2ppg and Mathiang Muo (Chargers) with 22.8ppg.

**Leading Rebounders:** Lauren Scherf (Rangers) with 12.2rpg and TJ Robinson (Bandits) with 13.4rpg.

**Golden Hands:** Lauren Mansfield (Tornadoes) and Shane McDonald (Spectres).

**Club of the Year:** Basketball Ballarat.
SEABL • Continued from previous page

SEABL once again livestreamed the Championship games and received great numbers with over 2000 views for the 2017 SEABL Women’s Grand Final, while the Men’s Grand Final had 3600 views. Statistically, the SEABL website had 924,425 pageviews during the 2017/18 financial year, with over 185,504 unique users accessing the website.

Clubs continued to improve on their game night experience for the fans and as a result attendance numbers increased once again.

Men Regular Season • 86,436
Women Regular Season • 49,739

At the 2017 Annual League Meeting, the league members agreed to make a number of major changes to the competition, with the conference structure of previous years eliminated and a full one league structure put in place with a Top 8 Finals Structure. Other changes to be implemented for the 2018 season were a change to the Restricted player rules, with all teams allowed 3 restricted players and players from the Oceania and Asia region classified as local unrestricted players. But the biggest change agreed by all member clubs was to reduce the number of games played by all teams and therefore decreasing the season by three weeks. The reduced season saw a number of quality imports return to the league and enabled the vast array of NBL and WNBL talent to get a rest after their professional season.

The 2018 season also saw all teams increase their visibility on the internet with 15 of the 16 teams livestreaming their home games throughout the season.
These leagues provide an important pathway to the national team programs for the Australian Rollers, Australian Gliders and Australian Under-23 Spinners, and Australian Under-25 Devils.

The 2017 season saw the league expand to 7 teams in the men’s competition and 6 teams in the women’s competition.

Returning to the top of the league, the Wollongong Rollerhawks claimed their first Championship in five years while losing just two games for the season and sweeping the finals series. Under 2017 Coach of the Year Brendan Dowler, Luke Pople, Brett Stibners, Nick Taylor and Michael Auprince all came close to triple-doubles in the gold medal game.

Award winners for the season included Jannik Blair who won the Low-point MVP, Shaun Norris and Tom O’Neill-Thorne who were tied for the Mid-point MVP and Tristan Knowles who earned the High Point MVP honours. John McPhail from the Sydney Metro Blues joined them to complete the All-star five for the season. The season top scorer for the 2016 NWBL season was Joe Chambers who averaged 22 points per game, with a game high of 50 against Kilsyth.

Completing a dominant season, the Sydney Metro Blues won the 2017 WNWBL Championship with a sweep of the finals weekend, as they won their last 11 games including their two playoff games by an average of 24.5 points.

While the Sydney University Flames fell in the Grand Final to the Blues, their impressive season was rewarded with Sarah Stewart and Hannah Dodd earning the 3.0 and 2.0 MVP’s respectively.

The 2017 bronze medallists, Be Active Western Stars, also had two players feature in the end of season awards with Amber Merritt taking out the 4.0 MVP while Sarah Vinci was named the 1.0 MVP. Extending her award streak to seven years dating back to 2011, Merritt was also the league’s Top Scorer for the seventh consecutive season with 29.8 points per game.

Joining those four MVP’s in the All-Star Five, Georgia Munro-Cook from the Blues was also rewarded for a stellar season. Rounding out the award winners, Teisha Shadwell of the Kilsyth Cobras took out the Best New Talent for Australians players in her first season, averaging 9.8 points and 7.9 rebounds per game.

3x3

Basketball Australia and the National Basketball League (NBL) entered a partnership agreement to create a National system for 3x3 basketball, ‘3x3Hustle:’ 3x3Hustle will be the official Australian national 3x3 pathway from grassroots to International events.

The key objectives of the 3x3 hustle will be to increase retention and new participation rates in the sport, while also increasing visibility of the sport nationally. It will also provide an additional opportunity for athletes and officials to represent Australia at International events.

The Australian U-18 team participated in the FIBA 3X3 World Cup that was hosted in Chengdu, China from June 28-July 2. The team was represented by Lana Hollingsworth from Victoria, Ula Motuga, Alexandra Kofl and Rashada Kagey from Queensland respectively. They defeated the number one ranked team Hungary in the group stage, only to miss out by 1 point for qualification to the quarter-final.

The Australian Mens and Women’s teams participated in the FIBA 3x3 Asia Cup that was held from the 27th-29th of October in Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia.

The team line-ups were all SEABL players, with Chantella Perera (Kilsyth Cobras), Carlie Smith (Bendigo Lady Braves), Sarah McAppion (Canberra Capitals Academy) and Isabelle Bourne (CoE) making up the women’s team while Owen Odigie (Kilsyth), Lucas Barker (Dandenong Rangers), Andrew Steel (Nunawading) and Darcy Harding (Albury/ Wodonga Bandits) represented the men. Both teams had a very successful tournament with the Men winning bronze, and the Women taking home gold after beating Malaysia in the final.

Between January and May 2018, 3x3 hustle organised the following events with a total of AUD 145k in prize money:
• 7 x Big hustles, that were the state-level 3x3 events, held in Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra and Darwin.
• 3x Pro hustles, that were elite open age male and female events held in Melbourne and Sydney.
• 1 FIBA Challenger event held in Sydney, that had 10 international teams representing Europe, Asia and South America.

Top teams from the Pro hustle series then qualified into FIBA 3X3 Challengers in Ulaanbaatar and Hangzhou. Melbourne i-Athletic were the overall winner of the Pro Hustle series and qualified to the World Tour Masters in Utsunomiya – becoming the first Australian team to participate in the FIBA 3X3 Pro circuit.

Australian Men and Women then participated in the 2018 Asia Cup held form April 27th - May 1st with the Mens team featuring Australia’s number one ranked 3x3 player Andrew Steel, who played alongside his teammate from the 2017 Asia Cup in Owen Odigie, as well as Tom Garlepp and Tom Wright. The Womens team featured reigning FIBA 3x3 Asia Cup gold medalist Carlie Smith and Maddie Garrick, Bec Cole and Keely Froling.

The Men won a gold medal with Tom Garlepp hitting a buzzer beater in overtime, and the women won a bronze medal defeating Japan comfortably 17-5.
2017-18 CONTINUED TO BUILD ON THE SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN AUSTRALIAN REFEREE DEVELOPMENT THAT WAS EVIDENT IN 2016-17 IN A NUMBER OF AREAS.

NRDP (National Referee Development Program)

After being re-instated into the Basketball Australia Calendar in 2017, the NRDP Camp was held in conjunction with the U18 National Championships in Geelong from April 20-22, 2018.

The NRDP Camp was run over three days with a program geared toward game analysis, 3PO mechanics and IOT (Individual Officiating Techniques) as follows:

During the 2017-18 WNBL season, NRDP referees attended games and sat with the referee instructor appointed to the game, participating in the pre and post-game discussions. Several NRDP Referees officiated in a WNBL game(s) during the season.

The benefits of being involved in the NRDP as a pathway to National Panel selection were evident when several referees on the panel in 2017-18 gained selection on the WNBL Panel for Season 2018-19.

FIBA Referee Instructor Program (FRIP)

FRIP was held on the Gold Coast, Australia between the 26th and the 29th October 2017 and was the first time it was conducted in Australia.

This 4-day event was facilitated by Carl Jungebrand (FIBA Head of Referees) with assistance from Alby Joseph (FIBA Oceania Referee Manager) and Tomas Rimkus (FIBA Manager, Global Referee Operations) who provided the best education in line with FIBA global standards of education and training.

Fourteen (14) referee instructors from Australia and New Zealand attended and were introduced to several topics:

**Teaching and Learning** – creating a positive learning environment using different elements such as:
- Communication
- Time Management
- Group Work
- Ground Rules
- Audio-Visual Aids
- Ice Breakers, Warm-Ups and Energisers

**Team Tactics** – Offensive and defensive tactics including individual techniques

**Refereeing** – 3PO Mechanics, Individual Officiating Techniques (IOT)

FRIP provided a valuable teaching and learning experience for the invited referee instructors, arming each with different techniques to educate and coach the referees back in their respective state league competitions and also at National League level.
Basketball Australia partnered with the State and Territory Referee Managers to select the 2017-2018 WNBL Referee's Panel. This collaboration considered a large number of talented officials nominated from state and territory representative programs.

A total of 30 officials were appointed to the panel with a number of additional officials added to the newly formed National Referee Development Program (NRDP).

The 2017-18 WNBL Season shaped as the biggest and most successful season in the league's history and the opportunity to be involved through selection to the WNBL Referee's Panel for the season was an exciting step in their development as elite referees.

After a two-year absence from TV, FOX SPORTS provided the platform to showcase Australia's longest running elite female competition. The scrutiny was enormous with pressure to perform consistently from game-to-game and week-to-week of paramount importance for the referees officiating in the league.

Continuing the advances made in referee education and consistency of message started the previous year, the nominated Technical Delegates (TDs) for AJCs met for a clinic 2 days prior to the commencement of the U20 Championships in Gosford, NSW. The purpose of this clinic was to determine and confirm the officiating guidelines, the educational material and methods of delivery, that would be implemented for all AJCs in 2018 to ensure consistency in the officiating across all championships.

The TDs had attended the FRIP in October 2017 and, as part of that program, they were observed by Alby Joseph (FIBA Oceania Referee Manager) as they conducted pre and post-game debriefing to the officials in their role as referee instructors. This was part of the FRIP requirement to successfully complete the course.

The TDs were each assigned to an AJC event (U18, U16, U14 Boys, U14 Girls, Australian Schools Championships) to be responsible for providing the education and training to the referees and referee instructors during their nominated event.
AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS BRING TOGETHER ALL STATES AND TERRITORIES FOR COMPETITION FROM UNDER 14’S UP TO UNDER 20.’S.

There are four age group tournaments rotated throughout the county over the year. In addition to the age categories, championships are also run for athletes with an intellectual disability (Ivor Burge Championships) and junior wheelchair basketball (Kevin Coombs Cup).

The AJCs provide young basketballers with the opportunity to play in an elite tournament representing their club, school or state on the national stage. Throughout the year, we’re continually entertained and inspired by the most promising young talent in Australia as our stars of tomorrow vie for the title of Australian Champions. An important stepping stone in the career of junior players, the championships have produced some of Australian basketball’s biggest names, including Lauren Jackson, Elizabeth Cambage, Patty Mills, Andrew Bogut and Ben Simmons.

2017 Australian U16 Junior Championships: Stirling, WA
The 2017 Australian Under-16 Junior Championships were hosted by the Stirling Senators at Warwick Stadium in Perth. The Senators hosted an exemplary championships with welcoming and friendly atmosphere. The community came in droves to see the next young crop of Australian athletes and were treated to a thrilling overtime all-Victorian final in the girls and an all-Queensland final in the boys competition.

Robert Young Trophy for the Australian U16 Boys Champions: Queensland North
Norma Connolly Trophy for the Australian U16 Girls Champions: Victoria Metro
The Trish Fallon Fair Play Award was awarded to NSW Metro Girls.

2017 Australian U14 Club Championships: Dandenong, VIC
The 2017 Australian Under-14 Club Championships marked the first occasion that the Boys and Girls Club Championships had been held together under one roof. The atmosphere created by having the boys and girls together was outstanding and culminated in two fantastic Grand Final games in front of a full stadium.

Ken Watson Championship Trophy: Eltham Wildcats (VIC)
Michelle Timms Championship Trophy: Bulleen Boomers (VIC)
Phil Smyth Shield: Willetton Tigers (WA)
Rachel Sporn Shield: Ballarat Rush (VIC)
Jenny Cheeseman Fair Play Award: Ballarat Rush (VIC)
Andrew Gaze Fair Play Award: Mackay Meteors (QLD)

2018 Australian U20 & Ivor Burge Championships: Gosford, NSW
The 2018 Australian Under-20 & Ivor Burge Championships were hosted by Gosford City Basketball in February 2018. The 2018 championship marked the first of a condensed format that saw the same number of games held over a five day period. Victoria enjoyed a clean sweep of the championships taking home all four gold medals.

Jack Terrill Trophy for the U20 Mens Champions: Victoria
Arthur McRobbie Trophy for the U20 Womens Champions: Victoria
Ivor Burge Mens Championship: Victoria
Ivor Burge Womens Championship: Victoria
Kim Larkin Fair Play Award for the Ivor Burge: Tasmania Men
The Bob Staunton Medals for Most Outstanding Player of the Tournament were presented to Jazmin Shelley (VIC) & Alex Mudronja (SA).

The Ivor Burge Most Outstanding Players of the Tournament were presented to Katlin Zonnerfeld (VIC) & Dylan Pace (TAS).
2017 Australian Schools Championships

The 35th Australian School Championships was held from 4-8 December, 2017 in South East Melbourne. 19 courts were utilised across four venues with the State Basketball Centre being the main venue in Wantirna South.

The 2017 Australian School Championships was the second of three to be hosted by Basketball Australia in conjunction with Basketball Victoria and Knox Basketball. The championships saw 150 teams compete, the second highest on record, across twenty different divisions. All state & territories were represented except Northern Territory with a total 1,905 participants taking the court and 85 referees taking part in the Zebra Tour development program.

Teams per State:
- ACT: 4
- QLD: 18
- TAS: 1
- WA: 7
- NSW: 40
- SA: 7
- VIC: 72
- International: 1

Champion Teams:
- Championship Division Men – Box Hill Senior Secondary College (VIC)
- Championship Division Women – St Margaret Mary’s College (QLD)
- U20 Men Division 1 – Rowville Secondary College (VIC)
- U20 Men Division 2 – Encounter Lutheran Colelge (SA)
- U20 Men Division 3 – Unley High School (SA)
- U20 Men Division 4 – Avondale School (NSW)
- U20 Women Division 1 – Maribyrnong College (VIC)
- U20 Women Division 2 – Mater Christi College (VIC)
- U17 Boys Division 1 – Rowville Secondary College (VIC)
- U17 Boys Division 2 – Lilydale High School (VIC)
- U17 Boys Division 3 – Whitefriars College (VIC)
- U17 Boys Division 4 – Huntingtower School (VIC)
- U17 Girls Division 1 – Box Hill Senior Secondary College (VIC)
- U17 Girls Division 2 – Mater Christi College (VIC)
- U17 Girls Division 3 – Karabar High (NSW)
- U15 Boys Division 1 – Berwick College (VIC)
- U15 Boys Division 2 – Albert Park College (VIC)
- U15 Boys Division 3 – Damascus College (VIC)
- U15 Girls Division 1 – Maribyrnong College (VIC)
- U15 Girls Division 2 – Aquinas College (VIC)
The Basketball Network

The Basketball Network (TBN), provided by our partner, SportsTG, has taken some significant strides forward in the last 12 months, with usage and adoption both growing nationally. Total payments through the national payment gateway amounted to $47.9M in the last year, up from $38.9M in FY2017. Of the 4,152 administrators using the network, there were 1,441 new ones this year; this is largely due to more than 100 databases in NSW joining the TBN in December 2017.

With TG Platform not rolling out this year, the focus has shifted to completing the adoption of TBN modules and of the NRS (National Registration System), as well as some enhancements to the platform. Specifically, the TBN now has the following adoption rates: Payments (90%) and Competitions (94%) Modules, National Registration (87%), Email Sign On (86%). Major enhancements rolled out were membership periods, incorporating ActiveKids vouchers and email renewals for state products.

Alongside this work has been the release and continual enhancements of SportsTG’s proprietary scoring product, Courtside, which is nearing 20% take-up inside 12 months.

Another significant change has been the adoption of our own Support Ticketing platform, The Basketball Network Support, which rolled out in June 2018. The workflow benefits were immediate and response times to tickets have decreased. This has been complemented by more basketball-specific training resources and webinars, and the strategy of sharing knowledge and educating more administrators is starting to bear fruit.

Advertising revenue declined by 13%, but this is not surprising due to the global decline in CPM digital marketing, especially for websites. SportsTG is pivoting their digital offerings with a full rebuild of their GameDay app, which should have a positive impact on advertising revenue in the next financial year.

Aussie Hoops

Aussie Hoops maintained its position as one of the top junior game development programs in Australia, with 24,050 participants enjoying a positive first basketball experience through one of 1,209 programs nationally.

In an environment that increasingly depends on strong digital leadership, engagement on social media for Aussie Hoops grew 75 percent during FY 17/18, led by a promotional video campaign featuring Rio 2016 Olympians Dave Andersen and Sara Blicavs.

The Aussie Hooper of the Year and Aussie Hoops Coach of the Year competitions saw Hamish from Brisbane and Jake from Perth respectively crowned as winners.

Volunteers are such an integral part of the Aussie Hoops program. To support their role as custodians of the ‘first basketball experience’, Basketball Australia developed a new suite of coaching resources including a new curriculum and video library. Developed in conjunction with FIBA Accredited Coach Instructor David Munns, this new curriculum emphasises the fun and skill development outcomes that can be garnered through game-based learning.

Aussie Hoops participants continued to feature and create unforgettable moments in cornerstone national events such as the WNBL Grand Final and FIBA World Cup Qualifying games.

The year ended with the conclusion of Vicinity Centres’ three-year naming rights partnership of Aussie Hoops, however the program maintains valued support from Spalding and PEAK Sport Australia.
Coach Development

In October 2017, Basketball Australia launched its National Coaching Resource, a website that makes the latest coaching insights readily accessible to basketball coaches of all levels across Australia. Whether coaching an Aussie Hoops program or Basketball Australia’s National Performance Program (NPP), the National Coaching Resource offers practical guidelines to coaches that provides them confidence that they are using contemporary principles to teach their players.

The 3rd annual Basketball Australia Coaches Conference was held at the BA Centre of Excellence in May 2018, attended by 141 delegates comprised of community and representative coaches from all States and Territories. The inaugural event was held in 2016 and the Conference has enjoyed solid growth and market cache over the three years.

For the first time, an international guest presenter was engaged for the Conference - respected Oregon State University Associate Head Coach Kerry Rupp. Coach Rupp is internationally renowned as a fundamental teacher in the area of player development, and conducted clinics in Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra during his stay.

Basketball Australia recognises the efforts of each State/Territory Association in accrediting thousands of new basketball coaches annually under Basketball Australia’s national coach accreditation framework. Coaching staff from Basketball Australia’s Centre of Excellence provided support by delivering informal learning opportunities; holding coaching clinics in eight States and Territories to over 1,000 coaches during FY 17/18.

Sporting Schools

Basketball participation in Sporting Schools grew an incredible 32 percent during FY 17/18, with 34,457 school children experiencing the Aussie Hoops program through the $160 million federal government initiative. Basketball maintains an attractive market share amongst the 33 partner sports, making up seven percent of all programs.

Basketball Australia estimates that since the program’s inception in 2015, more than $1.5 million in federal grants have been distributed to community basketball clubs and associations across Australia. Funding for the Sporting Schools program was extended until at least December 2019 during the recent budget announcement.

The first full year of Basketball Australia’s online Schools Store saw 1,814 basketballs and 41 basketball rings distributed into schools in the past 12 months. This legacy piece assists to ensure that Basketball maintains a prominent position within the school curriculum for years to come.
There has been a significant push from February 2018 onwards to provide more posts on Instagram, pushing the average close to one post per day, while we also began to utilise Instagram Story (where posts are visible for only 24 hours) and moved away from Snapchat to follow the national trend.

Our usage of Facebook and Twitter has remained consistent with previous years. Our Facebook followers have grown by over 1,000 per month when tournaments are on while videos remain are most highly sought-after content. The total number of Facebook followers was capped at 97,000 by the end of the financial year but Basketball Australia’s page is now closing in on 100,000 followers at the time of publication.

We totalled over one million impressions in five separate months on Twitter with July 2018 breaking the record due to the Philippines incident and Under-16 Australian. The Philippines incident increased our numbers across the board while news of Ben Simmons in his NBA Rookie season, Lauren Jackson features and Australian Junior Champs content consistently performed well.

The average visit to the Basketball Australia website saw consumers hit at least two pages while the usual time for visits occurred between 5pm-9pm.

Our league pages have all increased their followers as well with an increased focus on Instagram producing a 25% surge for the SEABL Instagram page while a new Instagram page for the WNBL has already garnered over 4,000 followers in less than a year.
Twitter

Total Impressions

Comm Games, Under 18s
Under-16 Champs
Top 20s, Boomers FIBA WC Qualifiers
Giders/Rollers World Champs teams named
U16 Champs & Philippines Incident

5 months with over 1 million impressions

Total Followers: 317,333

Website

315,421 page views in July 2018

Average page views per session

Total Sessions: 1,090,551

Youtube

Top 5 Videos

1. U14 Boys Gold Livestream
2. U14 Girls Gold Livestream
3. U20 Men Gold Livestream
4. U20 NBAGA v VIC Livestream
5. U20 SF WA v SA Men Livestream

Total Views: 111,855

342,157 Total Minutes Watched
**Basketball Australia Social Media Analytics**

**Facebook**

- **Total Post Clicks**: 4,415,103
- **Total Impressions**: 39,055,346
- **Total Page Likes**: 3,194,089
- **Total Likes**: 1,169,908

**Instagram**

- **351 posts over 365 days**
- **341,077 Total Post Likes**
- **42.2k followers**

**Leagues**

- **Facebook**:
  - SEABL: 9,282-10,503 likes (11.6% increase)
  - WNBL: 14,742-16,184 (8.9% increase)

- **Instagram**:
  - SEABL: 2,411-3,293 (26.8% increase)
  - WNBL: N/A-4,218

- **Twitter**:
  - SEABL: 4,733-5,369 (11.8% increase)
  - WNBL: 8,317-10,068 (17.4% increase)
Allan Yates succeeded David Leaney as President at the Annual General Meeting in February. David led Basketball ACT through a difficult period and laid a very strong foundation for the organization and the sport to develop.

The Board has presented a new strategic plan, which was developed in close consultation with our member clubs and has five key areas of focus:

- **Facilities**: Basketball is one of the biggest users of community facilities in the ACT and is a key stakeholder in the government’s facility planning. Basketball ACT seeks to influence access to and the development of new facilities.

- **Club Health**: Working with our member clubs to ensure their long-term sustainability.

- **Quality Competitions**: Providing high value for money is key to sustained growth and “more is not necessarily better”.

- **3x3**: The new Olympic discipline provides national and international opportunities for ACT athletes and officials to excel and provides an opportunity for Basketball ACT to connect with a new audience who are not currently involved in our competitions.

- **Basketball Community**: Basketball ACT and our member clubs have a collective responsibility to ensure that basketball is truly “everyone’s game” and we will work together to make basketball welcoming and accessible to all communities.

We successfully launched our wheelchair basketball competition in partnership with the Canberra Chargers wheelchair team. Through support from the ACT Government, we have now obtained a set of chairs, which will further help with the growth of the sport.

Our Aussie Hoops program continues to grow as does our primary school program, which includes partnerships with a number of schools that are funded through the Sporting Schools program. We now have 2 full-time Development Officers who work with schools and also our member clubs to introduce the sport to more than 2,000 kids every year.

Basketball ACT also introduced an invitational tournament at Easter, which was an important part of the preparation for our U14, U16 and U18 teams competing at the Australian Championships and also provided an excellent development opportunity for our officials.

2018/19 promises to be a particularly exciting year for basketball in the ACT, particularly with our growing partnerships with the University of Canberra Capitals and the Illawarra Hawks providing an important element to our performance pathways. We are also working closely with the Australian National University, University of Canberra and Australian Defence Force Academy regarding their involvement in the 3x3Hustle!
IN 2017 BNSW CONTINUED ITS FOCUS ON RE-BUILDING WITH STRONG EFFORTS PUT IN TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION AND RECRUITMENT OF STAFF IN TO KEY ROLES. THE BOARD CONTINUED ITS FOCUS TO IMPROVE OUR GOVERNANCE. BNSW FURTHER CONTINUED ITS EFFORTS TO UNIFY THE SPORT, WORKING CLOSELY WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS BOTH WITHIN NSW AND NATIONALLY.

At the 2017 AGM, David Brettell was elected director for a three-year term and Amanda Truong and Bob Elphinston were appointed as Directors for one-year terms respectively in line with the Constitution. Bob Elphinston continues as the Chairman in his appointed role.

During 2017 the Board through the work of the Governance committee implemented a Nominations Committee and skills matrix for board appointments. The Nominations committee includes two external members and a board member Jenny Dean. The board is also implementing a board review process to look at Board effectiveness.

Governance Committee – Bob Elphinston (Chair), Bob McGugan, Jenny Dean, David Brettell.

Finance and Audit Committee – Amanda Truong (Chair), Jenny Dean, Paul Beale.

FACILITIES
With the appointment of Jeremy Purden, we increased our focus in dealing with the government in establishing more courts to be built across the state.

PARTICIPATION
Geoff Tripp was appointed GM for Community growth and Marketing. The primary focus for the team is to implement services and support for our associations to reduce barrier to growth and establish Aussie Hoops and Sporting schools across all associations in NSW. The team successfully rolled out The Basketball Network to all 90 associations across the state from September to January 1 2018. We saw a 4% growth across the state in members and a 13% growth in participation.

Our investment in BDOs across the region continued and we finalised our association health checks in 2018 and are now in the process of rolling out growth plans to all our associations aligning them to BNSW’s and BA’s participation growth plans.

HIGH PERFORMANCE
Brett Coxsedge – returned to BNSW after 5 years in WA and in the first couple of months our HP program alignment across metro and country has improved.

COMPETITIONS
Debbie Keirs was appointed GM for Competitions and officials’ development. Our leagues continued to grow and we saw improvement of performance across the league with the strength in the competition programs shining through our Youth League men’s and lady’s programs. Livestream was introduced for 2 games each round as well the full final series of 21 games. Newcastle BA was in 2017, selected association of the year and in 2018 they won the Waratah Championship Division for men for the first time in 18 years.

At the start of 2017 we made commitments to roll out development and education in referee and coach programs across the state. We have now covered over 1,400 coaches and referees with programs in the last 15 months. A coverage commitment was put in place for each region with a target put in place for all programs.

Financially in 2017, we have seen a continued consolidation in the basketball areas as well as ‘off the court’, which has further strengthen our balance sheet and set us up for the coming years. We established new lines of sponsor and partnerships, which we will continue to roll out in 2019.

BNSW continued its partnerships with the Sydney Kings, with financial support being provided to the 19 Metro Associations aimed at ‘growing the game’ in Sydney and in turn attracting greater attendances at the Sydney Kings home games. The Sydney Uni. Flames partnership further strengthened and during 2017 we ran the SPP program for the girls at Sydney University. The first double header in 10 years was held and a Festival of Basketball was established with 3x3 for juniors and the Annual Awards celebration.
Expanding Basketball NT’s development pathway has seen the addition of the Academy and Futures Programs. Aimed at the under 12 age group, the Futures program provides an opportunity to teach the fundamental skills of basketball and encourages development of those skills to be applied in a game play environment. The Academy Program is positioned for the Under 14 and 16 age groups with the aim to continue to build on the established fundamental foundations, whilst also providing exposure to the entry level opportunity to Basketball Australia’s national development pathway. The BNT High Performance Program is the pinnacle of the Northern Territory development pathway where selected athletes are engaged in both on and off court elite level teachings, including understanding the application of the Northern Territory style of play, as well as opportunities for nutritional, wellbeing and leadership skill development.

In the coach education space Basketball NT have conducted Community, Club and (for the first time in a decade) an Association (formerly Level 2) coaching courses. Basketball NT also participated in Basketball Australia’s Coach Developer pilot program.

Remote Communities across the expanse of the Territory continue to engage strongly with Basketball through numerous government initiatives that has seen BNT travel to more than 37 remote communities to deliver athlete training, coach and official accreditation and to facilitate competition.

The Rising Stars All Abilities Program continues to grow and the introduction of training sessions for the Championship teams has seen players develop their skills, resulting in overall improved game play and a stronger competition structure.

Basketball NT provided Men’s and Women’s teams to participate in the 3X3 Pro Hustle and also hosted a successful Big Hustle event over the Easter weekend and continue to commit to the development of a strong 3x3 pathway for Territorians.

The Board has undertaken a governance structure review, developing a skill criteria and gap analysis, as well as a more robust process for nominating and selecting Directors to participate on the Board whom are able to apply their experience to those areas determined to be a priority to the peak body.

With the resurgence of the Arafura Games in 2019 providing an opportunity for Territorians to play and spectate high level games, sustained growth along the national pathways and the ongoing success of Territory Basketballers in national and international competitions, Basketball NT looks forward to growth in participation and increased engagement with basketball.

“Remote Communities across the expanse of the Territory continue to engage strongly with Basketball through numerous government initiatives...”
Graham Burns – CEO

BASKETBALL QUEENSLAND HAS BEEN ABLE TO PLAY OUR PART IN THE SUCCESS THAT BASKETBALL IN AUSTRALIA IS CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING AS WE BUILD YEAR ON YEAR THROUGH THE SUCCESS OF SEQUENTIAL STRATEGIC PLANS WHICH HAS SEEN OUR INNOVATIVE APPROACH PAY DIVIDENDS.

PARTICIPATION GROWTH
Once again Basketball Queensland has experienced growth in the number of registered participants. This was particularly evident in the number of registered players competing at associations which grew by 1,719 (6.25%) when compared to last year. The number of Aussie Hoops participants; however, was static at 3,747 for the year.

There was a significant increase in the number of registered male players, while the number of female players fell. This is a worrying trend in which Basketball Queensland has invested in research to understand the reason for this decline.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
To assist the retention of participants we have employed the use of several communication channels to provide avenues for our story to be told and for people to provide feedback, thus opening up the lines of communication and engagement.

We met our target of growing the number of social media fans and followers by 20%. We saw a 30% increase in the number of people who have downloaded the Basketball App and we experienced a 15.6% increase in the number of visitors to the Basketball Queensland websites (excluding visitors to the draws and results page) bringing the total for the year to 464,789.

STATE AND EMERGING TEAMS
In 2017 the Under 18 North Boys State Team won the silver medal at the Australian Junior Championships in a very close game against our old foe, Victoria Metro. The Under 16 North Boys State Team won the Gold Medal defeating the Under 16 South Boys State Team in the Grand-Final. This is an outstanding result for Queensland with both teams meeting in the Grand-Final.

Once again 10 Emerging Teams competed in tournaments in California.

COACH DEVELOPMENT
We increased our focus on delivering developmental workshops for coaches and increased the number dramatically for the last six months of the year with 738 coaches of club teams benefiting from the 50 workshops conducted.

During the year we expanded the development of the Basketball Queensland Coaches App to move this to a new platform and provide many more features and to expand the App so that it provides support to players, officials and administrators in addition to coaches.

REFEREE DEVELOPMENT
We shifted our focus to improving the skills of referee coaches to improve the delivery of referee development throughout the State. As such, we introduced a Referee Coordinator Conference which was attended by 44 referee coaches from 21 associations throughout the State.

Due to changes in personnel at Basketball Queensland, we took the opportunity to review and restructure the role of the Basketball Queensland Referee Development Manager which has paid dividends with increased engagement from the referee community.

ADMINISTRATOR DEVELOPMENT
Last year we conducted the annual Administrator conference with 80% of the affiliated associations sending delegates to attend. The conference was well received and provided an opportunity to not only learn about best practice in delivery of basketball, but to network with association personnel from all over Queensland.
DURING THE 2017/18 YEAR THE BASKETBALL SA COMMISSION HAS REMAINED COMMITTED TO ITS STRATEGIC PRIORITIES THOSE BEING:

- To provide a fun, safe and quality basketball participation environment for people of all ages and ability in all forms of the sport
- Achieve sufficient, fit for purpose facilities to meet existing and future demand
- A nationally respected performance pathway that achieves continuous success at state and national levels
- To model best practice in governance, integrity and leadership in all levels of the sport at all times
- To be recognised by the public and participants for being one of the most popular and successful sports in South Australia
- All member organisations will have the ability to deliver best practice levels of service
- To have coaches, officials and volunteers that are appropriately accredited, registered and supported at all levels

During this period, Basketball SAs leadership has seen some changes starting with the resignation of long-standing CEO, Mark Hubbard in September. Mark’s valuable contribution over a 10 year period is reflected in the growth of the sport resulting in a number of new local government facilities to be constructed. On behalf of the Commission and the basketball community we thank Mark for the expertise and dedication he brought to Basketball SA. We also thank Mark Lampshire for taking on the interim management role of Executive Chairman between September and late December 2017. Mark played a pivotal role in ensuring that strategy and operations transitioned smoothly between roles.

Over the past six months, Basketball SA has undergone some major changes. There has been a concentrated shift in focus for the organisation to become customer facing and member driven. A review of operations and a new staffing structure has seen increased capability and capacity to deliver on the key services of Basketball SA as the peak body for the sport.

Some of the Commission’s highlights have included:
- Implementing the key recommendations from the organisations efficiency and operations review such as reducing cash handling to be replaced with electronic payment options
- Introduction of stadium scoring across all venues and BSA competitions
- Worked collaboratively with Councils and Members on new facility developments
- Increased exposure of Premier League season across various media outlets including livestreaming of games and televised broadcasts
- Significant growth in attendance at major BSA events such as Halls Wooliacott Awards and Premier League Grand Final

Basketball SA continues to work through a cultural shift and explore new ways to innovate and grow the sport through new programs that appeal to the changing trends in society and the sporting landscape. Looking to the future, Basketball SAs priorities will include a focus on:
- Female participation in all aspects of the sport at all levels
- Introduction of new competitions such as 3x3 basketball to align with national pathways
- Investigation of new programs that facilitate diversity and inclusion
- Collaborative relationships with clubs to work towards common goals
- Providing best practice frameworks for our members
- Deliver high quality training and education to coaches and officials
- Continue to provide a well respected performance pathway

Much of the success is due to the hard work of the large number of volunteers that contribute at all levels of our sport and organisation. We thank them for their dedication, contribution, and for the skills and expertise they bring to the sport.
THE YEAR 2017 SAW SOME EXCITING FURTHER ADVANCEMENTS IN OUR SPORT:

- Participation numbers rose rapidly with the ‘seeds’ we planted over the last few years now starting to ‘bear fruit’. At the end of 2017, we have 13,779 members which is an increase of 28% on the previous year.

- Major government lobbying for facility development in Hobart with a commitment from the State Government entering the 2018 Election. We have now invested just over 3 years of work with many meetings with State Government, Community Sport and Recreation, Steering Committees and Local Government.

- Structure review and development in Hobart with a further consultation process over the last 12 months and subsequent approval of five Constituent Association Members to progress the sport in our state capital. The first junior representative competition will be played in Hobart in 2018.

- Further progress with the Launceston Basketball Association after we implemented an association to replace the previous structure where the clubs controlled league bodies. Registration numbers have increased 26% over the last two years with good early signs of development occurring.

- Working closely with the NWBU and North West associations to review their structure and competition elements. A number of ideas were presented and the NWBU have adjusted several aspects that will be positive for the sport in 2018.

- Successful hosting of the Australian Masters Games on the North West Coast with an excellent entry of 67 teams for the week-long basketball event.

- Recorded our highest ever funding in the State Grant Program. This result was testament to being recognized by the government with good governance models following our Governance Review and Constitution change in 2013/14.

- $250K funding for SEABL clubs to perform school basketball clinics throughout the state which is a fantastic investment in our schools, community and SEABL teams.

- Strong partnership agreement between BTAS and the Hobart Chargers to progress basketball in the southern region.

- Record numbers in our junior development programs with families valuing the extra training from our high performance coaches and pathway through to representing Tasmania and beyond.

- Technology progression with ‘Courtside’ throughout our state which is revolutionising our event competitions.

I believe we have achieved some excellent results in 2017 however we need to progress in several major areas if we are going to continue to be one of the major sports in Tasmania.

1. Build the first new facility in Hobart (with plans for a second facility).
2. Facility planning in Launceston.
3. Facility planning for the rest of the state.
4. Continue structural improvements for our sport in Hobart.
5. Continue structural improvements for our sport in Launceston.
6. Assistance for the NWBU and NW associations in planning for the future.
7. Referee education and development.
8. Coach education and development.
9. Improvement of junior representative competitions – with the best playing against the best more often.
BASKETBALL IN THE VICTORIAN COMMUNITY CONTINUED TO GROW AND EXCEL THROUGHOUT 2017/18 ACROSS ALL LEVELS OF OUR SPORT.

The work of Basketball Victoria’s member associations, participants, administrators, staff and board, continued to embrace our mantra of ‘More Basketball. More Often’. We are at the forefront of basketball in Australia and we pride ourselves on being one of the nation’s biggest and best sporting organisations.

Our 2017-2020 Strategic Plan was announced and began implementation. It sets the tone for our projects, planning and ambitions heading into the next four years. It is through our administration, leadership, innovation, engagement and opportunities for our players, coaches, associations and officials, to make basketball the sport of choice for all Victorians.

After widespread consultation with associations, presidents, CEOs and other members of our basketball community, the Basketball Victoria Registration Project was given the full support of our members to deliver across the State in 2019. The project is designed to align Victoria with an individual registration system and equitable fee structure, providing an accurate whole-of-state database to assist with all levels of member servicing and competition management.

The need for more indoor court facilities continued to grow in 2017. It appears more local councils are addressing this issue in their leisure plans and for a number of those councils, this is the first time this issue has been addressed in a long time. We continue to focus and hone our approach to facilities and government relations. This includes the Basketball Victoria Facility Master Plan and a soon to be released Facilities Handbook. These tools ensure all tiers of government are aware of the deficits in Victorian court infrastructure and can make decisions accordingly to benefit their regions.

Basketball in Victoria uses 632 courts across the state each year with 450,000 Victorians involved in basketball activity annually. From that number, our projected registered base will be over 290,000 by 2031. For the future, we need an additional 270 new courts by 2030, with 191 of those by 2022. There are in excess of 80 new courts currently in the stages of either planning, design, due to commence construction or will be completed in 2018.

The achievements made throughout 2017/18, both on and off the court, showcase the great ability Victorians in basketball have to over-deliver internationally and at elite national levels.

Our number one NBA draft pick Ben Simmons excelled in his first full NBA season, winning the NBA’s Rookie of the Year Award, and is fast becoming (if not already) the most famous Australian sportsperson in the world. Liz Cambage made an incredible return to the WNBA as she led her Dallas Wings to the playoffs, was named All-WNBA First Team and broke the individual game scoring record, an incredible 53 points.

Victorian teams starred throughout the Australian Junior Championships in 2017 and 2018, bringing home a plethora of gold, silver and bronze. We relish the opportunity to take to the national stage and the results continue to speak volumes of the hard work our High-Performance Staff, our associations, the players and coaches undertake each and every year.

In September 2018, the FIBA Oceania Mini-Ball Convention, held in Echuca, was a highlight of the calendar for basketball in regional Victoria. Held in conjunction with the Basketball Victoria Country Jamboree, it showcased to a number of basketball nations in the Pacific the high-calibre nature of Victorian basketball, and how to structure events and tournaments in a beneficial manner.

Basketball plays a significant role in contributing to socially cohesive communities. It breaks down the barriers that can be associated with diversity by giving people a sense of belonging simply through social integration. It is through this modelling that our disability programs (VicHealth Cup, Junior United Mentoring Program and All-Abilities Tournaments) continue to grow and remain an integral part of our annual calendar. Strong partnerships have been forged with health professionals and local councils as well as a greater number of associations undertaking program ownership.

It is important that we all persist in creating enabling environments through training, education and support so we all operate effectively and efficiently in the inclusion space. This will increase accessibility and not lose the momentum of work already achieved.

At all levels of our organisation, from the Board to the Executive team and our staff, we recognise the importance of leading by example and delivering on agreed objectives and expectations. This can only be achieved in a team environment where all members are working towards common goals. The above highlights a number of areas where Basketball Victoria has excelled in 2017/18, however, it is important that we recognise the need to maintain our momentum and pursue continuous improvement.
IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER BUSY AND EXCITING YEAR FOR ALL INVOLVED IN BASKETBALL.

OVERVIEW
The sport continues to grow from strength to strength, with continual increases in participation numbers (below), great performances from the Wildcats and Lynx which go a long way to maintaining the profile and interest of the sport in the media, and a growing number of associations developing large community networks of people benefitting from the positive attributes of the sport.

“...Our collective purpose – to continue to grow and develop the game in all forms, so as to provide the highest possible positive impact on the lives and health of Western Australians...”

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>33,451</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>36,754</td>
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<td>2015-16</td>
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<td>43,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
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</table>

Our deepest thanks to our key partners in Healthways, the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and Venues West for their ongoing support and commitment to the sport of Basketball.

COMPETITIONS
Our key competitions continue to grow from strength to strength with our State Championships growing from 204 teams in 2009 to 370 teams in 2017. Similarly our Country Championships have grown from 271 teams two years ago to 315 teams in 2018, a great result. We know are averaging over 500 spectators per SBL game with Rockingham playing in front of 1500 just before the playoffs.

WA BASKETBALL LEAGUE
We completed a review of the WABL competition and received large amounts of community feedback. The review reinforced the direction of the competition with four grades per double age group, 2019 will see the addition of a new team into the league for the first time in 30 years.

We have initiated a new SBL Commission more aligned to the Board of BWA as well as providing for SBL Club elected representatives. We have seen new facility enhancements across a variety of associations and this continues to be a challenge for the sport of basketball and sport in general. We have integrated the National Wheelchair Basketball teams into our organisation and are developing with WAIS a sub elite program to drive talent development.

We have many challenges like all sports, however we have a large network of affiliated members, we have a unique and valued product and we have the drive and passion to make a difference, all these factors are in our favour as we strive to grow and develop the great sport of basketball. I look forward to years ahead and the challenges and opportunities it brings.

Finally, thanks must go to out to our dedicated and passionate staff who without which we wouldn't be able to achieve the positives results for our sport.
Since undertaking a restructure in FY15, BA has recorded growth and operating surplus in each subsequent financial year. FY18 saw revenue growth of 28% thanks to diverse new revenue streams in events, high performance and wagering product fees. This enabled increased investment in Integrity and in growing the profile of our sport through WNBL and event broadcasting coupled with increased high performance and national team activity.

### BA LIMITED HISTORICAL FINANCIALS

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<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>13/14</th>
<th>14/15</th>
<th>15/16</th>
<th>16/17</th>
<th>17/18</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME AND EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross Revenue</td>
<td>$11,931,132</td>
<td>$10,121,018</td>
<td>$11,504,567</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Revenue Growth</td>
<td>(14%)</td>
<td>(15%)</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>28%</td>
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<td>Total Expenditure</td>
<td>$12,126,360</td>
<td>$10,882,367</td>
<td>$11,329,810</td>
<td>$12,407,852</td>
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<td>Financial Surplus/Deficit</td>
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<td>$(761,349)</td>
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<td>Inbound Assets</td>
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<td>$256,243</td>
<td>$38,748</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>FINANCIAL POSITION</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amalgamation Reserves</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$256,243</td>
<td>$294,991</td>
<td>$294,991</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated Funds (Reserves)</td>
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<td>$767,020</td>
<td>$941,777</td>
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<td>Total Equity at Year-End</td>
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<td>$767,020</td>
<td>$1,198,020</td>
<td>$1,474,043</td>
<td>$1,610,195</td>
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**Notes:**
- 2015/16 and 2016/17 includes the inbound transfer of net assets from the amalgamation of the South East Australian Basketball League Inc.
- Total Equity as at 30 June 2018 ($1,610,195) represents 10% of FY17/18 revenue, which remains below the ASC’s recommended level for reserves (20%)
- Total Equity as at 30 June 2018 ($1,610,195) represents 95% of BA’s strategic reserving target of $1.7m (to be achieved by 2019/20).

### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

- Financial Surplus/Deficit
- Inbound Assets
### 2017/18 AT A GLANCE

#### OPERATING REVENUES

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2017/18</th>
<th>% of total</th>
<th>2016/17</th>
<th>% of total</th>
<th>Movement</th>
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<td>Grant Revenues (ASC)</td>
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<td>41%</td>
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<td>Grant Revenues (Other)</td>
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<td>2%</td>
<td>$243</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$101</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Performance &amp; National Teams</td>
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<td>13%</td>
<td>$2,633</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$1,780</td>
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<td>Sponsorships</td>
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<td>$2,433</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>($571)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leagues &amp; Competitions</td>
<td>$1,864</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>$1,708</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>$962</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>$962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aussie Hoops</td>
<td>$424</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>$471</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>($47)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite Fees</td>
<td>$1,175</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>$1,153</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>$22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagering</td>
<td>$582</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>$173</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>$272</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$289</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>($17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Operating Revenues**: $16,147,100%  $12,645,100%  $3,501,28%

#### OPERATING EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2017/18</th>
<th>% of total</th>
<th>2016/17</th>
<th>% of total</th>
<th>Movement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Performance &amp; National Teams</td>
<td>$8,017</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$5,235</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>$2,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Basketball</td>
<td>$1,049</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>$1,074</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>($25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing &amp; Communications</td>
<td>$761</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>$1,316</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>($555)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leagues &amp; Competitions</td>
<td>$2,804</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$2,382</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>$451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>$752</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>$752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aussie Hoops</td>
<td>$459</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>$593</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>($134)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$2,169</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$1,808</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$362</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Operating Expenditure**: $16,011,100%  $12,408,100%  $3,604,29%

### MANAGEMENT REPORTING – BUSINESS UNIT REVENUES AND EXPENSES

[Graph showing revenue and expenses by category]
### 2017/18 Financial Management Report

#### Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>30 June 2018</th>
<th>30 June 2017</th>
<th>Movement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets (Cash, Receivables, Inventories, Prepayments)</td>
<td>$6,916</td>
<td>$5,842</td>
<td>$1,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Current Assets (Physical &amp; Intangible Assets)</td>
<td>$170</td>
<td>$97</td>
<td>$73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$7,086</td>
<td>$5,939</td>
<td>$1,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities (Payables, Staff Entitlements, Deferred Income)</td>
<td>$5,457</td>
<td>$4,456</td>
<td>$1,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$19</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$5,476</td>
<td>$4,465</td>
<td>$1,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amalgamation Reserves</td>
<td>$295</td>
<td>$295</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Funds</td>
<td>$1,315</td>
<td>$1,179</td>
<td>$136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Equity</td>
<td>$1,610</td>
<td>$1,474</td>
<td>$136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Cash

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>30 June 2018</th>
<th>30 June 2017</th>
<th>Movement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBA Transactional Accounts</td>
<td>$356</td>
<td>$197</td>
<td>$159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBA “Cash Maximiser” Account</td>
<td>$753</td>
<td>$839</td>
<td>$86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBA Term Deposits</td>
<td>$3,405</td>
<td>$2,395</td>
<td>$1,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$4,514</td>
<td>$3,431</td>
<td>1,083</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CORPORATE PARTNERS AND SUPPLIERS

AIS
Commonwealth Games
Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

Olympic Games
FIBA
Qantas
Spalding

Peak
SportsTG
IAthletic
FOX Sports

Victor
2XU
Aqualyte

REF Warehouse
NBL
Gendarmerie
DMC Sport

Vicinity Centres
Ovarian Cancer Australia

Hello World Travel

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