INTRODUCTION
Welcome to the first AVSC Newsletter for 2007. Preparations for the 33rd Annual AVSC are well under way and we are looking forward to welcoming a number of new teams that are participating in the Southern hemisphere’s largest secondary school sporting event.

As in previous years, the AVSC Newsletter is being sent directly to participating schools as the primary source of information. Please note that the AVSC website www.avf.org.au/AVSC will also be regularly updated with news and information. Each school has nominated a Primary Contact to receive this newsletter and if additional copies are required, then please send details to avsc@avf.org.au to be added to the Newsletter distribution list. Alternately download a copy of this newsletter from the AVSC website.

Whilst we do our best to ensure information makes it to each school, please make sure your internal school distribution lists are up to date so that coaches, managers and organisers are kept up to date with current information.

WELCOME NEW AVSC EVENTS COMMISSION CHAIR, PHIL MULLER
The AVSCEC welcomes new commission chair, Phil Muller. Phil returns to the AVSCEC as a Sport Officer with the Queensland School Sport Unit. Phil’s involvement in delivering School Sport Australia policy at Queensland state level, understanding the environment of national sporting events and the involvement of school students, is invaluable to the AVSCEC. This will ensure the delivery of Volleyball Australia’s marquee event is of the highest calibre.

Alongside fellow Commission member, Stuart Scott, the National Volleyball Secretary of School Sport Australia, Phil will continue to lead the Commission in its strategic planning for the long term future of this tournament.

TOURNAMENT DATES
The tournament officially commences with registrations, training and the opening ceremony on Sunday 9th December. Games will commence on Monday 10th December. The closing ceremony will follow the finals matches on Friday 14th December.

VENUES
The 2007 AVSC will be conducted at two venues. The Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC) will remain the primary venue, with additional matches being played at the Victorian State Volleyball Centre (SVC) in Dandenong. With the SVC adjoining the Dandenong Basketball Association facilities, we look forward to bringing the event to the home of Volleyball Victoria which is in the process of relocating its offices to this centre.

For more information about this fantastic new facility including a map of the development, head to www.volleyballvictoria.com.au and follow the links to the “SVC”.

Historically, allocation of matches and venues has been advised once team nominations closed. However, due to the distance between the two competition venues and the subsequent influences upon accommodation and transport, we have provided this information on page 3 of this newsletter.

In drafting this proposed allocation, consideration has been given to the varying sizes of delegations, travelling between venues, accommodation and teams’ opportunities to play at both venues. The attached document will form the basis of match scheduling for this year’s event and is based on historical data of team participation.

Variation to this proposed allocation will be required only if there are significant deviations from the traditional nominations per division. The final match scheduling will be confirmed as team nominations are finalised.

2006 AVSC BOND REFUNDS
Regrettably the refund of duty bonds has again been a complex process. Letters to schools enclosing their refund cheque or fines notice will be sent in this coming fortnight with an explanation of infringements, if any.

Apologies for the delay in finalising this process and thank you for your patience whilst being completed.

REGULATIONS
Important changes to a number of regulations are currently being considered by the AVSCEC. The AVSCEC has endorsed amendments to tournament regulations, which will be tabled at the AVF Board meeting at the end of May, seeking the Boards’ ratification prior to inclusion in the 2007 Tournament Regulations.
The revised Tournament Regulations will then be published on the tournament website and participating schools provided copies for their review and reference prior to nominating teams.

TOURNAMENT POLICIES

In 2007, a number of new policies will also be included in the 2007 Tournament Regulations. These policies include:
- Codes of Conduct for participants, officials, parents and spectators
- Media and Photography Consent

Adoption of these policies and their implementation throughout the event period will be the responsibility of everyone in attendance.

AVSC LOGO CONDITIONS OF USE

The AVSC tournament logo (as shown at the top of this newsletter) is copyrighted and certain restrictions apply to its use.

The AVSCEC would like to confirm the following restrictions on the use of the tournament logo. The Australian Volleyball Warehouse (AVW) is the official merchandise provider for Volleyball Australia and AVW has rights in association with the tournament logo.

It is worth noting that the hire of venues is also subject to restrictions surrounding their retail outlets and apparel sales. Therefore, the following guidelines are important for a variety of reasons and the Commission trusts that schools will follow the guidelines for use based on this information.

- The use of the AVSC logo on school materials relating to the 2007 event including newsletters, emails, posters etc is permitted.
- The use of the AVSC logo on apparel is not permitted. Apparel includes but is not limited to t-shirts, sweaters, backpacks, tracksuits and drink bottles.

Participants seen in competition venues wearing any items of apparel displaying the official AVSC logo which was not supplied by Australian Volleyball Warehouse are contravening these guidelines and will be asked to remove that item.

NOMINATIONS & PAYMENTS

Nomination of teams will again be facilitated online and will become active in August/September. The functionality of the online process will be reviewed and any enhancements completed, particularly for processing returning students and confirming eligibility.

INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

The AVSCEC is excited to again be expecting teams from across the Tasman, making the journey to participate in the AVSC. As team nominations are received, we will bring you more information on the (increased) number of teams wishing to be involved across a range of divisions.

REFEREE ACCREDITATION

As noted in the email on 27th April and published on the Tournament Website, Volleyball Australia’s Member State Associations have scheduled their referee education courses and all schools are encouraged to contact their Member State Association to discuss education, assessment and upgrade opportunities for their students attending this years’ event.

Attached is a copy of that information for your reference.

CEREMONIES

The Opening Ceremony will take place on Sunday 9th December.

The Men’s Australian Volleyball League (AVL) finals are scheduled for Sunday 9th December on the Show Court. The Men’s AVL Finals will be filmed for telecast on SBS Television. As in previous years, students are invited to attend the finals matches to see Australia’s best male volleyballers in action.

More information on the times of these matches will be published on the AVL website www.avf.org.au/AVL in coming months.

Immediately following the opening ceremony, the coaches Technical Meeting will take place. Entertainment will be provided to students and remaining officials to stay and enjoy, whilst the Technical Meeting is in progress.

The Closing Ceremony will take place after the finals matches on Friday 14th December.

TOURNAMENT VOLUNTEERS

Volleyball Australia is seeking members of your communities who would like a first hand experience of tournament operation as a volunteer. Volunteers are provided with pre-event training, travel, accommodation, a per diem for meals and a volunteer uniform. Dedicated shifts and activities are planned across the week and a thank-you function is to be held on the final evening to celebrate the close of another successful week of the AVSC.

Interested? Contact avsc@avf.org.au today to find out more.

WHAT INFORMATION WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN NEXT MONTH’S NEWSLETTER?
DROP US A LINE AT avsc@avf.org.au WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS
### Proposed Allocation of Matches by Division

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**Notes**

(1) Except medal matches, which will be played at MSAC

MSAC - The Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre
(http://www.msac.com.au/)

SVC - Victorian State Volleyball Centre, Dandenong
 MEMBER STATE ASSOCIATION REFEREE EDUCATION COURSES 2007

ACT
Courses to enable an individual to become a District Referee will be delivered on May 19th and October 6th in Canberra.

Practical assessments to enable individuals to become a Regional Referee can be arranged through Volleyball ACT by contacting Holly Richardson.

CONTACT
Holly Richardson
Email: manager@volleyballact.com.au
Phone: (02) 6247 9587

NSW
Courses to enable an individual to become a District Referee will be delivered on July 28th and September 15th in Sydney.

Practical assessments to enable individuals to become a Regional Referee can be arranged through the NSW Volleyball Referees Assn. by contacting Carla Hoorweg.

CONTACT
Carla Hoorweg
Email: choorweg@gmail.com

South Australia
Courses and practical assessment opportunities will be provided on a needs basis, so schools are advised that they should contact Simon Phillips at Volleyball SA to make arrangements.

CONTACT
Simon Phillips
Email: simon.phillips@volleyballsaa.com.au
Phone: (08) 8124 9100

Victoria
Courses to enable an individual to become a District Referee will be delivered on September 16th and October 27th/28th. NB: Dates for regional areas still to be determined.

Practical assessments to enable individuals to become a Regional Referee will be conducted at:

Victorian Volleyball Schools Cup – October 13th-14th

CONTACT
Terry Jones
Email: terryjones@volleyballvictoria.com.au
Phone (03) 9521 4800

Queensland
Courses to enable an individual to become a District Referee will be delivered on May 16th & 23rd (one course over two days), July 22nd, October 7th and November 4th in Brisbane.

Practical assessments to enable individuals to become a Regional Referee are available at a number of events (incl. Queensland Volleyball Schools Cup events) and weekly competitions and should be arranged in advance through discussions with Teresa Henderson at Volleyball Queensland.

CONTACT
Teresa Henderson
Email: dm@qva.org.au
Phone: (07) 3367 1991

Western Australia
Courses to enable an individual to become a District Referee will be delivered on May 19th and June 16th in Perth.

Practical assessment opportunities can be arranged by contacting Marta Makuch at Volleyball WA.

It should also be noted that most states can provide additional practical assessment opportunities in addition to those listed above. Many weekly leagues and tournaments will typically have a chief referee who can complete assessments. However, it is important to consider the suitability of some matches, especially in adult competitions, for beginner referees to officiate and be assessed while officiating.

CONTACT
Marta Makuch
Email: development@volleyballwa.com.au
Phone: (08) 9228 8522

Please contact Tim Shannahan at the AVF Head Office on 02 6247 6633 with enquiries regarding referee education in Tasmania and Northern Territory.

It is strongly advised that the identified person above is contacted well in advance of individuals attending a course or assessment opportunity to ensure that they can be accommodated.

Please contact your state representative if your school would like to conduct additional courses or there are other events in which a referee assessor could attend to assist in student assessments.