Welcome to the fifth AVSC Newsletter for 2007

The countdown is well and truly under way, there’s only a few months to go until the big event!

AVSC ANTICIPATION

Only one day after AVSC nominations opened we were flooded with nominations. It is very exciting that schools are super keen to get their teams nominated and have obviously been training hard. We are looking to make this year bigger and better then ever before and want you to be a part of it. So keep the training up and we look forward to more nominations.

In the lead up to AVSC we are publishing articles on past AVSC players who have gone on to represent Australia. Check out the AVSC website for the profile on Luke Campbell, a member of the hugely successful team that claimed victory from Japan at the recent Asian Senior Men’s Volleyball Championships.

Next week we’ll feature Anna Maycock, the Captain and a setter in the National Women’s Team that returned this week from the Asian Senior Women’s Championships. The girls had a long hard look at their opposition, and hope to meet many times over in the next few years.

SEEKING GOLDEN TONSILS FOR THE OPENING CEREMONY – CALLING ALL ANTHEM SINGERS!

The opening ceremony is scheduled to commence at 6.00pm on Sunday 9th December. It will be held in the Kerri Pothisrat Show Courts. The Opening Ceremony formalities will be followed by entertainment by a Melbourne band. This will provide an exciting atmosphere for students to interact while the technical meeting is taking place.

We are looking for a budding singer or a group to sing the National Anthem at the Opening Ceremony. This is a great opportunity and honour open to anyone in the AVSC community.

Please email avsc@avf.org.au if you have a student, teacher, coach or group interested.

ONLINE ENTRY WORKING OVERTIME

The AVSC Online nomination system is working well. So far we have had over 100 schools register teams with this user-friendly system. There is a link from the AVSC website to the online registration page.

All schools intending to nominate for this year’s event, contact Renae Maycock to obtain your 2007 Username & Password to the online registration system.

If you have any problems at all with the online registration process please contact Renae on: (02) 9439 4221 who will be able to go through it with you.

TRAINING COURTS

Make sure you get in early on Sunday and make the most of the opportunity to stretch the legs. Need to get rid of those pre tournament jitters? MSAC is available for training on Sunday 9th December and it may just be what your team needs after the travel and to familiarise yourself with the venue prior to the Opening Ceremony.

Training courts are available for hire at $36.30 per hour. Please head to the AVSC website to download the Training Court hire form. Bookings are taken on a first-come-first served basis and there’s plenty of room for every team.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Just a reminder that all players competing in AVSC need to be registered with Volleyball Australia via their State Volleyball Association. Please contact your State Association to organise this as soon as possible, it is not worth forfeiting matches due to unregistered players.

PLAYING UNIFORMS

As outlined in the Tournament Regulations and earlier editions of the newsletter compliance with uniforms is mandatory. If you have any questions about uniforms, please contact us in advance, particularly regarding playing tops, numbering, sponsor logos and libero uniforms.

Sock length is not a mandatory uniform issue for this event. National representative competitions do have strict rules regarding sock length and consistency. The only consistency we seek is colour, all players wearing the same colour socks as part of their playing uniform.
In 2006, there were many months of discussions with Parks Victoria negotiating concessions to participants for the parking of mini-buses and coaches - that were expected to attract a pre-paid permit fee under the recently introduced Albert Park Parking Precinct restrictions.

We were fortunate to reach an agreement with Parks Victoria and offer participants a significantly reduced daily ticket rate for all vehicles parking in the Lakeside carpark displaying the AVSC in the windscreen.

Disappointingly, this year we have been unable to strike the same deal with Parks Victoria.

**All-day parking** is available at the Lakeside Car Park for cars and other vehicles taking up only one park (or further along Aughtie Drive in any of the marked bays) for $8 per day.

**All-day parking** is available in the Lakeside Car Park for buses and mini buses (12-18 seaters). Drivers will need to display a pre-paid permit purchased from Parks Victoria at the following rates:
- Mini Buses $30.60 per day
- Buses $52.80 per day

Visit the Parks Victoria page on Albert Park Parking for maps of the parking zones and bus permit application forms:

To avoid these fees, buses and mini buses may park in surrounding streets (subject to local restrictions).

**MSAC multi deck car park** is available to all MSAC users but can only accommodate cars and taraos. The cost is $4 for 4 hours. (Essentially a pro-rata rate compared to the all-day rates at Lakeside and Aughtie Drive).

Please note we are doing our best to secure alternative parking options particularly for Buses and Mini buses. We will keep you updated on this.

Volleyball Australia will continue to pursue more financially viable options for loyal participants via the Victorian Parliament and the Minister who oversees Parks Victoria operations:

The Hon Gavin Jennings
Minister for Environment & Sustainability
Level 22, 50 Lonsdale Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3002
gavin.jennings@parliament.vic.gov.au

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO VENUES**

Being so close to the city, MSAC is easily accessible by either buses or trams.

**Transport to the SVC.** Trains run from the city centre to Dandenong every 20 minutes and the trip will take approx 45 minutes. From the train station you will need to take a short walk to the Bus stop then a 15 minute bus ride to SVC at 270 Stud Rd. Buses to SVC depart every 30 minutes.

Metlink Melbourne has a great journey planner on their website which gives you complete plans, times and instructions of getting from A to B. To use this Journey Planner or find out more about Melbourne public Transport please [http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/](http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/)

**ELECTION TO THE AVSC EVENT COMMISSION**

Nominations are now invited from any coach, manager or parent of a team participating at this year’s event to serve as a member of the AVSC Event Commission for the next 2 years. Download a nomination form from the AVSC website.

Nominations close on Friday 9th November 2007 and will need to be counter signed by the school principal. Schools will be notified of the candidates by Friday 16th November and these candidates will be invited to address the group at the Technical Meeting on December 9th.

An election (if necessary) will be conducted during the event with voting forms distributed on Day 1 via school letter boxes. Each school is entitled to one vote, and is responsible for determining who from their school will vote on the school’s behalf. A School Sport Australia representative, will act as the returning officer.

The Commission meets by teleconference once each month from February through to November, for between 1 and 3 hours so the commitment is not large. If you would like to contribute to the ongoing development of this event, or know someone who would, please consider a nomination.

**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT AVSC??**

We are still looking for Volunteers to help make AVSC 2007 better then ever. You will work alongside 14 students from the TAFE SA Regency Campus and accredited volleyball referees. In particular we are looking for more Referee supervisors. If you or anyone you know is keen for a fun week in Melbourne, have a National A accreditation and enjoy the opportunity to be an integral part of our exciting event - then let us know!

Please contact Renae on (02) 9439 4221 or email her avsc@avf.org.au. Renae will give you some more details and let you know all the benefits.

Event volunteers find it a rewarding and exciting week and are well looked after. There may be other teachers, parents, friends etc associated with your school who are keen to be a part of AVSC so let them know this opportunity is available.
THINGS TO DO IN MELBOURNE…….

Swimming at MSAC Leisure Centre
MSAC has generously offered all AVSC participants a 50% discount on the entry fee to their Pool Leisure area. Students just need to state that they are AVSC participants to receive the discount.

Scienceworks Museum
Hands on exhibits, live demonstrations, tours, activities and shows –students will have lots of fun exploring the mysteries of Science and Technology at Scienceworks. Entry is FREE for all U/16’s and concession card holders, adults are $6. There is a small additional fee if you want to go to special shows. Situated in Spotswood, Scienceworks is only 5kms from the Melbourne CBD and is accessible by trains and has free parking for cars and buses.

Follow the link from the AVSC website to the Special Offers page for all the details on the Scienceworks Museum.

The Shrine of Remembrance
This is the largest and most visited War Memorial in Victoria. It is a permanent and lasting memorial to the ANZAC spirit. Entry to the Shrine is free and it is open from 10am to 5pm daily. You can walk to the Shrine, situated on St Kilda Rd, from MSAC in approximately 10 minutes. Guided tours run at 11am and 2 pm everyday. See the special offers page of the AVSC website for further details.

UPCOMING KEY DATES

28/9/07 Close of payments and nominations from international teams.

26/10/07 Close of nominations for all Australian school teams.

26/10/07 Award nominations close (see website for nomination form)

29/10/07 Requests to the AVSC EC for exemptions to eligibility criteria close

REFEEER ACCREDITATION OPPORTUNITIES

If you are unsure about the AVSC referee system and your responsibility please visit the website and check out the ‘AVSC Refereeing Requirements Explained’ information form. You will find contact details for the Chief Referee on this form who can answer any further queries.

Referee education and accreditation opportunities are still available in the following locations.
Contact your state representative listed below if you have any questions or wish to participate in one of the activities.

ACT
The course to enable an individual to become a District Referee will be delivered on October 6th in Canberra. Practical assessments to become a Regional Referee can be arranged by Volleyball ACT. Contact Nik Kaiser development@volleyballact.com.au or phone: (02) 6247 9587

NSW
Referee courses and training can be arranged through the NSW Volleyball Referees Association by contacting Carla Hoorweg. Email: choorweg@gmail.com

South Australia
Courses and practical assessment opportunities will be provided on a needs basis, so schools should contact Simon Phillips at Volleyball SA to make arrangements. Email: simon.phillips@volleyballsa.com.au Phone: (08) 8124 9100

Victoria
Courses to become a District Referee will be delivered on October 13th, 14th and 28th. For further information please 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 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 Teresa Henderson at Volleyball Queensland on dm@qva.org.au or by phone (07) 3367 1991

Western Australia
Marta Makuch at Volleyball WA. Email: development@volleyballwa.com.au Phone: (08) 9228 8522

It should also be noted that most states can provide additional practical assessment opportunities in conjunction with 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.

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

Until next time enjoy your volleyball and keep the nominations coming…