



**Australian
Taekwondo**

2020 Annual Report

28 November 2020

INTRODUCTION

This is my third and final report to Australian Taekwondo (**AT**) as Chair of the Organisation, and it gives me great pleasure to submit this report to our members.

Our achievements this year are noted in this report, but none of this could have been accomplished without the support of the members, volunteers, state boards, our Executive, our Committees and my fellow Board of Directors, and to them all, I express my gratitude for your service and say thank you!



Raffaele Di Renzo
Board Chair

GOVERNANCE

In July 2019 due to personal reasons, Appointed Director Sandra Nori resigned from the Board having served a term of 22 months. Sandra was instrumental in AT being installed as a Duke 4Sport Partner within the Duke of Edinburgh Award Australia. As a partner, AT creates a link between the Physical Recreation and Voluntary Service sections of the Award, with taekwondo activities being undertaken by participants in AT Member clubs. We thank Sandra for her valuable service.



Sandra Nori

In September 2019 Bilal Elmowy's term as Elected Director expired and sought re-election but unfortunately was not successful. Bilal contributed much during his term including attaining a sponsorship for our Para Taekwondo Team, which assisted the Team's preparations for the Oceania Paralympic Qualifiers in February 2020, where Australia qualified two female and one male division for the now postponed Tokyo Paralympic Games.



Bilal Elmowy

GOVERNANCE

In April 2020 Appointed Director Gillian Savage resigned from the Board for personal reasons, and was a big loss to the organisation. The Board valued her counsel and is indebted for her diligent service as the Chair of the Finance and Risk Management sub-committee of the Board.



Gillian Savage

The Board's Nominations Committee commenced an exhaustive search for a replacement director and in April 2020 Leanne Cunnold came on board as an Appointed Director.



Leanne Cunnold

New Strategic Plan

In late March 2020 a strategic planning workshop had been scheduled with the States and the Directors to develop the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan. However, in early March 2020 the onset of the Covid pandemic, and subsequent closing of state borders, caused the Board to cancel the workshop, which is now planned for the first quarter of 2021.

Notwithstanding this cancellation, AT has relied on the 2017-2020 Strategic which was updated in September 2019 as it's planning document.

Board Performance Assessment

Arrangements had been made for Sport Australia to lead a performance assessment of the AT Board as a lead in to the strategic planning workshop. However, the assessment was also cancelled due to the Covid pandemic and is now being planned to align with the rescheduled planning workshop.



High Performance Strategic Plan

The High Performance Plan provides the key objectives and strategies to deliver on AT's strategic vision of being a world respected Taekwondo nation that strives for podium performances. The plan has been developed in partnership with the Australian Institute of Sport Combat Centre, and references recent performance outcomes and engaged a range of key stakeholders to gain views on the potential future direction of the high performance program.

Participation Strategy

Australian Taekwondo's Participation plan has guided our participation activities over the last three years seeking to provide more opportunities for every person no matter age, gender, disability or geography. The Plan has shown our key stakeholders the strategic areas we are seeking to develop Taekwondo nationally, especially in the context of a crowded sports market. Being able to provide different options of Taekwondo to different audiences is key to growing Taekwondo participation as the sporting and recreational landscape changes as we move into the future.

Digital Strategy

In the 2019 Financial Year Sport Australia (SA) facilitated the scoping of a Digital Strategy for Australian Taekwondo to drive improvements in internal governance, improve the member experience, improve the digital capability of our workforce, establish baseline system technology, and deliver the following benefits:

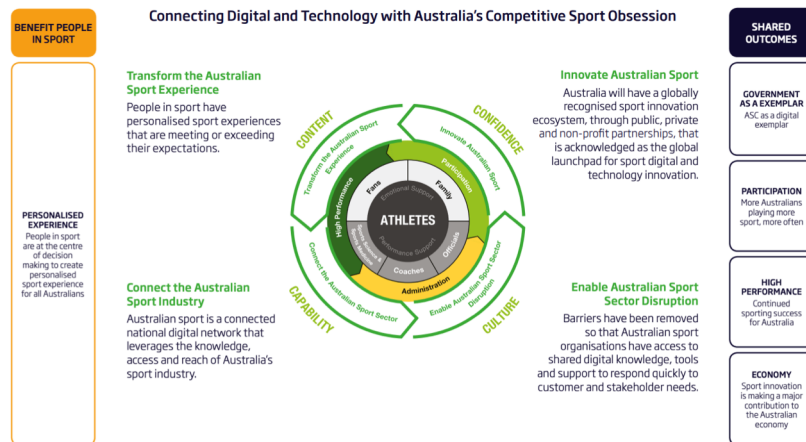
- States will have detailed understanding of their members to inform improvements in services
- Clubs able to leverage data from their members to better position themselves commercially
- Coaches able to actively facilitate/support members and athletes to advance through the sport
- Athletes will have a clearer understanding and accurate record of their past and future journey
- Members will benefit from improved efficiencies and tailored services based on a more personalised view.

We are currently awaiting funding options via Sport Australia grants, or other sources, to bring this strategy to fruition and it will be prioritised in the context of other initiatives in the planning workshop in early 2021.



By 2024 the future should look like

To achieve the 2024 shared outcomes we desire, the future needs to look like this:



Policies

Policy

Stakeholder Engagement

Purpose

To ensure that the strategic objectives of AT are promoted and enhanced through national and international engagement.

Child Safe Sport

To ensure that AT's Child Safe Sport framework and overarching requirements fulfil our commitment to provide an environment where children and young people are safe.

2020 Olympics Nomination Criteria

The criteria adopted by AT in respect of the Olympic Games which outlines the requirements for an athlete to be nominated to the Australian Olympic Committee to be selected for the Australian Olympic Team. The criteria was updated in view of the postponement of the Games due to the Covid pandemic.

2020 Paralympics Nomination Criteria

The criteria adopted by AT in respect of the Paralympic Games which outlines the requirements for an athlete to be nominated to Paralympics Australia to be selected for the Australian Paralympic Team. The criteria was updated in view of the postponement of the Games due to the Covid pandemic.

Strategic Partnering

Our strategic partnership with Sport Australia has continued with funding for the sport through to the postponed Tokyo games in 2021. We are also appreciative of Sport Australia's funding support for our Participation projects which are coming to fruition, and in particular the National Schools Program which is expected to commence in the second quarter of the 2021 Financial Year. This unfortunate delay in getting the program underway is due to the COVID lockdown.

The Australian Institute of Sport's considered decision to divest itself of directly delivering high performance programs led to the development of an innovative initiative to establish an NSO owned dedicated high performance entity. Australian Taekwondo, Judo Australia and Boxing Australia were invited to establish the new entity to be known as the Combat Institute of Australia (**CIA**) which will ensure a dedicated high performance focus with significantly increased and more secure funding, and access to a greater range of high performance support services.

There is an expectation that the CIA will commence operations in January 2021, with AT retaining control of its Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic preparations through to the Games in the second half of 2021.



National Redress Scheme

The Federal Government established the National Redress Scheme (**NRS**) in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse. The NRS assists people who experienced institutional child abuse to obtain redress, by way of support services and payment, through institutions that have elected to join the NRS. While the NRS initially addressed institutions named in the Royal Commission, disclose that some sporting codes may also have been implicated in child abuse, led to sports also being included within the scheme.

Australian Taekwondo fully supports the NRS and signed a Letter of Intent to commit to the NRS' On Boarding process to see if it qualifies to join the Scheme. Qualification to join is based on proof that the institution is financially capable of meeting its obligations under the Scheme.

Australian Taekwondo anticipates that this will be resolved by December 2020 following the Department of Social Service's assessment of our financial sustainability to join the Scheme.

Our Sponsors

We thank our valued sponsors who provide us with much needed support throughout the year and deliver many benefits to our members



Sport Australia/AIS – High Performance, Participation, Better Aging/Schools Program



Paralympics Australia – Para athlete classification support



Jols - Fit out of our National Teams



Australex Group – Para Athletes

Scorpion Martial Art Supplies
OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS OF ALL DAEDO EQUIPMENT



Daedo – Equipment and support for our national competitions



Fine Designs – Major events such as the National Championships, Australian Open



Financial Statements

The Audited Financial Statements show a profit of \$246.9k in 2019/20 compared to a profit of \$160.3k in 2018/19. It should be noted that the profit is as a result of grant proceeds of \$300k having been recognised as Revenue in the 2020 financial year. These grants will be expensed in the 2021 and 2022 financial years and accordingly are not actual profits as expenses are accounted for in the forward budgets.

If the \$246.9k profit is put aside, the result for the year is a loss of \$53.1k (\$246.9k - \$300k). This loss is mainly due to accumulated long service leave provisions of approximately \$5k, plus recognition of \$48.1k in expenses for High Performance grants received and recognised in 2018/19.

The Balance Sheet shows \$616.9k of cash, total assets of \$719.8k and liabilities of \$392.9k (which includes deferred membership revenue) resulting in \$303.9k of net assets.

The Board is closely monitoring expenses and will curtail these where necessary, with expenses to be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that the organisation can be brought into a profitable position in future years.



Our Membership

Membership for the financial year 2020 was 17,020 in comparison to 17,555 the previous financial year. The down turn was in the main due to the impact of the Covid pandemic in the last four months of the financial year. This also impacted the number of outstanding club renewals. Prior to the pandemic lockdown, the organisation was on a positive year-to-date trajectory of a 20% increase in registrations and 7% increase in registered clubs.

	FY2020	FY2019
Members	17,020	17,555
Clubs	251	277
New Clubs	21	33
Non Renewing Clubs	45	25

Participation

The 2020 financial year saw the successful implementation of our Pilot Schools Program which resulted in Australian Taekwondo becoming an accredited provider in the National Sporting Schools Program. This was a top priority under the Participation Plan and a major success for Australian Taekwondo with our National Sporting Schools Program commencing in Term 4 of 2020. This will provide our members with an additional revenue option while increasing our participation levels.

The Ageless Taekwondo Program was impacted by Covid due to the Older Australians Demographic, which is at high risk of complications they contracted the virus. However, the program infrastructure remains in place with a renewed focus for 2021. Our ability to contribute to the health of Older Australians is important to complement the Australian Government's focus in getting Older Australians to become more active.

More access through online training sessions with our categorised athletes was born out of the need to provide our members remote

training options during the Covid lockdown, and will continue to be a monthly event in 2021. This also provides a platform for participants in rural and remote regions to access technical and tactical training information that otherwise is not available to them.

The first steps to becoming a more inclusive martial art were taken in 2020 with the engagement of an inclusion specialist to help drive a new Inclusion Strategy and build the capability and capacity for instructors to run more inclusive clubs and classes. The Inclusive Taekwondo Strategy will be realised in 2021 with a vision of its launch in the latter half of the year.

Education

We have embarked on a program to make more use of digital technology in the delivery of courses, and with the advent of the Covid pandemic, we have increasingly relied on the delivery of online sessions with our leading national and international athletes. We plan to expand these and further courses in the future years to enable members in remote and regional areas to access a broader range of courses and seminars, which tend to only be conducted in capital cities and metropolitan centres.

Anti-Doping

Australian Taekwondo as the peak body for Taekwondo in Australia is responsible for ensuring that all of our athletes and support personnel are educated in anti-doping matters, and in this regard AT committed with Sport Integrity Australia (formerly ASADA) to an Anti-Doping Education Plan, to ensure that members at all levels are educated in anti-doping matters.

The Education Plan commits Board directors, AT management and all members of National Teams, Squads to complete the compulsory ASADA anti-doping courses. These are made available online via our website and is AT's commitment to anti-doping education. As part of this program, there is also a requirement on directors, management staff and national team members to annually resubmit their ASADA Level 2 certifications.

Kyorugi Referees

The National Kyorugi Referee Committee (**NKRC**) must be congratulated for their outstanding effort to bring their referee courses throughout the nation. In addition NKRC has developed online accreditation courses which were successfully piloted during the year.

Course	Date	Attendees
NSW Kyorugi Referee	July 2019	28
Qld Kyorugi Referee	August 2019	9
Vic Kyorugi Referee	August 2019	16
Tas Kyorugi Referee	November 2019	4
Qld Kyorugi Referee	February 2020	6
NSW Kyorugi Referee	March 2020	9
Online S, 1, 2, 3 Class Kyorugi Referee	May 2020	15
Online 4, 5, 6 Class Kyorugi Referee	June 2020	5
Total		92



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Online 4, 5, 6 Class Kyorugi Referee	June 2020	5
Total		92

All courses have been well attended and received, and as a result as at 30 June 2020 we have 255 Accredited Kyorugi Referees accredited as:

Accredited Kyorugi Referees	Number
Presenter	10
Club 5th Class	33
Club 6th Class	15
National 1st Class	41
National 2nd Class	16
Senior National S Class	5
State 3rd Class	16
State 4th Class	118
Total	254

Poomsae Referees

The National Poomsae Officiating Committee was able to launch its courses and as a result at 30 June 2020 we have 123 Accredited Poomsae Referees.

Course	Date	Attendees
NSW Poomsae Referee New/Reaccreditation	July 2019	11
NSW Poomsae Referee Club/Refresher	July 2019	8
WA Poomsae Referee	February 2020	8
Total		27

Accredited Kyorugi Referees	Number
Poomsae Referee - 1st Class	25
Poomsae Referee - 2nd Class	7
Poomsae Referee - 3rd Class	13
Poomsae Referee - 4th Class	66
Poomsae Referee - C Class	5
Poomsae Referee - S Class	6
Poomsae Referee - S3	1
Total	123

International Accreditation Courses

As part of Australian Taekwondo's education investment for elite referees, we hosted a series of World Taekwondo international level accreditation and refresher courses for both Kyorugi and Poomsae referees. These were held in July 2019 immediately following the Australian Open to take advantage of the large pool of International Referees officiating at the international competitions. The courses were well patronised by Australian and International referees:



MNA	Poomsae	Kyorugi
Australia	10	22
Bangladesh	-	1
Bahamas	-	1
Hong Kong	-	1
India	1	7
Iran	2	2
Korea	1	-
Malaysia	1	-
Nepal	3	5
Norway	-	1
New Zealand	1	5
Pakistan	1	2
Solomon Islands	-	2
Sweden	2	-
Taipei	2	4
Tunisia	-	1
Total	24	54

Competitions and Team Selections

The Events Committee had a busy year facilitating our major events for the year. Unfortunately the onset of the Covid pandemic in March 2020 resulted in all competitions for the remainder of the calendar year being cancelled. However, the following events were staged during the first three quarters of the financial year.

International Accreditation Courses

In July 2019 with the hosting at Carrara in Queensland of four World Taekwondo international referee seminar which included:

- 113th International Kyorugi Referee Seminar
- 127th International Kyorugi Referee Refresher Course
- 45th International Poomsae Referee Seminar
- 42nd International Poomsae Referee Refresher Course

The seminars and courses were attended by 32 Australian and 45 International referee candidates.



Australian National Championships

In September 2019 the championships were held at Carrara on the Gold Coast in Queensland, which attracted 175 coaches, 80 officials and 938 athletes competing across three days in over 1,230 events, covering sparring, poomsae and technical (breaking).

2020 Oceania Olympic Qualifications

For the first time Australia hosted and organised the Oceania Continental Olympic Qualifiers for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. These were held on the Gold Coast in Queensland in February 2020 and attracted 19 athletes and 9 coaches for the Olympic divisions, and 5 athletes and 4 coaches for the Paralympic divisions from seven Oceania countries.

Australia qualified all Olympic and Paralympic weight categories contested being its full quota of two female and 2 male quota for the Olympics, and 2 female and 1 male for the Paralympics.

With the onset of the Covid pandemic in the following month of March 2020, Oceania along with Africa remain the only Taekwondo continental unions to have qualified their Olympic and Paralympic divisions.

