

Chairman's & CEO's Report to accompany the Financial Statements for the 2016 Financial Year

The 2016 Financial Year has been a continuation of the good governance foundations that were started in the earlier years. The appointment of a professional CEO has meant that progress has been accelerated, and STAL is now moving forwards as a unified organisation to improve Taekwondo in Australia.

State Mergers

It is with great pleasure that today we can sit here and say that we now have a full complement of eight State Members. This is not to say that there is not work to be done. There is still much to do assist the States in achieving true harmony and best practice governance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate everyone involved in these processes, including the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) for their guidance and assistance. The dedication, time and effort put into getting Taekwondo in Australia to this point is phenomenal.

Financial Statements

We are pleased to report that STAL is solvent with a healthy cash balance.

The 2016 financial statements reflect STA's transactions having been recorded using accounting principles, in contrast to the 'cash in cash out' approach that was used prior to a professional finance manager being used.

STA has been working through a period of rectifying its financial information to better comply with accounting principles, and also, a period of improving the transparency of its financial position. Not only does this better inform the members, but also allows for the STAL Board to make more informed financial decisions.

This means that, in understanding the financial position and results of STA, the figures are affected by prior accounting treatment.

We would like to stress that despite the historical issues STAL is a financially stable organisation, however we are still running a very lean operation.

National Championships

The 2016 National Championships were held in Bendigo, they were also selection events for the Junior World Championships and the Oceania Championships. Over 1000 athletes competed over the three days. Bendigo were wonderful hosts and the competitors and supporters made for a great atmosphere. It was also wonderful to see four of our Olympians present, inspiring our next generation of athletes.

Poomsae World Championships

In late September one of our largest teams went to Peru to compete in the 10th Poomsae World Championships. Despite the long journey our athletes competed well and returned home with two Gold (Bronwyn Butterworth F<65, Barry Jordan M>65) and one Bronze medal (Robert Pace M51-60). This placed Australia 9th on the medal table.

2016 Olympic Games

In Rio our athletes and coaches of Caroline Marton, Carmen Marton, Safwan Khalil, Hayder Shkara, Ali Khalil and Alf Dell'Orso represented Australia with pride. Safwan and Hayder made it through to the repechage rounds and lost in close fights, while Carmen and Caroline unfortunately lost in the first round.

The Membership

I am pleased to report that we have had a steady uptake of membership this year and we are currently almost at 11,000 members, which is a 25% increase on 2015. However, this represents only a small portion of the Taekwondo participants in Australia and through activities from our strategic plan, and your continuing support I look forward to seeing this number grow year on year.

Finally I would like to thank all of the volunteers who contribute to Taekwondo. Without your time and effort we would not be able to carry out all of the activities that we do.

Joelie Chisholm
CEO STAL
19 October 2016

John Walker AM
Chair STAL