



The Games we love...
Australian Deaf Games
Albury Wodonga 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

24 January 2018

SILENT BASKETBALL A ROARING SUCCESS!

The basketball court at Lauren Jackson Sports Centre was where it was at yesterday with the Silent Basketball Challenge bringing out loads of athletes and spectators. There were three teams with a mixture of deaf and non-deaf people playing off in the game, set up to give non-deaf people an experience of some of the nuances being deaf. Three matches were played in complete silence, and it certainly had an impact on non-deaf players who realised the vast difference between relying on their eyes and but not their ears during a match.

“The event was a wonderful opportunity to provide non-deaf participants a brief but important experience of communication barriers that deaf and hard of hearing face everyday and how they can be overcome,” says Phil Harper.

Sam Quinn was the ambassador for the Silent Basketball Challenge, and he thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Quinn said “Basketball is a great game for all, and it also gives everyone an opportunity to play equally. It’s more about how well you play rather than how well you can hear on the court.”

With the Games Expo now wrapped up, workshops are now being provided at the Games Hub, including Vicdeaf’s Pop- Up Auslan class and a Bali Deaf Guide, covering best hints and tips for a holiday to the popular island. The LibraryMuseum is also providing Auslan Storytime for kids, which is very exciting!

Medal Tally as of Monday 22nd January 2018

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
NSW	22	28	19	69
VIC	31	23	8	62
QLD	8	8	6	22
ACT	1	3	7	11
SA	1	2	3	6
FIJI	2	0	3	5
WA	0	2	0	2
NZ	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	65	66	46	177



Today's highlight:

- Beach Volleyball Finals and Medal Ceremony
- Touch Footy Finals
- Deaf Youth Australia's Under 18 Laser Tag event

What sports are on today:

- 10 Sports Competitions: Beach Volleyball, Darts, Eight Ball, Futsal, Golf, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Table Tennis, Tennis, Touch Footy

Today's Social Cultural Program:

- Yoga Classes at the Space
- Auslan Storytime for kids at the LibraryMuseum
- Deaf Youth Australia's Under 18 Laser Tag event
- Auslan Interpreted Theatre Night by The Other Theatre
- Two Workshops at the Games Hub:
 - Vicdeaf's Pop-Up Auslan Class
 - Bali Deaf Guide
- Daily self-guided accessible tour at LibraryMuseum or MAMA Gallery

What's on tomorrow:

- 6 Sports Competitions: Darts, Futsal, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Table Tennis, Tenpin Bowling
- Social Beach Volleyball
- Lawn Bowls Barefoot
- Yoga Classes at the Space
- Auslan Storytime for kids
- LibraryMuseum Auslan-interpreted tour
- Workshop
 - NDIS 101 Session by NDIA
- Deaf Youth Australia Social Night

Our sponsors

The Games would not be possible without the support of the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW, Sports Recreation Victoria, both AlburyCity and Wodonga Council; and our sponsors Australian Hearing, our official Games "Superfan", Ai-Media, Vicdeaf, The Deaf Society, BeerDeluxe Albury, LaTrobe University, Commercial Club Albury, Conexu, JobCentre Australia, BioRevive, and Oceania Australia Foundation. With their support, deaf and hard of hearing athletes are able to participate, succeed and enjoy sports on many different levels at the Games.

For more information about the 2018 Australian Deaf Games, please contact Sherrie Beaver, Marketing and Communications Coordinator at sherrie.beaver@deafsports.org.au

