



AI SL News

A publication of Australian International Shooting Limited

Seasons Greetings to all

DECEMBER 2008

From The President

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

* Australian
Sports Commission
TALENT HUNT
goes Online!

* Commonwealth
Youth Games Pune

* BEIJING

AI SL Insurance

V.I.S. Scholar-
ships Awarded

Welcome to this edition of our Newsletter

The Olympics have come and gone and whilst we did not achieve the number of medals we had hoped our team did the very best they could on the competition days. We were also fortunate to have a strong Paralympic team who acquitted themselves very well. All things considered Australia had a very successful Olympics and shooting certainly played an important part in that success.

Nick and I recently attended the "Sports Excellence Forum" run by the ASC and it was interesting to hear that other sports have similar problems to shooting - lack of funding, lack of corporate sponsorship, athletes not able to devote to full-time training, lack of infrastructure, etc. Following almost two days of discussion sessions, I believe the ASC now have a clearer understanding from sports perspective of what is required to return Australia to a similar position on the medal winning chart that we enjoyed at the Sydney Olympics. The Australian Olympic Committee is working closely on strategies as well so hopefully we will see some positive outcomes in the coming months.

I can't believe we are now only a week away from Christmas! I'm not sure I am totally over the last one and the next one is looming! Whilst the Commonwealth Games seemed like forever away prior to the Olympics, reality is they are in fact only months away so our planning now needs to move up a couple of notches to ensure we have a successful Games in the shooting sports.

As this will be the last newsletter before the end of the year the members of the Board join me in wishing you a very safe and happy Christmas and a prosperous and successful New Year.

Until next time, good shooting and good scores

PRESIDENT

Principal Sponsor



Australian Government

Australian Sports Commission

FROM THE OFFICE

QANTAS CORPORATE SCHEME GREAT SAVINGS TO BE MADE!

If anyone is interested in becoming a member of the Qantas Club AISL are offering members the opportunity to merge into the Australian International Shooting Limited Corporate Account. Simply complete the Qantas registration form at <http://www.qantas.com.au/info/flying/qantasClub/corporateMembership> and forward to office@ausshooting.org. We will then process and forward to Qantas.

This is a great opportunity and you will receive a generous discount if you join with our corporate scheme.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Australian Olympic Youth Festival 14-18 January 2009 at SISC

CHILDRENS EARMUFFS

Earmuffs are designed to protect children from Noise Induced Hearing Loss and meet the Australian, American (ANSI S3.19) and European (EN352-1:1993) standards. The Earmuffs can be worn for children of all ages however we recommend they are not used for children under 6 months. http://www.babybanz.com/australia/category24_1.htm.



Staff Movements

Sadly we advise that Stephanie Popplestone will be moving on this week to take up a position of Events Coordinator with Gymnastics SA. Stephanie has been with us just days short of 2 years and we thank her for her excellent work.

I will miss her valuable input to the day's workload. I extend thanks and best wishes of the board and staff and wish you all the very best.

Nick

AI SL INSURANCE

Please refer to our website for
A great Insurance Offer through
Marsh Insurance

ISSF WORLD CUP FINAL RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations Michael Diamond for winning SILVER at the ISSF World Cup Final Shotgun

WARREN WINS GOLD (and proposes) ISSF WORLD CUP FINAL RIFLE 50m Rifle Mens Prone

Congratulations to Warren Potent for his outstanding performance at the ISSF World Cup Final in Bangkok on November 1-7 2008



Congratulations to Warren Potent for just being awarded
The Australian International Shooting Limited 2008 SHOOTER OF THE YEAR

COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES—PUNE INDIA

Our young shooters gained invaluable international experience competing in the Commonwealth Youth Games—Pune India

Results:

- Hayley Chapman won Bronze in the 25m Pistol
 - Michael McNabb won Bronze in Trap
 - Aaron Wilson won Bronze in the 25m Pistol
- Congratulations to all on a job well done.

FULL RESULTS on the web



Hayley Chapman and her Bronze Medal



Aaron Wilson



Michael McNabb and
parents

BEIJING 2008—THE OLYMPICS

One World One Dream

For most the journey started many years ago, culminating in a chance to match skills with the world's best on what is surely the best Olympic shooting venue to date. With the shooting events over, it would become time to reflect on preparation and execution of the plans for competitors, officials and administrators alike.

The Australian Olympic team comprised a total of 435 athletes and 318 support staff, most of who were based in the village, with the shooting section of 17 athletes and 5 support staff occupying all but three of the beds of the four apartments on the top floor, of what was to become home for the duration, Tower 1 of Block D8. The other three beds were home to the weightlifting section of Deborah Lovely, Damon Kelly and Section manager Luke Borregine. Among those of the team that had been to previous Olympics consensus was that this was the best village since Barcelona, with the Australian Olympic Committee having selected blocks D8 and D4 (six and nine story buildings respectively) because of their proximity to services such as the food hall and transport mall.

Also close was one of the Super Resident's Centres, which hosted an internet cafe fitted out with 50 computers all with Skype and an adjacent Wi-Fi lounge; all at no cost so you can imagine how busy these became as the village filled.

An overview of the numbers and other bits of information shows there were 28 sports breaking down to 302 events with some

Athletes: 10,708; Volunteers: 70,000; Media: 20,000

Beijing Comp Venues: 31; Outside Comp Venues: 6

The Logo: 'Dancing Beijing' is a Chinese seal

The Slogan: 'One World One Dream'

Mascots: Beibei (blue Fish), Jingjing (black Panda), Huanhuan (red Flame), Yingying (yellow Antelope) and Nini (green Swallo). Their five names together - Bei Jing Huan Ying Ni - say "Welcome to Beijing".

I had, along with a number of other managers, gone in ahead of their sections to ensure that we had supplied the correct paperwork and to arrange final accommodation layouts, leaving the coaches to travel with the section. The information from the AOC and Beijing newsletters we had compiled via the office all helped ensure a relatively smooth arrival, with of course the shooting section being the last to clear customs. There were no problems encountered with firearms or ammunition, thanks to a well prepared procedure; it just remains a slow process but then patience is a virtue and a must in our sport.

For all but two of our section the arrival at the shooting venue was no surprise, having seen and shot at the test event in April this year and everyone quickly settled into the routine.

Security was tight but not restrictive with several visible levels ranging from security guards to SWAT teams at every entrance to the village and venues providing a level of comfort to all. Initially these people maintained a steadfast glare if you said hello to them but over the week this was relaxed to a smile with some actually taking the opportunity to return the acknowledgement as they learnt to feel their **way around the Australian's warmth.**

The food hall at the village catered for most palates and supplied a variety of foods 24hours, 7 days a week. Seating some 5000 people at once with virtually no queues at any of the counters, other than the **McDonalds coffee counter. Yes that's right, Maccas was there with up to 30 staff operating shifts over the 24hours and without doubt the world agrees on one thing Maccas coffee was the best in the village.** The chicken salad (from Maccas) was taken to the range for lunch and again proved to be popular amongst most teams. In all, the food was good and for those seeking a nutritional delight there was plenty.

The opening ceremony saw a handful of the section march as most stayed away to avoid a long drawn out night prior to competition and whilst the magic of the march and opening ceremony cannot be denied it is a draining time standing around for hours (about 7 in all) on end waiting to march and particularly in the Beijing heat. If you missed the lighting of the cauldron then you missed an experience. The fireworks display looked good on the replays but it was almost out of view from our standing area in the centre of the Bird's Nest.

Competition saw a mixed result for the Aussies with only one of the favoured three finishing in the medals. Congratulations go to Warren Potent on his bronze medal in the 50m Rifle Prone event a well deserved finish to a brilliant two years of shooting better than an average of 596. Michael Diamond finished in fourth position after a cliff-hanger of a finals shoot off for the bronze and Lalita Yauhleuskaya finished one point away from the finals back in 14th. Russell Mark fought back to also finish 5th in the finals. The results are available on the web site so I will not elaborate further.

However in the end Australia finished 6th overall on the medal tally with a total of 46 medals comprised of 14 Gold, 15 Silver and 17 Bronze. 81 countries won medals with the first five being China, USA, Russia, Great Britain and Germany.

The popularity of the shopping in Beijing along with safe streets proved to be a great attraction for many of the section with **some buying enough to open their own store, well at least by looking at someone's bags you would think so, no names, no pack drill.** For some though, the attraction was simply the opportunity to haggle for a great bargain. I feel **sure many will remember the words "I your friend", and "you my first customer" with much amusement.**

Obviously in a city with the population of Australia there are restaurants, theatres, bars, nightclubs and much history to see. Taxis were cheap and although none of the drivers spoke or understood English the guides produced by the Australian Olympic Committee with the addresses of most attractions printed in Chinese, eased the pain. By the 17th August, half the team had departed for home, enabling our section to reduce down to three units along with the two weight lifters.

Most nights were taken up with visits to watch other Australian sections competing and for those who remained they **will well remember the famous Laurie Lawrence visit to the Australia vs USA men's basketball game; a new record for Laurie - two busloads.**

And before you knew it the closing ceremony had rolled around, less formal than the opening but still much standing around; back to the village where an all night celebration was in full swing in front of the Australian HQ, then onto the buses and back to the airport and the usual paperwork for the firearms. The flight back was uneventful with the lead plane having no entertainment system working which coupled with the no alcohol on the plane policy saw a relatively quiet time (thankfully) for all to rest prior to the arrival in Sydney.

Highlights for me in no particular order were;

The roar of the crowd whilst marching into the opening ceremony and the visual effect as you entered **Warren Potent's Bronze medal and in particular his final**

The final of Men's trap where 4 of the 6 finalists had either shot or equalled a world or Olympic record with David Kostelecky of Czech republic setting a new Finals Olympic record 121+25=146 coupled with Michael's shoot off for the bronze ... so close.

Katerina Eamons (formerly Kurkova) World and Olympic record in the Women's 10m Air Rifle

An opportunity to meet the Chinese people and understand their culture

Being able to work with some dedicated athletes

The logistics involved

The trip home (only to return four days later with the Paralympic Team)

The low points were;

Obviously being unable to clinch the anticipated medals, but more so the scores achieved by many.

The retirement from active competition of Dina Aspandiyarova, who believes she had let everyone down by not **medalling Uncompromising.**

Nick Sullivan

CEO—Australian International Shooting Limited

Paralympic Games

The Paralympic Games was held from 6 September to 17 September 2008 in Beijing. The Village was closed down from the Olympics and just one week later was opened to the Paralympic teams of the World.

Australia flew to Beijing on a Qantas charter flight, direct from Sydney to Beijing on Monday 1 September 2008. The total team consisted of 170 athletes including 11 guide runners and 121 team staff. The shooting team consisted of 4 shooters, 3 rifle and 1 pistol shooter, and 4 team staff.

Shooting commenced on Day One of the Games with Libby Kosmala (SA) competing in the first event of the Games, the 10m Air Rifle Standing Womens event. Libby scored a 390 in the qualification round to take her to the final in second place. Veronika Vadovicova from Slovakia was the Gold Medal winner with a final score of 494.8, second Manuela Schmermund, Germany (490.2) and Nilda Gomez Lopez, Peru (489.2) in third with Libby in fourth place with 489.1.

The second event for the day saw Sebasitan Hume (Vic) compete in the 10m Air Pistol Mens competition. Seb preparation had not been good with his car stolen 5 weeks out from Games time, with his equipment in the boot. Seb had only a few weeks training with a new gun to try his hand at his first Paralympic Games. Coupled with this was a shoulder problem which saw him heavily bandaged followed **MRI's and physio. Seb shot well and scored** a 553 to place him 22nd, out of a field of 34. The Gold medal went to Valeriy Ponomarenko from Russia with 578 a new world record by 6 points.

Day two saw Ashley Adams (Qld) shoot in the 10m Air Rifle Standing for Men. Ashley scored 593 in the qualification round which gave him second place going into the final, three points behind Athens Gold medalist Jonas Jacobsson and one point in front of Germany, Norbert Gau.

The final was a closely fought match with Ashley in third place after shot 9. The final results saw Frank Pinter, Slovenia take out third, 0.2 in front of Ashley. The Gold went to Jonas Jacobsson, Sweden and second to Norbert Gau.



Day three was the first time that we saw newcomer Jason Maroney (VIC) compete at a Paralympics.

Jason has only been shooting a short time, and has come ahead in leaps and bounds. Jason's very nervous Dad had made the trip to Beijing, just to see Jason shoot; he had never seen him shoot in competition before. The 10m Air Rifle Prone for SH2 shooters is a hotly contested match with only eight positions available for the final, and three scores of 600 recorded in the qualification match. That left 6 positions available for the final, with Australia and New Zealand fighting it out for the last position with exactly the same score (including count back).

The decision by the Jury was that Jason made it to the final. Eighth place starter, with only 1 point separating the whole field. What a final, every shot saw someone different in each place. Jason shot a great final with 104.9 to give him 6th place, 0.2 off third. Gold medal went to Ji-Seok Lee from Korea, with a total of 705.3, second Raphael VOLTZ France (705.1) Viktoria WEDIN Sweden (704.1) in a shoot off from Ho-Gyoung YOU Korea. Today also saw Libby Kosmala in her second event of the Games, the 50 m 3 x 20. Libby finished with a 556 in 9th place. Gold was taken by Yun-Ri LEE from Korea, with a 579, 5 points higher than the present World Record and 13 points higher than the previous Paralympic Record.

Day four of competition saw Ashley shoot in the 3 x 40, his result was 1137, in 9th place, 2 points off a finals place. Gold was taken by Jonas Jacobsson, Sweden with a new World and Paralympic record of 1163/1264.3.

Day five saw the rifle shooters back in the 10m range. The range looks exactly like Sydney. The full stands kept the volunteers and security busy, with flash cameras and phones going off on a regular basis. First event for the day saw both Ashley and Libby shoot in the 10m Air Rifle Prone, a mixed event. **Once again this was a hotly contested event with the first two finals positions taken up with 600's. That left 6 places of 599 available, sadly Ashley's 599 wasn't good enough to take him through, leaving him with 11th place and Libby with 597 in 19th place.** Gold went to first time Paralympian Matt Skelton, Great Britain with 704.9.

Jason Maroney saw action for the second time in the afternoon on the 10m range. The Air Rifle Standing for SH2 shooters was going to be as tough a match as the Prone had been two days prior. Jason shot well and had a qualification score of 597 which gave him 5th place in the finals the same score as four other finalists. **Once again the high 10's were sought** after shots, being the difference between the colour of the medal. Jason shot 103.6 keeping his 5th place and Gold going to Ji-Seok LEE from Korea, for his second Gold medal of the Games.



Day six, last day of shooting. Ashley and Libby were all prepared for their last match of the competition. Ashley looking for his last chance at a medal, **shot a 590 to give him second place behind Jonas Jacobsson and third going to China's, Cuiping ZHANG.** The final results saw Jonas Jacobsson, Sweden take the Gold with 695.8, second and third to China, Cuiping Zhang and Choa Dong. Ashley ended his Games campaign in fourth place with 688.5.

The team then spent the rest of the Games supporting the Australian Team members in their quest for **Gold. With the highlight of the trip being a sight seeing visit to the "Great Wall".**

TALENT HUNT FOR LONDON 2012 GOES ONLINE

With competition from other nations increasing, the Australian Sports Commission has developed a world first online electronic Talent Identification Program (better known as eTID), designed to uncover talented hopefuls from every corner of the nation.

Greg Nance, ASC Director for Sport Performance and Development, understands **Australia's plight.**

'Being a relatively small country we don't have the resources to invest in sport like the UK, so we need to continuously develop innovative tools that enable us to keep up with the rest of the world.

'eTID is Australia's solution to finding talent in a way that is smarter and more efficient', Nance said.

eTID is simple to use, free, online program that tests an athlete's sporting abilities.

It provides opportunities for aspiring or current athletes and even former elite athletes looking to start a new sport.

The athletes' information is processed and if identified as 'above average' by eTID, they are then encouraged to visit a Talent Assessment Centre to have their results verified.

Once the Talent Assessment Centre identifies that the athlete has real talent they can enter the elite sporting system, where they could be supported with coaching, equipment and travel.

We encourage all aspiring athletes to log onto eTID today and find out if they have **the potential to be Australia's next sporting champion** ausport.gov.au/etid



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

TARGETING TALENT—A RIFLE TALENT ID

The Targeting Talent Program was begun in an effort to promote rifle shooting as a sport that can take individuals to International level competition, including Olympics. The goal of the program is to gather a group of people who are interested in working toward a goal of competing at international level, and provide ongoing coaching and support to them.

We advertised the program widely throughout Adelaide in the local newspapers, for a cost of \$1034; attended an Open Day at the Adelaide University and handed out brochures for no cost; and mailed information to the high schools in Adelaide for the cost of photocopying and mail. The advertising was to promote a free Open Day at the shooting range, where people could try out for selection to a training squad.

Current membership were also informed of the program and advised that they are welcome to participate in the coaching sessions if they were interested.

At the Open Day, we had around 25 people register to try shooting, and a few parents also had a go. Initially we were going to select 5-6 individuals to be involved in the ongoing training. However, the interest and maturity displayed by all participants on the day called for a change of plan to the original idea - with general acceptance that it is very difficult to predetermine a good shooter. We invited everyone back to another training day, and had two time slots to fit everyone in. Only 4 people were not interested in coming back.

Since that time, a few people have decided that this sport is not for them, however, we have a group of about 15 people who have either joined a club (or are in the process of), and are engaged in regular training sessions with the coach.

Training sessions comprise of some holding and getting used to balance, shooting groups and focus on skill development, and to finish off, a small competition with a final. The group enjoy an environment where they are competing against themselves and each other, and there are always a few laughs. It has been very important to support these people. They were attracted to the sport as it is one where international competition is possible - they have valued the structure and support of a program.

We plan to advertise again next year and keep this ball rolling.

Carrie Quigley.

This initiative taken by Carrie and funded by the local State Rifle Association (TRSA) is an example of what can be achieved. We will look at producing a kit to assist if there is sufficient interest.

Nick

WHERE ARE THEY NOW SUE CARLYON?



Years Competing at High Level:

1982 World Champs Caracas Venezuela
 1984 European Championships
 1985 World Air Gun Champs Mexico

2001 Commonwealth Federation Bisley
 2002 Commonwealth Games/World Champs Finland
 2005 Commonwealth Fed Melbourne
 1984-**2007 Oceania's**

Still Involved in Shooting:

Yes

Level Of Participation:

State/National and Coaching/Manager
 Team Management with AI SL
 NSW State Assistant Coach

Work:

Childcare support worker—Preschool teachers aid

Marital Status:

Married 2 boys 14/18—learning to shoot!
 Still happily married to Kelvin; shooting since 1965.

ON THE WAY UP! TIM BRAYBON



Events Competing In:

Air Rifle—10m standing
 Air Rifle—50m Prone

I aspire to:

Get into AI SL High Performance Squad
 Be able to compete in World Cups and international events

Occupation:

2nd year apprentice fitter and turner

Sport:

Shooting and Cricket

Other:

I shoot mainly air rifle events and shoot prone at major competitions

Kirley & Sottosanti awarded VIS Scholarships

Nicholas Kirley (Mansfield Gun Club) & Anthony Sottosanti (Frankston-Australia Gun Club) were both successful in obtaining a Victoria Institute of Sport (VIS) **Scholarship in the "2012 & Beyond Scholarship Program" for 2008/09**. Nick & Anthony were identified as athletes who have the potential to represent Australia at future marquee events such as the Olympic and Commonwealth Games.

Nick was a finalist in the Olympic Selection Trials for Double Trap earlier this year and missed selection by 3 points. He finished 2nd overall in the open division and first in juniors at the Australian Nationals held in Perth in January 2008. Nick competed at the 2007 World ISSF Junior Championships in Cyprus where he finished 4th. He was also a gold medalist at the 2007 Australian Youth Olympics in Sydney.

Anthony who competes in the ISSF event of skeet, recently represented Australia at the Commonwealth Junior Games. Anthony won the ISSF National Skeet Open Title in Perth earlier this year as well as winning the Junior High gun.

Following a comprehensive interview process, Nick & Anthony who were nominated by the Victorian Clay Target Association in consultation with AISL were successful. The VIS received nearly 50 applications from athletes from 20 different sports.

The new "2012 & Beyond Scholarship Program" program is designed to assist the VIS to identify athletes with outstanding potential and act as a 'fast tracking' mechanism for the next wave of athletes who demonstrate a unique blend of talent and dedication but may not have reached their full potential within National / International rankings.

10 scholarships across all VIS sports were provided and will be offered annually. The successful athletes will be reviewed on an annual basis to monitor progress and development goals. Successful athletes selected into the program will be offered comprehensive VIS scholarship benefits including training facilities, expert advice in sports medicine, sport science including sport psychology, physical preparation as well as career and education support. Financial assistance may also be made available to fund some training, specialized equipment and competition expenses.

Australian International Shooting Ltd. congratulates both Nick & Anthony and thanks the VIS for its **'2012 and Beyond Scholarship Program' initiative and support.**

Nick Sanders takes on Full Time Role with VIS

The Board and management of AISL take this opportunity to express our thanks to Nick for all his excellent work in the support of our sport through not only his official role as our full time Sports Science and Sports Medicine Coordinator but also for updating our Ranking program and importantly for his work in the youth program.

Nick has helped those willing to listen and learn, that to be successful at the highest level you also need to be healthy, not just a good shot (even daring to organise healthy meals on an international flight).

Nick has also been a great sounding board for all at the High Performance Program and will be missed, however the

opportunities available at the VIS will provide him with greater opportunities to utilise his many skills and we are confident that he will continue to monitor our sport. Nick, thanks for all your help and good luck for your future.

Nick Sullivan

Carrie Quigley ISSF Level C Coach

Congratulations go to Carrie on her successful completion of this course recently held in Finland; a course which generally has a 35% failure rate; so well done. Carrie has also just been awarded a Sports Commission scholarship (a first for shooting) to further her studies and work in her sport of shooting. Carrie has also been actively involved in developing and collating the audit of the Sports Connect program which is about inclusion for all in sport.

A former Olympian Carrie comes from a family of four Olympians, viz., Sylvia Muehlberg (1984) mum and then 3 daughters—Sue Banks (1996); Belinda Muehlberg (2000) and Carrie also in 2000.