



PETANQUE FEDERATION AUSTRALIA LTD

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Melbourne 02 January 2012,

Dear members,

End of year report of activity

On behalf of the PFA Board in my role as the Sport Director I have set up new process and general guidelines for Coaching, Umpiring, and Selection process, introduced a new software program and added a new PFA Tournament.

I have relied on the assistance and great contribution of Warren Sowter and Ray Beaumont in particular, as well as having the full support of the PFA Board.

Coaches and coaching

Warren Sowter was appointed as National Administrative Director of Coaching with the following goals:

- To establish a full National and state register of all coaches and their ranking**
- To develop and finalise a coaching pathway (courses, exams, qualifications)**
- To develop a training program for all players**
- To propose with the State Director of coaching a list of players/teams to the PFA**

Selection panel.

- A full coaching and training package to be delivered by Warren Sowter in coming weeks.

Umpires and Umpiring

A review of our Umpire policy has been conducted a draft sent to Ray Beaumont our National Director of Umpiring and Umpire Commission, the intention is to maintain and develop further the standard of Umpiring in Australia

- PFA Board has developed a new online testing system for umpires, this new system should encourage more members to read and understand the Rules of the Games of Petanque**
- Interested members wanting to become Umpires should contact their State Director of Umpiring**
- Umpiring commission to prepare candidates to sit test to become Confederation Umpire, and then International Umpire, as Australia needs more International Umpires to show our contribution to the International scene**

Selection Process

A new transparent and fair Selection process has now been implemented allowing all players holders of a National licence to apply to represent Australia in International competitions. Warren Sowter and the State Directors of coaching receiving and assessing all candidatures based on clear and published criteria making recommendation to PFA National Selection panel.

Guidelines were distributed in July 2011 developing the process with a clear path for all players.

Warren Sowter has developed an electronic consultation program allowing all the state coaches to contribute and record their assessment of the candidates.

A national calendar has been published and players have been asked to advise their State coach of their availability and financial possibility.

A refundable registration fee of \$150 has been introduced as part of our player registration as to

- a) Demonstrate player's commitment
- b) To stop players refusing their selection based on the others players selected
- c) All players refusing their selection will forfeit their registration fee, the fee will then be deposited in a "Travelling account for players"

Our first team selected under this process represented Australia at the recent Asian Championships in Thailand with I believe did quite well (Men and Women).

A full comprehensive report will be published by Warren Sowter in coming days.

I have asked Warren Sowter to pursue and develop the selection process further, with a players squad in each state forming the base of a National squad formed of players chosen by our state coaches. The players missing out on selection must accept and understand that they need to train and practice to be part of the squads.

Software – Data base, Format competition

A software program was offered to all Leagues and clubs, 8 programs are now being used in Australia by Leagues and clubs alike.

The software giving tournament organisers a multitude of competition formats, access to the PFA players data base and the recording of all results.

The results can be sent to our Coaching staff allowing them the monitoring of all players performances.

Program can still be purchased, ask me and will assist

PFA Competitions (Refer to PFA calendar)

Australian Triple Open Championships to be held at the Azurri Petanque Club in Newcastle NSW in March 2012

Australian Double Championships, 1st being held at the Camberwell Petanque Club in Victoria in April 2012

Interstate Championships to date no venue, Tournament to be held on 1st weekend of November 2012

International Competition

Trans Tasman Series in New Zealand with the Australian team to be selected by our coaches, players have been asked to register their interest and availability for this special event.

Pan Pacific Games to be held in Sydney in June 2012, this is special competition open to 2 teams per country – Once again Australian teams to be selected by our coaches.

Men World Championships Marseille – France

As indicated in the December newsletter Australia having missed on qualifying for the Men World Championships Final is now on a waiting list.

I did receive from Mr Claude Azema FIPJP President during the SEA Games in Indonesia a strong indication that Australia will be one of the first countries considered.

The team of 4 players (Men) will be selected by our coaches

All teams selected by our coaches will be submitted by Warren Sowter National Administrative Director of Coaching to our PFA National Selection panel for final approval.

I like to remind you that PFA doesn't financially assist our players travelling overseas as we don't have the necessary funds to do so.

National sponsors and grants may assist us, if any of you have contacts, proposals please do approach Jean Paul Boudan the PFA Secretary.

Finally on behalf of the PFA Board, coaches, umpires I like to wish you and your family a Wonderful and Happy New Year 2012

Kind regards,

Andre Deramond

Andre Deramond
PFA Sport
Director