



DISABILITY SPORT & RECREATION | MONTHLY eNEWSLETTER



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



## June 2016 - edition 6

### Let's get social...

Like us on Facebook

Follow [@disabilitysprt](#) to join the conversation on Twitter!

Like CyclePower on Facebook

See you on Instagram... we are [@disabilitysportandrec](#)

Search our free directory of all things sport and recreation... [Score!](#)

Do you have a story for Vortex?  
Then get in touch with Catherine - [catherine@dsr.org.au](mailto:catherine@dsr.org.au) or call 9473 0133.

## From the CEO...

Recently I had the pleasure of talking about the work we do with an appearance on the 3CR radio show, "Are You Looking at Me". This weekly show, hosted by Liz Wright, who is vision impaired, was a wonderful opportunity to contribute to her show which explores a range of disability related issues.



Sharing our achievements on air made me take stock of how busy, vibrant and active Disability Sport & Recreation is, and I wanted to share a couple of our recent successes and achievements with you.

**WheelTalk** - Our popular Wheeltalk program continues to educate thousands of school children all over Victoria, raising disability awareness and promoting the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. May was the biggest ever month for the program with 65 schools visited and 126 sessions provided throughout the state. So far in 2016, we have been to 171 schools providing 279 sessions which is a big increase from the same period in 2015, where we had visited 121 schools with 195 sessions. If your school or workplace is interested in booking a session of this popular program, please email [WheelTalk@dsr.org.au](mailto:WheelTalk@dsr.org.au) or visit our [website](#).

### DSR membership reaches new milestone!

Our membership continues to grow steadily, providing wonderful

support for our programs but also illustrating the partnership approach we are taking to work positively with the various organisations and professionals in the sector seeking to improve the health of Victorians with disability through participation in sport and recreation. For the first time, our membership is over 2,500, including 1,549 individuals, 804 associate members and 150 organisations. If you would like to become a member or find out more, please visit [www.dsr.org.au](http://www.dsr.org.au) for an application form or email [Karla@dsr.org.au](mailto:Karla@dsr.org.au).

**New Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Organisations Committee** - With the support of Sport & Recreation Victoria, we have transitioned the Disability State Sporting Bodies Committee to the new Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Organisations Committee, which better reflects the membership and aspirations of this group. The first meeting of the new committee is scheduled for 23 June, at which a work plan will be developed to increase the capacity of the member organisations via a series of workshops and presentations. Importantly, there are now 13 disability specific organisations represented on this committee providing an excellent forum for networking and shared learning.

---

## Harry's new wheels

Harry's favourite subject at school is sport, but now his education has been given a whole new spin.

In April, the sporty seven-year-old picked up a junior sports chair from our adaptive equipment library so he could start learning wheelchair basketball.

He was introduced to the game at the start of 2016, and when his parents discovered they could hire a chair through Disability Sport & Recreation, Harry couldn't wait to jump in and start his lessons.

"I like games where you can pass the ball a lot, I think that's fun," he explained, when asked why he wanted to learn wheelchair basketball.

"My favourite bit was the match. I didn't score any goals, but I did get to do lots of throwing, catching, and passing," the competitive youngster said.

Now he has his junior sports chair, Harry is playing every second weekend at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, and he can't wait to start tearing it up on the court.

If you would like to learn more about our adaptive sporting equipment library, please contact Gary on 9473 0133.



---

## New State Disability Plan - have

## your say

People with disability make up 20 per cent of Victoria's population, and the *State Disability Plan 2017-2020*, is the government's road map for prioritising policies and services to meet our needs.

The roll out of the NDIS will significantly change the Victorian Government's role and responsibilities towards people with disability, even though only two per cent of the Victorian population are expected to participate in the scheme.

That's why the state government is calling on all Victorians with disability to contribute to the development of the plan.

We need all our members to let the government know about the power of sport and recreation to change lives, and that they need to commit to making accessible and inclusive sport and recreation for people with disability a key priority in the new plan.

We can help you prepare your submission, or you can share your story or make your submission independently at the [Disability Plan website](http://www.statedisabilityplan.vic.gov.au), [www.statedisabilityplan.vic.gov.au](http://www.statedisabilityplan.vic.gov.au).

Comments and submissions on the discussion paper will close soon on Wednesday 6 July at 5pm.

---

## Score! for the Ballarat region

On Friday 27 May, we held a celebration and free come-and-try event at the Sebastopol Bowling Club, to celebrate the arrival of [Score!](#) to the Ballarat region.

[Score!](#) is our interactive directory of sport and recreation, accessible venues and events for people with disability, developed with funding from the [nib foundation](#).

The event was a hit with local media, featuring in the Ballarat Courier and on the evening news. It was also pleasing to be supported by local state parliament members, Geoff Howard and Sharon Knight, and Andrew Milligan from Sports Central.

Graeme Bridge, Chief Executive of [Bowls Victoria](#), said: "Bowls is a wonderfully inclusive sport that anyone can play. [Score!](#) gives us another way of connecting and communicating directly with families in the region, to help them discover and enjoy our sport."

President of the Sebastopol Bowling Club, Bill Moore, said [Score!'s](#) unique rating and feedback system gives local people confidence that the activities on offer were right for them.

"Our club is already running a few programs for people with disability. With a positive rating or review in [Score!](#), someone can see immediately that they will be welcomed, included and given the chance to learn and play bowls," he said.



Top photo, left to right: Connie Raso, Sports Consultant, Vicsport; Andrew Milligan, Programs Manager, Sports Central; John Fisher, President, Bowls Victoria; Richard Amon, CEO, DSR; Graeme Bridge, CE, Bowls Victoria; Sharon Knight, Labor Member for Wendouree; Geoff Howard, Labor Member for Buninyong with members of the local community.

Bottom photo: Kelly gets a lesson from a member of the Sebastopol Bowling Club.

Visit [www.scoredsr.org.au](http://www.scoredsr.org.au)

## Hamilton Classic

Strap yourself in for the toughest games on wheels, as the 2016 Wheelchair Rugby Hamilton Classic tears up the HILAC Stadium this Friday and Saturday!

### When:

Friday 3 June - games from 12pm with the Australian Steelers Grudge Match at 6pm.  
Saturday 4 June - 10am GRAND FINAL

### Where:

Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre (HILAC), Shakespeare Street

The Hamilton Classic is supported by Disability Sport & Recreation, Ace Radio, Southern Grampians Shire Council, South West Sport and [Protect](#).



## Wheelchair handball exhibition game at Australian championships

Formed in 2014, the Darebin City Wheelchair Handball Club (DCWHC) is an inclusive club whose aim is to develop and promote wheelchair handball from a local level to international competition.



The club will be showcasing their talented players in an exhibition game prior to the men's handball final at the 2016 Australian Handball Club Championships in Geelong on 5 June.

The president of DCWHC thanks Handball Victoria and participating clubs for the opportunity to show wheelchair handball to the Geelong community.

**When:** Sunday, 5 June, 12.10pm-1.30pm

**Where:** Leisuretime Centre, 262-268, Anakie Rd, Norlane

For more information on wheelchair handball, [visit their](#)

[website, www.dcwhc.org](http://www.dcwhc.org), follow them on [Facebook](#) or email [media@dcwhc.org](mailto:media@dcwhc.org)

## Doveton Special Soccer School -

On 13 May, the Doveton Special Soccer School received a record \$27,000 grant from the Dandenong Club to support its operations.

The grant was a result of considerable work between the Dandenong Club, Community Clubs Victoria president Leon Wiegard, Dandenong MP Gabrielle Williams and DSR to identify an appropriate recipient of the funds.

The grant will help cover complete soccer kits and tracksuits for all the players, soccer balls, ground and indoor facility hire.



Founded in 1993, the Doveton Special Soccer School has grown to be the biggest of its type in the state, and one of the biggest in the country, providing competition and training for hundreds of intellectually disabled athletes from around the local Dandenong area.

Founder and coach, Juan Carlos Loyola OAM, said his players will wear their new uniforms with pride.

“The grant is a tremendous help for us. The enjoyment of our players comes first and this donation will fulfil their dream to play.”

We will continue to work with the Doveton Special Soccer School and the Dandenong Club to administer the grant.

To learn more about this wonderful club, [visit their website, dovetonsss.com.au](http://dovetonsss.com.au)

## CyclePower - Thanks to our supporters - jersey sponsorship closing soon

Our annual international fundraising initiative supporting people with disability here and overseas continues to be well supported by the business community.

For the 2016 initiative to Cambodia and Vietnam, significant support has been received from [Probuild](#) (one of Australia's largest and most successful construction



experts) who have signed on as the event's major sponsor.

We welcome first-time CyclePower supporters, [Knog](#), a unique Australian global lighting and cycling accessories brand, selling Knog products to 46 different countries; [CMI Hino trucks](#) (Melbourne division), and [Leeson's Logging & Cartage](#), a Rosedale-based, third generation business operating for over 45 years.

For the third consecutive year, [Cinori Shoes & Accessories](#) are generously supporting CyclePower, and [Uniting Journeys](#) joins us for a second time.

Uniting Journeys is a shared initiative of Australian owned travel provider Jetaway Travel Pty Ltd and the Commission for Mission of the Uniting Church in Australia (Victoria and Tasmania), offering well researched travel opportunities for people who think deeply about their travel being more responsible.

Our thanks goes to all our sponsors, supporters and donors.

There are a small number of remaining sponsorship opportunities still available to support the 2016 initiative, which close in mid-June, so please call Karla on 9473 0133 if your business is interested in being involved.

---

## Sons of the West - health program with a difference

Sons of the West is a FREE men's health program for men aged 18 and over living or working in Victoria's west. This 10-week program will improve your mental and physical health through workshops, presentations, events and experiences.

There are giveaways and incentives including match day experiences, customised Sons of the West hoodies and the chance to win signed Western Bulldogs merchandise.

Check the listing for your nearest FREE and FUN Sons of the West program:

**Sebastopol** - Monday nights from 6 June  
**Wendouree** - Tuesday nights from 7 June  
**Deer Park** - Monday nights from 6 June  
**Delahey** - Wednesday nights from 8 June  
**Williamstown** - Tuesday nights from 7 June  
**Laverton** - Thursday nights from 9 June  
**Braybrook** - Tuesday nights from 7 June  
**Footscray West** - Wednesday nights from 8 June  
**Caroline Springs** - Tuesday nights from 7 June  
**Melton** - Thursday nights from 9 June  
**Werribee** - Tuesday nights from 7 June  
**Tarneit** - Thursday nights from 9 June

For more information email [info@sonsofthewest.org.au](mailto:info@sonsofthewest.org.au) or visit [their website, sonsofthewest.org.au](http://sonsofthewest.org.au)



---

## Quaffles at the ready!

On 9 May, the Royal Children's Hospital opened its gymnasium doors for young DSR members to play Wheelchair Quidditch for the first time.

The group started with a fun get-to-know-you activity before Genevieve Gibson, coach of the Australian Quidditch team, introduced the basic principles of the game that has been described as a mix between dodgeball, rugby, and hide-and-seek.

The children had a blast throwing balls through upright hoops and catching the elusive Golden Snitch... a tennis ball stuffed inside a yellow sock!

Thank you to the Royal Children's Hospital staff and Gen Gibson. Good luck to Australia's Quidditch Team, the Dropbears, competing in the World Cup next month.

If you know a kid who would like to join this fun and unique hospital program, please email [juliet@dsr.org.au](mailto:juliet@dsr.org.au) or call 9473 0133.



## Blind Sports Victoria - four upcoming activities

### Men's Blind Tennis - Come & Try Day

**Date:** Wednesday, 15 June 2016

**Time:** 1pm - 3pm

**Venue:** Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, 489 Glenferrie Rd, Kooyong (opposite Vision Australia)

**What to wear:** Comfortable sporting attire and runners

**Registration:**

[info@blindsports.org.au](mailto:info@blindsports.org.au) or phone 9822 8876

**Cost:** Free

**blind sports victoria**  
sport and recreation specialists



### Junior Blind Tennis - school holiday program

Introduction to tennis for school aged children, consisting of two 2-hour sessions to learn basic skills and equipment.

**Date:** Thursday 30 June and Tuesday 5 July

**Time:** 10am to 12 noon

**Venue:** Tennis World, National Tennis Centre, Melbourne Park, Olympic Boulevard, Richmond

**Cost:** Free (all participants receive a participation pack)

**Registration:** Email [info@blindsports.org.au](mailto:info@blindsports.org.au) or ring 9822 8876 for a registration form.

### Basketball Program

Seeking expressions of interest for a vision impaired basketball program. This program is for males and females aged 6 - 18 years of age.

**Date:** Tuesday, 5 July

**Time:** 10am - 12pm

**Venue:** North Melbourne Recreation Centre, 204-206 Arden St,  
North Melbourne

**Registration:** Email [tim.downes@basketballvictoria.com.au](mailto:tim.downes@basketballvictoria.com.au) or  
phone 9837 8000

### **OnBoard with Blind Safety**

Increase your knowledge and awareness of safety in the home and around the City of Melbourne.

**June 22** - tour of the MCG and National Sports Museum.

Cost: \$12.50 - places are limited

**July 6** - Southern Cross Station, including a visit and information about the services that Travellers Aid provides and a walk around Docklands

**August 24** - walk Melbourne's Golden Mile

**August 31** - a visit to Federation Square and Treasury Gardens

**September 7** - visit Queen Victoria Market

**October 12** - visit Olympic Park, Melbourne's sporting precinct

**October 18** - a talk about home safety and alarms

If you are interested in any of these activities or would like your name added to the email list for future events, please email Sandra Knight, [Sandra@blindsports.org.au](mailto:Sandra@blindsports.org.au) or phone 9822 9642

---

## Calling all health heroes

We rely on the generosity of the community to run our programs, advocate for inclusion and help people become more active.

At the end of the financial year, please consider making a donation to help us continue our work.

All donations are tax deductible.

[Yes! I'd like to make a donation](#)

---

## Adaptive Mountain Biking Conference, 18 June

Learn about what's happening in Australia and around the world with the new and developing sport and recreational activity of Adaptive MTB.

Presented by Break the Boundary, and sponsored by DSR and Disability Sports Australia, you are invited to take part in the discussion and steering of Australian Adaptive MTB.

### **WORKSHOP**

Saturday 18 June, 9.30am - 12.00pm

DSR Headquarters, 341 George Street, Fitzroy



© Ruslan Kulski



© Photography by Kerry Halford

### MINI DEMO

Same day, 12.30pm -  
1.30pm  
BY REQUEST ONLY

### RSVP

Jenni, [jenni@sports.org.au](mailto:jenni@sports.org.au)

## Golf clinic - 25 June, Sandhurst

Empower Golf Australia holds monthly Come and Try Golf Clinics at Sandhurst Golf Club. The next clinic is on 25 June. These weekend clinics introduce people to golf for the first time, or reintroduce players to the game after accident or illness.

Try the ParaGolfer (which is available for future hire at Sandhurst) and other adaptive equipment. The ParaGolfer raises wheelchair users into a standing position to allow a more conventional golf swing.

Australia's premier Disability Specialist PGA Professional, Christian Hamilton will be there to make sure every player gets the most out of the afternoon.

[Book online](#)

For more information, email James Gribble, [james.gribble@empowergolf.com.au](mailto:james.gribble@empowergolf.com.au)

**Empower**  
GOLF CLINICS AT SANDHURST  
hosted by Empower & Christian Hamilton  
Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> of June, 2-5pm  
Sandhurst Golf Course, Victoria  
Try golf, the ParaGolfer and other adaptive equipment

**EMPOWER GOLF AUSTRALIA**  
was established specifically to facilitate and promote golf for all Australians regardless of their physical, mental or psychological abilities.

**PLACES LIMITED**  
To book, visit [empowergolf.com.au/events](http://empowergolf.com.au/events)  
For more information, email [james.gribble@empowergolf.com.au](mailto:james.gribble@empowergolf.com.au)

You're receiving this newsletter because you are an associate with our organisation.  
Having trouble reading this? [View it in your browser](#). Not interested? [Unsubscribe](#) instantly.