



# Archery Australia Board News

**MARCH 2014**

## **Special General Meeting**

A Special General Meeting was held on Sunday 2 March in Melbourne attended by the Board and the Regional Governing Body Presidents or the RGB representatives.

This was an important meeting at which a motion to change the constitution was discussed and voted on. Clubs and individual archers have up until now only been affiliates of Archery Australia and the motion in essence was to make Clubs and individual archers members of Archery Australia, not just affiliates of the organisation.

It is very pleasing that the meeting voted overwhelmingly to approve this change. Clubs and individual archers will now be non-voting members of Archery Australia with RGBs remaining as the voting members.

The Board sees this change an important milestone on the journey to make Archery Australia a modern, progressive organisation.

## **Strategic Planning Day**

Following the Special General Meeting a Strategic Planning session was held to review the Archery Australia Strategic Plan 2014 - 2017.

This plan was put in place last year and while it is early days it was very pleasing to note the considerable progress that has been made. The Action Plan which comes from the Strategic Plan has 4 Key Strategic Areas; Governance, Excellence, Participation and Sustainability and from this there is a sub-set of 47 planned actions. Several of these actions have been completed and most of the others are tracking on schedule.

The Strategic Plan is intended to be an integrated plan and is to cascade down to RGBs and then to Clubs and we are asking RGBs and Clubs to use the Archery Australia Plan as a template for their own strategic plans, and take on the relevant elements and also add in other elements that are more relevant at a local level. In this way we hope to have a fully integrated focus from club level

The meeting continued to support the vision for our organisation.....

**"Archery is a mainstream recreational and competitive sport"** and our mission to achieve this .....

**"Archery Australia will provide the leadership and tools to make archery a sport people want to participate in and contribute to".**

The plan is being held relatively stable in 2014. However, it is intended to be a rolling plan and in 2015 we would look to its first substantial revision.

The Action Plan will be updated next month following the review we undertook, and it will then be updated on the website.

## **YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES – 2 SPOTS FOR AUSTRALIA!**

On the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February, Archery NZ hosted a Youth Olympic Qualifying event for Oceania youth members at Shore Archery Club in Auckland.

Up for grabs were one female spot and one male spot to represent the region at the Youth Olympic Games being held in Nanjing China in August 2014.

Representing Australia, were Jacob Blackburn and Jess Sutton. Ranking had both archers finish in number 1 position with Jess scoring 644 and Jacob 654.

Jess went straight through to the gold medal match and won 6-0 against the New Zealand archer.

Jacob took the lead from his New Zealand competitor but NZ came back to force a shoot off. Jacob finished the job and secured the spot by shooting a great "x".

Supporting the two archers was recently appointed Coach Shih along with Dave Sutton.

***What's the next step?*** Those qualifying and meeting selection criteria will be announced at the Youth Nationals in Adelaide. The selected archers will be required to have endorsement from the Board of Archery Australia although final selection will be determined by the Australian Olympic Committee before positions on the team can be confirmed. The selection criteria document is yet to be approved by the Australian Olympic Committee although extracts and important details have been posted on the Archery Australia website.

## **ARCHERY AUSTRALIA APPOINTS MARTIN SHAW AS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

The Board of Archery Australia is pleased to announce the appointment of Martin Shaw as Chief Operating Officer.

Martin comes to Archery Australia with an extensive background in sports administration, having previously held CEO roles with Equestrian Western Australia, Football Federation Tasmania and Table Tennis Australia.

"We are pleased to welcome Martin to the Archery Australia team," said Archery Australia President Brian Hagaman.

"The Board has recognised that our growing membership numbers mean that we need to increase our management staff in order to keep providing a quality service to our members and RGB's and we are confident that Martin's appointment will help in this area."

The main focus of the COO role will be to handle many of the day to day operational matters that the organisation faces, allowing the CEO to concentrate on more strategic initiatives to help continue the current growth of the sport.

"I am pleased to be joining Archery Australia at this exciting time," said Martin. "There are many good things happening within the sport and I look forward to being able to work with the Archery fraternity to help continue this momentum."

Martin commenced work with Archery Australia in February and is based in the new National Office in Sydney.

## **NATIONAL MATCHPLAY SERIES**

The Archery Australia Board has approved the introduction of a National Matchplay Series. The National matchplay series is based on similar events conducted overseas and conducted over the past few years in Victoria.

Each RGB will be invited to conduct a Matchplay Tournament open to all archers and similar to the World Archery World Cup archers will gain points following each of the RGB tournament .

Each RGB Matchplay Tournament would be conducted over one day with 72 arrow Ranking Round in the morning followed by Elimination Matchplay and Finals in the afternoon.

At the completion of the RGB Matchplay tournaments the top 4 ranked athletes based on allocated points in each category Male Recurve, Male Compound, Female Recurve and Female Compound (16 in total) will be invited to attend the National Matchplay Series Grand Final.

To be eligible athletes must shoot in a minimum of 3 of the RGB Matchplay Tournaments, if an athlete shoots in more than 3 RGB Matchplay Tournament then best 3 results will be used.

The National Matchplay Series comprises RGB Matchplay tournaments and a Grand Final for competitors in the following categories:

- Male Recurve
- Women's Recurve
- Male Compound
- Women's Compound

## **Precision Awards**

During the National Matchplay Series RGB Matchplay Tournaments there will be a Precision Award presented in each of the following categories

- Male Recurve
- Women Recurve
- Male Compound
- Female Compound

To be eligible an archer must compete in one or more of the National Matchplay Series RGB Matchplay Tournaments, the award will be based on the highest number of 10s shot during the series. If there is a tie then the standard tie breaking process (10's/X's and then X's) will be used. If still a tie then the archers second best scores will be used.

It is intended to conduct the first of the National Matchplay Series in the second half of 2014 and RGBs have been asked to look at staging a RGB Matchplay Tournament. It is then anticipated the National matchplay Grand Final will be staged in late November early December 2014.

The long term plan over the coming years is to develop and grow the National Matchplay Series into a major event for Archery Australia.

Read more about the National Matchplay Series at the following link on the AA website -

[www.archery.org.au/Portals/22/1068%20National%20Matchplay%20Series.pdf](http://www.archery.org.au/Portals/22/1068%20National%20Matchplay%20Series.pdf)

## **NATIONAL ARCHERY LEAGUE**

For many years tournament have been based around a long-standing annual calendar with generally the same events conducted each year. Generally these events are aimed at the more experienced archer with little activities for developing and general club members.

Feedback in particular from parents would indicate they are looking for regular competitive activities particularly at club level.

These comments from parents would indicate they are expecting to see a regular season based competition similar to Football, Cricket, Netball etc where individuals and possibly clubs could compete against each other.

Many clubs currently offer regular club activities but the need has been identified for a more national approach.

It is also clear there is a need for an event that caters for all levels of the sport offering a Pathway for everyone from new to elite.

With this in mind the Archery Australia Board approved a proposal to establish a National Archery League, which will be offered to clubs with the scores and results nationally recognised and managed.

In essence the National Archery League will be what used to be known as a Postal Shoot but will be internet based with live and up to date results.

The concept behind the National Archery League is to provide regular organised competition for all Archery Australia members at club level, which will be conducted in two forms "Off the Bow" and "Handicap" giving all members the opportunity to compete and compare scores in a national environment.

The National Archery League will also give members the opportunity to establish and improve their Handicap Rating as well as allow greater opportunity for the claiming of Classifications, Medals and Awards.

The important point is that each League will be limited to defined seasons Autumn and Spring. The long term plan is to have two National League events a year, for 2014 as a trial and as a starting point only the Spring League will be conducted.

**Spring - August, September, October and November**

**Autumn - February, March, April and May.**

For the initial National Spring League one weekend a month will be set aside where clubs can program and conduct a National Archery League event.

For 2015 and beyond the plan is to set aside two weekends a month on the National Calendar for National Archery League events giving a total of 8 National Archery League events for each season.

Clubs may arrange interclub shoots or conduct a stand alone Club Event for their members.

Clubs can decide to conduct their National Archery League event on either the Saturday or Sunday whatever best fits into the club calendar and activities.

### **Events and Rounds.**

It is envisaged the National Archery League is an event for all members irrespective of their ability or experience in the sport. Hence there will be two different events, "off the Bow" and "Handicap".

The rounds to be shot will be quick about 2 to 2.5 hours and short to fit into the current needs and life styles of members.

It has become apparent over recent years that many members are looking for an archery activity that involves about 2 to 3 hours a week and the intention of the National Archery League is to provide just such an activity.

The round to be shot is still being considered but the general feeling is the 720 rounds best fits the concept. These rounds can be shot as short as 30m for new and novice members and all the way up to 70m for the experienced recurve member or 50m on the 80cm face for compound.

Final details are still be considered along with proposed dates for 2014.

RGB and the National Calendars are being reviewed to ensure 2014 Spring National League Shoots does not interfere with a current calendar tournament or activity.

Keep an eye on the Archery Australia website for more detail over the coming months for more information.

## **NEW PROCEDURES RELEASED**

The Archery Australia Board has recently approved 3 new procedures

1066 Use of Archery Australia Brand

1067 Accompanying Parent Policy

1068 National Matchplay Policy

## **SELECTION POLICY UPDATE**

The selection Policy for the 2014 World Field Championships has been modified and updated can be viewed at the following link -

[www.archery.org.au/Tournaments/International-Tournaments/2014-World-Field-Championships](http://www.archery.org.au/Tournaments/International-Tournaments/2014-World-Field-Championships)

