

# Para-Table Tennis in Australia

A journey from hospital wards to high performance innovation

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## A. Preamble

Table Tennis began in England in the 19<sup>th</sup> century as an after-dinner parlour game for members of the upper class. It is said that it was originally played on a dining table, with books standing on their ends to divide the table in two, books as bats and a golf ball as the ball.<sup>1</sup>

By the late 1800s, Table Tennis equipment was being produced and sold, with wooden bats and a ball of rubber or cork. However, the popularity of the sport of Table Tennis exploded in England and the USA after the introduction of the celluloid ball in 1900.<sup>2</sup>

In England alone, during 1901-02, 65 Table Tennis clubs and 48 Ping Pong clubs were formed. 'Ping Pong' was a trademarked brand name owned and strictly enforced by J. Jacques and Son in England and Parker Brothers in the USA, and Table Tennis was its generic alternative.

The sport spread very rapidly into Europe, Asia, NZ and Australia.

In England and the USA, this amazing growth and enthusiasm lasted until 1904, when the boom ended and the sport dramatically and rapidly faded into relative obscurity. Even the amalgamation of the two parent associations did not slow the dramatic decline.

The sport's international renaissance began in 1922 and was hastened in 1926 with the establishment of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) and the first world championships in London. However, the game was very different to that of today, with a single rally of two hours occurring at the 1936 world championships due to the height of the net and the 'pushing' style of play.<sup>3</sup>

In Australia, there was also a mushrooming of growth and enthusiasm in the 1900-04 period. The *Perth Sunday Times* in April 1902 described the phenomenon thus: "*It bids fair to become our national sport.*"<sup>4</sup>

Newspaper mentions from across the country indicate that, while Australia suffered some decline, there was not the disastrous collapse in the sport's popularity that occurred in England and the USA.

There is evidence in the newspapers that various state "Table Tennis" or "Ping Pong" associations were formed during the 1902-1904 boom period but were quickly forgotten. The 1920s and 1930s saw a resurgence in the game in Australia and many of the state associations that exist now had their beginnings in this time and have (apart from a recess at the time of the second World War) been in continual existence to this day. The Queensland Association was formed towards the end of 1922<sup>56</sup> but fixtures did not commence until 1923<sup>78</sup>. The South Australian association was formed in 1923<sup>910</sup>, Victoria in 1925, New South Wales in 1930<sup>11</sup>, Tasmania in 1936<sup>12</sup> and Western Australia in 1938<sup>13</sup>.

The ACT received a boost from the establishment of a challenge cup for commonwealth inter-departmental competition and the opening of Parliament House, with its transfer of personnel from Melbourne. The ACT Association was formed in 1946 and it remained within NSW until 1988.<sup>14</sup>

While its status as a competitive sport waxed and waned, the role of Table Tennis as a recreational pastime grew throughout the twentieth century so that – in countries such as Australia – almost everyone had some exposure to the sport at some time in their lives.

Throughout the periods of growth and decline, and in all countries, there would have been athletes with varying degrees of disability playing and enjoying the sport. One of the characteristics of Table Tennis is that it welcomes and provides for all ages and people with a range of disabilities.

For example, in the Canberra region, from the mid to the late 1950s, Merv Oakey (congenital disability in one arm), Margaret Roberts (polio), John Clark (severe motorcycle accident and in callipers), Graham McPheeters (wheelchair from polio), Jack Ward (cerebral palsy in three limbs) and Merv McInness (polio with pronounced limp) played in the regular competitions, from a total membership at that time of some 200 players.<sup>15</sup>

## B. The growth of Para-Table Tennis in Australia

By the Paralympics in [Tokyo](#)<sup>16</sup> in 2021, Table Tennis had again become one of the largest participant sports in the world. It was the [third largest sport](#) on the 2020 Tokyo program, with 31 medal events and [280 athletes](#), and one of the most competitive.

The popularity of Table Tennis as a pastime in the 1950s and 1960s made it very effective as a rehabilitation sport for people with spinal cord injuries. Almost everyone who had a spinal injury had already experienced Table Tennis and the game could be readily adapted to being played by competitors in wheelchairs.

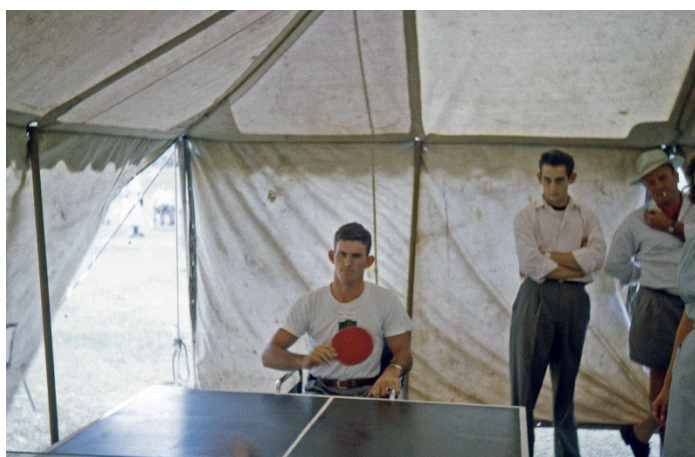
Together with Athletics throws events, Fencing, Archery and Wheelchair Basketball, Table Tennis was a core activity at the sports days that were introduced within and between the spinal units at rehabilitation hospitals in the 1950s and 1960s, starting at the Stoke Mandeville rehabilitation hospital in the UK and spreading to Australia and globally.

In Australia, paraplegic sports activities are first recorded as far back as 1954, with the first Perth Hospital Games created as part of the rehabilitation process. The concept was initiated by [Dr George Bedbrook](#) and supported by the Royal Perth Hospital. Bedbrook, who is considered to be the 'father' of the Paralympic movement in Australia, had been influenced by [Dr Ludwig Guttmann](#), the founder of the Paralympic movement.

In Sydney, the Mount Wilga Rehabilitation Centre was fortunate to have as a staff member [Eileen Perrotte](#), a physiotherapist, who had worked at Stoke Mandeville and at the Royal Perth hospital. She used her training, skills and enthusiasm to organise the first Paraplegic Games to be held in New South Wales, in 1959.

At the Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH) in Sydney, neurologist [Dr John Grant](#) was significantly influenced by the writings of Guttmann about the effectiveness

of sport as rehabilitation for spinal cord injury patients. Soon, patients from Mt Wilga and the RNSH were regularly competing against each other in a range of sports. Three of the athletes who competed went on to be selected for the 1960 Paralympic Games in Rome, including Table Tennis players [Daphne Ceeney](#) (later Hilton) and [Gary Hooper](#).



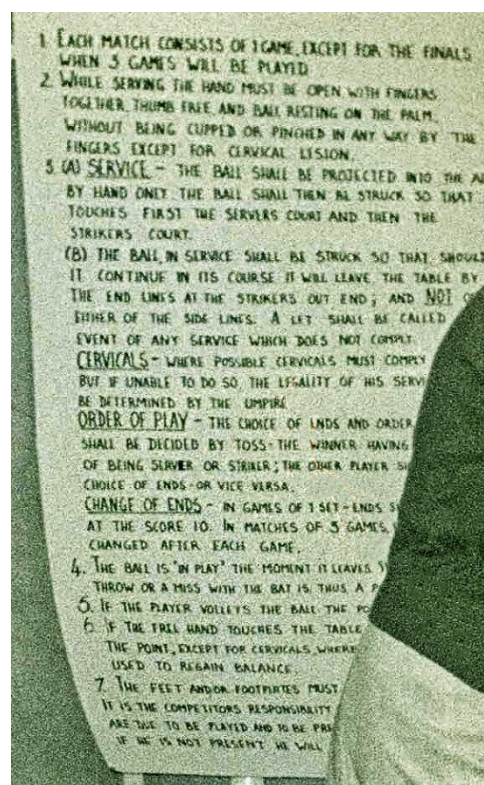
1960 Australian Paralympian Gary Hooper plays Table Tennis at the 1960 RNSH Games.



In Brisbane, spinal cord rehabilitation programs began in the late 1950s at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Kingshorne. These initiatives led eventually to the establishment of what became the [Queensland Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association](#). In Victoria, the first Spinal Unit was established at the Austin Hospital in Heidelberg in 1957. One of the founding members of the [Victorian Paraplegic Sports Club](#) was [Bruno Moretti](#), who, with [Bill Mather-Brown](#), won Australia's first Paralympic medal in Table Tennis.

The disability sports organisations that grew from the hospital rehabilitation programs became the vehicles to develop and support Para-Table Tennis for decades to come.

Para-Table Tennis follows the rules set by the ITTF, with a small number of [modifications for wheelchair athletes only](#) - a serve bouncing backwards when over the net is a let, and a serve stopping on the table is also a let. In singles, the serve must cross the back of the table before it crosses the sides of the table. In doubles, after the serve has been returned by the proper person, then either person may hit any ball, provided their chair doesn't cross the centreline.



Rules of wheelchair Table Tennis on display at a hospital sports day c1962.

Wheelchair Table Tennis was part of the Paralympic program at the first Paralympic Games at Rome in 1960, 28 years before the sport's Olympic debut.

At those first Paralympics, West Australian Bill Mather-Brown and Victorian Bruno Moretti won Australia's first Paralympic medal in Table Tennis – a silver medal in the men's doubles. 19-year-old Moretti was already a Table Tennis champion in Australia. Moretti and Brown both liked to tell the story that the result could have been gold if Mather-Brown had not been so keen to take the shots ahead of his more skilled partner.<sup>17</sup>

In 1960, Daphne Ceeney (later Hilton) was Australia's first and only female Paralympian. In 1964, she and [Marion O'Brien](#) won Australia's first Paralympic gold medal in Table Tennis in the C class women's doubles. O'Brien competed for England at the 1960 Paralympics, met and married Australian Team member Chris O'Brien, moved to Australia and competed for Australia in 1964 and 1968. It was one of [four Table Tennis medals](#) won by Australia in Tokyo, its best result in the sport at any Games until the next Tokyo Games in 2021, when a new group of immigrant Australians propelled Australia to even better results.

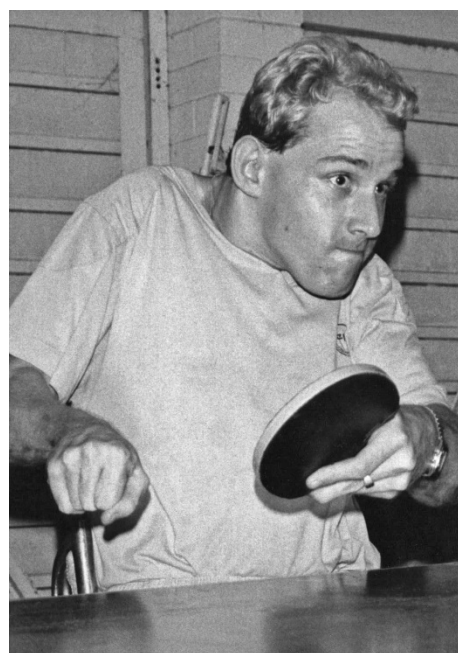


Daphne Ceeney (Hilton), Australia's first female Paralympian and its first Paralympic Table Tennis gold medallist.

At the 1968 Paralympics, [Elaine Schreiber](#) teamed with Marion O'Brien to win doubles silver. Schreiber's silver in 1968 followed a bronze medal in the singles in 1964. She was the only Australian to win medals in Table Tennis at more than one Paralympic Games until [Sam Von Einem](#) won silver medals in Rio and Tokyo, more than 50 years later.

Events for standing athletes were introduced to the [Paralympics in 1976](#), with the inclusion of amputee classes. By the 2012 Games, there were events within the eleven classes of Para-Table Tennis for athletes from all physical disability groups and athletes with an intellectual disability.

Unfortunately, the 1964 Paralympic result had not been a sign of successes to come. After its single medal in 1968, Australia won just one further Paralympic medal before 2016 – gold to [Terry Biggs](#) in New York in 1984 in the men's C1 class. Biggs remains Australia's only Paralympic Table Tennis singles gold medallist in a wheelchair class. Biggs later became a leading Paralympic and cerebral palsy sports administrator.



Terry Biggs won Australia's only Paralympic Table Tennis medal between 1968 and 2016.

At the 1988 summer Paralympics in Seoul, the Table Tennis team of nine athletes contained just one woman, [Carmel Williams](#). Williams had won a gold medal at the World Wheelchair Table Tennis Championships in 1987, so hopes were high for another Australian podium finish. Williams made it through to the bronze medal match, where her Dutch opponent was just too strong. Internationally, Williams competed at two Paralympics, four Stoke Mandeville Games and one wheelchair world championships, a far cry from the sequence of high-level competition events now available to Australia's elite players every year.

The reality of Australian Para-Table Tennis for many decades is that there were little to no opportunities for international competition beyond the Paralympic Games, the annual [Stoke Mandeville Games](#) in England and the four yearly [Commonwealth Paraplegic Games](#), later replaced by the Far East and South Pacific Games for the Disabled, known as the [FESPIC Games](#).

In November 1962, the [first Commonwealth Paraplegic Games](#) were held in Perth, prior to the British Empire and Commonwealth Games. These Games were for athletes with spinal cord injuries and polio. After silver at the Paralympics in Rome in 1960, Bill Mather-Brown and Bruno Moretti won gold in the men's doubles Class B. Moretti also defeated Mather-Brown for gold in the Class B singles and Australians picked up a further four silver medals for a seven medal haul, second only to England's tally of eleven.

The Commonwealth Paraplegic Games were held again in Kingston, Jamaica in [1966](#), Edinburgh [1970](#), with the last event in Dunedin in [1974](#). Although Australian athletes were never able to replicate their Table Tennis successes at the first Games, in Dunedin the team picked up two gold, one silver (Peter Marsh) and one bronze (Ken Moran). Both gold medal performances featured Elaine Schreiber, who won her singles event and partnered with



[Barbara Worley](#) to win the doubles, making Schreiber arguably Australia's most successful Para-Table Tennis player of the first 50 years of the sport's competitive history.

In 1975, the first FESPIC Games were held in Oita, Japan, replacing the Commonwealth Paraplegic Games as a regional, second tier event for Australian athletes behind the Paralympic Games. The FESPIC Games continued every four years until 2006. Although Australia was well represented in Table Tennis, especially in the early iterations of the FESPIC Games, its representatives had mixed success, reflecting what was happening also at Paralympic level, as the sport became more competitive internationally and yet received less of a focus within Australia.

One bright spot for Australian athletes was the hosting of the World Wheelchair Table Tennis Championships in Brisbane in January 1987. The event was held at the 1982 Commonwealth Games weightlifting venue in the Sleeman Complex on the south side of Brisbane. It was secured through the efforts of its hosts, the Queensland Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association, in an attempt to address the lack of competition and ranking points opportunities for Australian wheelchair players.

Vicky Roofayel, the Sporting Wheelies' Sports Coordinator, played a big role in bringing the event to Brisbane. The Brisbane Table Tennis Association lent tables and supplied officials and the Brisbane City Council provided transport. Sporting Wheelies drew upon its network of volunteers. The hand drawn signs and very informal ceremonial aspects reflected the event's shoestring budget. Even so, Sporting Wheelies were still left with a large deficit on the event.



Elaine Schreiber was arguably Australia's most successful Para-Table Tennis player of the first 50 years.



Carmel Williams (centre) receives her 1987 wheelchair world championships gold medal beneath hand drawn signs.

A number of the European countries attended the event and many players and administrators gained a firsthand appreciation of the efforts Australians had to make whenever they competed internationally. Queenslander Carmel Williams provided the highlight for the hosts when she won gold in the Class 2 singles event.

However, Williams' success in 1987 and Biggs' 1984 Paralympic gold medal were exceptions for Australian Para-Table Tennis.

Part of the reason for the lack of success may have been that Para-Table Tennis continued to be seen in Australia as a social, rehabilitative activity, which lacked any overarching structure and organisation.

In addition, Para-Table Tennis was managed by the national sporting organisations for the disabled (NSODs), small organisations that were disability based and generally lacked the sport-specific expertise to oversee high performance programs.

It wasn't until the 1990s that sport driven programs were introduced and connections began to be made between generic Table Tennis organisations and the bodies that managed disability sport.

### **C. Paralympics Australia and Table Tennis Australia get involved**

Table Tennis Australia (TTA) came late to the party in terms of its active engagement with Para-Table Tennis. While activities may have taken place earlier at state level, it seems that TTA only became seriously involved after Sydney won the [2000 Paralympic Games](#) and the federal government announced the Olympic Athlete Program (OAP), providing funding and support for Olympic and Paralympic sports in the lead-up to the 2000 Games.

From that time, there are five clearly discernible phases in the development of TTA's involvement and successes with Para-Table Tennis. These phases are defined in this paper as:

- Pre-1995
- 1995-2000
- 2001-2008
- 2009-2016
- 2017 to present

#### **Pre-1995**

While Australian athletes competed internationally from 1957, at the Stoke Mandeville Games, Paralympic Games, Commonwealth Paraplegic Games, FESPIC Games and disability specific world championships, they were never supported as part of the governing body for the sport in Australia but competed as members of disability sporting organisations (NSODs). Athletes received some assistance from NSODs and other disability specific organisations but were also generally required to contribute significantly from their own resources.

For those athletes who made the Paralympic team, however, the [1988 Seoul Paralympics](#) marked a turning point. The Australian Confederation of Sport for the Disabled coordinated the Australian team and conducted a successful national fundraising campaign. For the first time ever, the team was fully funded and it has remained so ever since.

As late as 1993, the year Sydney was awarded the Paralympic Games, a TTA newsletter shows that its business plan for 1993/4 did not include any reference to athletes with a disability (AWD).

In November 1994, an athlete wrote to the then Australian Paralympic Federation (APF) enquiring about opportunities, classification, and eligibility for people with disabilities in Table Tennis. This was answered by the Director of Sport, [Jenni Banks](#), who noted: “At present there seems to be minimal activity in disabled table tennis at the national level”, and then later: “... we are keen to see it develop...”.

This may be a definitive statement explaining the national situation at the end of 1994 - little formal activity but with the availability and interest of some athletes. In addition, it may well have ushered in the beginnings of a relationship between the APF, the athletes, relevant NSODs, and Table Tennis Australia. There is no extant documentation, and little verbal information, about any relationship between TTA and the APF before 1995.

2000 Paralympian Ross Schurgott recalled that there were a number of active players at that time, including Mick McIntyre, Bill Medley, Greg Elson, Rodney Russell, John Sheil (NSW) and Craig Nolan (Vic).

### 1995-2000

With Sydney to host the 2000 Paralympics and Olympics, the APF and the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) each committed to entering athletes in every sport, if possible. This was supported by the Australian Sports Commission through the Olympic Athlete Program (OAP) by the provision of program funding.

For the Paralympics, the APF assumed responsibility for the management and conduct of the high performance programs of all sports on the Paralympic program.

In 1995, the APF appointed [Joe Hoad](#) as head coach of the Table Tennis Paralympic Preparation Program (PPP), with an initial grant to foster the development of two athletes, Ross Schurgott and Jeff Needham.

Hoad was a former Barbados Table Tennis champion who arrived in Australia in 1971. His CV included Table Tennis coach, manager, carer and sports psychologist. He had Para-Table Tennis experience as the coach for various wheelchair associations.

In February 1995, the APF asked the International Paralympic Table Tennis Committee (IPTTC) for wildcard entries for overseas championships, citing the issues faced by Australian players qualifying for overseas events. The request was not granted.



Joe Hoad, Australian coach  
1995 to 2000

Table Tennis players competed at the 1995 Stoke Mandeville Games and the post-Games report, prepared by the Table Tennis manager Roger Massie, detailed difficulties with travel, stating that John Sheil, Ross Schurgott and Jeff Needham were so travel shocked that they could not perform at nearly their best and could not possibly win medals as they had in the previous Stoke Mandeville Games. The report also spoke of difficulties in communications with NSODs.

Later that year, Hoad sought information about wildcards which might permit entries of two Australian athletes to the Atlanta Paralympic Games. His correspondence suggested that there was some, perhaps considerable, Table Tennis activity for the disabled occurring



nationally, without much formal structure. In November 1995, Hoad wrote to Jenni Banks: *"Hoping for wildcards for Ross Schurgott and Jeff Needham for Atlanta. I would like to nominate Jeff Needham, Ross Schurgott, Csaba Bobory class 6, and Geoff Feben class 8 into the PPP."*

However, in February 1996, the APF advised Hoad that: *"...the Board has taken the decision... Australia will not be represented in Atlanta for Table Tennis...no invitations were received... no further funding for Table Tennis under the current program. It is hoped that the ASC will increase funding and that the IPC will include Table Tennis in Sydney."*

1996 was the first time that Australia was not represented in Table Tennis at the Paralympic Games. The only other time came in 2004.

In 1997 the APF became the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC). Earlier that year it established, with TTA, a Sport Advisory Committee (SAC) to oversee and evaluate the program. The SAC included Joe Hoad in his capacity as coach, Roger Massie (from TTA) as chair, Wilhelmina Pruyn (TTA) as secretary, representatives from the APC and various national disability specific organisations and an athlete representative. The APF representative was responsible for administering the recommendations of the committee, under the aegis of the APC's managed sports arrangements.

There is no doubt that the SAC was of vital importance to the development of Para-Table Tennis within the APC/TTA arrangement. One of its achievements seemed to be an agreement from the International Paralympic Table Tennis Committee (IPTTC), which advised the APC in 1997 that *"the host country will be assured a minimum of one player in each of the 4 categories (wheelchair men and women, standing men and women)"* and further that: *"The selection criteria for the mentally disabled players has not yet been settled. However, they will be negotiated in short time with the head organisation [INAS-FMH](#)".*

However, the IPTTC later cancelled all but two of these places.

The 2000 Games had provided the impetus for TTA to become more actively involved in Para-Table Tennis and in the 1997 TTA annual report Wilhelmina Pruyn, National Development Director, wrote:

*"Developments are occurring in this area. A Table Tennis Sport Advisory Committee has been put in place to advise the Australian Paralympic Committee of the development, management and direction of Table Tennis that will allow Table Tennis players to perform to their potential in Paralympic competition."*

*"The committee is investigating the possibility of hosting an International Disability event in 1998, as a pre-Olympic (sic) training opportunity in conjunction with next year's Australian Open."*

*"Negotiations have begun with AUSRAPID as to the development of table tennis players with an intellectual disability as the 2000 Paralympics will include a category for the intellectually disabled in table tennis. The selection criteria for this event have not yet been finalised."*

*"To find out whether we have any talent in this area an invitation tournament is currently being considered for April 1998."*

*"In 1998 TTA will be targeting Clubs and Associations that offer opportunities for the disabled to assist their development."*

In addition to the ongoing activities of the NSODs and their state affiliates, a number of complementary arrangements developed under the aegis of Table Tennis organisations.

An example of this was the Victorian Open for athletes with intellectual disability. Keith Mundy and Nicole Freeland initiated this tournament in the 1990s. Mundy and Freeland were already coaching athletes with disabilities and sought tournaments to add further stimulus. Numbers grew by word of mouth and player support from various specific disability organisations. Initially, VICRAPID worked in conjunction with Mundy and Freeland when the event was restricted to athletes with intellectual disabilities. Later, other categories were added. Some financial support was received over the years from VICRAPID and Table Tennis Victoria but additional funding had to be provided, often by the organisers themselves.

In July 1997, the Oceania Table Tennis Federation (OTTF) was formed. This was another significant step forward. From 1949, the region had been included within the 'Other Continental' Zone.

A review of the Table Tennis PPP in January 1998 noted that the PPP funded two athletes and one coach under level 2 funding, stating:

*"There is no justification for extra funding. At this stage it appears that neither of the current squad members are medal prospects for 2000."*

*"This is a low profile sport in Australia with a small player base. The two PPP squad members are not ranked internationally, however to gain an international ranking they must attend international tournaments to accumulate ranking points. Without funding it is difficult to do this and without ranking it is difficult to get funding or sponsorship. Regardless of this Catch 22 situation neither of the squad members finished in the top 50% of their class in the world championships. If either of the players were to beat a top 5 ranked opponent consistently some consideration could be given to re-evaluate the squads and funding."*

*"The funding granted to table tennis at this stage is appropriate."*

In 1998 the program had a very good year. At the [ISMWSF World Wheelchair Games](#) (formerly the Stoke Mandeville Games) in August 1998, Jeff Needham won gold in class 1 singles and Ross Shurgott won his class 5 event. As a result, Schurgott was now ranked 41 in class 5. Schurgott then reached the last 8 in class 5 singles at the 1998 IPC Table Tennis World Championships in France.

In 1999, the APC granted some funding for travel for four players and Roger Massie as manager/coach to attend the INAS-FMH World Table Tennis Championships for athletes with an intellectual disability.

At the 1999 FESPIC Games in Bangkok, Needham won gold.

Significant developments occurred in another area of Para-Table Tennis in 1999. From the early years of the Paralympic movement, athletes have been '[classified](#)' into classes depending on their level of impairment to create a more level playing field. These started with a basis in the medical condition of the athlete, an approach which has given way to functional classification methods which are continually being streamlined. The first Australian Table Tennis classifiers in the modern period were Tony Herbert and John Byrne, who classified in 1999 at the Southern Cross Multi Disability Championships, under the eye of IPTTC Head Classifier Aart Kruimer. Herbert and Byrne had attended their first classification seminar in early 1999 in Taipei, following a recommendation by Joe Hoad.

However, 1999 was a rockier year for the program and its athletes were not producing the results needed to qualify for spots in 2000. The task was made more difficult by the lack of funding to travel to events where they could earn rankings points, the diverse structure of the sport in Australia and personal issues which affected the head coach, Joe Hoad, who had lost his day job.

At the same time as he was coaching players to qualify for the 2000 Games, Hoad was trying to grow the base of the sport. TTA was becoming involved and disability sporting organisations, such as [AUSRAPID](#), were also supportive. The relevant Australian organisations were also trying to establish Australian events which could earn athletes international rankings points and so assist their qualification for the Paralympics. The challenge was immense, with modest funding and the deadline of the 2000 Games fast approaching.

In the lead-up to the Sydney Games, the APC – somewhat optimistically - applied for four wildcards for Jeff Needham, Ross Schurgott, Joanna Chapman, Geoff Feben and further places for a team of Bill Medley, Tony Wade, Daniel Page, Luisa Silva and Andrew Browning. Unfortunately, the IPTTC gave Australia just two individual wildcard slots and no team.

Ross Schurgott and Jeff Needham were selected for the Australian team for the Sydney Games but Needham was forced to withdraw due to an injury and he was replaced by Bill Medley. Neither Medley nor Schurgott made it past the first round of the tournament.

It was a disappointing result after years of development and effort by players, team staff and the APC.

Following the Sydney Games, a report on the program noted that: *"Despite the SAC, the sport of Table Tennis lacks infrastructure, coordination and drive."*

When the APC's programs were reviewed after the 2000 Paralympics, PPP funding for Table Tennis ceased. This situation would not change until 2005, when TTA signed a mainstreaming agreement with the APC.



Ross Schurgott competes at the 2000 Paralympics.

## 2001-2008

Despite the disappointment of the 2000 Paralympics, the period of 2001-2008 was a phase in which giant steps were taken.

To a large extent, TTA moved in to fill the vacuum created by the withdrawal of the PPP support for the program.

The TTA Board appointed a Board member, [Arthur Wilks](#), to oversee a newly created AWD (athletes with a disability) portfolio. After Wilks resigned from the Board, he was appointed as a volunteer manager of the AWD program. A characteristic of the period was the management of the program by volunteers.

The next opportunity for the program came with the announcement that there would be events for athletes with a disability at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester. Funding for a program from the Australian Commonwealth Games Association meant that the work done in the lead-up to Sydney would not be lost.

In the 2002 TTA annual report, CEO Matty Padley noted:

*"The Commonwealth Games included for the first time events for Athletes with a Disability. Table Tennis was invited to send two female wheelchair players, one of whom returned with a bronze medal. This is a great start to the introduction of a new formal TTA committee whose aim is to develop the opportunities for physically and intellectually challenged Table Tennis players. My thanks go to Arthur Wilks, who has taken the initiative to co-ordinate this on a national scale."*

Australia's first Commonwealth Games Para-Table Tennis medallist was [Joy Boyd](#). Boyd, who had helped found the Kiama Table Tennis Club, was in the right place at the right time in the development of the sport. She had been an able-bodied player before needing to use a wheelchair after a leg operation in 1998. As an able-bodied athlete, Boyd (then Joy Brown) represented Australia in 1969 as a member of the Australian women's team at the World Championships in Munich, Germany. In her 60s, Boyd won ten Australian AWD titles in singles (5), doubles (4) and mixed doubles (1). When Boyd competed at the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games at 67, she was Australia's oldest athlete.

In 2022, Boyd and Melissa Tapper are the only two athletes to have represented Australia internationally at major events in both able-bodied and Para-Table Tennis.



Joy Boyd competes at the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne

2002 also saw a range of other progressive activities in the AWD area:

1. The TTA Board allocated its first ever AWD budget.
2. TTA submitted an application for full membership to the APC, which was accepted.
3. The writing began of a Table Tennis specific Coaching Athletes with Disabilities (CAD) course.
4. TTA began work for acceptance into the Sports Commission's Project CONNECT.
5. Planning began on the first TTA Australian championships for players with disabilities.

In 2003, TTA held its first Australian AWD Championships, attracting 28 competitors. In conjunction with this event, the IPTTC head classifier, Aart Kruimer, came from Holland to classify athletes and to act as a stimulus to prospective Australian classifiers. AUSRAPID and Deaf Sports Australia used the tournament as their sole selection event for Australian teams.

The role played by the AWD national championships should not be under-estimated. From its inception, it has been held every year, except during the state border closures that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. The tournament has served as a national focus



for players, administrators and classifiers and a selection event for Australian squads and teams. By being on the national calendar, it creates attention within the Table Tennis community, especially in the host state.<sup>18</sup>

However, the AWD nationals has largely remained a niche event. In its first four years, under the stewardship of Arthur Wilks, it enjoyed rapid growth, primarily due to the inclusion of a division for players with an intellectual



Participants and officials at the opening ceremony of the first TTA AWD nationals, in Sydney in 2003.

disability who were not formally classified through AUSRAPID, in addition to a division for those who were so classified. A division for deaf players also attracted consistent numbers. The loss of both of these divisions at different times impacted on overall numbers. Further, participation by female players has barely grown since the tournament began, indicating that there is a potential for growth that has not yet been met.

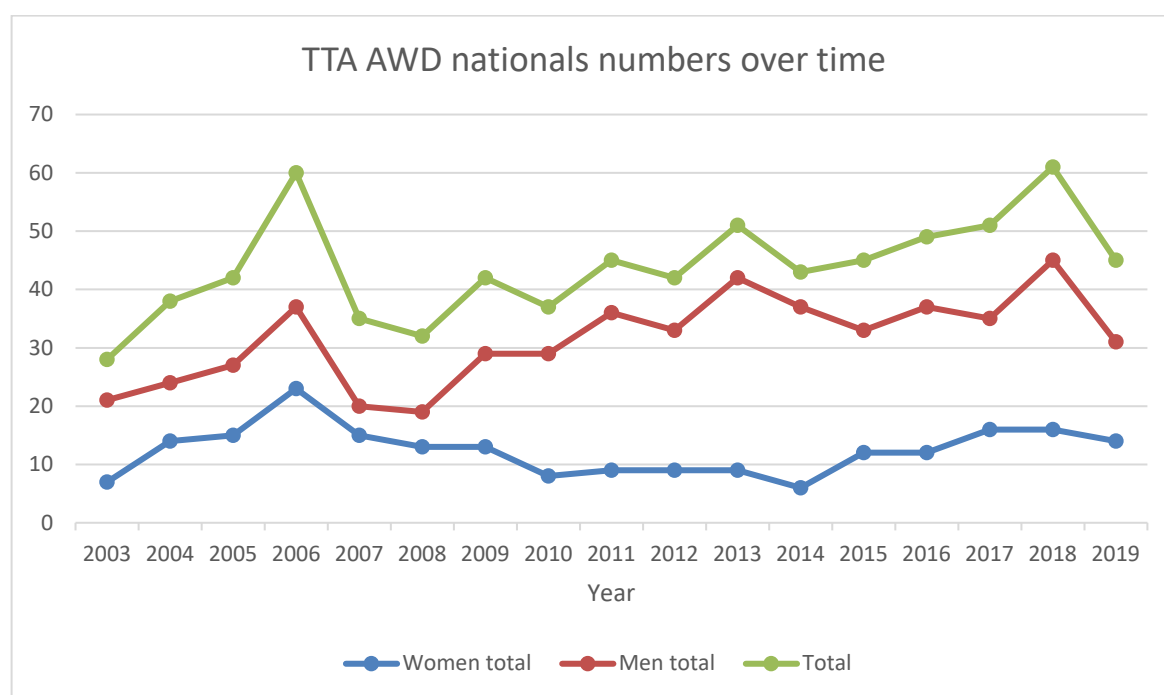


Figure 1: Graph showing the participation over time at the TTA AWD national championships

Also in 2003, on the administrative side:

- TTA established an AWD governance committee consisting of: Arthur Wilks (AWD Program Manager), Martin Shaw (TTA CEO), Steven Lee (IU/IR/IPTTC delegate), [Jason Hellwig](#) (APC Sports Manager), Jane Hall (EO Australian Athletes with Disabilities), [Robyn Smith](#) (NED AUSRAPID), Dr Janita Baldwin (CEO Deaf Sports Australia), Neil Harwood

(Chair ITTF committee charged with establishing close ITTF/IPTTC relationships) and Joy Boyd, wheelchair athlete.

- Six classifiers were trained to various international levels, two at the highest non-invitational level, and one a former wheelchair athlete.
- Eight regions of players/coach/manager were established as the basis of our future development.
- A TTA newsletter for AWD players was introduced, which then continued on an ad hoc basis. This newsletter included vignettes of athletes, umpires, tributes to retiring umpires/officials and reports from the AWD regions around the country. There were also reports from partner NSODs and notices about the AWD nationals.

When the APC introduced its talent identification program, *Talent Search*, in 2005, Table Tennis was one of the featured sports, with great success, resulting in a number of athletes being “discovered” for the sport.

Table Tennis was back ‘in the fold’ in 2005, with funding through the APC, in addition to \$100,000 through the ASC’s Project CONNECT and significant grants from the Australian Commonwealth Games Federation for the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne. The ASC also provided large grants to produce a classification video until this project was discontinued because of ASC funding cuts.

Project CONNECT was a joint ASC/APC initiative. CONNECT stood for: *Creating Opportunities Nationally through Networks in Education, Classification and Training*. There was considerable funding for selected sports over a 2-year period, in addition to assistance/advice, etc. In 2003, the project funded 6 sports (large, or high status). Table Tennis was deemed to be a preparatory sport with some expectation but in 2004 it had had no certainty of funding success.

Probably the most important concept in CONNECT was “inclusiveness”. TTA moved along this path by including all classes of AWDs in competition, by requiring membership of TTA, by revising the philosophy of the new level 1 coaching course and by including wheelchair rules in the revised level 2 umpire course.

Despite all the progress within Australia during this period, the program was still struggling to achieve results internationally:

- No athletes qualified for the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens.
- At the 2006 Commonwealth Games, Joy Boyd, Catherine Morrow and Jane Wallis competed in the only EAD Table Tennis event, for women’s wheelchair players, but none made it past the preliminary round.
- At the 2006 IPTTC world championships, [Rebecca Julian](#) was the only Australian representative, losing all three of her matches<sup>19</sup>.

It remained a major hurdle that athletes needed to accumulate rankings points to qualify for the Paralympics, yet the events where these points were earned were predominantly in Europe, requiring costly travel and extensive time away from Australia.

Within Australia, the increase in resources and funding and the efforts of the TTA AWD program manager were bearing fruit - 60 athletes attended the 2006 National AWD championships in Adelaide.

Also in 2006, Arthur Wilks was elected to the management committee of the Oceania Table Tennis Federation (OTTF) with a newly created portfolio, Chairman of the Oceania AWD

Commission. In this position, positive relationships were established with PNG, New Caledonia, NZ and Fiji, with Australia as the base. This would eventually result in the establishment of the Oceania Para-Table Tennis Championships and the opportunity to earn rankings points in the region.

Against this progress, the TTA annual report from 2006 contained extensive lists of athletes but not the AWD athletes, and the three EAD athletes from the Commonwealth Games team were left out of the Table Tennis group photo from the Games that featured in the report. It was clear that TTA still had some way to go to fully embrace the disability side of the sport.

In February 2007, TTA eliminated the position of AWD Program Manager. This had the effect of reducing the influence of Arthur Wilks within TTA and increasing the workload of TTA staff to offset the loss. In due course, Wilks was no longer formally involved in the program.

It was a time of some turbulence for the program.

Keith Mundy and Nicole Freeland next ran the program as a team. Mundy's uncle had played table tennis in a wheelchair and he and Freeland had completed the Coaching Athletes with Disabilities (CAD) course in the mid-1990s. Both completed further qualifications in coaching and classifying, funded from their own resources.

In 2007, the international program was ramped up in a bid to qualify athletes for the 2008 Paralympic Games. Players participated in the Oceania Paralympic Championships at the [Arafura Games](#), the Italian Masters, Asia and Oceania Championships, and the US Open.

The 2007 Arafura Games was one of the most important events for Australian Para-Table Tennis because, after considerable lobbying by Wilks, TTA and the APC, the Para-Table Tennis tournament at the Games was sanctioned as a 'Factor 20' event, which enabled participating athletes to compete for valuable rankings points on home soil.

An Australian team of athletes with an intellectual disability also participated in the 2007 INAS-FID World Cup in Japan.

As a result of the 2007 campaign, Sarah Lazzaro, Rebecca Julian and Catherine Morrow qualified for the 2008 Paralympic Games. Julian finished the year ranked #3 in the world in her classification and #38 in the combined standing classes. In 2008 she would reach a high of #2 in her classification and #32 in the combined standing classes. Brian Berry replaced Mundy as head coach, with Barbara Talbot managing the team in Beijing.

By the end of 2007, the elements of a viable and ongoing Para-Table Tennis program had been put in place within TTA. After having had no formal engagement with Para-Table Tennis before 1995, TTA had:

- Allocated significant annual funding to its AWD program.
- Developed an AWD policy, which was promoted through its website and directly to all affiliates.
- Included AWD development in its strategic plan.
- Nominated a Board member with portfolio responsibility for the AWD program.
- Established the position of Manager of the AWD program, with a duty statement.
- Developed and launched the Disability Action Plan (DAP).

- Included a permanent agenda item for AWD matters at all Board meetings and provided opportunities at meetings for DAP personnel to address the Board and delegates.
- Committed to the philosophy of an equal opportunity environment and to the observance of the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act.
- Carried out an audit of existing AWD provisions and development in the State Associations.
- Became a member of the APC and seen Para-Table Tennis re-included in the APC's PPP.
- Introduced wheelchair rules in all national tournaments and requested that affiliates include wheelchair rules into their tournaments.
- Ensured that all coaching and officiating courses were relevant and incorporated AWD education, practices and policies.
- Ensured that selectors for AWD athletes, coaches and managers were themselves knowledgeable about AWD.

In April 2008, TTA President Phillip Carruthers reported that AWD funding for TTA had increased from \$35,000 to \$131,000.



Arthur Wilks, who led mainstreaming of Para-Table Tennis within TTA, with Canberra player Patrick Horn, who in 2022 had attended every AWD Nationals.

*"This is the result of an enormous amount of work, with the foundations in the work commenced by Arthur Wilks, the building of the program by Keith Mundy and the negotiation and stakeholder management by Bronwyn and Sue in our office. Not to mention the excellent performances by our athletes.*

*"I want to thank and congratulate each of these people."*

### **2009 to 2016 – the program starts to bear fruit**

The next period for Para-Table Tennis was characterised by increased funding levels from the APC, increased numbers in the Para-Table Tennis squad, increased inclusiveness throughout all sectors, TTA's use of full-time staff to manage the program and the beginning of an innovative and far-reaching skills development program.

Peter Marriott was appointed as CEO in 2009 and continued until 2017, bringing continuity to what had been an ever-changing position.

Also in 2009, Roger Massie was appointed coach of the Paralympic squad and [Alois Rosario](#) as assistant coach, while Barbara Talbot continued as manager.

Massie's involvement with Para-Table Tennis started in 1988 at Royal Hobart Hospital when wheelchair athlete Doug Free asked him to coach at the Tasmanian Wheelchair Sports Club. It began a 30-year involvement at state and national levels as a coach, administrator, advisor, fundraiser, carer and chair of committees.



Rosario was enticed to the program by TTA's then High Performance Coordinator, Sue Stevenson, who had known him since they played juniors together. It was a move that would have long term benefits.

In 2010, the squad contained 20 athletes from classes 4-11, who attended quarterly camps and selected AWD events. With the assistance of the APC, the squad received tailored support from dedicated sport medicine and sports science (SSSM) specialists and funding to attend the quarterly camps. Sarah Lazzaro and Rebecca Julian<sup>1</sup> qualified for the Para World Championships in Korea in October of that year. However, between them, Julian won just one singles match. There was still much work to be done.

While the Para-Table Tennis program had not produced a medal in 26 years, the initiatives started by Arthur Wilks were now increasingly supported by TTA under Peter Marriott's leadership and by the APC, which recognised the sport's potential and supported it directly with funding (supported by its head of sport, Michael Hartung) and indirectly with sports science and sports medicine (SSSM) support (Alison Campbell), classification (Gen McMahon and Anna Muldoon) and an ongoing central place in its Talent Search program ([Tim Matthews](#)). From the coaching side, [Chris Nunn](#) provided support and mentoring. The Para-Table Tennis program was the highest funded and best supported of all TTA's programs.<sup>20</sup>

The inclusion of Para-Table Tennis events in the Commonwealth Games since 2002 was also a boon for the program. The [Australian Commonwealth Games Association](#) (ACGA) provided extensive high performance competition support at a time when the program struggled to attract such funding from other sources.

Massie's strength was in the development area. He pushed hard – and successfully – for states and territories to include Para-Table Tennis events at all levels. In 2011/12, the Australian Sports Commission provided funding to increase the number of CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) and AWD players at club level. Interested clubs were identified and funded to connect with disability organisations and increase their playing numbers.



Roger Massie with Rebecca Julian at the 2012 London Paralympics.

While these support structures were being put in place, a young player made the switch from a promising able-bodied career to the Paralympic side of the sport. [Melissa Tapper](#) had made her international debut in 2004 at 14 with the national junior able-bodied team. By 2008, she was the Oceania under-18 champion and the Australian under-21 champion and had the aim of competing at the Olympics. In 2011, she was TTA senior player of the year. Tapper, who received a brachial plexus injury at birth and has Erb's Palsy, had come to the attention of

<sup>1</sup> For results in 2010, 2011 and 2012, Rebecca Julian competed as Rebecca McDonnell.

the APC, was persuaded to be classified and to start competing in Para-Table Tennis events. She was immediately successful and soon qualified for the 2012 London Paralympics.

Tapper's competition successes and the interest in her and her story further elevated the status of the Para-Table Tennis program and, also, the support it received through the APC.

In London, Tapper lost the bronze medal play-off in a hard-fought five game match and her teammate Rebecca Julian won one of her three matches. The potential of the program had been established and a structure was in place to develop that potential.

One of the issues which had bedevilled Australia's Paralympic ambitions in the 90s and 00s had been the international ranking points system and the requirements to qualify for benchmark events. For some time, the system had favoured players from Europe and Asia in particular, who had easy access to rankings points events. By contrast, players from Oceania and Africa had to spend large amounts of money and time to travel to events which were always overseas.

This changed after 2012, when players from the remoter regions could attend two tournaments to qualify for the world championships and Paralympic Games, while the requirement for those from Europe and other established regions remained at four tournaments. Further, Oceania became a separate region for Para-Table Tennis, whereas previously it had been part of the Asian-Oceania region.

In 2013, TTA hosted, in Canberra, the first Oceania Para-Table Tennis regional championships – a ranking points and benchmark event qualifying tournament. For the first time, players from the Oceania region could qualify for the Paralympics and world championships through an event in their region. Five Australian players qualified for the 2014 Para-Table Tennis World Championships, where Melissa Tapper won bronze in Class 10.<sup>21</sup> For the Rio Paralympics,



Alois Rosario with Melissa Tapper at the 2012 Paralympics



Teams and officials at the opening of the first Oceania Para-Table Tennis Championships in 2013 in Canberra.

players who won the Oceania championships and who also had sufficient total rankings points, would qualify for the Games.

Internationally, the ITTF had taken on the management of Para-Table Tennis from the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) in 2007 and these changes came about under the influence of its athletes' commission and key administrators, reflecting the sport's desire to be more equitable.

While the situation in 2000 had made it difficult for Australian athletes to qualify for their own home Games, the door was now opening and it would be up to the quality of the program, not the physical location of its athletes, to generate Paralympic and world championship opportunities and success.

The next step at the elite level in Australia was the appointment in 2014 of sports scientist Ross Pinder to a skills development role within the APC, with a brief to work with its partner Paralympic sports. Pinder found an ally in coach Alois Rosario. Pinder introduced a remote, video coaching system. He challenged the sport's global traditional coaching methods, which had been based on repetition and formalisation, and introduced a program of evidence-based learning and skill acquisition. As a result, the word 'uncomfortable' entered the training vocabulary and trainings became increasingly individualised, varied and unpredictable, mimicking what can occur in game situations. Pinder and Rosario also introduced match analysis and playbooks.

In 2022, Pinder and Rosario started developing a library of videos around coaching methodology and what that looks like on and off the court. These videos will enable coaches at all levels to apply the same techniques and principles that are proving successful with Paralympic medal-winning athletes.

After 2012, the changes to the ITTF qualifications and ranking points rules, together with increased program funding, enabled Australian players to successfully compete in tournaments in Asia and Europe. In particular, Melissa Tapper, Sam Von Einem, Rebecca Julian and [Andrea McDonnell](#) enjoyed consistent medal success.

While progress was being made within the game itself, off the court changes in the fortunes of the APC (2015) and TTA (2017) had the potential to completely derail the program.

In 2015, the APC suffered a financial crisis which led to a lifeline in the form of a loan from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC). However, the ASC also stopped directing its funding for Paralympic sport through the APC and started to fund the sports direct. This broke the 21 year funding and oversight nexus that had existed between the APC and Paralympic sports since the introduction of the Olympic Athlete Program in 1994, in the lead-up to the Sydney Games. For Table Tennis, its close relationship with APC staff generally was threatened. Moreover, there was uncertainty about whether the APC could continue to provide the 'value-add' elements through its SSSM and classification programs and, crucially, the skill acquisition work that had commenced under Pinder.

TTA sought reassurance that its relationship with the APC would continue. While it no longer played a direct funding role, under interim CEO Michael Hartung and then CEO [Lynne Anderson](#), the APC continued, and even strengthened, its ancillary support.

Having survived that crisis, in 2017 an even bigger threat enveloped the program as TTA itself came within weeks of financial collapse when the [2017 Australian Open World Tour event](#) created significant financial pressure<sup>22</sup> and TTA recorded a loss of almost \$350,000 for the



year<sup>23</sup>. One of the keys to its rescue by the ASC was the quality of the Para-Table Tennis program and the support that came from the [Australian Institute of Sport](#) (AIS) and Paralympics Australia (as the APC had become) to ensure that the program could continue.

The Rio Paralympics in 2016 marked a special milestone for the program, when [Sam Von Einem](#) won a silver medal in the men's Class 11 singles. It was Australia's first Paralympic medal in 32 years – since Terry Biggs' gold medal in 1984. Like Tapper, Von Einem had come through the able-bodied ranks as a junior and represented Australia internationally in able-bodied junior events.

The five athletes in the Rio team was the largest number to represent Australia at the Paralympics since 1988, another sign of the success of the program. [Danni Di Toro](#) was named as one of the overall Australian team co-captains. And Melissa Tapper became the first person ever to represent Australia at the Paralympics and the Olympics, when she did both in Rio.

One of the successes of the program was the use of the Virtual Interactive Training and Education (VITAE) system in the lead-up to Rio. The system allowed Von Einem and his coaches to work virtually face-to-face from all over Australia in his preparations. The system was subsequently introduced for all athletes in TTA national squads.



In 2016 Sam Von Einem became Australia's first Paralympic medallist since 1984 and the second since 1968.

So successful had the Para-Table Tennis program become that in 2016 TTA adopted the same structure for its able-bodied program and aligned the two under the management of Sue Stevenson.

### **2017 onwards - Post-Rio the system matures and Australia gets its best ever results**

After Rio, the qualification requirements for benchmark events changed even further in favour of players from Oceania and other remote zones. Players ranked highest in their class within a region who had competed at the regional championships and one other qualifying tournament would be automatically offered a slot.

A further change worked in favour of qualifying those players who were not ranked highest in their class regionally. Previously, new players could only start to accumulate world rankings points after they had beaten two world ranked players in tournament play. This was difficult to achieve, as often new players found themselves against high ranked players in the opening rounds of tournaments. And players who didn't have a world ranking couldn't qualify for benchmark events. The latest change from the ITTF means that players are now automatically placed on the ranking list after playing in four ranking points tournaments.

In 2018, for the first time, a fully integrated team of players, coaches and manager (able-bodied and para) represented [Australia at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast](#). Melissa Tapper won gold and Andrea McDonnell won bronze in the Women's Class 6-10 Singles.



The program had further success at the [2018 World Para-Table Tennis Championships](#) - Sam Von Einem won bronze in the Men's Class 11 Singles and Tapper won bronze in the Women's Class 10 Singles. Von Einem also won gold in Class 11 Singles and gold in Men's Class 11 Teams at the 2018 China Para Open.

The Para-Table Tennis program that was already recognised as an exemplar within TTA was gaining wider recognition – it was a finalist in the 2019 Sports Australia “High Performance Program of the Year Awards”.<sup>24</sup> The ACGA continued its support for the program, with a grant for Paralympics Australia and TTA to develop an automatic match analysis system specific for the sport.

Overall, 2019 was another extremely successful year for the program, with its athletes winning 17 gold, 5 silver and 10 bronze medals across four international competitions. At the Japan Para Open, Australia topped the medal tally with six gold medals and one silver medal, the first time ever that Australia led the medal tally at a major international Para-Table Tennis event.<sup>25</sup>

As TTA continued to rebuild its governance, organisation and finances, COVID-19 completely disrupted plans in 2020. The first of these was the deferral of the first ever combined able-bodied and Para-Table Tennis national championships.

International travel and competitions were also put on hold. However, the program's use of the video coaching program developed with Ross Pinder meant that athletes could continue to safely work with their coaches during lockdowns. More than 200 training sessions were conducted using the technology in 2020.

Also in 2020, the Coaching Working Group was created under a partnership between TTA and PA. It is a national program aimed at building skills and creating resources for Para-Table Tennis coaches to share the skill acquisition advances made through the collaboration of Pinder with TTA's Para-high-performance program. The Coaching Working Group framework is being complemented by a video series featuring contributions from experts in high performance fields, as well as the best Table Tennis knowledge and experience available in Australia. A series of seminars will target coaches working with Para-athletes. The partnership between TTA and PA has continued to be a driver of program success.

Deferred for a year due to COVID-19, the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games finally took place in September 2021.

If Rio had been a good Games for the Australian Para-Table Tennis program, the Tokyo Games took the sport to a new level. [Australia's team](#) of 11 athletes was the largest at any Paralympic Games except 1968 (16 athletes) and the medal tally of two gold and four silver medals was Australia's best result at any Games.



The Tokyo Paralympic team was the largest since 1968 and the most successful ever.

The result, an outcome of years of planning and hard work by many people at all levels of the sport, was enhanced by one further element – three Chinese players who migrated to Australia in 2017 and who embraced the program and its ethos.

[Lina Lei](#), [Lin Ma](#) and [Qian Yang](#) were already successful international athletes when the three friends chose to move to Australia for wider lifestyle reasons. While recent decades have seen Chinese able-bodied players spread throughout the world to increase their playing and income opportunities, there were no such incentives available to Lei, Ma and Yang. In fact, TTA made it clear that there could be no direct funding support for the three until they became Australian citizens.

From the moment they started to train and play in Australia, the trio set the standard for others in the sport as to how a podium athlete prepares, competes and conducts themselves. In 2019 they became permanent residents and in January 2020 they were granted citizenship. At the Tokyo Paralympics, they had a strong, positive influence on their teammates' preparation, behaviour and attitude. Lei, who was undefeated in her classification from the time she arrived in Australia through to her gold medal in Tokyo, provided an example of resilience and management of the mental side of the sport, always finding a way to win, despite the circumstances and flow of the match.

Seven of the eleven team members in Tokyo returned with a medal.

The team's medal success transformed the funding available to the program at all levels. Federal high performance program funding increased by almost 80% in the first year following the Tokyo Games.

Pathways funding now enables TTA to work directly with rehabilitation centres and clubs to increase the numbers of players and to strengthen talent identification pathways. In working with rehabilitation centres, it is a return to the way Para-Table Tennis began in the 1950s.

The success at the elite level has enabled the whole system to take its next step towards maturity in 2022.

One of the remarkable features of the Para-Table Tennis program in Australia is that – by the start of 2022 – eight athletes have represented Australia in both able-bodied and Para-Table Tennis competitions at junior or senior level: Joy Boyd, Melissa Tapper, Sam Von Einem, Barak Mizrahi, Trevor Hirth, Lina Lei, Qian Yang and Ma Lin. All except Boyd have done so after they had been classified as Para-athletes.

When Joe Hoad was trying to qualify athletes for Sydney and when Arthur Wilks took up the challenge of building a system for Para-Table Tennis in Australia that was led and managed – for the first time - by the parent sporting body, the catch-22 was always that funding was unavailable until the sport produced results, but that results tended to depend on the funding that was available. Little by little, the work of many people has led to a situation where the program's success has resulted in significant funding. The new, and possibly biggest, challenge, will be to maintain both the success and the funding.

#### **D. Acknowledgements and thanks**

I express my sincere appreciation of the co-operation, assistance and enthusiasm of a great number of people. It is quite remarkable how so many people were so enthusiastic and so anxious to assist by providing information, and indeed to talk at great length about the Paralympic movement and its benefits. I cannot thank them enough.

Personal contact with most of the athletes who have represented Australia in Para-Table Tennis has turned out to be one of the greatest pleasures associated with this project. I thank you for the information you provided and the pleasure of working with you.

There were occasions when athletes and former officials chose not to respond to attempts to involve them. This is regrettable but understandable.

The following have been of great assistance in my work on this project, and most graciously at that. I thank them all. The headings indicate workplaces, either initially or now.

**TTA** - Sallee Caldwell, Rod Lindroth, Sue Stevenson, Matty Padley, Keith Mundy, Nicole Freeland, Barbara Talbot, Dave Delpratt, Steven Lee, Maurie Poole, Roger Massie, Neil Harwood, Glenn Tepper, Peter Marriott and Kirsten Mills.

**PA** - Kate Fehon, Michael Hartung, Jason Hellwig, Tony Naar, Pat Ollerenshaw, Darren Peters, Kellie Puxty.

**ASC** - John Armstrong

**ITTF** - Nico Veerspelt

**From various organisations** - Dr Ian Brittain (University of Coventry), Greg Blood (Australian Paralympic history project volunteer), Christine May (Clearinghouse for Sport), Janice Huntington (Para Quad NSW), Murray Phillips (University of Queensland).

**TTACT** - Rosanna Horn

**Athletes** - Joy Boyd, Paul Croft, Tony Herbert, Rebecca Julian, Terry Mason, Bill Mather-Brown, Bruno Moretti, Ross Schurgott, Carmel Williams.

*Arthur Wilks, July, 2022*

When Arthur Wilks began this project in 2016 it was a unique undertaking. Almost seven years later, it still is – no-one else has attempted to comprehensively capture the Australian history of a single Paralympic sport. I hope it will inspire others and be the first of many. It has been a pleasure work with Arthur and then to take over the project and see it to fruition.

I believe it is important for humans to understand where they fit in the flow of history and to be recognised, in turn, for their contribution. Hopefully, this document plays its role in that understanding and recognition for those who are part of Para-Table Tennis.

Thanks to Sue Stevenson, Marie Pinkewich and Carmel Williams for their support and assistance. Marie's attention to detail with results and proof-reading has been extraordinary. And thanks to the inimitable Arthur Wilks for getting it off the ground and gently, diligently staying "on the job".

*Tony Naar, March 2023*

## **PART 2**

This part of the history lists Australian Para-Table Tennis representatives and medal results in competitions up to and including 2022. The first section is categorised by event. In the second section, the same data is rearranged to be categorised by year. In the third section, the same data is arranged by athlete.

The lists in this part have been compiled from official results, Australian team lists and reports, TTA, IPC and ITTF websites, Paralympics Australia records and TTA Annual Reports<sup>26</sup>. Every effort has been made to create a definitive list of Australian Para-Table Tennis international representation. However, organisational and individual records are unfortunately not always complete and it is acknowledged that these lists may require correction and updating from time to time.

Able-bodied events in which Para-Table Tennis players competed are included in these lists and are identified. This document aims to record the participation in all international events by Para-Table Tennis athletes at the time when they participated as Para-athletes. Thus, for example, Joy Boyd's able-bodied representation is not recorded, as it took place well before she started to play in a wheelchair, but those of Melissa Tapper are, from the year of her first international participation as a Para-athlete.

Female athletes are listed first for each tournament in alphabetical order, followed by male athletes.

Each athlete is given a separate line.

Singles medals are noted in brackets after an athlete's name. If athletes medalled in doubles or team events at a tournament, then that is listed below the list of individuals if their partners were also in the Australian team at that event. For some team or doubles events, Australian athletes partnered athletes from other countries. In those cases, the medal is recognised in brackets after the athlete's name.

All team staff and their roles are listed where they are known.

Representation for Special Olympics events is not included in these lists, due to the nature of the Special Olympics.

The TTA website has documents which record Australian Para-Table Tennis representatives in order of representation: <https://www.tabletennis.org.au/events2/official-australian-representatives/>. This corresponds to Section C in this part.



## **Section A - Australian Para-Table Tennis representatives by event**

### **A(i) – Major Games and championships**

Paralympic Games, World Championships, Global Games, Commonwealth Games.

#### **Paralympic Games**

##### 1960 Paralympic Games, Rome

Bill Mather-Brown (Silver medal Men's Doubles Class B with Bruno Moretti)

Bruno Moretti (Silver medal Men's Doubles Class B with Bill Mather-Brown)

##### 1964 Paralympic Games, Tokyo

Daphne Ceeney (Gold medal Women's Doubles C with Marion O'Brien)

Marion O'Brien (Bronze Medal Women's Singles C, Gold medal Women's Doubles C with Daphne Ceeney)

Elaine Schreiber (Bronze medal Women's Singles B)

Allan McLucas (Bronze medal Men's Singles A2)

##### 1968 Paralympic Games, Tel Aviv

Lorraine Dodd

Daphne Hilton (nee Ceeney)

Cherrie Ireland

Marion O'Brien (Silver medal Women's Doubles C with Elaine Schreiber)

Elaine Schreiber (Silver medal Women's Doubles C with Marion O'Brien)

Pam Smith

Kevin Bawden

Alan Conn

Kevin Coombs

John Martin

Bill Mather-Brown

Allan McLucas

Bruno Moretti

Jimmy Newton

Tony South

Don Watts

##### 1972 Paralympic Games, Heidelberg

Bob McMillan

Cliff Rickard

The following are to be confirmed:

Cherrie Lloydstrom (Ireland)

Elaine Schreiber

Pam Smith

Libby Richards (Kosmala)

Allan Conn

Tony South

Ray Barrett  
Roy Fowler  
John Martin  
Eric Magennis

1976 Paralympic Games, Toronto

Elaine Schreiber  
Kevin Bawden  
Wayne Flood  
Ray Letheby  
Peter Marsh  
John Martin  
Ross Soutar

1980 Paralympic Games, Arnhem

Donald Dann  
Peter Marsh  
John Martin  
John Sheil  
Charlie Tapscott

1984 Paralympic Games, Stoke Mandeville and New York

Carmel Williams  
Terry Biggs (Gold Men's singles C1)  
Paul Croft  
Garry Croker  
Joe Marlow  
Errol Smith

1988 Paralympic Games, Seoul

Carmel Williams  
Geoff Barden  
Marcel Bucello  
Paul Croft (Australian team captain and opening ceremony flagbearer)  
Garry Croker  
Jeremy O'Halloran  
Craig Parsons  
John Sheil  
Ian Simpson

1992 Paralympic Games, Barcelona

Csaba Bobory

1996 Paralympic Games, Atlanta

No athletes

2000 Paralympic Games, Sydney

Bill Medley  
Ross Schurgott  
Coach: Joe Hoad  
Manager: Roger Massie  
Carer (for Bill Medley): Carmel Medley

2004 Paralympic Games, Athens

No athletes

2008 Paralympic Games, Beijing

Rebecca Julian  
Sarah Lazzaro  
(Catherine Morrow selected but withdrew prior to the Games)  
Head Coach: Brian Berry  
Section Manager: Barbara Talbot

2012 Paralympic Games, London

Rebecca Julian  
Melissa Tapper  
Head Coach: Alois Rosario  
Manager: Roger Massie

2016 Paralympic Games, Rio de Janeiro

Daniela Di Toro (Australian Paralympic team co-captain)  
Melissa Tapper  
Andrea McDonnell  
Barak Mizrachi  
Sam Von Einem (Class 11 Silver medal)  
Head Coach: Alois Rosario  
Team Leader: Roger Massie

2020 Paralympic Games, Tokyo (held in 2021)

Daniela Di Toro (Australian Paralympic team co-captain and opening ceremony flagbearer)  
Rebecca Julian  
Lina Lei (Class 9 gold medal, Class 9-10 team silver medal with Melissa Tapper and Qian Yang)  
Melissa Tapper (Class 9-10 team silver medal with Lina Lei and Qian Yang)  
Qian Yang (Class 10 gold medal, Class 9-10 team silver medal with Lina Lei and Melissa Tapper)  
Jake Ballestrino  
Joel Coughlan (Silver Class 9-10 team with Lin Ma and Nathan Pellissier)  
Trevor Hirth  
Lin Ma (Class 9 silver medal, Silver Class 9-10 team with Joel Coughlan and Nathan Pellissier)  
Nathan Pellissier (Silver Class 9-10 team with Joel Coughlan and Lin Ma)  
Sam Von Einem (Class 11 Silver medal)  
Head Coach: Alois Rosario  
Assistant Coach: Maggie Meng

Team Leader: Sue Stevenson  
Skill Acquisition Specialist: Ross Pinder

### **World Wheelchair Championships**

#### 1987 World Wheelchair Championships, Brisbane

Carmel Williams (Gold Class 2)

Craig Parsons

John Sheil

Garry Croker

Ian Simpson

Peter Marsh

Ken Moran

Terry Mason

Craig Peterson

### **World Para Table Tennis Championships**

#### 1990 World Para Table Tennis Championships

Craig Parsons

#### 1998 World Para Table Tennis Championships

Jeffrey Needham

Ross Schurgott

#### 2002 World Para Table Tennis Championships

Tony Begg

#### 2006 World Para Table Tennis Championships

Rebecca Julian

#### 2010 World Para Table Tennis Championships

Rebecca Julian

Sarah Lazzaro

Coach: Roger Massie

Manager: Barbara Talbot

#### 2014 World Para Table Tennis Championships

Melissa Tapper (Bronze Class 10)

Christopher Addis

Mark Harris

Trevor Hirth

Nathan Pellissier

Coaches: Alois Rosario, Roger Massie

#### 2017 Para-Table Tennis World Team Championships, Slovakia

Trevor Hirth



Nathan Pellissier  
Barak Mizrachi  
Sam von Einem  
Rory Carroll  
Coaches: Alois Rosario, Aleksander Jakubczak

2018 World Para Table Tennis Championships, Slovenia

Danni Di Toro  
Rebecca Julian  
Andrea McDonnell  
Melissa Tapper (Bronze Class 10)  
Amanda Tschärke  
Jessy (Junjian) Chen  
Caleb Crowden  
Trevor Hirth  
Nathan Pellissier  
Samuel von Einem (Bronze Class 11)  
Coaches: Alois Rosario, Jenny Langridge  
Manager: Sue Stevenson

2022 World Para Table Tennis Championships, Spain

Danni Di Toro  
Rebecca Julian  
Lina Lei (Silver Class 9, Gold Women's Doubles Class 20 with Qian Yang, Bronze Mixed Doubles Class 17 with Nathan Pellissier)  
Hayley Sands  
Melissa Tapper  
Amanda Tschärke  
Qian Yang (Gold Class 10, Gold Women's Doubles Class 20 with Lina Lei, Silver Mixed Doubles Class 20 with Lin Ma)  
Jake Ballestrino  
Rory Carroll  
Junjian "Jessy" Chen  
Caleb Crowden  
Trevor Hirth  
Lin Ma (Bronze Class 9, Silver Mixed Doubles Class 20 with Qian Yang)  
Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Mixed Doubles Class 17 with Lina Lei)  
Sam Von Einem

**Cerebral Palsy Games**

1982 International Cerebral Palsy Games, Denmark

Terry Biggs

2005 CPISRA World Championships, USA

Tony Begg

Ben Hall

### **Commonwealth Games**

#### 2002 Commonwealth Games, Manchester England

Joy Boyd (Bronze EAD singles Class 2-5)

Luisa Silva.

EAD Manager/coach: Arthur Wilks

#### 2006 Commonwealth Games, Melbourne Australia

Joy Boyd

Catherine Morrow

Jane Wallis

EAD Manager/coach: Arthur Wilks

EAD Assistant: Sue Stevenson

#### 2010 Commonwealth Games, Delhi India

Catherine Morrow (Silver Open Wheelchair singles)

#### 2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast Australia

Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 6-10 Singles)

Andrea McDonnell (Bronze Class 6-10 Singles)

Barak Mizrachi

Coach: Alois Rosario

Manager: Sue Stevenson

### **A (ii) - Regional Games and championships**

Stoke Mandeville Games (and its associated iterations), Commonwealth Paraplegic Games, FESPIC Games, Asia/Oceania Championships, Arafura Games

#### **Stoke Mandeville Games (World Wheelchair Games from 1997 to 2003; World Wheelchair and Amputee Games from 2004 to 2007; IWAS World Games from 2009)<sup>27 2</sup>**

##### 1957 Stoke Mandeville Games

Bill Mather-Brown

##### 1974 Stoke Mandeville Games

John Martin

Elaine Schreiber (Silver Class 2)

Charlene Todman (Bronze Class 2)

##### 1975 Stoke Mandeville Games

John Martin

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<sup>2</sup> All conducted at Stoke Mandeville unless otherwise indicated.

1977 Stoke Mandeville Games

John Martin

1978 Stoke Mandeville Games

John Martin

1979 Stoke Mandeville Games

John Martin

1981 Stoke Mandeville Games

Carmel Williams

John Martin

1982 Stoke Mandeville Games

Kerri-Anne Connor (Silver Class 4 team with Carmel Williams)

Carmel Williams (Silver Class 2, Silver Class 4 team with Kerri-Anne Connor)

1983 Stoke Mandeville Games

Carmel Williams (Silver Open Class singles)

Kerri-Anne Connor

1985 Stoke Mandeville Games

Carmel Williams (Silver Class 2, Gold open singles)

Garry Croker (Silver Class 1A)

Craig Parsons (Silver Class 1B)<sup>28</sup>

Jeff Needham<sup>29</sup>

1987 Stoke Mandeville Games

John Sheil

1989 Stoke Mandeville Games

Jeff Needham (Bronze singles Class 1A)

1993 Stoke Mandeville Games

Ross Schurgott

Graham O'Neill

1994 Stoke Mandeville Games

Ross Schurgott

Jeff Needham

1995 Stoke Mandeville Games

Ross Schurgott

Jeff Needham

John Sheil

1998 World Wheelchair Games

Jeff Needham (Gold Class 5)

Ross Schurgott

1999 World Wheelchair Games, Christchurch NZ

Joanna Chapman (Bronze Class 1-3; Bronze Class 1-4 team with Terry Tierney USA)

Ross Schurgott (Silver Class 5 team with Kam Shing Kwong HKG)

2003 World Wheelchair Games, Christchurch NZ

Luisa Silva (Bronze Class 1-3)

2007 World Wheelchair and Amputee Games, Chinese Taipei

David Moffatt

Nadia Moffatt

**Commonwealth Paraplegic Games**

1962, Perth Australia

Daphne Ceeney

Lorraine Dodd (Silver Class A)

Roger Cockerill (Silver Class D doubles with J. Gidney)

J. Gidney (Silver Class D doubles with Roger Cockerill)

Bill Mather-Brown (Silver Class B; Gold Class B doubles with Bruno Moretti)

B. Maxwell (Silver Class C doubles with Don Watts)

Bruno Moretti (Gold Class B; Gold Class B doubles with Bill Mather-Brown)

John "Jimmy" Newton (Silver Class B doubles with Frank Ponta)

Frank Ponta (Silver Class B doubles with John Newton)

Don Watts (Silver Class C doubles with B. Maxwell)

1966, Kingston Jamaica

Daphne Ceeney

Bruno Moretti

John Martin

1974, Dunedin New Zealand

John Martin

**FESPIC Games**

1975, Oita Japan

John Martin

1977, Sydney Australia

John Martin

1989, Kobe Japan

Doug Free



1994, Beijing China

Yang Bin  
Jeff Needham  
Ross Schurgott  
John Sheil

1999, Bangkok Thailand

Joanna Chapman (Bronze Class 3-4)  
Jeff Needham (Gold Class 1)  
Daniel Page

2006, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

Julie Davis  
Catherine Morrow  
Jane Wallis  
Daniel Chaplin  
Patrick Horn  
David Moffatt (Bronze Class 10)  
Adam Sanders  
Coach: Nicole Freeland  
Manager: Arthur Wilks

**FESPIC TT Championships**

1999 FESPIC Championships, Taipei

Joanna Chapman  
Andrew Higgins  
Geoff Feben  
Bill Medley  
Jeff Needham  
Ross Schurgott  
Tony Wade

2001 FESPIC Championships Japan

Tony Begg (Silver Class 6)  
Daniel Page  
Rodney Russell

**Asia Regional TT Games or Asian/Oceania Championships**

2005 Asia/South Pacific TT Championships, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 6-8)  
Catherine Morrow  
Jane Wallis

2007 Asia and Oceania Championships, Seoul South Korea

Julie Davis  
Rebecca Julian (Silver Class 6-7)  
Nadia Moffatt  
Catherine Morrow  
Jane Wallis  
Daniel Chaplin  
Patrick Horn  
David Moffatt  
Michael Tomlinson

2009 Asia and Oceania Championships, Jordan

Sarah Lazzaro (Bronze Class 9)  
Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 6-8).  
Melissa Tapper  
Joel Coughlan  
Michael Tomlinson  
Coach: Roger Massie  
Manager: Barbara Talbot

2011 Asian and Oceanic Championships, Hong Kong

Rebecca Julian  
Sarah Lazzaro  
Kate Juillerat  
Melissa Tapper (Silver Class 10)  
Christopher Addis  
Andrew Browning  
Rory Carroll  
Nathan Cawley  
Joel Coughlan  
Patrick Horn  
Barak Mizrahi (Bronze Class 8 team with Nathan Pellissier)  
Ashley Parrott  
Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Class 8 team with Barak Mizrahi)  
Biagio Pitruzello  
James Swanbury  
Coaches: Roger Massie, Alois Rosario  
Manager: Barbara Talbot  
Support staff: David Williams

**Southern Cross Multi Disability Championships**

1999 Southern Cross Multi Disability Championships, Sydney Australia

Sue Allard  
Joanna Chapman (Bronze Class 2-3)  
Joy Boyd  
Luisa Silva  
Damian Bengier

Andrew Browning  
Andrew Conlan  
Geoff Feben  
Andrew Higgins  
Rex Kwon  
Bill Medley  
Simon Moore  
Craig Nolan (Bronze Class 4 team with Daniel Page and Tony Wade)  
Daniel Page (Bronze Class 4 team with Craig Nolan and Tony Wade)  
Rodney Russell  
Ross Schurgott  
Tony Wade (Bronze Class 4 team with Daniel Page and Craig Nolan)

### **Oceania Para-Table Tennis Championships**

#### 2013 Oceania Championships, Canberra Australia

Kate Juillerat (Bronze Class 9-11 team with Andrea McDonnell and Veronique Lussiez NCL)  
Kylie Loveless (Bronze Class 6-10, Gold Class 6-8 team with Trevor Hirth and Nathan Pellissier)  
Andrea McDonnell (Silver Class 6-10, Bronze Class 9-11 team with Kate Juillerat and Veronique Lussiez NCL)  
Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 6-10)  
Francesca Walls (Bronze Class 6-8 team with James Swanbury and Connor Johnstone)  
Chris Addis (Gold Class 4-5, Silver Class 2-5 team with Andrew Browning)  
Jake Ballestrino  
Andrew Browning (Silver Class 4-5, Silver Class 2-5 team with Chris Addis)  
Rory Carroll (Silver Class 11, Gold Class 9-11 team with Sam Von Einem)  
Nathan Cawley (Bronze Class 6, Bronze Class 6-8 team with Patrick Horn)  
Mark Harris (Silver Class 2-3, Gold Class 2-5 team with Ilkeun Kwon)  
Trevor Hirth (Gold Class 6, Gold Class 6-8 team with Kylie Loveless and Nathan Pellissier)  
Patrick Horn (Bronze Class 6-8 team with Nathan Cawley)  
Yaser Hussaini (Silver Class 6)  
Connor Johnstone (Bronze Class 6-8 team with Francesca Walls and James Swanbury)  
James (Ilkeun) Kwon (Gold Class 2-3, Gold Class 2-5 team with Mark Harris)  
Jackson Meyn (Silver Class 9-10, Silver Class 9-11 team with Ashley Parrott)  
Ashley Parrott (Bronze Class 11, Silver Class 9-11 team with Jackson Meyn)  
Nathan Pellissier (Gold Class 7-8, Gold Class 6-8 team with Trevor Hirth and Kylie Loveless)  
James Swanbury (Bronze Class 7-8, Bronze Class 6-8 team with Francesca Walls and Connor Johnstone)  
Sam Von Einem (Gold Class 11, Gold Class 9-11 team with Rory Carroll)

#### 2015 Oceania Championships, Bendigo Australia

Larissa Brown  
Daniela Di Toro (Gold Class 3-5, Silver Class 3-5 team with Rosalie Turnbull and Merewalesi Vakacegu Roden FIJ)  
Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 6-10, Bronze Class 6-7 team with Sy Pham)  
Andrea McDonnell (Silver Class 6-10, Gold Class 9-10 team with Jackson Meyn)  
Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 6-10)

Rosalie Turnbull (Bronze Class 3-5, Silver Class 3-5 team with Daniela Di Toro and Merewalesi Vakacegu Roden FIJ)  
Jake Ballestrino (Gold Class 6-7 team with Trevor Hirth)  
Joel Coughlan (Silver Class 6-10; Bronze Class 9-10 team with Maggie Kolopa Aiono))  
Mark Harris (Gold Class 3-5; Gold Class 3-5 team with Sainimili Tuinatewa FIJ)  
Trevor Hirth (Bronze Class 6-10, Gold Class 6-7 team with Jake Ballestrino)  
Connor Holdback (Silver Class 6-7 team with Yasir Hussaini)  
Yaser Hussaini (Silver Class 6-7 team with Connor Holdback)  
Connor Johnstone (Gold Class 8 team with Victor Kamizona NZL)  
Jackson Meyn (Gold Class 9-10 team with Andrea McDonnell)  
Barak Mizrahi (Gold Class 6-10; Bronze Class 8 team with Milo Toleafoa SAM)  
Sy Pham (Bronze Class 6-7 team with Rebecca Julian)  
James Swanbury (Silver Class 8 team with John Tauni Christopher FIJ)  
Michael Tomlinson (Silver Class 9-10 team with Larissa Gai Daveson)  
Coaches: Alois Rosario, Roger Massie  
Manager: Barbara Talbot

#### 2017 Oceania Championships, Fiji

Daniela Di Toro (Bronze Class 2-5)  
Rebecca Julian (Gold Class 6-8)  
Andrea McDonnell (Silver 9-10)  
Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 9-10)  
Amanda Tschärke (Silver Class 2-5)  
Jake Ballestrino (Silver Class 6-7)  
Jessy (Junjian) Chen (Gold Class 2-3, Gold Class 2-5 team with Steven Gow and Caleb Crowden)  
Caleb Crowden (Gold Class 4-5, Gold Class 2-5 team with Jessy Chen and Steven Gow)  
Steven Gow (Bronze Class 2-3, Gold Class 2-5 team with Jessy Chen and Caleb Crowden)  
Trevor Hirth (Gold Class 6-7)  
Yaser Hussaini (Bronze Class 6-7)  
Barak Mizrahi (Silver Class 8-9, Gold Class 6-9 team with Nathan Pellissier)  
Nathan Pellissier (Gold Class 8-9, Gold Class 6-9 team with Barak Mizrahi)  
Coaches: Alois Rosario, Aleksander Jakubczak

#### 2019 Oceania Championships, Darwin (part of Arafura Games)

Daniela Di Toro (Gold Class 2-5, Gold Class 2-5 team with Amanda Tschärke)  
Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 6-10, Silver Class 6-10 team with Christine Wolf)  
Andrea McDonnell (Silver Class 6-10, Gold Class 6-10 team with Melissa Tapper and Laniana Ere Serukalou FIJ)  
Hayley Sands (Bronze Class 2-5 team with Satua Ngungutau TGA)  
Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 6-10, Gold Class 6-10 team with Andrea McDonnell and Laniana Ere Serukalou FIJ)  
Amanda Tschärke (Bronze Class 2-5, Gold Class 2-5 team with Danni Di Toro)  
Christine Wolf (Bronze Class 6-10, Silver Class 6-10 team with Rebecca Julian)  
Jake Ballestrino  
Jessy (Junjian) Chen (Gold Class 3-5, Gold Class 3-5 team with Caleb Crowden)  
Joel Coughlan (Gold Class 6-10, Gold Class 6-10 team with Nathan Pellissier)



Caleb Crowden (Bronze Class 3-5, Gold Class 3-5 team with Jessy Chen)  
Trevor Hirth (Bronze Class 6-10, Silver Class 6-10 team with Connor Holdback)  
Connor Holdback (Bronze Class 6-10, Silver Class 6-10 team with Trevor Hirth)  
Nathan Pellissier (Silver Class 6-10, Gold Class 6-10 team with Joel Coughlan)  
Sy Pham  
Coaches: Alois Rosario, Paton Wilson  
Manager: Sue Stevenson

**A(iii) – Other tournaments - National open tournaments, qualifying events, etc.**

2008 Romania Open

Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 6)  
Sarah Lazzaro

2010 Romania Open

Patrick Horn  
Tim Jericho

2012 Romanian Open

Catherine Morrow (Silver Class 3-5)

2005 Taipei Open

Patrick Horn

2010 Taipei International Table Tennis Championship

Rebecca Julian  
Sarah Lazzaro (Bronze Class 9)  
Joel Coughlan  
Patrick Horn  
Nathan Pellissier  
Steven Watts  
Head coach: Roger Massie  
Manager: Barbara Talbot

2011 Taichung (Taiwan) Open

Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 6-7)  
Sarah Lazzaro  
Patrick Horn  
Barak Mizrachi  
Nathan Pellissier  
Coach: Roger Massie

2013 Taichung (Taiwan) Open

Catherine Morrow (Bronze Class 4-5 team with Khetam Abuawad JOR)

2015 Taichung (Taiwan) Open

Catherine Morrow (Bronze Class 3-5 team with Arisa Fujimori JAP)  
Coach: Keith Mundy

2017 Taichung (Taiwan) Open

Rosalie Turnbull

Nathan Pellisier (Gold Class 8, Silver Class 8-10 team with Chung Lien TPE)

2010 3<sup>rd</sup> Al Watani Table Tennis Open Championship (Jordan)

Catherine Morrow (Bronze open wheelchair, Bronze Class 3-5 team with Wijittra Jai On, THA)

2011 4<sup>th</sup> Al Watani Table Tennis Open Championship (Jordan)

Catherine Morrow (Silver Class 5, Silver Class 1-5 team with Wijittra Jai On, THA)

2022 Al Watani Table Tennis Open Championship (Jordan)

Zhi Ming (Jimmy) Huo

2011 Hungarian Open

Rebecca Julian (Silver Class 6-7 team with Anne Barneoud FRA)

Sarah Lazzaro

Catherine Morrow (Bronze Class 4-5 singles)

Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 10)

Joel Coughlan

Patrick Horn

Steven Watts

Coach: Roger Massie

Manager: Barbara Talbot

2014 Hungarian Open

Rory Carroll

Trevor Hirth (Bronze Class 6-7 team with Mihajlo Radovanovic SRB)

James Kwon

Sam Von Einem (Bronze Class 11)

Coaches: Roger Massie, Alois Rosario

2017 Hungarian Open

Trevor Hirth (Bronze Class 6, Bronze Class 6-7 team with Esteban Herrault FRA)

2011 Lignano Master Open, Italy

Rebecca Julian

Sarah Lazzaro

Catherine Morrow

Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 10)

Joel Coughlan

Patrick Horn

Steven Watts

Coach: Roger Massie

Manager: Barbara Talbot

2014 Lignano Master Open, Italy

Rory Carroll (Silver Class 11 team with Sam Von Einem)

Trevor Hirth

James Kwon

Sam Von Einem (Bronze Class 11, Silver Class 11 team with Rory Carroll)

Coaches: Roger Massie, Alois Rosario

2017 Lignano Master Open, Italy

Trevor Hirth

2019 Lignano Master Open, Italy

Nathan Pellissier

2011 China Open

Rebecca Julian

Sarah Lazzaro

Melissa Tapper

Joel Coughlan

Barak Mizrachi

Nathan Pellissier

Coach: Roger Massie

Manager: Barbara Talbot

2012 China Open

Catherine Morrow

2018 China Open

Amanda Tcharke

Jake Ballestrino

Caleb Crowden

Trevor Hirth

Connor Holdback

Yaser Hussaini (Bronze Class 6 team with Esteban Herrault FRA)

Connor Johnstone

Sam von Einem (Gold Class 11, Gold Class 11 team with Kim Gitae KOR)

Coaches: Alois Rosario, Maggie Meng

Manager: Sue Stevenson

2011 Czech Open

Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 7 team with Dora Molnar HUN)

Sarah Lazzaro (Gold 10 team with Melissa Tapper)

Melissa Tapper (Silver Class 10, Gold 10 team with Sarah Lazzaro)

Rosalie Turnbull

Andrew Browning

Joel Coughlan

Barak Mizrachi

Nathan Pellissier  
Biagio Pitruzzello  
James Swanbury  
Head Coach: Roger Massie  
Coach: Alois Rosario  
Manager: Barbara Talbot  
Support: David Williams

2013 Czech Open

Patrick Horn

2018 Czech Open

Trevor Hirth (Silver Class 6 team with Esteban Herrault FRA)  
Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Class 8 team with Roman Chinchilla CRC)

2022 Czech Open

Nathan Pellissier

2011 British Open

Rebecca Julian  
Sarah Lazzaro (Gold Class 9-10 team with Melissa Tapper)  
Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 10, Gold Class 9-10 team with Sarah Lazzaro)  
Rosalie Turnbull  
Andrew Browning  
Joel Coughlan  
Barak Mizrachi  
Nathan Pellissier  
Biagio Pitruzzello  
James Swanbury  
Head Coach: Roger Massie  
Coach: Alois Rosario  
Manager: Barbara Talbot  
Support: David Williams

2005 OttoBock Korea Open

Joy Boyd (Silver Class 5, Silver Class 3-5 team with Young-soon Kim KOR)  
Patrick Horn

2011 Korea Veterans PTT Tournament

Barak Mizrachi (Bronze Class 8 team with Kim In Chul KOR)  
Rebecca Julian

2012 Korea Veterans PTT Tournament

Catherine Morrow

2013 Korea Open

Rosalie Turnbull (Bronze Class 1-3 team with Chilchitraryak Bootwansirina THA)

2015 Korean Open

Daniela Di Toro

Nathan Cawley

Coach: Roger Massie

2017 Korean Open

Daniela Di Toro (Bronze Class 4-5)

Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 10, Bronze Class 6-10 team with Kanlaya Kriabklang THA)

Amanda Tcharke

Rosalie Turnbull

Jake Ballestrino

Caleb Crowden

Steven Gow

Connor Holdback

Yaser Hussaini

Connor Johnstone

Nathan Pellissier (Gold Class 8)

Sam von Einem (Silver Class 11, Silver Class 11 team with Kemal Gayfullin RUS)

Coaches: Alois Rosario, Aleksander Jakubczak, Patrick Wuertz

2010 Slovenia Open

Catherine Morrow

Patrick Horn

Tim Jericho

2012 Slovenia Open

Rebecca Julian

Catherine Morrow

Melissa Tapper (Silver Class 10, Silver Class 10 team with Bettina Bicsak HUN)

2013 Slovenia Open

Catherine Morrow

2015 Slovenia Open

Rosalie Turnbull

2016 Slovenia Open

Andrea McDonnell (Bronze Class 10 team with Melissa Tapper)

Melissa Tapper (Bronze Class 10, Bronze Class 10 team with Andrea McDonnell)

Barak Mizrahi

Sam Von Einem (Gold Class 11 team with Eduard Cuesta Martinez ESP)

2017 Slovenia Open

Trevor Hirth

Nathan Pellissier



2018 Slovenia Open

Rebecca Julian

2019 Slovenia Open

Li Na Lei (Gold Class 9)

Qian Yang (Gold Class 10)

Trevor Hirth

Lin Ma

Sam Von Einem (Bronze Class 11 team with Garip Olcas TUR)

Coaches: Alois Rosario, Maggie Meng

2006 Slovakia Open

Catherine Morrow

Jane Wallis

2008 Slovakia Open

Rebecca Julian

Sarah Lazzaro

2010 Slovakia Open

Catherine Morrow

2012 Slovakia Open

Rebecca Julian

Catherine Morrow

Melissa Tapper (Bronze Class 10, Bronze Class 10 team with Kubra Korkut TUR)

2013 Slovakia Open

Catherine Morrow

2015 Slovakia Open

Rosalie Turnbull

2016 Slovakia Open

Andrea McDonnell (Silver Class 8-10 team with Melissa Tapper)

Melissa Tapper (Silver Class 10, Silver Class 8-10 team with Andrea McDonnell)

Barak Mizrachi

Sam Von Einem (Bronze Class 11, Gold Class 11 team with Eduardo Cuesta Martinez ESP)

2018 Slovakia Open

Rebecca Julian

2012 French Open

Catherine Morrow (Bronze Class 5 team with Monique Sirgand FRA)

2021 French Open

Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Class 8, Silver Class 8-10 men's team with Anton Grankvist SWE)

2022 French Open

Rebecca Julian (Gold Class 14 women's doubles with Sophia Kelmer BRA)

Jake Ballestrino

Rory Carroll

Trevor Hirth

Connor Holdback

Yaser Hussaini

Nathan Pellissier

Sam Von Einem (Bronze Class 11)

2011 Thailand Open

Catherine Morrow

2013 Thailand Open

Rosalie Turnbull

Christopher Addis

Jake Ballestrino

Andrew Browning

Nathan Cawley

Mark Harris (Bronze Class 1-3 team with James Kwon)

Trevor Hirth (Silver Class 6)

Patrick Horn

Connor Johnstone

James (Ilkeun) Kwon (Bronze Class 1-3 team with Mark Harris)

Jackson Meyn

Nathan Pellissier

James Swanbury

Coaches: Roger Massie, Alois Rosario, Mick Tomlinson

Manager: Barbara Talbot

2014 Thailand Open

Andrea McDonnell (Bronze Class 9-10, Bronze Class 9-10 team with Sherri Umscheid USA)

Catherine Morrow (Gold Class 4-5 team with Young A Jung KOR)

Rosalie Turnbull

Jake Ballestrino

Nathan Cawley

Mark Harris

Trevor Hirth (Silver Class 6, Bronze Class 6 team with Yaser Hussaini)

Patrick Horn

Yaser Hussaini (Bronze Class 6 team with Trevor Hirth)

Connor Johnstone

Nathan Pellissier

Sy Pham

Coaches: Roger Massie, Alois Rosario, Michael Tomlinson

Manager: Barbara Talbot

### 2015 Thailand Open

Rebecca Julian (Silver Class 6-7, Silver Class 6-8 team with Sumalee Suangtho THA)  
Andrea McDonnell (Silver Class 9-10, Gold Class 9-10 team with Melissa Tapper)  
Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 9-10, Gold Class 9-10 team with Andrea McDonnell)  
Jake Ballestrino  
Rory Carroll (Gold Class 11 team with Sam Von Einem)  
Joel Coughlan  
Trevor Hirth (Silver Class 6 team with Yaser Hussaini)  
Connor Holdback (Bronze Class 6 team with Thanapong Dulayaanukij THA)  
Yaser Hussaini (Silver Class 6 team with Trevor Hirth)  
Connor Johnstone (Bronze Class 8 team with Barak Mizrachi)  
Barak Mizrachi (Silver Class 8, Bronze Class 8 team with Connor Johnstone)  
Sy Pham  
Sam Von Einem (Gold Class 11, Gold Class 11 team with Rory Carroll)  
Coaches: Roger Massie, Alois Rosario, Larissa Brown

### 2016 Thailand Open

Andrea McDonnell (Bronze Class 10)  
Jake Ballestrino  
Rory Carroll (Bronze Class 11 team with Ta Yu Huang TPE)  
Mark Harris  
Trevor Hirth (Bronze Class 6)  
Connor Holdback  
Yaser Hussaini  
Connor Johnstone (Bronze Class 8 team with Barak Mizrachi)  
Barak Mizrachi (Bronze Class 8, Bronze Class 8 team with Connor Johnstone)  
Sy Pham  
Coaches: Roger Massie, Alois Rosario, Larissa Brown, Soyeon Kim

### 2017 Thailand Open

Rebecca Julian (Bronze Class 6-7)  
Andrea McDonnell (Bronze Class 9-10 team with Shiao Wen Tian TPE)  
Catherine Morrow (Bronze Class 5)  
Jake Ballestrino  
Rory Carroll (Silver Class 11 team with Sam von Einem)  
Jessy (Junjian) Chen  
Caleb Crowden  
Mark Harris  
Trevor Hirth (Bronze Class 6)  
Yaser Hussaini  
Connor Johnstone  
Barak Mizrachi (Bronze Class 8 team with Nathan Pellissier)  
Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Class 8 team with Barak Mizrachi)  
Sam von Einem (Gold Class 11, Silver Class 11 team with Rory Carroll)  
Coaches: Alois Rosario, Aleks Jakubczak, Paton Wilson

### 2018 Thailand Open

Nathan Pellissier (Silver Class 8 team with Dustin Eier NED)

2019 Bangkok Open

Hayley Sands

Amanda Tschärke

Christine Wolf

Jake Ballestrino

Rory Carroll (Bronze Class 11)

Jessy (Junjian) Chen

Caleb Crowden

Connor Holdback

Yaser Hussaini

Coaches: Alois Rosario, Paton Wilson

2006 German Open

Patrick Horn

David Moffatt

2007 German Open

Julie Davis

Rebecca Julian

Catherine Morrow

Jane Wallis

Michael Tomlinson

2009 German Open

Patrick Horn

2013 Bayreuth (German) Open

Catherine Morrow (Bronze Class 5)

Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 10)

2015 Bayreuth (German) Open

Rosalie Turnbull

2015 Spanish Open

Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 9-10, Silver Class 6-10 team with Francisca del Carmen Morales Araya CHL)

Rory Carroll (Silver Class 11 team with Sam Von Einem)

Sam Von Einem (Gold Class 11, Silver Class 11 team with Rory Carroll)

Coach: Alois Rosario

2018 Spanish Open

Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Class 8 team with Ryan Henry GB)

2020 Costa Brava Spanish Open

Lina Lei (Gold Class 9-10 team with Melissa Tapper and Qian Yang)

Melissa Tapper (Silver Class 9-10, Gold Class 9-10 team with Lina Lei and Qian Yang)  
Qian Yang (Gold Class 9-10, Gold Class 9-10 team with Lina Lei and Melissa Tapper)  
Lin Ma (Gold Class 9, Bronze Class 9-10 team with Luka Bakic MNE)  
Nathan Pellissier  
Sam Von Einem (Bronze Class 11)  
Coaches: Alois Rosario, Maggie Meng, Miao Miao

#### 2022 Costa Brava Spanish Open

Danni di Toro  
Lina Lei (Gold Class 9, Gold Women's Doubles Class WS20 with Qian Yang, Bronze Mixed Doubles Class XS17 with Nathan Pellissier)  
Melissa Tapper (Bronze Class 10)  
Amanda Tschärke  
Qian Yang (Gold Class 10, Gold Women's Doubles Class WS20 with Lina Lei, Gold Mixed Doubles Class XS20 with Lin Ma)  
Caleb Crowden  
Christopher Addis  
Jessy "Junjian" Chen  
Lennard Properjohn  
Lin Ma (Bronze Class 9, Gold Mixed Doubles Class XS20 with Qian Yang)  
Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Mixed Doubles Class XS17 with Lina Lei)

#### 2015 Belgium Open

Trevor Hirth (Gold Class 6 team with Michael Azula SWE)  
Sam Von Einem (Bronze Class 11, Gold Class 11 team with Florian Van Acker BEL)  
Coach: Alois Rosario

#### 2017 Belgium Open

Patrick Horn

#### 2003 US Open, Colorado Springs

Tony Begg

#### 2005 US Open, Las Vegas

David Moffatt (Bronze Class 10)

#### 2006 US Open, Las Vegas

Nadia Moffatt (Silver Open Standing, Bronze Class 7-8)  
David Moffatt (Silver Open Standing, Silver Class 9-10)

#### 2007 US Open, Chicago

Julie Davis  
Rebecca Julian (Gold Class 6-7)  
Nadia Moffatt (Bronze Class 6-7)  
Catherine Morrow  
David Moffatt



2018 US Open, Las Vegas

Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Class 8)

2019 Japan Open, Tokyo

Danni Di Toro

Rebecca Julian

Li Na Lei (Gold Class 9)

Andrea McDonnell (Gold Class 8-10 team with Melissa Tapper)

Melissa Tapper (Silver Class 10, Gold Class 8-10 team with Andrea McDonnell)

Qian Yang (Gold Class 10)

Joel Coughlan

Lin Ma (Gold Class 9)

Nathan Pellissier

Sam Von Einem (Gold Class 11 and Gold Class 11 team with Kim Gi Tae KOR)

Coaches: Alois Rosario, Maggie Meng

Manager: Sue Stevenson

2019 Dutch Para Open, Stadskanaal, The Netherlands

Nathan Pellissier

2007 Hong Kong Open

Julie Davis

Rebecca Julian

Nadia Moffatt

Jane Wallis

Patrick Horn

David Moffatt

Adam Sanders

Michael Tomlinson

**A(iv) – International able-bodied tournaments at all levels**

2010 World Team Cup Classic (Dubai, UAE)

Melissa Tapper

2011 Oceania Teams Qualification For World Junior Table Tennis Championships, Guam

Sam Von Einem

2011 Guam Junior and Cadet Open, ITTF Junior Circuit, Guam

Sam Von Einem (U18 boys' team)

2012 New Zealand Junior and Cadet Open

Sam Von Einem

2013 Commonwealth Championships, New Dehli India

Melissa Tapper

2013 Oceania Cup, Bendigo Australia

Melissa Tapper (Bronze women's singles)

2013 Summer Universiade, Kazan Russia

Barak Mizrachi

2014 Oceania Championships and Cup, Bendigo, Australia

Melissa Tapper (Gold, women's doubles with Vivian Dederko; Bronze mixed doubles with Heming Hu; Gold women's team)

2014 Commonwealth Games, Glasgow Scotland

Melissa Tapper (Bronze women's team - no EAD events)

2014 World Team Championships, Tokyo Japan

Melissa Tapper

2015 ITTF World Team Cup, Dubai

Melissa Tapper

2015 ITTF-Oceania Cup, Bendigo Australia

Melissa Tapper

2015 GAC Group ITTF World Tour Australia Open, Tweed Heads

Melissa Tapper (Bronze women's singles)

2015 GAC Group ITTF World Tour Polish Open, Warsaw

Melissa Tapper

2015 GAC Group ITTF Swedish Open, Stockholm

Melissa Tapper

2016 ITTF World Team Championships, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Melissa Tapper

2016 ITTF-Oceania Championships, Bendigo, Victoria

Melissa Tapper (Silver, women's singles)

2016 ITTF-Oceania Olympic Qualification Tournament, Bendigo, Victoria

Melissa Tapper (2<sup>nd</sup> qualifier women)

2016 ITTF World Tour Australia Open, Melbourne

Melissa Tapper

Sam Von Einem

2016 ITTF-Oceania Cup, Melbourne Australia

Melissa Tapper (Silver Oceania Cup women's singles)

2016 Olympic Games, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil

Melissa Tapper

2017 ITTF-Oceania Cup, Suva, Fiji

Melissa Tapper (Silver Oceania Cup women's singles)

2017 ITTF World Tour Australia Open (Platinum), Gold Coast

Melissa Tapper

2018 World Team Cup, London, England

Melissa Tapper

2018 ITTF-Oceania Championships, Gold Coast, Queensland

Melissa Tapper (Silver women's singles; Gold women's double with Michelle Bromley; Silver mixed doubles with Heming Hu)

2018 World Team Championships, Halmstad Sweden

Melissa Tapper

2018 ITTF-Oceania Cup, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Melissa Tapper (Silver women's singles)

2018 ITTF-Oceania Tour, Nuku'alofa Tonga

Trevor Hirth (Silver men's doubles with Rohan Dhooria)

2018 ITTF World Tour Platinum Australian Open, Geelong

Sam Von Einem

2019 IITF World Championships, Hungary

Melissa Tapper

2019 ITTF World Tour Platinum Australian Open, Geelong

Melissa Tapper

Qian Yang

Lina Lei

Lin Ma

Samuel von Einem

Coaches: Alois Rosario

2019 Commonwealth Championships, India

Melissa Tapper

2019 ITTF-Oceania Tour Fiji

Trevor Hirth (Silver Men's singles; Silver mixed doubles with Harvi Yee FIJ; Bronze men's doubles with A. Ho FIJ)

2019 ITTF-Oceania Tour Tahiti, Papeete French Polynesia

Melissa Tapper (Gold women's singles; Gold mixed doubles with Bydhir Carnet-Villierme TAH)

2019 ITTF-Oceania Olympic Qualification Tournament for Teams, Mornington, Australia

Melissa Tapper (Gold women's team with Jian Fang Ley and Michelle Bromley)

2019 ITTF-Oceania Tour Australia, Mornington

Melissa Tapper (Bronze women's singles)

2021 Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games

Melissa Tapper

2021 World Table Tennis Contender, Slovenia

Qian Yang

**INAS/FID**

1999 INAS-FID World Championships, Lisbon Portugal

Sally Spence

Maria Van Revenstein

Ben Treweek

Leslie Manning

Paul Mason

2003 INAS-FID World Championships, Mexico City

Rory Carroll

Adrian Zehnworth

Sally Spence

2004 Global Games, Bollnas Sweden

Adrian Zehnworth

Cassy Geffke

Sally Spence.

2005 INAS-FID World Championships, Thours France

Rory Carroll

Cassy Geffke

Steven Watts

Jamie Kelly.

Coach: Nicole Freeland

2006 ASP Hong Kong

Rory Carroll

Cassy Geffke

Jamie Kelly

Peter Talbot  
Steven Watts  
Coach: Nicole Freeland

2007 INAS-FID World Championships, Chiba China

Cassy Geffke  
Jamie Kelly  
Ashley Parrott  
Peter Talbot  
Steven Watts.  
Coach: Nicole Freeland  
Manager: Barbara Talbot

2009 Global Games, Czech Republic

Cassy Geffke  
Jamie Kelly  
Ashley Parrott  
Peter Talbot  
Steven Watts  
Coach: Nicole Freeland  
Manager: Barbara Talbot

2011 INAS Global Games, Italy

Kate Juillerat  
Steven Watts  
Manager: Barbara Talbot

2019 Global Games, Brisbane Australia

Sam von Einem (Gold Class 11)  
Ashley Parrott  
Jonathan Tan  
Rory Carroll  
Sam von Einem/Rory Carroll (Silver Class 11 team)  
Sam von Einem/Rory Carroll (Bronze INAS 11-1 doubles)  
Coach: Alois Rosario  
Manager: Sue Stevenson

**Arafura Games (Oceania Paralympic Championships)**

2007 Arafura Games

Julie Davies (Bronze Class 1-5; Bronze Open wheelchair)  
Rebecca Julian (Silver Class 6-9; Silver Open standing)  
Sarah Lazzaro (Gold Class 6-9; Gold Open standing)  
Catherine Morrow (Gold Class 1-5; Gold Open wheelchair)  
Patrick Horn (Silver Class 6, Bronze Class 6-7 team with Adam Sanders)

David Moffatt (Gold Class 9-10; Bronze Open standing, Silver Class 8-10 doubles with Michael Tomlinson)

John Pierce (Bronze Class 8)

Adam Sanders (Bronze Class 6-7 team with Patrick Horn)

Michael Tomlinson (Silver Class 8-10 doubles with David Moffatt)

Steven Watts (Bronze Class 6)

#### 2009 Arafura Games

Rebecca Julian (Gold Class 6-7, Gold Class 6-10 doubles with Sarah Lazzaro, Silver Class 6-10 team with Sarah Lazzaro)

Sarah Lazzaro (Silver Class 9-10, Bronze Open standing, Gold Class 6-10 doubles with Rebecca Julian, Silver Class 6-10 team with Rebecca Julian)

Catherine Morrow (Gold Class 1-5)

Susan Powell (Silver Open Wheelchair singles)

Chris Addis (Silver Class 1-5 team with David Rogers, Bronze Class 1-5 doubles with David Rogers)

Patrick Horn (Silver Class 6, Bronze Class 6-7 team with Tim Jerricho and Steven Watts)

Phillip Hurst (Silver Class 6-7 team with Thaniyom Rungroj THA)

Tim Jerricho (Bronze Class 6-7 team with Patrick Horn and Steven Watts)

John Pierce (Bronze Class 8)

Steven Watts (Bronze Class 6, Bronze Class 6-7 team with Patrick Horn and Tim Jerricho)

David Rogers (Silver Class 1-5 team with Chris Addis, Bronze Class 1-5 doubles with Chris Addis)

Coach: Roger Massie

Manager: Barbara Talbot

#### 2011 Arafura Games

Rebecca Julian (Gold Class 6-10 team with Sarah Lazzaro and Melissa Tapper)

Sarah Lazzaro (Gold Class 6-10 team with Rebecca Julian and Melissa Tapper)

Catherine Morrow (Gold Class 1-5)

Melissa Tapper (Gold Class 6-10, Gold Class 6-10 team with Rebecca Julian and Sarah Lazzaro)

Chris Addis (Silver Class 4 team with David Rodgers)

Andrew Browning (Bronze Class 5 team with Fabrizio Bove ITA)

Joel Coughlan (Bronze Class 9-10, Silver Class 9-10 team with Michael Tomlinson)

Patrick Horn (Bronze Class 6-7 team with Biagio Pitruzzello)

Connor Johnstone (Gold Class 8 team with Barak Mizrachi)

Barak Mizrachi (Silver Class 8, Gold Class 8 team with Connor Johnstone)

Nathan Pellissier (Bronze Class 8, Bronze Class 8 team with James Swanbury)

Biagio Pitruzzello (Bronze Class 6, Bronze Class 6-7 team with Patrick Horn)

David Rodgers (Silver Class 4 team with Chris Addis)

James Swanbury (Bronze Class 8 team with Nathan Pellissier)

Michael Tomlinson (Silver Class 9-10 team with Joel Coughlan)



## **Section B - Australian Para-Table Tennis representatives by year**

To be added

## **Section C - Australian Para-Table Tennis representatives by name**

To be added.

## Appendix A

Sources, references and photo credits

### Sources:

- Files and annual reports from Paralympics Australia, Disability Sports Australia and Table Tennis Australia.
- *Step by Step We Conquer*, The story of Queensland's Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association.
- *Table Tennis in Canberra and Region-A history and a story or two...*, Arthur Wilks, self-published, 2013 (see <https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6258497>).
- Wikipedia articles.
- Interviews and correspondence with athletes, administrative, coaching and support personnel.
- Interviews and correspondence with staff and volunteers from Paralympics Australia, TTA and the ASC.
- [Clearinghouse for Sport](#).
- Paralympics Australia's Australian Paralympic history [website](#), especially the Table Tennis [pages](#).
- The [ITTF Para Table Tennis Statistics website](#).

### Endnote references

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Table\\_tennis#History](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Table_tennis#History)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ittf.com/history/documents/historyoftabletennis/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ittf.com/history/documents/historyoftabletennis/>

<sup>4</sup> PING-PONG. (Sun 27 Apr 1902). *Sunday Times* (Perth, WA : 1902 - 1954), p. 2. Retrieved 18 Jul 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article57216325>

<sup>5</sup> TABLE TENNIS (Wed 19 Jul 1922). *The Telegraph* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947), p. 3 (SECOND EDITION). Retrieved 18 Jul 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article176901453>.

<sup>6</sup> TABLE TENNIS (Tue 08 Aug 1922). *The Telegraph* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947), p. 5 (SECOND EDITION). Retrieved 18 Jul 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article181951384>.

<sup>7</sup> TABLE TENNIS (Fri 10 Aug 1923). *The Telegraph* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947), p. 6. Retrieved July 18, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article182491746>.

<sup>8</sup> TABLE TENNIS (Fri 21 Sep 1923). *The Telegraph* (Brisbane, Qld. : 1872 - 1947), p. 6 (SECOND EDITION). Retrieved July 18, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article178410450>.

<sup>9</sup> TABLE TENNIS. (Thu 14 Jun 1923). *The Express* (Adelaide, SA), p. 2 (5 O'CLOCK EDITION. SPORTS NUMBER). Retrieved 06 Jul 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article210980400>

<sup>10</sup> Table Tennis, Fast Game Of Many Nations (Sat 24 Apr 1937). *The Mail* (Adelaide, SA), p. 23. Retrieved 06 Jul 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article55842987>.

<sup>11</sup> Source re NSW: PING PONG ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING (Wed 25 Mar 1931). *The Labor Daily* (Sydney, NSW), p. 3. Retrieved 12 Jun 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article236937997>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.tttas.org.au/about/>

<sup>13</sup> TABLE TENNIS. (Tue 12 Apr 1938). *The West Australian* (Perth, WA), p. 6. Retrieved 02 Aug 2021, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article41676570>.

<sup>14</sup> *Table Tennis in Canberra and Region-A history and a story or two...*, Arthur Wilks, self-published, 2013 (see <https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6258497>).

<sup>15</sup> *Table Tennis in Canberra and Region-A history and a story or two...*, Arthur Wilks, self-published, 2013 (see <https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/6258497>).

<sup>16</sup> Hyperlinks are used in this document to link to Wikipedia articles and other sources for more information about people and events. The majority of links are to Wikipedia articles that have been created through the Australian Paralympic history project, which was initiated by Paralympics Australia in 2010.

<sup>17</sup> Moretti, Bruno. & Henningham, Nicola. & National Library of Australia. & Australian Paralympic Committee. 2010, *Bruno Moretti interviewed by Nikki Henningham in the Australian Centre for Paralympic Studies oral history project [sound recording]* and Mather-Brown, Bill. & Poke, Robin. & Mather-Brown, Bill. & National Library of Australia. & Australian Paralympic Committee. 2010, *Bill Mather-Brown interviewed by Robin Poke in the Australian Centre for Paralympic Studies oral history project [sound recording]*

<sup>18</sup> The TTA website contains full results for every AWD Nationals:  
[http://nationals.tabletennis.org.au/historical\\_records/para\\_index.htm](http://nationals.tabletennis.org.au/historical_records/para_index.htm)

<sup>19</sup> [http://stats.ipptc.org/en/tournaments/176/player\\_results/2503](http://stats.ipptc.org/en/tournaments/176/player_results/2503)

<sup>20</sup> 2012/2013/2014 TTA Annual Reports, President's report

<sup>21</sup> 2014 TTA Annual Report, CEO report

<sup>22</sup> 2017 TTA Annual Report, Chief Executive Officer's Report

<sup>23</sup> 2017 TTA Annual Report, Financial Report

<sup>24</sup> 2019 TTA Annual Report, Board Report

<sup>25</sup> 2019 TTA Annual Report, Chief Executive Officer's report and Message from Paralympics Australia

<sup>26</sup> TTA annual reports from 2003 onwards are available through the Clearinghouse for Sport website: <https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/>

<sup>27</sup> Results compiled using relevant contemporary issues of The Cord magazine (full set of scans up to 1990 held by Paralympics Australia), media articles and other sources. Unfortunately, results in The Cord are generally only for medallists and so not all competitors are captured.

<sup>28</sup> ATHLETICS Medals in wheelchairs (Wed 31 Jul 1985). *The Canberra Times* (ACT : 1926 - 1995), p. 40. Retrieved July 19, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article127211389>.

<sup>29</sup> Moores' freestyle record (Thu 01 Aug 1985). *The Canberra Times* (ACT : 1926 - 1995), p. 24. Retrieved 18 Jul 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article122519889>

## Photo credits

*Images from the collections of Paralympics Australia and Table Tennis Australia are used with the permission of those organisations for the purpose of this document. Other images have been supplied for use in this document as credited below.*

Cover: Melissa Tapper competes at the 2012 London Paralympics. From the collection of Paralympics Australia. Photo taken by Courtney Crow, Sport The Library.

Page 3: 1960 Australian Paralympian Gary Hooper plays Table Tennis at the 1960 RNSH Games. From the collection of Paralympics Australia, originally donated by the family of Ross Sutton.

Page 3: Rules of wheelchair Table Tennis on display at a hospital sports day c1962. From the collection of Paralympics Australia, originally donated by Daphne Hilton (nee Ceeney). (Section of a larger image)

Page 4: Daphne Ceeney (Hilton), Australia's first female Paralympian and, with Elaine Schreiber, its first Paralympic Table Tennis medallist. From the collection of Paralympics Australia, originally donated by Daphne Hilton (nee Ceeney). (Section of a larger image)

Page 4: Terry Biggs was Australia's only Paralympic medallist between 1968 and 2016. From the collection of Table Tennis Australia.

Page 5: Elaine Schreiber was arguably Australia's most successful Para-Table Tennis player of the first 50 years. From the collection of Paralympics Australia, originally donated from the estate of Elaine Schreiber.

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Page 6: *Carmel Williams (centre) receives her 1987 wheelchair world championships gold medal beneath hand drawn signs.* Supplied by Carmel Williams from her personal collection.

Page 8: *Joe Hoad, Australian coach 1995 to 2000.* From the collection of Paralympics Australia. 2000 Australian Paralympic Team media guide photo taken by Sport The Library.

Page 11: *Ross Shurgott competes at the 2000 Paralympics in Sydney.* From the collection of Paralympics Australia. Photo by Sport The Library.

Page 12: *Participants and officials at the opening ceremony of the first TTA AWD nationals, in Sydney in 2003.* Originally published in LOOP, Vol 1, Issue 21, 2003, pp 8-11: "TTA AWD Champs by Joy Boyd". Photo by Steven Lee.

Page 15: *Arthur Wilks, who led mainstreaming of Para-Table Tennis within TTA, with Canberra player Patrick Horn, who in 2022 had attended every AWD Nationals.* Photo by Rosanna Horn, August 2022. Used by permission of the photographer.

Page 16: *Roger Massie with Rebecca Julian at the 2012 London Paralympics.* From the collection of Paralympics Australia. Photo by Jeff Crow, Sport The Library.

Page 17: *Alois Rosario with Melissa Tapper at the 2012 Paralympics.* From the collection of Paralympics Australia. Photo by Jeff Crow, Sport The Library.

Page 17: *Teams and officials at the opening of the first Oceania Para-Table Tennis Championships in 2013 in Canberra.* From the collection of Paralympics Australia and supplied to Table Tennis Australia. Photo by Jeff Crow, Sport The Library.

Page 19: *In 2016 Sam Von Einem became Australia's first Paralympic medallist since 1984 and the second since 1968.* From the collection of Paralympics Australia. Photo by Drew Chislett, Sport The Library.

Page 20: *The Tokyo Paralympic team was the largest since 1968 and the most successful ever.* From the collection of Table Tennis Australia.