

## Queensland 2003

From an events point of view 2003 was an excellent year for Queensland. Participation levels were very strong.

A total of 17 Queenslanders participated at the **2003 National Junior Tri Series** in Melbourne in April. The highlight for Queensland was the naming of Peta Hughes in the 2003 Australian Junior Women's Team.

Despite some very strong performances Queensland had to settle for 5 second placings. Nathan Stevenson was the best performed and most consistent Queenslanders with 3 runner up trophies in the 16 YAG Boys whilst Peta Hughes (19 YAG Girls) and Carl Hampson (19 YAG Boys) got one each.

The **Queensland Junior Championships** were conducted in June in Brisbane. The Championships were hosted by Acacia Ridge and were well organised by the Brisbane Region.

In the Individual Championship, Brisbane's Zoe Petrovansky won her third double title in as many years. This year Zoe won the 13YAG and 15YAG Girls Events. Jessica Giblett won her second double title in as many years winning the 17YAG and 19YAG Girls events. Lisa Camilleri won her 13<sup>th</sup> State Title.

Brisbane Region dominated the Team Championship winning 81 rubbers and only losing 27 rubbers.

Jayden Wadd took out the prestigious Peter Nance Achievement Award for most outstanding male player whilst Laura Stock won the Rachael Grinham Achievement Award for being the most outstanding female player.

The **Q Open** was again held in Rockhampton and attracted 163 entries compared to 145 in 2002, 144 in 2001 and 92 in 2000. The 2003 Open champions were Cameron Pilley (NSW) and Amelia Pittock (VIC).

Thanks to the generous support of Squash Australia and the Australian Sports Commission both open events were run as satellites. This ensured full fields and a wonderful mix of local, interstate and international players.

Australian Junior Champion Peta Hughes was again named the Q Squash **Player of the Year** (2002-2003). Peta continues to excel and 2003 was an incredible year for the talented teenager from Rockhampton. The highlights included her naming in the 2003 Australian Junior Women's Team, a silver medal in the World Junior Teams Championships, a Top 16 finish in the Under 19 World Junior Championship and a third successive Australian Junior Title. Not a bad effort for a 16 year old!

Peta rounded off 2003 winning the Singapore & Scottish Junior Opens in the under 17 events in December.

Our Q Team attended the **Australian Junior Championships** in Adelaide in September. A total of 35 Queenslanders participated in the 2003 Championship.

Unfortunately, the mighty maroons had to settle for second place overall.

However, both our 13YAG Boys and Girls Teams were simply sensational and remained undefeated throughout the Championship. This ensured we won the overall title for the third year running. Congratulations to Julius Krauss, Matthew Muller, Jacob Alexander, Zoe Petrovansky, Kacey Cusack and Rheanne Niebling.

We also won the 17YAG Boys Team Championship with a 1 point victory over NSW. Congratulations to Risto Krauss, Nathan Turnbull and Nathan Stevenson.

Only 1 Queenslander became Australian Champion. Peta Hughes won the Girls 16YAG Title at the expense of fellow Queenslander Kasey Sinclair. It was Peta's third successive Australian Title.

Kacey Cusack won the Kay Barclay Achievement Medal and Risto Krauss won the Austin Adarraga Achievement Medal in recognition of their consistent performances throughout the Championships.

Julius Krauss won the inaugural SUPERSHARK Award for the Most Valuable Player as voted by all Queensland Team Members.

Since 2000 Q Squash and Inform Connection have conducted 19 **Junior Graded** events in Brisbane. During this time we averaged 62 players per event and saw 372 players experience the one day format.

Only one player played in all 19 matches and deserves special recognition. Samantha Davies won the D Grade Girls event at our 1<sup>st</sup> event and the Girls A Grade at our last event. Over all she won 11 events and two Rising Junior Awards. Samantha was selected this year to join the 2007 National Talent Squad.

An average of 52 players attended each of the 5 graded events offered in 2003 compared to 66 in 2002 and 63 in 2001.

Queensland selected a squad of 17 players to compete at the **Inform Australian Junior Graded Championships** in Melbourne in December. Natasha Perry, Zac Geva and Darcey Baptiste became Australian Graded Champions winning their respective grades in the Individual Event.

On the **International Stage** Queenslanders performed very well. Rachael Grinham was the star of the show. Rachael won the British Open Title 9-3 7-9 9-2 9-5 against England's Cassie Jackman. In the Semi Final Rachael scored an impressive 3-0 victory against World Number 1 Carol Owens 9-5 9-7 9-3.

Rachael and sister Natalie enjoyed their highest World Rankings ever in December 2003. Rachael was ranked 3 and Natalie 4. Well done girls!

Joseph Kneipp finished the year ranked Number 10. Joseph was a member of the winning Australian Senior Team at the 19<sup>th</sup> World Men's Team Championship and a semi finalist at the World Individual Championships.

**Coaching & Refereeing Development** continues to be most challenging. The highlight of 2003 has been the introduction of a Just for Girls Development Program. The Program looks after the girls each week during the school terms. 19 Girls took part in the 2003 Program and 4 were selected to represent Queensland at the Australian Junior Graded Championships. Scarborough's Darcey Baptiste won the Beginners Title.

Our **State Government** continues to support our sport extremely well. Their financial contribution each year is critical and very much appreciated.

**Thank you** to all our member clubs who supported the State Body throughout the year. We look forward to your ongoing support in 2004.

Sadly after 7 years of working for Queensland Squash our Membership Officer Bev Wise departs the scene, but hopefully, she will remain involved with Squash. Thank you sincerely Bev for all your efforts over the years and we wish you well.

Thank you to my current administration team: Marc Forster, Kerri Kal, Rebecca Platz and Damian Tomasich for all your efforts and achievements throughout 2003.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Directors and all our volunteers for their contributions in 2003. The following people deserve special recognition: Muriel Atherton, Kay Barclay, Pat Barrett, Lisa Camilleri, Steve Derbyshire, Noel Forster, Meryl Loss, Tony Sinclair and Anne Turnbull.

**Kim Schramm**  
Executive Director