

QUEENSLAND 2007

Once again despite the many political challenges **off** the court Queensland successfully hosted two National events and their athletes enjoyed great success **on** the court.

*2007 will best be remembered for **Rachael Grinham** winning the World Open Championship for the very first time beating her sister Natalie in the final 9-4, 10-8, 9-2. It was the first "Sisters" and the first "All Queensland" World Open Final.*

Squash Australia Awards:

Peta Hughes co-won the Junior Athlete of the Year Award with Ryan Cuskelly.
Meryl Loss won the Volunteer of the Year Award.

Australian Representative Honours:

Laura Stock represented Australia at the World Junior Championships but sadly battled with injury for most of her final year.

Queensland successes include:

Queensland Stingrays: *Overall senior team champions for the 2nd consecutive year. Congratulations to Sue Davis, Georgina Davis, Steve Finitsis, Brad Freeme, Kristy Taylor, Nathan Turnbull and Coach Ian Freeme.*

Queensland Sharks: *Overall junior team champions for the 4th consecutive year, Age group champions: 15YAG, 17YAG, 19YAG. Coaches Kay Barclay and Noel Forster have guided our team to great success.*

Australian Junior Champions:

Bethany Brazier: 13YAG, **Karl Krauss:** 13YAG, **Sam Fife:** 15YAG, **Zoe Petrovansky:** 17YAG **Zac Alexander:** 19YAG.

Other Awards:

Sam Fife: Austin Adarraga Achievement Medal and Supershark MVP Award winner **Rheanne Niebling:** Supershark MVP Award winner **Kelly Preston:** Kay Barclay Achievement Medal **Sunil Seth:** MC Hazell Award winner.

National Junior Series Champions:

1st Event: Peter Taylor 19YAG, Julius Krauss 17YAG

2nd Event: Peter Taylor 19YAG

Queensland Junior Champions:

Boys: Ivan Jensen 11YAG, Ben Somerville 12YAG, Karl Krauss 13YAG, Sam Fife 14YAG, Jason Barrett 15YAG, Cameron Deehan (NSW) 16YAG, Matthew Muller 17YAG, Peter Taylor 19YAG and Luke Forster 23YAG.

Girls: Lakeesha Rarere 11YAG, Jessica Turnbull 12YAG, Tiffany Loss 13YAG, Dijo Sexton 14YAG & 15YAG, Kelly Preston 16YAG, Zoe Petrovansky 17YAG & 19YAG and Samantha Davies 23YAG.

Other Awards:

Peter Taylor: *Peter Nance Achievement Award* **Jon Van Der Kreek:** *Chris Robertson Encouragement Award* **Tiffany Loss:** *Rachael Grinham Achievement Award* **Grace McErvale:** *Rachael Grinham Encouragement Award*.

Top 100 Professional Players:

WISPA: Natalie Grinham (2) **Rachael Grinham (3):** *World Open and British Open Champion* **Peta Hughes (39):** *Queensland Open Champion*
PSA: Steve Finitisis (73) Brad Hindle (76).

Sadly **Peta Hughes** has called it a day. Hughes reached a career high World ranking of 35 during 2007 but always desired to lead a more normal life.

Hughes was a very successful junior champion winning 4 Australian titles and 9 Queensland titles. She represented Australia and won a silver medal at the 2003 World Junior Teams Championship.

She represented Queensland as a Shark and as a Stingray enjoying success with both. One of her fondest memories was winning the 2007 Queensland Open Championship in front of her home crowd.

2008 will be a most challenging year.

On the 20th June 2007 Sport and Recreation Queensland effectively withdrew its financial support of Q Squash.

Obviously this decision has and will have a significant impact on Q Squash and its future. The Q Squash Board undertakes to do everything possible to reestablish a partnership with the State Government.

Q Squash will continue to operate in a much reduced capacity but remains fully committed to delivering the Queensland Junior Championships and the Q Open. It is also committed to ensuring our representative teams continue to participate on the National stage.

Most importantly it will continue to deliver the Southside Squash League and as many services as possible which are financially feasible.

CEO Kim Schramm will continue to work with the organization and deliver many of the services on either a contract and/or voluntary basis.

The Board wishes to advise that Q Squash will remain a full member of Squash Australia and continue providing player accident insurance as part of the affiliation fees.

The Directors of Q Squash have devoted many hours of their time to help guide the Q Squash operation. They all remain dedicated to managing through this most challenging time.

Despite the escapades of a minority, the Q Squash Board remains committed to supporting the majority of the squash community who remain extremely loyal and supportive of the State Body.

At the 2007 AGM and workshop all stakeholders agreed that there needed to be a State Body. If this is true it is vitally imperative that those who withdrew their financial support previously step forward and begin supporting the organization again.

We would welcome any input from any person or organization to help rebuild Q Squash. ***Our door remains open to the minority to once again work with Q Squash toward finding solutions which respect the worth of all industry participants and have the ability to move our sport forward toward prosperity.***

Q Squash would like to acknowledge the support of the following volunteers:
Muriel Atherton, Kay Barclay, Steve Derbyshire, Noel Forster, Ian Freeme, John Lee, Meryl Loss, Neil Peacey, Tony Sinclair and Sherri Ward.

Kim Schramm
Chief Executive Officer