Australian Paralympic Committee

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Australian Paralympic Committee

PO Box 596
Sydney Markets
NSW 2129
Building A, 1 Herb Elliott Avenue
Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
T: +61 2 9704 0500
F: +61 2 9704 0589
E: auspara@paralympic.org.au
www.paralympic.org.au

ABN 41 810 234 213
ACN 061 547 957
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In my last full year as President of the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC), I can honestly say I have never been prouder of the performance of this incredible organisation. The phenomenal success of Australian Para-athletes at the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games and Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games exemplified the ability of the APC and the Australian Paralympic movement to shine on the world stage and empower the Australian community in the process, and I look forward to seeing what is next for the Paralympic movement in Australia as it continues to grow and evolve. The 2018 Australian Paralympic Team of 12 athletes, three sighted guides and 20 staff once again proved how Australians punch above their weight on the world’s biggest sporting stage. We returned home from PyeongChang, South Korea with one gold and three bronze medals — and that was without Team co-captain and dual gold medal contender Joany Badenhorst, who devastatingly withdrew from competition after injuring her knee while training just days before her competition.

To achieve our goal of a top 15 position on the overall medal tally was always going to be a mammoth challenge for the Australian Team, but they were never fazed by it. In a landmark moment for Paralympic sport in Australia, Para-snowboarder Simon Patmore broke a 16-year gold medal drought to become the first man in Australian sporting history to win a medal at the Paralympic Summer and Winter Games. Together with Para-alpine skier Melissa Perrine, who tasted medal success for the first time after three Paralympic campaigns, the duo doubled our medal haul from the Sochi 2014 and Torino 2006 Paralympic Games to place 15th on the overall medal tally.

PyeongChang 2018 was also the first Paralympic Winter Games to be broadcast on a commercial television network in Australia. After setting a new standard of excellence for the Paralympic movement in Australia with their groundbreaking coverage of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games, the Seven Network reaffirmed its commitment to Paralympic sport by signing on to deliver a one-hour highlights package three times a day throughout the Games. We have always known that our partnership with the Seven Network has the potential to meaningfully impact all Australians, and we are so excited to continue to create opportunities for our fans to watch and enjoy Para-sport.

Riding our wave of momentum into April, the APC again proved why it has an enduring reputation for successfully delivering cohesive national teams. In collaboration with Commonwealth Games Australia, the APC helped to plan, organise and manage the most inclusive Australian Commonwealth Games Team ever. Not only did the Australians top the medal tally with 88 gold, 59 silver and 59 bronze medals, but our team of 61 Para-athletes won the largest number of Para-sport gold medals on offer of any nation — 16 of 38. Among the most impressive achievements were Madison de Rozario’s dual gold medal haul, Melissa Tapper’s claim to Australia’s first Commonwealth Games gold medal in table tennis, and Kurt Fearnley being named the first Para-athlete in history to carry the Australian flag into a Commonwealth Games Closing Ceremony.

There is no doubt the Paralympic movement in Australia is enjoying a special time in its history, but success like this is only possible with the support of the Australian Government. I would like to extend my thanks to the former Federal Minister for Sport, the Honourable Greg Hunt MP, and officially welcome Senator the Honourable Bridget McKenzie to the role. We were honoured to be joined in PyeongChang by Senator McKenzie and the Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services, the Honourable Jane Prentice MP.

As always, the APC is laser-focused on sporting outcomes, but also creating and facilitating a sustainable career pathway for athletes with disabilities, particularly one which pushes the boundaries of innovation. To do this, the APC relies on the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) for support. In particular, I would like to thank the Chair of the ASC, John Wylie AM, and its Chief Executive Officer, Kate Palmer; your belief in us is what makes all of this possible.

On behalf of the APC, I would also like to record my thanks to our member organisations, national federations and the national institute network for your ongoing commitment to the growth of Paralympic Sport. As experts in your field, we know that collaboration is a must for us to flourish. I look forward to strengthening our partnerships over the next 12 months as we continue preparations for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our corporate partners and donors. Through your generosity, the APC continues to enhance its position as a global leader in high performance Paralympic sport, with the Australian Paralympic Team now in an unprecedented position to achieve their performance goals. We are so proud to have you as part of our Mob.

Finally, to my colleagues on the APC Board, our Chief Executive Officer, Lynne Anderson, and the staff at the APC — you leadership, expertise and passion for Paralympic sport is unlike any I have seen, and I am beyond grateful to have worked alongside you and learned from you these last 10 years.

With just over two years to go until Tokyo 2020, I wish our athletes, coaches and support staff the very best of luck in their preparations. I guarantee that with the APC in your corner, you will have every opportunity to achieve your personal best – and with luck, your best will win you a special place in Australian Paralympic history. It has been my absolute pleasure to have shared this journey to this point and you can always count on my support as a member of the ever-growing fanbase of the Australian Paralympic Team.

Glenn Tasker
President
Australian Paralympic Committee

Kurt Fearnley
MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

At a time of extraordinary visibility for the Paralympic movement in Australia, it is undeniable that the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) has proven itself to be a widely respected and effective leader in Australian sport and Paralympic sport globally. Following an exceptional amount of work over the last three years to rebuild and consolidate its financial position, the APC repaid its $2.25 million loan to the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) in September 2017. This was achieved four years earlier than anticipated and is a tribute to the expertise of the APC President, Glenn Tasker, his colleagues on the APC Board and the wonderful APC staff, whose belief in our movement and passion for what we do inspires me every day.

The opportunities to grow the Paralympic movement in Australia are endless and it is wonderful we are in a position once again to embrace these readily.

In a reporting period we have declared as the Year of Para-sport, the spotlight shone on PyeongChang in South Korea for the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games in March. The Australian Paralympic Team was simply outstanding and achieved its target of a top 15 position on the overall medal tally. We were proud of the groundwork laid by the APC in the months and years leading up to the Games, in collaboration with Ski & Snowboard Australia, the ASC and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), to give our Winter Paralympians the best chance of success.

As always, the core objective of the APC is to support Australians with disabilities to compete and reach their potential at the Paralympic Games. We recognise and celebrate the value of inclusion in sport and are proud of our role as advocates for all Australians with disabilities. Together with our partners, we identify opportunities, share expertise and drive innovation to create a sustainable platform for success at the Paralympic Games.

And while preparations for the Paralympic Games remained our strong focus, we continued to add value to our partners in a multitude of ways. An example is our groundbreaking partnership with Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA), which was announced in May 2017. During an already demanding period in the Paralympic cycle for the APC, key members of our Games Delivery division helped to plan, organise and manage the 2018 Australian Team for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. In return, they were given the opportunity to experience the intensity of another Games environment well in advance of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. As we continue the countdown to Tokyo 2020, collaboration with peak sporting bodies will prove crucial to delivering the most successful Australian Paralympic Team yet.

So too will the extraordinary leadership of the Chef de Mission of the 2020 Australian Paralympic Team, Kate McLoughlin, who is also General Manager, Games Delivery at the APC. During the reporting period, Kate received national and international recognition for the performance-driven, inclusive team environment she helped to create as Chef de Mission of the Australian Paralympic Team. After winning the Award for Leadership at the AIS Performance Awards, Kate became the first ever Australian to be crowned Best Official by the International Paralympic Committee at the 2017 International Paralympic Awards Gala.

We are now midway through the Paralympic cycle and remain committed to cultivating this supportive team culture. The APC Athlete Commission is engaged in all key decision-making, and the ongoing employment of an Athlete Engagement and Wellbeing Officer in 2016 Australian Paralympic Team co-captain, Daniela Di Toro, has seen the reinvention of the Paralympic Workplace Diversity Program and new partnerships with Beyond Blue and Crossing the Line. The APC has never been better positioned to support our past, present and emerging athletes, but we know there is still so much more important work to do in order to meet the demand.

Following the hugely successful broadcast coverage of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games, the APC renewed its partnership with the Seven Network for PyeongChang 2018. For the first time in history, the Paralympic Winter Games was broadcast on a commercial television network in Australia, introducing our incredible athletes to new audiences which we believe will only build in years to come.

Thanks to the support of the Australian Government and ASC, our member organisations, national federations, sponsors and supporters, the Paralympic movement in Australia is a globally respected force boasting world-class expertise, research, innovation, classification and governance. However, equity of opportunity is not yet a reality, and the APC will continue to challenge you to ensure all Australians with disabilities can participate in sport.

To those aspiring to be part of our 2020 Australian Paralympic Team, like you, the APC is competing against the very best in the world as we strive to maintain our reputation as a leader in Paralympic sport. By all accounts, our preparations have never been this far advanced two years out from a Games, but that does not mean we are taking anything for granted. We will continue to do everything in our power to give you the very best chance of success and I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together as we strive towards gold.

Lynne Anderson
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Paralympic Committee
THE AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

APC Board
President
Glenn Tasker
Directors
Kurt Fearnley
Lachlan Harris (appointed 15 December 2017)
John Hartigan
Rose King
Helen Nott
Jock O’Callaghan
Annabelle Williams (appointed 22 June 2018)

APC Member Organisations
Athletics Australia
Australian Skiing
Basketball Australia
Blind Sports Australia
Boccia Australia
Cycling Australia
Disabled Winter Sport Australia
Disability Sport Australia
Equestrian Australia
Football Federation Australia
Rowing Australia
Shooting Australia
Sport Inclusion Australia
Swimming Australia
Table Tennis Australia
Tennis Australia

APC Staff
Sam Allen
Coordinator, Managed Sports
Lynne Anderson
Chief Executive Officer
Nat Browne
Manager, Team Operations (Summer Games)
Vanessa Cardinale
General Manager, Finance
Kieran Courtney
Sports Data Analyst
Peter Crewe-Brown
Chief Financial Officer (until September 2017)
Yvonne Diab
Manager, Business Development (from April 2018)
Daniela Di Toro
Athlete Engagement and Wellbeing Officer
Lori Dotti
Chief Financial Officer (from November 2017)
Brad Ducklow
Head Coach, Wheelchair Rugby National Program
Denise Duong
Finance Officer
Alex El-Shamy
General Manager, Commercial and Marketing
Dan Evans
Data Management and Accreditation Manager
Georgina Exton
Executive, Sponsorship
Karen Faulkner
Manager, Performance Services
Shelley Ferguson
Manager, Games Logistics
Robert Fitzgerald
Fundraising Executive (from October 2017)
Laura Jones
Outfitting Manager (from August 2017)
Katie Kelly
Project Manager, Commercial and Marketing (until February 2018)
Paul Kiteley
General Manager, Performance
Cathy Lambert
Para-sport Engagement and Classification Specialist
Karen Mackey
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer (from December 2017)
Michelle Malzard
Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer (from July 2017 to October 2017)
Tim Mannion
General Manager, Communications
Samantha Martin
Human Resources Advisor (from February 2018)

Tim Matthews
Talent Specialist
Kate McLoughlin
General Manager, Games Delivery
Anna Muldoon
Classification Manager
Louise Nelson
Marketing and Licensing Manager
Paul Oliver
General Manager, Stakeholder Engagement
Tori Pendergast
Event and Marketing Coordinator (from April 2018)
Ross Pinder
Skill Acquisition Specialist
Kara Retford
Athlete and Member Engagement Liaison Coordinator
Lauren Robertson
Media and Public Relations Coordinator
Sascha Ryner
Media and Public Relations Manager
Ben Troy
General Manager, IT Operations
Natasha Welsh
Media, Pre-Games Staging Camp

Australian Paralympic Committee ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18
Finance Report – for the year ended 30 June 2018

The Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) Ltd operated in all states and territories of Australia during the year ended 30 June 2018, and this finance report reflects those operations.

The APC has a three-year corporate and budget strategy outlining its goals and key business initiatives to facilitate the accomplishment of its five strategic priorities. These are:

1. Invest in Para-performance
2. Rebuild cash reserves
3. Expand the commercial portfolio
4. Deepen stakeholder engagement
5. Grow the Paralympic brand

There was significant activity for the APC in 2018, including the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games, which took place in March. In addition, the APC supported continued growth in the Paralympic movement, including the very successful Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The operating surplus for the year ended 30 June 2018 amounted to $64,292. This 2018 result occurred after revenue of $11,982,430 and gross expenditure of $11,918,138.

During the reporting period, fundraising revenue increased by $508,000. Sponsorship revenue decreased by $2,103,387 from the previous year, given the relative position in the four-year Paralympic Games cycle.

This finance report has been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates the continuity of normal business activities and realisation of assets and liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

A summary of the APC Finance Report for the 12 months ended 30 June 2018 and comparatives for the previous year are outlined below. A copy of the APC Finance Report for the 2017/18 financial year can be made available by contacting the APC’s Sydney office on +61 2 9704 0500.

The APC balance sheet reflects a cash balance of $5,021,672 at 30 June 2018, following the repayment of a loan of $2,250,000 from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) in September 2017. The APC expects to continue to maintain cash reserves throughout the next financial year.

The APC is extremely grateful for the continued support of its sponsors, benefactors and the Australian Government through the ASC.

### Statement of Comprehensive Income – For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 $</th>
<th>2017 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>4,272,592</td>
<td>3,822,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsors</td>
<td>2,619,751</td>
<td>4,723,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>4,278,007</td>
<td>3,770,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income and bank interest</td>
<td>67,347</td>
<td>136,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership fees and other income</td>
<td>744,733</td>
<td>892,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td>11,982,430</td>
<td>13,344,625</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Expenses             |        |        |
| Sport programs       | (2,883,868) | (2,181,167) |
| Paralympic and other Games | (1,514,091) | (1,046,074) |
| Promotion, marketing and media | (1,158,437) | (1,179,982) |
| Fundraising          | (3,196,277) | (2,738,162) |
| Administration       | (2,583,169) | (734,118) |
| Broadcasting         | (187,703) | (64,475) |
| **Total expenses**   | (11,918,138) | (11,838,951) |

Operating surplus before income tax | 64,292 | 1,506,674 |
Income tax expense | - | - |
Net surplus attributable to the members of the Australian Paralympic Committee Ltd | 64,292 | 1,506,674 |
Other comprehensive income | - | - |
**Total comprehensive income** | 64,292 | 1,506,674 |

### Statement of Financial Position – As at 30 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 $</th>
<th>2017 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>5,021,672</td>
<td>6,266,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>145,265</td>
<td>162,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>7,407,800</td>
<td>7,448,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td>145,265</td>
<td>162,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>145,265</td>
<td>162,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>7,553,145</td>
<td>7,008,306</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Liabilities          |        |        |
| Current liabilities  |        |        |
| Trade and other payables | 1,367,267 | 507,516 |
| Provisions           | 105,291 | 73,249 |
| Deemed revenue       | 2,583,169 | 734,118 |
| Loan                 | 2,250,000 | 2,250,000 |
| **Total current liabilities** | 4,055,717 | 3,564,883 |
| Non-current liabilities |        |        |
| Provisions           | 71,545 | 81,832 |
| **Total non-current liabilities** | 71,545 | 81,832 |
| **Total liabilities** | 4,127,262 | 3,646,715 |
| Net assets           | 3,425,883 | 3,361,591 |
| Equity               |        |        |
| Accumulated funds    | 3,425,883 | 3,361,591 |
| **Total equity**     | 3,425,883 | 3,361,591 |
It has been a watershed year for the Australian Sports Commission. We’ve launched a new public-facing brand – Sport Australia – with a renewed vision for Australia to be the world’s most active sporting nation, known for its integrity, sporting success and world-leading sports industry.

This aligns with the Australian Government’s long-term vision for sport in this country, outlined in Sport 2030, released in August 2018 by Minister for Sport Bridget McKenzie. Sport Australia will be central to delivering the priorities outlined in this national sport plan.

At the fundamental level, Sport Australia’s focus will be on getting Australians moving through sport and, more broadly, physical activity. We want to inspire and activate people across every age, race, gender, cultural background and physical ability. We will continue to build partnerships in the health and education sectors to ensure physical activity is a national priority.

We need to ensure sporting organisations are equipped to make the most of a renewed interest in physical activity, and so we will continue working with sports to improve the workforce capability, governance and partnerships. We want to help sports innovate, connect with existing and new participants in the digital era and provide products that meet current expectations.

The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) is redefining its role too, leading a united and collaborative high performance system for Australian sport. Success will be measured by Australians consistently winning medals at major international events, but also in the national pride and inspiration generated by our athletes.

Working in partnerships, the AIS will be focussed on doing the big system-level things on the frontiers of ethical sporting performance that no other body is naturally positioned to do.

The AIS has launched a new Athlete Wellbeing and Engagement team, focussed on supporting athletes to transition through their sporting careers and connect with their communities. We want sporting champions to be positive influences.

Australia enjoyed genuine sporting success in 2017/18. In challenging times, the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games helped restore Australia’s faith in our sports and athletes.

Positions on the podium are wonderful to celebrate, but the narrative is incomplete without humility, generosity of spirit, confidence in what our athletes stand for and how they carry themselves. At the Gold Coast Games, we saw the very best in our athletes, and this display of spirit and integrity is sure to give them the best start to their preparation for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We also had some outstanding performances at the PyeongChang Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games. Australia equalled its most successful Winter Olympics haul of three medals in PyeongChang, two silvers and one bronze medal matching the result in Sochi 2014. It was also our best result at a Paralympic Winter Games in 16 years.

Sport integrity has justifiably gained additional focus in the past year, and is a very important priority for Sport Australia and for Australian sport more generally. We, and everyone involved in sport, owe it to the athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, fans and the public at large to ensure that Australian sport is fair and clean, and is seen to be fair and clean.

We thank all of our partners – including athletes, coaches, board members and administrators – for your effort and contribution to Australian sport, and your enthusiasm for building a more active Australia. We look forward to continued success and progress together.

John Wylie AM
Chair
Australian Sports Commission

MESSAGE FROM SPORT AUSTRALIA

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John Wylie AM
Chair
Australian Sports Commission
The PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games were staged in PyeongChang, South Korea from 9 to 18 March 2018. A record 567 athletes from 49 delegations – more than any previous Paralympic Winter Games – competed in 80 medal events across six sports. Nearly 343,000 tickets were sold, smashing the previous record of 316,200 sales that was set at the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Games, and a record 629 accredited media and 47 broadcast rights holders delivered coverage of the Games to approximately 2.02 billion people worldwide.

The 2018 Australian Paralympic Team included 12 athletes and three sighted guides. Competing in two sports, Para-alpine skiing and Para-snowboarding, the Australian Team achieved its best medal result at a Paralympic Winter Games since 2002 – one gold and three bronze medals – to finish 15th on the overall medal tally.

Medals were won by Simon Patmore (one gold and one bronze) in Para-snowboarding and Para-alpine skiing Melissa Perrine (two bronze), together with her sighted guide, Christian Geiger.

Competing in the men’s SB-UL classification at his first Paralympic Winter Games, Patmore claimed his gold medal in the Para-snowboard cross, the first won by a member of the Australian Paralympic Winter Team in 16 years. He also won bronze in the banked slalom. Perrine, at her third Paralympic Games, broke through for her first Paralympic medals with bronze in the super-combined and giant slalom in the women’s visually impaired classification.

The Australian Team was led by its Chef de Mission Nick Dean and co-captains Mitchell Gourley (Para-alpine skiing) and Joany Badenhorst (Para-snowboarding), with Badenhorst (Opening Ceremony) and Perrine (Closing Ceremony) appointed the Australian flagbearers.

The APC sent an Australian Team with a strong representation of female athletes, equalling Australia’s highest ever representation of female athletes (four) at a Paralympic Winter Games. Four female athletes also represented Australia at Sochi 2014. Unfortunately, Badenhorst was forced to withdraw from competition after sustaining a serious injury during her final training session.

Patmore was the only member of the Australian Team to have also competed at a Paralympic Summer Games. He became just the sixth Paralympian and first Para-snowboarder in history to represent Australia at a Paralympic Summer and Winter Games, and the second Australian to win a medal at a Paralympic Summer and Winter Games. He also won bronze in the men’s 200m T46 at the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

Thanks to the APC’s partnership with the Seven Network, PyeongChang 2018 was the first Paralympic Winter Games to be broadcast on a commercial television network in Australia. The United States topped the gold medal tally with 13 gold, 15 silver and eight bronze medals. In second, third, fourth and fifth place were Neutral Paralympic Athletes, Canada, France and Germany, respectively.

Of the 49 competing delegations, 26 won at least one medal, beating the previous best of 25 that was set in 1994. 20 delegations won at least one gold medal, beating the previous best of 17 that was set in 1998 and 2002. Four countries – China, Croatia, Kazakhstan and South Korea – won their first Paralympic Winter Games gold medals.
**2018 AUSTRALIAN PARALYMPIC TEAM**

**PARA-ALPINE SKIING**

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*Overseas*

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**AUSTRALIAN MEDALLISTS**

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**FAST FACTS**

- Countries: 49
- Athletes: 564 (431 men, 133 women)
- Medal events: 80
- Sports: 6
- Spectators: 343,000
- National Paralympic Committee debuts: 3
The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games were staged on the Gold Coast, Queensland from 4 to 15 April 2018. 4,426 athletes from 71 delegations competed in 275 medal events across 18 sports. There were seven Para-sports and 38 Para-sport medal events on the program.

Australia was represented by a record 469 athletes, including 61 Para-athletes, two sighted guides and two lawn bowls directors. 38 of the 61 Para-athletes (62 per cent) had previously represented Australia at the Paralympic Games. Competing in all 18 sports, the Australian Team won 80 gold, 59 silver and 59 bronze medals to top the medal tally with 198 in total.

Australian Para-athletes pulled their weight, winning the biggest number of Para-sport gold medals on offer at any nation – 16 of 38. They won 46 medals in total across all seven Para-sports, including 16 gold, 14 silver and 16 bronze medals. Their medal haul was double the size of their nearest rival nation (England with 19 medals).

Melissa Tapper won Australia’s first gold medal in table tennis with victory in the women’s singles T6-10, and wheelchair racer Kurt Fearnley became the first Para-athlete to carry the Australian flag into the Closing Ceremony. Fearnley also set a new Commonwealth Games record on his way to victory in the men’s marathon T54 – his last race for Australia at a major international multi-sport event.

Inclusion was a key theme of the Games, with a 73 per cent increase in Para-sport events and 46 per cent increase in Para-athletes from the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. For the first time in the history of a major multi-sport Games, there was also an equal number of medal events for men and women across all sports.

Behind Australia on the gold medal tally was England (second), India (third), Canada (fourth) and New Zealand (fifth).

Of the 71 competing nations, 29 claimed gold. Medals were shared between 43 countries, beating the previous best of 39, which was set in 2002 and equaled in 2006. Five countries – Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Dominica and British Virgin Islands – won their first Commonwealth Games medals.
2018 AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH GAMES TEAM – PARA-ATHLETES

**PARA-ATHLETICS**

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**AUSTRALIAN MEDALLISTS**

**GOLD 16 / SILVER 14 / BRONZE 16**

**Gold**

- Para-athletes: Cameron Crombie – men’s shot put F38
- Para-athletes: Madison de Rozario – women’s 1500m T14, women’s marathon T14
- Para-athletes: Kurt Fearnley – men’s marathon T14
- Para-athletes: Isa Holt – women’s 100m T35
- Para-athletes: Evan O’Hanlon – men’s 100m T38

**Para-lawn bowls**:
- Para-athletes: Tony Bonnell, Ken Hanson, Jordan Thorson – open triples B6/B7/B8

**Para-swimming**
- Para-athletes: Jesse Aungles – men’s 200m individual medley S13
- Para-athletes: Tim Dicken – men’s 100m breaststroke S88, men’s 100m freestyle S9

**Para-cycling**
- Para-athletes: Brad Henderson/Tom Clarke – men’s 1000m time trial B&VI, men’s sprint B&VI

**Para-swimming**
- Para-athletes: Blake Cochrane – men’s 200m breaststroke S88
- Para-athletes: Kyle Downie – women’s 200m individual medley SM10

**Silver**

- Para-athletes: Eliza Auft-Connell – women’s marathon T14
- Para-athletes: Erin Cleaver – women’s 1500m T14

- Para-athletes: Madison de Rozario – women’s 1500m T14
- Para-athletes: Erin Cleaver – women’s long jump T13
- Para-athletes: Kurt Fearnley – men’s 1500m T14
- Para-athletes: Marty Jackson – men’s shot put F38

**Bronze**

- Para-athletes: Bob Seymour – mixed pairs B2/B3
- Para-athletes: Tony Bonnell, Ken Hanson, John Thorson – open triples B6/B7/B8
- Para-athletes: Lakeisha Patterson – women’s 50m freestyle S8, women’s 100m freestyle S9
- Para-athletes: Melissa Tapper – women’s singles TT6-10

- Para-athletes: Blake Cochrane – men’s 200m breaststroke S88
- Para-athletes: Tony Bonnell, Ken Hanson, John Thorson – open triples B6/B7/B8
- Para-athletes: Lakeisha Patterson – women’s 50m freestyle S8, women’s 100m freestyle S9
- Para-athletes: Madeleine Scott – women’s 100m breaststroke S89
- Para-athletes: Emily Tapp – women’s PTWC
- Para-athletes: Madeleine Scott – women’s 100m breaststroke S89
- Para-athletes: Emily Tapp – women’s PTWC

**Australia Paralympic Committee ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18**

**Australian Paralympic Committee**
GAMES DELIVERY

The APC Games Delivery division manages the planning, coordination and delivery of the Australian Paralympic Team to achieve success at the Paralympic Games. It aims to deliver a world-class performance environment for athletes and officials through the provision of support services, logistics and operational expertise, as well as the engagement of national federations, the Australian Institute of Sport, national institute network and other stakeholders.

PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games
Planning for the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games culminated during the reporting period. In February 2018, key members of the APC Games Delivery team travelled to the team’s final training venues in Denver, USA and Aomori, Japan to ensure a smooth transition to the Paralympic Village.

In July 2017, in consultation with the Chef de Mission of the 2018 Australian Paralympic Team, Nick Dean, and the outgoing co-captains from the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games, Daniela Di Toro and Kurt Fearnley, Joany Badenhorst and Mitchell Gourley were appointed co-captains for PyeongChang 2018.

PyeongChang 2018 was well supported by the Australian Government with attendees including the Minister for Sport, the Honourable Bridget McKenzie, and the Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services, the Honourable Jane Prentice, as well as the Chair of the Australian Sports Commission John Wylie AM and its Chief Executive Officer Kate Palmer.

Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games
Excellent progress was made on plans for the delivery of the Australian Paralympic Team to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

During the reporting period, the agreement between the APC and Kobe City, the location of the Australian Paralympic Team’s pre-Games staging camp, was signed. It launched a successful site visit to Japan in September 2017, which was focused on identifying accommodation and training venues for the 10 sports and nearly 150 Australian Team members expected to attend the camp. As preparations for Tokyo 2020 intensified, the APC continued to work closely with the Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (TOCOG). The site visit was a key opportunity for members of the APC Games Delivery division to build their relationships with TOCOG officials, understand the spread of competition and training venues, and observe the progress being made in the construction of new venues and infrastructure.

In June 2018, two members of the APC Games Delivery division visited the remotely located venue for the Para-cycling road races and toured potential Out of Village accommodation options to identify the ideal location for an Australian Team hub outside the Paralympic Village. Negotiations to secure the Shinagawa Apartments were continuing at the end of the reporting period.

Mishon 2020
More than 70 representatives from national sporting organisations (NSOs), state institutes and academies of sport, and other key support agencies gathered in Canberra in November 2017 for the biannual Mishon 2020 workshop. The Mishon 2020 series is integral to developing a supportive and cohesive Team culture at Tokyo 2020 by giving participants the opportunity to understand the APC’s plans for Games delivery, network with other sports and share ideas.

To further cultivate this supportive and cohesive Team culture, the APC Games Delivery division also relished the opportunity to involve the APC Athlete Commission and Mob Leadership Team in all key decision-making.

Partnership with Commonwealth Games Australia
The announcement of the innovative partnership forged between the APC and Commonwealth Games Australia (CQA) saw members of the APC Games Delivery division appointed to key roles in the planning and delivery of the 2018 Australian Commonwealth Games team.
Five members of the APC Games Delivery division were embedded in the Australian Team and played a critical role in the planning and implementation of team processing, accreditation, sport entries and sport operations in the nine months leading up to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The benefits of this partnership were twofold. It ensured CGA had the skilled personnel to deliver a hugely successful Australian Team and provided key APC staff the opportunity to experience the intensity of a Games environment well in advance of Tokyo 2020.

**Athlete Engagement**

Athlete engagement and welfare continued to be a key focus for the APC Games Delivery division.

The ongoing employment of an Athlete Engagement and Wellbeing Officer ensured the APC could provide opportunities and support to all Paralympians to experience successful and rewarding sporting careers and lives. The APC strives to ensure each athlete has access to information and services that support and encourage:

- ongoing engagement with Paralympic athletes, both past and present, in meaningful, respectful and supportive environments;
- best possible mental health;
- access to sponsorship information and opportunities for athletes to help fund their sporting careers;
- access to employment opportunities and services to help manage financial constraints and ensure a career after sport.

Key achievements of the reporting period included:

- increased capacity of the APC Athlete Commission. Meetings were held in November 2017 in conjunction with Mission 2020 and May 2018. In November, the APC Athlete Commission addressed all NSOs and took part in team building activities and planning for Tokyo 2020;
- delivery of a pilot sponsorship advisory program to 50 Paralympians through online and face-to-face meetings with The Sponsorship Consultants;
- reinvigoration of the Paralympic Workplace Diversity Program through 360 HR Consulting, which is currently working with 15 athletes to find employment that allows them to compete and be engaged in meaningful work outside of sport;
- establishment of partnerships with Beyond Blue and Crossing the Line to ensure athletes have access to services that facilitate their mental health.
PARALYMPIC PERFORMANCE

The APC Paralympic Performance division develops and shares expert knowledge of Paralympic sport to optimise the identification, preparation and performance of athletes. It aims to enhance medal outcomes at the Paralympic Games by:
• collaborating with national federations (NFs) to improve support service delivery, athlete health and the effectiveness of daily training environments;
• engaging experts and external organisations;
• providing targeted education;
• delivering research and innovation through partnerships with NFs, the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and national institute network;
• distributing evidence-based information and exploring new ideas.

During the reporting period, the APC Paralympic Performance division collaborated with the AIS, Basketball Australia, Melrose Wheelchairs, the New South Wales Institute of Sport, Rowing Australia, the South Australian Sports Institute, Table Tennis Australia and Toyota on equipment innovation projects. The APC Paralympic Performance division also supported the delivery of quality sport performance services to 15 sports and helped to establish a network of personal carers.

Skill acquisition
During the reporting period, skill acquisition support continued to focus on supporting coaches to enhance and refine practice design and seek evidence-informed, innovative solutions to challenges in daily training environments.

Major engagements continued in Para-athletics, Para-table tennis, wheelchair rugby and wheelchair tennis. Support was also initiated in Para-archery, Para-cycling and Para-equestrian with a view to increasing medal opportunities at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. The APC will aim to continue to provide flexible and creative support during the 2018/19 reporting period and explore ways to increase its capacity for skill acquisition services to ensure optimal support for targeted medal programs. This will involve engaging junior skill acquisition specialists to take on applied support projects under the supervision of the APC’s Skill Acquisition Specialist.

Research collaborations with world-leading specialists and institutes were strengthened during the reporting period. As a result, major research and innovation projects saw significant progress:
• Following the success of the Gold Medal Challenge – an initiative by Optus to create new innovations in 2017 – Optus initiated the development of a proof of concept for a remote training system for Para-athletes and coaches.
• Nima Dehghansai completed a three-month research placement in Australia as part of a PhD focussed on understanding the development of expertise in Para-athletes. This was achieved in collaboration with the APC, York University and the Canadian Paralympic Committee. Para-cycling, Para-table tennis and wheelchair rugby coaching staff and administrators gained valuable insights into skill development and feedback to enhance their sport pathway.
• The head coach of the Australian wheelchair rugby team, Brad Dubberley, and eight Australian wheelchair rugby players benefited from PhD research by David Haydon in wheelchair optimisation. Haydon provided data to support the prescription of new playing chairs, which were demonstrated to improve on-court propulsion and performance.

Performance Talent Program

The Performance Talent Program is a core component of the work of the APC Paralympic Performance division. It aims to identify or link athletes who have the traits required to achieve high performance success with suitable Para-sport programs.
During the reporting period, key achievements of the Performance Talent Program included:

- 77 registrations were received through a talent portal on the APC website. Applicants were assessed to determine which sports and disciplines they were best suited to before being linked with the most appropriate sport pathway options. As a result of the advice and support of the APC Paralympic Performance division, including classification advice, networking opportunities, travel and equipment support, 23 of these athletes transitioned from another sport to increase their potential for pathway progression.

- Of the 12 athletes selected for the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games, nine were identified through APC talent pathways and talent transfer initiatives. Among them was Simon Patmore, a gold and bronze medallist in Para-snowboard at PyeongChang 2018 who transitioned from Para-athletics in 2014.

Initiatives with the specific purpose of identifying talent across all Para-sport programs is a priority of the APC Paralympic Performance division. However, during the reporting period, the APC provided targeted support to new and emerging Para-sport programs with a view to increasing participation. Among the sports to benefit from this engagement included football 5-a-side, Para-ice hockey, Para-judo, Para-powerlifting and wheelchair fencing.

**Classification**

During the reporting period, the APC Paralympic Performance division worked collaboratively with Ski & Snowboard Australia to support the classification of athletes on the 2018 Australian Paralympic Team. It also commenced engagement with national federations (NFs) for Tokyo 2020.

The APC supported NFs to:

- understand the revised International Paralympic Committee Athlete Classification Code;
- commence international classification planning for Tokyo 2020.

**Classification in Australia**

The APC Paralympic Performance division remained focussed on establishing a quality national classification system. It engaged NFs to support the development of Australian classifiers and to enable athletes to access classification opportunities. During the reporting period, the APC:

- provided direct funding to 16 NFs for their national classification programs, including the new Paralympic sports of Para-badminton and Para-taekwondo;
- supported NFs and other sporting partners to deliver effective national classification pathways;
- helped to resolve classification issues across sports;
- managed the national classification systems for vision impaired athletes.

The number of Australian classifiers increased during the reporting period:

- Nine classifiers finalised national certification across five sports.
- Six classifiers completed training in new classification systems following changes to the international classification systems of Para-athletics and Para-canoe.
High performance strategy
In conjunction with the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), the APC is striving to facilitate an innovative and collaborative Australian high performance sport system. During the reporting period, it was announced the AIS would refit the Australia's Winning Edge brand name. However, this did not divert the focus of the APC to work closely with its partners to achieve medal outcomes at the identified benchmark events. The key elements of Australia’s high performance outcomes are:
• consistent and sustainable success for Australian athletes and teams on the world stage;
• greater levels of accountability for performance results;
• improved governance structures and contemporary reporting and monitoring of performance;
• engagement, unity, inspiration and motivation of all Australians.
Following the achievement of an excellent team performance at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games, high performance programs face the significant challenge of maintaining that level of success at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.
In 2017/18, the AIS invested $13.3 million into high performance Para-sport programs, which was an increase of $680,000 from the investment made in the previous reporting period.

High Performance Programs managed by the Australian Paralympic Committee

Wheelchair rugby
International federation: International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF)
Head coach: Brad Dubberley
Performance coordinator: Sam Allan
Benchmark event in 2017/18: 2017 IWRF Asia-Oceania Championship, Auckland, New Zealand (25 August – 1 September 2017)
Target: 1 gold medal
Result: 1 gold medal
2017/18 AIS investment: $800,052 (increase of $275,052)
Report: During the reporting period, and in preparation for the 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship in August 2018, the Steelers contested tournaments in New Zealand, England, the USA and Canada. They also participated in a training camp on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland in May 2018.
The vast experience of Ryley Batt, Chris Bond, Andrew Harrison, Jason Lees and Ryan Scott was complemented by the ongoing improvement of Ben Fawcett, Josh Nicholson, Nick Dean and Jayden Warn.
In April 2018, Dubberley and Lewis Quinn (performance analyst) attended the 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship Qualification Tournament in Nottwil, Switzerland. This marked the first time in history that staff have been able to attend an international event purely to scout competition.
Benchmark event in 2017/18: 2017 IWRF Asia-Oceania Championship, Auckland, New Zealand (25 August – 1 September 2017)
The Steelers played with flair and consistency to defeat Japan in the gold medal match, 53-46.
Other international events during the reporting period:
The Steelers played fast, offensive rugby to win the five-game series, 5-0. Winning margins ranged from nine to 14 tries, and several line-ups were tested to build team confidence. Greg Smith (assistant coach) was appointed head coach for the series to upskill.
2017 Best of the West Rugby Tournament, San Diego, USA (17 – 19 November 2017)
The Steelers kept their unbeaten record during their USA tour intact with a four try victory over the Minnesota Steelheads in the final. International athletes on the Minnesota roster included Chuck Aoki (USA), Joe Delagrange (USA) and Jonathan Coggan (Great Britain).
High quality rugby was a feature of the tournament, which was contested by Japan, Australia, the USA and Great Britain. The USA defeated Australia in the final, 56-55.
2018 Friendly Series: Australian Steelers vs Team USA, Colorado Springs, USA (8 – 10 June 2018)
In preparation for the 2018 World Championship and 2018 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament in June 2018, the Steelers played the USA in a four-game series, which the USA won, 3-1.
2018 Canada Cup International Wheelchair Rugby Tournament, Vancouver, Canada (14 – 17 June 2018)
After placing third in the five-game pool phase, the Steelers faced Canada in the 3rd/4th play-off. They defeated the host nation, 63-56, to win bronze.

Boccia
International federation: Boccia International Sports Federation (BISFed)
Head coach: Peter King
Performance coordinator: Sam Allan
Benchmark event in 2017/18: 2018 BISFed Boccia Regional Open, Isé, Japan (17 – 21 March 2018)
Target: 1 medal
Result: 1 medal
2017/18 AIS investment: $113,706 (+ $20,000 APC grant)
Benchmark event in 2017/18: 2018 BISFed Boccia Regional Open, Isé, Japan (17 – 21 March 2018)
Daniel Michel won silver in the Individual BC3 event following a 5-4 loss to Ho Yuen Kei (Hong Kong) in the gold medal match. Michel and Spencer Cotie placed fourth in the pairs BC3 event after recording two wins and two losses in the pool matches.
Other international events during the reporting period:
2017 BISFed World Open, Kansas City, USA (22 – 29 September 2017)
At the first World Open event of the reporting period, Michel achieved individual BC3 gold and Michel and Cotie won the pairs BC3 title.
2017 BISFed World Open, Bangkok, Thailand (2 – 11 October 2017)
Michel defeated Jun Yup Kim (South Korea), 7-2, in the Individual BC3 final to add to his 2017/18 World Open gold medal haul, and teamed up with Calandre Simpson in the pairs BC3 event to win bronze. Jean-Paul Lafontaine missed the quarter-finals on countback in the individual BC4 event.
2018 BISFed Boccia World Open, Montreal, Canada (24 – 29 April 2018)
Michel won bronze in the Individual BC3 event and silver with Cotie in the pairs BC3 final.

High Performance Programs supported by the Australian Paralympic Committee

Para-sport reports
High performance strategy
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2018 BISFed Boccia World Open, Montreal, Canada (24 – 29 April 2018)
Michel won bronze in the Individual BC3 event and silver with Cotie in the pairs BC3 final.
Para-powerlifting
International federation: World Para-powerlifting
High performance manager: Simon Bengner
Performance coordinator: Kieran Courtney
2017/18 AIS investment: $2 (+ $40,000 APC grant)
Report: During the reporting period, the APC developed an agreement with Powerlifting Australia (PA) to facilitate the transition of the management of the Para-powerlifting pathway and athlete support program from the APC to PA. The APC will continue to provide assistance to PA in classification and athlete support services.
Benchmark event in 2017/18:
2017 World Para-powerlifting Championships, Mexico City, Mexico (2 – 6 December 2017)
Following an earthquake in Mexico in September 2017, the World Championships were postponed until December 2017. Top 15 results were achieved by two of Australia’s six representatives, Ben Wright and Kelly Cartwright, who competed in the men’s up to 88kg and women’s up to 50kg events respectively.
Other national and international events during the reporting period:
2017 Para-powerlifting Competition, Gold Coast, Queensland (18 – 21 October 2017)
Jointly organised by the APC and PA, this was the final qualification event for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. It provided opportunities for international classification, a three-day accreditation course for referees, and gave athletes the chance to familiarise themselves with the Commonwealth Games venue.
2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, Queensland (4 – 15 April 2018)
Competing in front of a vociferous home crowd, Wright placed sixth in the men’s heavyweight division and Cartwright placed seventh in the women’s lightweight division.
2018 Australian Para-powerlifting Championships, Melbourne, Victoria (24 June 2018)
This was the final qualification event for the 2018 World Para-powerlifting Asia-Oceania Open Championships in September 2018. It was run solely by PA.

High performance programs managed by national federations
Para-archery
International federation: World Archery
National federation: Archery Australia
High performance manager: Graeme Rose
2017/18 AIS investment: $81,908 (increase of $81,908)
Report: During the reporting period, a Para-archery program was established by the New South Wales Institute of Sport (NSWIS) as part of a Target Sports initiative. It was led by the head coach of the national program, Ricci Cheah, and its impact was felt immediately.
Benchmark event in 2017/18:
2017 World Archery Para Championships, Beijing, China (13 – 17 September 2017)
Jonathan Milne, Peter Marchant and Kevin Faulkner placed seventh in the men’s compound open team event.
Other international events during the reporting period:
2018 Para-archery European Circuit 1st Leg World Ranking Event (2 – 9 June 2018)
The Australian team achieved its best ever medal haul at a major event. Milne won gold in the men’s compound open event, and Milne, Marchant and Faulkner won silver in the men’s compound open team event.

Para-archery
International federation: World Archery
National federation: Archery Australia
Program manager: Andrew Falchney
2017/18 AIS investment: $1,630,000 (increase of $18,346)
Benchmark event in 2017/18:
The Australian team finished fifth on the gold medal tally and sixth on the overall medal tally with 11 gold, nine silver and eight bronze medals to record the team’s best result at a World Championships since the 2006 IPC Archery World Championships. There were several outstanding performances including world records by Cameron Cramble in the men’s shot put F38, Isis Holt in the women’s 100m T53, Joysten Sawyer in the men’s javelin throw F38 and James Turner in the men’s 200m T53.
Other international events during the reporting period:
2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, Queensland (4 – 15 April 2018)
Taking the opportunity to showcase their talent in front of thousands of Australians in the stands and those watching at home, the Australian Para-athletics team won six gold, six silver and three bronze medals. Madison de Rozario won double gold in the women’s 1500m T54 and women’s marathon T54, and Kurt Fearnley won gold in his last race for Australia, the men’s marathon T54. He also won silver in the men’s 1500m T54.
2017 World Para-athletics Junior Championships, Nottwil, Switzerland (3 – 6 August 2017)
At the inaugural World Championships for junior Para-athletes, the Australian team finished eighth on the gold medal tally and equal third on the overall medal tally with five gold, six silver and nine bronze medals. Three of the five gold medals were won by Gregory Luff in the boys u18 100m, 200m and 400m T35-34.
Series winners were crowned following the 2018 London Marathon, where de Rozario became the first Australian to win the elite women’s wheelchair race. Fearnley and de Rozario both closed out the series with 30 points, with Fearnley placing fourth in the men’s wheelchair division and de Rozario placing fifth in the women’s wheelchair division.
Para-badminton
International federation: Badminton World Federation (BWF)
National federation: Badminton Australia
Participation manager: Marianne Loh
Report: Positive collaboration with the APC has assisted the ongoing development of the Para-badminton program. Para-badminton will feature at the Paralympic Games for the first time at Tokyo 2020, along with Para-taekwondo.

Benchmark event in 2017/18:
2017 BWF Para-badminton World Championships, Uljan, South Korea (22 – 26 November 2017)
Australia was represented in four quarter-finals. Ebbie Donovan competed in the women’s singles SL6 and mixed doubles SL6 with Luke Misen. Misen also teamed up with Yohei Hatakeyama (Japan) in the men’s doubles SL6 and Caitlin Driantfield competed in the mixed doubles SL3-SU5 with Corrie Keith Robinson (New Zealand). Other international events during the reporting period:
2017 Para-badminton International, Tokyo, Japan (7 – 10 September 2017)
Donovan performed well to place third in the women’s singles SL6 and second in the mixed doubles SL6 with Mark Joseph Dharmai (India). Richard Engles and Celine Vinot reached the quarter-finals of the men’s singles WH2 and Vinot with Yeh En-Chuan reached the elimination rounds in their events – Engles in the men’s singles WH2 and Vinot with Teh En-Chuan (Chinese Taipei) in the mixed doubles SL3-SU5.
2018 Para-badminton International, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (12 – 15 April 2018)
Dransfield reached the quarter-finals of the women’s singles SL4+SU5 and mixed doubles SL3-SU5 with Pascal Lapointe (Canada). She placed second in her group in both events with two wins from three matches.
2018 Para-badminton Open, Dublin, Ireland (20 – 24 June 2018)
Dransfield and Vinot placed fourth in the women’s doubles SL3-SU5.

Para-canoe
International federation: International Canoe Federation (ICF)
National federation: Paddle Australia
Head coach: Andrea King
National performance director: Shaun Stephens
2017/18 AIS investment: $475,000 (increase of $250,000)
Benchmark event in 2017/18:
2017 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships, Roačice, Czech Republic (23 – 27 August 2017)
The Australian team finished on top of the gold medal tally and equal second on the overall medal tally with five gold medals. Curtis McGrath achieved double World champion status in the men’s 200m K1 and men’s 200m VL2.
Other international events during the reporting period:
2018 Canoe Sprint Oceania Championships and Grand Prix, 2, Penrith, New South Wales (9 – 11 February 2018)
It was an Australian 1-2 in the men’s and women’s 200m K1, with Dylan Littlehales and McGrath, and Amanda Reynolds and Susan Selipi, placing first and second respectively.
2018 ICF Canoe Sprint and Para-canoe World Cup 1, Szeged, Hungary (17 – 20 May 2018)
McGrath won double gold in the men’s 200m K12 and men’s 200m VL3.

Para-cycling
International federation: International Cycling Union (UCI)
National federation: Cycling Australia
Program manager: Peter Day
2017/18 AIS investment: $1,195,000 (increase of $87,406)
Report: After an outstanding contribution over nine years as manager of the Australian Para-cycling program, Peter Day announced he would be retiring from the role in September 2018. Under Day’s leadership, the program consistently achieved multiple medals at the Paralympic Games and World Championships, which are testament to his hard work and commitment to the sport.
Benchmark events in 2017/18:
2017 UCI Para-cycling Road World Championships, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa (31 August – 3 September 2017)
The Australian team finished seventh on the gold medal tally and sixth on the overall medal tally with one gold, seven silver and four bronze medals. Carol Cooke achieved double gold in the women’s individual time trial T2 and women’s individual road race T2.
2018 UCI Para-cycling Track World Championships, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (22 – 25 March 2018)
The Australian team finished seventh on the gold medal tally and equal third on the overall medal tally with one gold, seven silver and two bronze medals. Among the nine medals were David Nicholas, who won gold in the men’s individual pursuit C3, Emily Pethicola, who won silver in the women’s individual pursuit C4 and bronze in the women’s 500m time trial C4, and Jessica Gallagher and Madison Janssen (pilot), who won double silver in the women’s sprint tandem and women’s 1km time trial tandem.

Other international events during the reporting period:
2017 UCI Para-cycling Road World Cup, Emmen, Netherlands (30 June – 2 July 2017)
Cooke was the only Australian representative at the final World Cup event of 2017. She won the women’s individual time trial T2 and women’s individual road race T2.
2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, Queensland (4 – 15 April 2018)
Brad Henderson and Tom Clarke (pilot) achieved double bronze in the men’s sprint B&VI and men’s 1000m time trial B&VI. Gallagher and Janssen should also be recognised for their second placings in the women’s sprint B&VI and women’s 1000m time trial B&VI. Unfortunately, as only three athletes contested these events, silver and bronze medals were not awarded.
2018 UCI Para-cycling Road World Cup, Ostend, Belgium (3 – 6 May 2018)
The Australian team finished second on the gold medal tally and fifth on the overall medal tally with six gold, three silver and four bronze medals. Darren Hicks won double gold in the men’s individual time trial C2 and men’s individual road race C2, while the other four gold medals were won by Cooke in the women’s individual time trial T2, Kyle Bridgwood in the men’s individual time trial C4, Stuart Tipp in the men’s individual road race H5 and Meg Lemon in the women’s individual road race C4.
Para-equestrian

International federation: International Federation for Equestrian Sports (FEI)
National federation: Equestrian Australia
High performance director: Chris Webb
Program director: Erik Hackenbruch

2017/18 AIS investment: $410,000 (decrease of $25,000)


Of the 15 Australian riders competing, Emma Booth on Mogelvang’s Zidane achieved the highest scores across the individual, freestyle and team events, scoring 71% in the individual test Grade III, 74% in the freestyle test Grade III and 69% in the team test Grade III. The team combination of Booth, Katie-Maree Umback (Grade IV) on Gronskovlunds Marquis, Zoa Vorenas (Grade IV) on Little Brave and Victoria Davies (Grade III) on Bravour M scored 412%.

Other international events during the reporting period:
- 2018 FEI Classics Para-equestrian International Three-star Show, Deauville, France (4 – 8 April 2018)
  - Amelia White on Lotus 253 placed third in each of her events, scoring 68% in the individual test Grade V, 69% in the freestyle test Grade V and 65% in the team test Grade V.
- 2018 FEI Classics Para-equestrian International Three-star Show, Waregem, Belgium (20 – 22 April 2018)
  - While on Lotus 253 placed seventh in the freestyle test Grade V, ninth in the team test Grade V and 10th in the individual test Grade V. Stuart Drysdale on Blueberry 20 placed 10th in the team test Grade V and 13th in the individual test Grade V. Umback on Grande Vedet just missed a top 10 result with two 11th placings in the individual test Grade IV and team test Grade IV.
  - Competing at the final overseas nomination show for the 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games in September 2018, Drysdale placed third in the freestyle test Grade V, fourth in the team test Grade V and sixth in the individual test Grade V.

Para-rowing

International federation: International Federation of Rowing Association (FISA)
National federation: Rowing Australia
High performance director: Bernard Savage
Senior coach: Gordon Marks

2017/18 AIS investment: $174,597

Report: During the reporting period, an innovative research project relating to a specifically designed competition rowing seat was delivered by the APC in collaboration with the AIS and NSWIS to give Erik Horrie the best possible chance of gold medal success at Tokyo 2020.

Benchmark event in 2017/18: 2017 FISA World Rowing Championships, Sarasota-Bradenton, USA (24 September – 1 October 2017)

The Australian team finished equal first on the gold medal tally and equal second on the overall medal tally with one gold medal from Horrie, who achieved a world best time of 9:39.480 in the men’s single sculls PR1. Horrie was the only Australian competitor.

Other international events during the reporting period:
  - The Australian team finished fifth on the gold medal tally and equal 10th on the overall medal tally with one silver medal, which was won by Scottie Brydon with an Oceania record in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT1. Oceania records were also broken by Burnett in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT2, Farrow in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT3 and Pitt in the mixed 30m pistol SH1 P4.
- 2017 FISA World Rowing Championships, Sarasota-Bradenton, USA (24 September – 1 October 2017)
  - The Australian team finished equal 14th on the gold and overall medal tally with one silver medal from Anton Zappelli, Natalie Smith and Glen McMurtie in the mixed 10m air rifle prone SH1 R3. Zappelli achieved the Australian team’s first quota slot for Tokyo 2020 with his individual ranking of eighth.

Para-shooting

International federation: World Shooting Para-sport
National federation: Shooting Australia
Head coach: Kirolov Spek
High performance manager: Adam Sachs

2017/18 AIS investment: $280,250

Benchmark event in 2017/18: 2018 World Shooting Para-sport World Championships, Cheongju, South Korea (4 – 11 May 2018)

The Australian team finished equal 12th on the gold and overall medal tally with one silver medal from Anton Zappelli, Natalie Smith and Glen McMurtie in the mixed 10m air rifle prone SH1 R3. Zappelli achieved the Australian team’s first quota slot for Tokyo 2020 with his individual ranking of eighth.

Other international events during the reporting period:
- 2017 World Shooting Para-sport World Cup, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates (13 – 17 March 2018)
  - The Australian team finished equal 14th on the gold and overall medal tally with one silver medal, which was won by Scottie Brydon with an Oceania record in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT1. Oceania records were also broken by Burnett in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT2, Farrow in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT3 and Pitt in the mixed 30m pistol SH1 P4.
- 2018 World Shooting Para-sport World Cup, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates (13 – 17 March 2018)
  - The Australian team finished equal 14th on the gold and overall medal tally with one silver medal, which was won by Scottie Brydon with an Oceania record in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT1. Oceania records were also broken by Burnett in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT2, Farrow in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT3 and Pitt in the mixed 30m pistol SH1 P4.
- 2018 World Shooting Para-sport World Cup, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates (13 – 17 March 2018)
  - The Australian team finished equal 14th on the gold and overall medal tally with one silver medal, which was won by Scottie Brydon with an Oceania record in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT1. Oceania records were also broken by Burnett in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT2, Farrow in the men’s mixed trap shotgun PT3 and Pitt in the mixed 30m pistol SH1 P4.
**Para-swimming**

International federation: World Para-swimming
National federation: Swimming Australia (SAL)
Program manager: Adam Pine

Report: In April 2018, the swimming community mourned the sad passing of the national Para-sport mentor coach, Jon Cameron. Cameron made an outstanding contribution over many years of dedicated service to the sport, particularly to the Para-swimming program.

**Benchmark event in 2017/18:**
2018 World Para-swimming Championships, Mexico City, Mexico (2 – 7 December 2017)

Following an earthquake in Mexico in September 2017, the World Championships were postponed until December 2017. However, due to safety concerns and athlete preparation priorities, SAL decided not to send an Australian team to compete.

**Other international events during the reporting period:**
2017 Para-swimming Canadian Open, Toronto, Canada (2 – 4 October 2017)

Following the postponement of the 2017 World Championships, SAL worked collaboratively with other national federations to establish a viable alternative – the Canadian Open. The Australian team won 16 gold, 19 silver and 11 bronze medals. Lakeisha Patterson, Brenden Hall, Liam Schluter, Rachael Watson and Rowan Crothers all recorded world-class times.

2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, Queensland (4 – 15 April 2018)

The Australian team produced several standout performances to win seven gold, six silver and eight bronze medals. Patterson won double gold in the women’s 50m freestyle S8 and women’s 100m freestyle S9, and Tim Daken matched her efforts in the men’s 100m breaststroke SB8 and men’s 100m freestyle S9. Hall, Hodge, Blake Cochrane and Ellie Cole were also multi-medallists.

2018 World Para-swimming World Series, Berlin, Germany (7 – 10 June 2018)
Nathan Jason (S12, SB12, SM13) and Jenna Jones (S13, SB13, SM13) reached the finals of the men’s and women’s – respectively – 100m breaststroke, 50m butterfly, 50m freestyle, 100m freestyle, 400m freestyle and 200m individual medley. Ben Popham (SB8) reached the finals of the men’s 50m freestyle, men’s 100m freestyle and men’s 400m freestyle.

2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, Queensland (18 – 21 October 2017)

The Australian team finished fifth on the gold medal tally and fifth on the overall medal tally with two gold, two silver and two bronze medals. Nathan Popham won gold in the men’s singles Class 8. Melissa Tapper won gold in the women’s singles Class 10 and bronze in the women’s teams Class 6-10 with Kanlaya Kriabklang (Thailand). Naome Takeuchi (Japan) and Tamano Sasaki (Japan), Samuel Von Einem won double silver in the men’s singles Class 11 and men’s teams Class 11 with Kemal Gayfullin (Russia) and Daniela Di Toro won bronze in the women’s singles Class 4-5.

2017 ITTF Para-table Tennis Open, Mungyeong, South Korea (21 – 25 July 2017)

The Australian team finished fourth on the gold medal tally and fifth on the overall medal tally with two gold, two silver and two bronze medals. Nathan Pellissier won gold in the men’s singles Class 8. Melissa Tapper won gold in the men’s singles Class 10 and bronze in the women’s teams Class 6-10 with Kanlaya Kriabklang (Thailand). Naome Takeuchi (Japan) and Tamano Sasaki (Japan), Samuel Von Einem won double silver in the men’s singles Class 11 and men’s teams Class 11 with Kemal Gayfullin (Russia) and Daniela Di Toro won bronze in the women’s singles Class 4-5.

2017 ITTF Para-table Tennis Open, Suphanburi, Thailand (18 – 21 October 2017)

The Australian team finished fifth on the gold and overall medal tally with one gold, one silver and five bronze medals. Von Einem won gold in the men’s singles Class 11 and partnered with Rory Carroll to win silver in the men’s teams Class 11. Bronze medals were won by Trevor Hirth in the men’s singles Class 11, Rebecca Julian in the women’s singles Class 6-10 with Kanlaya Kriabklang (Thailand). Naome Takeuchi (Japan) and Tamano Sasaki (Japan), Samuel Von Einem won double silver in the men’s singles Class 11 and men’s teams Class 11 with Kemal Gayfullin (Russia) and Daniela Di Toro won bronze in the women’s singles Class 4-5.

**Para-table tennis**

International federation: International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)
National federation: Table Tennis Australia
Head coach: Alex Rosario
High performance director: Sue Stevenson

2017/18 AIS investment: $346,947 (increase of $56,947)

**Benchmark event in 2017/18:**

Other international events during the reporting period:
2017 ITTF Para-table Tennis Open, Mungyeong, South Korea (21 – 25 July 2017)

The Australian team finished fourth on the gold medal tally and fifth on the overall medal tally with two gold, two silver and two bronze medals. Nathan Pellissier won gold in the men’s singles Class 8. Melissa Tapper won gold in the men’s singles Class 10 and bronze in the women’s teams Class 6-10 with Kanlaya Kriabklang (Thailand). Naome Takeuchi (Japan) and Tamano Sasaki (Japan), Samuel Von Einem won double silver in the men’s singles Class 11 and men’s teams Class 11 with Kemal Gayfullin (Russia) and Daniela Di Toro won bronze in the women’s singles Class 4-5.

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**Para-Taekwondo**

International federation: World Taekwondo Federation
National federation: Taekwondo Australia
Head coach: Bernie Victor
Report: Para-taekwondo will feature at the Paralympic Games for the first time at Tokyo 2020, along with Para-badminton.

**Benchmark event in 2017/18:**

Jarine Watson defeated Alyssa Fencil (USA) to win gold in the P30 women’s P34 event and Steven Cuttle reached the K42 men’s K42 quarter-finals.
Lauren Parker placed second in the men’s PTWC.

At the final World Cup event of 2017, Alex Welsh placed 28th in the men’s PTS3 and Sally Pilbeam in the women’s PTS4. Parker won silver in the women’s PTWC and Pilbeam won bronze in the women’s PTS4.

The Australian team continued their outstanding form through to the final day of the reporting period, with Parker and Pilbeam both winning medals – a gold and silver in the women’s PTWC and women’s PTS4 respectively. Gerard Gossens and Stephen Thompson (sighted guide) placed fourth in the men’s PTVI and Chaffey placed fifth in the men’s PTWC.

2018 OTU Para-Triathlon Oceania Championships, St Kilda, Victoria (14 January 2018)

Australia was represented by 18 athletes across multiple classes and both genders. The swim leg was cancelled due to poor water quality.

2018 ITU Para-Triathlon World Cup, Davenport, Tasmania (17 February 2018)

At the opening World Cup event of 2018, Australia was represented by 16 male and six female athletes. The Australian team won gold in all but one of the six men’s events contested and all but one of the four women’s events contested.

2018 Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, Queensland (4 – 15 April 2018)

Tapp and Lauren Parker won silver and bronze respectively in the women’s PTWC, and Nic Beveridge and Bill Chaffey matched their efforts in the men’s PTWC.

2018 ITU World Para-Triathlon Series, Yokohama, Japan (11 May 2018)

At the opening World Series event of 2018, Godfrey won gold in the men’s PT5 and Sally Pilbeam in the women’s PT54 and Tapp won gold in the women’s PTWC in a competitive medal match.

The Rollers performed exceptionally well throughout the tournament to maintain an unbeaten run to the finals and win gold over Iran, 80-54. Although the Rollers recorded an 11-point loss to China in their gold medal match, the Rollers and Gilders both achieved qualification for the 2018 IWBF Wheelchair Basketball World Championships in August 2018.

Other international events during the reporting period:

2018 World Para-Triathlon World Cup, Magog, Canada (15 July 2017)

Tapp won gold in the women’s PTWC in a competitive time of 1:32:38.

2017 ITU Para-Triathlon World Cup, Sarasota, USA (8 October 2017)

Of the six Australian competitors, four achieved a podium finish. Kelly and Jones won gold in the women’s PTVI, Tapp won gold in the women’s PTWC, Pilbeam won silver in the women’s PT54 and Kate Doughty won bronze in the women’s PT55.

2017 ITU Para-Triathlon World Cup, Sarasota, USA (8 October 2017)

At the final World Cup event of 2017, Alex Walsh placed second in the men’s PTWC.
Melissa Perrine and Christian Geiger (sighted guide) added two bronze medals to the Australian tally with third placings in the women's giant slalom visually impaired and women's super combined visually impaired, and Patmore also won bronze in the men's banked slalom SB-UL.

These targets were achieved without Team co-captain Joany Badenhorst, who had a World number one ranking in the women's snowboard cross SB-LL2 and World number three ranking in the women's banked slalom SB-LL2. Badenhorst dislocated her left kneecap and did extensive ligament damage in a training crash just two days after carrying the Australian flag into the Opening Ceremony. She met the same fate at Sochi 2014, where she crashed on a final training run just hours before she was due to compete and was forced to withdraw from the Games.
COMMERCIAL

The APC Commercial division is responsible for generating revenue through corporate partnerships, sponsorship, fundraising activities, licensing programs and the sale of broadcast rights. It is also responsible for the growth and protection of the APC and Paralympic brands and associated intellectual property in Australia.

During the reporting period, the Commercial division generated $6,907,521 in gross revenue for the APC, representing 58 per cent of the organisation’s total revenue.

Sponsorship, including cash and value-in-kind, contributed 38 per cent of commercial revenue. Trade promotions continued to deliver strong gross return (56 per cent) but at a low net profit margin due to high licensing and sales costs.

The greatest growth opportunity for the APC continues to exist within the fundraising stream, which contributed only six per cent to commercial revenue. This will increase in the lead-up to the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games.

Sponsorship

During the reporting period, APC sponsorship revenue totalled $2,629,514, nearly double that of the corresponding reporting period of the previous summer Games cycle. Sponsorship revenue included sponsorship rights fees, guaranteed fundraising and cause-related marketing revenue.

Optus

As the ‘Official Support Network’ of the APC, Optus continued to go above and beyond the traditional role of a sponsor. In October 2017, the Optus Network division hosted its annual fundraising dinner, newly named the Gold Medal Dinner, to celebrate the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games, showcase innovation and raise funds for the Australian Paralympic Team. Optus auctioned tables to its vendors and held a silent auction during the event, which resulted in more than $180,000 being raised and donated to the APC.

The Optus Think Big Innovation team continued to work with the APC on progressing the winning concept from the Think Big Gold Medal Challenge. An internal development team at Optus began working on the development and initial designs, including testing phases of the ‘Top Idea’ – a cloud-based, audio-visual solution to improve remote communication between Para-athletes and their coaches. One of the top 10 pitches, the Unit Challenge concept, also saw further development.

The table below represents the APC Sponsor Family as of 1 July 2017:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Partners</th>
<th>Official Partners</th>
<th>Official Supporters</th>
<th>Official Suppliers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Sports Commission</td>
<td>Toyota</td>
<td>Get Skilled Access</td>
<td>Clayton Utz Gentia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optus</td>
<td>Qantas</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>icare</td>
<td>Allianz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Woolworths (renewed June 2018)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Also, as part of Toyota’s activation plans for PyeongChang 2018, promotional videos were filmed at a training camp in Jindabyne, New South Wales in August 2017. The productions featured PyeongChang hopefuls Joany Badenhorst and Mitchell Gourley, who were later appointed the two co-captains of the 2018 Australian Paralympic Team.

**Qantas**

Long-time partner Qantas remains the official airline of the APC and Australian Paralympic Team for domestic and international flights.

The APC looks forward to working with Qantas as preparations continue for Tokyo 2020.

**Allianz**

As an Official Partner of the APC and Australian Paralympic Team, as well as an international partner of the IPC, Allianz is locally and globally committed to the Paralympic movement.

The APC’s partnership with Allianz was officially renewed in July 2017, and in April 2018, Allianz signed on as a Major Partner of the Australian wheelchair rugby team, the Steelers, for their 2018 IWRF Wheelchair Rugby World Championship campaign.

Allianz also signed on as the exclusive sponsor of triathlon and supporter of accessibility at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. As part of this campaign, Allianz engaged two Paralympians, Madison de Rozario and Nic Beveridge, as brand ambassadors.

**Other partners**

**Official Supporter** Get Skilled Access (GSA) signed on for a one-year partnership with the APC that ended in March 2018. GSA worked closely with the APC to engage Paralympians to deliver bespoke accessibility and disability training for organisations and governments and consulting services for GSA.

Official Supplier Clayton Utz continued to support the APC through the provision of legal services, particularly during PyeongChang 2018.

Official Supplier iSentia supported the APC by continuing to provide media monitoring services to assist with the tracking of Australian media coverage of Paralympic sport.

The APC enjoys strong relationships with its official supporters and suppliers and looks forward to working with them as preparations continue for Tokyo 2020.

This idea is aimed at levelling the playing field for those who would like to participate in physical activity by following a unit metric to measure performance. The concept was also pitched to ukactive and accepted into its accelerator program, ActiveLab, and has generated the interest of other National Paralympic Committees.

The APC sincerely thanks all who participated in and contributed to these projects and all Optus partnership initiatives during the reporting period.

Other Optus support which requires acknowledgement includes:

- **Yestival**, 18 March 2018;
- **Kick start**, 1 May 2018 (raised $1,000);
- **Athlete video conferencing sessions and meetings**.

**icare**

icare has been a partner of the APC since 2001. Paralympians are engaged through the icare Paralympic Speakers Program and Back on Track Mentoring Program to educate employers, workers, students and the general public about the importance of workplace safety. icare was formerly known as WorkCover NSW.

During the reporting period, icare continued its important work in New South Wales, leveraging awareness of PyeongChang 2018 by coordinating more than 120 speaking and mentoring sessions. Para-athletes involved in the program were Joany Badenhorst, Cameron Carr, Erik Horrie, Ben Hollihan, John Marshall, Jeremy McGrath, Jonathan Mine, Grant Mazza, Kahi Puru, Scott Beardon, Nigel Smith, Brett Stibners and Sam Tait.

icare customers, staff, suppliers and other stakeholders were also engaged through the hosting of two Paralympic Corporate Challenges.

**Toyota**

As an Official Partner of the APC and Australian Paralympic Team, as well as a Worldwide Paralympic Partner of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Toyota is locally and globally committed to the Paralympic movement.

During the reporting period, Toyota again supplied vehicles to the Australian Paralympic winter program for use during the domestic season. These vehicles were co-branded and provided considerable budget relief to the APC and its winter sport partners.
Thank you to the APC Sponsor Family

Invaluable support and services are provided to the APC by its partners, sponsors and suppliers. The commitment to diversity and inclusion across the APC Sponsor Family is a testament to the calibre of companies and organisations that choose to partner with the APC, and the APC is sincerely grateful to all.

Fundraising

During the reporting period, the APC continued to focus on identifying and growing high-yield fundraising activities. Significant attention was given to developing the APC donor database.

The APC generated $437,831 in gross revenue through its fundraising activities.

Direct response appeals

Following a review of previous campaigns, the fundraising landscape and general marketing practices, the APC pioneered a shift away from mass, hard copy appeal communications to a more targeted, cost-effective approach that integrated digital and postal delivery of direct response fundraising appeals.

The APC executed two direct response appeal campaigns during the reporting period, including a Winter Games appeal focussed on the 2018 Australian Paralympic Team and a Tax Appeal in May/June 2018.

Direct response fundraising generated $91,459 in gross revenue.

Trade promotions

During the reporting period, two trade promotion campaigns were conducted. These were National #8 and the commencement of National #9.

National #8 featured commemorative Rio 2016 licensed product including pins and keyrings, which were sold with a scratch-and-win trade promotion card. The major prize was drawn in March 2018 and the balance of the unclaimed prizes from the campaign will be finalised by September 2018.

National #9 commenced in May 2018 and features commemorative APC ‘Believe’ licensed product including pins and keyrings, which are being sold with a scratch-and-win trade promotion card. The major prize will be drawn in May 2019, with the balance of the campaign running until October 2019.

Trade promotions contributed $3,840,177 in gross revenue.

Direct giving

Regular monthly donations continued to represent more than half the fundraising revenue, generating $236,194 in gross revenue.

Community fundraising

Community fundraising included website donations, donations via external online portals, phone donations and any other donations received from the public.

As a high-yield fundraising category with minimal associated costs, community fundraising generated $36,041 in gross revenue.

Corporate fundraising

Corporate fundraising included revenue generated through sponsor fundraising, corporate donations, workplace giving and other third party corporate engagements.

Corporate fundraising contributed $74,136 in gross revenue.

Thank you to APC donors

The APC thanks all those who donated to the organisation during the reporting period. A special thank you is extended to the following individuals, companies and foundations whose generosity will contribute to the ongoing work of the APC: Lynne Anderson, Helen Nott, Mr and Mrs Almgren, Marlene Young, Woolworths Limited, Brian M Davis Charitable Foundation and Floroyal Sporting Wheelies Foundation.

Sarah Walsh
COMMUNICATIONS

This report covers a significant year for the APC Communications division. In previous years, the focus was to promote awareness of the APC and Australian Paralympic Team through media and social media, with a view to capitalising on the increased interest in the Paralympic movement during the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games and Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. Executing the media and communications plan, including the marketing of the broadcast rights for PyeongChang 2018, was also a key priority.

Major projects undertaken by the APC Communications division were:

• development and implementation of the APC Communications Strategy for the 2017/18 financial year;
• media outreach for key APC events including;
  - honouring of Australia’s Indigenous Paralympians with updated plaques from the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence in Sydney;
  - announcement of Joany Badenhorst and Mitchell Gourley as co-captains of the 2018 Australian Paralympic Team;
• announcement of the APC’s partnership with the Seven Network as the Australian broadcaster for PyeongChang 2018;
• announcement of the 2018 Australian Paralympic Team;
• the delivery of comprehensive media, broadcast and public relations plans in the lead-up to PyeongChang 2018;
• content produced and distributed for wheelchair rugby tournaments contested by the APC’s Australian Steelers. These included the 2018 Ken Sawdey Cup in Christchurch, New Zealand and 2018 Wheelchair Rugby Quad Nations in Leicester, England;
• content produced and distributed for the Australian Para-alpine skiing and Para-snowboard team during the 2017/18 World Para-alpine skiing and World Para-snowboard World Cup finals;
• production of broadcast quality packages and video profiles on five PyeongChang 2018 hopefuls and the sports of Para-alpine skiing and Para-snowboarding;
• growth of the APC’s fanbase and brand across Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube;
• support of communications relating to the 2018 Invictus Games;
• growth of the APC’s photography and vision archive;
• compilation of two editions of the Believe in Paralympics newsletter, the APC’s bulletin for long list athletes on the 2016 and 2018 Australian Paralympic Teams. Both were published in conjunction with the APC’s Paralympic Performance and Games Delivery divisions;
• expansion of the Australian Paralympic History Project, including the development of a website which provides a history of the Paralympic movement in Australia.

During the reporting period, the APC published 221 Paralympic news stories on its website and issued 89 media releases and alerts to metropolitan, suburban and regional media nationwide. This is a 97 per cent increase on the previous year and can be attributed to PyeongChang 2018, Gold Coast 2018 and multiple major World Championships. The APC tracks Australian media coverage of Paralympic sport with the assistance of Senita. From 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, the APC and Paralympic sport received 15,625 mentions in the media. This included 4,996 mentions in print, 3,264 on radio, 1,667 on television and 5,696 on monitored online news websites nationwide.

This was a 44 per cent increase on the previous reporting period and can be attributed to a greater number of major announcements, events and stories during the 2017/18 financial year. It was also an 80 per cent increase on the corresponding 12-month period of the previous summer Games cycle due to the increased exposure of Para-sport in Australia following Gold Coast 2018.

Australian media coverage by newsfeed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>Radio</th>
<th>Television</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Social</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>7,764</td>
<td>7,284</td>
<td>807</td>
<td>807</td>
<td>7,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>6,550</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>761</td>
<td>761</td>
<td>8,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>6,313</td>
<td>1,997</td>
<td>1,434</td>
<td>1,434</td>
<td>12,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020/21</td>
<td>4,178</td>
<td>26,489</td>
<td>30,032</td>
<td>2,284</td>
<td>63,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021/22</td>
<td>5,643</td>
<td>3,569</td>
<td>1,269</td>
<td>1,565</td>
<td>12,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022/23</td>
<td>4,858</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>1,440</td>
<td>8,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023/24</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>3,738</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>6,214</td>
<td>12,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024/25</td>
<td>7,877</td>
<td>1,292</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>2,541</td>
<td>12,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025/26</td>
<td>8,320</td>
<td>2,076</td>
<td>1,231</td>
<td>4,234</td>
<td>15,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026/27</td>
<td>1,772</td>
<td>20,337</td>
<td>18,585</td>
<td>6,969</td>
<td>49,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2027/28</td>
<td>4,567</td>
<td>1,428</td>
<td>1,096</td>
<td>4,485</td>
<td>10,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2028/29</td>
<td>4,994</td>
<td>3,264</td>
<td>1,667</td>
<td>5,698</td>
<td>16,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PyeongChang 2018*</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>3,304</td>
<td>2,556</td>
<td>1,384</td>
<td>7,336</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Senita
* Reporting period was three-month period surrounding the Paralympic Games, and covers 1 October to 30 June.

The stories which attracted the most interest from major media outlets across Australia related to announcements and results leading up to and during PyeongChang 2018, the results and stories of Australian Para-athletes competing at Gold Coast 2018, including stories around Para-sport capturing the heart of the Australian public. Kurt Fearnley’s retirement from international racing, the 2017 World Para-athletics Championships, the 2018 Invictus Games, Dylan Alcott winning the 2018 Australian Open quad singles title, and Madison de Rozario winning the 2018 London Marathon just weeks after winning gold in the women’s marathon at the 2018 London Marathon.

As well as coverage at a national level, Paralympic sport was also widely reported in suburban and regional media in every state and territory. Regional media continues to provide extensive ongoing coverage and support of Paralympic athletes and emerging Para-sport talent.

Media and broadcast – PyeongChang 2018

The media operations for PyeongChang 2018 were the most comprehensive ever implemented for a Paralympic Winter Games by the APC Communications division.

During the three-month period surrounding the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games (1 February to 30 April 2018), Paralympic winter sport received 3,034 mentions on radio, 2,556 on television news programs, 362 in print news media and 1,384 online. This coverage reached a cumulative audience of 78,172,331 people and had an advertising space rate in excess of $12.1 million. This does not include the mentions of Para-sport in media surrounding the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

While these numbers are lower in comparison to the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Games, this can be attributed to fewer critical incidents being reported on. In the lead up to Sochi 2014, there was extensive
coverage around the critical injury, hospitalisation and death of Para-snowboarder Matthew Robinson and subsequent tributes. During Sochi 2014, there was wide-scale reporting of Para-alpine skier Melissa Perrine’s disqualification due to her illegal visor, the crash and withdrawal of Para-alpine skier Cameron Raties-Rahiala, the poor weather conditions affecting events in Sochi, and the event being hosted in Russia, including President Vladimir Putin’s involvement.

The Seven Network broadcast the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games for the first time. Coverage during the Games included a daily highlights show based on the previous day’s results, which was broadcast on 7MATE every morning from 10:00am to 11:00am AEST, 7TWO every night from 11:30pm to 12:30am AEST and Channel 7 the following morning from 1:00am to 2:00am AEST.

The coverage was complemented by the work of the APC media team, which produced stories, images, race reports and results, videos and social media content around the clock. The APC media team worked alongside an external Australian media contingent which included journalists from Australian Associated Press, Fairfax and News Corporation.

In Australia, the APC media hub coordinated interviews and provided still and moving images to members of the media.

Website
During the reporting period, the APC Communications division managed the APC website (paralympic.org.au) and tracked its usage via Google Analytics.

From 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, the APC website delivered 553,085 page views to 169,511 users from 160 countries in 214,053 sessions.

The following pages received the highest number of views:
- Meet our Athletes (paralympic.org.au/athletes) – 65,465
- Classification (paralympic.org.au/classification) – 21,971
- Paralympic Sport (paralympic.org.au/play-para-sport) – 16,284
- Para sport live (paralympic.org.au/parasportlive) – 12,862
- Make a Donation (paralympic.org.au/make-a-donation) – 10,279
- News (paralympic.org.au/news) – 8,506
- Games and Events (paralympic.org.au/game-events) – 7,605

During the reporting period, the APC Commercial division led a redesign of the APC website.

Multimedia
The APC Communications division continued to collaborate with the video production company Good Shout to produce promotional clips about Australian Paralympic sport, with a focus on the Paralympic athletes competing at PyeongChang 2018.

Good Shout worked with the APC to produce content for social media, traditional media and the PyeongChang 2018 broadcast. During the reporting period, the APC Communications division produced 45 videos. This is a 95 per cent increase on the previous reporting period and can be attributed to producing content for the Seven Network and two videos per day during PyeongChang 2018.

Social media
As ever, the APC recognises the power of social media to build support for the Australian Paralympic Team and its increasing use by the Australian public to receive news and information.

During the reporting period, the APC grew its social media following across all platforms.

### Media coverage from the Paralympic Winter Games

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media type</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>Radio</th>
<th>Television</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stories</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>1,764</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>3,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sochi 2014</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>3,738</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>12,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PyeongChang 2018</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>3,034</td>
<td>2,556</td>
<td>1,384</td>
<td>8,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation</td>
<td>19.44m</td>
<td>7.46m</td>
<td>7.84m</td>
<td>3.56m</td>
<td>34.71m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sochi 2014</td>
<td>59.86m</td>
<td>14.86m</td>
<td>35.94m</td>
<td>5.99m</td>
<td>110.66m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PyeongChang 2018</td>
<td>28.03m</td>
<td>20.15m</td>
<td>28.11m</td>
<td>1.87m</td>
<td>76.91m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media type</th>
<th>Advertising space (AUS$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Print</td>
<td>$194,235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>$154,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Television</td>
<td>$521,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>$22,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$810,451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Source: Source

### Website usage

- Meet our Athletes (paralympic.org.au/athletes) – 65,465
- Classification (paralympic.org.au/classification) – 21,971
- Paralympic Sport (paralympic.org.au/play-para-sport) – 16,284
- Para sport live (paralympic.org.au/parasportlive) – 12,862
- Make a Donation (paralympic.org.au/make-a-donation) – 10,279
- News (paralympic.org.au/news) – 8,506
- Games and Events (paralympic.org.au/game-events) – 7,605

### Multimedia

- The APC Communications division continued to collaborate with the video production company Good Shout to produce promotional clips about Australian Paralympic sport, with a focus on the Paralympic athletes competing at PyeongChang 2018.
- Good Shout worked with the APC to produce content for social media, traditional media and the PyeongChang 2018 broadcast. During the reporting period, the APC Communications division produced 45 videos. This is a 95 per cent increase on the previous reporting period and can be attributed to producing content for the Seven Network and two videos per day during PyeongChang 2018.

### Social media

- As ever, the APC recognises the power of social media to build support for the Australian Paralympic Team and its increasing use by the Australian public to receive news and information.
- During the reporting period, the APC grew its social media following across all platforms.
Between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018, the APC Facebook page following grew from 60,612 to 62,235, including 1,154 during PyeongChang 2018. According to Facebook’s data analysis tool, several posts reached in excess of 120,000 users. The most popular posts related to Simon Patmore winning gold in the men’s snowboard cross SB-UL at PyeongChang 2018 and Kurt Fearnley carrying the Australian flag into the Closing Ceremony at Gold Coast 2018.

The APC Facebook page peaked during PyeongChang 2018 in March, when it reached 950,245 users. 491,085 users were reached in April 2018 to coincide with Gold Coast 2018, and 422,619 users were reached in July 2017 as a result of the 2017 World Para-athletics Championships, for which the APC held the broadcast rights.

During the reporting period, the APC Twitter page made 5,194,000 impressions, which was an increase of 280 per cent on the previous reporting period. In March 2018, it made 1,880,000 impressions due to Paralympic Paralympic fans in Australia using the APC Twitter page as a key resource for accessing timely results and engaging content during PyeongChang 2018.

Followers of the APC Twitter page at the end of the reporting period included the Prime Minister, the Honourable Malcolm Turnbull MP, the Federal Opposition Leader, the Honourable Bill Shorten MP, the Minister for Sport, Senator the Honourable Bridget McKenzie, government agencies, national and international sporting organisations, elite Australian and international athletes, Australian celebrities, media and members of the public.

During the reporting period, the APC Instagram page saw the highest growth rate of all APC social media platforms. The follower count increased from 8,871 to 11,456 (a 30 per cent increase), which was eight per cent higher than the growth rate of the previous reporting period.

Followers of the APC Instagram page at the end of the reporting period included the Prime Minister, the Honourable Malcolm Turnbull MP, the Federal Opposition Leader, the Honourable Bill Shorten MP, the Minister for Sport, Senator the Honourable Bridget McKenzie, government agencies, national and international sporting organisations, elite Australian and international athletes, Australian celebrities, media and members of the public.

From 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, the APC Communications division uploaded 45 videos to the APC YouTube channel, achieving a net increase of 93 subscribers to end the reporting period with 1,230 subscribers.

During the reporting period, the APC Instagram page saw the highest growth rate of all APC social media platforms. The follower count increased from 8,871 to 11,456 (a 30 per cent increase), which was eight per cent higher than the growth rate of the previous reporting period. As with the APC Facebook page, the most notable months of the reporting period were March and April 2018.

The APC Facebook page peaked during PyeongChang 2018 in March, when it reached 950,245 users. 491,085 users were reached in April 2018 to coincide with Gold Coast 2018, and 422,619 users were reached in July 2017 as a result of the 2017 World Para-athletics Championships, for which the APC held the broadcast rights.

During the reporting period, videos on the APC YouTube channel were viewed 56,010 times. This was an increase of 154 per cent on the previous reporting period and can be attributed to the increase in the number of videos produced leading up to and during PyeongChang 2018, as well as the growing interest of the media and Australian public in Paralympic sport.
Knowledge Services

The APC Knowledge Services program and specifically, the Australian Paralympic History Project, is overseen by the APC Communications division. Since May 2015, its focus has been to capture, preserve and manage the history of the Paralympic movement in Australia and support the broader goals and activities of the APC.

During the reporting period, highlights included:

- further loans and donations of memorabilia and audio-visual materials by past athletes and administrators;
- ongoing work on the e-history of the Paralympic movement in Australia, including workshops with volunteers in Sydney, Canberra, Perth, Brisbane and on the Gold Coast;
- Wikipedia articles about every member of the 2018 Paralympic Games, each written by a student volunteer for the APC Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages.

The APC Knowledge Services program relies extensively on the contributions of volunteers and partnerships with expert organisations. The APC thanks the following individuals and organisations for their continued support:

- The National Library of Australia (NLA) continues to record and manage the oral histories of people of significance to the Paralympic movement in Australia. The NLA also ensures online access of the Australian Paralympic History Project are discoverable through Trove, a major information collection service;
- The National Sports Museum (NSM) advises the APC on its physical collection. The NSM currently displays items of note to the Australian Paralympic movement that have been donated to the APC;
- The National Film and Sound Archive continues to manage the Don Warley collection of Paralympic films;
- The University of Queensland is a partner of the APC, working extensively on the contributions of volunteers and partners with experts in the field of sport.

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CORPORATE OPERATIONS

Board of Directors
The APC Board of Directors met seven times during the 2017/18 financial year. Attendance by Board members was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>No. of meetings attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Tasker (Chair)</td>
<td>7 of 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurt Fearnley</td>
<td>6 of 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan Harris</td>
<td>3 of 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hartigan</td>
<td>6 of 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosie King</td>
<td>4 of 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Nott</td>
<td>7 of 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jock O’Callaghan</td>
<td>6 of 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annabelle Williams</td>
<td>0 of 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Human resources
The APC Human Resources division is responsible for providing operational and strategic human resources advice to the APC and ensuring legislative compliance.

During the reporting period, the priority of the division was to develop a human resources strategic plan and introduce a formal individual performance process.

Staff diversity
The APC staff level as at 30 June 2018 was 35. The workforce mix included:
- Women – 69 per cent
- Men – 31 per cent
- Para athletes – 11 per cent
- People with a disability – 14 per cent

Key Management Personnel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Compensation</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compensation in bands</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1,377,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$0–$49,999</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000–$149,000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000+</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of staff</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual General Meeting
The APC’s Annual General Meeting was held on 28 November 2017, with 13 member organisations represented. Ernst & Young was appointed auditor in November 2010 and will continue as auditor for the Australian Paralympic Committee Ltd.

At the AGM, the APC’s Annual Report and Finance Report were adopted unanimously by the membership, as were changes to the APC Constitution.

An election of APC Directors was also conducted, which was in line with the Australian Sports Commission’s Mandatory Governance Principles. Two current Directors – Jock O’Callaghan and Rosie King – offered themselves for re-election and were re-elected. A third nominee, Greg Hartung, was not elected by the membership.

IT Operations
During the reporting period, the focus of the APC IT Operations division was to continue improving current systems, services and processes, and to provide a strong IT and communications platform for the 2018 Australian Paralympic Winter Team.

A priority of the projects undertaken by the division was to continue to enhance collaboration between all internal and external stakeholders of the APC while maintaining the highest level of data access, integrity and security.

During the reporting period, the following major projects were achieved:
- provision of all required IT and communications equipment and services for the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Games to the 2018 Australian Paralympic Team. This included:
  - equipment (televisions, mobile phones, power management, etc);
  - converting an existing apartment within the Paralympic Village into a functioning operations office with medical and media workspaces;
  - radio management (i.e. frequency license request and allocation, equipment rental and programming);
  - mobile communication with local SIM cards and communication groups;
- transition of all APC fixed voice services to the Optus Loop service;
- migration of the APC local file share (X Drive) from an on-premise ageing infrastructure to the Azure Cloud space, providing vastly improved security, redundancy and disaster recovery options;
- removal of all IT services dependence from the local on-premise infrastructure and into multiple cloud providers, ensuring no single point of failure and enterprise-level redundancy;
- initiation of the process of implementing a new organisation-wide contact database and a connected automated email/SMS communication tool.
APC Sponsor Family

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OPTUS
icare

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QANTAS
Allianz

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GET SKILLED ACCESS

OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS

CLAYTON UTZ
isentia

garment exchange

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