



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 7  
September 2007

## Australian Closed



**QST:** Where and when were the Championships played?

**ANS:** The Australian Closed venue was at the Wynnum Stadium in Brisbane. The 4 day tournament was held from Th.26<sup>th</sup>.July to Sun.29<sup>th</sup>.July 2007.

**QST:** Who could play in the Australian Closed?

**ANS:** The Australian Closed is open to any Australian Citizen or Permanent Residents who are registered players. This includes juniors; veterans; fixture, tournament and elite players. It is an excellent opportunity for local players to compete against the best players in Australia.

**QST:** What events are played?

**ANS:** There are 5 events. Men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles.

**QST:** What was the new format for these events?

**ANS:** We conducted all events in groups. This provided maximum participation for all entrants. For example in the men's singles, all players competed in a group qualification stage of 6 players per group. The top 3 players from each group advanced to the knock out stage in the main draw and the bottom 3 players went to the knock out stage in the consolation draw.

**QST:** What factors do you consider are important for a successful tournament?

**ANS:** I wanted the Closed to be a player and spectator friendly tournament.

For the players, I wanted value for money. I know how expensive the airfares and accommodation can mount up as I have been to 25 Australian Championships (Junior, Youth & Senior). Participation is important for all players and I felt we achieved this by providing plenty of matches without over taxing the better players. All players in the men's singles were guaranteed 6 matches, with the finalists playing 9 matches.

For the spectators, I wanted to treat them to some wonderful table tennis. Players are like entertainers, they generally play better with an enthusiastic crowd. In order to have a good audience the scheduling of matches was important. This can be tricky. We worked on maximum spectators for the evenings and on week ends. A lot also depends on the promotion given to the event. The Australian Closed is a great product to market!

**QST:** What will people remember about the 2007 Australian Closed?

- ANS:**
1. The excellent sportsmanship of the players.
  2. The power blackout during the men's R1 matches.
  3. The friendly atmosphere, healthy food and sunny weather.
  4. The new format.
  5. The entertainment at the Closing Function. The aerobic dancers, choir, and audio visual display were great.

**QST:** Would you make any changes?

**ANS:** I would conduct the tournament over 3 days. (Fri, Sat and Sun)

I would like to thank the following people-

1. All the volunteers from Wynnum Club.
2. All the officials.
3. MC Anthony Jeffress.
4. Combined Sports Traders.
5. Entertainers at the Closing Function.
6. Players.

**Beryl Campbell Innes**  
Tournament Director

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### Upcoming Events

#### 2007 Australian Veterans Open

Gold Coast, QLD  
15 - 22 September 2007

#### 2007 Australian Junior Open

Adelaide, SA  
30 September - 7 October 2007

#### 2007 Women's World Cup

China  
28-30 September 2007

#### 2007 Men's World Cup

Spain  
12-14 October 2007



## Message from the CEO

When a player joins a Table Tennis club they also become a member of their state body and a member of Table Tennis Australia. Of the fees that are paid by the member approximately \$10.40 is forwarded to TTA to run the sport. I am often asked by members what they get for their membership fees.

As it is for all sports, the individual member fees contribute to the administration and development of Table Tennis at an Australian level.

This includes (but is not limited to):

- One centralised body that provides leadership and coordination for the sport as a whole,
- Development of policies, rules and systems that enable the sport to be played from the highest to the lowest level,
- The operation of an office with paid staff,
- Operational costs such as rent, postage, insurance etc.,
- Overseeing the running of Australian Championships,
- Liaison and representation with the International Table Tennis Federation and other countries,
- Development and administration of accredited courses and education for coaches and officials,
- Consultation with key members about the development of Table Tennis through committees, strategic planning and a National Conference,

- Liaison with external agencies such as the Australian Sports Commission, disability organisations, contractors and reporting bodies.

Contrary to the belief of many members, their \$10.40 does not contribute in any way to the elite programs involving Australian teams and squads. TTA is funded for their elite programs by the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Olympic Committee, the Australian Commonwealth Games Association and the Australian Paralympic Committee.

The short answer to the question about what a member gets for their \$10.40 is: the ability to play **organised** table tennis at all levels.

**Bronwyn Marshall**  
CEO Table Tennis Australia

## Congratulations

Table Tennis Australia would like to congratulate:

- **William Henzell (SA) and Miao Miao (VIC) who have qualified to represent Oceania at the 2007 Men's and Women's World Cups**
- **Ashley Parrott (QLD), Peter Talbot (SA) Steven Watts (VIC), Cassy Geffke (VIC) and Jamie Kelly (ACT) who have been selected to represent Australia at the 2007 INAS-FID World Table Tennis Championships and Nicole Ireland (VIC) as Coach/Manager.**
- **Dave Delpratt** (Umpires and Referees), **Phil Males** (Rules), **Graeme Ireland** (Technical) and **Ron Keyhoe** (equipment) who have been selected on their respective ITTF Committees
- **Keith Mundy** who will manage and coach the Australian AWD team playing in the German and Italian Opens in September

and October. The Australian team consists of: **Rebecca Julian, Cathy Morrow, Julie Davis, Jane Wallis and Michael Tomlinson.**

- **Miao Miao** who won the Victor Barna Trophy for 2007. (TTA Player of the Year)



## TTA News

Table Tennis Australia has recently announced its 2007/2008 National Committees, they are:

### National Events Committee

Graeme Ireland - TTA Board Representative  
Matt Pound - TTA Operations Manager  
Cynthia Langley - SA  
Bill Sheehan - VIC  
Beryl Campbell-Innes - Invited Member

### National Veterans Committee

Dave Beaumont - TTA Board Representative  
Ken Cole - NSW  
Fanny Ho - VIC  
Cynthia Langley - SA

Doug McLean - TAS  
Irwin Parker - WA  
Will Goodier - QLD  
Glenys Joliffe - ACT

### National Rules Committee

Phil Males - TTA Board Representative  
Bronwyn Marshall - TTA CEO  
Bill Atkinson - TAS  
Angelo Tabone - VIC  
Greg Bungey - SA

### National Umpires and Referee's Committee

Graeme Ireland - TTA Board Representative  
Alan Hopkins - VIC

Maurie Poole - NSW  
Susan Lang - WA  
Dave Delpratt - QLD

### National Coaching Committee

Phillip Carruthers - TTA Board Representative  
Bronwyn Marshall - TTA CEO  
Marcus Gustafsson - National Coach  
Keith Mundy - AWD National Coach  
Sue Stevenson - TTA High Performance Manager  
Danny Lloyd - QLD  
David Wilson - TAS



## Player of the Month Cassy Geffke

This month's Player on the Month is Intellectually Disabled (ID) player Cassy Geffke. Cassy is about to represent Australia in the 2007 INAS-FID World Cup in Japan. This is the most prestigious ID tournament in the World. Good luck Cassy!



**NAME:** Cassy Geffke

**NICKNAME:** Killer Cas

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 17/04/1982

**BIRTHPLACE:** Geelong, Victoria

**PETS:** Cat (Lily)

**CLUB:** Table Tennis Geelong

**What's the best thing about playing Table Tennis?** Improving

**Who's the toughest player you have played against?** World Champion Wai Ling Lai

**What sportsperson do you admire and why?** Michelle Carpenter – I like the way she serves

**Career Goals:** To win matches for Australia

**Career Highlight:** Playing for Australia; Winning silver and bronze medals at the 2006 INAS-FID Asia & South Pacific Table Tennis Championships in Hong Kong

**What does it take to excel in Table Tennis?** Move your feet fast and do good serves

**What are your strengths in Table Tennis?** Forehand and serves

**Who is your inspiration?** Nicole Freeland & Keith Mundy

**What do you enjoy do outside of Table Tennis?** Going to work; seeing friends

**Favourite food:** Lamb roast

**Favourite drink:** Pineapple juice

**Favourite TV show:** The Bill

**Favourite movie:** Save the Last Dance

**Most Embarrassing Moment:** I haven't had one yet

## 2007 Australian Closed

**Men's Singles Gold** - William Henzell (SA)

**Women's Singles Gold** - Stephanie Sang (VIC)

**Men's Doubles Gold** - William Henzell (SA) / David Zalcborg (VIC)

**Women's Doubles Gold** - Jian Fang Lay / Miao Miao (VIC)

**Mixed Doubles Gold** - William Henzell (SA) / Miao Miao (VIC)

### 2 Event Series Final Standings & Prize Money

#### Men's

1. William Henzell (SA) - \$2000
2. Kyle Davis (VIC) - \$1000
3. David Zalcborg (VIC) - \$500
4. Chamara Fernando (VIC) - \$250

#### Women's

1. Miao Miao (VIC) - \$2000
2. Stephanie Sang (VIC) - \$1000
3. Peri Campbell-Innes (QLD) - \$500
4. May Cho (SA) - \$125
4. Vivian Tan (NSW) - \$125

**Victor Barna Award** - Miao Miao (VIC)

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# Coaching Corner

## Timo Boll demonstrates the optimal basic position when receiving a serve

The basic position is very important in table tennis. It is a position to return the serve, because the player is waiting for the opponent's serve in a very special manner, so that he can return the ball in the best possible way. From this basic position a coach or expert can identify very quickly on which level the player is playing. You will never see it with new beginners or hobby players. Also in the lower and middle classes there are only a few players, who are standing in the correct basic position. It starts in the higher amateur classes that the players are standing correctly. On top level nearly all players are standing in the optimal starting position. About 80, if not 90% of all table tennis players in the world don't have a good basic position and deny themselves possible success for their game, because a bad basic position reduces the performance at least by 40%. The most important moment during a rally is the serve and serve return and if you are not starting optimally, you have lost already. The returning player reacts too slowly, plays too passively, many mistakes are the result and the following stroke is also influenced negatively. Why is it that so many players on the lower and middle levels make such a big mistake by not starting in the right basic position? .

Four of the most important reasons are:

1. Many players on this level didn't have a coach or a coach with poor qualifications, who couldn't teach them the correct position. Very often they have never seen table tennis on top level so that they could copy from the professionals.
2. They are simply not accustomed to a low basic position, like Timo Boll is demonstrating. Especially children and youngsters feel embarrassed taking up this position. That is a psychological component. The same applies for grown ups, who are not so sporty.
3. They don't see a meaning in this position. What is it for?
4. The physical component may also prevent the

low position, if for example the leg-and stomach muscles and the balance are not sufficient.

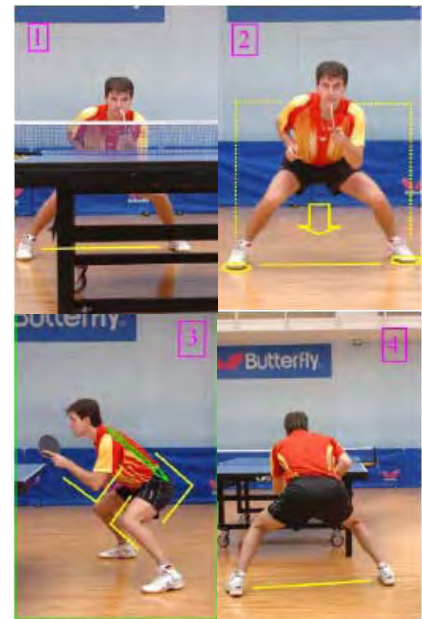
All four reasons are irrelevant.

1. An optimal position can be copied from top players.
2. They can learn to get used to low basic position by practicing a lot – even without a game situation. The unusual feeling can become normal and even lead to a ritual.
3. The meaning of the basic position becomes very clear if you take the example of a goalkeeper trying to save a penalty. The question of how a goalkeeper is standing when the penalty scorer runs up to the ball can be answered by every child. If they should demonstrate the goalkeeper's stance they know at once what the basic position for returning a serve is and why it is so important. A goalkeeper is standing in the same position for a penalty as Timo Boll.
4. A lack of necessary strength or balance can be improved by especially designed exercises.

- He has taken his body very low down (pictures 1-4). His bodyweight is on the front of his feet so that he has a perfect balance but also an extreme tension in his feet-and leg muscles, which he needs to react explosively and very fast on his opponent's serve.
- His legs are shoulder wide apart (pictures 1,2,4).
- His racket is vertical and the top of his racket in height of his nose (pictures 1,2,3), as if he is taking aim at his opponent, like with a shotgun.
- Timo is holding the racket in the neutral position, exactly in the middle of his body, from where he can react equally quickly with his backhand and forehand (pictures 2,4).
- Timo applies the typical three angle position (picture 3), where in fact all three angles are the optimal angles of 90 degrees: knee joints (foreleg/upper leg), hip joint (upper leg/body), and elbow joint (forearm/upper arm).
- Timo's back is exemplary straight (picture 3). Instead of bending down at the hips, many players bend their back and the spinal cord in breast height, which

will lead in the long term to a round back and problems with the vertebra. Timo's look expresses the whole tension and concentration of the player for the opening of the game, meaning the return of the serve. Taking up this basic position is like a ritual for many players, which helps the players to concentrate. Additionally it shows the opponent – like a cat before jumping- your own willingness to fight. This psychological component of this position should not be underestimated, when two players meet. Its not only through looks, gestures but as well through taking an aggressive position (body language) that you demonstrate your own strength and self-confidence and that can make your opponent feel insecure.

Extracted from The Butterfly World Website.



## Principal Sponsor



Australian Government

Australian Sports Commission



# New Caledonian Open



During the break between the World Junior qualifying and Cadet Challenge events in New Zealand and the Australian Closed Championships at Wynnum myself and brother Kane had the opportunity to travel with Belinda Le, from Sydney, to Noumea for the New Caledonian Open Championships.

Having never been to a Pacific country before for Table Tennis, both Kane and I were unsure as to what to expect of the playing conditions and tournament organisation. However, as the event unfolded we were impressed by the amount of work which New Caledonian Table Tennis were willing to put in to ensure the event ran smoothly. Our thanks must go to Patrick Gillmann for his enormous efforts in organising the accommodation, travel, transfers and the running of the tournament itself.

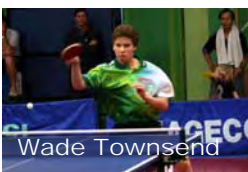
The actual event eventually became a battle between players from Australia and New Zealand. In spite of this it must be said that the players from the Pacific Islands, particularly the boys from New Caledonia and the girls from Tahiti, have made great

progress in recent years.

In the Men's Open it was Shane Laugesen from NZ who dominated, winning the Men singles, doubles and Mixed doubles. Along the way in the singles he defeated Kane, 4-2, in the quarter final. I finished with the bronze medal, after losing my semi-final to a strong New Zealander 4-2.

In the women's events it was a clash between Villa Yan from NZ and Belinda Le. In both the Open women's and Under 18 singles however Villa narrowly came out in front.

In the junior boys events both Kane and I won our respective age groups. Belinda and I won the U/18 Mixed, and Kane, partnered by Kevin Wu from NZ, won the U/15 boys doubles.

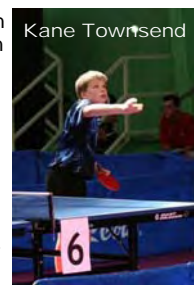


After the tournament was completed a two day



training camp was conducted with two three hour sessions each day. These sessions were conducted by Shane Laugesen. It was great to be able to train with a variety of players, as in Australia Kane and I usually have only ourselves to practice with.

We would both like to thank Table Tennis NSW and both Cabarita Beach and Gold Coast Table Tennis Clubs for their assistance in helping us to attend the event.



Overall it was a great experience and the OTTF and New Caledonian Table Tennis Association are to be congratulated on attracting so many top players from various Pacific countries, and also for the quality of the organisation of the event and we hope to be able return in the future.

Wade Townsend

# Around the States - ACT

## 2007 ACT SECONDARY SCHOOLS TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

This was a very exciting and enjoyable two days of flat-out competition by approximately 90 students from Years 9/10 (Tuesday, 14th) and Years 7/8 (Wednesday, 15th August), held at Kingston, and run by Table Tennis ACT.

The Trophies are presented for the Top School – a combination of points are given for all games, both boys and girls - on the respective days as follows:

### Years 9/10 -

Winner: LYNEHAM HIGH

Runner-Up: MERICI COLLEGE

### Years 7/8

Winner: CANBERRA HIGH

Runner-Up: LYNEHAM HIGH

Participation Certificates were presented to all students who played.

Presentations will be made to the Top Teams, and Runner-Ups on each day, but the main trophies are awarded, on both days, to the Top Schools, allowing all students to have the chance of contributing towards them. Results are as follows:

### Years 9/10

Winners

Boys: Canberra High (No. 1 Team) Runners-Up: Lyneham High

Girls: Merici (No. 1 Team)

Runners-Up: Kaleen High

### Years 7/8

Winners:

Boys: Lyneham High (No. 1 Team) Runners-Up: Canberra Grammar (No. 1 Team)

Girls: Lyneham High (No. 1 Team)

Runners-Up: Kaleen High

Two boys who played in one of the Lyneham High teams on Tuesday, were Runner-Up Best Team in the Years 9/10 component of the Championships. Their

effort was made even more meritorious by the fact that they were a couple of years younger than their opponents (they chose to play on that day). Lyneham High Learning Support Unit ran a small Canteen on both days for the Championships. Of course Championships like this could never happen without the support of the Schools involved, assistance from School Sport ACT, and the volunteers who made the Championships such a success, be they the support teachers, organisational and participating officials, with assistance also by a couple of parents.

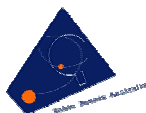
Also many thanks to the Year 9/10 students (from Canberra High) who came along and provided assistance on Wednesday, for the Year 7/8 Championship day.

And finally, not forgetting, of course, the student participants - who are our champions of the future.

Also many thanks to the staff of the "Personal Best" component of the "Canberra Times" for the great support shown for the 2007 ACT Secondary Schools Table Tennis Championships.

Glenys Joliffe

President - Table Tennis ACT



# AWD NEWS

## AWD Europe Trip

The Australian AWD Table Tennis team is heading off to Europe to gain valuable qualifying points for the Beijing 2008 Paralympics and move up the world rankings. Team members are Rebecca Julian (Class 6), Julie Davis (Class 5), Jane Wallis (Class 1), Catherine Morrow (Class 5), Michael Tomlinson (Class 9) and Keith Mundy (Coach).

First the team travels to Wuppertal Germany to play in the German Open from September 12th until September 16th. The German Open is one of the premier events of the year with the world's best players all competing. The team will then travel to Luxembourg for a 7 day training camp before heading to Lignano Italy for the Italian Masters tournament.

These tournaments are important for our team in their bid to qualify for the 2008 Beijing Paralympics. To qualify for Beijing points from the athlete's best 6 international tournaments are totalled with only the highest ranked athletes in each class qualifying.

## 2007 INAS-FID World Table Tennis Championships

The Australian Team has been selected to compete in the 2007 INAS-FID World Table Tennis Championships. The team will compete in Chiba, Japan from October 28th to November 6th. Congratulations to the players selected in the team.

Men's Team – Ashley Parrott (QLD), Peter Talbot (SA) and Steven Watts (VIC).

Women's Team – Cassy Geffke (VIC) and Jamie Kelly (ACT).

Coach/Manager – Nicole Freeland

The INAS-FID World Table Tennis Championships are the premiere event for table tennis players who have an intellectual disability.

If you would like to contact either of these teams and wish them well while they are away, their email is [aus-sieteam@hotmail.com](mailto:aus-sieteam@hotmail.com).



# World Rankings

## Women's World Rankings

	Aug-07	Aug-06
Miao Miao	106	99
Stephanie Sang	177	178
Peri Campbell-Innes	369	480
May Cho	386	391
Claire Campbell-Innes	684	742
Kerry Bungy	734	750
Michelle Beaumont	833	822
Sisi Zhang	834	816
Ann Marie Jolley	849	819
Melissa Tapper	857	823

## Men's World Rankings

	Aug-07	Aug-06
William Henzell	150	141
Trevor Brown	410	416
Dave Zalberg	456	457
Kyle Davis	513	612
Kiet Tran	593	532
Chamara Fernando	669	598
Trent Carter	751	786
Scott Houston	780	881
Piers Carter	786	749
Alex Swanson	786	817

## AWD World Rankings

	Class	Jul-07
Catherine Morrow	5	21
Julie Davis	5	29
Rebecca Julian	6	3
Sarah Lazzaro	9	8
Patrick Horn	6	47
Adam Sanders	7	55
John Pierce	8	56
Michael Tomlinson	9	53
David Moffatt	10	13
Steven Watts	6	58



# 2007 New Zealand World Junior Circuit



Robbie Frank

A huge Aussie contingent of 24 Aussies headed to the not so sunny Auckland in mid July for the World Junior Circuit (WJC) event and Oceania qualifying events for the World Junior Championships and World Cadet Challenge. Not all 24 were part of the

official team but even the parents that came along and the NSW juniors that entered independently strongly supported our 12 national team athletes in their quest for honours.

## The athletes:

*Cadet Boys:* Jesse Bricknell & Kane Townsend

*Cadet Girls:* Lily Phan & Michelle Seckington

*Junior Boys:* Trent Carter, Kyle Davis, Rob Frank & Wade Townsend

*Junior Girls:* Nicole Low, Cassy Ng, Melissa Tapper & Annie Xiao

Trent Carter joined the team directly from his exploits in Ecuador as they participated in the ITTF Elite Junior Training Camp at the North Harbour Events Centre for the first three days. On hand for the events were leading juniors and cadets from Korea, Japan, India, Singapore, Indonesia, New Zealand and a variety of Oceania island nations.



Kyle Davis

## Cadet Challenge

The first event held was the Oceania Qualifying event for the World Cadet Challenge, due in Cape Town, South Africa in October, where only one player from each country

could make the four person teams. We woke to the weather report – 130km winds, max 11 degrees and torrential rain. Kane Townsend came in as the No. 1 seed for the boys but had a day he'd rather forget and Michelle Seckington came in fourth. The storm outside was transferred inside through the bats of Jesse Bricknell and Lily Phan. Seeded 3 and 4 respectively, they dominated their events going undefeated and both were later named in the respective Oceania Teams.

## World Juniors

Our strong Junior Boy's Team was untroubled and qualified for the World Juniors after winning the Oceania event without dropping a match. The Girl's Team made the final but found the New Zealanders too hot to handle and will now watch as our boys and the NZ girls head to Palo Alto, California in December for the 4th World Junior Championships.

## Individual Events

The cadet boys performed well in the Doubles to despatch an Indian pair in the Quarter Finals but fell to a tough Korean pair in the Semi. All the other pairs fell to Japanese or Koreans in the Round of 16 or Quarter Finals. The individual events continued on day 5 as the cadets and juniors tried to qualify for the main draw in the singles. Most got through in their primary age groups but found the going tough in the knock-out phase as top Korean, Japanese and Indian players provided significant stumbling blocks. Only Robert and Kyle



Jesse Bricknell

were able to put stop the total domination by the Asian players. Rob defeated a Korean but then lost to another Korean in the Round of 16 and then Kyle became the only player from Oceania to get into the Quarter Finals of all the Singles events after successive wins against two Japanese players. He lived up to his No. 3 seed by comfortably ousting the No. 9 seed Maulana from Indonesia in the Quarters before facing No. 1 seed Seo Hyun Deok from Korea in the Semi. Seo was too good in a match where Kyle never found his earlier great form, although a Bronze Medal in this field was an excellent result.

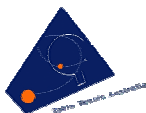
The big group can be proud of their efforts with coaches Simon Gerada and Tien Quach seeing some reward for their efforts. Overall a great tournament which provided many learning opportunities for our emerging elite athletes.

## Phil Davis

Team Manager



Lily Phan & Jesse Bricknell



# Henzell Makes World Cup

I travelled recently to the 1st Oceania Cup which was played at Manurewa in Auckland, New Zealand. With a maximum of just two entrants allowed from each country, the Australian contingent consisted of Miao Miao, George Tang and myself. The trip couldn't have started worse. The night before I was set to leave I got a phone call from Qantas saying my flight had been cancelled and that I would have to go through Melbourne. It meant leaving a couple of hours earlier but I wasn't bothered. After an 11(!) hour delay in Melbourne, Miao her father and I were on our way. It meant we arrived in Auckland at 4AM and weren't in bed until close to 5. We had a 7:30 wake up so you can probably tell how I was feeling on those first few topspins of the warm-up.

Good sleeping patterns are very important to me and I struggle if I don't get enough. I had all the excuses I needed to justify playing badly or not doing my best so I tried really hard to focus on what I could affect rather than what I couldn't. I've made a huge effort in the last six months, with the assistance of my sports psychologist Greg, to firstly try not to dwell on things I can't do anything about and secondly to detach myself from my results (both good and bad) after the moment has passed. It's helped me focus my energy at the task at hand which in turn has improved my concentration, behaviour and enjoyment of playing. The schedule was fairly spread out over the whole day and I tried to fit in as many naps and relaxation moments as I could. All the matches could have been played within a few hours but



Miao Miao & William Henzell

the organisers had tried hard to attract spectators and we had a good crowd for the important matches in the evening. I'm very happy to see when organisers make as much effort as they can to get people watching the matches.

My form before the tournament had been good. I'd played very well at the Australian Open and stayed undefeated for the tournament. Since then I'd done a week of coaching at schools and clubs in country SA and run a week long camp in Adelaide without doing much training of my own. I was unsure of my form but at the same time rested from playing and motivated. There were eight men split into two groups competing in the men's event. I beat a guy from Kiribati and one from Fiji 4-0 and had Simon Wallace from NZ up next. He's left handed and plays a lot of hit or miss table tennis, taking big risks at the expense of consistency. He played very well in the first two sets and many of his killer shots went on. We were locked at 8-8 in both of the sets before I used a bit of experience to place the ball close to the white lines and draw the error. I tried to tighten up the play for the rest of the match. If he was going to swing, then I wanted to make it as hard as I could for him to feel comfortable doing it. I got through the next two sets easier and took out the match 4-0.

In the final I played George Tang. There was a lot at stake here. The winner of the Oceania Cup qualified for the World Cup which is one of the premier events in table tennis. You get to play three world class players, have all your travel, accommodation and meals covered as well as at least US\$1500 in prize money. Along with the events like the Olympics and Commonwealth Games, it's a real incentive for young players to reach a high level. I felt calm and focused before the match. Although it was a big match, I've been in that kind of pressure situation almost of a weekly basis for many years. It was almost 10PM and I was feeling pretty tired by now. I downed a few muesli bars and had

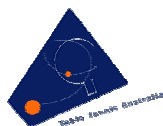


William Henzell

some sugary sports drink in the lead up to the match to heighten my concentration levels. I found my comfort zone from the word go and felt I had good control of my shots, technique and placement. George is dangerous when given time to take the upper hand in points and I tried to play on the white lines or very short, always making sure I did something positive and aggressive with the ball. The atmosphere of the crowd was great and it was great fun to be out there. Apart from a 6-8 deficit in the 4th game, I controlled the play and came out on top 4-0. I'm looking forward to playing at the World Cup which will be held in Barcelona in late October.

## William Henzell

For regular updates on William's progress, as well as technical, tactical and equipment advice, please visit [www.aussietabletennis.com](http://www.aussietabletennis.com)



# Member Protection

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) recognises that Table Tennis Australia (TTA) is committed to providing an environment that is free of harassment, discrimination and abuse, safe for children and promotes respectful and positive behaviours and values.

This commitment is demonstrated, in part by TTA's development of a Member Protection Policy. The policy states the basis of appropriate and ethical conduct and the standards everyone participating in table tennis is expected to meet. It provides an easy to use, confidential and trustworthy procedure for dealing with complaints based on the principles of natural justice.

Any person may report a complaint about a person/s or organisation bound by the policy if they reasonably believe that a breach of the policy has taken place. In the case of a national matter the complaint should be reported to the CEO of TTA. In the case of a state or local matter the complaint should be reported to the designated Complaints Manager.

All complaints will be dealt with promptly, seriously, sensitively and confidentially. The complaints regulation is outlined in Appendix 1 of TTA's Member Protection Policy, which is available from the TTA website: [www.tabletennis.org.au](http://www.tabletennis.org.au).

A Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) can assist an individual, club or sporting organisation with any enquiries,

concerns or complaints about harassment and abuse. The officer has participated in training and provides confidential information and moral support to the person/organisation with the concern or alleging harassment.

The ASC notes that TTA currently does not have any trained MPIOs and would encourage individuals with good communication skills, are accessible, approachable and able to maintain confidentiality and have an interest in harassment-free sport to consider undertaking MPIO training. The skills developed are life skills and are useful in many work and personal life situations. For more information on the MPIO role, visit [www.ausport.gov.au/ethics/memprotf.asp](http://www.ausport.gov.au/ethics/memprotf.asp). If you are interested in becoming a MPIO for Table Tennis please contact Matt Pound on 07 3369 999 or [ao@tabletennis.org.au](mailto:ao@tabletennis.org.au).

The Sport Ethics Unit at the Australian Sports Commission has developed several resources to assist organisations such as TTA manage and minimise issues of harassment, discrimination and abuse:

- [Ethics in Sport website](#): provides a wealth of information on harassment-free sport, legislative requirements (including working with children checks), research, publications and contact details of relevant organisations and agencies. [www.ausport.gov.au/ethics](http://www.ausport.gov.au/ethics)
- [Harassment-free Sport Information Sheet series](#): covers a range of topics, is applica-

ble to all levels of sport and is written in easy to understand language

- A [Code of Behaviour template](#): sports can modify the template to suit their needs and requirements
- National harassment-free sport [training and education](#)
- [Member Protection Information Officer \(MPIO\) database](#): a database of MPIOs that have participated in training to assist people with enquiries, concerns or complaints about harassment and abuse.
- [Ethics in Sport quarterly newsletter](#): provides up to date information on harassment-free sport issues, resources and opportunities

For information on any of the above, visit [www.ausport.gov.au/ethics](http://www.ausport.gov.au/ethics) or contact Kathy Mumberson on 02 6214 7828 or [Kathy.mumberson@ausport.gov.au](mailto:Kathy.mumberson@ausport.gov.au)

The Play by the Rules website also provides a wealth of information and free online training to assist sports prevent and deal with discrimination, harassment and child abuse in sport. To access the website visit [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au)

**Kathy Mumberson**  
Sports Officer – Sport Ethics Unit  
Australian Sports Commission

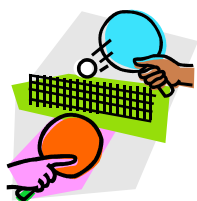


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# PICTURES



## Around the World News

### Table Tennis Australia



Table Tennis Australia  
Office 2.02 Sports House  
150 Caxton Street  
MILTON QLD 4064

Phone: + 61 7 3369 4999  
Fax: +61 7 3369 4966  
Email: ao@tabletennis.org.au  
Web: www.tabletennis.org.au

### Qing Dynasty Courtyard Remains next to Olympic Table Tennis Venue

"We believe it will be a brilliant sightseeing the gymnasium and the 200-year-old relic standing side by side in 2008." That's what Xiao Guoping, senior engineer of the Department of Capital Construction Management of Beijing University, recently said in the magazine "Beijing 2008", edited by the Beijing Organizing Committee.

But what is the background? The Beijing Gymnasium in the south-eastern part of Beijing University will hold the table tennis event. When the gymnasium construction was planned, a 200 year-old historic site was accidentally found.

According to the original plan, a Qing-style courtyard named Zhibei Zi was to be moved (in whole) to another location.

### Seven Ancient Trees Can Stay

The Qing Dynasty was the last of an over 2000 years lasting imperial dynasty of China, whose emperors reigned from 1644 to 1911. According to the magazine, a student found in the historic record that the courtyard is the only remains of a Qing Dynasty park belonging to a prince.

The seven ancient trees outside the courtyard are all over a century old. When the discovery was reported to the Beijing Municipal Administration of Cultural Heritage, the decision was made to protect the courtyard and the trees, leading to a change of gymnasium design.



### Moving the Underground

The underground part of the gymnasium has been moved two metres east to keep it away from the roots of the precious trees. Waterproof interlayer has been built between the roots and the gymnasium to prevent water loss from the roots.

Protective facilities have also been built around the trees in case building materials were to fall from above. According to Xiao Guoping the budget for the gymnasium has been increased to protect the seven trees.

From ITTF Website

