

**TEAM MANAGER'S REPORT
2019 TRANS TASMAN TEST SERIES
TIMARU, NEW ZEALAND**

It is with much pleasure that I present the following report on the on-court results and official off-court activities of the Australian team that participated in the 2019 Trans - Tasman Test Series and the 2019 New Zealand Masters Individual Squash Championships.

PREAMBLE:

The following nominations were submitted by the members of the Australian Masters Squash Association (AMSA):

Men			Women	
Over 35	Brad Freeme	Qld	Kym Phillips	Qld
	Shahroze Khan	Vic		
Over 40	Grant Farrant	NSW	Melissa Martin	Qld
	Danny Woolbank	Qld		
Over 45	Jeff Bond	NSW	No nominations	
	Craig Brann	NSW		
	Mark O'Hare	Vic		
Over 50	Peter Bastow	NSW	Kylee Hammett	Qld
			Sarah Nelson	NSW
			Sue Davis	Qld
Over 55	Peter Gilbee	Vic	Sue Hillier	WA
	Warren Miller	Vic	Sue Williams	Qld
	Brett Martin	Qld		
Over 60	Kelvin Smith	Qld	Elizabeth Lopes	Qld
	Jim Mobbs	Qld	Anne Richards	WA
Over 65	Michael Brown	Tas	Gaye Mitchell	Tas
	Hugh Taylor	Qld	Kathy Paterson	Qld

It was very pleasing to note that many states acknowledged players of high ability in their nominations. As an indication of this strength, there were (9) current / former World Champions who were nominated.

On 18th March 2019, the AMSA announced the team to defend the Vic Belsham Trophy:

Men			Women	
Over 35	Brad Freeme	Qld	Kym Phillips	Qld
Over 40	Craig Brann	NSW	Melissa Martin	Qld
Over 45	Jeff Bond	NSW	Sue Davis	Qld
Over 50	Peter Bastow	NSW	Sarah Nelson	NSW
Over 55	Warren Miller	Vic	Sue Hillier	WA
Over 60	Kelvin Smith	Qld	Anne Richards	WA
Over 65	Michael Brown	Tas	Gaye Mitchell	Tas

In the lead up to the team leaving for New Zealand, a decision was made to replace Craig Brann (due to injury) with Mark O'Hare (Vic) in the Over 40 Age Group.



Your Australian Trans - Tasman Test Team before the First Test

Back Row L to R: Warren Miller (Vic), Peter Bastow (NSW), Jeff Bond (NSW), Brad Freeme (Qld), Kelvin Smith (Qld), Mark O'Hare (Vic), Michael Brown (Tas):
 Front Row L to R Sarah Nelson (NSW), Kym Phillips (Qld), Sue Davis (Qld), Sue Hillier (WA), Gaye Mitchell (Tas), Anne Richards (WA), Melissa Martin (Qld)

The Australian team arrived progressively into Christchurch on Saturday 12th October 2019 and proceeded to drive to Timaru, the host Club for the Series. The team was domiciled at Panorama Motor Lodge Apartment complex.

FIRST TRANS TASMAN TEST – 14th October:

With a very healthy and enthusiastic crowd of over 100 locals and visitors, the battle for the Vic Belsham Trophy began. An official Maori Welcome at the Timaru Squash Club involving the players, team management, sponsors and visitors was held before matches commenced. The Australian and New Zealand Managers then introduced their players. As in previous Series, all present sang their national anthems which were performed by local school children.

The match results were as follows (in order of play; Australian players first and Australian wins in bold):

Men's 40 Mark O'Hare def Allan Crome 11/4, 5/11, 12/10, 8/11, 11/5
Women's 60 Anne Richards def Karen Walton 11/8, 11/9, 11/7
Women's 55 Sue Hillier def Kay Newman 11/8, 11/5, 11/4
Men's 65 Michael Brown lost to Wayne Seebeck 6/11, 8/11, 9/11
Men's 55 Warren Miller def Brett Meyer 11/13, 12/10, 11/2, 11/4
Women's 65 Gaye Mitchell def Freda Walker 6/11, 12/10, 13/11, 13/11
Women's 35 Kym Phillips lost to Karen Roberts 9/11, 11/7, 8/11, 7/11
Men's 35 Brad Freeme def Kashif Shuja 11/5, 11/8, 11/8
Men's 60 Kelvin Smith def Mark Waldin 11/8, 7/11, 11/4, 11/1
Women's 50 Sarah Nelson def Lisa Cowlard 16/6, 9/11, 11/5, 13/11
Women's 40 Melissa Martin def Debbie Dunbar 11/7, 11/6, 5/11, 6/11, 11/2
Men's 45 Jeff Bond def Scott Gardiner 11/9, 11/8, 11/6
Men's 50 Peter Bastow lost to Gary Duberly 4/11, 11/6, 5/11, 11/9, 7/11
Women's 45 Sue Davis def Nadine Cull 5/11, 11/9, 11/3, 11/2

Australia secured a very decisive win (11) matches to (3), (36) games to (19) and (540) points to (436). This gave Australia a 1-0 lead in the best of three (3) Test Series.

SECOND TRANS TASMAN TEST – 15th October:

The Second Test was again played in front of another enthusiastic crowd of approx 100 locals and visitors at Timaru Squash Club.

The match results were as follows (in order of play; Australian players first and Australian wins in bold):

Women's 65 Gaye Mitchell def Freda Walker 10/12, 11/3, 11/6, 11/8
Men's 40 Mark O'Hare def Allan Crome 8/11, 11/9, 11/7, 11/8
Men's 35 Brad Freeme def Kashif Shuja 6/11, 13/11, 11/4, 11/5
Women's 45 Sue Davis def Nadine Cull 2/11, 16/14, 6/11, 11/8, 11/9
Women's 50 Sarah Nelson lost to Lisa Cowlard 9/11, 5/11, 10/12
Men's 55 Warren Miller def Brett Meyer 2/11, 13/11, 13/11, 4/11, 11/8
Men's 60 Kelvin Smith def Mark Waldin 11/5, 11/9, 11/4
Women's 35 Kym Phillips lost to Karen Roberts 11/9, 7/11, 8/11, 11/7, 7/11
Women's 55 Sue Hillier def Kay Newman 10/12, 11/1, 11/6, 11/7
Men's 65 Michael Brown lost to Wayne Seebeck 14/12, 7/11, 11/4, 5/11, 6/11
Men's 45 Jeff Bond lost to Scott Gardiner 8/11, 11/5, 4/11, 11/5, 12/14
Women's 60 Anne Richards def Karen Walton 11/9, 13/11, 11/9
Women's 40 Melissa Martin def Debbie Dunbar 11/5, 12/10, 11/9
Men's 50 Peter Bastow def Gary Duberly 11/9, 11/7, 11/6

Australia won the 2nd Test (10) matches to (4), (36) games to (20) and (547) points to (497), therefore defending the Vic Belsham Shield with an unassailable 2-0 Series lead.

THIRD TRANS TASMAN TEST – 17th October:

After a free day, the Third and final Test was played in front of another enthusiastic crowd of approx 150 locals and visitors at Timaru Squash Club.

The match results were as follows (in order of play; Australian players first and Australian wins in bold):

Men's 50 Peter Bastow def Gary Duberly **4/11, 11/9, 12/10, 11/7**
Women's 60 Anne Richards def Karen Walton **11/9, 6/11, 11/9, 11/9**
Women's 65 Gaye Mitchell def Freda Walker **11/7, 9/11, 7/11, 11/5, 11/8**
Men's 35 Brad Freeme def Kashif Shuja **10/12, 11/8, 11/9, 11/6**
Men's 40 Mark O'Hare def Allan Crome **8/11, 11/6, 17/15, 11/5**
Women's 55 Sue Hillier def Kay Newman **11/3, 11/6, 11/8**
Women's 45 Sue Davis def Nadine Cull **15/13, 7/11, 11/3, 11/6**
Men's 60 Kelvin Smith def Mark Waldin **11/1, 11/5, 10/12, 11/6**
Men's 45 Jeff Bond lost to Scott Gardiner 11/13, 7/11, 11/4, 9/11
Women's 35 Kym Phillips lost to Karen Roberts 11/4, 11/13, 9/11, 7/11
Women's 50 Sarah Nelson lost to Lisa Cowlard 9/11, 10/12, 5/11
Men's 65 Michael Brown def Wayne Seebeck **14/12, 11/4, 6/11, 11/5**
Men's 55 Warren Miller def Brett Meyer **11/8, 3/11, 11/4, 11/5**
Women's 40 Melissa Martin def Debbie Dunbar **11/9, 11/5, 11/7**

Australia won the 3rd Test (11) matches to (3), (35) games to (19) and (549) points to (452), hence completing a clean sweep of the Series.

2019 NEW ZEALAND MASTERS SQUASH INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

At the conclusion of the Test Series, the NZ Individual Championships were held with 202 players from all districts of New Zealand, along with the (2) Test teams, the Team Managers and many Australian supporters participating.

Continuing on from the positive results of the Test Series, the Australian team recorded the following results:

Brad Freeme –Over 35 Champion
Jeff Bond –Over 45 Runner Up
Peter Bastow – Over 50 Third
Warren Miller – Over 55 Champion
Kelvin Smith – Over 60 Champion
Michael Brown –Over 65 Third
Kym Roberts – Over 35 Runner Up
Melissa Martin –Over 40 Champion
Sue Davis – Over 50 Champion
Sarah Nelson –Over 50 Third
Sue Hillier –Over 55 Champion
Anne Richards – Over 60 Champion

Congratulations must also go to members of the NZ team who captured titles as well as Australian supporters as follows:

Wayne Seebeck – Over 65 (NZ)
Brian Cook –Over 70
Nadine Cull – Over 45 (NZ)
Marilyn Kennedy – Over 70 Runner Up

OFF-COURT ACTIVITIES:

Along with the main goal of defending the Vic Belsham Trophy, the Australian team attended the following functions:

- Team Function @ Speight's Old Ale House – 17th October
- Individual Championship Dinner Dance @ Caroline Bay Hall – 19th October
- Individual Championships Trophy Presentation and BBQ @ Caroline Bay Hall – 20th October

REPORT SUMMARY:

Overall, the trip to Timaru was an overwhelming success for the Australian team.

On an administrative note, the following comment is for future AMSA Administrators and Team Managers to utilise at their discretion:

- ❖ The support of all States and Territories in regard to their nominations must be applauded and encouraged ie there were 15 male and 11 female nominations for the 2017 team. This shows the large number of quality players within our ranks. I would also encourage the states to nominate all Australian Open champions from their state – the larger the pool of nominees, the better quality of players that the selectors have to choose from.

Finally, on behalf of the 14 Test Team players and myself, I would like to thank the members of the Australian Masters Squash Association for the opportunity to represent the Association and to contribute to the continued success of Masters Squash. I am certain that all Team members appreciated the support from the Association and their respective states and territories in assisting to defray costs incurred in representing the AMSA.

Garry Irwin
Team Manager
2019 Trans - Tasman Test Series
Timaru, New Zealand
22nd October 2019