

**From:** Sharon Scriven, Executive Manager  
ANZSLA – the sports law association  
Ph:+ 61 2 6684 5496

**Date:** 1 November 2019

## The Australian and New Zealand Sports Law Association 2019 Annual General Meeting

At the twenty-eighth Annual General Meeting of ANZSLA, held at the Crown Perth Convention Centre, Perth, Western Australia on Thursday, 31 October 2019, ANZSLA President, Martin Ross, thanked Laura Sigal (Secretary) and Tim Holden for their valuable contributions to the Board, as both had decided not to re-stand this year.

The Board welcomed Will Aplin, Senior Legal Counsel, Football Federation Australia, Sydney, NSW, who was elected as Secretary; and Annette Greenhow, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, Bond University, Queensland, who was elected as (Ordinary) Director. Rebecca Hooper, who had previously been co-opted to the Board, was elected as (Ordinary) Director at the 2019 AGM and joined Keith Binnie, General Counsel, New Zealand Rugby Union, who was re-elected for a further term.

Upon the unanimous recommendation of the ANZSLA Board, members passed a special resolution to award life membership to Venetia Bennett and Nigel Stirling. Venetia gave 10 years of service to the ANZSLA Board from 2008 to 2018. Venetia was co-opted to the Board in 2008 and appointed as ANZSLA's Secretary in 2009. Venetia then held that position until 2012 when she was elected as ANZSLA's President, becoming the first female - and youngest - ANZSLA President. Venetia chaired the 2008 ANZSLA conference, co-chaired the 2012 and 2019 ANZSLA conferences, and has also assisted with the organisation of many Perth regional events. Venetia launched ANZSLA's new logo and website in 2010; and revised the ANZSLA Constitution in 2011.

Nigel joined ANZSLA when it was first incorporated in 1991 and has been to every conference except three. Nigel has delivered his rendition of the ANZSLA Bus Story whenever asked to do so at conference dinners and it was Nigel that initiated the ANZSLA Sports Cup that is now a regular conference event; and donated the trophy for it. Although Nigel has never been a member of the ANZSLA Board, he has served on the 2002 (Chair), 2006, 2011 and 2016 ANZSLA Conference Organising Committees. Nigel has also assisted on the organising committees of the 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 ANZSLA New Zealand Symposiums, along with many regional events.

### 2019 ANZSLA Annual Conference

ANZSLA's twenty-ninth annual conference was held at the Crown Perth Convention Centre, Perth from 30 October to 1 November 2019. The ANZSLA Sports Cup event this year was a much anticipated 3km fun run/walk along the banks of the Swan River and past Optus Stadium, led by Lord Sebastian Coe and facilitated by the WA Marathon Club. The North Island of New Zealand won the ANZSLA Sports Cup this year, taking it from last year's winners; South Australia. Congratulations to all that braved the unusually wet and windy Perth weather and participated in the run/walk, but particularly to Ben Armstrong and Carina Ford who were first male and first female runners across the line.

The theme for the conference this year was "Breaking Boundaries", and delegates were informed and entertained by expert speakers over the two conference days. The keynote address was delivered by Lord Sebastian Coe and centred on breaking boundaries during his time with the IAAF. This was followed by a range of presentations and panel discussions about some of the most topical issues in sports law, including privacy and data protection, ethical decision making and athlete wellbeing. The conference closed with a tour of Optus Stadium hosted by members of the project team, who offered insights regarding legal and operational considerations for the State and stakeholders in the development of the new Perth stadium.

Expert speakers included Lord Sebastian Coe CH KBE; Jo Setright, Coalition of Major Professional and Participation Sports; Bill Turner, Sports Integrity Taskforce; Dr Sandy Gordon, University of Western Australia; Associate Professor Stacey Steele, Melbourne Law School; Jon Marquard, Janez Media; Justin Quill, Macpherson Kelley; Venetia Bennett, K&L Gates; Kate Schildberger, Sport Australia; Helen McShane, formerly WA Sports Federation; Andy Gibson, ANZSLA Life Member; Jack Anderson, Melbourne University; Will Robinson, Wotton + Kearney; Eugenie Buckley, Suiko Consulting; Mark Azzi, Esports Integrity Coalition; Matt Burgess, Evolve Sports Group; Chris Loftus-Hill, VenuesLive; Ronnie Hurst, former Perth Stadium Project Director; and Steve Humfrey, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

ANZSLA announced that the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Annual Conference will be held in Queenstown, New Zealand from 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020.

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For further information, please contact  
Sharon Scriven, ANZSLA Executive Manager  
[anzsla@anzsla.com](mailto:anzsla@anzsla.com) +61 2 6684 5496