

VOLLEYBALL TEAM AUSTRALIA MEN - TEAM BIOGRAPHY

The Australian Volleyball Federation was founded in 1963, and the sport of volleyball has rapidly increased in popularity since then, particularly in schools and recreational centers. Volleyball Team Australia Men (VTAM) has been supported by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) since 1990 and has been based in Canberra at the main AIS campus since 1997. The Australian Institute of Sport based program operates year round, with increasing numbers of players competing in European professional leagues.



The team entered the new century with an appearance in the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, where they placed 8th, beating Spain in the process and taking a set from World Champions, Italy.

Having participated in the Sydney Olympics as the host nation, VTAM set out to qualify for Athens, in its own right (for the first time). At the World Olympic Qualification Tournament in Tokyo, Australia achieved this historic goal becoming the Asian Volleyball Confederation's representative in Athens as the highest ranked Asian team, when it defeated traditional Asian powers Japan, Korea and China for the first time in a single International tournament.

At the Athens Olympics, in 2004, VTAM eventually finished 11th while a taking set off the USA and World and Olympic Champions Brazil

A new look VTAM competed in its 4th World Championships in 2006, to follow up its appearance in 1982, 1998, 2002 editions of the tournament.

In 2007, VTAM returns to Fukuoka (their host city for the 2006 World Championships) for the Asia Pacific Cup. The team is excited about its invitation to this tournament for the first time since winning it in 1991.

Volleyball Team Australia Staff:

- Coach: **Russell Borgeaud**
- Assistant Coach: **Andrew Strugnell**
- Team Manager: **Steve Naylor**
- Trainer: **Dan Illott**
- Coach: **Stephen Benson**



Australian Volleyball Federation

Co-Patrons

His Excellency
Major General Michael Jeffery
AC CVO MC (Retd)
Governor-General
Commonwealth of Australia
and
Her Excellency
Mrs Marlena Jeffery

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GOAL - To foster the Sport of Volleyball as a Human Endeavour.