



Your local club

ACADEMY GAMES

2019 Evaluation Report

Hosted by

**Hunter Academy
of Sport**

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INTRODUCTION

The 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games was held across the Hunter region from Friday 12th - Sunday 14th April 2019, hosted for the second of three years by the Hunter Academy of Sport. The games showcased the state's best emerging athletes across eight sports including AFL, Basketball, Golf, Hockey, Netball, Tennis, Softball and Triathlon.

Over 4000 athletes, supporters, staff, volunteers and coaches attended the 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games at eight Hunter venues across the weekend.

The Hunter region has some outstanding venues used at the Your Local Club Academy Games. In 2019 the event showcased the importance of quality venues and supportive local staff to make the games operate smoothly. The venues used were all great, and the coverage across the region was also very important due to the level of support by the City of Newcastle and Lake Macquarie City Council. The versatile nature of the Hunter region allowed the sports to be played across multiple LGA's including Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens and Maitland.

The media coverage and support from NBN Television and the Newcastle Herald is also very important in the brand positioning of the Your Local Club Academy Games. The extensive pre-Games media coverage was very important in building brand equity for the event. The post event coverage was also extremely substantial.



2019 Your Local Club Academy Games

The support from ALL regional academies is also essential for putting on this event. To all eleven NSW Regional Academies - we thank you for your support for the Games and to the ethos of competition. Thankyou also to the Metropolitan Softball teams, the Independent Netball Teams, Wheelchair Sports NSW and Independent AFLW teams for your support at the Games.

Our thanks to the following organisations for their support & participation

- Central Coast Academy of Sport (CCAS)
- Far West Academy of Sport (FWAS)
- Hunter Academy of Sport (HAS)
- Illawarra Academy of Sport (IAS)
- North Coast Academy of Sport (NCAS)
- Northern Inland Academy of Sport (NIAS)
- Southern Sports Academy (SSA)
- South East Sports Academy (SESA)
- South West Sydney Academy of Sport (SWSAS)
- Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS)
- Western Sydney Academy of Sport (WSAS)
- ACT Academy of Sport (ACTAS)
- Sydney Netball Academy (SNA)
- North Metropolitan Softball Academy
- South Metropolitan Softball Academy
- AFL Sydney North Team
- AFL Sydney East Team
- AFL Allies Team
- Wheelchair Sports NSW

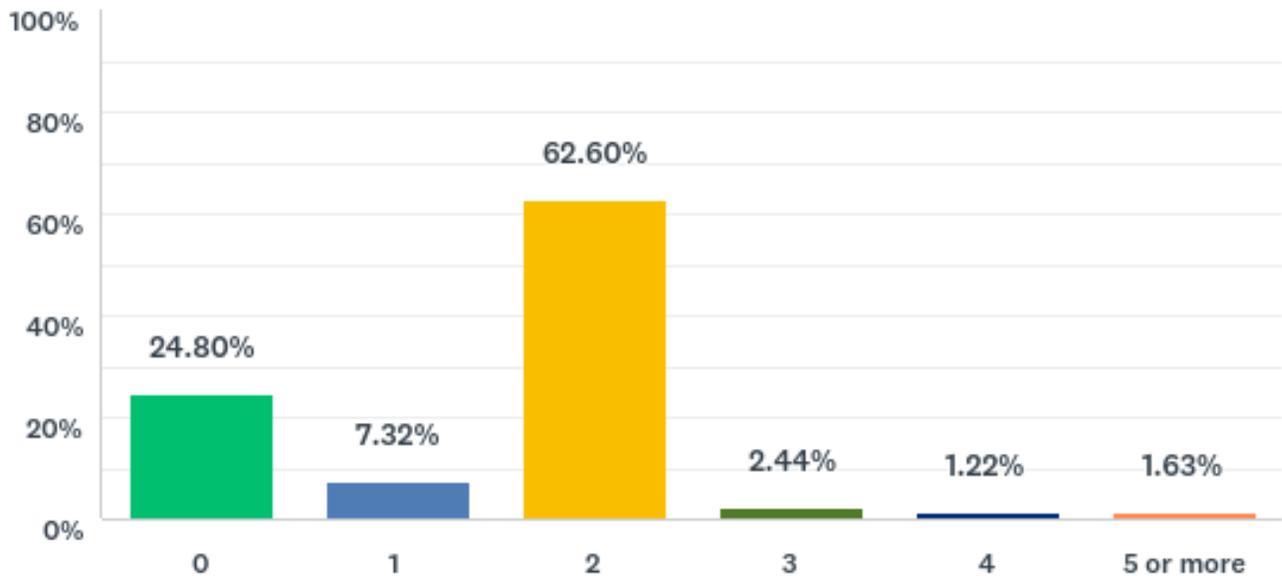


ECONOMIC TOURISM VALUE

The 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games brought around 1,100 athletes, 270 coaching & support staff and 2,200 parents to the Hunter Region. From the post Games survey, it is estimated that over 65% of visitors to the region stayed 2 or more nights in the Hunter.

Duration of stay in the Hunter Region from Participant Survey

Respondents: 246. All respondents in the post Games evaluation survey were asked to indicate the numbers of nights stayed in the Hunter region for the Games. Most respondents (63%) stayed in the region for 2 nights.



It is estimated that **6,900** bed stays were generated by the event, with a total economic tourism value of **\$1,166,100**. *(Note: This figure is based on general LGA bed stay tourism formula of \$169 per bed stay).*

IT'S ESTIMATED THAT...

6,900

bed stays were generated by
the event

BED STAYS



ECONOMIC VALUE



\$1,166,100

based on general LGA
tourism formula of \$169 per
bed stay

4

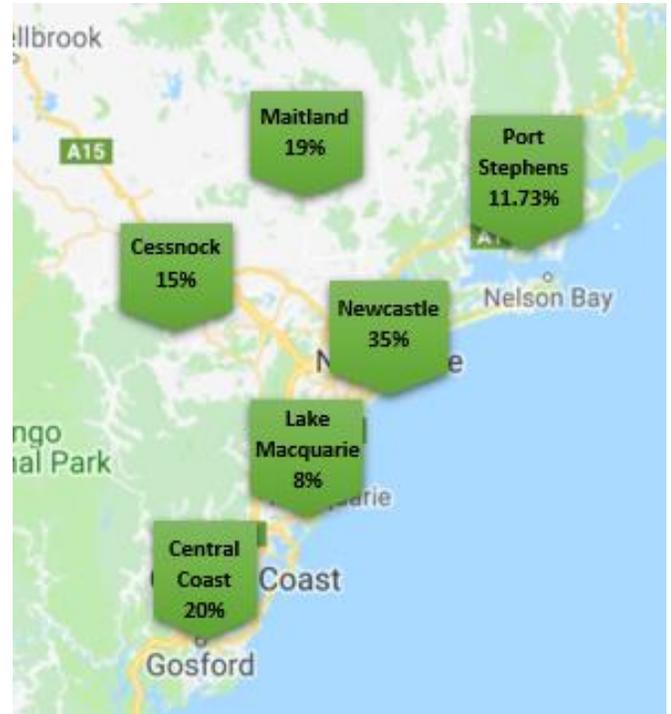
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA'S

accommodation booked across
four LGA's in the Hunter
region - Newcastle, Maitland,
Cessnock and Lake Macquarie



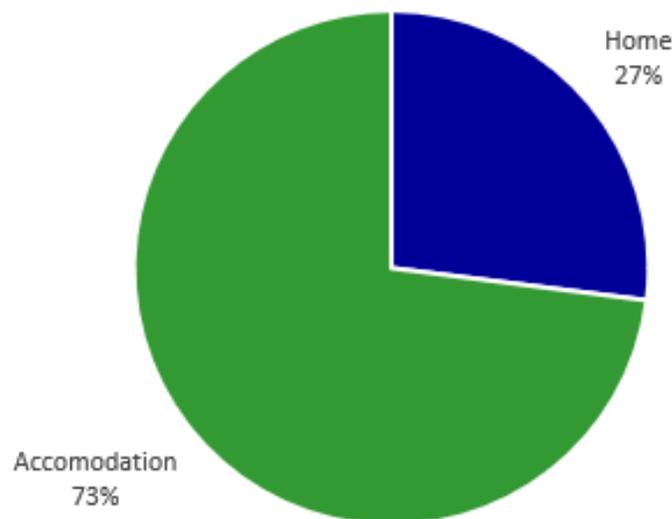
Accommodation Location from Participant Survey

Respondents: 245. All respondents were asked to indicate what location they stayed for the duration of the Games. Most respondents stayed in Newcastle LGA (35%) with the remaining staying in Central Coast (20%), Maitland LGA (19%), Cessnock LGA (15%) and Lake Macquarie LGA (8%). Some respondents did not specify location of accommodation.



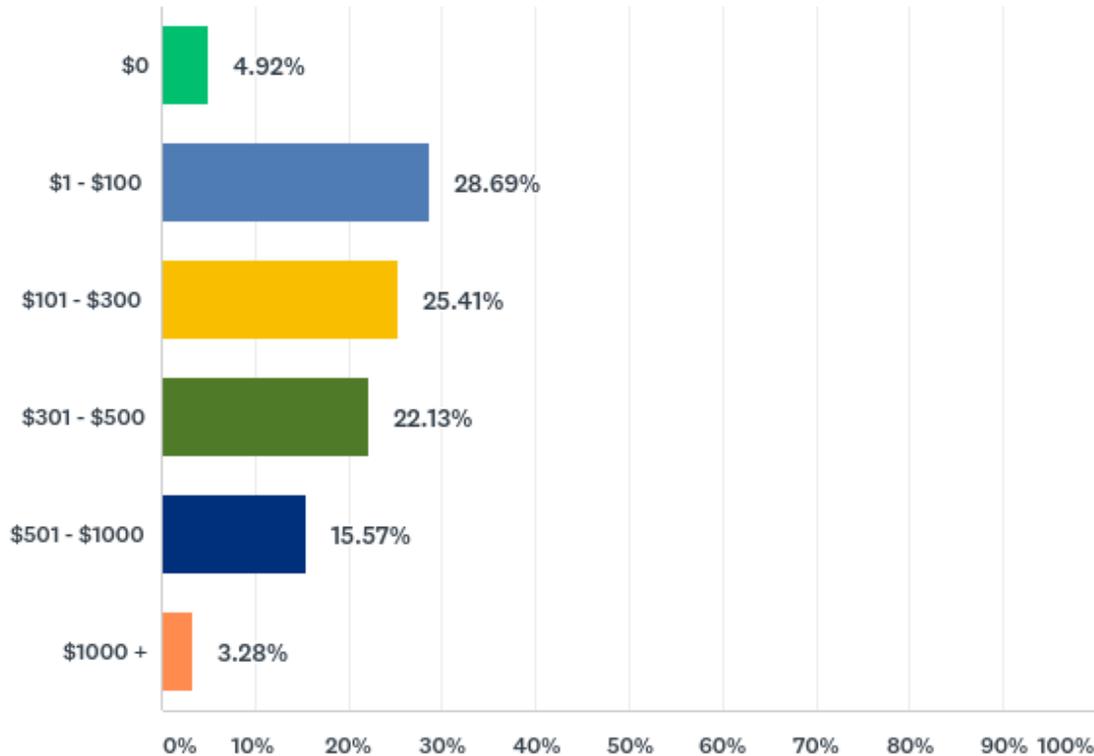
Accommodation Stay from Regional Academy Reports

All Academies and Invitational teams were asked to indicate how many participants they brought to the Games and in which location they stayed. Overall, the Academies and Invitational teams indicated a total of 1,370 participants were brought to the games. With 27% of participants from the local area (Hunter and Central Coast) and 73% of participants travelling and staying in Newcastle and Hunter Region for an average of 2 nights in accommodation including most commonly motels, apartments, hotels or resorts.



Estimated spend from Participant Survey

Respondents: 244. All respondents in a post Games evaluation survey were asked to estimate the amount spent over the duration of the Games. Majority of respondents (54%) indicated that they estimated to spend \$1 - \$300 and 41% reporting to spend up wards of \$300 over the games weekend.



DID YOU KNOW...

FROM RASi BOOKINGS ALONE, THERE WAS:

654

beds were booked by RASi management for the weekend of Academy Games

BED STAYS



TOTAL BED STAYS

1,308



total beds booked by RASi management over a 2 night period for Academy Games

4

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA'S

accommodation booked across four LGA's in the Hunter region - Newcastle, Maitland, Cessnock and Lake Macquarie



CONTRIBUTING

\$221,052



accommodation from RASi bookings contributing to economic tourism value

Figure is based on general LGA bed stay tourism formula of \$169 per bed stay

OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

The venues and local support engaged by the Hunter Academy of Sport to assist with the delivery of the Games was to the success of the 2019 event.

Each venue was suitable for the staging of each of the sports.

The venue usage and level of support was outstanding. Our thanks to the RASi Sport Conveners and local sport coordinators who made management of the event much easier.

Sport	RASi Sport Conveners	Local Sport Coordinator	State Sporting Organisation
AFL	D’Arcy Van den Bossche (NCAS) John Kincade (NCAS)	Craig Golledge	AFL NSW/ACT
Basketball	James Cooper (NIAS) Brent Hartley (NIAS)	Trevor Gallacher	Basketball NSW
Golf	Dave Ferguson (SSA)	Mark Ingrey	JNJG
Hockey	Gerry Knights (SWSAS) Candice Boggs (WRAS)	Jo Wilson	Hockey NSW
Netball	Martin Bullock (WSAS)	Kiona Sunerton	Netball NSW
Softball	Mark Calverley (SSA) James Watson (SWSAS)	Christine Halpin	Softball NSW
Tennis	James Cooper (NIAS) Brent Hartley (NIAS)	Ellen Gordon	Tennis NSW
Triathlon	Dane Robinson (IAS)	Matthew Porta	Triathlon NSW

VENUES

The Hunter region has outstanding sporting facilities and the ability to utilize venues across a variety of local government areas. Our thanks to the City of Newcastle and Lake Macquarie City Council for their ongoing support to the Hunter Academy of Sport and their ability to assist in the staging of this event.

Sport	Venue (s)	Local Government Area
AFL	Pasterfield Sporting Complex, Cameron Park	Lake Macquarie
Basketball	Newcastle Basketball Stadium, Broadmeadow	Newcastle
Golf	Pacific Dunes Golf Club, Medowie Belmont Golf Club, Marks Point	Port Stephens Lake Macquarie
Hockey	Newcastle International Hockey Centre, Broadmeadow	Newcastle
Netball	Maitland Basketball Centre, Maitland	Maitland
Softball	Stevenson Park, Mayfield	Newcastle
Tennis	Broadmeadow Tennis Club, Broadmeadow	Newcastle
Triathlon	Cams Wharf	Lake Macquarie



2019 Your Local Club Academy Games

PARTICIPATION

Eight sports were delivered for the 2019 event including AFL, Basketball, Golf, Hockey, Netball, Softball, Tennis and Triathlon. The Games also highlighted an exhibition Para-sport match, with Wheelchair Basketball and an exhibition match for junior boys in AFL. The participation for both athletes, officials & staff for each Academy and Invitational teams are outlined below:

Academy / Team	Athletes	Officials	Staff	Total
Central Coast Academy of Sport (CCAS)	104	25	2	131
Far West Academy of Sport (FWAS)	11	2	2	15
Hunter Academy of Sport (HAS)	199	36	5	240
Illawarra Academy of Sport (IAS)	92	17	8	117
North Coast Academy of Sport (NCAS)	52	13	2	67
Northern Inland Academy of Sport (NIAS)	79	13	2	94
Southern Sports Academy (SSA)	55	16	2	73
South East Sports Academy (SESA)	58	14	2	74
South West Sydney Academy of Sport (SWSAS)	89	26	2	117
Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS)	84	16	2	102
Western Sydney Academy of Sport (WSAS)	78	24	3	105
ACT Academy of Sport (ACTAS)	24	3		27
Sydney Netball Academy (SNA)	24	8	2	34
Metropolitan Softball Academies	40	14		54
AFL Sydney Teams	55	9	1	65
Triathlon NSW Development Squad	8	2	1	11
Para Sports	51	2		53

Total Participants 1103 240 36 1379

MEDIA LAUNCH

The Media Launch was held at Wests New Lambton on Thursday 2nd April 2019, marking the entry point for the marketing, promotion and PR work that resides around the Games. The attendees were welcomed by the Hunter Academy of Sport CEO, Mr. Brett O'Farrell, who acted at the Master of Ceremonies for the Launch. Ian Robilliard OAM, Chief Executive Officer of Central Coast Academy of Sport and Chairman of the Regional Academies of Sport and Lord Mayor of the City of Newcastle Nuatali Nelmes also spoke at the event, expressing their excitement for the beginning of the Games.

Mr. O'Farrell interviewed eight athletes representing the Hunter and Regional Academies of Sport; Charlie Lentfer (Basketball), Lleyton Richards (Tennis), Mackenzie Stuart (Netball), Mayke Telfer (Softball), Charlie Lentfer (Triathlon), Jess and Raegan Dunn (AFL) and Ella Hewatt (Hockey), where insight into the athlete's preparation and expectations gave an understanding to what the Games means to the individual.

The media coverage for the event included social media posts from the Hunter Academy of Sport and Your Local Club Academy Games pages, as well as coverage in the Newcastle Herald and NBN News.



OPENING CEREMONY

The Opening Ceremony was held at the Newcastle Basketball Stadium on Friday 12th April at 5pm. This was a successful event accommodating a record number of attendees with an estimated 3,000 people in attendance.

Master of Ceremonies, Glen Hawke did a great job of facilitating the night ensuring that proceeding ran smoothly. Glen began by welcoming the VIPs and distinguished guests to the event. Each Academy and Invitational team was introduced with a short biography and history as the athletes marched into the stadium.



The formal proceedings began with a Welcome to the Country - Awabakal performed by Auntie Sandra Griffin, followed by Lily Lewis singing the National Anthem.

There were several guest speakers at the ceremony including Ian Robilliard OAM (CEO Central Coast Academy of Sport and RASi Chairman), Peter Newell OAM (Chairman of ClubsNSW), and Councilor Kay Fraser (Lord Mayor of Lake Macquarie City Council).

Hunter Academy of Sport athletes Jess Dunn (AFL) and Charlie Lentifer (Basketball) read the athlete oath on behalf of all participating athletes. Chairman of the Hunter Academy of Sport, Ted Atchison OAM declared the Games officially open, wishing every athlete involved the best of success for the event. A highly successful VIP function was enjoyed after the ceremony, looking on at the basketball games immediately following the formalities.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Media coverage for the 2019 event was again comprehensive and detailed, with major emphasis on digital platforms and social media. This was done by briefing each of the 11 Academies on the host's expectations and encouraging integration and cross promotion on their respected accounts.

The Hunter Academy of Sport has a strong relationship with NBN News, who ran an advertising campaign promoting the games and thanking sponsoring partners of the event. This advert ran from Monday, April 1st to Monday, 15th April, and was shown in various time slots, including prime time morning and evening slots. In the lead up to the event, NBN News also ran coverage from the Media Launch on April 2nd.

Another pertinent relationship that the host Academy holds is with the Newcastle Herald, who assisted RASi in promoting the event through their channels including the following:

- A full-page advert in the Saturday Weekender, which has an average of 131, 000 readers. This advert consisted of a written editorial on the Games and a half page image thanking the major sponsors. Available in print and online.
- Four articles in the Junior Sport section were published in print and online with high engagement on social media.

There was again a major focus on social media this year, with The Your Local Club Academy Games Facebook page likes rising from 1, 550 in May 2018 to 1, 769 in May 2019. This is understood to be due to the high activity with posts and updates for the event, as well as each Academy engaging with the page.



WOW! What a weekend at the 2019 **Your Local Club Academy Games**! We hope you all had a great weekend in the Hunter Region & a huge congratulations to all athletes, coaches, supporters, parents, volunteers & staff who made the 8 tournaments run s... See more

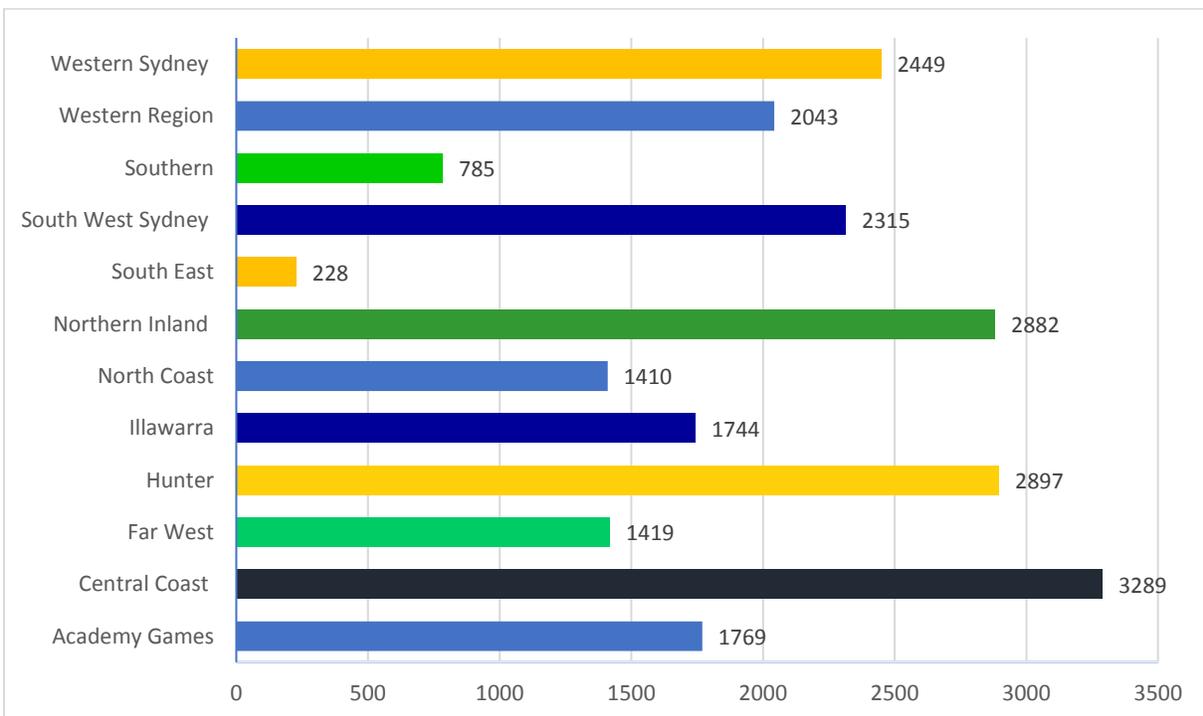


Overall, the media coverage from the event was excellent and can be deemed a major success. Examples of media:

- <https://www.theherald.com.au/story/6046154/hunter-academy-states-best-athletes-on-show-at-academy-games/>
- <https://www.theherald.com.au/story/5985291/regional-academies-of-sport-to-arrive-in-the-hunter-for-academy-games/>
- <https://www.theherald.com.au/story/6107620/hunter-academy-success-at-academy-games/>
- <https://www.theherald.com.au/story/5990920/games-bring-time-to-shine/>
- <https://www.nbnnews.com.au/2019/04/12/nias-athletes-travel-to-newcastle-for-academy-games/>

Over the Games weekend, the posts across the 12 Facebook pages of the Regional Academies (including Academy Games page) received a combined total of **23,230** likes, an increase of 20% reach 2018.

Facebook Reach



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Your Local Club Academy Games is a major undertaking and would not happen without a sound commercial platform. We take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge the many partners that made this event possible.

Major Sponsors of Your Local Club Academy Games

Your local club



Your Local Club - <http://yourlocalclub.com.au/>

Registered clubs in NSW have supported the Academy Games since the competition's inception in 2005. Clubs NSW contribute \$65 million to junior sport every year with many young athletes starting their sporting dream with the encouragement and support from their local club. Your local club is proud to be the Principal Partner once again this year.

Supported by the



NSW Government Office of Sport - <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/>

The Office of Sport works with key sector partners to develop a vibrant and valued sport and active recreation sector that enhances the lives of the people of NSW. The Office is responsible for planning, managing and delivering high quality venues, facilities and sport and active recreation development programs, high performance sport and sports integrity and safety.

City of Newcastle- <http://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au>

City of Newcastle provides services and facilities to about 160,000 people from an annual budget of \$250 million. It manages around \$2 billion in assets including the recreational facilities and parks being used in these Games, while maintaining a 3,500km road network, 27km of coastline and 90km of shared pathways. Council is also creating a smart, live able and sustainable city through ambitious inner-city infrastructure projects and neighborhood renewals.





Lake Macquarie City Council - <https://www.lakemac.com.au>

Lake Macquarie City Council serves a population of about 200 000 people and contributes to the enhancement of a unique coastal, lake and bush environment. Their vision is to achieve a balance between the environment and development of the City. They encourage community spirit and participation in a broad range of sport, recreation and community activities, through the range of Council’s services and facilities.

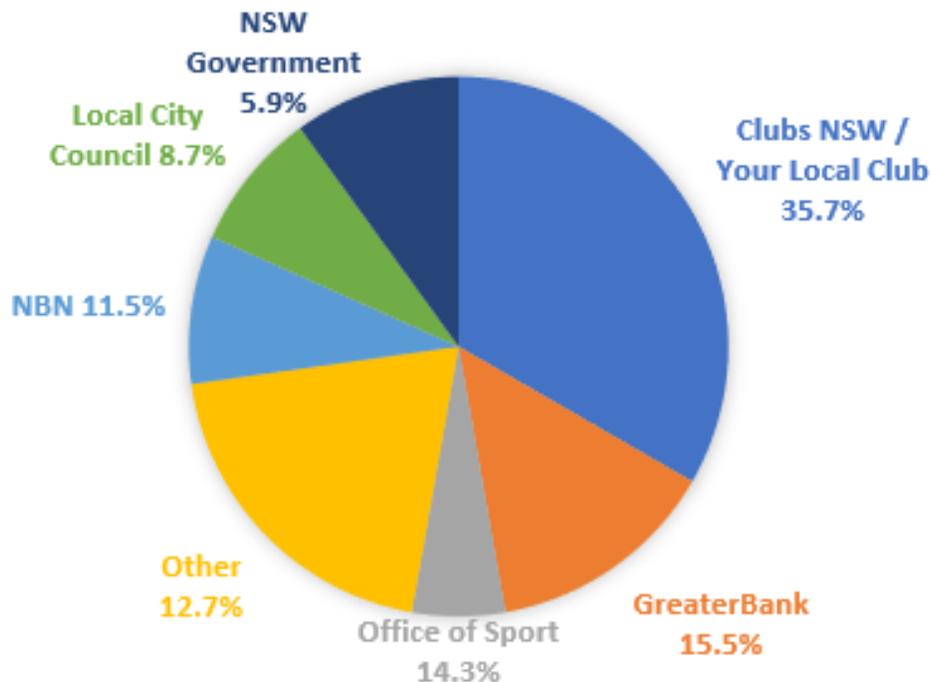


NBN Television - www.nbntv.com.au

Australia’s highest rating television network, NBN is an independent affiliate of the Nine Network and is committed to community development.

Sponsor Recall

With-out any prompting we asked the survey respondents to re-count the brands they remember from the Games. Of the 182 that answered the question the following percentage recognised these brands. *(Note: ‘Other’ includes all regional academies, Academy Sport Sponsors and State Sporting Organisations)*



EVENT COMPONENTS

First Aid

Hunter Academy of Sport worked with Sports Medicine Australia to ensure Hockey, Basketball, Netball and Softball had Level 2 Sports Trainers on site for the duration of the competition. Brad Hinton, Liz Hinton, Rebecca Turner and Cam Vigor provided support at these sports over the weekend. Jayden Daley (Level 1 Sports Trainer) and Katherine Grellman (Doctor) provided support at AFL, while Caleb Wickens provided First Aid at Triathlon. The first aid at Golf and Tennis were supplied by the sport facilities.

Catering

The catering for the Academy Games was supported and provided by local community clubs at the sporting facilities.

Photography & Video

The 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games official photographer was provided by Kevin Bull Photography. All images are available on <http://www.kevinbullphotography.com/> for download. Kevin Bull Photography was present throughout the weekend at Basketball, Hockey, Netball, Softball, Golf, Tennis, Triathlon and AFL.

The AFL tournament was filmed on Saturday and Sunday by BarTV for coaching and analysis purposes at request of AFLNSW/ACT. This footage was also available for purchase for families and supporters.



Merchandise

The Your Local Club Academy Games 2019 merchandise was available for purchase from the TLA van at the Opening Ceremony and across multiple sporting venues on the Saturday and Sunday. There were also 1,300 welcome packs distributed to the athletes, provided through TLA. The 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games merchandise catalogue included the following items:



PROGRAM



Your local club

**ACADEMY
GAMES**

1

**2019 Your Local Club
Academy Games**

Hosted by the Hunter Academy of Sport



Friday 12th - Sunday 14th April 2019







<http://www.regionalacademies.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/2019-Academy-Games-Official-Program.pdf>

2019 Your Local Club Academy Games

SPORTS PROGRAM REPORTS

AFL

Summary

Second year around is often much easier to coordinate, which was the case for the 2019 AFL Academy Games competition - even with a new venue. The active partnership between RAS and AFL NSW/ACT makes this event worthwhile for all.

Venue: Pasterfield's single field worked well with the number of competing teams (9). There was ample warm up area for two teams, team marquees, warm-up benches, convener tent and first aid tent. The field was in great condition and freshly mown. The new complex was clean and tidy with change rooms and bathrooms perfect for our use. Cardiff Hawks were accommodating hosts.

Competition: The level of competition has improved remarkably from 2018 and the large difference in standard between teams narrowed significantly this year. This included two teams made up of five Academies who gelled well. The three-pool draw was an effective answer for the competition format.



Local Convener: The competition's fearless leader, Craig Gollege, did a seamless job leading into and over the weekend. Everything from the ground selection, draw and mud-maps were covered by Craig.

Local Umpire Coordinator: Emily once again made the provision of umpires & scorers seamless. Her input was brilliant.

Weather: The AFL competition had fine weather both days of competition.

Traffic Plan: Ample venue parking for cars and smaller buses. A number of Academies arrived by coach bus with no major hold up for local traffic as they dropped off teams and proceeded to park away from venue.

Doctor / Physio / First Aid & Injuries: While there was no dedicated First Aider at the venue, Catherine, the doctor had ample training to deal with such medical issues including strapping. Both doctor and physio were required multiple times over the competition to attend to injuries of varying severity.

Athletes had asked on a few occasions to be strapped for chronic issues while not bringing their own strapping tape. The doctor and physio only brought enough supplies for emergencies and athletes need to bring their own tape in future.

Canteen: Shane Williams (Cardiff Hawks) made note they were not aware of the size of the competition from Lake Macquarie Council until two days before the event. This impacted the canteen's capacity to offer a BBQ on the Saturday. From our point of view the canteen catered well for the event with a good selection of food and drink. The coffee van was well utilised by spectators and staff.



Competing Teams

Boys (Exhibition Match)	
Hunter Academy of Sport	
Central Coast Academy of Sport	

Girls		
Pool A	Pool B	Pool C
South East Academy of Sport	AFL Allies	Hunter Academy of Sport
AFL Sydney North	AFL Sydney East	Illawarra Academy of Sport
Southern / Northern Inland / North Coast Academies of Sport	Western Sydney / Western Region Academies of Sport	South West Sydney Academy of Sport

Results

Boys Exhibition Match

Hunter Academy of Sport	Central Coast Academy of Sport
26	6

Final Standings

Final Placings
1 st - AFL Sydney East
2 nd - South West Sydney Academy of Sport
3 rd - South East Academy of Sport
4 th - Western Sydney / Western Region Academies of Sport
5 th - Illawarra Academy of Sport
6 th - Southern / Northern Inland / North Coast Academies of Sport
7 th - Hunter Academy of Sport
8 th - AFL Sydney North
9 th AFL Allies

Recommendations

- Signage: 16 tear drop OoS flags were given to convenors. Only nine were able to be erected around the oval due to missing stakes. Instructions for placement of banners written on masking tape was not legible.
- Venue: Assuming the 2020 Academy Games AFL competition will be held at Pasterfield it would be recommended to book the whole complex including the top level. Other than the opportunity for spectators to see the competition from a prime position, the area could also be used for some athlete add-ons/guest speakers/ancillary sessions, merchandise stall etc. Top floor access would again be necessary for BarTV.
- Umpires: While the 'Local Umpire Coordinator' is not a formal position for the Academy Games AFL, we recommend Emily or equivalent be part of the 2020 competition. Her involvement in the weekend not only made the provision of umpires & scorers seamless, but also took this massive task off Craig's hands so he could focus on overseeing the tournament.
- Equipment: Air horns were an issue as many of the canisters had broken tops. Academy Games to look at borrowing a siren or megaphone for the 2020 competition.
- Strapping Tape: Athletes to supply own.
- Pre-Competition Preparation & Injures: There were several injuries over the course of the weekend and our observations are: The girls are often cross-coders and aren't yet used to the 360-degree type of game that AFL is, and the movement patterns that are required to cope with that. Strengthening their core, strengthening their quad muscles, hamstring muscles and being more proprioceptive on landing. Regarding concussion, it's a contact sport and injuries are going to happen, but just to hopefully teach the girls how to protect themselves so they're not leading with/putting their heads and necks at risk any more than they have to.

RASi Conveners

John Kincade (NCAS) & D'Arcy van den Bossche (NCAS)

Local Coordinator

Craig Golledge

Basketball

Summary

A total of 8 Academies competed in 2019, all of which showcased some fantastic ability and sportsmanship by the participating athletes. The Academy Games for many regions complete the DAP (Development Athlete Program) run by participating Academies. This program forms an integral part of the athlete high performance pathway and is endorsed by Basketball NSW.

The 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games kicked off with Basketball following the completion of the Opening Ceremony on Friday night.

Venue manager Trevor Gallacher did an outstanding job controlling all games in all aspects. Personal thanks for Trev's excellent management of the weekend including injuries throughout weekend. Several concerning injuries at the time were well managed by both onsite First Aid and Venue Manager. Unfortunately match times were pushed back slightly due to a spectator injury/illness.

Even though numbers were down, the referees and umpires did a fantastic job throughout the weekend. Also, to the staff at Newcastle Basketball Stadium who assisted not only with facilities but were on hand right throughout the weekend.



Competing Teams

Boys & Girls (Pool A)	Boys & Girls (Pool B)
Hunter Academy of Sport	Central Coast Academy of Sport
North Coast Academy of Sport	Northern Inland Academy
South East Academy of Sport	Illawarra Academy of Sport
Southern Sports Academy	Western Region Academy of Sport

Results

Boys	Girls
1 st - Central Coast Academy of Sport	1 st - Central Coast Academy of Sport
2 nd - North Coast Academy of Sport	2 nd - North Coast Academy of Sport



Recommendations

- Extra referees and umpires to minimise fatigue and burnout on current referees
- Look to implement a coach's seminar coordinated by Basketball NSW
- As convenors, have a greater presence throughout weekend to assist with any unforeseen circumstances or injuries outside of the 'basketball'

RASi Conveners

James Cooper (NIAS) & Brent Hartley (NIAS)

Local Coordinator

Trevor Gallacher

Golf

Summary

The Academy Games saw 55 athletes from 8 Academies play an individual stroke event at Pacific Dunes Golf Club and Belmont Golf Club. The event ran well, with both venues being excellent. The teams format was good, as well as the timings of start times. On behalf of all of the Academies, I wish to extend my sincerest thanks to our major partner Your Local Club who's continued support allows the Academies to do such great work not only for the Games itself, but also throughout our Athlete Education 12 months of the year. I also thank Jack Newton Junior Golf and the NSW Government through the Office of Sport; your longstanding support is vital to the work that we do right across the state.

I have had good comments and feedback, with a few minor adjustments and recommendations moving forward golf will be a great event next year the athletes enjoyed the opportunity to play on A grade courses.



Competing Academies

Boys & Girls
Hunter Academy of Sport
South West Sydney Academy
Southern Sports Academy
Western Region Academy of Sport
Northern Inland Academy of Sport
North Coast Academy of Sport
Central Coast Academy of Sport
Illawarra Academy of Sport
South East Sports Academy

Results

Boys Overall Individual Gross Winners & Runners Up

1st Robbie Minns (SWSAS) 145

2nd Brandon Vella (SWSAS) 148

Girls Overall Individual Gross Winners & Runners Up

1st Jasmine Vesper (HAS) 149

2nd Matila Sullings (SESA) 150

Boys Individual Nett Winners & Runners Up

1st Daniel Marsden (ISA) 138

2nd Ryan Ulrich (SESA) 144

Girls Individual Nett Winners & Runners Up

1st Kaitlyn Van Zyl (HAS) 156

2nd Sienna Clarke (IAS) 157



Overall Team Winners & Runners Up

1st - SWSAS (Robbie Mins, Brandon Vella, Ryan Connors & Adam Derbas) 460

2nd - SESA (Aaron Liu, Rowan Harrison, Ryan Ulrich & Michael Nguyen) 461

3rd - CCAS (Zachary Camilleri, Josh Hawkshaw, Jack Toyne & Connor Rigby) 472

Recommendations

- I would like to secure both venues for next year if possible (Pacific Dunes and Belmont)

RASi Convener

David Ferguson

Local Coordinator

Mark Ingrey

Hockey

Summary

The Newcastle International Hockey Centre was the picture-perfect setting for the 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games Hockey tournament. The Newcastle Hockey Association volunteers were amazing, and the support provided by Hockey NSW was also extraordinary.

Thank you to all Academy coaches and support staff members, your support and strategies employed to support the 9-a-side format, were varied and well thought through. We are also pleased to report there were no serious injuries, or incidents during this tournament.

The support provided by Hockey NSW was outstanding and included the following:

- Coach development seminar suitable for all levels of coaches.
- Hockey video analysis and Umpiring workshops for boys and girls.
- Individual coach evaluations, under playing conditions.
- Potential Level One coach identification.



Similar to recent years, a highly entertaining '9 a-side format' was played, incorporating periods 20 minutes each way, 5 minutes half-time and 5 minutes between games. Normal FIH 'Rules of Hockey' applied, apart from providing an additional bonus goal scoring opportunity by 'shoot-out', to the goal scorer after scoring a field goal. Teams were encouraged to work strategically with coaching staff members, to develop playing strategies and '9 a-side' game plans. This format was positively undertaken by all participating Academies.

The most successful teams over the weekend were the Hunter Academy of Sport boys' team and the Sydney Metro Academy girl's team, closely followed by many other fiercely competing in two tough competitions. Congratulations also go to all tournament Umpires who supported the event and contributed to its overall success.

The pre-organisation undertaken by the host Academy was outstanding and should be congratulated for their attention to detail. It is also most appropriate to recognise the outstanding support provided by Local Coordinator Jo Wilson and Hockey NSW Pathway Manager Richard Willis for his pre-tournament organisation. Congratulations and thanks to HNSW Blair Chambers and Zeke Newman for their varied video analysis and rule interpretation workshops, and Hockey Ambassador Kurt Lovett, Kookaburra Development squad member, for his support. These highly committed people were outstanding in their individual fields and should be fittingly recognised for their individual commitment to the success of the event.

The Regional Academies of Sport Hockey program has once again confirmed its position as an integral component of the Hockey NSW pathway, to its Athlete Acceleration Program (AAP). Our congratulations go to all transitioning Academy athletes.

Competing Teams

Boys & Girls
Hunter Academy of Sport
South West Sydney Academy
Illawarra Academy of Sport
Western Region Academy of Sport
Northern Inland Academy of Sport
Central Coast Academy of Sport
Sydney Metro Academy



Results

Boys	Girls
1 st - Hunter Academy of Sport A	1 st - Sydney Metro Academy
2 nd - Western Region Academy of Sport	2 nd - Western Region Academy of Sport A
3 rd - Sydney Metro Academy	3 rd - Northern Inland / Illawarra Academies of Sport
4 th Northern Inland Academy of Sport	4 th - Western Region Academy of Sport B

The following 'Merit Team', recognising the best performers, from each Academy and our congratulations go to the following athletes.

Boys	Girls
Ka Tom Luchietti (WRAS)	Charlotte Heath (WRAS A)
Brad Fletcher (HAS A)	Emma Hayes (HAS)
Saxon Perry (IAS)	Montanna Stamp (NIAS/IAS)
Liam Smith (NIAS)	Kira Owens (SMA)
Katelyn Williams (CCAS/SWSAS)	Bridhet Ellis (WRAS B)
Harrison Cook (SMA)	
Noah Dimmock (HAS B)	

Conclusion

The standard of play at the 2019 event was considered by many in attendance, as the best to date, with the comradery between Academies also being recognised as a high point of competition.

The event ran very smoothly, due to the support and teamwork of all persons and organisations, identified within this report. And finally, thank you to all participating athletes, and their families and friends for their friendship and vocal support of these fine young athletes.

RASi Convener

Gerry Knights & Candice Boggs

Local Coordinator

Jo Wilson

Netball

Summary

The Maitland Stadium hosted a total of 28 rounds across 2 divisions, with 23 teams competing -105 games for a total of 275 talented young netball athletes.

Venue coordinator Kiona Sunerton did an absolutely amazing job controlling all games - start to finish and never missed a beat.

Our venue managed the event very well - courts set up and safe each day, garbage collection, toilets cleaned, canteen hectic, lunches delivered as promised. The high school grounds access for teams to warm up wasn't well used - seems the teams didn't want to venture onto the grass. Aside from a couple of hopefully minor injuries we had a relatively incident free weekend in terms of athlete injuries.

Our 31 umpires were just sensational - as was their support team from Netball NSW. Mardi Aplin and Abbey McCullough and the rest of the talent ID and coach support team were fantastic - supportive and constantly involved.

Personally, I found every team's staff and management to be fantastic - organised, obliging and eager to be compliant. Although the venue volunteers managed things well in terms of catering, cleaning, set up etc., there are a number of logistics difficulties associated with the venue - particularly the lack of spectating space (with larger crowds this year than last) which led to many incidents of near collisions and officials having to move parents from areas they were not permitted in.



The flow of through traffic across three courts - without any spectating space other than along the walls - is problematic. Netball NSW Head Umpire Official Chris Hall was constantly concerned about the safety of umpires and players. Other logistics problems with the venue include minimal toilet cubicles for females, the room used by umpires - given there were 31- is far too small and was cramped for all. Despite the availability of the school grounds across the road teams persisted to warm up for games in the car park, on the sides of courts or wherever they could find space.

Competing Teams

Division 1	Division 2
North Coast Academy of Sport	North Coast Academy of Sport
Hunter Academy of Sport	Hunter Academy of Sport
Central Coast Academy of Sport	Central Coast Academy of Sport
Northern Inland Academy of Sport	Northern Inland Academy of Sport
Western Region Academy of Sport	Western Region Academy of Sport
Western Sydney Academy of Sport	Far West Academy of Sport
South West Sydney Academy of Sport	Western Sydney Academy of Sport
Illawarra Academy of Sport	South West Sydney Academy of Sport
Southern Sports Academy	Illawarra Academy of Sport
Sydney Netball Academy	Southern Sports Academy
Netball ACT	South East Sports Academy
	Sydney Netball Academy
	Netball ACT



Results

The Games recognise a Merit Team for both divisions, comprising the MVP from each Academy, and these are listed below. Congratulations to those athletes who were recognised by their opposition coaches!

Division 1	Division 2
Lola Hutchinson (NCAS)	Jasmine Hyde (NCAS)
Amber Barnden-Hyde (NIAS)	Elian Cotter (NIAS)
Jemma Lucas (HAS)	Meg Southcombe (HAS)
Charlize Lloyd-Phillips (CCAS)	Keumala Dyer-Darmawaran (CCAS)
Lailah Mazzoleni (WSAS)	Kyah Vaeila (WSAS)
Shae Elguindi (SWSAS)	Abbey Wijesekera (SWSAS)
Isabella Attwater (WRAS)	Shakaye Walker (FWAS)
Kate Meurant (IAS)	Georgia Cornish (WRAS)
Grace Korovata (SSA)	Gabby Eaton (IAS)
Milla Papallo (Sydney Netball)	Halle Derrick (SSA)
Nethmi Marasinghe (ACT)	Roxy Horne (SESA)
	Amelia Smith (Sydney Netball)
	Gabbi Jukic (ACT)

Recommendations

I believe there will always be a need for two divisions - and four courts better enable more games over the weekend. However, it may require some risk management planning and perhaps taking out the centre of the three courts to allow spectating if the venue continues to be used. This would mean less games or reduced game times.

RASi Convener

Martin Bullock

Local Coordinator

Kiona Sunerton

Softball

Summary

Newcastle Softball's Stevenson Park played host to a preliminary rounds and finals format. A total of 26 games of Softball were played, providing tournament-based development for 108 young Softballers. The weather was on it's best behaviour allowing the event to unfold seamlessly. Our tournament director Christine Halpin again did a terrific job. The management of the tournament was impeccable, only matched by the work she did in the lead up. This professionalism provided the opportunity for young athletes to fully engage in their sport. The quality of play was high and the spirit of played must be congratulated.

Stevenson Park managed the event very well. The diamonds were in good condition and the amenities/canteen had no problems dealing with the volume. The venue was a sea of colour with the appropriate Office of Sport and Clubs NSW signage highly visible. Aside from a couple of hopefully minor injuries we had a relatively incident free weekend in terms of athlete injuries. 14 umpires all did their work with a minimum of fuss. Quite a few of these were Academy Softball program alumni which was very pleasing to see.

All squad managers were all a pleasure to work with, very attentive and willing to help whenever required. Regional Academies of Sport do a fantastic job providing hard working, cooperative people. The backroom work done by these people needs a special mention. Managing the affairs of over 100 16-18yr old's for 24hrs a day; for 3 days is a big task. They were superb.



RASi would like to acknowledge Softball NSW and Cathy Kerr who were again on hand to support this event. This tournament provides opportunity for many regional athletes and the support from Softball NSW facilitating this was invaluable. We look forward to further development of pathway opportunities for softballers across NSW.

Sallie Partridge was fantastic keeping the wheels turning. The work that she did with HAS and our tournament director was very professional. This contribution provided the foundation for what was ultimately a successful tournament.

David Whittaker - Executive Officer Softball NSW

On behalf of the Board and Management of Softball NSW, congratulations on the success of the Academy Games played over the weekend.

It was fantastic to witness the athletes playing in the true spirit of sportsmanship. It was a perfect opportunity that I am sure the athletes appreciate to put their training into practice.

The organisation of the softball tournament by Christine Halpin was superb with Newcastle District Softball Association team providing wonderful hosting support. Thank you to all parties involved. All the hard work is not taken for granted.



Competing Teams

Boys	Girls
Hunter Academy of Sport / Southern Sports	Western Sydney Academy of Sport
South West Sydney Academy of Sport	Hunter Academy of Sport
Western Region Academy of Sport	South West Sydney Academy
Southern Metropolitan Softball Academy	Northern Metropolitan Softball Academy
	Southern Metropolitan Softball Academy

Results

Congratulations to every player. Your skillful efforts, your sportsmanship and your determination to do your best made this a very exciting event to watch.

Boys	Girls
1 st - Hunter Academy of Sport	1 st - South West Sydney Academy
2 nd - South West Sydney Academy of Sport	2 nd - Western Sydney Academy of Sport
3 rd - Western Region Academy of Sport	3 rd - Northern Metropolitan Softball Academy
4 th - Southern Metropolitan Softball Academy	4 th - Hunter Academy of Sport
	5 th - Southern Metropolitan Softball Academy



Boys: The HAS program provided opportunity for regional players to participate in this marquee tournament. This merged group were mentored well. They came together as a formidable unit achieving a hard-fought win in a tie break over the very strong SWSAS program.

Girls: The girls from SWSAS showed their class and depth with a very dominant display in the final. WSAS played some terrific softball throughout the rounds and were a very worthy opponent.

Recommendations

The tournament itself provided everything it could recognising the number of squads involved. Match-play opportunities involving multiday touring provide invaluable and comprehensive development both on and off the diamond. Improving this tournament and delivering more opportunity will require the inclusion of additional teams. Further perusal of relationships between ACT Softball and international tour groups is recommended.

RASi Convener
James Watson

Local Coordinator
Christine Halpin

Tennis

Summary

Tennis at the 2019 Your Local Clubs Academy Games was a co-sanctioned event as part of the Newcastle Junior Open run at Broadmeadow Tennis Centre. It is a Tennis Australia sanctioned Silver Level Australian Ranking Junior Tournament. 13 Regional Academy athletes joined national athletes from across Australia.



The Newcastle Junior Open showcased the best athletes with a total of 277 athletes, across 12 events with matches played over 3 days. The tournament was viewed as an extremely high standard for all athletes involved. Competing academies represented Regional Academies of Sport in a professional and respectful manner throughout the tournament.

Competing Academies

Boys & Girls
Hunter Academy of Sport
North Coast Academy of Sport
Illawarra Sports Academy
Northern Inland Academy of Sport
Western Region Academy of Sport



Results

Age Group	Boys	Girls
12/u singles	1 st - Nathan Hayman (NCAS) 2 nd - Isaac Elson (HAS)	1 st - Tylah Nicholls (HAS) 2 nd - Sammy Hayman (NCAS)
12/u doubles	1 st - Nathan Hayman (NCAS) 2 nd - Isaac Elson (HAS)	1 st - Tylah Nicholls (HAS) 2 nd - Sammy Hayman (NCAS)
14/u singles	1 st - Vitorio Sardinha (NIAS) 2 nd - Ryan Fleming (IAS)	-
14/u doubles	1 st - Vitorio Sardinha (NIAS) 2 nd - Nikolai Nash (NCAS)	-
16/u singles	1 st - Lleyton Richards (HAS) 2 nd - Frederic Heslin (HAS)	1 st - Tayla Brasier (WRAS)
16/u doubles	1 st - Lleyton Richards (HAS) 2 nd - Frederic Heslin (HAS)	1 st - Tayla Brasier (WRAS)



RASi Convener
James Cooper & Brent Hartley

Local Coordinator
Ellen Gordon

Triathlon

Summary

The Triathlon took place at Cams Wharf, Lake Macquarie over a testing, fast, technical course that was sure to challenge the athletes. It was a draft legal race to give the athletes a taste of draft legal racing within an environment where every athlete was of a similar standard.

There were four races over the weekend. Two team races and two individual races. The times from each race was then added up to give the athletes a total time for the weekends racing, with the winner having the fastest time. The racing was intense, fast and great to watch in every category with some great athletes coming to the fore to take the placings. The results are as follows.



Competing Academies

Boys & Girls
Hunter Academy of Sport
Illawarra Academy of Sport
South East Sports Academy
Western Sydney Academy of Sport
Central Coast Academy of Sport
North Coast Academy of Sport
Triathlon NSW Development Squad

Results

	Boys	Girls
Junior A	1 st - Liam Hinchcliffe (IAS) 2 nd - Hamish Hart (Triathlon NSW) 3 rd - Monty Dixon (HAS)	1 st - Emily Fortunaso-Klocker (HAS) 2 nd - Maddy Huyskens (Triathlon NSW) 3 rd - Emma McInnes (NIAS)
Junior B	1 st - Casper Larkin (WSAS) 2 nd - Rowan Barnes (HAS) 3 rd - Jett Campbell (HAS)	1 st - Alexandra Field (Triathlon NSW) 2 nd - Hayley Boucher (HAS) 3 rd - Melissa Blume (CCAS)
ITU Junior	1 st - Angus Waddell (IAS) 2 nd - Logan Pugsley (CCAS)	1 st - Jacinta Cliff (IAS) 2 nd - Grace Mahon (IAS) 3 rd - Sarah Dixon (WSAS)

Recommendations & Further Comments

Mathew Porta (responsible for timing) did an amazing job. Would have been impossible without him.

All the race staff did an amazing job ensuring athlete safety - especially when an athlete was injured by a sea urchin when running in the water. The steps taken to ensure it didn't happen again was fantastic.

Instead of a specific relay winners award - have assigned points for the top 10 places in each age category and have an Overall Academy Winner.

Very hard to collect relay teams before the race - given the amount of withdrawals in the lead up etc. So, will need someone on hand to collect teams from the academies on the day.



RASi Convener

Dane Robinson

Local Coordinator

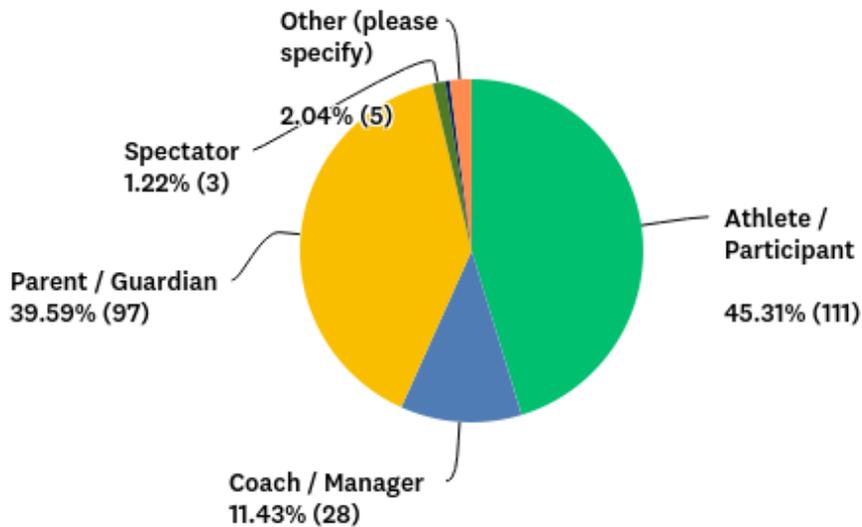
Mathew Porta (Central Coast Tri Club)
& David Williams (Triathlon NSW)

POST EVENT SURVEY RESULTS

The Hunter Academy of Sport conducted an internet-based survey to obtain feedback from participants, officials, parents/guardians, spectators and volunteers regarding their experience as a part of the 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games.

A total of 247 responses were obtained for the survey, a decrease of 40% compared to 2018. This was partly due to public holidays and school holidays surrounding the event, with the RASi offices closing for a period after the event.

111 athletes and 28 coaches / managers participated in the 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games survey. Additionally, 97 parents / guardians and 3 spectators also completed the survey. 5 responses were received in 'other' which upon review were categories as additional staff for the Games.



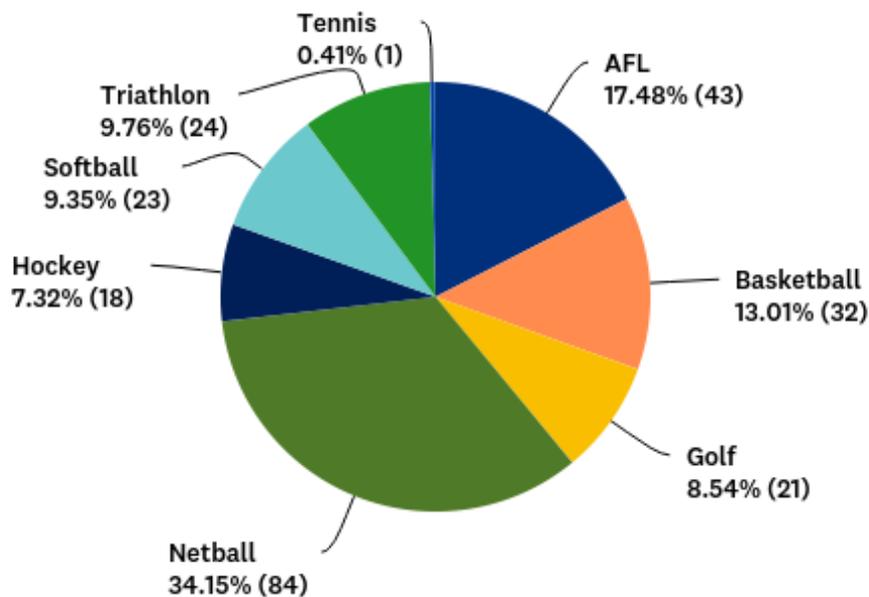
Academy Representation

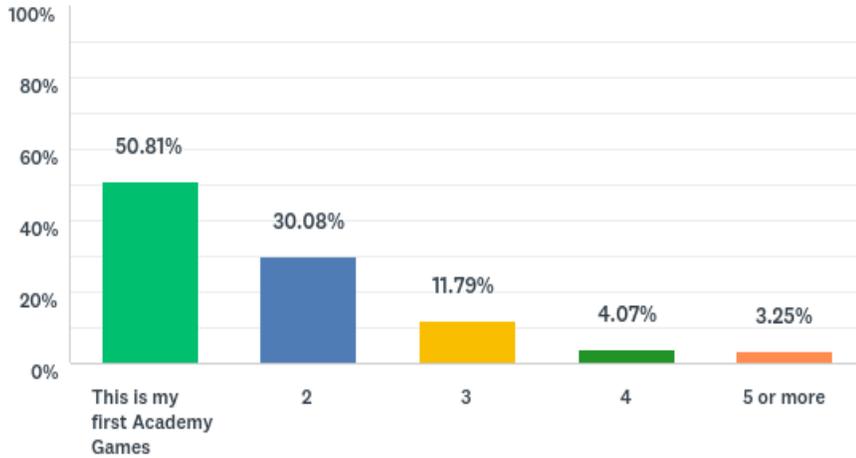
Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to indicate their affiliation to an Academy or organisation participating in the games. The most respondents were associated with the Central Coast Academy of Sport.

Academy	Percentage (%) Responded
Central Coast Academy of Sport	33.3
Far West Academy of Sport	0.8
Illawarra Academy of Sport	11.4
Hunter Academy of Sport	7.7
North Coast Academy of Sport	1.6
Northern Inland Academy of Sport	0.8
South East Sports Academy	11.8
Southern Sports Academy	0.8
South West Academy of Sport	19.5
Western Region Academy of Sport	1.6
Western Sydney Academy of Sport	10.2
Triathlon NSW Development	0.4

Sport Representation

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to indicate the sport they were affiliated with at the games. The most respondents were associated with Netball representing 34% of respondents.



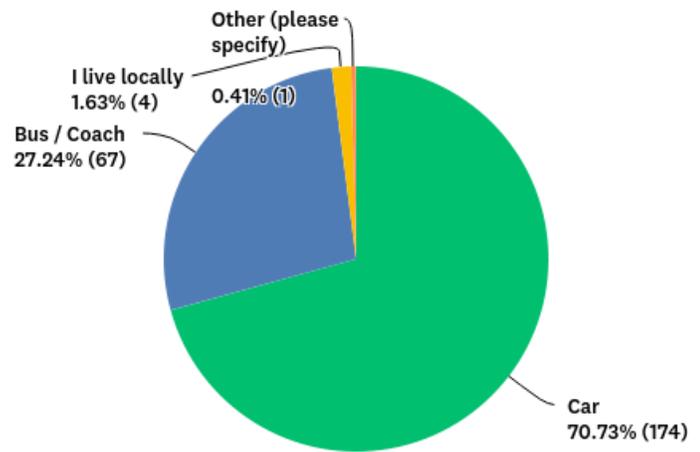


Attendance Frequency

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to indicate how many times they had attended an Academy Games. The most respondents indicated that this was their first Academy Games.

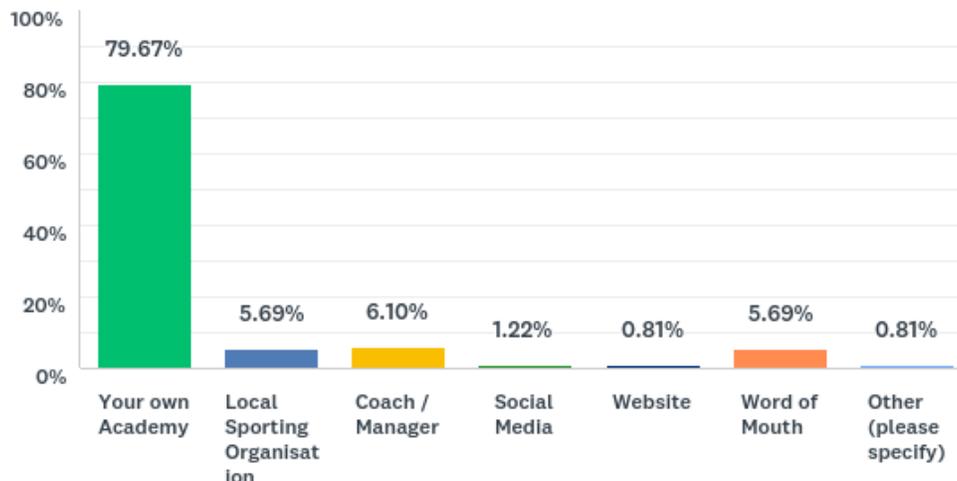
Travel to the Games

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to indicate their mode of transport taken to travel to the Games. The most respondents travelled to the games via car 71% or bus/coach 23%.



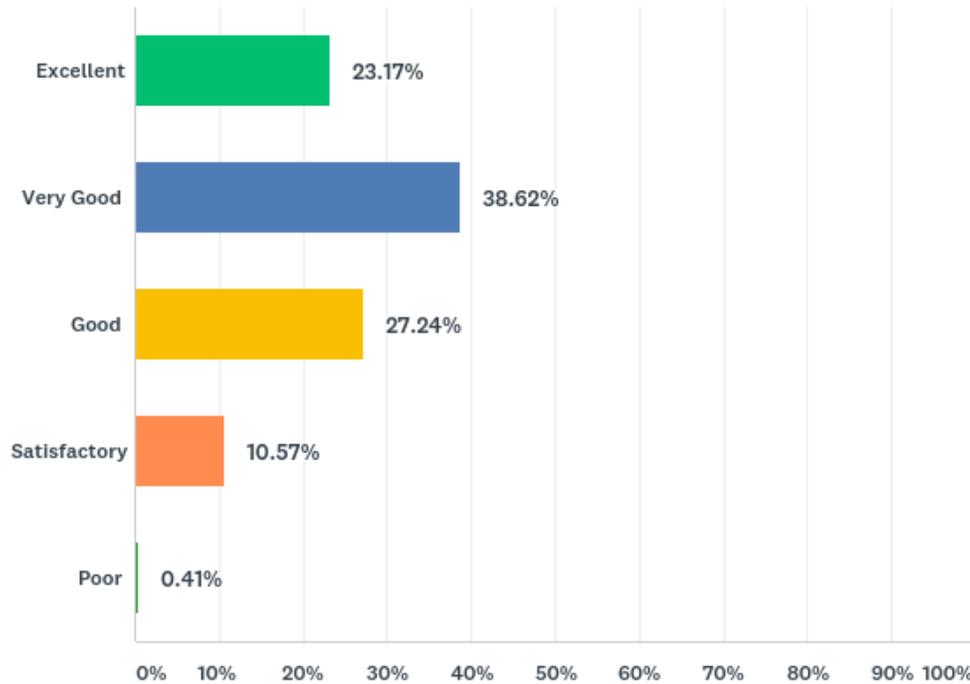
How did you hear about the Academy Games?

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to indicate how they heard about the 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games. Most respondents (80%) heard about the Academy Games from their own Academy. There were 2 respondents who selected 'other', which included hearing from State Sporting Organisation and other parents.



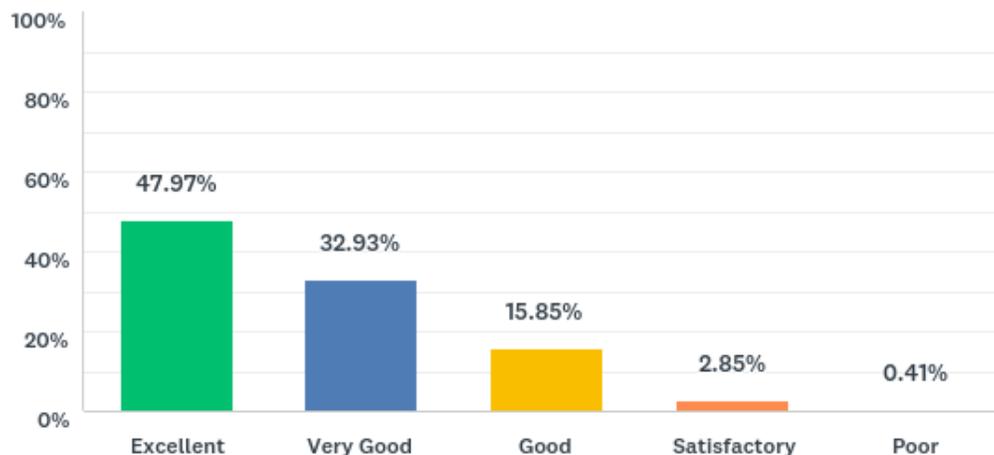
Communication from Hunter Academy

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to rate the communication they received from the host academy - Hunter Academy of Sport regarding Academy Games information. Most respondents (66%) rated the communication very good to good, with 23% rating communication excellent.



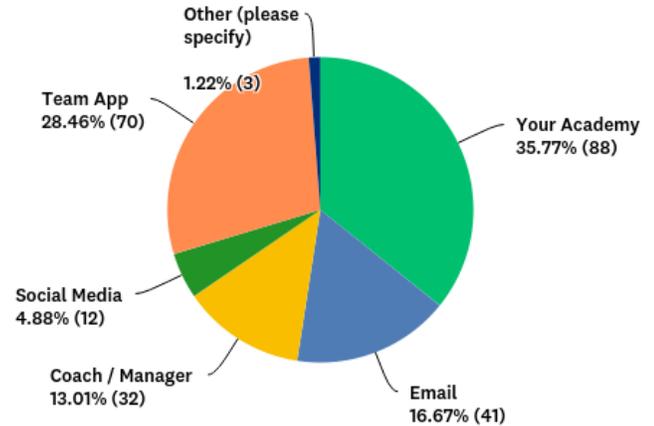
Communication from own Academy

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to rate the communication they received from their own academy regarding Academy Games information. Majority of respondents rated the communication they received as excellent (48%).



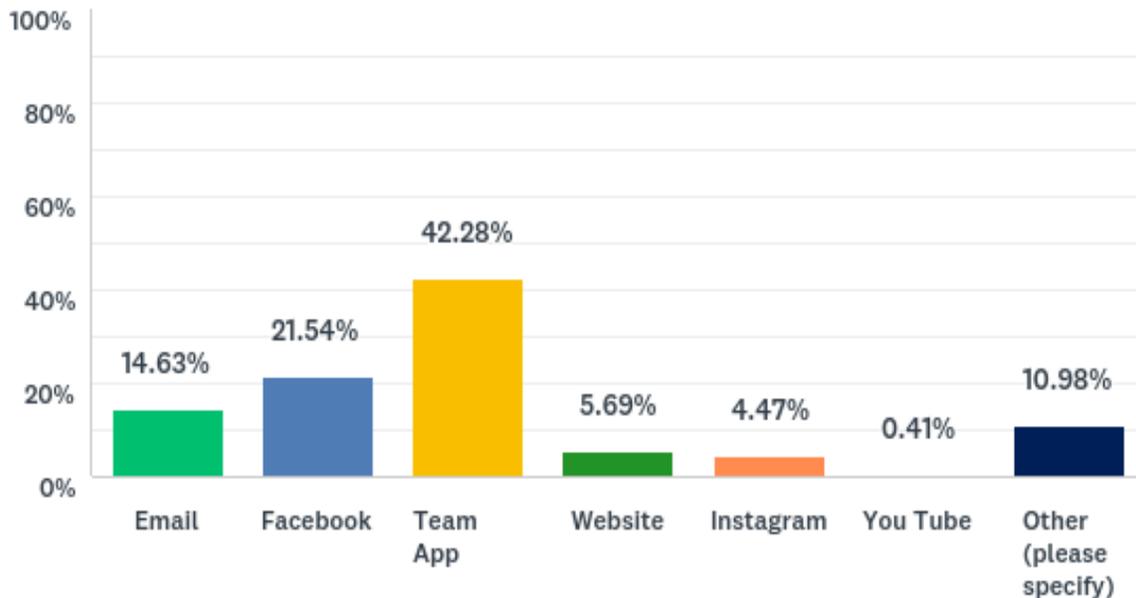
Main source of Information for the Games

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to indicate what their main source of information was for the Games. Most participants sourced information from their Academy (36%) or Team App (28%).



Main source of Information during the Games

Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to indicate what was the main source they used to access information during the Games. Team App (42%) was the main source respondents used to keep up to date with information during the game, followed by Facebook (22%). 11% of respondents selected 'other' with majority indicated that team coaches/managers or a combination of sources were used.



Overall Event Rating

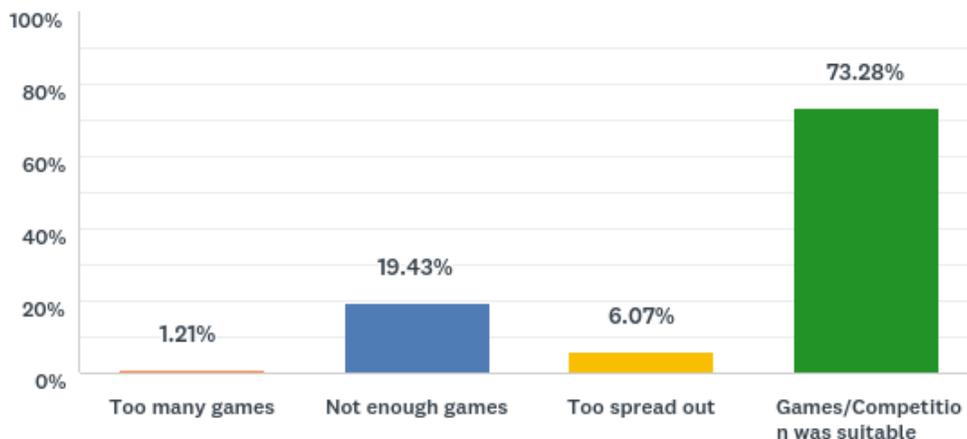
Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to rate different aspects of the Games based on their experience.



Sport Program Rating

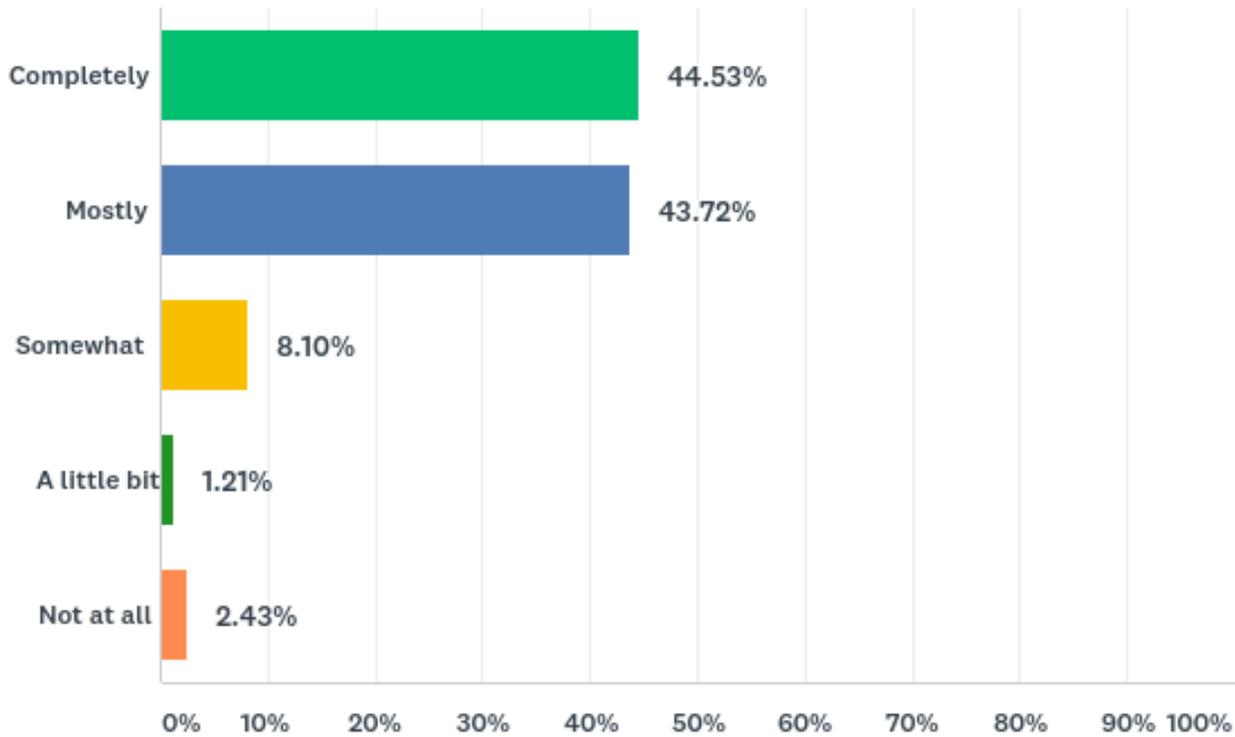
Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to rate different aspects of their own sporting program based on their experience. When respondents were asked about the scheduling of games/competition majority (89%) indicated that the schedule was just right.

The participants were asked to rate the amount of games/competition that they experienced during the games, 73% of respondents indicated that the competition was suitable with 19% stating that they would like more games/competition.



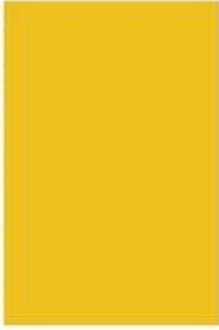
Expectations of Game being met

Respondents: 247. All respondents were asked to indicate whether the Games met their expectations. The expectations of Academy Games of the respondents were either completely (45%) or mostly met (44%).



Merchandise purchases

Respondents: 247. All respondents were asked to indicate if they purchased merchandise before or during the Games. Most respondents (58%) indicating they did not purchase merchandise., with 41% making a merchandise purchase. For those who purchased merchandise their overall satisfaction was excellent to good.



Your local club
**ACADEMY
GAMES**

The Hunter Academy of Sport, hosts of the 2019 Your Local Club Academy Games would like to say **Thank You** to the athletes, parents, volunteers and local facilities who assisted in the successful operation of the Games

