



Your local club  
**ACADEMY  
GAMES**

## 2021 Evaluation Report

Hosted by

***Hunter Academy  
of Sport***

# INTRODUCTION

The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games was held across the Hunter region from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021, hosted for the third and final year by the Hunter Academy of Sport. The games showcased the state's best emerging athletes across six sports including AFL, Basketball, Golf, Hockey, Netball and Triathlon.

Over 3500 athletes, supporters, staff, volunteers and coaches attended the 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games at seven Hunter venues across the weekend.

The Hunter region has some outstanding venues used at the Your Local Club Academy Games. In 2021 the event showcased the importance of quality venues and supportive local staff to make the Games operate smoothly. The venues used were all exceptional, 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, with the inclusion of a Central Coast venue for our Hockey tournament.

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.



*2021 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. A thankyou also to the Australian Capital Territory Scorers Basketball Academy, Metropolitan Sydney Hockey Academy and the Sydney Netball 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 Scorers Academy (ACT)
- Sydney Netball Academy (SNA)
- Sydney Metropolitan Hockey

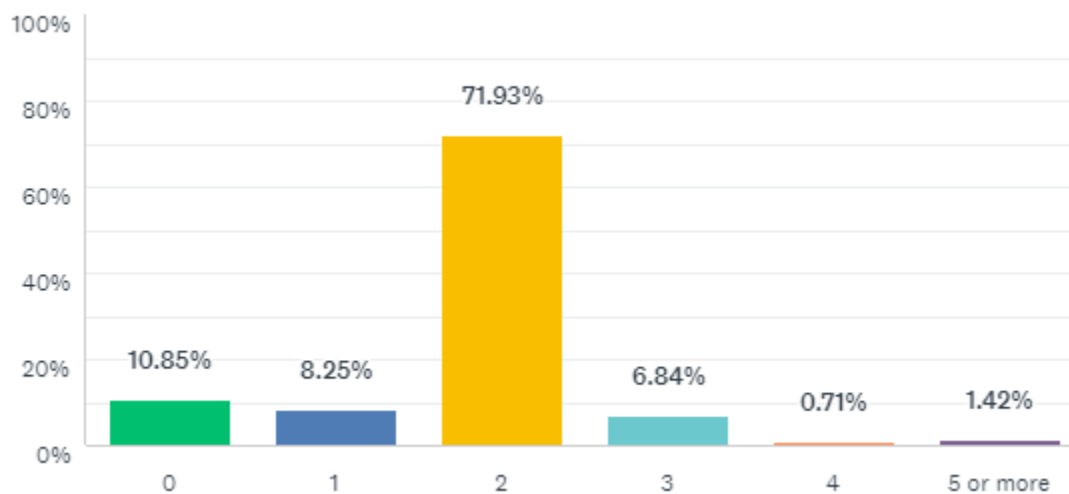


# ECONOMIC TOURISM VALUE

The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games brought **1,326 athletes, 264 coaching & support staff and over 1500 spectators** to the Hunter Region. From the post Games survey, it is estimated that over 72% of visitors to the region stayed 2 or more nights in the Hunter.

## Duration of stay in the Hunter Region from Participant Survey

Respondents: 424. 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 (73%) stayed in the region for 2 nights.



It is estimated that **5, 802** bed stays were generated by the event, with a total economic tourism value of **\$1, 792, 818.**

*(Note: This figure is based on the calculations from Destinations NSW in their Event Visitation tourism formula of \$309 per domestic bed stay available on Page 2 of [www.destinationnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/events-visitation-to-nsw-ye-dec-2018.pdf](http://www.destinationnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/events-visitation-to-nsw-ye-dec-2018.pdf) ).*

# IT'S ESTIMATED THAT...

## 5,802

bed stays were  
generated by the  
event

### BED STAYS



### ECONOMIC VALUE



## \$1,792, 818

based on Destinations NSW tourism  
formula of \$309 per bed stay

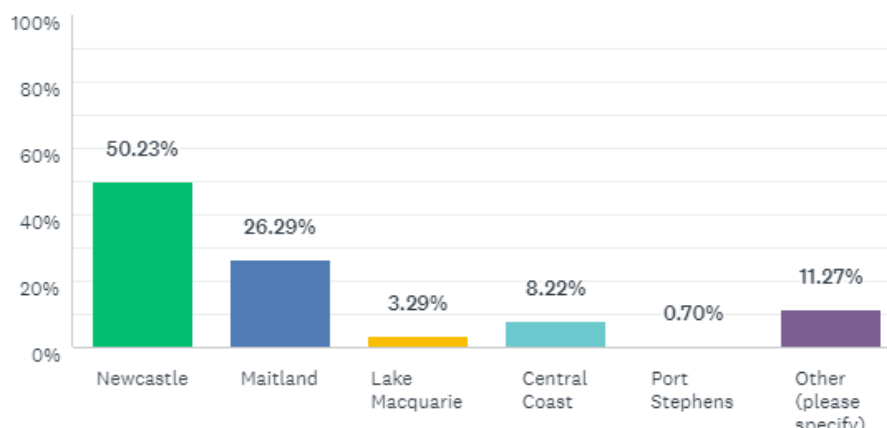
### LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA'S

accommodation booked across four LGA's  
- Newcastle, Maitland, Lake Macquarie &  
the Central Coast



## Participant Survey

Respondents: 426. All respondents were asked to indicate what location they stayed for the duration of the Games. Most respondents stayed in Newcastle LGA (50%) with the remaining staying in Maitland (26%), Central Coast (8%), Lake Macquarie (3%) and other (11%), which responded with answers such as “at home” and “travelled”.

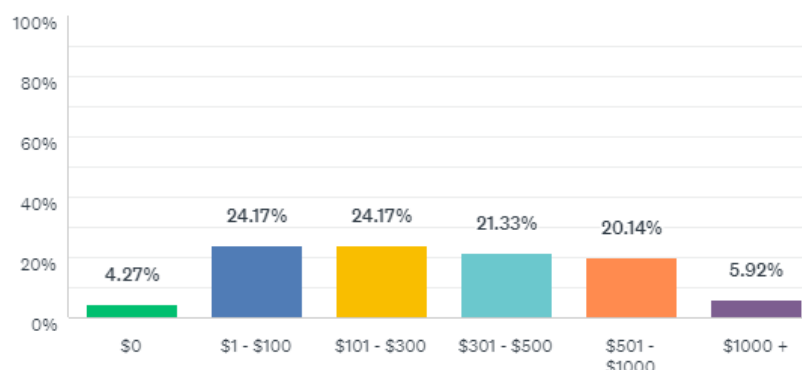


## Accommodation Stay from Regional Academy Reports

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 1,590 participants were brought to the games. With 32% of participants from the local area (Hunter and Central Coast) and 68% of participants travelling and staying in the Hunter Region for an average of 2 nights in accommodation including most commonly motels, apartments, hotels or resorts.

## Estimated spend from Participant Survey

Respondents: 422. All respondents in a post Games evaluation survey were asked to estimate the amount spent over the duration of the Games. An equal amount of 24% of respondents indicated that they estimated to spend \$1 - \$300 and \$1-\$100.



# OVER 3 YEARS OF HOSTING IN THE HUNTER...

(2018, 2019, 2021)

## 19,954

bed stays were generated  
by the event

### BED STAYS



### ECONOMIC VALUE



## \$4,184,506

based on Destinations NSW tourism  
formula of \$309 per bed stay

## 3,649

**ATHLETES**



## 761

**OFFICIALS**

# 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 2021 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) Claire McCulloch (NCAS)	Craig Golledge	AFL NSW/ACT
Basketball	James Cooper (NIAS) Brent Hartley (NIAS)	Trevor Gallacher/Rebekah Wallace	Basketball NSW
Golf	Dave Ferguson (SSA) Scott Hatch (IAS)	Mark Ingrey	JNJG
Hockey	Gerry Knights (SWSAS) Candice Boggs (WRAS)	Jo Wilson	Hockey NSW
Netball	Martin Bullock (WSAS)	Kiona Sunerton	Netball NSW
Triathlon	Robyn Low-Hart (CCAS)	Matthew Porta/Dave Williams	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 Tulkaba Oval, Teralba	Lake Macquarie
Basketball	Newcastle Basketball Stadium, Broadmeadow	Newcastle
Golf	Horizons Golf Club, Salamander Bay Charlestown Golf Club, Charlestown	Port Stephens Lake Macquarie
Hockey	Wyong Hockey Complex, Wyong	Central Coast
Netball	Maitland Federation Centre, Maitland	Maitland
Triathlon	Cams Wharf	Lake Macquarie



# PARTICIPATION

Six sports were delivered for the 2021 event including AFL, Basketball, Golf, Hockey, Netball, and Triathlon. The Games also highlighted an exhibition match against the Hunter and Central Coast AFL U12 and U13 squads. 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)	173	31	3	207
Far West Academy of Sport (FWAS)	10	2	2	14
Hunter Academy of Sport (HAS)	256	35	3	294
Illawarra Academy of Sport (IAS)	148	20	4	172
North Coast Academy of Sport (NCAS)	109	15	2	126
Northern Inland Academy of Sport (NIAS)	77	15	5	97
Southern Sports Academy (SSA)	92	20	2	114
South East Sports Academy (SESA)	67	11	1	79
South West Sydney Academy of Sport (SWSAS)	90	19	4	113
Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS)	86	17	2	105
Western Sydney Academy of Sport (WSAS)	48	13	4	65
ACT Scorers Academy (ACT)	51	6	6	63
Sydney Netball Academy (SNA)	46	5	1	52
Triathlon AUS Squad	18	0	0	18
Triathlon ROSTA	27	2	2	31
Sydney Metropolitan Hockey	28	6	6	40
<b>Total Participants</b>	<b>1326</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1590</b>

# MEDIA LAUNCH

The Media Launch was held at Belmont Golf Club on Friday 26th April 2021, 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, Mayor of Lake Macquarie City Council Kay Fraser and Office of Sport representative Andrew Putt also spoke at the event, expressing their excitement for the beginning of the Games.

Mr. O'Farrell interviewed six athletes representing the Hunter and Regional Academies of Sport; Elizabeth Montgomery (Basketball), Brooke Rooney (Netball), Mitchell Jefferey (Triathlon), London Ashcroft (AFL), Lachlan McDonald (Golf) and Connor Smith (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.



# MEDIA COVERAGE

Media coverage for the 2021 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 5<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> 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 March 26<sup>th</sup>.

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.
- Two quarter page adverts in the Sport section were published in print and online







Your local club

ACADEMY  
GAMES

2 NEWCASTLE HERALD Saturday April 10, 2021

newcastleherald.com.au

**YOUR LOCAL CLUB ACADEMY GAMES** ADVERTISING FEATURE

# The Hunter's time to shine

**SPORT**

BY BIANCA SMITH

SOME of the state's finest young athletes will arrive in the Hunter Region next weekend for the 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games.

Hosted by the Hunter Academy of Sport (HAS), the event will be held across various venues throughout the Hunter region from Friday, April 16 to Sunday, April 18.

The event will run for its third and final time in the Hunter region. It has previously been held in 2018, 2019 and now 2021. The 2020 competition was cancelled due to COVID-19.

The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games will bring together athletes, staff, families and supporters from all 11 Regional Academies of Sport (RAS) across New South Wales.

The competing Academies include Central Coast, Far West, Illawarra, Hunter, North Coast, Northern Inland, South East, South West Sydney, Southern, Western Region and Western Sydney Academies of Sport.

The Games will also



**COMPETITION TIME:** The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games will bring together amazing talent. Photo: SUPPLIED.

highlight guest Academies, including teams from ACT and Sydney.

In 2019, the Games saw over 4000 athletes, supporters, staff, volunteers and coaches attend the event.

with a total economic tourism value of \$1.16 million.

Chief Executive Officer of the Hunter Academy of Sport Brett O'Farrell said that the Hunter region was very excited to be given this opportunity

to host the Academy Games again.

"We look forward to building on and improving what was a successful year for the Regional Academies of Sport not just locally, but throughout

the state," he said.

"The Games are a fantastic opportunity to showcase the Hunter region, and of course the pure talent that these athletes have to offer."

The 2021 Your Local Club

Academy Games feature the emerging talent of athletes across six different sports including basketball, golf, hockey, netball, Aussie rules and triathlon.

Your Local Club has been the principle partner of the Academy Games since its inception in 2005, marking 14 years of valued support for the state's talented athletes, and RAS is proud to be associated with such a supportive and progressive organisation.

Your Local Club Academy Games have provided a platform for many athletes to further their careers in both State and National Representative Honours and some even further into the professional sporting ranks.

The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games is proudly sponsored by Your Local Club, the NSW Government, Newcastle City Council, Lake Macquarie City Council, NBN News, Regional Academies of Sport and the Hunter Academy of Sport.

For more information on the tournament, you can visit [www.academygames.com.au](http://www.academygames.com.au).



Your local club

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Office  
of Sport



City of  
Newcastle

NBN  
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LAKE  
MACQUARIE  
CITY



REGIONAL  
ACADEMIES  
OF SPORT

Hunter Academy  
of Sport

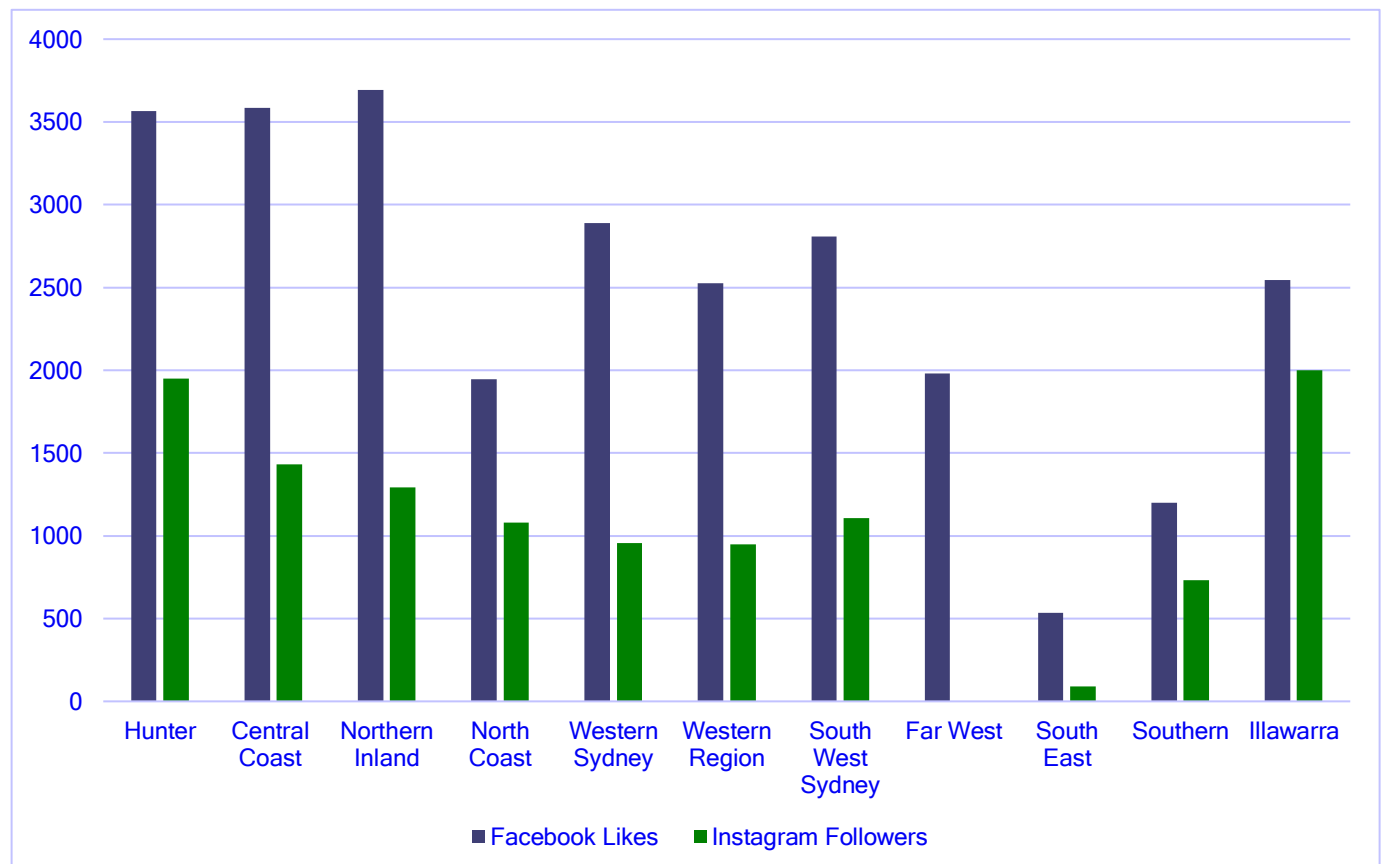
[www.academygames.com.au](http://www.academygames.com.au)

There was again a major focus on social media this year, with The Your Local Club Academy Games Facebook page likes rising from 1, 868 in April 2020 to 2, 231 in April 2021. 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.

Total Page likes: 2,231



## Individual Academy Reach



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

- <https://www.echo.net.au/2021/04/your-local-club-academy-games/>
- <https://www.northerndailyleader.com.au/story/7217426/nias-squads-compete-at-2021-your-local-club-academy-games/>
- <https://www.prime7.com.au/news/7463708-academy-games>
- <https://www.nbnnews.com.au/2021/03/26/hunter-athletes-launch-2021-academy-games/>
- <https://www.westernadvocate.com.au/story/7208760/over-30-bathurst-athletes-to-attend-academy-games-in-newcastle/>; <https://wras.org.au/wras-academy-games-wrap-up/>
- <https://www.dailyadvertiser.com.au/story/7207052/the-academy-games-locked-in-for-wagga-for-three-years/>
- <https://www.nbnnews.com.au/2021/03/26/hunter-athletes-launch-2021-academy-games/>
- <https://lismoreapp.com.au/news-sport/sport/ncas-takes-largest-squad-to-your-local-club-academy-games?id=6076491cc01113002b4e1eaf>



# 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** - <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**- [www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au](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** - [www.lakemac.com.au](http://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](http://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 278 that answered the question the top 5 mentions are below:

1. Your Local Club
2. Greater Bank
3. NBN News
4. Office of Sport
5. Newcastle Council



# COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

From Monday 29 March 2021, a number of COVID-19 restrictions across NSW eased as the state continues to move forward in a COVID-Safe way.

Following this announcement, the Public Health (COVID-19 Gathering Restrictions) Order 2021 was gazetted, including several changes which saw restrictions ease in the sport and active recreation sector and a change to some COVID Safety Plan requirements. In accordance with the Office of Sport regulations we summarised the below information and encourage all to review the new Public Health Order (PHO) and COVID Safety Plan requirements. This plan is available and registered with the Office of Sport - COVID Safety Plan Updated April, 2021

## General Event Safety

Please note, the host of the Your Local Club Academy Games has an overall event safety plan in place but when referring to each individual sport and venue the games organisers will rely on those venue Covid safety plans that are in place. A copy of the event Covid safety plan can be found here - COVID Safety Plan Updated April, 2021

Athletes, parents and spectators were encouraged to keep up to date by reviewing information on the NSW Government COVID-19 website, and speaking with their venue owner/operator to ensure COVID-19 Safety Plans are updated in line with these new requirements. <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates>

Please click HERE for other Covid-19 safety actions we ask all to follow.

## Sport by Sport Venue Information

In every case, please follow any venue specific restrictions in place on arrival at the venue.

### **AFL**

- Covid marshal onsite
- Balls washed onsite and at major breaks in play.
- Spectators required to sign in and have a designated viewing area

## **Basketball**

- Covid marshal onsite
- Balls washed onsite and at major breaks in play.
- Spectators required to sign in and have a designated viewing area.
- Wipe down team benches and score tables after use.

## **Golf**

- Covid marshal onsite
- Abide by the golf club rules onsite and as advised at briefing on the day regarding covid practices in place at that course. E.g. rakes, flags etc

## **Hockey**

- Covid marshal onsite
- Spectators required to sign in and have a designated viewing area.
- Wipe down team benches and score tables after use

## **Netball**

- Covid marshal onsite
- Balls washed onsite and at major breaks in play.
- Spectators required to sign in through the main entry
- Designated viewing area on the main mezzanine viewing area. Please note, no courtside viewing will be allowed.

## **Triathlon**

- Covid marshal onsite
- Athletes wipe down Bike racks and change areas after each race
- Timing gear washed before and after use, buckets provided.
- Spectators required to sign in and have a designated viewing area.

# EVENT COMPONENTS

## First Aid

Hunter Academy of Sport worked with local contacts to ensure Basketball, Netball and Triathlon had adequate first aid responders on site for the duration of the competition. A big thankyou to Emily Wilson, Matt Buchanan, Beau Keywood, Jacob Wickens and Teaghan Powell. Jas Whitelaw (Physiotherapist) and Ewen Bradbury (Doctor) provided support at AFL. The first aid at Hockey and Golf 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

The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games official photographer was provided by Kevin Bull Photography. All images are available on [www.kevinbullphotography.com](http://www.kevinbullphotography.com) for download.





Kevin Bull Photography was present throughout the weekend at Basketball, Hockey, Netball, Golf, Triathlon and AFL.

## Merchandise

The Your Local Club Academy Games 2021 merchandise was available for purchase from the TLA across multiple sporting venues on the Saturday and Sunday. There were also 1,400 welcome packs distributed to the athletes, provided through TLA. The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games merchandise catalogue included the following items:



# PROGRAM



Your local club  
**ACADEMY  
GAMES**

1

## 2021 Official Program

Friday 16th - Sunday 18th April 2021



**Hosted by the Hunter Academy of Sport**











<http://www.regionalacademies.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2021-Your-Local-Club-Academy-Games-Official-Program.pdf>

*2021 Your Local Club Academy Games*

# SPORTS PROGRAM REPORTS

## AFL

### Summary

Third and final year for host Hunter Academy of Sport and you could tell. Regardless of the ever-changing CV-19 impacts, planning and roll out of the AFL tournament went smoothly in part because coordination from the HAS office was clear and timely.

**Venue** - Again using Pasterfields Sports Complex, the oval was in brilliant condition and thanks must be given to the Cardiff Hawks for their preparation. With increased games this year due to the addition of U14s and U18s competitions on top of the U16s (total of 12 teams, 25 games. Ample area for warm up, team marquees, benches, convenor tent and first aid tent. The complex was clean and tidy with change rooms/bathrooms perfect for our use. Again, Shane and Sally of Cardiff Hawks were accommodating hosts.

**Competition** - the level of competition has improved remarkably from 2018 and 2019 and the large difference in standard between teams narrowed again this year. Again, combined teams were part of the competition across all age groups and the girls appeared to have a lot of fun with these opportunities.

**Local Convenor** - Craig Gollege came back for a third run and did a great job leading into and over the weekend. An essential part of the competition.

**Local Umpire Coordinator** -. A shout out to Emily from AFL NSW/ACT who even on maternity leave did some ringing around to help us out and wrangled a few umpires. In the end we had enough umpires for both days with qualified Hunter Academy coaches donning the bright green for some field umpiring and convenors stepping into goal umpiring for a couple of games.

**Doctor/First Aid & Injuries** - There was a dedicated First Aider and Doctor who both had ample training to deal with the medical issues which arose over the weekend. Both doctor and first aid were required multiple times over the competition to attend to injuries of varying

severity. This year teams were aware doctor and first aid were not provided to strap other than emergencies and this worked well.

**Canteen** - Sally (Cardiff Hawks) organised the canteen and BBQ this year and it appeared the Hawks had a roaring trade. Great organisation and food and drink options. The coffee van was well utilised by spectators and staff.

### **Recommendations / Further Comments:**

- **Signage** - 2 tear drop Games flags were given to convenors, set up both days at oval entrance.
- **Venue** - Top level of complex was not utilised this year as filming did not occur. All in all, a brilliant newly constructed venue which is well managed and presented by the Hawks. Council managed bins were overflowing by the end of Saturday and not replaced for Sunday.
- **Umpires** - While the Local Umpire Coordinator is not a formal position for the Academy Games AFL we strongly recommend this position be considered for future competitions.
- **Pre-Competition Preparation & Injuries** - Injury list was much smaller than previous years; regardless, feedback similar to previous Games. There were several injuries over the weekend and our observations are: The girls are often cross-coders and may not have played extensive hours of a 360-degree type of game that AFL is, including practicing movement patterns that are required to cope with that. Regarding concussion, it's a contact sport and injuries are going to happen, but in future to look to focus on teaching 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.

**RAS Convenors:**  
D'Arcy Van den Bossche, Claire McCulloch

**Local Coordinator**  
Craig Golledge



## Competing Teams

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

Girls
U14
Central Coast Academy of Sport
Hunter Academy of Sport
South West Sydney Academy/North Coast Academy of Sport
U16
Hunter Academy of Sport/Northern Inland Academy of Sport
South East Sports Academy
Central Coast/Western Region Academy
Illawarra Academy
North Coast Academy of Sport/South West Sydney Academy of Sport
U18
South West Sydney Academy of Sport/Illawarra Academy of Sport
Hunter Academy of Sport
South East Sports Academy
North Coast Academy of Sport/Central Coast Academy of Sport

## Results

### Exhibition Match - Boys

**U12:** Hunter Academy of Sport def. Central Coast Academy of Sport

**U13:** Hunter Academy of Sport def. Central Coast Academy of Sport

## Girls

U16

1<sup>st</sup> - SESA

2<sup>nd</sup> - HAS

U18

1<sup>st</sup> - SESA

2<sup>nd</sup> - HAS



## Basketball

### Summary

The 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games kicked off with basketball on the Friday afternoon due to no 'Opening Ceremony'.

Basketball at the Academy Games experienced significant growth amongst academy teams, with record numbers and we welcomed a development age (U14 years) competition. Thank you to SWSAS, IAS and the Scorers Academy (ACT) for making the journey to Newcastle to join the Games.

Venue managers Trevor Gallacher and Rebekah Wallace did another outstanding job controlling all games in all aspects. Personal thanks for Trev's excellent management in the lead up and during the weekend including crowd control, passionate coaches and athletes and injuries.

All injuries at the time were well managed by both onsite First Aid, Venue Manager and team physios

With record numbers, the referees did a fantastic job throughout the weekend. In particular, when doubling up on back-to-back games without hesitation.

### Competing Teams

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

## Results

Boys	Girls
<b>U16</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> - Hunter Academy of Sport	1 <sup>st</sup> - Southern Sports Academy
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Illawarra Academy of Sport	2 <sup>nd</sup> - Central Coast Academy of Sport
<b>Development</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> - Hunter Academy of Sport	1 <sup>st</sup> - ACT Scorers Academy
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Illawarra Academy of Sport	2 <sup>nd</sup> - Illawarra Academy of Sport

## Recommendations

- Extra referees and umpires to minimise fatigue and burnout on current referees. Get more ref's through RAS Convenor and fellow academies. Trev and Bek did a fantastic job coordinating local referees.
- RASi convenors to express that the weekend is about athlete, coach and 'referee' development.
- Look to implement a coach's seminar coordinated by Basketball NSW. What else can BNSW provide to value add for the weekend.
- Saturday night finish was an hour later than anticipated for two academies. Look to keep an emergency court free for last two game time slots to minimise late finish.

## RASi Conveners

James Cooper (NIAS) & Brent Hartley (NIAS)

## Local Coordinator

Trevor Gallacher

Rebekah Wallace





## Golf

### Summary

This year saw 72 Golfers from eight academies including SSA, IAS, SWSAS, WSAS, HAS, CCAS, SESA and for the first time Sydney metro (JNJG)

Round one on Saturday was played in very wet conditions at Horizons golf, round two played in much nicer conditions at Charlestown Golf course.

Due to the wet weather on the first day the round was cut down to 14 holes which brought the competition down to 32 hole competition

Over the weekend JNJG rolled out golf genius app which was overall great app - it monitored live scoring, tee times, electronic score card easy to use, staff, coaches and parents also had access to the app - everyone was able to receive their tee times Saturday night for round two.

Golfers were able to pre order lunches which worked well.

### Competing Academies

Boys & Girls
Hunter Academy of Sport
South West Sydney Academy
Southern Sports Academy
Sydney Metro (JNJG)
Northern Inland Academy of Sport
North Coast Academy of Sport
Central Coast Academy of Sport
Illawarra Academy of Sport
South East Sports Academy

### Results

#### ***Gross***

1st Boys - Hamish Ellison (HAS) 55/69 -5

1st Girls - Amy Squires (HAS) 75/74 +2

2nd Boys - Vidur (WSAS) c/b 59/70 E

2nd Girls - Robyn Keen (Syd) 80/79 +12

#### ***Nett***

1st Boys - Finlay Taylor (CCAS) 51/65

1st Girls - Kiara Connolly-Jackson (CCAS) 74/78 +5

2nd Boys - Harry Daniels (WSAS) 57/76  
2nd Girls - Bella Rose Pond (IAS) 77/77 +7

**1st Teams**

WSAS -2 Vidur, Coby Carruthers, Harry Daniels, Blake Hodges

2nd Teams - HAS +1 Amy Squires, Hamish Ellison, Owen Evans, Lachlan McDonald (2)

**Recommendations**

- Would like to see the app golf genius used again
- Maybe have “spotters” on the first hole or blind tee shot holes to help with locating balls and help with speed of play
- Both courses were magnificent and great facilities
- Overall it was a well ran tournament and all staff at JNJG did an amazing job

**RASi Convener**

David Ferguson

**Local Coordinator**

Mark Ingre



## Hockey

### Summary

The Wyong Hockey Complex, was the perfect venue for the 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games Hockey Tournament. And the weather conditions for the two-day competition were also perfect for playing Hockey. The Central Coast Hockey Association volunteers lead by President Brett Johnson, were amazing. And the hockey skill education seminar support, provided by Hockey NSW, was also well received.

With a two-field format available, games were played Friday afternoon and evening, Saturday, and Sunday; culminating in 62 games being played overall. The 18 participating teams was an increase of 6 teams from the most recent Academy Games, in 2019. Similar to past years, a highly entertaining '9 a-side format' was played, incorporating periods of 15 minutes each way, thus allowing more games between academies, to be played.

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 pre-organisation undertaken by the host Hunter Academy was once again outstanding. And the Academy and the Central Coast Hockey Association, should be congratulated for their attention to detail. The quality of tournament umpires also contributed greatly to its overall success. The outstanding support provided by Event Coordinator Jo Wilson and Hockey NSW Pathway Manager Richard Willis, was exceptional. 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.

## 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 <sup>st</sup> - Sydney Metro Academy	1 <sup>st</sup> - Sydney Metro Academy
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Northern Inland Academy of Sport	2 <sup>nd</sup> - Western Region Academy of Sport 1
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Hunter Academy of Sport 1	3 <sup>rd</sup> - Hunter Academy of Sport
4 <sup>th</sup> Hunter Academy of Sport 2	4 <sup>th</sup> - Western Region Academy of Sport 2

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

Boys	Girls
Noah Needham (CCAS)	Charlotte Tarleton (CCAS)
Flynn Thompson (HAS 1)	Sylvia Knott (HAS)
Kia Kabayama (HAS 2)	Mia Voster (IAS)
Oliver Hawker (IAS)	Chloe Scicluna (NIAS)
Sam Griffith (NIAS)	Sabrina Payne (NCAS)
Thomas Moreton (NCAS)	Sienna Da Silva (SMA)
Aiden Chong (SMA)	Hannah Ellis (SSA)
Jack Laurent (SSA)	Addison Chapman (WRAS 1)
Samuel Giumelli (WRAS)	Amy Cook (WRAS 2)



## Recommendations

- **Competition Format** - A number of coaches requested a return to the 11 a-side format rather than the current 9-a-side, wherein others preferred the current format. Recognising the continued increase in participation numbers, the 11 a-side format is definitely worthy of re-consideration in future years.
- **Infringement Cards** - A penalty points system for cards issued for on-field suspension infringements, as identified in the NSW Hockey field championship operations manual, should be considered for future competition.
- **Umpire / Coach Development** - An umpire and coach development mentoring strategy, should be considered, as part of the overall provision of the event. Umpire and coach development, and athlete identification have been areas where HockeyNSW has taken a positive role in previous years. Unfortunately, the 2021 event coincided closely with the staging of the Australian U14 and U18 boys and girls National Championship, which restricted the ability for Hockey NSW to have a stronger presence than it did.

## RASi Convener

Gerry Knights & Candice Boggs

## Local Coordinator

Jo Wilson



*2021 Your Local Club Academy Games*

## Netball

### Summary

Overall, the Netball competition proved to be a great credit to all individual Academies, our supporting Netball NSW staff and management, the large number of enthusiastic spectators and most importantly our venue coordinator Kiona Sunnerton.

With two courts being lost on the Saturday and the revision of the draw on two occasions, it was certainly a challenging logistics exercise - however there was a return to normality on the Sunday and the cooperation and communication from all involved was exceptional.

The staff from each Academy managed their respective teams in a highly professional manner and despite a number of logistics concerns everyone collaborated professionally.

Mardi Aplin and Mele Tiauli from Netball NSW not only worked tirelessly to amend the draw on two occasions, they coordinated coach meetings, talent ID and mentoring programs around the venue.

The coordination of the umpires for two days of hectic competition by Chris Hall was fabulous - with many talented young umpires receiving their next level badges during the event.

With a total of over 280 talented young athletes competing across two divisions - together with around 100 supporting staff and another 200 spectating family members.

I believe the present format for two divisional competitions works well and provides for an optimal level of athlete participation for all Academies.

### 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
	South East Sports Academy
	Sydney Netball Academy

## 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
Mia Blackett (NCAS)	Cassidy Pieren (NCAS)
Eliza English (WRAS)	Taliyaha Chatfield (WRAS)
Makenzee Ryan (CCAS)	Gabrielle Nicholls (CCAS)
Tess Henley (SSA)	Tahlia Quinn (SSA)
Charlee Belcher (HAS)	Paulini-Fi Davis Dates (HAS)
Gabby Eaton (IAS)	Haley Manning (IAS)
Isabella Degei (WSAS)	Olivia Harris (WSAS)
Lilyana Talanoa (SWSAS)	Eliana Sapone (SWSAS)
Bria Wineti (NIAS)	Tamee Ingram (NIAS)
Marae Moeke (SNA)	Claire Robinson (SESA)
Bella Lieberman (SNA)	Araiterangi Karaitiana (FWAS)

Breakthrough Umpire
Zara Morris (NCAS)

## Recommendations

As has always been the case with the Netball competition, the lack of spectating space across four courts was problematic, with constant concerns for umpire and player safety. Going forward there should be a higher level of planning in and around the indoor netball venues to provide for clearly defined areas of access/no access and designated spectating areas.

### RASi Convener

Martin Bullock

### Local Coordinator

Kiona Sunerton

## Triathlon

### Summary

The Triathlon event was held at Cams Wharf on the pristine waters of Lake Macquarie. The Central Coast Triathlon Club, (Matt Porta and Jason Steele) was responsible for the registration process, set up, pack up and timing of the event. David Williams from Triathlon NSW provided the sanctioning and was the Race Director. The Your Local Club Academy Games Triathlon Event was also held in conjunction with the Triathlon Australia Youth National Championships and Youth National Mixed Team Relay, attracting some 40 extra interstate athletes to the event.

All of the races were the same distance, and the bike course was closed to traffic providing a completely car free draft legal environment. The bike course was out and back course of 1400m loop with a hot dog turn at each end. The race distances were:

- 200 swim
- 5.6 km bike
- 1500 run

Saturday saw individual heats and finals, with awards going to the top three finishes in the A final. Saturdays challenging wet weather conditions saw a few accidents on the bike - one being a clipped wheel, the other hit a pot hole riding solo. Ambulances were required for both of these accidents. The bike course was modified in response to the second accident. Sunday saw much better weather conditions, with everyone racing in a Mixed Team Relay for both Youth National and Regional Academy titles.

A soft presentation after each of the awards events occurred in line with recommendations, still allowing the athletes to receive their accolades.

### Competing Academies

Boys & Girls
Western Sydney Academy of Sport
Hunter Academy of Sport
South West Sydney Academy of Sport
Illawarra Academy of Sport
Central Coast Academy of Sport
Rest of State Academy (ROSA)
Invited Youth National Athletes



## Results

### *Saturday Race Results*

#### **Female Youth:**

1st: Montana Doubell

2nd: Hannah Roots

3rd: Morgan Charlton

#### **Male Youth:**

1st: Zane Bowen

2nd: Sean Williams

3rd: Wade Barr

#### **Female Junior:**

1st: Sophie Martin

2nd: Kailin Pople

3rd: Ella-Kate Hussein

#### **Male Junior:**

1st: Mitch Blackbourn

2nd: Casper Larkin

3rd: Rohan Barnes

### *Sunday Mixed Relay Results*

#### **Youth - Triathlon Australia Mixed Team Relay Youth National Championships**

**1<sup>st</sup> QLD Maroon** Aspen Anderson, Bowen Bamford, Mia Wooldridge, Ben Rudd

**2<sup>nd</sup> Property Development Insights NSW Youth** Hannah Roots (WSAS), Wade Barr (CCAS), Morgan Charlton (CCAS), Kade Zavetsanos (ROSTA)

**3<sup>rd</sup> QLD / VIC Team** Riley Wingad (QLD), Oscar Wooton (Vic), Chloe Denning (QLD), Leo Worsam (Vic)

#### **Youth - RASI Mixed Team Relay Championships**

**1<sup>st</sup> Property Development Insights NSW Youth** Hannah Roots (WSAS), Wade Barr (CCAS), Morgan Charlton (CCAS), Kade Zavetsanos (ROSTA)

**2<sup>nd</sup> ROSTA Yellow** Amelia Thornthwaite (ROSTA), Angus Sampson (ROSTA), Bianca Hoare (ROSTA), Xane Bowen (ROSTA)

**3<sup>rd</sup> IAS Youth A** Montana Doubell (IAS), Callum Burge (IAS), Alexis Bell (IAS), Harry Fraser (IAS)

#### **Junior - RASi Mixed Team Relay Championships**

**1<sup>st</sup> ROSTA Yellow** Kailin Pople (ROSTA), Jasper Sumsy (ROSTA), Sophie Martin (ROSTA), Hugh Thornhill (ROSTA)

**2<sup>nd</sup> HAS /CCAS 1** Hallie Boucher (HAS), Will Apps (HAS), Stella Norris (CCAS), Rohan Barnes (HAS)

**3<sup>rd</sup> WSAS Blue** Ella-Kate Hussein (WSAS), Jackson Connell (WSAS), Leila Dickson (WSAS), Kyle Farrier (WSAS)

### **Recommendations & Further Comments**

- **Volunteers** - volunteers were pre rostered on to specific roles with a role description. The system was charged by Mark Hall from Hunter Academy and it worked seamlessly. Previous years volunteers were asked on the day, with not enough volunteers making a big work load for a few people. The volunteer load was distributed amongst the academies with names of volunteers given with athletes details to convenor.
- **Road Surface** - The road be assessed for damage on the week of the event - the floods had damaged the road causing potholes in one particular area since the road was inspected earlier in the year.
- **First Aid** - Providing a bicycle to the first aid officer so that he could get to the further points of the bike course faster
- More than one first aid officer was needed on the first day. There were trained first aiders present as spectators, but having a second First Aid Officer with extra supplies would be beneficial.
- **Microphone System** - Announcements and briefings were needed through out the weekend. There was a small loud haler that was not much better than a loud voice. A microphone system would be more efficient. The Triathlon Club does not have this. This system could also provide some music for the event.

**RASi Convener**

Robyn Low-Hart

**Local Coordinator**

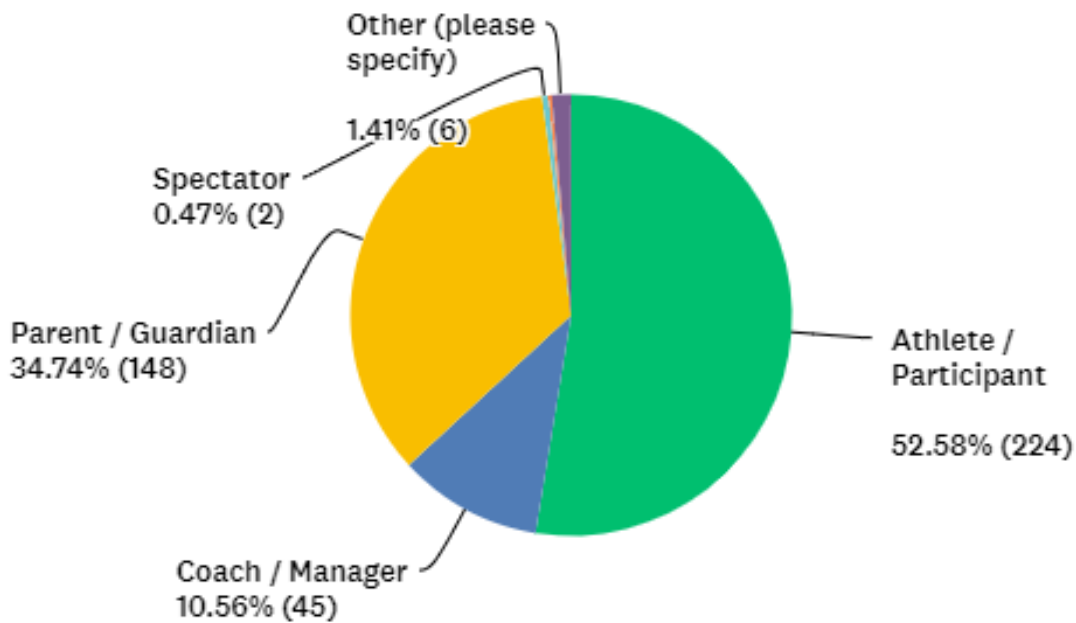
Matthew Porta (Central Coast Tri Club) &  
David Williams (Triathlon NSW)

# 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 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games.

A total of 426 responses were obtained for the survey, an increase of 58% compared to 2019.

224 athletes and 45 coaches/managers participated in the 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games survey. Additionally, 148 parents/guardians, 2 spectators and 1 volunteer also completed the survey. 6 responses were received in 'other' which upon review were categorised as RAS staff.



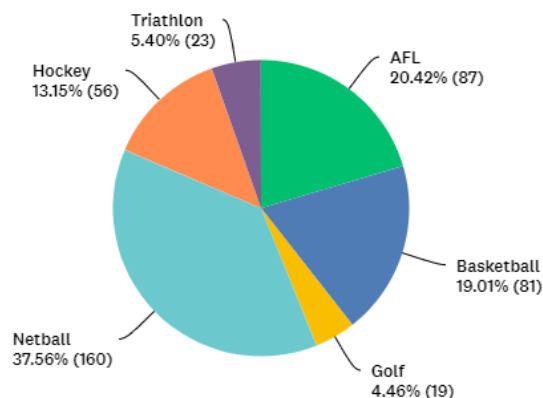
## Academy Representation

Respondents: 426. All respondents were asked to indicate their affiliation to an Academy or organisation participating in the games. The most respondents were associated with the Illawarra Academy of Sport.

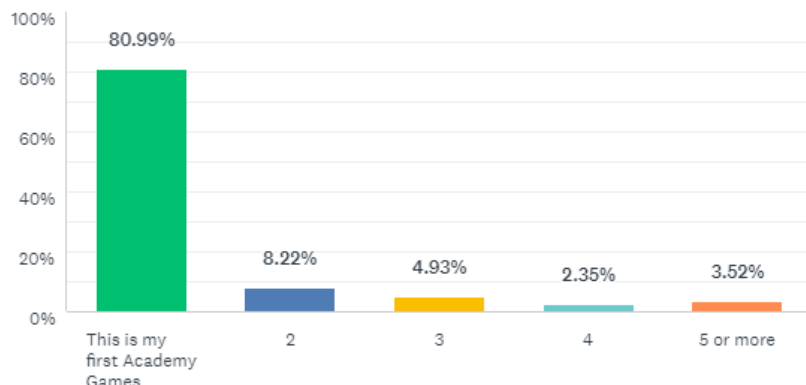
Academy	Percentage (%) Responded
Central Coast Academy of Sport	8.69
Far West Academy of Sport	0
Illawarra Academy of Sport	23.94
Hunter Academy of Sport	11.50
North Coast Academy of Sport	1.17
Northern Inland Academy of Sport	0
South East Sports Academy	8.45
Southern Sports Academy	9.15
South West Academy of Sport	16.43
Western Region Academy of Sport	9.15
Western Sydney Academy of Sport	9.15
Other	0.70

## Sport Representation

Respondents: 426. All respondents were asked to indicate the sport they were affiliated with at the games. The most respondents were associated with Netball representing 36% of respondents.





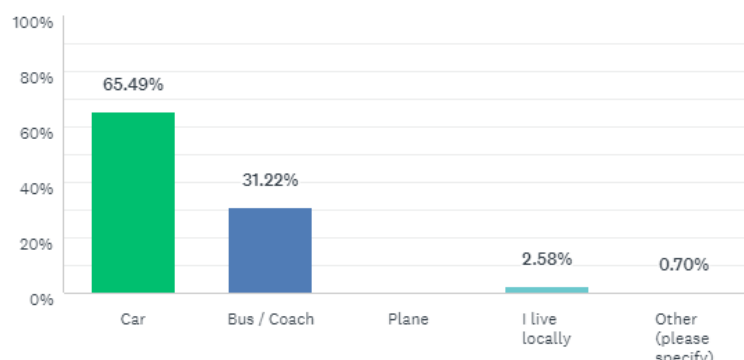


## Attendance Frequency

Respondents: 426. 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.

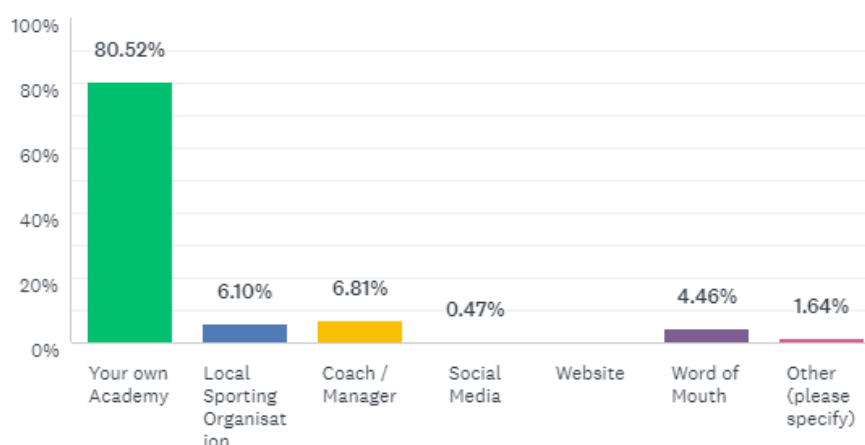
## Travel to the Games

Respondents: 426. 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 65% or bus/coach 31%.



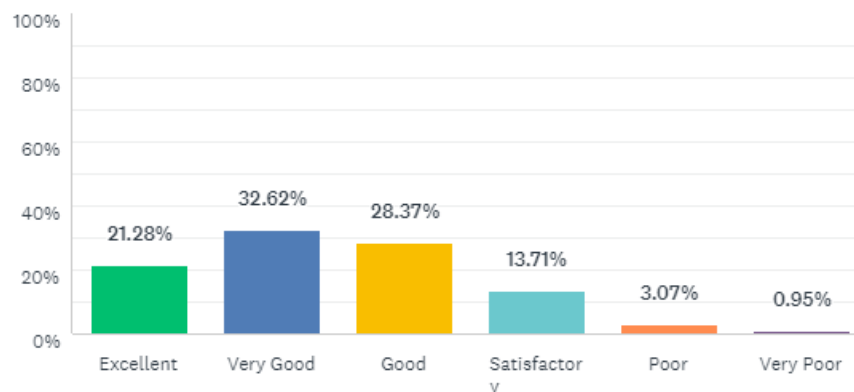
## How Did you Hear About the Academy Games?

Respondents: 426. All respondents were asked to indicate how they heard about the 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games. Most respondents (81%) heard about the Academy Games from their own Academy. There were 7 respondents who selected 'other', which included hearing from State Sporting Organisation and other parents.



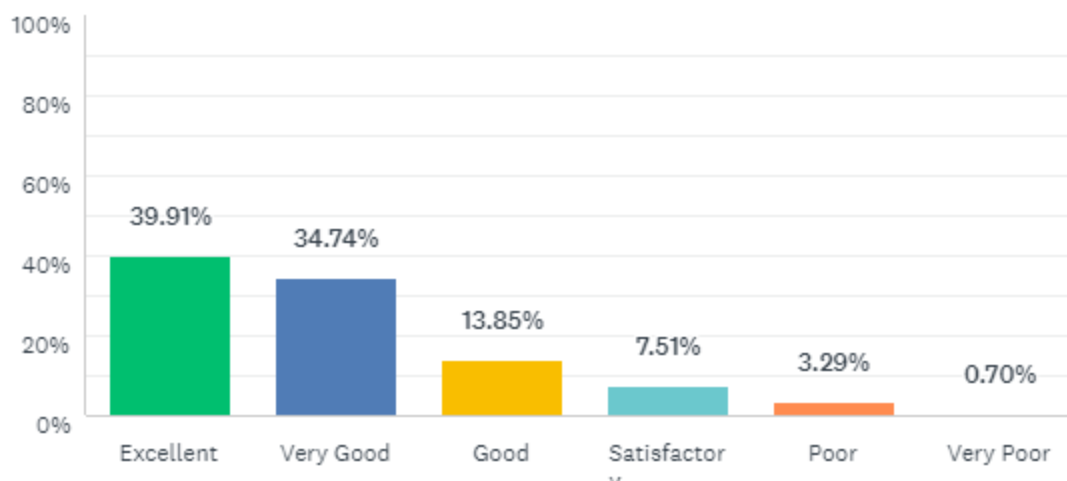
## Communication from Host Academy

Respondents: 423. All respondents were asked to rate the communication they received from the host academy - Hunter Academy of Sport regarding Academy Games information. Most respondents (33%) rated the communication very good, with 21% rating communication excellent.



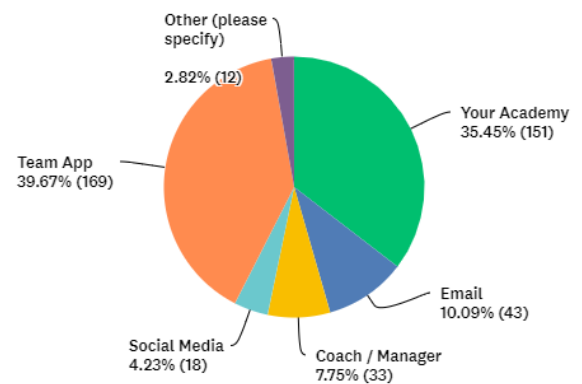
## Communication from Own Academy

Respondents: 426. 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 (40%).



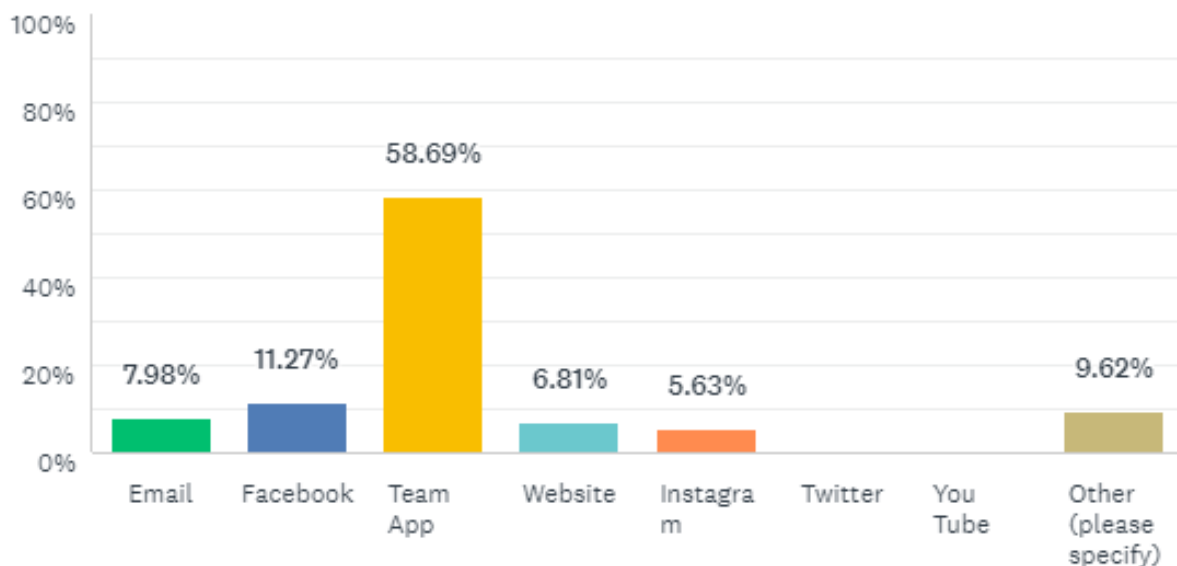
## Main source of Information for the Games

Respondents: 426. All respondents were asked to indicate what their main source of information was for the Games. Most participants sourced information from their Academy (40%) or Team App (35%).



## Main Source of Information During the Games

Respondents: 426. All respondents were asked to indicate what was the main source they used to access information during the Games. Team App (59%) was the main source respondents used to keep up to date with information during the game, followed by Facebook (11%). 10% of respondents selected 'other' with majority indicated that team coaches/managers or a combination of sources were used.



## Overall Event Rating

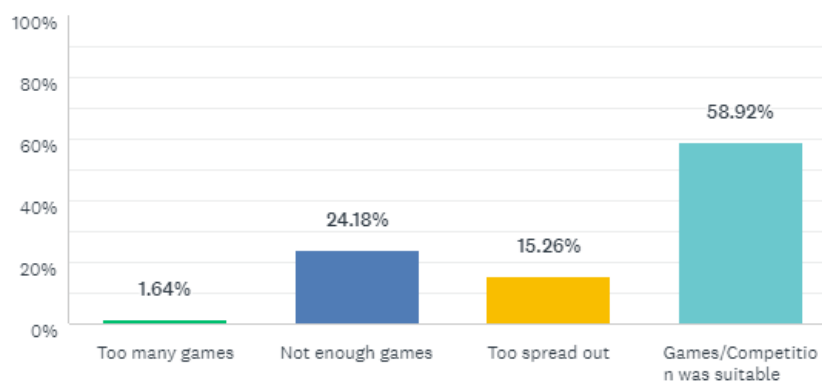
Respondents: 426. All respondents were asked to rate different aspects of the Games based on their experience.



## Sport Program Rating

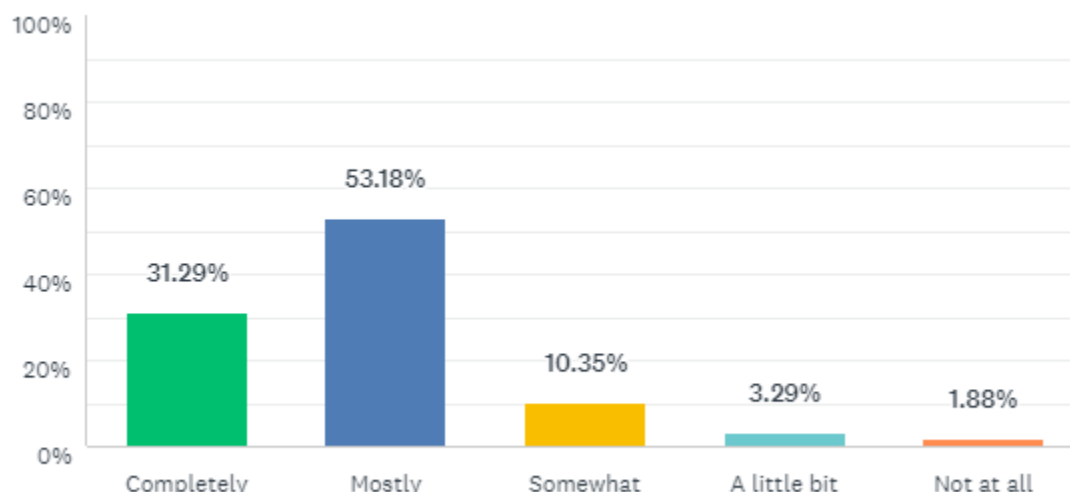
Respondents: 246. All respondents were asked to rate different aspects of their own sporting program based on their experience. When respondents were asked about the scheduling of games/competition majority (77%) indicated that the schedule was just right.

The participants were asked to rate the amount of games/competition that they experienced during the games, 59% of respondents indicated that the competition was suitable with 24% stating that they would like more games/competition.



## Expectations of Game Being Met

Respondents: 425. All respondents were asked to indicate whether the Games met their expectations. The expectations of Academy Games of the respondents were either mostly (53%) or completely met (31%).



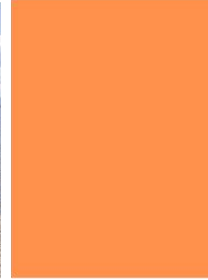
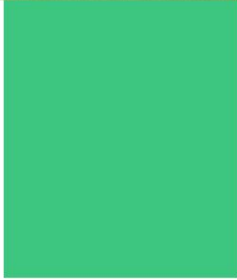
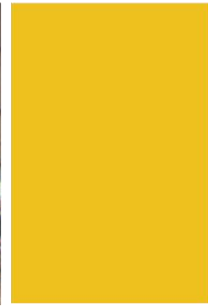
## Merchandise Purchases

Respondents: 423. All respondents were asked to indicate if they purchased merchandise during the Games. Most respondents (63%) indicating they did not purchase merchandise. This was partially due to a lot of stock selling out early on the Saturday morning. As a result, online orders have been placed for those who missed out. For those who purchased merchandise their overall satisfaction was excellent to good.

## Overall Event Feedback

It is fair to say that after a thorough analysis of the event survey responses it can be concluded that the 2021 Your Local Club Academy Games was a successful event. One of the main reoccurring comments we received through the survey was the disappointed of the leakage of the roof at the Netball venue, which as a result meant that 2 courts were out of action on the Saturday of competition. This is an issue that was unavoidable due to wet weather, and was dealt with accordingly by officials on the ground.





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

