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**OCEANIA HANDBALL LEAGUE (OHL PTY LTD)**



**OPERATIONS MANUAL  
FRANCHISE FOR AUSTRALIAN  
NATIONAL HANDBALL LEAGUE**

**Stojanovic Solicitors**  
4/220 Northumberland Street  
LIVERPOOL NSW 2170

PO Box 3425, Liverpool  
Tel: (02) 9600 9555  
Fax: (02) 9600 9955  
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## **THE ANNUAL PLAN**

### **Why it is important**

Any successful enterprise or undertaking requires planning. The best results are not achieved by luck, but by planning.

### **Key Points**

- A part of long term plan is the Annual Plan of activities. (The School of Handball).
- It is necessary to determine a time cycle, the period of preparations, the basic and transitive period.
- The periodic plan of work.
- The monthly plan of work.
- The daily plan of work.
- 90 -120 minutes.
- A concrete content.
- Methods, liabilities and requisites.

### **Franchisor Action**

Working with and providing the franchisee with methods and technical assistance to develop the annual plan.

## **Franchisee Action**

Adopting the methods and incorporating them into a dedicated annual plan tailored to meet the needs and requirements of the franchisee and developing and reviewing the annual plan in consultation with the franchisor.

## **SELECTION OF CANDIDATES**

### **Why is it important**

Provides the fundamental basis for establishing the foundation for a successful handball club.

### **Key points**

1. A wide selection.
  2. A narrow selection.
- In the selection, one has to be very cautious (children performing selection tests which have shown less than others, can still out perform those players with more success by engaging a persistent and seriously taken work).
  - The most serious attention should be undertaken with physical examination in the health clinic for sport.
  - Every member of the Handball School must have the following documents:
    - The individual health record.
    - The approval from their parents.
    - The coaching record with general physical characteristics of every player.

### **Franchisee action**

Adopt the above, and prepare the necessary documentary records for the implementation of the key points.

## **THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXPERT COMMISSION (TWICE A MONTH)**

The commission is established and made up of a certain number of perspective players who would like to be involved in coaching.

### **THE GLOBAL PLAN FOR WORK THE EXPERT COMMISSION**

Matters to be undertaken by the expert commission, in sessions to take place fortnightly:

1. Rights and duties of coaches, managers and technical staff.
2. Consideration of the framework plan of the club's activities.
3. Determination and systematization of the work scheme for different sections.
4. Determination of team lists under the coach proposition.
5. Consideration and determination of the Annual and other plans of work for individual club sections (teams).
6. Analysis of the results for individual teams.
7. Consideration and determination of needs for activities of the individual teams and coach work in general.
8. Gathering and arrangement of date in terms of travelling and club preparations.
9. Managing the unique documentation in connection with work of particular club sections.

## **PLANNING OF THE COACH WORK**

As all the other activities in everyday life, the Handball requires planning and realisation of planned tasks.

Planning requires a serious, contemplative and expertise approach towards, the work according to the time intervals, which is the basis of such realisation.

**EVERY COACH NEEDS TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING PLANS:**

A perspective plan which contains tasks to be realised in the given period of time methods of work, global necessities and organisation forms.

It is recommended that this part of work is planned on four yearly bases for seniors and juniors and for younger categories on three years.

### **Franchisor action**

Providing technical assistance for initial Coaching set up and ensuring that any coaches provided by the franchisor to the franchisee have the necessary expertise to prepare, devise and implement the necessary plan.

### **Franchisee action**

To ensure all coaching staff are fully appraised and equipped to implement these plans particularly, where the franchisee arranges its own coaches.

## **THE ANNUAL PLAN OF COACH WORK**

1. The organisation of the under 18 -School of Handball the Annual Plan and Program.

The tabular display of the Annual time amount based on 3 hours per week, in 10 months of activities per year.

2. The Annual Plan and Program for the junior team.
3. The Annual Plan and Program for the senior team.

## **THE RECORD OF THE (COACH) WORK**

- The personal record and registration card.

### **Plans and Task for the Team**

- Senior team
- Junior team
- Under 18's team.

## **ORGANISATION OF THE HANDBALL SCHOOL FOR UNDER 18'S TEAM**

The objectives and Tasks for the Handball School

- Management of the Handball School
- The Manager of the Handball School



## **THE DURATION & ORGANISATION OF THE SCHOOL**

In the first 2 years the training lasts 60 minutes, three times a week.

For juniors, the maximum duration of training is 90 minutes.

3 years 60 -90 minutes three times a week.

In the third-year selective male and female teams will be formed consisting of advanced students (players).

## **PROCESSING OF EXPERT (COACH) ISSUES**

1. Sport, heart and respiration systems
2. Motivation of the young sportsmen.
3. Sport training -according to different time intervals, situations and shape.
4. Exercise for developing ability.
5. The structure of training.
6. The recreational entertaining work.
7. The system of game of the teams and determination of the unity in work with all teams.
8. Goal keeper in handball, selection of beginners, advanced and quality players - specialisations.
9. Practical approach to the body-shape exercises in the system of training.
10. The elements of the game in training of Handball players.
11. The basic elements of Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer as additional sporting activities.
12. The introduction to the complete rules of the game.
13. Pedagogue -psychological problems in the line of the player, coach, club.

14. The consequences due to unskilled work on training.

15. Injuries, rehabilitation and training.

### **Franchisor action**

Provision of technical information, updating of development, utilisation of international trends, publications and periodicals.

### **Franchisee action**

Adopting of the above principles

Archiving of technical data and materials

## **EDUCATION AND EXPERT SPECIALISATION OF COACHING PERSONNEL**

- It is necessary to enable coaches to follow and be up-to-date with current Handball issues such as (camps, symposiums, ..... )
- It is required to send a number of perspective coaches on further studies to achieve the coach occupation.
- If the handball club desires the expert personnel to meet the expectations, it will need to have a personal expert library as well as the other conditions.
- It is necessary to secure television and video equipment, which have a priceless value with Handball teams.

### **Franchisor action:**

Holding and conducting specialised camps and conferences/conventions directed solely towards the development of specialised techniques in coaching and updating international trends.

Arranging for international specialist coaches to lecture on coaching trends and implementation of modern techniques.

### **Franchisee action:**

Ensuring attendance of coaching personnel at camps, conferences/conventions and taking reports from attendees and implementation of modern techniques.

## **THE ANNUAL PLAN FOR THE SENIOR TEAM**

- The control of physical development and abilities.
- Technical preparations.
- Tactical preparations (attack -defence).

### **Franchisor action**

Provision of necessary data, media both visual and written for set-up process of plan.

Ongoing assistance and provision of developments, especially international trends.

## **Implementation by Franchisee**

### **THE ANNUAL PLAN AND PROGRAM FOR UNDER 18'S HANDBALL SCHOOL**

- The changes in physical development and abilities;
- Physical preparations.
- Technical preparations.
- Introducing beginners into the technical elements with the ball through to the element of game and training.

HOLDING OF THE BALL

CATCHING OF THE BALL

PASSING OF THE BALL

PATting OF THE BALL

BOUNCING (DRIBBLING) OF THE BALL

THE STEP TECHNIQUE IN HANDBALL

THE TECHNIQUE OF THROW (SHOT)

THE FAKING TECHNIQUES

THE TECHNIQUE OF GOALKEEPER'S PLAY

THE TACTICS OF THE GAME

DEFENCE AND ATTACK

THE SYSTEM OF THE GAME IN DEFENCE

THE SYSTEM OF THE GAME IN ATTACK

COMPETITIVE GAME

ADDITIONAL SPORT ACTIVITIES

THEORY PREPARATION

THE SOCIAL AND ENTERTAINING ACTIVITIES

QUOTAS FOR ADVANCING INTO SELECTIVE GROUPS

## **THE COMPETITION GAMES**

Graphical display of game through the coach evaluation and individual graphical display according to the elements of the game.

Training for tabular display of the teams' performance.

### **Franchisor action**

Provision of pro-forma documentation for establishment of the above.

### **Franchisee action**

Maintenance of documentation of the above, and permanent record keeping/archiving.

## **THEORETICALS PREPARATION**

- Hygiene
- Personal Health Records
- Massage and self-massage
- Physical strain and rest
- Alcohol and nicotine
- Heart and sport
- Injuries and rehabilitation
- Periodic plan for the first six months
- Periodic plan for the second half of the year
- Organisation of the club management and registration.



## **CONDITIONS FOR THE REALISATION OF PROGRAM**

To secure the most expertly trained personnel.

- Pedagogue of PE, a coach with affirmed skills and qualifications.
- A continuous observation of the related expert literature, seminars and schools of Handball.
- A unique managing of the school.

### **Franchisor action**

Provision of necessary technical data and personnel to establish foundation and provide updated data.

### **Franchisee action**

Implement and maintain records and data for quick reference and access to all coaching personnel.

## **SPORTS UNIFORMS**

1. Jerseys and shorts for boys and girls (for 18 players – 12 players + 4 (2 coaches, manager, doctor or physio + 4 club costing for officer.
2. Sneakers for Handball (for 16 players IHF standard)
3. Tracksuits (for 16 participants).
4. Jerseys for training
5. Ball (20 each IHF standard)
6. Elbow and Knee pads
7. Glue for balls

### **Franchisor action**

Provide the above to the franchisor at the cost of the franchisor.

### **Facilities**

Playing Court

### **Franchisor action**

Technical assistance, project management for development of the facility.

### **Franchisee action**

Budget cost for development

## **OTHER SPORT FACILITIES REQUIRED**

1. 2 Goals with nets (IHF Standard)
2. 20 balls with sand (for training  
20 balls IHF standard for training.
3. 2 soccer balls, 2 volley balls and 2 basketballs
4. Hand weights
5. Stopwatches
6. Whistles (4)
7. Use of swimming pool  
Use of Athletic track  
Use of Gym  
Use of office equipment (computer, telephone, facsimile)  
Use of video room
8. Supply of Handball and sports magazines and books, video cassettes.....

## **MARKETING PLAN**

### **Why its important**

- It is imperative for the success of all clubs, that each club participates in marketing, and develops a key marketing strategy.
- Full participation enables all clubs to receive mutual benefit from marketing.

### **Franchisor action**

- Ensure that all clubs have in place a marketing strategy and plan.
- Provide assistance to each club in the development of a marketing strategy/plan
- Ensure that the marketing plan covers essential core elements, being schools, training clinics, advertising and promotion.

### **Franchisor action**

- Consult with franchisor in the development of a marketing strategy/plan.
- Participate in all promotion and advertising arranged or conducted by the franchisor.
- Maintain the marketing strategy/plan and continuously update and review.

# 1. KEY PERFORMANCE AREA: MEMBERSHIP

AIM: WHERE WE WANT TO GET TO!

STRATEGY	CURRENT POSITION	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	WHEN	MEASURE
1.1	To increase junior membership	1.1.1	Mark/Con	Nov 97	840 new students or participants by Jan 98
		1.1.2	Mark/Con Clubs	Jan 99 Jan 99	5600 primary school members and 5040 high school members by 2000
		1.1.3	Mark to liaise with DSR	April 98	To be involved in DSR holiday programme
1.2	Senior Membership				
1.3	Women's Membership				
1.4	Disability Membership				
1.5	Men's Membership				
1.6	Veteran's Membership				

SYDNEY HANDBALL ACADEMY

## 2. KEY PERFORMANCE AREA: COMPETITIONS/EVENTS - JNR

**AIM: WHERE WE WANT TO GET TO!**

STRATEGY	CURRENT POSITION	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	WHEN	MEASURE
1.1 To increase junior membership	No current programme	2.1 Establish school competition 5 age groups at six schools and 14 teams x girls & boys teams = 28 teams	Mark/Con	Jan 98	2.1 6 schools competitions commencing Jan 98
2.2	No current competition	2.2 Establish interschool competition. Run 3 times per year for boys & girls in the following age groups. 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18. Run competitions in April, June & October holidays.	Ljubisa	1998	2.2 3 interschool competitions held.
2.3 Establishment of other metro country regional competition	Nil	2.3 Meet with DSR - local connections. Start duplication March 98.	Mark/Ljubisa	July 98	2.3 10640 per region & country.
2.4 State Competition	Nil	2.4 Organise regions	Mark/Ljubisa	Dec 98	2.4 14 clubs x girls & boys
2.5 Tournament	Nil		Mark/Ljubisa	Oct 99	2.5 12 teams

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### 3. KEY PERFORMANCE AREA: COMPETITIONS/EVENTS - SNR

**AIM: WHERE WE WANT TO GET TO!**

STRATEGY	CURRENT POSITION	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	WHEN	MEASURE
3.1 To increase/stabilise current local player base into S.W metro competition	5 male clubs (one team each) 2 female teams	3.1 Reconfirm clubs in Association Inform of start of competition	Ljubisa	March 98	3.1 Competition completed & more teams ready to start metro competition.
3.2 Metro S.W Regional club competition	Nil	3.2 Take players from school comp	Ljubisa/Mark	March 98	3.2 2 Divisions x 6 teams in each region x male/females
3.3 Establishment of other metro country regional competition	Nil	3.3 Meet with DSR - local connections. Start duplication March 98.	Mark/Ljubisa	July 98	3.3 2 Divisions x 6 teams in each region x male/females
3.4 State Competition	Nil	3.4 Organise regions	Mark/Ljubisa	Dec 98	3.4 14 clubs - 2 from metro x 4 1 from country x 6 male/female
3.5 Duplication of 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 in other states	Nil	3.5 ASC support / AHA support SOCOG recognition and support	Mark/Ljubisa	July 98	3.5
3.6 National Club competition	Nil	3.6 Run on behalf of AHA or independently	Mark/Ljubisa	Oct 99	3.6 Adequate sponsorship to support 9 teams.

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#### 4. KEY PERFORMANCE AREA: FACILITIES

**AIM: TO HAVE SUFFICIENT COURTS FOR ALL JNR, SNR, VETERANS & DISABILITY TEAMS**

STRATEGY	CURRENT POSITION	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	WHEN	MEASURE
4.1	Develop outdoor facilities.	4.1			
(a)	Conversion of existing Tennis courts to multipurpose facility	4.1.1 Converting Liverpool and Canley Vale 4.1.2 Private investor support Regional capital assistance grants	Mark/Ljubisa and club president's	Jan 98	1 court per Council area approx 6 schools per court 31 Council areas in NSW country 32 Council areas in Sydney metropolitan Indoor or Outdoor
(b)	Use playing fields both grass and school playground	4.1.3 Identify suitable facilities for other metropolitan and country regions, including conversion to multipurpose and playing field opportunities	Mark/Ljubisa and club president's	Jan 98	
4.2	Utilise existing Indoor facilities and convert other indoor facilities (lining)	4.2.1 Using Whittam, Sydney Uni and Homebush State Sports Centre & Broadmeadow Basketball Stadium 4.2.2 Identify suitable indoor facilities for conversion	Mark/Ljubisa and club president's	Jan 98	

SYDNEY HANDBALL ACADEMY



## PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT

CLUBS COMPETITION	STATES COMPETITION	ELITE CLUBS COMPETITION (NATIONAL)	AFTER 2000 OLYMPICS	ATHENS 2004 OLYMPICS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sydney Handball Academy Liverpool to be used as an example for the setting up of other clubs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To commence August or September 1998 till December 1998</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Handball League to commence in January 1999 till December 1999.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the clubs competition with the development of 22 clubs in metropolitan regions in Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Realistically everything is possible, therefore, Handball may continue to be a recognised Australian sport and to be represented at future Olympics and World Championships.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clubs in NSW:-                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wollongong</li> <li>- Newcastle</li> <li>- North Sydney</li> <li>- Eastern Coast</li> <li>- Canberra</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 clubs per state                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 clubs from NSW</li> <li>- 1 club from Canberra</li> <li>- 8 clubs from Vic</li> <li>- 6 clubs from Qld</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 clubs                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6 clubs from NSW</li> <li>- 3 clubs from Vic</li> <li>- 3 clubs from Qld</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To continue with State competition including all States and further developing and maintaining the Elite 12 Clubs Competition. (Will be created by the bottom 4 teams on the table after 2000 will be dropped and replaced with top 4 teams from state competition.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clubs in VICTORIA:- 3 + 3</li> </ul>	<p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The development of handball in Australia through schools and sporting recreation centres.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A good elite clubs competition (national competition) can only develop the athletes to select from for an Olympic squad to represent Australia in 2000.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To further develop handball in another 3 Oceania countries to assist further entry into World Championship tournaments according to international rules.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clubs in QUEENSLAND:- 3 + 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of handball to athletes of existing sporting clubs such as Rugby Union, Water Polo, Netball, Football, Soccer &amp; Volleyball (with view of franchises)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This plan will lead to the first Australian handball team being entered in this European dominated sport and capable of win games against teams from Asia and America.</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clubs from each state will combine to make up new State Handball Associations and later Australian Handball Federation.</li> </ul>			



# Handball hype has crowd at fever pitch

By EVIE GELASTOPOULOS  
and ANNABEL CRABB

MOST Australians had not heard of it until this week but handball has become the surprise hit of the Olympics — and its spectators have earned a reputation for being the rowdiest.

Police had to be called to the women's game between Australia and Denmark on Thursday to restore order when a crowd of 6000 threatened to go out of control.

And after a sluggish start to sales, tickets to the handball are now the most sought after in town.

Olympic organisers so far have sold more than 80 per cent of available tickets to handball — about 158,000 in total, valued at more than \$5 million.

Only 35,000 handball tickets remain, placing it high on the list of sales successes at the Games.

A few days before the September 15 opening ceremony there were 62,000 handball tickets on offer.

Demand soared when the competition started and sales continue to outstrip many other sports on the program.

Tickets are now outselling established sports such as boxing and synchronised swimming, with 10,000 snapped up in the past week alone.

Yesterday's men's game between Australia and Tunisia was a sell-out as are the finals at the 10,000-seat Dome scheduled for next Saturday.

While Australia has not yet won a handball game at these Olympics, the enthusiastic crowd has been cheering their national team with rowdy shouts of "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie" and impromptu renditions of *Waltzing Matilda*.

Between matches the crowd is fired up by music blaring from loudspeakers urging fans to a fever pitch.

During the game, the same hype and loud music that accompanies basketball matches is heard in the handball stadium.

## Handball history

□ Made its international debut at the 1936 Berlin Games. Women's competition added to Olympic program in 1976.

### RULES OF PLAY

□ A game consists of 30-minute halves. Players may use any part of their bodies except lower legs and feet to stop a ball.

□ They may not touch the ball twice in a row unless dribbling it.

□ Players can only hold a ball for three seconds before passing, dribbling or shooting and they may only take three steps after catching the ball.

What is more remarkable is that this is the first handball game for most of the Australian fans screaming encouragement at their team.

A spokesman for the handball venue said: "They have been great crowds."

"They're crazy but in a good way. We've had no issues with the crowds."

The Australian teams are competing in their first Olympics, and some team members did not even know the sport existed seven years ago when Sydney won the Games bid.

As the event has grown in popularity, more and more Australians have taken the national team to their hearts, turning up to the matches in increasing numbers to watch the novice team thrash it out against the cream of Europe.

Lydia Kahmke, captain of the Australian women's team, said the crowds had "gone wild" for the game — which is similar to water polo, but played on land.

"It's a fast contact sport where anybody can score — even the goalie," she said. "I think that appeals to Australians."



Out of control . . . Australian handballer Jovana Milosevic takes on Brazilian Valeria Oliveira.



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## Hands up for game

Talents scouts on the ball

LIVERPOOL'S sporting youngsters have a great chance of representing Australia in the 2000 Olympics — via the sport of handball.

Some of the world's best former players and coaches are living in the Liverpool area and are working towards establishing a handball academy with the help of marketing manager Mark Gibbins of Liverpool Tennis Centre.

The Olympic sport is a fast-paced mixture of basketball and soccer played by a team of seven on a

by PRANESH NAGESHWAR

40m court.

Gibbins said the game was not well known in Australia but it was popular in Europe.

"We have a strong ethnic base in Liverpool and most of the kids know about handball," he said.

"Some of the schools are already playing the sport but nobody has organised proper development of the sport," Gibbins said.

He said Chipping Norton Primary School planned to hold a competition for talent identification at the beginning of next term.

Gibbins said the Liverpool Handball Academy would be set up at the Liverpool Tennis Centre with development programs starting soon after school begins.

He said he had been working for six months with the Department of Sport to set up the academy and its programs.

• To page 39



Handball for Liverpool ... coaches Mitch Lass, Ljubisa Jetic and Mark Gibbins

## Clarke leads bowling fight

FAIRFIELD-LIVERPOOL first grade cricket team scored its fifth win of the season at Osedale Oval, Warwick Farm, on Saturday when St George was dismissed for a lowly 110.

The home side had scored a modest 169 in its innings of the previous Saturday and St George finished the day at 2-48.

St George took its score to 2-82 last Saturday and seemed set for victory before young off spinner Anthony Clark broke the partnership.

Clark's wicket sparked a batting collapse and St George was all out for 110 with Clark having the figures of 7-22 off 16.2 overs and Graham Lambert taking 4-18.

In second grade, Fairfield was beaten on the first innings when St George passed their score with five wickets down.

St George declared at 9-225 with a 97 run lead. Fairfield's second innings started slowly but steadily with Ross Hardy and David Gibbins trying to avoid an outright loss.

Hardy was joined by Brett Lack after Gibbins was caught for 51 and the two posted a 100-run partnership. Lack scored 101 not out, his first century for the club.

Play ended with Fairfield 3-187.

St George batted on in third grade after being 7-186. Fairfield was set the tasks of scoring 208 runs off 76 overs and won with four balls remaining.

Ben Mortimer top scored with 49.

Fairfield lost in fourth grade with St George scoring the required runs with seven wickets left.

Fifth grade were dismissed 12 runs short of their target.

## World title on line

KICKBOXER Marcus Mangan will fight for the professional welterweight world title against John Castellan of England at Bankstown Sports Centre on Saturday, February 28.

Both fighters have good professional records — Castellan is the World Kickboxing Organisation (WKO) champion. Liverpool's Mangan is in top form coming out of a knockout win in December at the Whillam Centre.

A range of amateur titles will also be put on the line.



Pip Ernsteins plays handball with classmates from Chipping Norton Primary School

## Handball scores new fan base

THE sport of handball has taken off in Liverpool with a talent identification session attracting more than 200 students from Chipping Norton Primary School to the Liverpool Tennis Centre on Friday.

Liverpool Handball Academy coaching director Ljubisa Jetic said the children demonstrated a lot of interest in the sport and were keen to play.

"It's fun for them because it's a ball game where you, catch, throw,

run and score goals," he said.

Jetic said the trials were held to identify players who showed potential and could be selected for further training and possible competitive play. He said judging by

the enthusiasm shown by the children, the future for handball was enormous.

Liverpool Handball Academy is well on the way with a handball court freshly painted on to old tennis courts at the Liverpool Tennis Centre.

## Paul's on his way to Iran

• From page 60

A marathon runner who captained the Athletics team in Seoul in 1988, Croft says sitting volleyball is a great game and that it had won him over after his first try at the sport.

"In the first session I could hardly move — after and during the game," he said.

For Croft the most difficult part of the game was keeping his legs out of the way.

"Iran are the world champions, they have a culture where people sit on the floor a lot, it's an advantage for them," he said.

He said one of the important aspects of the game was to position yourself to strike the ball.

Croft said the game was big in Europe and had many able bodied players.

He is looking for any sponsors who could help him on his trip to Iran — anyone who can help should call Croft on 9601 4987.



9 February 2000

# Handball dream close to reality

IT'S been five years in the making but Liverpool Handball Academy's Ljubisa Jetic's dream is producing results.

Jetic arrived in Australia from former the Yugoslavia in 1994 with high hopes of starting up an Australian national handball league.

The former professional handball player wanted to introduce the sport to his adoptive country.

Earlier this month the Australian Handball League accepted Jetic's proposal and offered to lend their support.

The league, which is scheduled to begin in January next year, will have 12 men's teams and 12 women's teams across the country, including one in Liverpool.

"It will be the first time in the

history of Australia that we have established a national handball league," Jetic said.

Jetic travelled in Europe earlier this year and signed contracts with 120 players and 30 coaches to come to Australia.

They will come from countries such as Serbia, Croatia, Romania, Russia and Ukraine.

"I will mix existing players with that high level of world-class handball", said Jetic.

The league is expected to give the Australian Olympic handball team at least six months of fierce competition before they face some of the toughest teams in the world.

"The best preparation for each team is that you must have competition every week," Jetic said.

President of the Australian Handball Federation Nir Peled said Jetic still had to raise \$2.2 million for the running of the competition.

Jetic is looking to franchise the national handball clubs and is confident he will have no problem coming up with the necessary funds.

Understanding the need to develop the sport in the younger generation, Jetic is running clinics for several local schools.

"You can't build the house from the roof," he said.

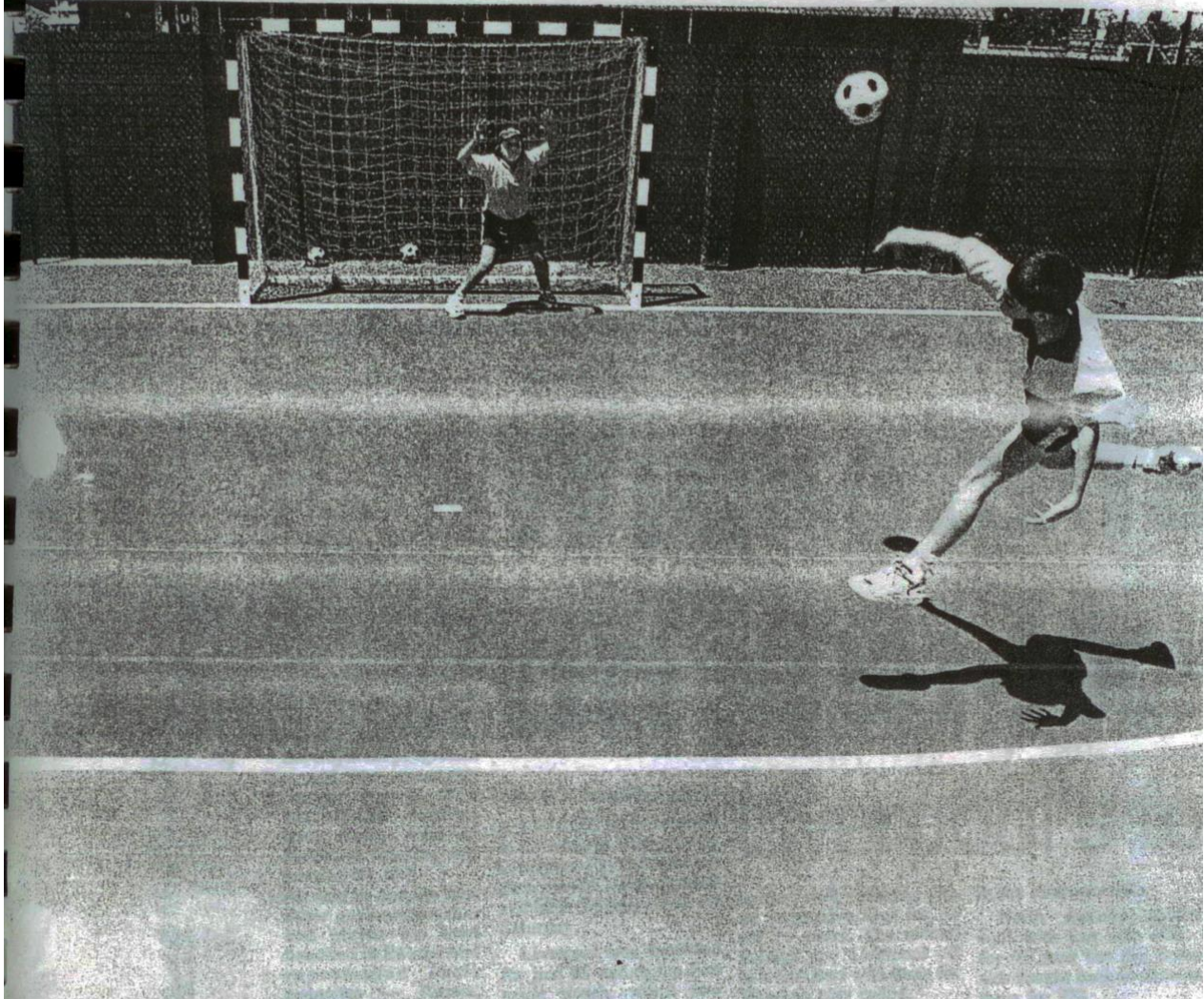
He would like to see other local sporting clubs incorporate handball and is looking to recruit Australian netball and rugby league players to the new league.

"I would like handball to become an Australian sport."



■ AUSTRALIAN national handball players gave local residents a taste of what is to come in a demonstration match at Liverpool recently.





to handouts ... goalkeeper Adam Brown defends against Adam Ward at the Liverpool Leisure Centre.

# Hands up for a revolution

Handball is a game well-known in Europe but hardly in the spotlight in Australia. However, a movement in Sydney metropolitan schools may be about to change that, reports PAUL KENT.

**A** RUSSIAN, a Romanian and a Pole are walking along the street. And while you expect them to walk into a punchline, it is just as they will turn into the tennis complex at Sunnybrook where, of all times, a revolution is going on.

A handball revolution. Right now, hundreds of children across Sydney's South West Metropolitan Schools region are working on a sport played predominantly in Europe, on courts we've never seen, with rules that we don't quite understand.

Think of handball in Australia and you picture schoolkids pounding a ball back and forth across a gym floor. One bounce, one hit. My

handball, the European way, is a business. Players earn hundreds of thousands of dollars a season in leagues across the continent.

Russia, Romania, Hungary, Sweden and the Czechs dominate. Australia is an afterthought. We have yet to make it in Olympics and, Australia

wide, we have about 500 registered players.

The good news is that come the next Olympics we will, as host nation, have teams competing. Sorry, but that's about as good as it gets.

In a faint hope to boost Australia's stocks for 2000, handball officials have sounded a plea to retired Australian rules and rugby league players to give the Olympic experience a shot.

Former Hawthorn centre Anthony Gaudon is one man mentioned.

But like all sports, we need development at the lowest levels if we're going to blossom up top.

That's where the kids at Sunnybrook come in.

Mark Gibbins is the director of Sportsmax Management, which owns the Sunnybrook tennis courts that have been converted into handball courts. As owner, promoter, organiser and all-

round good guy, Gibbins has a vested interest in the success of the venture.

He has a grand plan that one day fans will sit down to watch a nationwide competition as we build up to an Olympics where we are medal chances.

While a dream of such domination is optimistic, even Rupert Murdoch had a dream once.

What Gibbins can tell you is that right now schoolchildren throughout Liverpool are in training for a competition to take place in the holidays at the end of the first term.

"These kids are very young," Gibbins said, "but we want to have that complete grassroots development structure in place as this is part of the development process."

"It involves all the schools, primary and senior, in the South West Metropolitan region being part of a training program towards a schools tournament."

As part of the coaching process, Gibbins has staff from across the world. A former Russian goalkeeper, a Polish national player, a former Romanian representative, a minor national representative of Romania - the Russian, the Romanian and the Pole, you see, "There's just a wealth of talent and experience here in Australia that hasn't been exploited yet," Gibbins said.

Beyond the coaching staff, awareness in handball at the courts has brought forward more immigrants who played the game in their homeland but found little outlet in Australia.

The beneficiaries of all this have been the schoolchildren.

While it might not be enough to boost our medal prospects in Sydney, Gibbins thinks the sport is dynamic enough to continue growing.

After the South West Metropolitan competition, he plans to drift across

Sydney, and gradually recruit players.

By the end of term two, he has competitions set up in Sydney metropolitan regions, three will see three Sydney regions by term four, he hopes to have competitions set up across the

To do so, he needs to find who like a game that is a bit like soccer, basketball and football.

Teams carry a round ball, more than a soccer ball, and attempt to get it into a goal protected by a goalkeeper. Each end of the court, they can run the ball, where they must try to move the ball up the court.

To establish the competition, Gibbins had to close down seven tennis courts to allow the handball arena to be set up.

"I don't know why handball is so popular, but it's taken off like a rocket," he said.

"Whether we can duplicate it here and it keeps growing, who knows?"

More to the point, who can Gibbins recruit players.



# Game in hand

## Bosnian aims for Year 2000 Games

By GRAHAME TIMBRELL

EUROPEAN handball is one of the most popular sports in Europe and has been on the Olympic calendar for a long time. But it's a sport that Sydney's Year 2000 Olympic officials never considered Australia would enter.

A handball federation exists in Australia, but no organised competition — something like putting the cart before the horse — and last July the Australian president, Sydney's Sascha Dimitric, was elected the first president of the Handball Association of Oceania.

In last January Ljubisa Jetic, his wife and two children arrived in Newcastle as refugees from war-torn Bosnia.

After months of being under siege in their apartment, getting handball established in Australia was comparatively a piece of cake; a project that Ljubisa was ready to embrace.

"I want to do something for Australia and this is a sports mad country," he said through halting English and the help of an interpreter.

"I think handball will be widely accepted here. There are similarities with rugby union, rugby league, soccer and basketball in that the basis is to get around the defence and score goals.

"Sydney should have a team in the 2000 Games."

Sascha agrees. "We'd not be a medal contender but we'd not be the whipping

boys either," he said.

The Australian birth of European handball on an organised basis is occurring in Newcastle, which boasts the first organised club, an offshoot of the Adamstown Rosebuds Soccer Club.

Plans are under way to form more teams in Newcastle, to re-structure the game in Sydney on a formalised basis and create a State competition.

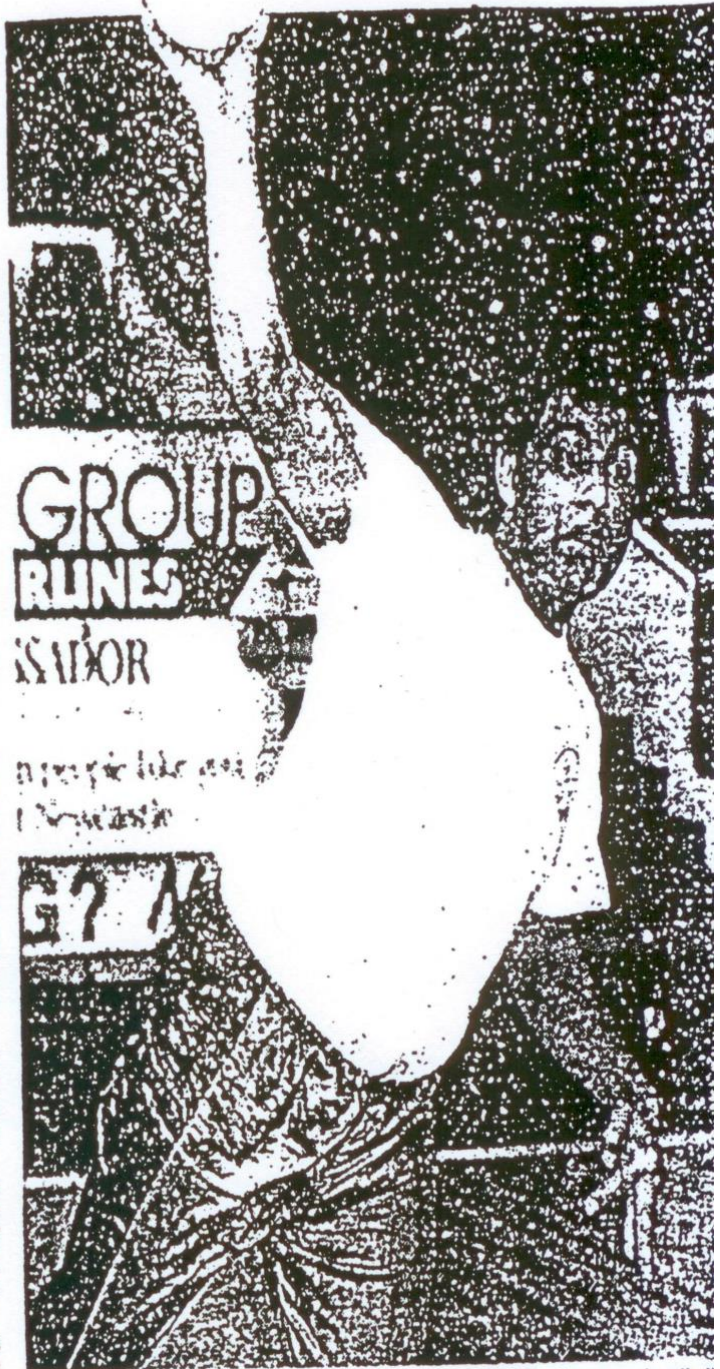
At the centre of this activity is the human dynamo from Bosnia, a successful businessman, a schoolteacher with a degree from Bosnia's University of Sport and a representative handball player.

Soon after arriving in Newcastle, Ljubisa watched soccer training at Adamstown Oval and before leaving the ground was appointed assistant coach of the under-15 side. And when he talked about handball the players wanted to know more. The seed was sown for the development of Australia's first organised club.

Bill Price, Rosebuds football club secretary and handball club president, said players were eager to learn more about the game.

Others in the forefront are Ken Clifford, administrator of the Hunter Academy of Sport and Dennis Kibble, administrator of the basketball stadium.

If Ljubisa Jetic has his way, Australia is on yet another sporting path.



ENTHUSIAST: Newcastle's Ljubisa Jetic demonstrates European handball