

## WORLD DWARF GAMES PLAYER PROFILES



***Michael Blair, age 36, Narrabeen, NSW***

WDG sports: Basketball, Table Tennis

WDG goal: To get a medal!

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Biggest achievement before the World Dwarf Games would be competing in the Dwarf Athletic Association of America games in Salt Lake City in 2002.

What motivates you:  
The sense of achievement from accomplishing something significant and hard earned

***Samantha Lilly, age 20, Wheelers Hill, VIC***

WDG sports: Swimming

WDG goal: To not leave anything in the pool.

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
2nd dan black belt in Taekwondo.

What motivates you:  
The people I've met, and the friends I've made whilst participating in sport.



***Ryan Cowlshaw, age 15, Winston Hills, NSW***

WDG sports: Basketball, maybe soccer

WDG goal: To go all the way!

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Reaching the semi finals in soccer

What motivates you:  
Being inspired by others!

***Margherita Coppolino, age 48, Essendon, VIC***

WDG sports: Boccia

WDG goal: To win Gold in Boccia and become the best Official Photographer for the World Dwarf Games

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Playing in mainstream rowing

What motivates you:  
Passionate about empowering people to take action in their lives in everything I do personally and professionally



***Brittany Mamula, age 17, Greystanes, NSW***

WDG sports: Basketball, Athletics, Swimming

WDG goal: to try my hardest and see all of my team mates achieve in every way possible.

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Playing for NSW in basketball in 2008 when I scored my first hoop in my first game against Victoria in Short Statured Basketball.

What motivates you:  
The fact that I am going across the world to represent Australia at the Games will show that short statured people can do anything they want to do, if they put their mind to it.

***Dalton Ong, age 23, Holsworthy, NSW***

WDG sports: Basketball, Table Tennis

WDG goal: To do my best and play with sportsmanship

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Playing basketball in the 2002 Dwarf Athletic Association of America Games and making the SSPA Australian basketball team this year in 2009.

What motivates you:  
My competitiveness and having fun!





***Steven Devine, age 21, Morphett Vale, South Australia***

WDG sports: Basketball, Football

WDG goal: To win and have an experience of a lifetime!

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Captaining the South Australian basketball team in 2003

What motivates you:  
Showing the world Australia can win and that short statured people are able to compete in basketball.

***Meredith Tripp, age 30, Bonbeach, Victoria***

WDG sports: Basketball, Swimming, Athletics

WDG goal: to challenge the best short statured athletes in the world for a gold medal.

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Being selected for the Australian World Dwarf Games team as well as representing my district in the Victorian State Softball Championships in Under 12's, 14's, 16's and 19's.

What motivates you:  
Living life!



***Jonathon Tripp, aged 29, Bonbeach, VIC***

WDG sports: Basketball, Table Tennis, Athletics, Swimming

WDG goal: To win a medal

Biggest sporting achievement in life:  
Being picked for the World Dwarf Games and just being able to play sport!

What motivates you:  
Listening to music, as well as the determination to win!



***Sam Millard, age 21, Endeavour Hills, VIC***

WDG sports: Basketball

WDG goal: WDG goal: To know that I could not possibly have left anything else on the court. After that, the results are not important.

Biggest sporting achievement in life: Being able to play basketball for Victoria, and winning a best and fairest award for the SSpitfires in 2005.

What motivates you: Knowing that you are playing with 10 of your mates, and wanting to do whatever it takes to do the best that you can for them and for the team. Also playing for your country is enough motivation in itself.



***Robert Paton, age 35, Heathmont, VIC***

WDG sports: Basketball

WDG goal: To come home with a medal and to really enjoy and take in the experience

Biggest sporting achievement in life: Winning the Croydon District B Grade Junior Table Tennis Championship, Representing Victoria and Australia in Basketball

What motivates you: To be my best and enjoy life to the fullest

***Nathan Stewart, age 18, Rowville, VIC***

WDG sports: Basketball, Swimming, Athletics

WDG goal: to bring home a medal

Biggest sporting achievement in life: completing the great Victorian bike ride!

What motivates you: The thing that motivates me is all the people that don't think I can do something cause of my height disadvantage - I show them otherwise!





***Michael Spain, age 16, Bentleigh, VIC***

WDG sports: Basketball, Shot Put, Swimming

WDG goal: To push myself to the limit by giving 110% and to win a medal in this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Biggest sporting achievement in life: Being chosen to represent Australia at the World Dwarf Games, and winning my football grand final in 2007.

What motivates you: My family and my heroes. Also the fact that I'm representing Australia at the World Dwarf Games gives me motivation to put in the hard work!

***Erica Peter, age 16, Hurstville, NSW***

WDG sports: Swimming

WDG goal: To come back with a medal and to know that I've done my very best.

Biggest sporting achievement in life: Representing Australia in swimming at the World Dwarf Games in Ireland

What motivates you: Usually my friends and family.



***Cullen Adams, age 30, Panania, NSW***

WDG sports: Athletics, Powerlifting, Football

WDG goal: To form a football team, meet people, have fun and do Australia proud!

Biggest sporting achievement in life: Runners-up in champions of champions (soccer state finals) 1990 and getting to meet the great Pele as reward

What motivates you: I don't know why I do almost everything.