

Past Student Spotlight

Alison Jones (2012)



I graduated Year 12 at St George State High School in 2012, where I was a Senior Leader and Nixon house captain. A lot of people would've known me as the kid always on the sporting fields and less time in the classroom. But somehow I was able to juggle my love of sport, work, life and finishing my schooling off in my hometown.

After graduating, I was lucky enough to get a place to study a Bachelor of Exercise and sports signs at the Sunshine Coast. Though I deferred for two years to get a bit of a break from schooling. Something I never got to pursue as of yet. This is where I had looked into and just

started the process for the ADF Gap year. I worked at the local Cotton Gin, for two seasons where I suffered a life changing accident. I am now totally blind, living life with two prosthetic eyes.

After the accident, I then stayed in Brisbane after being discharged from hospital, to learn how to live my new way of life. Let's be honest, though, I thought if I could live life in the city here as a person who is blind, I could sure as well do it anywhere. It didn't take me long to find my love of sport once again, in a Paralympic sport called Goalball. After only playing for a few months, I was picked in the Queensland team to play at the nationals and in that same year. I was also invited to join the Australian squad. I represented Australia and Queensland for about five years travelling to multiple places around Australia and overseas.

I am currently retired with other commitments, but who knows when you might see me back on the court.

Whilst living in Brisbane, I was a volunteer for both Vision Australia and Sporting Wheelies and disabled association. Talking to organisations and schools promoting different messages about inclusion, resilience, and having a can-do attitude. Even putting people under blindfold and giving them a go at Goalball which gave them a different perspective on life. For almost seven years I have had my furry best mate and seeing eye dog by my side on this life's journey. Together we have travelled all across Australia conquering and tackling

any obstacles that come our way. This boy might be cute, but please remember he has a very important job to do so, please respect their role to their handlers and give them the space they need and don't distract them in anyway.