

Annual Report 2008 Masters Swimming Australia www.mastersswimming.org.au

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National Representatives



Left to right: Mike Walker (SA), Craig Smith (SA), Vivien Merril (EO), Pauline Samson (Tas), Ian Davis (QLD), Lynne Malone (WA), Therese Crollick (QLD), John Pugh (President), Loren Bartley (CEO), Gerry Tucker (Finance Director), Paul Watmough (VIC), John Pollock (NT), Wendy Holtam (WA), David Cummins (WA),

National Board of Management 2008

National Committees 2008

	January to October	October to December	President	John Pugh
Coaching	Tricia Summerfield	Katherine Heenan	Finance Director	Gerry Tucker
	Jacinta Stirrat	Jacinta Stirratt	Board Member	Craig Smith
IT	Paul Watmough *	Paul Watmough *	Board Member	David Cummins
	Helen Rubin Pauline Samson	Helen Rubin Pauline Samson	Board Member	Ian Davis
Membership	Therese Crollick *	Therese Crollick *	National Presidents	1975 - 2008
	Mike Walker Neil Keele	Neil Keele	Bill Lough	1975 - 1978
	Neil Keele	Owen Sinden	Peter Jackson	1978 - 1984
			Ivan Wingate	1985 - 1988
Records	Lynne Malone Pauline Samson *	Lynne Malone Pauline Samson *	Graeme McDougall	1989 - 1992
			Glenys McDonald	1993 - 1998
Paul	Paul Watmough	Paul Watmough	Mary Sweeney	1999 - 2005
Swim Meet	Jeanette Holowiuk Lynne Malone	Jeanette Holowiuk John Pollock *	John Pugh	2005 - present

Lynne Malone

Technical

Judith Crawford Fran O'Hara	Derek Coghill Judith Crawford
Gary Stutsel *	John Marshall
Derek Coghill	Fran O'Hara
John Marshall	Gary Stutsel *
Tracey Dobby	Tracey Dobby
	Phil Beames

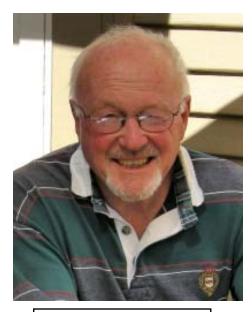
^{*} Chairman

John Pollock *

Life Members

Kay Cox Peter Gillett (deceased) Glenys McDonald Gary Stutsel Ivan Wingate Darryl Hawkes Mary Sweeney Pauline Samson **David Cummins**

President's Report



John Pugh, National President

As I have written previously, the President's task in the annual report is to give a broad historical overview of the Association's activities during the year just past, and to do so from the point of view of the National Board of Management and the National Office. Details of these activities are given in accompanying reports from the CEO, Finance Officer and chairs of the National Committees.

The 35% of our members who are keen competitive swimmers were well served with competitions. These included the Asia Pacific Outgames in Melbourne, the National Swim, also in Melbourne, the FINA World Masters Swim in Perth, the Central Australian Masters Games in Alice Springs and the Pan Pacs in Brisbane. The feature of these competitions, and I took part in all but the Pan Pacs, was the excellent way in which the meets were run by volunteer branch officials. If there were 'behind the scene' problems most swimmers were not aware of them, which is as it should be.

The WA Branch deserves special

mention for the way they managed the huge number of at the competitors World Championships. There were 3,266 competitors in the pool and open water swims compared with average 500 in national swims. Roughly a third of the swimmers were Australian and the rest from 71 other countries. Over 700 volunteer officials were used to manage and control heats taking place in two pools concurrently. FINA was highly satisfied with the event and a swimmers perspective was reflected in a compliment from Michael Moore, convener of the previous World Masters Championships at Stanford, which was a fair indicator of 'consumer' satisfaction with the swimming events.

On the home front, our national recorder applied for 28 world records and 606 national records were set during the year, not to mention a myriad of branch records, so the 'elite' swimmers clearly took most of the competitive opportunities available.

The majority of members who preferred just to swim for fitness and fun had a variety of club and branch activities to satisfy them, although we need to encourage more clubs and people to do aerobic swims. The latter are aimed at improving fitness, swimming skills and confidence by doing swims from 400 metres up to the one hour 'marathons' and less than half our clubs took part during the year. These swims are easily incorporated into normal training sessions and are not intended as challenges for elite swimmers.

However, membership numbers are still an issue, one which is shared by other Masters swimming organisations, and the Membership and Participation Committee continues to grapple with this problem. Membership depends on clubs, the pool of volunteers willing to run them, available pool space, the timing of swim sessions and willing coaches. There is no easy answer, but we keep trying. A special research project was approved for 2009 to find out why we are not getting younger people to join us and what services we might offer to attract them.

All branches have enough money to offer coaching courses at a low or minimal cost, but the tradition of relying on volunteers tends to inhibit this from happening. The national body has adopted a policy of 'outsourcing' or buying in services to get things done, especially special projects, and it is time for branches and some of the better off clubs to do the same.

There were many changes within the National Office in 2008, including the relocation of office premises and several changes to staff. Our part-time CEO, Loren Bartley, again served us well in this role, but toward the end of 2008 gave notice to resign from this position to concentrate on the special projects that the Association had identified as priorities for 2009. In light of this decision, the National Board of Management (NBM) undertook a process of restructuring the National Office and appointed a professional recruitment company to assist with this process. Five excellent candidates were short listed for interview in December and we will benefit from the chosen candidates in 2009. Our

President's Report (cont.)

new structure will consist of a General Manager, Operations Manager and Loren Bartley's knowledge, sports industry contacts and experience retained in a contracted role as Project Manager.

An irritation to some branches was the perceived slow roll out of the Clubs Online registration database, but with the efforts of Paul Watmough and the developers IMG people have been trained to use the system and it should show its worth from now on.

We completed our first year under the new constitution and rules and the Association held two efficient and successful general meetings, one in Perth and the other in Alice Springs. The NBM held two face-to-face meetings a n d t w o teleconferences and began the process of tidying up the constitution and rules drafting the strategic plan for the Association's comments and approval.

We are a vibrant organisation that straddles the areas of sport, recreation and community health. We service our members through our many volunteers who are organised through clubs. The job of the Association and the NBM was to support members and make their activities possible and easier. I think it was something that was well done.

John Pugh President



Above: World Top 10 Swimmers



Orphans Relay team at Hervey Bay Swim Meet.

L - R : Helen Klein, Shane Gould, Jan Wick, Therese Crollick

Chief Executive Officer



Loren Bartley CEO

2008 arrived amongst a sea of changes, commencing the year under a new Constitution, with a complete new office structure, including two new staff, a new merchandising partner and a new look website. By the end of the first quarter we had relocated offices and issued a revised format newsletter, followed closely by the induction of the new National Board of Management, which took effect in April.

Many challenges were experienced throughout the year, including further changes to office personnel, disruption to management due the premature arrival of my daughter and the lack of a National Registration Database to assist with day-to-day operations. Amongst all the challenges and change, the National Office focused on improving administration processes and documenting procedures to reduce the impact of the loss of corporate knowledge that occurs with staff turnover. I am pleased to say that as we find ourselves in a similar position in regards to staff turnover at the end of 2008, we are in a much better position to train new staff and hand over to the new guard.

The National Office continued to provide the general day-to-day administrative support for Masters Swimming Australia, as well as supporting the Branches in their operations. Further details of the activities of the National Office in 2008 are outlined below.

Staffing

The year commenced with myself at Chief Executive Officer (parttime) and Vivien Merrill in the fulltime role of Executive Officer (full-Alan Howell joined the team as our part-time Administrator in March and was replaced by Belinda Vickers in late September. Maggie Timbi assisted in the middle part of the year, backfilling administrative duties whilst I was on reduced duties after the birth of my daughter in April. Emma Carney assisted with IT special projects in the later part of the year.

Office Relocation

The National Office relocated on 25 March 2008 to Sports House, located alongside Melbourne Sports and Aquatics Centre (MSAC) in Albert Park.

Website and Branding

A revised Masters Swimming Australia website and the new domain name

www.mastersswimming.org.au, was launched on 7 January 2008, along with a new look for the organisation and a move to a website that is easier to manage from the National Office perspective, with a user-friendly content management system. The new visual look for the website has since been carried forward and used on corporate banners, business cards, office stationary and the like.

Newsletter

AUSSI Masters News adopted a new format in 2008, with a new look reflecting the revised corporate branding, A5 in size and a coloured cover. Despite the revised format being well received, the feasibility of replacing the current print version with an enewsletter was investigated. At a time when organisations are being encouraged to reduce their carbon footprint, there are many benefits of adopting an enewsletter. Although cost is a big one, increasing readership is the primary drive, as in its current format the newsletter achieves an extremely small reach for the efforts required and cost of producing the quarterly publication. The new National Registration Database will enable the capacity to e -mail an e-newsletter directly to our membership. With reduced costs and the elimination of delays caused by printing and mailing, we will be able to e-mail more timely information on a more frequent basis. The decision to change to an e-news format in 2009 was endorsed at the October Board meeting.

Facebook



The Masters Swimming Australia group was set up on Facebook mid-July 2008 and finished the year with more than 200 friends. The group was set up to promote Masters Swimming Australia and to seek feedback from members and non-members as to what programs, competitions, social functions, services, etc we could offer to better meet their needs. This forum was chosen in particular to access the younger demographic (that is more likely to use Facebook).

Merchandising

Chief Executive Officer (cont.)

In a new commercial arrangement with Swimmeroo.com. Masters Swimming Australia was able for the first time to provide AUSSI branded merchandise for sale to its members through an on-line store, accessible via the Masters Swimming Australia website. The launch of this service was kick started with a World Masters range of licensed AUSSI branded merchandise and other related products available for sale at the Swimmeroo Superstore at the FINA World Masters. Plans to expand the range of merchandise on offer are underway.

Sponsorship

Vorgee continued as the major sponsor of Masters Swimming Australia in 2008, with many Branches choosing to take up the offer of benefits available to Branches through this agreement. The National Office worked throughout the year on increasing the presence of Vorgee products available for sale through our on-line store.

Masters Swimming Australia retained International Sports Tours as our preferred agent for travel and accommodation for the next four years through to May 2012. Several other potential sponsorship opportunities were investigated without success.

Swim Meets

In regard to swim meets, the National Office assisted in the administration of the National Swim in Melbourne and coordinated member benefits for those travelling to the FINA World Masters. This included implementing the Championship Membership Category, providing commemorative AUSSI caps to all swimmers with the assistance of Vorgee and arranging travel subsidies for all interstate technical

officials attending the event. The National Office was also very actively involved in bringing the 2nd Oceania Masters Championships to life, in an attempt to boost Masters Swimming within the re-After a false start with Queensland hosting the event in conjunction with the 2009 National Masters Swimming Championships, we were able to successfully bid for the event to be hosted by the Tasmanian Branch in 2010. Initial planning for the 12th Australian Masters Games was undertaken by the National Office prior to Victoria Branch establishing a Swim Meet Committee for this event.

National Registration Database

We were flying blind or so to speak for most of the year, with no National Registration Database to assist us with our day-today operations. Toward the latter part of the year, the National Office assisted with the roll out strategy for the new National Registration Database. Thanks to Paul Watmough for the countless hours he has put into working with IMG to shape the Clubs Online management tool to meet the needs of our organisation, a process that is still ongoing. Paul was also responsible for transferring the data from all of the club's member spreadsheets into the new database and continues to oversee the integrity of the data within this new system.

Moving forward, the customization of the National Registration Database to allow it to better service the full data capturing and reporting needs of the organisation is to be a priority. At the moment the National Office still maintains a separate internal database that captures information in relation to Coaching and Officiating Courses and Accreditations, Medical Disabilities, Million Metre Awards and key contacts. By

integrating this capability into the National Registration database, this information will be more accessible to the Branches and individual members for manipulation and reporting as appropriate.

Meetings

Behind the scenes, the National Office prepared for and successfully conducted the Annual General Meeting and General Meeting in Perth (April) and the General Meeting in Alice Springs (October), as well as distributing the amended Constitution, By Laws, Rules and Handbook Introduction. The National Office also coordinated several National Board of Management meetings throughout the year.

The National Board of Management undertook a planning session in November, which focused on the key priorities and direction for the organisation, as well as considering how a more closely aligned partnership between Masters Swimming Australia and Swimming Australia may benefit both organizations and the wider swimming community.

Swimming Australia

Kevin Neil's appointment as the new CEO of Swimming Australia Ltd presented an opportunity to resume discussions on how our two organisations can work more closely together and several meetings were held in the latter part of 2008 to get this process started.

I represented Masters Swimming Australia at the Telstra Swimmer of the Year Presentation Dinner in Sydney, where I was honoured to be able to witness Grant Hackett's retirement speech firsthand, as well as enjoy the quality events their organisation has the capacity to deliver.

Chief Executive Officer (cont.)

Although both organisations have unique differences, there are certain to be areas where the sharing of resources will be of benefit to all.

Victorian Branch Service Agreement

The National Office has continued to perform the administrative duties of the Victorian Branch, as per the service agreement.

Coaching

In lieu of no Coaching Chair in 2008. I took a leading role in the strategic planning for the Coaching Committee. Of particular importance was the planning for the resubmission of the Masters Swimming Australia coach accreditation programs to the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) for approval prior to when our current programs are due to expire in September 2009. A Consultant has been contracted to review the entire Masters Swimming coaching framework (L1M, L2M and Coaching Adult Swimmers Specialty Course) in 2009.

Masters Swimming Australia signed up to the ASC Sports Accreditation On-line System (SAO), which is a requirement for courses accredited with the NCAS and NOAS. SAO enables a more streamlined process to uploading and sharing coach and official accreditation information with the ASC and Branches.

The National Office assisted the Victorian Branch in conducting a pilot of a revised version of the Level 1M Coaching Course, utilising the Coaching Adult Swimmer resource. The feasibility of conducting a Level 2M Coaching Course in 2009 was also investigated. There is significant interest and the feasibility of potential venues is currently being considered.

Membership and Participation

The National Office assisted the Membership and Participation Committee throughout the year as ex-officio on the Committee and undertook initial planning for the 2009 research project in which the barriers to participation for younger swimmers will

be investigated and a working party of 20-35 year old swimmers will be engaged to address the issues raised.

Technical

The National Office supported the Technical Committee in revising the Masters Swimming Australia Officiating Accreditation Program, in line with the revised National Officiating Accreditation Scheme (NOAS) Guidelines. The National Office also updated the national website, under the guidance of the Technical Committee, to include a Technical Officials page that includes information on all the technical courses and relevant forms and processes to achieve accreditation and effectively operate as an official poolside.

Looking Forward to 2009

Looking forward to 2009, it should be a good one. Our National Registration Database is up and running and will make both registrations and operations much easier, however much work is still required to integrate our other databases into the system and customise it to better suit our organisations requirements at all levels. We have some great projects in the pipeline for 2009, including the new Aerobics program, a research project to ascertain the barriers to participation for younger swimmers and the establishment of a working party of younger swimmers to address the issues raised, as well as the revision of the our Coaching Framework.

There will also be some significant changes to improve the administration of the National Office in 2009, including the commencement of annual National Administrators Workshops for all Branch Administrators, an upgrade of the National Office IT infrastructure and a new office structure, with a General Manager, Operations Manager and Project Manger.

I would like to thank the National Board of Management, Branch Secretaries/Administrators, Branch Delegates, our National Committee Members and staff for all their great work and support throughout the year.

Loren Bartley Chief Executive Officer Masters Swimming Australia

Director of Finance



Above: Gerry Tucker Finance Director

Director of Finance

This report is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying audited financial reports.

Preamble

The financial year 2008 was an unusual year for the organization with staff changes at both the beginning and the end of the year, relocation of the National Office "across town", the receipt of a one-off transaction arising from the FINA World Championships in Perth and the collapse of the registration recording system at the beginning of the year followed by the introduction of the new Clubs Online system in November.

All of these factors have led to a complex year, financially, but nonetheless one that has produced a balanced result for the year.

Income and Expenditure Statement

Notwithstanding the complexities of 2008, the National Body recorded a minimal normal operating loss of \$195 for the year, against a budgeted surplus of \$851. This difference of \$1,046 should be viewed in the context of gross receipts and expenses each in the order of \$240,000 or less than 0.5% of gross receipts.

Extraordinary item

The financial statements include an extraordinary item of \$33,045. This amount is the net proceeds from the \$100,000 grant paid to the National Body from the Western Australian Sports Trust in relation to the hosting of the FINA World Championships in Perth. Of the gross amount received, \$50,000 was passed on to the WA Branch. The balance was utilized in accommodation allowances for interstate officials, marketing materials and caps for Australian participants. The remainder of this surplus has been earmarked for Special Projects in 2009.

Special Projects

In addition to the net operating budget, the National Body budgeted to incur expenses of \$35,000 on special projects (Coaching, Members and Participation and IT). Actual expenditure incurred during the year on these projects was \$6,100, mainly on IT. The shortfall continues to be a lack of appropriate resources available to work on these projects, something that should be addressed next year with the establishment of a new Project Manager role to drive the special projects of the Association.

Balance Sheet

The National Body continues to be in a sound financial position. Financial obligations to others are minimal. Our financial strength in these difficult times is provided by our positive cash position. This, in turn, enables us to fulfill our plans to upgrade our computer systems and software and to proceed with other special projects listed for action in 2009.

Gerry Tucker Finance Director

Independent Audit Report

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc

Income Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2008

Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
INCOME		
Advertising		420
Branch affiliations	1,432	1,432
Interest received	16,820	15,654
Registrations	183,534	165,453
Sanction fees	4,574	4,716
Sale of publications and merchandise	2,652	4,710
Sponsorships	10,665	12,000
Sundry income	426	914
Victorian administration fee	19,211	18,710
Total Income	239,314	219,299
EXPENSES		
Affiliations and subscriptions	245	700
Audit fees	800	1,100
Awards, trophies & gifts	460	617
Bank charges	117	600
Computer software	3,293	595
Depreciation	5,620	1,832
Insurance	32,241	33,864
Internet fees	815	506
Legal fees	5,212	2,337
Member registration management fee	1,536	5,000
Office IT	2,979	-
Other costs	2,293	3,018
Phone & fax	3,285	3,863
Printing, postage & stationery	10,214	6,708
Publications	8,226	7,412
Relocation costs	3,287	-
Rental & utilities	9,080	16,874
Sponsorship	1,504	3,556
Staff recruitment	9,741	706
Travel & accommodation expenses	31,481	20,810
Wages & salaries	107,080	101,993
Total Expenses	239,509	212,091
NET OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(195)	7,208
Extraordinary income 2	33,045	-
Less special projects		
IT committee	5,567	743
Other projects	533	15,407
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	26,750	(8,942)

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes Page 2

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc

Balance Sheet

As At 31 December 2008

	Note	2008	2007 \$
ASSETS			
Current assets Cash Inventories Prepayments	3	265,747 500	239,665 500 609
Accounts receivable	4 _	6,295	6,126
Total current assets	_	272,542	246,900
Non-current assets Shares Property, plant and equipment	5 _	- 17,628	10 7,578
Total non-current assets	_	17,628	7,588
TOTAL ASSETS		290,170	254,488
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities Trade and other payables Revenue received in advance Employee entitlements	6	15,117 13,589 385	11,170 8,992 -
Total current liabilities	_	29,091	20,162
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_	29,091	20,162
NET ASSETS	_	261,079	234,326
EQUITY Accumulated funds	7 _	261,079	234,326
TOTAL EQUITY	_	261,079	234,326

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc

Treasurer's Declaration

31 December 2008

In the opinion of the treasurer, the financial report as set out on pages 2 to 5:

- (a) presents fairly the financial position of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc as at 31 December 2008 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements:
- (b) satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria) 1981 to prepare accounts; and
- (c) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Treasurer

Dated 16 March 2009

Auditors Independence Declaration

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 December 2008 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria) 1981 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Chartered Accountants

rrott & Garrott

Ian R Wright Audit Partner

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2008

1 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the accounts preparation requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria) 1981.

The committee have determined that the AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc is not a reporting entity and therefore there is no need to apply Australian Accounting Standards or other mandatory professional reporting requirements in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with previous periods unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report:

(a) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, is depreciated on a diminishing value basis over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

(b) Revenue

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

(c) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2008

		2008 \$	2007 \$
2	Extraordinary Income Surplus of grant from the West Australian Sports Trust in relation to the FINA World Masters Swimming		
	Championships in Perth, WA, April 2008	33,045	-
		33,045	-
3	Cash		
	Cash on hand	10	63
	Westpac cheque account	10,073	22,580
	CBA term deposit	167,292	-
	CBA bank bill Westpac Idirect account	- 88,372	156,500 60,522
	Westpac fullect account	265,747	239,665
		<u> </u>	
4	Receivables		
	Accounts receivable	5,194	3,301
	GST receivable	1,101	2,825
		6,295	6,126
5	Property, Plant and Equipment		
3	Plant and equipment at cost	45,559	29,889
	Accumulated depreciation	(27,931)	(22,311)
		17,628	7,578
6	Trade and Other Payables		
•	Trade creditors	3,687	7,670
	PAYG	3,642	2,696
	Superannuation	•	53
	Accruals	7,788	750
		15,117	11,169
7	Accumulated Funds		
	Accumulated funds brought forward	234,326	243,267
	Net income/(loss) for the period	26,750	(8,942)
		261,079	234,324

DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE Masters Swimming Australia Year ended 31 December 2008

PLANT & EQUIPMENT	Original Cost	Depreciation Rate %	Opening WDV	Depreciation charged	Closing WDV
Conference Phone		10	33	3	30
Printer	878			3	
Floppy disk drive	172			0	
Office furniture (various)	3,409			163	1,467
Compac modem & monitor	2,778			31	
Filing Cabinet	245		117	12	105
Colour Jet printer & cable	172	40	5	2	3
Telephone handset	72	10	34	3	31
Laser printer Xerox docuprint2125	2,500	40	70	28	42
Konica photocpier/document feeder	5,855	40	273	109	164
Refrigerator (GR-131SSF)	273	33	25	8	17
Telephone handset and headset	403	10	214	21	193
Microwave oven (MS 194A)	149	33	13	4	9
Elite 4 Drawer filing cabinet	226	10	120	12	108
Digital camera- Pentax Opto 330 RS	906	40	43	17	26
Filing Cabinet trolleys (2)	140	10	75	8	68
IBM Think Pad	2,133	40	191	76	115
Filing cabinets (2)	362	10	214	21	193
Brother fax 645 plain paper	217	20	71	14	57
Predator CD writer	272	33	37	12	25
Trophy display cabinet	1,414	10	928	93	835
Intel Celeron 2.4 Ghz system	764	40	100	40	60
Panasonic KX-P7100 laser printer	291	40		15	
Trophy display cabinet	2,035	40			
Telephone system	2,293			389	
Bother HL5250DN printer	429			134	200
Office Chair	467	10	- 11 11000000	44	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH
	28,855		6,536	1,370	5,166
Additions					
MacBook laptop	1,770	40	1,770	649	1,121
Konica Minolta photocopier	9,171	40		3,057	
Desktop computer	1,809	40		422	
Vinyl Banner	1,153	20		38	
Retractable banner	1,148				
Stationary cupboard	348				
Whiteboard	271	10	271	19	252
	15,670		15,670	4,250	11,420
Accumulated depreciation	44,525		22,206	5,620	16,585

National Coaching Committee

Coaching Courses

Two coaching courses were conducted in 2008, one Coaching Adult Swimmers specialty course at the 2008 ASCTA Convention on the Gold Coast in April and one Level 1M held durina November in Victoria. The Victorian course was conducted as a pilot under a revised twoday format and split over two The workbook was weekends. also reduced in size and the Coaching Adult Swimmers resource was used as the reference. These changes were introduced to reduce the barriers for potential coaches to attend, such as time commitment, reluctance to give up a whole weekend and the amount of work required to complete the workbook, as well as addressing the barriers preventing Branches from conducting courses, such as cost of conducting the course (room hire and presenters) and the amount of administration time required to set up the course. The piloted course successful, with more than twenty candidates participating to gain their L1M accreditation, as well as several coaches attending the first day to gain their re-accreditation. Positive feedback was received and will assist in the Coaching Framework Review to conducted in 2009.

After a call for interest, several Level 1M Masters Swimming Coaches expressed interest in undertaking a Level 2M in 2009. This will be investigated further in 2009, along with assessing feasible delivery methods, considering the expressions of interest have come from several states.

Coach Accreditations

The total number of coaches that either completed their accreditation or re-accredited in

2008 was 49, with 208 coaches holding a Masters Swimming Coaching Accreditation (L1M or L2M) as at 31 December 2008. This is a decrease of only four coaches from the previous year and hopefully the turning point from the downward trend that has continued over the past couple of years. It is great to see that several Branches have already expressed interest in conducting courses in 2009 under the course format piloted in Victoria. These opportunities will hopefully assist in building our numbers again.

Revision of Masters Swimming Coach Accreditation Framework

Masters Swimming Australia is required to resubmit their coaching courses to the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) for approval every four years. The Level 1M and Level 2M Coaching Courses are due to expire with NCAS on 15 September 2009. Special Project funding has been approved to allow the entire coaching (L1M, framework L2M and Coaching Adult Swimmers Specialty Course) to be reviewed in 2009 for resubmission to the NCAS.

Changes to SAL Swimming Coach Accreditation Pathway

Swimming Australia has replaced the Green Accreditation with the Junior Squad and Assistant Coach course. The Bronze Accreditation remains as the accepted standard for coaches implementing a diverse swim club The biggest change program. that affects the Masters Swimming Coach Accreditation pathway is that there is no longer a pre-requisite to the Bronze Accreditation. If a coach chooses to achieve the Masters Swimming Australia Level 1M Coach Accreditation by undertaking the

Coaching Adult Swimmers course, they now only have to undertake one pre-requisite course (Bronze), rather than both Green and Bronze, as was the case under the previous accreditation pathway.

Coaches choosing to achieve their Level 1M by undertaking the full Level 1M course (offered by Masters Swimming Australia) and being assessed as competent in all course competencies are not affected by this change.

Coaching Committee

The 2008 Coaching Committee consisted of two members, 'Tricia Summerfield and Jacinta Stirrat, with no Chair. The Coaching Committee communicated throughout the year mainly via email, with the National Office driving the progress of the When committee committee. elections came around, 'Tricia chose not to stand again and Katherine Heenan came on board as Chair. Two members on a Coaching Committee are not To ensure coaching enough. remains a strong focus of Masters Swimming Australia, as it has been in the past, we need individuals who are passionate about coaching to assist the ongoing development of Masters Swimming Coaches by playing an active role on the Coaching Committee.

Loren Bartley Masters Swimming Australia (on behalf of the National Coaching Committee)

National IT Committee



Above: Paul Watmough



Clubs Online

Our systems and processes are dependent upon the need for a swimmer registration database. The move to Clubs Online has been challenging at all levels of the organization. The demise of the previous swimmer registration database has been well documented elsewhere therefore I won't repeat it here.

While we hoped to achieve a relatively painless transition from the SwimNet system to the new system, the inability of SwimNet to provide a system forced us to adopt a tactical solution to registrations; each Branch was requested to provide certain data. In most cases this was adhered to. however due to a variety of communications issues (change of staff, misunderstanding etc), quite a lot of data was not kept on new swimmers by some Branches. This caused considerable difficulties when we came to load the data at a later stage.

In terms of implementing Clubs Online, this became critical.

IMG, the company running Clubs Online recommended a two day hands-on training seminar in Melbourne to be attended by those who were most likely to be involved in answering day to day questions from club registrars. Therefore it was decided to run a two day session in Melbourne, funded by the National Office and attendees were mainly the Branch administrators and the then National office staff.

This was then followed up with 'webinars'; which were on-line sessions where attendees were sitting in front of their PC's and connected via telephone to a central point and taken through two formal training sessions. Sue Kempson from Malvern Marlins provided documentation for both parts of this training, with access given to all interested parties (Branch & Club) to a test environment in which they could without causing 'play' damage.

At the end of May 2008, a two day seminar was held in Melbourne at the IMG premises, with attendance from all Branches and National Office staff.

Data had been provided to IMG from the SwimNet database at the end of 2007. Unfortunately IMG were not able to complete a load of data until the middle of August.

The training webinars started in September. Initially these were run by IMG and then taken over by Masters Swimming (myself). 14 webinars were run through September and October in preparation for the end of year. Once club registrars had attended the webinars, they were sent a login/password to give

them access to the 'live' system, together with a 'Fact Sheet' to enable them to send e-mails to their club members, specifically for login & passwords. As a parallel process we undertook that the downstream systems (Meet Manager & Aerobics) were catered for in terms of extract formats. One of these was provided for each Branch. We also had the for conversion program MM modified to reflect the new format.

A number of the Branches adopted the new system with few problems. The larger Branches, with more clubs had more problems particularly relating to the mix of on-line payment versus on-line registration/manual payment.

The richness of options at the various levels has caused difficulties, it must be remembered that the bias of this system is to use the payment gateway, manual payments are secondary and involve additional processes.

The 6% admin fee has also been a major stumbling block.

Financial reporting, particularly at the Branch level is very light and this has caused considerable angst at various levels of the organization, resulting in delays in manual payment of the National fee.

If we aggressively adopt an online payment strategy, all of the need for multiple accounting and reconciliation would be avoided.

What Next?

Helen Rubin, NSW has developed detailed training documentation for NSW and has run a 'classroom' training seminar with great success. Her

National IT Committee (cont.)

approach has been to avoid 'dirty data', a variation of garbage in/ garbage out. Helen has worked very hard to resolve many of the NSW implantation issues.

Pauline Samson took all of her club registrars through the system, using the documentation provided by Sue Kempson.

Webinars & dedicated classroom sessions will be undertaken over the coming year, particularly as we lead up to the next season.

Lessons learned in this year will be taken into account moving forward.

The Meet Registration feature is available and will be 'soft released' over the next couple of weeks, with candidates for on-line registration being identified.

Other features such as subscription invoicing (annual subscription fees generated as well as other fees ie training), generated by the system will be promoted, documented and part of training for the next season.

Aerobics

Due to the effort involved by all of the National IT Committee with the Clubs Online implementation, no further activity in terms of testing was undertaken with the Aerobics II system. That will now become the priority to complete for 2009.

The Clubs Online system export capability provides for an input file into Aerobics II.

Meet Manager

The current version of Meet 2.0 is due for replacement this year. At this stage, Active Network, the company who acquired Hy-Tek has not issued a release date.

I would expect that the reporting on the new system will be replaced completely, avoiding many of the issues currently encountered with the very old version of Crystal reports built into the system.

It can be expected that there will be a terminal release of Meet Manager Two sometime towards the end of this year. The version of MM will continue to work (as does 1.4 today), but no further maintenance releases will be provided.

Paul Watmough
Chair – National IT Committee



Challenge Stadium. Venue for XII FINA World Masters '08 Championships

National Membership & Participation Committee



Above: Theresa Crollick

2008 saw the election of three new members to the M&P committee – Owen Sinden and Mike Walker as well as the re election of Neil Keele and myself; between us we have a broad range of experience in Masters Swimming and represent city and regional areas.

We set ourselves a number of tasks, which we continue to work on, they focus on providing new opportunities for current clubs and their members to be given more resources, to challenge themselves in their swimming goals and to be better able to understand, attract and keep younger members.

The committee was able to secure funding from the National Board to enable a number of workshops to be conducted in several Branches focusing on what attracts the under 35's and what are the impediments to

attracting and keeping this age group. Loren Bartley has undertaken to conduct these workshops in 2009 and has done some research into marketing methods used by several large companies which will give her a background to work within this project.

Other projects which we are working on are a revamp of the aerobic programme to encourage the newer, less fit swimmer to participate and to give the long term, fit swimmer a new challenge; we are looking at adapting some of the Swimming Australia "Go Club" programme to Masters Swimming; the possibility of setting up corporate or business Masters clubs; expect to see more promotion of Masters Swimming at "cross over" events such as the Corporate Masters Games or open water swim events run by surf clubs or event organisations; we will also be setting up an exit survey questionnaire which we will encourage clubs to use with non renewing members as we need to better understand why members do not remain in the organisation.

A national swim meet calendar is being compiled and will go on the National web site, this means that if you are travelling you can go to the one site and see if there is a swim meet for you to attend.

I feel that the projects we are working on will have good outcomes for our members and hopefully be a means to growing membership numbers in Masters Swimming in the coming years.

Therese Crollick
Chairman
National Membership &
Participation Committee

National Membership & Participation Committee (cont.)

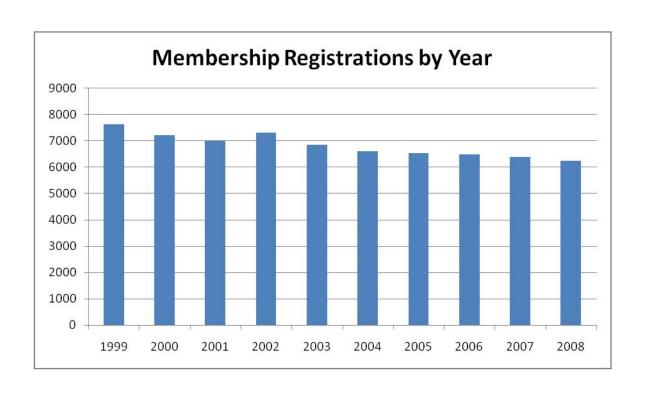
Membership by Year and Branch

Branch	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
ACT	107	115	162	169	164	152	153	140	0	0
NSW	1523	1523	1553	1624	1631	1640	1645	1670	1737	1679
NT	186	153	143	156	132	105	89	109	123	170
QLD	2009	1879	1726	1886	1660	1606	1517	1455	1414	1182
SA	732	675	719	658	597	612	611	606	605	600
TAS	323	348	321	305	301	281	309	296	298	304
VIC	1288	1195	1134	1134	1065	993	987	1013	929	963
WA	1467	1331	1238	1277	1303	1227	1217	1189	1277	1344
Total	7635	7219	6996	7309	6853	6616	6528	6478	6383	6242
<u> </u>										
Year	1 000	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008

6853

6616

6528



<u>7219</u>

6996

7309

7635

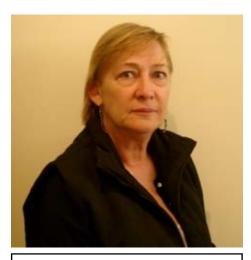
Total

6478

6383

6242

National Records Committee



Above: Pauline Samson

Looking over previous years and knowing that the recorders have been busy, does not even compare with 2008 and of course it's been a very busy and rewarding year for many swimmers.

Our swimmers had the opportunity to participate in 6 national/international meets and 124 events within the branches as well as the aerobic trophy competition.

In 2007, 1180 swimmers participated in the National Aerobic Trophy Competition representing 82 clubs. Of those swimmers, 59

achieved the maximum 390 points and another 28 completed all the swims.

There were 606 records either established or broken, 299 long course (143 female, 156 male and 35 relay) and 228 short course (108 female, 120 male and 42 relay). That also means that 914 national record certificates were issued to swimmers and clubs.

Applications for 28 world records were also submitted and approved by the World Recorder.

During 2008, it was considered necessary to request a pool survey for all pools so that records were being set or broken in regulation length pools.

Due to problems with the registration system, there were over 3500 errors in the records/results portal, including missing registration numbers, duplications, swimmers with several registration numbers, incorrect club codes and misspelled names. This caused many swimmers to be missing their rankings, however this was all corrected before the submission to World Top 10.

The points ranking system has proved to be a useful tool in selecting a swimmer of the meet, especially at the national swim.

Our records/results portal continues to be a popular place for swimmers to check their results, records and rankings within a short time after a meet.

Pauline Samson
Chair National Records
Committee

National Swim Meet Committee

Members of the Committee in 2008 were Jeanette Holowiuk (Vic), Lynne Malone (WA) and John Pollock (NT) (Chairman).

During 2008 the process of revising the National Swim Meet Guide continued, with minor changes being made as a result of changes made to the Rules and By-Laws at the May National General Meeting.

The National Swim Meet Committee maintained contact by

email – a cost effective means of operating but one that has logistical disadvantages in terms of full participation by all members in an undertaking of this nature.

Existing committee members were reappointed at the October 2008 National General Meeting.

John Pollock Chairman



Above: John Pollock

National Technical Committee



Above: Gary Stutsel

The NTC started 2008 with a set of objectives developed under the guidance of Stephen Cardiff. They were around officials, branches and technical courses as follows:

- 1. Officials
- Increase the technical officials base by 5%
- b. Increase number of accredited referees by 1.5%
- c. Introduce an Open Water Swim (OWS) Referee Course
- d. Ensure each branch has a qualified Technical Director
- Improve the content and delivery of technical education.

These were to be superimposed on our regular activities and other matters that arise when least expected. The results of 1a and 1b are not known yet, due to staff changes in the National Office and delays in the new database. We remain cautiously optimistic due to the number of courses that have run throughout the year, and the splitting of the previous Referee Course into Inspector of Turns, Judge of Stroke and Referee. We are also not aware of how many officials are no

health or pressure of paid work. Item I.c awaits completion of the review of the OWS Rules which is underway in the WA Branch.

Objective 2 now awaits only the Northern Territory Branch which has no MSA accredited referees. However NT can now readily cross accredit a SAL referee to fill this role due to moves we have made during the year to facilitate cross-accreditation.

Objective 3, which consists of two parts, is where we have had most success. The content of all courses has been reviewed and updated in 2008 to reflect rule changes and the National Officiating Accreditation Scheme's (NOAS) requirement of proof of competence during practical training. We have also changed the delivery of course material from once a year CD based to web based. This has allowed us to adopt a continuous improvement process where we learn from the delivery of courses and then make improvements to the course materials. Anyone wishing to deliver or participate in a course must now download the latest materials from the National website. The quality of delivery of courses has been improved by using qualified teachers and presenters to deliver courses. The practical sessions are being improved through guidance given to mentors and supervisors in how best to interact with trainees.

Other tasks the NTC has completed are the production of articles for each issue of the National Newsletter, the processes for both reaccreditation of MSA officials, and the awarding of MSA accreditation to Swimming Australia Limited (SAL) and other FINA members' officials. Likewise the long awaited General

Principles of Officiating course notes have been produced as has the review and mapping of all of our course materials for NOAS.

All of these changes will be reinforced at a series of Branch Workshops to be conducted in the first quarter of 2009.

The challenges for 2009 are the possible impact of the MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with SAL, the probable changes to the FINA Rules especially regarding swim suits and masters Butterfly and the continuing catch 22 of not enough officials in some areas, and not enough meets for trainees to learn at. This needs to be addressed by a two prong approach. One, clubs and members who want to compete must provide people who are prepared to become MSA officials and two, where there are not enough meets, volunteers can now train as SAL officials and when accredited seek MSA accreditation.

With the NTC now consisting of members from 6 of the 7 branches (Phil Beames SA, Derek Coghill Qld, Judith Crawford WA, Tracey Dobby Tas, John Marshall Vic and Gary Stutsel NSW/ACT) we are positioned to achieve both a top down and a bottom up approach to all technical matters that will benefit all members who become involved in competing.

Gary Stutsel, Chair NTC

National Technical Committee (cont.)

Approved Technical Courses in 2008

	Chief timekeeper	Timekeeper	Check Starter	Marshal	Starter	Referee	Inspector of turns	General Principals	Total
NSW	3	9	3	3	0	1	7	1	27
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
QLD	6	7	3	3	3	Ĩ	ľ	0	24
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	1	ı	l	I	0	1	0	0	5
WA	8	7	4	3	1	0	2	0	25



Masters Swimming Australia clubs raising money for the heart foundation 2008

AUSS,

MASTERS SWIMMING

New South Wales

Governance

Masters Swimming NSW is governed by a Board of seven members, three of whom were newly elected at the June AGM. The new Country Vice-President attends the monthly Board meetings in person. Because the President relocated interstate and resigned after the AGM, a new President and Vice President were appointed mid year. Thanks to those who served on the Board previously for their substantial contribution.

Membership

Membership figures decreased in 2008 by a small percentage. One small club folded in 2008.

Committees

The Board sincerely thanks the committee members for their continued dedication in 2008 as they play a vital role in the conduct of the Branch's activities.

Events Committee

The Events Committee is responsible for the overall organisation and conduct of all events in NSW. It monitors the calendar and recommends programs and venues

New South Wales

for all State events.

Technical Committee

This committee organises training courses and provides support and continuing education for all technical officials. Two members of this committee were actively involved in the National Technical Committee. Continued regular training courses for officials ensures that each club hosting a swim meet is able to provide its own designated officials. In 2008, concentrated efforts have gone into courses for Timekeepers and Inspectors of Turns, the focus of which is the 2009 World Masters Games. In 2008 MSNSW required that Branch records require a pool survey to be recognised.

Coaching Education and Training Committee

From the June AGM, this Branch has not had a Coaching Director so most of the administrative tasks have fallen to the Branch office. The members of the committee have continued their various tasks; one administers the allocation of resources on request from the resource list of books, DVDs and videos while another contacts the coaches who are due for reaccreditation.

Marketing and Club Development Committee

This committee seeks sponsorship and looks at marketing opportunities. The club mentoring programme is an integral function of this committee.

Communication

Our website is constantly evolving and all swim meet programs are posted on the web prior to the meets, with results listed promptly after each meet. The MSNSW newsletter Splash is produced every quarter and mailed to all members unless they have opted to receive an electronic notification. Communication with clubs is moving towards electronic contact and the Branch is looking forward to utilising the new database for this purpose.

Safety

The Branch Safety Co-ordinator continued to ensure that clubs follow the National Safety Guidelines, particularly in the completion of Incident Report Forms at all club and interclub activities.

Events

The NSW Long Course Championships were held at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre (SOPAC) over one evening and one day in March 2008, a change from the usual full weekend program. The number of swimmers entered was 371 from 44 clubs. Two world and 23 national and 43 branch records were broken at this meet.

The State Relay Meet in July was also at SOPAC with 317 swimmers from 18 clubs competing. This year we introduced 4x100m medley relays to the program. Eighteen national and 28 branch relay records were broken plus 4 national and 6 branch first split individual records.

The State Short Course Championships in October 2008 were held at Peninsula Leisure Centre at Woy Woy on the Central Coast of NSW, with 312 entries from 38 clubs. An astounding 3 world, 25 national and 54 branch records were broken.

In November the MSNSW Long Distance Championships were held as a long-course event over

New South Wales cont...

two days at Blacktown. The meet attracted 107 swimmers from 38 clubs. Seven national and 17 branch records were set at this meet.

In the Branch Point Score (BPS) annual trophy, 18 clubs hosted meets for MSNSW. Added to this were the Hunter Sports Festival in July and the Hills Long Distance Meet in August. Also in August the Events Committee ran a 'Fabulous Fun' Open meet and Cronulla Sutherland held an invitational meet. The BPS trophy winners in the four divisions were Warringah, Lake Macquarie Crocs, Gosford and Penrith.

Many of our swimmers enjoyed the competition and camaraderie at the national swim in Melbourne in April 2008 and a strong contingent of NSW swimmers attended and enjoyed the FINA Masters World Championships in Perth.

Volunteers

We again had the assistance of Volunteering NSW at state championships with timekeeping and running. Various clubs assisted with raffle-ticket selling under the direction of the Events Committee. We have some dedicated members who volunteer their time on a regular basis to assist in the office.

Government support

The funding from the NSW Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation was allocated to the sport of swimming as a whole and split with Swimming NSW Ltd; it has remained at the same reduced level as the previous year. This funding is not guaranteed for the future, notwithstanding MSNSW's obligations to run the swimming events in the 2009

World Masters Games. The Branch Office is located at Sports House in Sydney Olympic Park and the accommodation remains rent free, just paying for outgoings.

MSNSW wishes the restructured national administration plus all members, staff and volunteers of other branches every success for 2009.

Jane Noake, President, and Di Coxon-Ellis, Administrator.



Above: Scott Bidewell, Picton NSW

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MASTERS SWIMMING Queensland

2008 was a busy year for Queensland Branch with a number of projects being undertaken by the Branch administrator and Branch Executive committee.

Branch Executive

The Branch Executive met regularly throughout the year with two face-to-face meetings, one held shortly after the AGM in March and the other in December. Some of the projects which were discussed and completed were the review and rewriting of the Strategic plan, the implementation of a Dispute resolution policy, the review and rewriting of the By-Laws, the division of the South region into two separate regions - north of the Brisbane river is now the Sunshine region and south of the river remains as the South region - this will enable the respective VP's to better manage their areas, the purchase of two new Branch banners and the compilation and completion of a members survey.

Two of our ongoing projects are

Queensland

continued upgrading of our website and the development of a Branch risk management plan, we also hope to be able to implement some changes which were raised in the members survey.

Funding

The Branch was again fortunate to receive ongoing 3 year funding from the Queensland Dept of Sport and Recreation, however this year one of the conditions of the funding was that Swimming QLD and Masters swimming QLD pursue amalgamation in the near future; several meetings have occurred to discuss this issue, between our Branch Administrator, the CEO of swimming QLD and several members of the Branch Executive and the issue is yet to be resolved to both organisations satisfaction, further meetings are scheduled for the coming months.

No other major sponsorship was obtained despite numerous approaches to businesses by our Marketing Manager, however a number of event sponsors came on board for our State Championships.

Coaching

Not much activity occurred in the coaching portfolio during 2008 due mostly to unfortunate family and personal health issues with our Coaching Director which led to him having to resign his portfolio just before Christmas. We are in the process of setting up a coaching committee, which will work closely with our 4 regional Vice Presidents' to organise coaching clinics and courses in each of the regions during 2009.

Technical

Supplying enough qualified officials, especially Referees, conduct meets in our North region is an ongoing issue which we are working to rectify, being able to access resources and complete courses on-line would certainly alleviate some of the problems and we are working towards doing this during 2009. A number of courses for various positions were held in the south of the State and these were generally well attended, we are starting to see a number of those people at our meets gaining their reguired hours to complete their qualification.

Events

Our 2008 Long course State Championships was held in March at the Chandler Aquatic Centre, it was well attended with a number of National and State records being set and it gave us an opportunity for a "dry run" in preparation for the 2009 National Championships which is also being held at Chandler.

The Open Water State Championships was held on the Sunshine Coast at Lake Kawana and was also a successful event with good numbers competing over the three distances of 1.25, 2.5 and 5kms, this will also be the venue for the 2009 National Open Water swim.

Next year this event will move north to Townsville and be run in conjunction with the Rats of Tobruk pool meet in August, any Masters swimmer who wants to escape the southern winter for a few days is welcome to join us.

Queensland cont....

November saw the Qld Branch once again host the swimming and Open Water swimming sections of the Pan Pac Games, this was a well run meet with each day finishing early enough to allow plenty of time for shopping and socialising. The Open Water event attracted over 100 competitors and was held at the beautiful Currumbin Creek, the main problem was that the tide went out quicker than we could swim and some of the competitors became "beached" on part of the course, walking a few steps and diving back in did not result in any DQ's by the Referees who understood the situation.

Our club meet calendar was full as usual and although some clubs had fewer competitors than in previous years, most ran successful meets with plenty of fun and friendship afterwards.

Other Happenings

Our website has been significantly upgraded and now has a lot more features and information, plus is much easier for the Branch Administrator and Branch Executive members to put their own information on it without having to go through the webmaster, as we get used to it, it gets better and better.

The Branch newsletter is having a major upgrade and will look much more professional, thanks to our Branch Administrator Helga.

The Branch President, Administrator and several Branch Executive members attended a number of functions during the year where useful contacts were made and hopefully the profile of Masters Swimming was raised, the highlight was our attendance at the Q Sport Awards night at the Brisbane Exhibition Centre where we were seated at the same table as Michael Bohl and Olympic gold medal relay swimmer, Kylie Palmer, We told so many people what a great night it was and who we sat with, that now we have members in Cairns saying they want to come to the 2009 event!

2008 was a year for building, changing and then consolidating; 2009 will certainly have a focus on coaching, building membership and of course hosting the National Championships.

Therese Crollick
President



Masters Swimmers in action



MASTERS SWIMMING

South Australia

Branch

South Australia AUSSI Masters Swimming completed a successful year of fun, friendship and fitness – with a little bit of competition too. The main office holders continued in their respective positions to manage the Branch affairs. All positions within the branch are voluntary with a small honorarium paid to the Branch Secretary. The SA Branch continues to be in a sound financial position.

Local Swim Meets

Two State Cups (long course and short course), 3 Interclubs and a long distance swim (long course) were conducted during the year. Swimmer numbers were consistent with recent years with less than 25% of members participating regularly in competitions. We would like to see this number grow.

Nine Open Water Swims were held last summer and numbers entering continue to grow which is an excellent achievement by the clubs who conduct the events. The Branch conducted its 7th Jetty to Jetty Long Swim on Aus-

South Australia

tralia Day with numbers being maintained each year. It is an excellent event enjoyed by all. The main purchase for the year was a new Open Water Swim Trailer which is more user friendly.

Grants and Sponsorship

The Branch receives an Operational Grant from the Office of Recreation and Sport. The grant is currently \$12,000 per year and this assists with costs of our swim program and we are continually trying to encourage greater country involvement.

The SA Branch receives sponsorship from Vorgee in line with their offer to all state groups. Our marketing brochure and annual calendar are produced to promote Masters Swimming across the state. The branch maintains a Notice Board at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre to advertise events and promote AUSSI.

Clubs Online

Our Branch is well placed with the introduction of the new online registration system thanks to the great work of our Branch Registrar, Jeremy Clarke.

Major Swim Events

SA swimmers were again well represented at a range of events including the FINA World Masters (Perth), the National Swim (Melbourne) and the Alice Springs Masters Games.

Life Membership

SA Branch Life Membership was awarded to John Gamlen at the May AGM for service to the Branch in a range of roles over many years.

Website

The Branch is currently entering into an agreement to launch a new website to replace the current aging version.

John Gamlen
Branch Secretary

Mike Walker Branch President

Northern Territory



MASTERS SWIMMING

Northern Territory

Swim Meets

The NT Branch held five swim meets during 2008. The Branch Long Course Championships were held in conjunction with the Alice Springs Masters Games and the Short Course Championships were held in Darwin in March. Three email interclub meets were conducted during the year - in January, March and November. The January meet was also an open Australia Day Carnival and the November meet was again a major Branch regional promotion hosted in Katherine by the reactivated Katherine Kroaks AUSSI Masters Club.

International Events

A team from Darwin Stingers competed in the Singapore International Masters Meet in September.

Funding

The main source of funding for the Branch was again the NT Office of Sport and Recreation, whose generous grant covered all branch administration costs and provided funds for travel subsidies and other activities.



Above: Darwin Stingers Relay Team

Branch Meetings

Regular Branch meetings were held in Darwin, with Darwin members representing the Alice Springs and Katherine clubs. The AGM was held in Alice Springs in October.

Membership

Membership increased by 39% in 2008 to 170, due mainly to the reformation of the Katherine Club. Alice Springs had 28 members, Darwin 103 and Katherine 39.

Top Ten Rankings

For the fourth year in succession, two Branch members from Darwin Club, achieved listings in the FINA World Masters Top Ten for 2007 – Rosemary Bromwich (80-84) and Gerda Williams (65-69). Many other members featured prominently in the AUSSI Top Ten rankings.

National Aerobic Competition

Two of the NT clubs - Darwin and Alice Springs – competed in the 2007 National Aerobic Competition. Darwin was placed 8th in the overall point score and 22nd in the Aerobic Award, while Alice Springs' placings were 34th and 15th.

John Pollock
Branch Secretary

AUSS/

MASTERS SWIMMING

Tasmania

The Branch continues along in a fairly low key manner, with meetings held quarterly, either by teleconference or in conjunction with a State swim meet. Given our small size, all the work required to keep the Branch running smoothly is done by volunteers.

As at 31 December 2008, our membership remains stable around the 300 mark, with seven clubs in the three regional areas of the State. One southern club did not renew its affiliation in January 2008 and most members transferred to another club.

Activities

There were four Branch Championship events during 2008:

The Summer Long Course Championships in February hosted by Devonport Masters and held at Devonport;

The Short Course Long Distance Championships in May run by the Branch in two locations (Hobart and Launceston):

The Winter Short Course Championships in August hosted by Talays Masters and held in

Tasmania

Hobart; and the Long Course Long Distance Championships in November run by the Branch in Hobart.

The Branch trialed using a new method for selecting the Swimmers of the Meet to reflect the FINA pointscore. The change has been well received.

In addition there were a number of interclub time trials and aerobic swim events during the year.

Highlights

A contingent of Tasmanians representing four clubs attended the FINA World Masters Championships in Perth in April with many achieving placings and medals in the top ten and also setting State records.

Talays Masters Club again was successful in the 2007 National Aerobic Trophy and received both the Champion Club Award and the Aerobic Award for the club achieving the highest number of points per registered swimmer. The award was presented at the

National Swim in Melbourne.

Tasmania is hosting the 2010 National Swim as a short course swim and preparations are well underway. We look forward to it being held in the redeveloped Windmill Hill swimming complex in Launceston which is nearing completion.

The Branch AGM will be held on 14 February 2009.

Anne Horner President



The Launceston Lemmings final training session before the Windmill Hill closed for their facility upgrade

Victoria



MASTERS SWIMMING Victoria

2008 was a very busy swimming year for Masters Swimming Victoria with a greater than usual Swimming Calendar successfully undertaken by the Branch.

Apart from a very successful interclub & Branch championship calendar, Melbourne hosted an International meet in February 2008, the 12th Asia-Pacific Out Games, with Masters Swimming Victoria providing officials to the Meet and Glamourheads as the host Club. The Meet was a very

relaxed and fun event and quite a number of records were broken by a broad variety of Victorian and NSW AUSSI members.

This event was a good lead up for our officials for the 33rd National swim, held over Easter at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre, (MSAC). The numbers were well down compared to the 2007 National Swim; it was always going to be very difficult, with the Worlds being held in Perth in the same vear and our swim being held over Easter. It was recommended that the National Board of Management should consider the location, timing and potential clashes with international swimming events, when planning for the National Swim.

Nevertheless, those who attended enjoyed themselves.

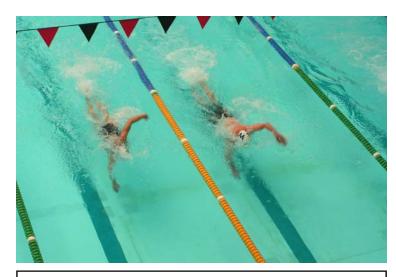
At the 2009 Annual General Meeting, I will not be seeking to stand as President for another term. With increasing demands from my work (my day job) I find I cannot provide the effort that is needed to sustain

such a demanding role. We are currently seeking a replacement.

There are again many people I would like to thank, who have made my job easier; Colin McCraith – VP External Affairs, whose efforts in talking to a variety of existing & potential clubs has been invaluable. John Marshall for his work in building a team of technical officials to enable us to run effective and professional meets. Bruce Ripper for his unique approach as Finance Director.

I wish the Branch every success in moving into the 2009/2010 season, I'll still be involved as the Recording Director; gradually building that team up too.

Paul Watmough President



Swimmers competing at the 33rd National Swim

Western Australia



MASTERS SWIMMING

Western Australia

2008 was another exciting year in WA with the centerpiece being the FINA World Masters Swimming Championships held in April. Many WA members enjoyed either competing or working as a volunteer and as a result many legacies were achieved including a financial benefit for members and the up-skilling of WA personnel for the future.

Another positive outcome was increased awareness and profile of Masters Swimming in WA. Membership numbers increased to a total of 1,298 after some excellent promotional strategies being employed during the year at both State and Club level to enthuse competitive swimmers for the World Masters as well as those keen to swim regularly for fitness and health. Our Clubs worked hard at promoting the FINA World Masters, some attracting new members specifically for the Worlds event and some who have stayed on after enjoying the benefits offered at their club.

Additionally 46 swimmers joined the Black Swan club to participate in the World Championships with

the outcome that some have now the joined a regular Club.

2008 Highlights

2008 FINA World Masters Championships proved to be a great event for our members, who either enjoyed competing, volunteering or socializing at the event.

2008 Annual Awards function held in May celebrated our achievements from the Worlds and in particular our key officials and volunteers who were invited as guests and presented with their commemorative medals.

2008 BE ACTIVE State Swim was held in August as the first short course state championships and was a rounding success with increased participation numbers.

HeartSwim, the 3-hour fundraising relay event conducted to raise much-needed funds for the Heart Foundation's cardiovascular research, raised \$15,000, which is a credit to our members, volunteers and corporate teams who participated on 1 November at Challenge Stadium.

In December, 65 participants took to the water at South Beach for the annual BE ACTIVE Novice Ocean swim over 400 metres, with some completing the course twice which bodes well for other ocean events during the summer season.

Promotions

Membership growth initiatives continued to achieve good results of awareness through implementation of various strategies including partnerships with Diabetes WA and other organisations all of which are coordinated by our part-time Project Coordinator. The

BE ACTIVE Sandgropers Club forms part of this initiative and is also managed by the Project Coordinator.

The One-Club concept of promoting affiliation and membership to current "kids" clubs was promoted with the emphasis on attracting former swimmers or parents of current juniors to compete in the 2008 FINA World Masters. The Barracudas and Derby swimming clubs affiliated under this model during 2008 with their adult members keen to be part of Masters Swimming programs.

Our number plates program gained momentum during 2008 with 31 cars in WA now promoting "Fitness, Friendship and Fun" through Masters Swimming WA.

The annual launch of the Open Water Swims calendar at the launch of the BE ACTIVE Spring into Swimming project was another successful event, this year held in conjunction with the 2008 BE ACTIVE State Swim at Challenge Stadium with a captive audience.

Sponsorship

Healthway's sponsorship of our organisation through the Heart Foundation's BE ACTIVE health message has grown both financially and with partnership benefits since it was first sourced in 2002, in particular the financial support for employment of our part-time Project Coordinator. Sponsorship for the annual Open Water Swims calendar was again achieved from ZOGGS in WA who also continue to support Masters Swimming WA with prize packs through the year.

We continue to receive great

Western Australia cont...



Above: World Masters Championships Officials

financial and governance support from the State Governmentthrough the Department of Sport and Recreation, a partnership which is greatly valued.

Club and Coach support:

As part of our Coach education program under the Ford and Doonan sponsorship we conducted a further 2 workshops in 2008 with Olympian and adult squad Coach Bill Kirby. The March session concentrated on assisting club coaches in the lead -up to the 2008 FINA World Masters and the October session worked on planning for the upcoming open water season.

In August we conducted the annual open water swimming workshop for club coordinators of OWS events. Attendance by Masters Swimming WA Clubs who conduct OWS events is compulsory as part of our event sanctioning process and it was pleasing to have our country clubs in attendance as they were

in town for the 2008 BE ACTIVE State Swim.

With the financial legacy from the 2008 FINA World Masters Championships clubs were invited to submit proposals for funding special projects.

We look forward to another great year in 2009 with some new initiatives in the planning process to encourage more adults to share our Fitness, Friendship and Fun in the pool!

Wendy Holtom
Executive Officer

National Swim 2008

33rd AUSSI Masters National Swim-Melbourne



Above: Breaststroke event of the National Swim

Entries

There were 357 individual entries, (compared to 493 for the Darwin meet). 64 AUSSI clubs participated, surprisingly from all states except NT (compared to 94 at the Darwin swim). There were 4 swimmers from overseas. There were 116 swimmers registered for relays. The average number of swims per competitor was 9.52.

The Venue

The venue chosen was MSAC. which has been for a number of vears, the premier swimming location in Melbourne, boasting a 10 lane competition pool as well as sufficient access for warm-up & cool-down activities. Normally, the facilities are well provided and supported by MSAC staff as part of the hiring fee. Unfortunately, we were advised in the week before the meet, that the inside scoreboard had failed and that the components had been sent back to Germany for repair. While we were offered the use of the outside pool, we felt at that stage, we had to proceed with the designated program.

Initial problems with the timing

systems and a pad failure on one lane (far end), were niggling problems, which created distractions rather than a negative impact on the meet.

The fact that the swim was held over the Easter weekend, caused logistics problems with availability of cleaners and maintenance staff with a number of swimmers reporting on lack of cleaning and faulty facilities.

However the size of the facilities, enabled very effective programming of events as swimmers were able to compete and then warm-down, without any logistic difficulty.

The Program

Like Darwin, the event program was based on criteria developed by the National Management Committee. We based our timings on a projected attendance of 393. As a consequence, the day's events were reasonably relaxed, without the need to rush or deck seed.

Because of the size of the facilities, the provision for each swimmer to compete in 3 swims per day up to 12 swims per competitor did not cause us the same problems it caused with Darwin the year before. The 1st day was the longest, finishing at 5:30pm, the rest of the days finished in the middle of the afternoon.

Registration Procedure

Most clubs forwarded their entries by normal mail, with about 10% using the electronic facility offered by Hy-tek's Team Manager and Team Manager Lite. The flow of paper forms coming into the National Office was fairly constant and the fact that the Branch Administrator established within the National office, was also entering the entries into the Meet Manager system, sped up entries to the meet program considerably.

While this process worked quite well, notably, the same problems that seem to occur at all meets continued; viz.

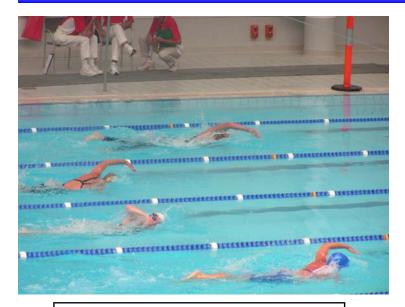
Many individuals did not enter times correctly or nominated the wrong event;

Many individuals did not complete the section of the form dealing with the Welcome Function and Presentation Dinner, even though we were cognizant of the problems that Darwin encountered the year before.

Some club secretaries continue to fail to transfer information correctly from individual entry forms to club summaries of individual entries, particularly in respect of social functions; and A number of club secretaries did not submit club summary forms.

Following-up on these consumed a great deal of organiser's time.

National Swim 2008 (cont.)



Above: Freestyle event of the National Swim

meet registration system, such as that being provided by Clubs Online (IMG) will assist greatly meet registration system, such as that being provided by Clubs Online (IMG) will assist greatly in alleviating many of the problems we continually encounter in preparation for a National meet.

Budget

The budget was struck with the intent to break even or make a small profit on operating costs, thus keeping the entry fees as low as possible. We had also hoped to be able to gain sponsorship, thus offsetting some of the cost of the social functions and the high cost of hiring MSAC over 4 days.

The break-even point was fairly high at 450 swimmers, with each swimmer entering 7 events as per Darwin's recommendation from the year before.

At one stage it looked as though the Branch would be bearing an enormous loss, due to the number of attendees being far less than budgeted. However, last minute cash sponsorships by clubs & individuals reduced the potential for loss dramatically. Additionally, a major blunder was

made in purchasing medals, which meant we ordered more medals than were required. This was offset by the Branch using the spare medals as part of their Long Course meet, which was held in conjunction with the National swim.

At the end of the day, the Branch incurred a small loss.

Preparing a National Swim budget continues to be an imprecise exercise when the number of entries and the number of events per entrant are so difficult to predict; however, given the experience of the last four National Swims, it would appear safe for future organisers to budget on the basis of seven swims per competitor where 12 individual entries are permitted.

Safety

As has been the practice in the past, MSAC qualified lifeguards were used for any medical emergencies which arose. These incidents were minimal and they attended to only three people who suffered from minor complaints such as breathing difficulties and muscle spasms and needed only rest or oxygen.

One club took on the responsibility of ensuring that safety procedures were followed in the warm-up/warm-down pool. No incidents were reported, as most swimmers were cooperative in the use of facilities before and after their events.

Social

The two social events - the Welcome Function at MSAC and the Presentation Dinner - were successful, albeit with low numbers for the latter. The committee elected to have a low key Welcome Function, hosted in the Champions Room at MSAC, with swimmers able to register; have a swim in the pool and then an informal get together with other competitors. Over 190 attended, including swimmers and officials partners. A logistical problem associated with this function, which required an entrée ticket for admission, was created by the failure of competitors/club secretaries to complete entry forms/club summary sheets correctly, eg, a club with eight members indicating on their individual entry forms that they wanted to attend the function submitting a club summary sheet showing nil attendees. Additionally, people attended who had not paid, but "promised not to eat or drink anything".

The Presentation Dinner, held at a local function centre, provided a suitable conclusion, however numbers were low due to the high cost of providing the function and a number of attendees have indicated that it wasn't good value for money. However, this venue was certainly among the cheapest we could obtain (at a reasonable price) over the Easter weekend. A local club took on the responsibility of the layout and table presentations for this event. The DJ/Music made the night

National Swim 2008 (cont.)

enjoyable and many attendees stayed long after the presentations & speeches were over.

As with previous National Swims, having a band or DJ at the social function provides an additional interest after the formal proceedings are over.

Merchandise, Medals and information.

The merchandise items - shirts, badges and caps - were made available on a pre-ordered basis, with 20% over and above the prepaid number ordered for sale at the meet. The pre-paid orders for the merchandise on offer were disappointingly low and the excess sold quickly, leaving some unsatisfied demand. Some competitors seemed to expect a copious supply of all items to be available in case they wished to purchase something. Orders were taken during the swim for the polo shirts and this totalled 15% of the original order.

Another club was given the responsibility for the distribution of medals and assisted with local advice and information on numerous occasions.

Replacement of the current system of registration/order/entry with a fully on-line system would allow much more efficient processing and checking of orders. This is another feature that Clubs Online from IMG will offer for future meets.

Transport

Due to the central location, the venue was well served by public transport. Interstate visitors were also located relatively close to the pool, therefore were able to avail themselves of the opening of the 7:30am warm-up facilities.

Catering

Catering for officials and volunteers was undertaken by a group of enthusiastic club members, led by the very professional Jan Williams. MSAC have an in-house caterer, which it initially appeared we would have to use, putting a further strain on the budget.

Jan, together with the Meet Director – Jeanette Holowiuk were able to negotiate a self-catering arrangement that worked extremely well over the length of the meet. Various clubs were rostered to provide lunches and each showed a flair for morning teas, lunches and afternoon teas. All within the fairly tight budget set by Jan.

Paul Watmough

Chairman of the Organising Committee



Above: Swimmers taking part in the National swim

National Swim 2008 (cont.)

National Trophy Winners 2008

(As presented at the 2008 National Swim)

Founder's Trophy Powerpoints (VIC)

Runner-Up Trophy Malvern Marlins (VIC)

Visitor's Trophy Blacktown (NSW)

Male Swimmer of the Meet Graham Croft - Adelaide Masters (SA)

Female Swimmer of the Meet Jenny Whiteley - Ryde (NSW)

National Heart Foundation Trophy Patrick Galvin—Malvern Marlins (VIC)

National Aerobic Trophy 2007 Talays AUSSI (TAS)

National Aerobic Award 2007 Talays AUSSI (TAS)

National Coach of the Year 2007 Frank Godden - Malvern Marlins (VIC)

National Official of the Year 2007 Sue Johnstone—Wollongong Masters (WA)

Age Group Relay Trophies:

80 - 119 years Blacktown City (NSW)

120 - 159 years Powerpoints (VIC)

160 - 199 years Powerpoints (VIC)

200 - 239 years Doncaster Dolphins (VIC)

240 - 279 years Malvern Marlins (VIC)

280 - 319 years Doncaster Dolphins (VIC)



Above: Talays AUSSI - Winners of National Aerobic Trophy & Award

Vorgee Million Metre Winners



Vorgee Million Metre Award Winners 2008

Name	State	Club	Distance
Jocy Anderson	TAS	Talays AUSSI	2 Million
Kris Apps	TAS	Talays AUSSI	2 Million
Noela Arundel	QLD	Barbarians	1 Million
Kay Bailey	TAS	Launceston Lemmings	2 Million
Pauline Bailey	QLD	Twin Towns	1 Million
Cyril Baldock	NSW	Coogee-Randwick	3 Million
Pauline Benjamin	QLD	Miami Masters	5 Million
Don Bondfield	QLD	Twin Towns	2 Million
Doreen Bondfield	QLD	Twin Towns	2 Million
Glenn Boorn	WA	Inglewood	2 Million
Barbara Briggs	NSW	Cambeltown AUSSI	2 Million
Merilyn Burbridge	WA	Stadium Snappers	2 Million
Michael Butler	QLD	Barbarians	1 Million
Peter Cain	QLD	Cairns Legends	10 Million
Robert Corskie	QLD	Whitsunday	1 Million
Gordon Creek	NSW	Lake Macquarie Crocs	2 Million
John Darveniza	QLD	Innisfail Masters	2 Million
Brenda Day	ACT	Tuggeranong Vikings	1 Million
Helga Duncan	NSW	Cambeltown AUSSI	2 Million
Ernest Emmett	NSW	Novacastrian Masters	1 Million
Diana Fabijan	SA	Adelaide Masters	7 Million
David Falzon	VIC	Western Alligators	2 Million
Joe Gilbert	QLD	Noosa AUSSI Challengers	2 Million
John Gwillim	NSW	Warringah Masters	1 Million
John Hammer	NT	Darwin Stingers	2 Million
Louis Hill	QLD	Toowoomba Tadpoles	1 Million
Neville Hodges	QLD	Twin Towns Services	1 Million
Anne Horner	TAS	Talays AUSSI	2 Million
Ann Hutchings	VIC	Casey Seals	1 Million
Robert Kalaf	NSW	Novocastrian Masters	1 Million
Edwin Kordt	WA	Bunbury	1 Million
David Lake	SA	Tee Tree Gully	1 Million
Geoff Lander	QLD	Noosa Challengers	2 Million
Michael Lynch	QLD	Twin Towns	1 Million
Liz Little	QLD	Brisbane Northside	1 Million

Vorgee Million Metres Winners (cont.)



Vorgee Million Metre Award Winners 2008

Name	State	Club	Distance
John Lorang	NSW	Cessnock	1 Million
John Marshall	VIC	Malvern Marlins	2 Million
David Maynard	QLD	Twin Towns Services	2 Million
Diana McHenry	TAS	Launceston Lemmings	3 Million
Christ Moore	TAS	Launceston Lemmings	2 Million
Dennis Moore	NSW	Cessnock Masters	1 Million
Patricia Moore	NT	Darwin	1 Million
Margaret Moylett	WA	Bunbury	2 Million
Roydon Muir	NSW	Warringah Masters	1 Million
Marjory Muller	SA	Adelaide Masters	2 Million
Nerinda Murray	NSW	Ripples AUSSI	2 Million
Kent Nelson	SA	Adelaide Masters	2 Million
Angus Netting	SA	Adelaide Masters	1 Million
Laurel O'Halloran	QLD	Rum City	2 Million
Jennifer Oliver	QLD	Harvey Bay Humpbacks	1 Million
Rita Pearson	QLD	Rum City	1 Million
David Roberts	QLD	Whitsunday AUSSI Masters	2 Million
Robyn Saultry	QLD	Brisbane Northside	1 Million
Lesley Scott	NT	Darwin	1 Million
Graham Senders	WA	Bold Park Masters	2 Million
Tricia Summerfield	WA	Stadium Snappers	2 Million
Jen Thomasson	QLD	Southside Masters	2 Million
Mark Thompson	NSW	Campbelltown Collegians	1 Million
Dawn Thompson	NSW	Campbelltown Cellegians	3 Million
Ron Thorpe	NT	Darwin Stingers	5 Million
Myola Walton	QLD	Twin Towns Services	1 Million
Bill Waterhouse	QLD	Toowoomba Tadpoles	1 Million
Ashley Welke	QLD	Toowoomba Tadpoles	1 Million
Moira Wigley	NT	Darwin Stingers	2 Million
Sue Wiles	NSW	Blue Mountains Phoenix	1 Million

Sponsors





Merchandise Partner



Contacts

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NSW	PO Box 6941, Silverwater NSW 2128	(02) 8116 9716	www. aussimastswimnsw.org.au
NT	PO Box 418, Parap NT 0804	(08) 8981 5919	www.nt.aussimasters.com.au
QLD	1st floor, Cnr Castlemaine & Caxton Sts, Milton QLD	(07) 3876 2822	www.aussimastersqld.com.au
	4064		
SA	PO Box 219, North Adelaide SA 5006	(08) 8263 9958	www.aussisa.org.au
TAS	PO 5229, Launceston TAS 7250	0418 540 819	www.mastersswimmingtas@bigpond.com
VIC	Sports House Level 2, 375 Albert Rd, Albert Park	(03) 9682 5666	www.aussivic.com.au
	VIC 3206		
WA	PO Box 57, Claremont WA 6910	(08) 9387 4400	www.mastersswimmingwa.asn.au



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