



2020

ANNUAL REPORT



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Cover Image: Ettalong Pelicans 2020.

Who We Are

Our National Board of Management

President: Gerry Tucker (*until August 2020*)

Acting President: Jane Noake (*from August 2020*)

Finance Director: Andrea McNeil OAM

Director: Wendy Holtom

Director: Neal Bertram (*until April 2020*)

Director: Jane Noake (*until August 2020*)

Director: Robert Hardie (*from April 2020*)

Our National Presidents

1975–1978 Bill Lough

1978–1984 Peter Jackson

1985–1988 Ivan Wingate

1989–1992 Graeme McDougall

1993–1998 Glenys McDonald AM

1999–2005 Mary Sweeney

2005–2011 John Pugh

2011–2017 Craig Smith

2017–2020 Gerry Tucker

2020 Jane Noake
(*Acting President*)

Our Life Members

1985 Gary Stutsel OAM (NSW)

1989 Glenys McDonald AM (WA)

1991 Peter Gillett (SA - *deceased*)

1999 Kay Cox OAM (WA)

2002 Ivan Wingate (WA)

2005 Darryl Hawkes (SA)

2006 Mary Sweeney (QLD)

2006 Pauline Samson (TAS)

2007 David Cummins (WA)

2011 John Pugh (TAS)

2016 Gerry Tucker (VIC)

2020 John Pollock (NT)

Our Branch Delegates

MSNSW Jon Hawton

MSNT Neil Ludvigsen

MSQ Cheryl Brodribb

MSSA Phil Beames

MST Bill Woodworth

MSV Susan Kempson
Rachel Cairns

MSWA Fiona Wilkins

Our National Recorder

Pauline Samson

Our MSA Results Portal

Frank Braun

Our National Staff

General Manager: Sarah Pisterman

Administration Manager: Kath Davis

Bookkeeper: Gerard Russell

Our National Coaching Committee

NSW Di Coxon-Ellis (*Chair*)

NSW Greg Gourley
(*from October 2020*)

NSW Anne Smyth

NT Jacinta Stirrat

QLD Simon Watkins

QLD Sean Williams
(*until July 2020*)

TAS Phillip Tyrell

VIC Bruce Allender

WA Elena Nesci

WA Kim Tyler

Our National Swim Meet Committee

NSW Jane Noake (*Chair*)

QLD Susanne Milenkevich

SA Leanne Beames

TAS Maciej Slugocki

WA Fiona Wilkins

Our National Technical Committee

SA Phil Beames (*Chair*)

NSW Neil Keele (NSW)

NSW Diane Partridge

NT Jayna Gordon

QLD John Barrett

TAS Ray Brien

VIC Simon Bole-Brown (*from April 2020*)

VIC Neil Mitchell (*until April 2020*)

WA Peter Maloney (*until April 2020*)

WA Lynne Duncan (*from April 2020*)



Who We Are

About Us

Masters Swimming Australia (MSA) is the peak body for adult swimmers aged eighteen years and above and is affiliated with FINA through Swimming Australia Ltd (SA). MSA is a not for profit, constituted in 1975. The organisation does not receive funding from any government source and relies on member funding.

Mission Statement

MSA aims to provide at club, state and national level an environment to encourage all adults, regardless of ability, to swim regularly and compete in order to promote fitness and improve their general wellbeing.

Our Motto	"FITNESS, FRIENDSHIP and FUN"
Our Vision	"ENRICH AND INSPIRE ADULTS TO SWIM FOR LIFE"

Infrastructure

Members join Masters Swimming Clubs. Clubs are affiliated to their respective Branch, and the Branches are affiliated to the National body. There are seven Branches within Australia, representing each State/Territory, with the exception of ACT, which is incorporated as part of the NSW Branch.

According to the constitution, the National Board of Management (NBM) comprises the President and four other elected members. There are two General Meetings involving the Branches, one of which is held immediately after the Annual General Meeting held in Autumn. The other meeting is held in Spring. There are three permanent national committees: they are Coaching, Swim Meets and Technical; and a national subcommittee, Project 2025.

The NBM is responsible for the governance and overall direction of the organisation, with the day-to-day running of the organisation being the responsibility of the staff in the National Office. A General Manager (reporting directly to the NBM) manages the administration staff and the office. The National Office also services the Victorian Branch by performing its administrative duties.

Clubs offer various programs, such as regular training and stroke correction with qualified coaches, fun events, and social activities. Competitions are available at Club, Branch, National and International levels. Competitive opportunities are also available through postal swims, the Vorgee Endurance 1000 and Vorgee Million Metres Awards. MSA and the Branches offer technical courses for officials and coaching courses and clinics for coaches.

Who We Are

Publications, Policies and Guidelines

MSA operates under the direction of the following MSA publications ([available on the website](#)):

- Constitution
- By-Laws
- General Rules
- MSA Swimming Rules
- MSA Open Water Swimming Rules
- MSA Swimwear Rules

MSA has developed and implemented policies and Guidelines in the following key areas:

- National Member Protection Policy
- National Risk Management Policy
- National Safety Policy
- National Championships Meet Guide
- Privacy Policy
- Communication Guidelines
- NBM and Branch Delegate Guidelines
- COVIDSafe Plan
- COVID-19 Return to work measures

MSA publishes the following results continuously in the Results Portal:

- Up to date meet results (since 2004)
- Individual member result history for all recorded meets
- World, National and Branch records including historic records
- National, Branch and Club Top 10 rankings by time (since 2002)
- National, Branch and Club Top 10 rankings by points (since 2007)
- Vorgee Endurance 1000 results from 2012
- National Championships Results

Communication

MSA's website www.mastersswimming.org.au is its primary method of storing information and communication with members, although the social media platforms of Facebook and Instagram are a useful tool for instantaneous newscasting. The member portal which is a secure area for financial members is accessible via the website.

Newsletter: The e newsletter is produced monthly and emailed directly to members. Previous editions are available for download from the national website at www.mastersswimming.org.au/msa-newsletters

Participation Programs

MSA manages and promotes a number of programs each year, designed to encourage active participation in swimming from beginner to advanced level.

Vorgee Endurance 1000 Champion Club and Vorgee Endurance 1000 Award

The Vorgee Endurance 1000 aims to promote fitness by providing an incentive (in the form of club points) for members to swim longer distances. The program is designed to encourage members to swim in distances from 400m and up to one hour in duration, in the full variety of strokes.

Who We Are

Participation Programs (cont)

The program is structured by gender and age-groups and the swims are done over the full calendar year. As a result, a certain level of aerobic fitness needs to be maintained in order to complete the individual event requirements. Individual points are gained for the completion of each event. These combine with points gained by other club members and contribute to a total point score for each competing club. The club with the most points is declared the Vorgee Endurance 1000 Champion Club for the year.

As an extension of the program, the Vorgee Endurance 1000 Award follows the same structure as the Vorgee Endurance 1000 Champion Club but is for the club averaging the highest number of points per registered member. This Award is designed to provide an opportunity for smaller clubs to compete on an equal basis with the larger clubs.

Top Ten

National times are recorded for males, females, and relays with the Top Ten in each category (age group, stroke and distance) being published annually on the website.

Vorgee Million Metres Awards

The Vorgee Million Metre Awards acknowledge progress from the “learn to swim” beginner to the distance swimmer. These awards are intended to stimulate members to strive for greater fitness and are open to all registered members of MSA.

The Million Metre Awards were established in 2001 for one, three and ten Million Metres. In 2004, they were expanded to include five and seven Million Metres. Now there are members attaining their 20 Million Metres!

Upon successful completion of 1–5 million, 7 million, 10, 20 and 25 Million Metres, members are awarded with combinations of different awards; eg. polo shirt, certificate, a polar fleece, engraved plaque, Vorgee gift pack or a Nitro jacket.

National and International Events

MSA hosts and participates in a number of national and international events each year. These include the annual National Championships, FINA World Masters Swimming Championships, Oceania Masters Games, Pan Pacific Masters Championships, Australian Masters Games, the OutGames, the World Gay Games, Asia Pacific OutGames and the Melbourne2020 IGLA Championships (International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics). MSA owns the annual national championships, and the event is hosted on a rotational basis by one of the Branches each year.

FINA World Records

Australian swimmers hold world records in masters swimming in both Long and Short Course.

National Records

National Records are compiled annually for MSA and are published on the website. Records are maintained for:

- Men's Short Course
- Women's Short Course
- Relay Short Course
- Men's Long Course
- Women's Long Course
- Relay Long Course

Sponsors

Masters Swimming Australia has one long term national sponsor:

Vorgee www.vorgee.com

And more recently with Ocean Swim Fiji in 2020.

Ocean Swim Fiji www.oceanswimfiji.com

Who We Are

Membership

Masters Swimming Australia annual membership is portioned to support administrative and organisational structure to include: coaching and officials, member support and development, insurance, events, administration and governance.

Membership													
Branch	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
MSNSW	1679	1729	1719	1620	1557	1534	1558	1450	1437	1482	1464	1459	1375
MSNT	170	169	161	154	148	141	131	136	138	152	161	149	149
MSQ	1348	1425	1316	1138	1280	1235	1242	1189	1199	1195	1214	1220	1052
MSSA	600	604	606	577	635	631	657	649	644	614	618	631	567
MST	317	296	296	280	299	288	298	327	277	291	290	304	297
MSV	900	920	975	965	1055	1098	1176	1219	1263	1148	1119	1112	967
MSWA	1344	1324	1398	1442	1448	1578	1642	1655	1619	1587	1647	1650	1579
TOTAL	6358	6467	6471	6176	6422	6505	6704	6625	6577	6469	6513	6525	5986



President's Reports

1 January 2020 to 11 August 2020

Gerry Tucker (Presidents Report)

As I commence preparing this President's report for the first seven months or so of 2020, I cannot help but observe the irony of doing this when Victoria has just entered a five day "circuit breaker" lockdown to fight the latest outbreak of COVID-19.

My report runs from the beginning of the year to 11 August, 2020 because that was the day when I took medical leave from my position as President of MSA, followed by my formal resignation due to ill health on 15 September.



2020 started off pretty normal with the usual array of Club carnivals and open water swims in the first two months of the year. But in the last week of March, the proverbial roof came crashing down upon us, and the rest of the World, as COVID-19 brought everything, including all masters swimming activities to an abrupt halt.

At the management level of MSA, we very quickly learnt how to operate in isolation, with video conferencing becoming the norm and constantly carrying out research on how we would restart the masters swimming once the pandemic passed.

As it transpired, while all masters swimming activities stopped dead at the same time, restarting the Organisation all happened at different times, depending upon which State you resided. NT was first to get back in the water, followed by QLD, WA and SA, Tas and NSW. Victoria was last to allow its pools to reopen, providing 5 weeks of very limited swimming from the beginning of June, but the second wave of COVID-19 in Victoria brought that to an end on 7 July. Our members in Greater Melbourne were then locked down and out of swimming pools until 28 September, long after all other States and Territories we back swimming at club training sessions in most pools around the country.

Much of the credit for our members being able to 'Return to Play' must be directed to our amazing National and Branch administrators, who were working harder than ever to keep in touch, come up with ideas to connect and reconnect our members and to make those ideas become reality. I know that our GM, Sarah Pisterman and our Administrator, Kath Davis in the National Office went "above and beyond" during these seven months and I would like to sincerely thank them and all the Branch administrators for helping us stay together and prepare us for a post COVID world.

So! Normally, in this report I would be writing to you about success of the Nationals; but not this year! Our 2020 Nationals Organising Committee did everything they could to make the Nationals happen, first in April, then again, later in the year, but all to no avail. I would like to thank Jane Noake and her team, once again, for never giving up on trying to hold a 2020 National Championship event for us in 2020. In the end, the ability to hold Nationals any time in 2020 was clearly outside the control of both the Nationals Organising Committee and the National Board.

We wish you well, NSW, and I am sure that we all look forward to returning to compete in your State as soon as prevailing conditions allow us to do so.

I would also be writing to you about our successes in record breaking by our Masters members, but there were so few opportunities for this to occur in 2020. However, there was one Meet that did provide opportunities for Masters members to break World records and Dorothy Dickey of the Doncaster Dolphins took full advantage it.

President's Reports

At the Melbourne2020 IGLA Championships at the MSAC pool in Victoria in February, Dorothy broke six world records - in the 100, the 200 (twice!), the 400 (twice again!) and the 1500m freestyle, long course in the 90-94 age group. Congratulations to Dorothy as our only World record breaker in 2020.

Notwithstanding the impact of COVID-19, our members still managed to break 72 National individual records (51 female, 21 male), 41 of them being long course and 31 short course. There were also 6 National long course relay records broken, 4 male, 1 female and 1 mixed relay. Congratulations to all our National record breakers!

During this period, there were at least ½ dozen postal swims, virtual swims, various games and competitions being conducted, as well as dry land zoom based classes and plans on how to get ready to return to the water. Thank you to everyone, all the way from our National and Branch offices to the clubs for your innovative and creative ideas and activities that kept our members connected during this very difficult time.

Finally, as many of you know, by reason of ill health, I had to make a most difficult decision to retire "early" from my role on the National Board and as President of MSA. I was devastated on 11 August to have to inform the National Board and our administrative team of this decision but now I know it was the right and only decision to make in terms of looking after my own health and wellbeing.

So all the more reason to thank those, more than I can express here, for taking over when I could no longer fulfil my role. I would particularly like to thank to Jane Noake, who immediately took over as acting National President. I understand that Jane has been doing a fabulous job on the Board and clearly her successful nomination as our next President is richly deserved.

Congratulations, Jane and thank you once again for stepping so ably, upon my retirement. I wish you all the very best in your new role.

I would also like to thank the rest of the National Board members for their understanding and for taking over the reins so professionally with Jane since last August.

Finally, I would like to thank all those wonderful MSA members and staff with whom I have worked for the betterment of MSA over the past 13 ½ years. I salute you and I am indebted to you all for enriching my life over the journey.

These people include, but are not limited to, the current and past National Presidents and Board members with whom I have served. Also, all the Branch Presidents and Delegates who have attended, and contributed to, the MSA General Meetings over the years, National Committee Chairpersons, National Championship Convenors, National Coaching Directors, the leaders of our National Technical Committees and our National Recorder. And, of course, the National and Branch Administrators, who are there all the time, keeping this fantastic organisation on the move. I thank you all.

And to all MSA members, I wish you a happy and enjoyable return to swimming and to your masters swimming communities in 2021 and I look forward to catching up with you all as we start to reconvene again at events around the country.

Best wishes

Gerry Tucker

Immediate Past President!



President's Reports

August – December 2020

Jane Noake (Acting Presidents Report)

I don't need to remind anyone that 2020 was a year of challenges for everyone, but on top of everything that COVID-19 threw at us our President Gerry Tucker had health problems which led to him stepping down from his position as President of MSA. We have been unable to thank Gerry in person and hopefully we will do that one day, but I would like to start my report by thanking Gerry for the many years of service to our organisation and wish him back to good health as soon as possible.

Gerry has reported on the early part of the year and the incredible work of our National and Branch administrators to keep us together, there are also other people in the Branches who have worked hard to keep members in touch - who would have thought we would be connecting via zoom with our club mates, or running virtual meets which included "cleaning out our swim bags", or connecting with our country members - it has been a year of innovation and hopefully this will continue - thank you to everyone for all you have achieved during 2020.

In early March 2020 when it appeared there may be a chance the National Championships could not be held, the National Board of Management met urgently one Sunday afternoon, at this stage it was decided to watch the situation. A couple of days later it became obvious that the Nationals would not go ahead, and we all know what happened after that. From this time the NBM has met monthly by zoom, with the Annual General Meeting in April and the General Meeting in October also held by zoom. We also convened a Special Meeting in September to listen to ideas from the Branches, realising that priorities had changed on all levels and revisited our strategic goals in the light of restarting our organisation and the opportunities that we now have to move forward.

During this meeting we acknowledged the staffing in the National office was not adequate to support all the initiatives we were looking to achieve, so we promptly increased our GM and administrators' hours to fulltime - thank you Sarah and Kath for seeing the need and accommodating us so very quickly. We also recognised the need to support our branches in the IT world and have contracted Mark Hepple to support the National office, our Branches and our project teams and immediately we have benefited from his expertise.



President's Reports

It was also recognised that our National Committees are an important part of our team and Committees are now meeting regularly and reporting back to the NBM and keeping our branches up to date with their work. Particular thanks to the National Coaching Committee who recognised the fact that an online coaching course was a must and started work early on making this happen. My thanks to Di Coxon-Ellis and Kym Tyler who is leading the project and has put many hours of work into making this a reality.

During the September meeting the idea of a subcommittee to look at membership and the direction of masters swimming was discussed and very quickly the 2025 subcommittee was born led by Robert Hardie and made up of volunteers from most branches. As with all committees they now meet monthly and have some exciting ideas to move the organisation forward in the coming months and years.

Sarah and Kath have been working for many months on the Members Portal which is very close to being launched and will provide our members with information on so many different aspects of swimming including coaching, health, diet - thankyou also to our Branches who are helping with content for this exciting project.

Another idea from the Branches at our September meeting was supporting Mental Health organisations, out of which Mental health Month in May was born. As there is only a short time until May this year the project team will look at a small promotion this year but a project plan has been written for this to continue as a yearly event and we look forward to all our members being involved and hopefully benefiting ourselves and others during May.

Masters swimming is not just about swimming it is being part of an organisation of people who may be swimmers but who are also friends. There are many parts of this organisation and many opportunities but we have recognised that communication may not have been our strong point in the past and we are endeavouring to change this so all our members know what is happening through all levels of the organisation starting with our National office and then our Branches and then our Clubs. You will be receiving monthly the National E news which keeps you up to date with "our news" and we hope you will send us "your news" so we can let others know what you are up to as we recognise there is so much going on around the clubs that others would like to hear about and maybe become involved as well.

My sincere thanks to everyone who has made a difference during 2020 - too many people to name but you know who you are - we have a massive opportunity now to restart and rebuild our organisation and I look forward to being a part of that excitement.

Jane Noake

Acting President

Masters Swimming Australia

General Managers Report

Masters Swimming Australia started very strong in 2020 with approx. 10-12% increase in memberships across all Branches by the end February.



With the onset of COVID-19 sweeping the country in March the National Office staff like so many others quickly adapted to working from home. While the MSA office at Sports House has been empty, our homes have been very busy! Conducting Zoom meetings, monthly Board meetings, Committee meetings, Administrator meetings, and the Special Meeting; as well as creating 'Return to Swimming' content, updating policies, COVIDsafe planning, preparing minutes and circulars for member Branches, e-news, targeting strategic objectives and building the MSA member portal.

Whilst during some of the second Victorian lockdown Gerard Russell (MSA Bookkeeper) was unable to fulfill his bookkeeping duties and I would like to thank Andrea McNeil (MSA Finance Director) who took on his role (amongst many others) during this time. Thank you to Kath Davis for supporting the MSA and MSV administration duties and plenty more during these difficult times.

One of the major projects in 2020 was the development of the 'Member Area' on the MSA website for Members, Coaches, Officials and Branch Administrators. The Member Area is a secure space for financial members, where they can gain access to training programs, coaching webinars and education, health and nutrition advice, creative assets and more. We plan to launch the Member Area to the masters swimming community next year in March.

Thank you to Kath Davis, David Findlay and Mark Hepple who have been instrumental in the development of the Member Area to date, and assisting with the creation of the member groups, rules and establish a clean and functional layout.

A new strategic plan 2020–2023 was developed as a collective effort from the MSA National Board of Management, Branch Administrators, Presidents and Delegates of the organisation. With key priorities and actions to help shape our organisation, as the environment evolves, our new strategy will help guide us to leverage on the opportunities ahead of us. However, due to COVID-19, a Special Meeting was held on 12 September with the member Branches to identify ideas and priorities that will help restart the organisation. The Board listened to feedback from the Branches and agreed that the National Office was currently understaffed to deliver the many priorities; and agreed to increase both the General Manager and the Administration hours to 5 days each per week.

Project 2025 Subcommittee was created from the September meeting and will focus on the retention of and growth in membership at Club level and advise the National Board of Management on various initiatives to be considered.

Membership numbers for 2020 resulted in 5986 members compared to 6525 in 2019, with approx. 200 Clubs across Australia. Our membership split is very even with 52% female and 48% male across the organisation; 5% U29, 17% U39 and 50% of the membership is aged between 50 and 69 years of age.

Thank you to all the Branches who supported the membership process this year which included: suspending memberships, some refunds, and general promotion and assistance in the re-registration process. It was not an easy year for membership registration, and we thank the Branches, Clubs and members who have supported us through this roller coaster of events.

Masters Swimming Australia in 2020 has been led by a strong National Board of Management with President, Gerry Tucker (until August); Finance Director, Andrea McNeil; and Directors Neal Bertram (until April); Wendy Holtom, Jane Noake (Acting Chair since August) and Robert Hardie (since April) who have devoted their time, expertise, and leadership to the organisation throughout this year.

General Managers Report

Unfortunately, in 2020 we have experienced many disappointments with the cancellation of the National Championships 2020 and 2021; the National Swim Series; Thailand Swim Camp, many Club and Branch events; face to face meetings; the Administrators Workshop; awards and ceremonies and the list goes on. However, with these disappointments has come a different way of working and connecting with each other. The use of video conferencing has connected us more often and across many layers of the organisation. We are now conducting monthly Board meetings, Committee meetings and Administrators' meetings to improve the communication and decision making within the organisation.

This year there have been opportunities for competitive swimmers to swim in local swim meets, as well as offering members a renewed chance to achieve their goals through the Vorgee Million Metre. There has also been a variety of Postal Swims hosted by Clubs throughout Australia offering challenges to members to improve their swimming and reach targets in their own pool and in their own time.

Our relationship with Swimming Australia (SA) continued to strengthen during 2020 especially as we worked closely to share National Guidelines for restarting Club Environments. MSA National office will be sharing office space with SA next year which will benefit strategic opportunities for both organisations to better serve the sport of swimming. The support of SA staff throughout the year has benefited masters swimming and we look forward to working with SA more closely in 2021.



Our wonderful sponsor Vorgee continued to provide support throughout 2020 although experiencing hardship the closure of pools throughout Australia. Their valuable support to MSA during this time is greatly appreciated. We would like to acknowledge John Vorgias and his team that provide a wonderful service to the Masters Swimming community and are thrilled to have resigned another three (3) year partnership with Vorgee.

Congratulations to John Pollock who was awarded Life Membership at the Masters Swimming Australia General Meeting, held on the 4th of April, in recognition of his contribution to Masters Swimming in Australia. John has been an incredible volunteer at Club, Branch and National level and has contributed and influenced the direction of Masters Swimming Australia over the years. Thankyou John for your enthusiasm and dedication at all levels of the organisation and congratulations on a well-earned award.

I would like to congratulate and thank all Branch Administrators for adapting so quickly to the ongoing challenges of 2020. Your patience and care for your members, volunteers and the broader masters swimming community is to be applauded. Thank you also to the National Board of Management, Delegates and Committee Members who have given their time and dedication to help guide the organisation; and a special mention to Gerry Tucker who resigned in August this year from a longstanding tenure as President of MSA. Well done Gerry!

Lastly, thank you to our wonderful volunteers and members, I look forward to meeting more of you next year (face-to-face) and we look forward to providing more benefits to our swimming community in 2021.

Sarah Pisterman

General Manager

Masters Swimming Australia

Finance Directors Report

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

2020 was a year no one could have predicted. MSA's members experienced lockdowns, pool closures and cancelled competitions due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. MSA's hard working staff, General Manager Sarah Pisterman and Administration Manager Kath Davis, immediately adapted to capably working from home. I thank them both for their initiative and constant support. Sports House closed to all tenants in August, and contracted bookkeeper Gerard Russell also started to work remotely from November. MSA received a significant rental adjustment based on our lower income compared to the same period in 2019 and mandatory work from home rules resulting in a vacant office. Challenges to our usual telephone and postal communication were met and we embraced a new "Zoom" world.



During this period, we also accepted the resignation due to ill health of MSA President Gerry Tucker. Gerry is a Life Member of MSA and former Finance Director. His drive, wealth of knowledge and experience on the National Board of Management have all been greatly appreciated. We wish Gerry ongoing better health and know that we will continue to see him at the pool and beach as his love of swimming never wanes.

I thank my fellow board members, Jane Noake who stepped up as Acting Chair, Wendy Holtom and new board member Robert Hardie for their enthusiasm in building a more communicative MSA with monthly meetings and emailed updates to members.

Summary

Federal Government financial support in the form of a Cash Flow Boost upon the quarterly lodgement of BAS amounted to \$32,260. MSA qualified for JobKeeper in 2020 (but not in 2021 as we did not meet the required 30% turnover reduction for the "membership renewal" December quarter compared to 2019 – it was an 11% reduction). JobKeeper payments amounted to \$48,600. Four separate Victorian Government grants were received totalling \$30,000, with acquittals to be managed by MSV.

The purchase of a new laptop was approved for use by the General Manager, even before we knew working from home would become mandatory, with the asset and depreciation reflected in the Balance Sheet.

The reported net surplus of \$104,510 less all government support resulted in a deficit of \$6,350 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$31,906 which included the laptop balance sheet item.

Income and Expenditure Statement

MSA recorded a net operating surplus of \$126,786 (before Special Projects) for 2020, after allowing for non-cash items of depreciation of \$1280 and annual leave provision of \$7,478. As previously mentioned, extraordinary COVID-19 related income from the Federal Government of \$80,860 plus \$30,000 assistance from the Victorian Government needs to be considered when comparing 2020 to 2019 or 2020 budget.

Income

The revenue for 2020 included membership subscriptions from 5,986 members, compared to 6,525 members in 2019. The impact of COVID-19 on membership income throughout 2020 is evident. Of the 5,986 registrations in 2020, 231 were for 16 month memberships, 261 were for 6 month memberships, and 30 were for 4 month memberships. Over time under more "normal" conditions, we will see the impact of the introduction of the 6 month membership on other membership categories.

Bank interest received in 2020 was \$7,273, down from \$9,734 in 2019. Australia is experiencing record low interest rates, so as an investor, MSA has only been able to secure 1.00% and 0.88% for each 12 month term deposit. Interest rates are likely to be even lower at maturity in July 2021.

Income for sanction fees suffered under pandemic restrictions, comprising only a couple of early 2020 MSSA open water swims and \$50 each for 6 postal swims. Vorgee, the major sponsor of MSA, was adversely affected by the closure of pools and could only contribute sponsorship at the beginning of 2020, upon which the current contract expired.

Finance Directors Report

We appreciate the long-standing relationship and know that as conditions improve, Vorgee's financial support will return in 2021. Despite all international travel in 2020 halting, Ocean Swim Fiji allowed MSA to retain \$2000 sponsorship for application in 2021, for which we are grateful.

Swim caps purchased upon membership registration were down compared to 2019, which is understandable given there were fewer members in 2020. The Club coaching online course attracted 11 participants in 2020. We trust the number of participants will increase as pools have reopened and a new "total package" online club coach course will be available in 2021.

Expenditure

Autumn and Spring General Meetings in 2020 were held via Zoom out of necessity, and there was no ASCTA Conference where Coach of the Year is normally awarded, so travel costs were minimal and should be reflected in credit vouchers for future travel.

Awards, trophies and gifts were under budget due to the COVID-19 inflicted cancellation of the 2020 Swim Series and Nationals.

Branch delegates agreed at meetings held in April, September and October 2020 that an emphasis on the provision of service and content for members during uncertain times was vital. As a result, both the General Manager and Administration Officer's hours increased to full time in October 2020. Wages and the associated superannuation cost reflect that increase.

Special Projects

MSNSW was reimbursed for sunk costs associated with the cancellation of 2020 Sydney Nationals, and inroads were made into the marketing special project before plans to video around the country were stalled by COVID-19 restrictions.

Balance Sheet

Cash is held in transaction accounts and in two term deposits with different banks. MSA is protected by the Federal Government's bank deposit guarantee capped at \$250,000 per bank. Interest on the term deposits was reinvested at maturity. While interest rates remain low, there is no urgency to look to a third term deposit with a different bank, but that may be a consideration in the future.

MSA continues to be in a sound financial position and the organisation can meet its commitments to staff, including their wages, superannuation, the ATO for PAYG and GST, and suppliers. Trading accounts hold sufficient cash for operating expenses and expense accruals. Should the "Project 2025" Membership Benefits special project require funding not available from the trading accounts, MSA may access one of two term deposits. The 2021 year started with membership of 1,770 recorded in December 2020 which compares unfavourably to 1,982 the year before, and 231 members chose 16 month membership between September and November 2020, which was also unfavourable compared to 244 the year before. Our vision to enrich and inspire adults to swim for life has seen MSA form a sub-committee dedicated to that membership goal. Ultimately, membership growth and retention are largely up to our clubs – building relationships with pool management to ensure lane space, inspiring and competent coaches on deck and friendly enthusiasts on club committees who welcome inquisitive new swimmers so they join, then renew each year along with their new found swimming friends.

Proposal

I propose that the Audited Financial Statements and this accompanying report be accepted as presented.

Andrea McNeil

Finance Director

Masters Swimming Australia

Audited Accounts

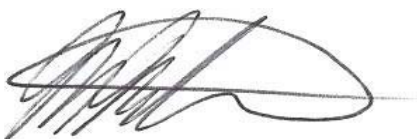
Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Board of Management

As at 31 December 2020

President (Until August 2020):	Gerry Tucker
Acting President:	Jane Noake
Director of Finance:	Andrea McNeil
Board Members:	Wendy Holtom
	Robert Hardie

Crowe Audit Australia



Malcolm Matthews
Partner

25 February 2021

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Income Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

INCOME	2020 \$	2019 \$
Branches		
Annual Affiliation Fees	1,432	1,432
Member Registrations	218,590	239,119
Coach Accreditation Fees	200	350
Sanction Fees	2,445	8,895
MSV administration fee	32,773	32,208
Total Branches	255,440	282,003
Other Income		
Interest	7,273	9,734
Publications/Merchandise	4,210	6,642
Sponsorships	9,250	14,500
Advertising	-	250
Coaching Workshop	-	236
Club coaching online	450	1,882
Jobkeeper Subsidy	48,600	-
Cash Flow Boost	32,260	-
Vic Govt Business Support Fund	10,000	-
Vic Business Support Expansion 1 - 3	20,000	-
Total Other Income	132,043	33,244
TOTAL INCOME	387,483	315,248

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Income Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
EXPENSES		
Professional Fees		
Audit Fees	1,500	1,450
Legal Fees	489	116
Total Professional Fees	1,989	1,566
NBM & Branch Delegates		
Travel & Accommodation Expenses	1,482	23,949
Teleconferences	705	590
Other NBM Expenses	-	40
Total NBM & Branch Delegates	2,187	24,579
Premises		
Rent & storage, electricity, cleaning	1,532	14,268
Total Premises	1,532	14,268
Operations		
Membership Registration Management Fee	26,183	31,366
Office IT	1,480	3,806
Phone & Fax	1,797	2,495
Internet Fees	337	313
Postage & freight	1,580	1,341
Office Supplies / Stationery	331	616
Photocopier	288	393
Affiliations & Subscriptions	200	-
Computer, Software & IT Services	753	1,451
Total Operations	32,949	41,780

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc

Income Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
EXPENSES continue		
Staff		
Wages & Salaries	151,125	124,669
Superannuation	14,357	11,844
Other Staff Costs	318	394
Additional Administration	-	442
Bookkeeping	15,444	17,133
LSL Provision	-	609
Annual Leave Provision	7,478	7,726
Total Staff	188,722	162,817
Other		
Insurance	25,047	24,654
Annual Report	409	280
Awards, Trophies & gifts, including Swim Series	753	3,889
Sponsorship Related Costs	-	1,065
Other Conferences & Travel	-	601
Administrators' workshop	-	4,336
Promotional Materials	1,593	1,187
Merchandise, purchased on order	2,260	2,863
Million Metres Costs	1,976	2,092
Coach of the year expenses	-	603
Depreciation	1,280	482
Total Other	33,318	42,054
TOTAL EXPENSES	260,697	287,063
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	126,786	28,185
Special Projects		
Marketing	6,748	-
MSNSW 2020 cancelled Nationals	15,510	-
Recruitment Costs	-	15,242
Strategic planning	-	7,200
Coaching Subsidy Program	-	127
Audit Adjustment	18	-
Total Special Projects	22,276	22,569
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	104,510	5,615

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Balance Sheet

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank		
Westpac Cheque Account	10,535	8,065
Westpac Idirect Account	235,766	137,495
Westpac Mastercard Debit Card	1,491	1,600
Cash on Hand	24	24
Westpac Term Deposit	145,706	142,870
Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	242,973	238,672
Total Bank	636,495	528,724
Debtors		
Trade Debtors	18,012	16,884
Prepayments/Sundry Debtors	6,882	12,325
Total Debtors	24,895	29,208
Total Current Assets	661,390	557,932
Fixed Assets		
Plant and Equipment		
Furniture & Equipment	57,708	55,115
Accumulated Depreciation	(53,682)	(52,402)
Total Fixed Assets	4,026	2,713
TOTAL ASSETS	665,415	560,645

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Balance Sheet

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

LIABILITIES	2020 \$	2019 \$
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	3,193	4,768
Revenue received in advance	78,456	87,031
GST Liabilities - clearing account	5,387	5,913
PAYG on wages	10,282	7,212
Superannuation	1,353	1,016
Accruals	1,500	1,450
Provision for Annual Leave	13,478	6,000
Total Current Liabilities	113,650	113,390
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provision for Long Service Leave	-	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	113,650	113,390
NET ASSETS	551,766	447,255
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	447,255	441,640
Current Earnings	104,510	5,615
TOTAL EQUITY	551,766	447,255

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from operations	384,523	302,200
Payment to suppliers and employees	(280,908)	(317,027)
Interest received	7,273	9,734
GST received / (paid)	(525)	(1,050)
Net cash from operating activities	110,363	(6,143)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(2,593)	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,593)	-
Net cash increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	107,770	(6,143)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	528,724	534,867
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	636,495	528,724

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Retained Earnings \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 January 2020	447,255	447,255
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	104,510	104,510
Balance at 31 December 2020	551,766	551,766

	Retained Earnings \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 January 2019	441,640	441,640
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	5,615	5,615
Balance at 31 December 2019	447,255	447,255

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2020

1 Accounting Policies

(a) General Information

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the accounts preparations requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Victoria) 2012*.

The board have determined that the Masters Swimming Australia Inc. is not a reporting entity and therefore there is not need to apply Australian Accounting Standards or other mandatory professional reporting requirements in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements.

(b) Basis of Preparation

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.

(c) 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 is depreciated on a diminishing value basis over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

(d) Revenue

Revenue from membership registrations and branch affiliation fees are recognised when received and attributed to the financial year in which they relate.

Interest revenue is recognised when it is credited to the relevant bank account or term deposit and attributed to the financial year in which it is received.

All other revenue is recognised when it is received and attributed to the financial year in which it is received.

(e) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, 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.

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 December 2020

2 New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The assessment made by Masters Swimming Australia Inc. regarding the impact of the relevant new standards and interpretations is set out in the table below:

Standard name	Summary	Date standard is effective and will be applied	Impact on the Financial Statements
AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers	The core principle of AASB 15 requires an entity to recognise revenue when the entity satisfies a performance obligation by transferring a promised good or service to a customer.	1 July 2019	The impact of the standard is expected to be immaterial.
AASB 16 Leases	The key change for AASB 16 is the recognition of most operating leases (which are currently not recognised) on the statement of financial position.	1 July 2019	The impact of the standard is expected to be immaterial.
AASB 1058 Income of Not-For-Profit Entities	AASB 1058 will replace AASB 1004 Contributions. Under the new standard, income currently recognised as revenue upfront may be eligible to be recognised progressively as the performance obligation is satisfied.	1 July 2019	The impact of the standard is expected to be immaterial.

Audited Accounts

Masters Swimming Australia Inc.

Board's Declaration

31 December 2020

In the opinion of the board, the financial report:

- (a) presents fairly the financial position of Masters Swimming Australia Inc as at 31 December 2020 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) satisfies the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Victoria) 2012* to prepare accounts; and
- (c) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Masters Swimming Australia Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Director of Finance

.....*Andrea McNeil*.....

Dated

.....*25 February 2021*.....

Audited Accounts



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Masters Swimming Australia Inc

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Masters Swimming Australia Inc

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Masters Swimming Australia Inc. (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2020, the income statement for the year then ended, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, the notes to the financial statements, and the board's declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at 31 December 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Association to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Victoria) 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report

The board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as the board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the board is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the board either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

The title 'Partner' conveys that the person is a senior member within their respective division, and is among the group of persons who hold an equity interest (shareholder) in its parent entity, Findex Group Limited. The only professional service offering which is conducted by a partnership is the Crowe Australasia external audit division. All other professional services offered by Findex Group Limited are conducted by a privately owned organisation and/or its subsidiaries.

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Audited Accounts



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, the auditor exercises professional judgement and maintains professional scepticism throughout the audit. The auditor also:

- Identifies and assesses the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, designs and performs audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtains audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for the auditor's opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtains an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluates the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Concludes on the appropriateness of those charged with governance's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If the auditor concludes that a material uncertainty exists, the auditor is required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. The auditor's conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluates the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation. The auditor communicates with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that the auditor identifies during the audit.

CROWE AUDIT AUSTRALIA

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malcolm Matthews".

Launceston

Malcolm Matthews

25 February 2021

Partner

Committee Report

National Coaching Committee Report

MSNSW Di Coxon-Ellis (*Chair*)

MSNSW Anne Smyth

MSNSW Greg Gourley (*from October 2020*)

MSNT Jacinta Stirrat

MSQ Simon Watkins

MSQ Sean Williams (*until July 2020*)

MST Philip Tyrell

MSV Bruce Allender

MSWA Kim Tyler

MSWA Elena Nesci

Observer: Frank Lindsay (MSSA)

The Branches are responsible for nominating Committee members, who want to contribute to coaching nationally. South Australia has promoted a member to this Committee and Frank Lindsay was welcomed as an observer to NCC meetings at the end of the year. Sean Williams (MSQ) has resigned as a member due to other commitments and the Committee thanked Sean for his considerable contribution over the past years. The NCC met by ZOOM from mid-May, becoming monthly towards the end of 2020, facilitated by MSA General Manager Sarah Pisterman.

The first initiative was the 'Return to Swimming' video devised by MSA 2019 Coach of the Year Greg Gourley with the capable assistance of Sarah and input from Peter Reaburn (Associate Professor and masters swimmer). In a 9 week plan, coaches and swimmers were educated on reintegration strategies. The decision was taken to not develop our own webinars but to piggyback on the ASCTA webinars suitable for Masters Coaches.

The main initiative for 2020 was the pilot delivery of the Online Club Coach Course Workshop.

At the end of April the National Coaching Committee (NCC) asked MSWA to provide ongoing updates on the development of the pilot delivery of the Club Coach Workshop (CCW) modules and methodology. In line with COVID restrictions the NCC recognised the increase in value of having an online course accessible to all candidates across the country. In June Kim Tyler's proposal for the MSWA pilot was sent to NCC.

At the end August Kim sent the MSA Pilot Online Club Coach Workshop Development Framework to members of the NCC plus GM Sarah and Administration Manager Kath Davis with a link to register for pilot. The draft paper for the Spring Board meeting on the online delivery of the CCW was sent to MSA for circulation to NBM.

The October Board Meeting considered the draft and referred the online delivery discussion to the next meeting and a detailed proposal was sent on 17 November to MSA for NBM.

At the 19 November Zoom meeting the NBM requested scoping proposal of the project from concept to completion for the next meeting. GM sent template for NCC to complete the scope. On 15 December the Scoping proposal was sent in requested format for the 17 December NBM Zoom meeting. The result was that the NBM supported the concept and the GM to send questions to be answered to give the NBM absolute certainty to go forward with the project. Sarah with Kim's assistance developed a complete business proposal outlining the broader story/benefits with ongoing cost of program to MSA plus return on investment and continuous improvement. This saw the project being developed into 2021.

Because of the obvious impact that COVID-19 had on our sport in 2020, the challenges of the restrictions varied enormously from Branch to Branch. Cancellation or postponement of many meets including the National Championships 2020 and 2021 meant that competition came in the form of Virtual challenges in both swimming and dryland activities. Open Water Swims and Postal Swims were encouraged.

Committee Report

National Coaching Committee Report

Branch representatives on the NCC report on what happened around the country in 2020:

MSNSW – 2020 was a difficult COVID year with Nationals, State and many local meets cancelled. Training resumed for many clubs around July to August following COVID-19 guidelines.

Swimmers' participation in Masters was aided through the promotion of virtual meets, small mini meets, postal swims and endurance sessions. The coaching objective has been to keep our coaches and members engaged and motivated through regular communication via emails and Monthly News. It has also been an opportunity for coaches to develop their coaching knowledge through online resources.

MSA "Return to Swimming Program" was an excellent resource for many clubs in encouraging swimmers back in the water, to regain fitness and motivation with goal setting.



Online Coaching Forums were instigated late in 2020 with a positive response from coaches. Very successful Freestyle Clinics for swimmers were run by Mitch Patterson in November and December in both Sydney and Country areas.

The Club Coach Course held in February 2020 resulted in 3 newly accredited coaches. Extension has been granted to the remaining 5 and also to those whose renewals were due in 2020. MSNSW already has members participating in the Online Club Coach Course.

MSNT – The role of Masters Coach in the NT relates to the two Branch clubs and the need to increase access to coaching for Alice Springs swimmers. With the majority of the plans for 2020 carried over to 2021, planning and action is slowly resuming. Much of the initial organization for future Open Water Swims has occurred in 2020 as part of planning for hosting of the 2021 Darwin National Championships.

Regular Zoom sessions through ASCTA, Gold Class Swimming and ASCA provide ongoing professional development for coaches who are largely isolated by distance, as well as the opportunity to access coaching clinics run through Swimming NT and the mentoring of St. Peters Western (Queensland) coaches.

Swimmers are encouraged to be part of relay teams in any of the Swimming NT events, as well as individual entries, an ongoing popular practice with Darwin Stingers which provides a level of competition not available in a 'single club community'. Such events provide opportunities not only for race practice, but encourage camaraderie within a large club of several squads who may not know one another. These and other events that include relays enable swimmers to field the best teams possible with the improved probability of teams breaking long-standing records, as well as setting records in age groups previously not accessed with small 'away' teams.

MSQ – Activities have been based around engagement and re-engagement with COVID-19 and a lack of competitive swimming opportunities available along with returning swimmers to training loads in an injury-free environment by building a base and working up slowly. MSQ is excited to have competition back and State Championships on the horizon along with Great Barrier Reef Games too and there will be engagement opportunities at these events for Coaches again.

Committee Report

National Coaching Committee Report

MST – 2020 was the year of adaptation. The Summer Championships in March before COVID-19 led to pool closures and event cancellations. From a coaching perspective the attention turned to creating alternative training options including dry land training and open water swimming. The surge in participation in OWS was remarkable, given the challenging conditions in Tasmania during winter. Once the prospect of returning to pools approached, attention turned to supervising clubs to develop their COVID-19 plans and coaches took an active role assisting with this process.

Some pools opened under limited access arrangements in July, coaching focused on getting swimmers back into a training routine to find their level of fitness again. The Branch took the brave decision to hold their Winter Championships and Long Course meets in the remainder of the year. From a coaching perspective, this meant swimmers needed to be encouraged to compete at a lower level of fitness than they would normally carry into these meets. The high level of participation in the Winter Championships demonstrated the keenness of our swimmers to participate despite their lack of preparation. By the end of 2020 training had returned to its former level in most cases, albeit with changed pool access in some cases, but coaches and swimmers have shown flexibility adapting to their new circumstances. Interestingly many swimmers who took up OWS out of necessity have continued to add those swims to their training routine.

MSV – In Stage 2 to Stage 4 lockdown much of the time during 2020 and with all pools closed, MSV has little to report except that they enjoyed returning to the pool any short time they could. Some MSV members continued to swim informally in Port Phillip Bay and the ocean. Some clubs organised on-line coffees and games to keep members engaged. MSV was lucky to have been able to conduct a regional face-to-face Club Coach Course in Warrnambool with Bruce Allender as presenter to 3 Warrnambool Whales members and a member of the local Tri-Club.

MSWA – The Club Coach workshops planned for the start of 2020 were cancelled due to COVID-19. The MSWA Executive Officer Sophie Row and the WA Coaching Team researched the option of re-purposing the face-to-face course into an online course to ensure that coaches could complete their accreditation during the COVID-19 lockdowns. This idea was fully endorsed and funded by the MSWA Board with agreement from the NCC to use the pilot to trial the idea of digital platform learning. A full report on this pilot project is covered by the MSWA EO's 2020 report.



Statistics for 2020				
Branch	New Accreditation	Re-accreditation	RCC	Total current accredited coaches
MSNSW	5	6		87
MSNT				2
MSQ	1	6	1	60
MSSA	2	1		20
MST			1	8
MSV	2	3		37
MSWA	7	6	3	95

Funding Support program for travel to attend workshops has been rendered obsolete as we plan to move completely to the online option for remote members.

Committee Report

National Coaching Committee Report

ASCTA 2020 Conference – The conference was COVID-19 cancelled for 2020, however we continued to forge a good relationship with ASCTA by close liaison with Event Organiser Emily Willoughby. Simon Watkins will become a liaison person with ASCTA because of his close ties with the organisation.

Swimming Australia (SA)

The relationship with SA was being firmed in 2020, facilitated by GM Sarah. The NCC has not had any further input into the Advanced Coaching Course as the new online portal promises to provide us with the opportunity to develop our own Masters Advanced Modules.

Coach of the Year

Congratulations to the 2019 Coach of the Year Greg Gourley (Tuggeranong Masters – MSNSW) for his outstanding contribution to coaching and the development of coaching at all levels of masters swimming. The NCC are pleased to have welcomed Greg on as a Committee Member during 2020. At the time of writing this report no decision has been made on the 2020 Coach of the Year but thank you to the three branches who nominated their worthy coaches. As the 2020 ASCTA Conference and the 2020 and 2021 National Championships were cancelled an opportune meet will see the presentation of the 2 Awards during 2021 with the ASCTA Conference in October 2021 another opportunity to recognise the winners from 2019 and 2020.

Administrative Changes:

We would like to keep the Board informed of any change in administration processes and procedures:

- Revision of the Recognition of Current Competency (RCC) - At the end of 2020 the NCC resolved that any candidate for RCC must complete the online CCW as PD to gain currency. Documents have been revised accordingly.
- Reaccreditation process revision was well underway at the end of 2020

Di Coxon-Ellis

National Coaching Committee Chair

National Technical Committee Report

The National Technical Committee (NTC) is a forum for all states to clarify technical issues, have rules reviewed and propose changes if required, and provide guidelines for the training and accrediting of technical officials.

The current NTC members are Phil Beames (SA), John Barrett (QLD), Lynne Duncan (WA), Di Partridge (NSW), Neil Keele (NSW), Ray Brien (Tas), Simon Bole-Brown (VIC) and Jayna Gordon (NT). The committee would like to welcome new members Lynne Duncan and Simon Bole-Brown and say thank you to retiring members Peter Molony and Neil Mitchell for their contributions during their term on the NTC.

Due to COVID-19 and a limited no of competitions for the majority of 2020 there has been no activity by the Technical Committee. A Zoom meeting of the committee is being organised for early 2021 to formulate a plan as to what the NTC wants / needs to achieve in the short term and set action items so the goals can be achieved. The main agenda item will be how to transition the Technical Officials Accreditation courses to the online platform.

Phillip Beames

National Technical Committee Chair

Committee Report

National Recorders Report

Although 2020 was a disrupted year, swimmers were able to participate in 51 meets, with 39 meets qualifying for inclusion in World Top 10.

There were few international meets, however the Melbourne 2020 IGLA Championships enabled many of our members to participate within Australia. There was a total of 72 national records (41 individual long course, 31 individual short records and 6 relays, long course). Dorothy Dickey set six world records in the 100, 200 (x2), 400 (x2) and the 1500m freestyle, long course in the 90-94 age group.

E1000 continued to be supported in 2020 although were no club awards and as expected number were down, however some swimmers achieved maximum points for over 20 success years.

Year	Clubs	Swimmers	Completed all swims	Achieved 1005 points
2020	125	1306	44	33
2019	143	1886	90	59
2018	157	1969	90	61
2017	152	1737	78	50
2016	152	1915	88	57
2015	144	1965	75	56
2014	146	1899	71	51
2013	153	2109	110	55
2012	141	1884	81	59



Between 2018 and 2020 I undertook an audit of the results in the portal to update names, MSAIDs, remove duplicates and correct time errors. This was a follow on from the update of adding MSAIDs to results listed in 2002 and 2003.

Total number of swimmers checked: 19,329, updating 63,804 MSAIDs and 46,166 names in individual events and 10,710 names in relay teams updated.

Statistics of entries from the records/results portal	Total since 2002	2020
Meets	2467	108
Individual results	1,143,126	27,777 (incl e1000 - 11,982)
Relay results	37408	523
National Records	15921	56
Individual		(50)
Relay		(6)
World Records		
Individual	625	6
Relay	58	0



Hopefully 2021 will see a return to some 'normal' swimming, with competition within the Swim Series and e1000.

Pauline Samson

National Recorder



Committee Report

National Swim Meet Report

In contrast to the past couple of Annual Reports I am excited to say the Swim Meet Committee has been rejuvenated and is now working on a number of projects which are now part of their role and ultimately will support the National office and the branches in the running of swim meets, postal swims and looking at innovative ideas for the organisation.

The tasks of committees are usually long term, presently the projects we are involved in are listed below:

- The Swim Meet guide is nearing completion- this has been a very large project and many members of the committee have had an input as have others who are not part of the committee but have been able to add to their area of expertise.
- We are currently reviewing the COVID procedures to help Branches effectively run swim meets. MSA General Manager Sarah has drawn up draft guidelines with input from Swimming Australia documents and documents from our branches and the SMC will review . These Procedures will be a guide on our website for reference when needed
- The Meet Directors Guide is being updated. It had not been reviewed since 2013, so some work is required with some input from the Technical committee.
- Sanctioning of Postal swims has always been the job of the National office. There are procedures for organising a Postal swim but there are no procedures for sanctioning each swim, and the SMC is now working to rectify this and a document will be available before next years postal swims . This will give clubs a clear guideline as to the information needed by the committee in order to sanction a postal swim.
- The Swim meet committee is also taking the lead in the organisation of our Mental Health Month in May 2021. This idea was born at a meeting of the Branches in September where it was suggested that we support a Mental Health organisation . A detailed project plan has been written for this exciting support but with only a few months until May and everyone being so busy we will start with a smaller version in 2021 and work towards a larger event in 2022. The idea of this initiative is to involve all members, to support a mental health organisation but also to support our members in their mental health and bring us all together. There are some exciting ideas in the planning stages which we hope will get all members involved.
- The Committee is also looking at organising a swim league style meet at MSAC in September 2021, details of which are yet to be finalised.

My thanks to the members of the Swim Meet committee and I look forward to working on these projects in the coming months.

Jane Noake

National Swim Meet Committee Chair



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming New South Wales (MSNSW)

Governance

Masters Swimming NSW is governed by a board of seven members assisted by position holders in Coaching, Endurance, Recording, Safety, Technical, Training, Social Media and Website. Board members were elected at the Annual General Meeting held in May 2020 both by Zoom and in person which was attended by 38 registered persons representing 19 of our 47 clubs.

We welcomed Mark McDonald from Blacktown City Masters and Lesley Potter from Raymond Terrace Masters to the Board and said farewell to Diana Watts and long-serving Tony Tooher, a knowledgeable and great advisor.

MSNSW office, located at Sports House in Sydney Olympic Park, remained rent free; we pay for outgoings and remain grateful to the NSW Office of Sport for this generous support. From March 2020 the Branch administration toggled between working from home and the office.

Promotions

Recognition

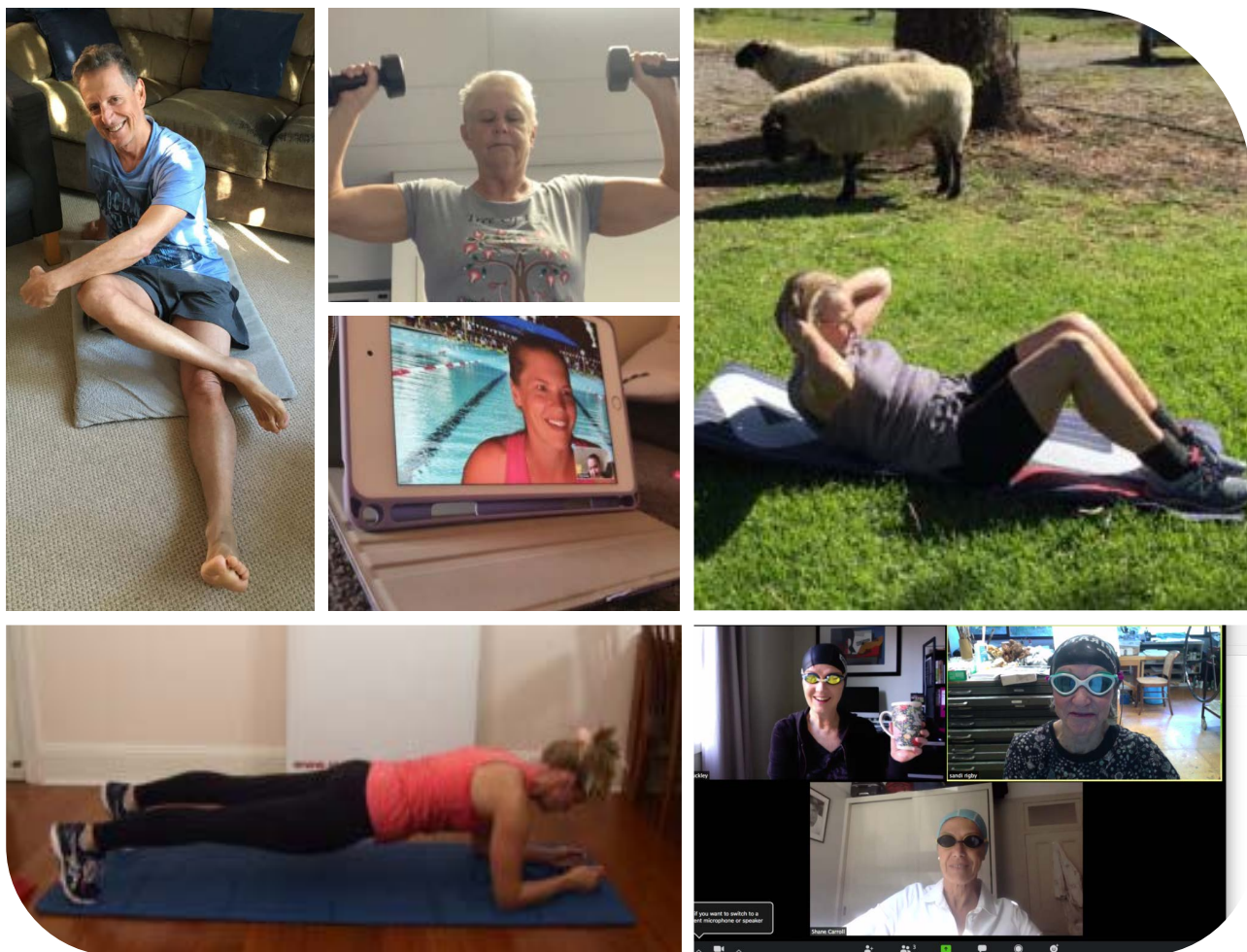
At the Annual General Meeting in June 2020 many members were recognised for their work and dedication throughout 2019. These included, but were not limited to, Mark Hepple (Gary Stutsel Award), Dawn Gledhill (Official of the Year), Lindsay Risk (Administration Award), Greg Gourley (Coach of the Year) and Aaron Cleland (Ian Davis Award). The branch offers hearty congratulations to all these recipients.

Mark Hepple again put in countless hours of voluntary labour at the computer launching and updating our website.

Marketing

The FINA World Masters Championships had been promoted for August 2021 but by March the word came through that they, too, had been cancelled. The World Masters Games held on to the dream that they could keep plans on the table for May 2021. We held on to hope. For a while.

Above, L-R: Janine Szostak; Lesley Potter.



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming New South Wales (MSNSW)

Dryland Training

15 April was going to be the opening event for the 2020 National Championships, then this needed to be postponed. So, what to do? It was radical but there was an on-the-spot decision made to host a dryland challenge online and we had 130 entries from 28 clubs around Australia! Congratulations went to Raymond Terrace Masters who won the average points competition, and to Di Partridge who recorded the highest number of points individually also to Ryde AUSSI who had the highest number of participants per club. Thanks so much to Lesley Potter for all her efforts in keeping us informed and energised and many thanks to Mark Hepple for putting it all together with no notice and for keeping the statistics in check.

In June we did it again— for all our members waiting to get back into the pool, we hosted another 'virtual' meet where you took part in, and earned points for a variety of activities under three headings—Fitness, Friendship and Fun. You didn't need to swim to take part (although that was one of the activities), you could take a walk, phone a club mate or even cook a healthy meal to earn points. The more activities you did, the more points you earned. In September we drove through another Virtual event, just because we could. Time was spent promoting the app, writing COVID-19 Safety Plans, sourcing online COVID-19 training, creating Track and Trace logs and learning to navigate new booking systems and accessing pools. Let's be safe by choice, not by chance!

Above, from L-R: James Pelosa; Janet Bolton; Kristine Kennedy; Suzie Haddad; Alison Sakurovs; Zoom meets.



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming New South Wales (MSNSW)

Programs and Activities

Coaching Team

The Coach Project team, led by Anne Smyth, started the year off with plans! On the list was a Coach Freestyle workshop to discuss basic faults and how to fix and a booking was confirmed for a Swim Camp at Thredbo.

As the State was beset by fire the Coach team asked coaches to build fitness and focus on technique in the lead up to the Nationals, to include Starts and Turns practice and Peter Johnston (previous National Coach of the Year) ran a Starts class for swimmers before the Merrylands swim meet and Tuggeranong masters planned a Super Swim Sunday workshop, alas it was not to be.

A coach course was on the calendar for August, such were the plans.

By March the Team got active in promoting online resources and by June they were focussed on returning members safely to swimming.

From October Mitch Patterson started conducting Freestyle Technique Clinics which included video aided discussions, drills and corrections with direct feedback on swimmer specific technique aspects.

Endurance 1000 Recorder

While nationally it was not feasible to continue with the E1000 program MSNSW was in a position to keep it alive at Branch level. Jenny Whiteley kept us up to date and MSNSW finished 2020 with twenty members achieving maximum points while another seven managed all swims.

Campbelltown topped Blacktown and participants came from 35 MSNSW clubs.

Technical and Training Team

MSNSW continues to have a healthy base of officials on which to call but can never have enough to share the workload. All members are strongly encouraged to get qualified in one or more positions to help on pool deck.

Above: MSNSW AGM zoom

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming New South Wales (MSNSW)

Swim Meets

The year started with full-on energy heading us all to the hosting of the 45th National Championships. Stock was ordered, venues booked, deposits paid, merchandise and designs discussed and decided upon, Officials volunteered, uniforms organized, medals and caps delivered, sponsors supported us and then the balloon was popped and all was deflated. We sincerely believed it was a postponement for six months but some refunds were still needed to be paid and a great rustle around to change bookings with clubs and councils and pools and members. The Branch firmly held on to a reorganization and shifting of the two years of effort that had got us all to this stage but like so many, many 2020 plans it was simply not to be.

Campbelltown Collegians held the first swim meet of the year and they got a whole lot of swimming in. These were in the days when members enjoyed raffles and BBQ's and a whole lot of camaraderie. There was disappointment and sheer joy.

By June many outdoor pools had reopened with limited capacity and the booking at SOPAC for the Branch Relay meet remained. We still had high hopes but they were dwindling. It was not to be.

Alongside our Swim Meet Director, Jane Noake, Mark Hepple created a Back to the Future series of events and, as Ryde AUSSI Masters couldn't take up their planned event in August the Branch took on the pool booking and swimmers came out to play. Members were advised: Cancellation and/or postponement is something we have to expect "may" happen in the next few months due to changing outbreaks. We will keep organising meets when we can and they will only go ahead if and when the time is right. And some did go ahead but not all.

Our swim year finished with an entirely new concept, a Women Only meet in collaboration with an Adult Swim School and Swim Sisters. The NSW State Govt conducted Her Sport Her Way events across the State and MSNSW was fortunate to receive funding to support this carnival. Different Strokes Swim School encouraged women who had just learned to swim to give competition a go, some for the first time in their lives so there were a lot of nerves and self-doubt. Female MSNSW members met new friends and supported new swimmers.

Regional Projects

Lawrence Powderly, Vice President, Country introduced monthly Zoom meetings with our regional clubs. Ideas abounded including opportunities for mini-meets, coached training sessions, programs and social events. It was felt that regionally based members may feel uncomfortable travelling to metro areas but they were keen and energised to host their own activities. The idea for a Hunter Reconnection event was born.

During this upheaval MSNSW welcomed a new club! Narooma Masters opened its doors on the South Coast and was supported by (almost) nearby Sapphire Coast Stingrays and the Coaching Team in the ACT.

Acknowledgements

The branch office continues to receive the benefit of advice and assistance from Lawrence Powderly on a fortnightly basis as we opened then closed the Olympic Park office. Members who attend events know Lawrence well from the Marshalling desk and as our Check Starter, he remained calm and sane as we navigated through the pandemic year that was. Thank you, Lawrence.

My thanks and gratitude also go to our National General Manager and Administrator for their consistent support throughout 2020. Thank you to Sarah and Kath for being there on this wild ride. I couldn't do it without you.

Jillian Pateman

Masters Swimming NSW
Administrator



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Northern Territory (MSNT)

Swim Meets

The NT Branch held five swim meets during 2020. The Branch Short Course Championships were held in March and the Long Course in October. The latter were held in Darwin subsequent to the cancellation of the Alice Springs Masters Games because of COVID-19 restrictions. Three interclub virtual meets were conducted during the year - in January, June and November.

Membership

Membership in 2020 was 149, marginally up from 147 in 2019, and the highest in terms of the percentage in Australia of its state/territory population as members of MSA clubs. Alice Springs club had 17 members, Darwin 129 and Palmerston and Rural 3.

International Links

Due to COVID-19, the annual participation by Darwin Stingers' members in the Singapore Masters' National Championships did not take place.

Funding

The Branch in 2020 again received no funding from the NT Department of Sport and Recreation, despite becoming a fully affiliated member of Swimming NT in October 2018. This was basically due to the fact that Swimming NT, though which the branch must now access government grants, has shown no interest in Masters Swimming, despite the MoU between the two organisations being signed in 2018 and nominally renewed in 2020.

Branch Meetings

Regular branch meetings were held in Darwin, with a Skype link to the Alice Springs delegate as available. The AGM was held in Darwin in November.

Branch Management

At the AGM in November, Neil Ludvigsen of the Darwin Stingers Club was re-elected as Branch President, with John Pollock of Darwin Stingers as Branch Secretary and Robert Magin of Darwin Stingers as Treasurer.

John Pollock

Branch Secretary

Masters Swimming NT



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming QLD (MSQ)

Governance

Masters Swimming Queensland was managed by the Branch Management Board (BMB):

- President: Cheryl Brodribb
- Treasurer: Julie Bott
- Vice President North: Ted Bunt
- Vice President Central: Patricia O'Brien-Price
- Vice President Sunshine: Fernando Claro
- Vice President South: Susanne Milenkevich

The Sub-committee, which reports to the Executive Committee of the BMB, comprises of:

- Director of Recording: Martin Banks
- Director of Technical Services: John Barrett
- Director of Risk Management: Emma Maxwell
- Directors of Coaching Services: Sean Williams and Simon Watkins

Appointed Position:

- Systems Administrator: David Findlay

Membership

MSQ membership in 2020 reached 1045, with 18 members second-claiming MSQ clubs. Subscriptions were turned off across Australia over the COVID-19 shutdown period. New memberships resumed in June with six month subscriptions, and in September with 16 month subscriptions opening.

MSQ had 6 affiliated clubs in the Central region, 11 in the North region, 13 in Sunshine region, and 17 in the South region. We welcomed the Port Douglas Cyclones QPC to the North, and the Warwick Wahoos QWW and Palm Beach Masters QPB to the South. These three clubs have been newly set up this year, taking our total clubs to 47.

Above: Cairns Clams swimmers very excited to be allowed back in the water after the COVID shutdown.

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming QLD (MSQ)

Administration

2020 was a very unusual year for Masters Swimming in Australia, with most activities cancelled for much of the year. The pandemic brought new challenges to administration. The importance of supporting and communicating with clubs was more important than ever. Masters' members Australia-wide worked together to overcome limitations, and found new ways to support one another.

State and Territory Administrators met regularly with MSA General Manager, Sarah Pisterman via Zoom Meetings to assist with navigating COVID-19 requirements. There were numerous meetings within the swimming industry to keep abreast of the frequent policy development around COVID-19 guidelines and procedures.

Swim Meets

Club Meets – Three club meets were held in 2020 before the COVID-19 shutdown:

Date	2020 Swim Meet	Number of Competitors
15/02/2020	Miami Masters Meet	192
22/02/2020	North Mackay Sinkers Fun in Feb Meet	41
7/03/2020	Hervey Bay Masters Meet	141

All remaining club meets were then cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

State Championships 2020

Unfortunately, all the planning, preparation and event entries for the State Championships had to be cancelled. Considerable time was spent cancelling bookings, refunding payments and retrieving deposits. MSQ absorbed PayPal fees and refunded all members who had entered upcoming meets including the State Championships. We were fortunate to receive full refunds for most expenses, but still await the some airline costs incurred.

Pan Pacific Masters Games 2020

Again, eight months of planning and preparation for PPMG20 had to be undone. Bookings of venue and accommodation were cancelled, with full refunds received. Payments from PPMG have now been refunded, as have competitor entry fees. This was extremely disappointing for all involved, particularly for colleagues at Events Management Queensland who lost their jobs.

Postal Time Trial Meet

A state-wide Postal Time Trial Meet was held over the months of September and October. This postal event was held to provide MSQ swimmers with the incentive to regain fitness lost during the COVID-19 shutdown. This was an opportunity to resume racing, and to record some official times for the year. MSQ was thrilled that so many swimmers joined in, many with open invitations to swimmers from other clubs. 17 clubs entered the Long Course events, with a total of 112 swimmers and 538 entries. 18 clubs participated in the Short Course events, with 126 swimmers entering 522 events in total. That included a total of 1050 swims. It was great to see swimmers enjoying the challenge and returning to having fun with friends and community at the same time. Fitness, friendship and fun was what it was all about!

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming QLD (MSQ)

Programs and Activities

Lane Warriors and MSX

These two MSQ Programs were cancelled for the year.

Endurance 1000

Although the national awards for the 2020 Vorgee e1000 program were cancelled, many MSQ clubs continued to log swims where possible, and Queensland results were reported.

25 MSQ clubs participated in the Endurance 1000 Program in 2020.

Club Results: Total Points per Club – Top 12			
	Club Code	Club	Total Points
1	QNA	Noosa Masters Swimming Club	5870
2	QIP	Ipswich City Masters	5428
3	QMM	Miami Masters	4902
4	QBN	Brisbane Northside Masters	1972
5	QNS	North Mackay Sinkers	1414
6	QSC	Sunshine Coast Masters	1407
7	QTT	Twin Towns Masters	1062
8	QMB	Maryborough Masters	706
9	QSM	Brisbane Southside Masters	447
10	QCD	Caboolture Crays	171
11	QHB	Hervey Bay Humpbacks	155
12	QRB	Redlands Bayside Masters	89

Club Results: Average Points per Swimmer in each Club – Top 12			
	Club Code	Club	Average Points
1	QIP	Ipswich City Masters Swimming Club	246.73
2	QNA	Noosa Masters	76.23
3	QMM	Miami Masters	47.59
4	QSC	Sunshine Coast Masters	43.97
5	QBN	Brisbane Northside Masters	39.44
6	QNS	North Mackay Sinkers	39.28
7	QMB	Maryborough Masters	35.30
8	QTT	Twin Towns Masters	26.55
9	QCD	Caboolture & District Masters	17.10
10	QEC	Emmanuel College (EC) Masters	10.00
11	QSM	Brisbane Southside Masters	6.98
12	QYP	Yeronga Park Yabbies	3.80

Club Results: Club Participation Percentage of Total Club Membership – Top 12			
	Club Code	Club	Participation Rate %
1	QNS	North Mackay Sinkers	69%
2	QEC	Emmanuel College (EC) Masters	67%
3	QCT	Cotton Tree Masters	67%
4	QMB	Maryborough Masters	65%

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming QLD (MSQ)

Club Results: Club Participation Percentage of Total Club Membership – Top 12			
	Club Code	Club	Participation Rate %
5	QIP	Ipswich City Masters	55%
6	QNA	Noosa Masters	53%
7	QYP	Yeronga Park Yabbies	50%
8	QSC	Sunshine Coast Masters Swimming Inc	47%
9	QCD	Caboolture Crays	40%
10	QMM	Miami Masters Swimming Club Inc	32%
11	QGA	Genesis Aquatic	30%
12	QRB	Redlands Bayside Masters	29%

Vorgee Million Metres

Congratulations to the following MSQ swimmers who achieved Million Metre Awards in 2020. Thank you to Vorgee for their continued support of these awards.

Name	Club	Award
Shiralee Bielenberg	QIP Ipswich City Masters	3 Million Metres
John Miles	QSC Sunshine Coast Masters	4 Million Metres
Naomi McGilvray	QNS North Mackay Sinkers	2 Million Metres
J Barry Lloyd	QNA Noosa Masters	1 Million Metres
Don Taylor	QTW Toowoomba Tadpoles	15 Million Metres

Technical and Recording

During 2020, MSQ officials provided services at the Miami Meet and North Mackay Sinkers. The year started well with eight trainees attending courses in February for Judge of Strokes and Inspector of Turns. The courses were held at the Noosa Aquatic Centre, coordinated by Viv Merrill with attendees from Noosa, Yeronga and Albany Creek. Some of the attendees were able to get time on pool deck at the Miami Swim meet but COVID-19 restrictions have curtailed further progress. It is hoped that training can resume in 2021.

A number of Certificates of Medical Disability have been received from swimmers to be taken into consideration at swim meets and multi-class rules have been incorporated into the MSA Swim Rules.

The MSQ Director of Technical Services and the Director Recording were involved with information and procedures developed by Swimming Queensland for running COVID-safe swim meets.

With cancelled swim meets during much of 2020, the MSQ Director Recording worked on a number of tasks and projects, including:

- Defining requirements for MSQ's Quick Entry system
- Performing testing and refining requirements for system changes
- Implementing improved change management processes for MSQ Systems and Recording
- The development and management of MSQ COVID Postal Meet
- Meet guide and process preparation for meets in 2021
- Development of COVID-safe self-marshaling procedures
- Multi Class recording development

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming QLD (MSQ)

Risk Management

No swim meet risk assessment forms or incident reports were received in 2020, as all MSQ sanctioned swim meets after March 2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Considerable time was spent reviewing COVID documentation and redeveloping the risk assessment forms to incorporate COVID recommendations and requirements for clubs.

Coaching

Queensland has been somewhat fortunate in the restarting of swimming during the COVID-19 pandemic. Queensland swimmers were able to return to pools in mid-June and saw a gradual easing of restrictions in the latter months of the year. Most swimming squads were then able to resume, though with a variety of new restrictions. Travel and attendance at masters' squads was limited due to COVID, however social media was an invaluable platform for staying connected. MSQ demonstrated commitment in keeping members engaged throughout the year.

The development of the Queensland Masters coaching team continues to be a major goal. The aim is to establish a strong network of coaches throughout Queensland that can deliver resources to our members.

Financial

MSQ made a profit in 2020 of approximately \$45,000 which comprised \$39,500 government assistance in the form of cash boosts and Job Keeper payments plus a number of other increases and decreases. Membership income compared to 2019 was \$9,000 less but club affiliations were \$670 more than 2019. We were fortunate to again receive an annual operating grant of \$35,000 from Swimming Queensland which helped to supplement the fall in membership income. There were no major swims meets in 2020 and with our

President, four VPs, our Administrator, Coaches and Officials confined to their home bases for most of 2020, there were negligible travel reimbursements claimed. The Administrator's Salary and Super were constant between 2019 and 2020, with provision for unused leave and RDO time included in the amount we presented to the Auditor for our 2020 Administrator's salary.

MSQ is indebted to Swimming Queensland (SQ) for the Accounting and Financial support it receives from this organisation. SQ provide accommodation for our Administrator in their Chandler Sports Complex Offices as well as charging minimal amounts for internet usage and administrative sundries. Amanda Noble, the Finance Manager for Swimming Qld deserves special mention as she not only creates the MYOB reports we use for accounting purposes but she also administers the payments from the MSQ bank account whilst also receiving and allocating income to our appropriate cost centres. Her professional, attentive and pleasant manner only serve to enhance the relationship between MSQ and SQ.



Right: Busy Noosa Masters time keepers at work.



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming QLD (MSQ)

Communication and Promotion

Communication with our membership is through email, our website and through our social media pages. We have Queensland and North Queensland Facebook pages and Instagram accounts, currently maintained by MSQ President, Cheryl Brodribb, and Administrator, Christina Scholaro. The number of followers and interactions through these mediums is gradually increasing, with amplified activity surrounding swim meets, swimmer profiles and club activities. The MSQ Facebook pages currently have 1606 likes and 1965 followers, and 255 likes and 300 followers in the north. The MSQ Instagram account has 770 followers.

Acknowledgments

Sincere thanks goes to all clubs, board members, coaches, officials, volunteers and timekeepers, who give so generously of their time to ensure that Masters Swimming Queensland continues to thrive. Thank you to Swimming Queensland for their generous assistance and resource sharing throughout the year. Thanks also to Kath and Sarah in the national office who consistently offer assistance and support with all aspects of operations.

Christina Scholaro

Administrator

Masters Swimming QLD

Above, from top L-R: Time Trials with Miami Masters; Life before the pandemic – Miami Masters Meet Feb 2020; Time Trials with Brisbane Southside Masters.

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming South Australia (MSSA)

2020 has been a difficult year for everyone but the Masters Swimming SA community has remained positive and involved and made the most of their opportunities to train and compete under the COVID-19 restrictions.

MSSA held its AGM on the 28th July 2020, after it had to be postponed from May. Three Directors, Tom Bland, Robert Fergusson and Stuart Colla, all retired by rotation in accordance with the constitution and Phillip Beames' term as an appointed Director finished. Robert and Stuart were eligible for re-election and were voted back as Directors. Tom's position was vacant and Phillip Beames was elected as a Director.



The Board of MSSA now consists of the following Directors:

Chairman: Phillip Beames

Finance Director: Robert Fergusson

Director and Secretary: Penni O'Shea

Director: Joanne Sutcliffe

Director: Stuart Colla

MSSA wish to thank Tom Bland for his contribution to the organisation over the last four years as President and then Chairman following the adoption of our new constitution and transition to a Board structure.

Two Life Memberships were awarded at the AGM. The deserving recipients were:

Tim Calver: Tim has filled many roles with MSSA over the last twenty-five years, including Vice President, Secretary, Safety Officer and Volunteer Co-ordinator and continues to assist at open water swims and maintaining the OWS equipment.

Robert Fergusson: Robert has been the Treasurer / Finance Director for the last nine years. MSSA appreciates the contributions made by these two gentlemen and wholeheartedly acknowledges their efforts by awarding Life Membership to them both.

Membership for 2020 was 580, down on previous years but hopefully will return to normal levels as training and competition resumes in 2021. With 'Jobkeeper' offsetting the main expense of the lockdown months and the benefit of a couple of government grants, MSSA remains in a good financial position.

2020 started well with our Summer Pool Series events being well attended and the OWS Series in full swing with the Nine News Jetty to Jetty Swim being a highlight. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and its' associated restrictions meant that there was very little happening after March as the country went into lockdown. MSSA was luckier than some other states in that most of our clubs were back training from late July, albeit under strict Government and pool restrictions. Our first pool swim back, Racing Again In SA, was held on 23rd August 2020 at SALC. COVID-19 restrictions meant a lot of work organising plans, signage, one-way pedestrian flow, sign-in procedures for Officials swimmers and spectators etc. and a modified program of events and no relays to meet restrictions and time constraints. However, the eighty-four swimmers followed the rules and restrictions and enjoyed being back competing. The SC State Cup was held in September, SC Long Distance Meet was held in October and the first of the 2020-21 Summer pool Series was held at Woodside in December.

MSSA and its members are looking forward to 'getting back to the new normal' in 2021 with the 2020-21 Summer Pool Series and OWS Series events followed by the normal program of events during winter.

The 2020 MSSA Presentation Dinner had to be postponed due to a second wave COVID-19 lockdown in SA. The event is now to be held in March 2021.

Phillip Beames

Chairman

Masters Swimming SA



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Tasmania (MST)

MST membership has continued to remain stable, with current membership at 310, compared with 301 at the same time last year. One Club has no members registered at this time. This is believed to be due to a movement of some members to open water competition, which in Tasmania is conducted by Surf Life Saving Tasmania.

Tasmania suffered less disruption than most other Branches as a result of COVID-19. Our first Branch Championships were held in March, immediately before lockdown, and our other three regular meets conducted in August, October and December. Pools were closed from late March to late April or May. There was good participation, with the exception of almost no interstate visitors. There were 98 individual and 16 relay Branch records set or broken.

Although e1000 awards were cancelled for 2020, many participants continued their eligible swims with two achieving maximum points. A 60-minute time trial was conducted, enabling recording of swims up to 3 km.

With changes needed to the National Championships schedule, MST changed its sponsorship from 2022 to 2023. Preparations will proceed according to the MSA schedule.

Minor changes were made to the Branch Constitution, with changes approved at the 2019 Branch AGM. These were for editorial corrections, introducing uniformity in office-bearer retirement provisions and allowing for online rather than newspaper advertisement of the Annual General Meeting.

Current Branch office-bearers are:

Bill Woodworth, President

Tony Forman, Secretary

Ray Brien, Treasurer

Pauline Samson, Recorder

Philip Tyrell, Coordinator of Coaching and Education

Rick Homan, Safety Officer

Bill Woodworth

President

Masters Swimming TAS

Above: The Hobart Dolphins Women's Relay team who broke a Branch relay record MST Winter Championships



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Victoria (MSV)

2020 – A Year to Remember

2020 was indeed a year like no other and one that tested the resolve of many. MSV and our members like so many others around Australia and the world faced a variety of incredible challenges but showed time and time again remarkable fortitude, compassion and sense of community.

2020 started off with gusto and we were all looking forward to having a very successful year. The always well run and supported 28th Malvern Marlins Interclub, a regional MSA Club Coach Course held by the Warrnambool Whales, Powerpoints popular Summer Smash followed closely by the incredibly successful Melbourne2020 IGLA [Internationals Gay and Lesbian Aquatic Championships] all took place within the 4 weeks of February.

Warrnambool Whales went on to hold a 100x100's in March with other Clubs taking part in the GVSS and other events just before COVID-19 finally caught up with us in Australia. Events were cancelled, pools closed, restrictions put in place and 'mask wearing, working from home, pivoting and zoom' becoming some of the most used words/phrases and are embedded in our vernacular now.

Just as things started to open-up and we seemed to be on the road to a 'new normal', with some clubs commencing small group swims within guidelines and others just happy to be back in the pool Victoria was thrust back into lockdown with the longest and some of the strictest restrictions seen in Australia. But during this time MSV, Clubs and members kept connected more than before through a variety of means: emails, zoom, enews, face time, social media.

#whatweneedtodo became a tagline used on social media and was embraced by many Clubs and members with photos being shared from all around Victoria, Interstate and even overseas showing MSV members and supporters following the many different restrictions and keeping connected with others. This exemplifies the incredible spirit that embodies MSV members.

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Victoria (MSV)

MSV held the AGM and Board Meetings throughout 2020 via zoom which has proved a successful communicating tool. In the midst of the pandemic Rachel Cairns was elected President with Susie Kempson as Vice President and MSV welcomed a new Coaching Director – Amy Jones and new Technical Director Simon Bole-Brown and new Committee members Darryl Flukes and Brett Davidson. Tim Boness stayed on as Finance Director and they hit the ground running working hard on all the new restriction documentation and COVID-safe guidelines.

Return to Play Plan: Working with MSA, VicSport and State and Australian Sporting Bodies the MSV Management Committee developed the MSV Return to Play Plan in accordance with Victorian and Federal Government Guidelines to enable our Clubs a safe return to swimming. The Return to Play Plan was reviewed throughout the year to stay relevant and be responsive to the ongoing changes that took place as the Victorian COVID-19 restrictions evolved.

The Return to Play Plan assists clubs return to swimming under Victorian Stay Safe and Restricted Activity Directions issued by the Victorian Chief Health Officer. The plan guides clubs to get back in the pool without compromising the health of our swimmers or the community.

In developing and revising the plan due to the ever-changing face of life in Victoria, MSV made every effort to ensure swimming at squad was as fun and simple as possible while minimising the risk of coronavirus transmission. All MSV clubs are required to comply with this Return to Play Plan except when the club is also affiliated with Swimming Victoria. Clubs that are affiliated with both State associations must comply with the Swimming Victoria Return to Play Plan.

MSV also worked hard to keep clubs and members up to date with the changing restrictions throughout 2020 and created a dedicated webpage <https://mastersswimmingvic.org.au/covid-19-and-beyond/> that housed links to relevant Victorian resources pages plus others State pages and links to exercise programs whilst in lockdown.

MSA, MSV and the MSA Acting President wrote a collaborative letter to the Victorian Premier and MPs advocating for adult swimming groups to resume training under the 'Return to Play' guidelines approved by Sport and Recreation Victoria in October 2020 when pools were still closed.

The letter has been addressed and sent to the following:

- To the Hon. Daniel Andrews, Premier of Victoria
- The Hon. Martin Pakula MP, Minister for Sport
- The Hon. Ros Spence MP, Minister for Community Sport
- The Hon. Martin Foley MP, Minister for Health
- The Hon. James Merlino MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Mental Health

Members of the MSV MC and Administrator participated in a number of COVID information zoom meetings and at the height of the second lockdown weekly briefing sessions. Towards the end of 2020 MSV MC have also been working hard on revising the MSV Constitution, By-Laws and a Marketing Strategy – all aimed at growing MSV membership and the masters brand in Victoria.

Whilst 2020 saw many events cancelled the events run were done successfully and with style.

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Victoria (MSV)

Highlights:

Malvern Marlins 28th Interclub – 15 February 2020

Another wonderful Marlins Meet was held with 89 swimmers from 15 Clubs taking part in the outdoor pool at Harold Holt Pool just before it was closed for renovations.

MSV Club Coach Course - held in conjunction with the Warrnambool Whales – 16 February

5 candidates attended and the workshop was once again run by National Coaching Committee Member - Bruce Allender who moved up to Qld later in 2020. MSV wishes Bruce all the best – we will miss him.

IGLA Games – Melbourne2020 – 20-25 February

(report compiled by A. Godfrey- IGA joint meet director)

After more than 2 years of planning and work, the Melbourne2020 IGLA (Internationals Gay and Lesbian Aquatic Championships) were held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre and Williamstown Beach from 20th - 25th February.

Melbourne2020 Inc. was created as a not for profit club to combine the forces of Melbourne's two leading aquatic clubs, the Glamourhead Sharks [(swimming) and Surge (water polo), to bring the competition to Melbourne. Major support was also given by the sporting governing bodies; Masters Swimming Australia and Masters Swimming Victoria; as well as Swimming Victoria; Diving Victoria, Synchro Victoria and Water Polo Victoria, as well as the various presidents and officials involved in bringing the competition to Melbourne.

The swimming competition was held in the FINA certified outdoor pool at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. 6 provisional World Records were set over the 4 days of the meet, which was run very efficiently with the help of the Masters Swimming Australia and Swimming Victoria/Australia officials. Dorothy Dickey, our 90 year old lady from Doncaster Dolphins, set 5 World records in the Freestyle races. Jerome Frentos (from DCAC) set a World Record in the 200 Individual Medley 55-59 age group. Michael Szrodski set a Polish National record in the 1500 Freestyle; and there were many other Australian and US National, and branch records set; individual and relay. Everyone had a great time – many people, like Dan Kowalski, said it was the most fun that they had ever had at a swim meet! There were also 26 Branch Individual Records and 5 Branch Relay Records broken.



Powerpoints Summer Smash – 29 February 2020

Another wonderful Summer Smash was held with 61 swimmers from 13 Clubs taking part.

MS 24hr Mega swim – Fitzroy 28-29 February

Yarra Roughies, Malvern Marlins and Glamourhead Sharks had teams that took part once again – they are all great supports of this swim.

Warrnambool Whales 100x100's – 1 March 2020

33 swimmers took part with nearly 20 taking on the challenge and doing the full 100x100's

Above: Dorothy Dickey set 5 World records in the Freestyle races.

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Victoria (MSV)

Nagambie Club to Pub - 7 March 2020

Aprox 15 Goulburn Valley Crocs took part in one of the last swims in Victoria before COVID-19 restrictions hit with many podium finishes and PB's all around.

Great Victorian Swim Series - MSV OWS CUPS 2019-2020

Masters swimming Victoria supports the Great Victorian Swim Series run by Cousins Tours and Travel and Light on Landscape and the series runs alongside ocean swim events that are all conducted by our hard working and critical Surf Life Saving Clubs with the funds raised from the swims go to keeping our beaches safe. The categories for competing are: Short course (2k or less), Short course Non-Wetsuit (2k or less), Long course (over 2.2k) and Long course Non-Wetsuit (over 2.2k). This season there was a change to the Masters Swimming Victoria awards in order to celebrate all aspects of MSV's mantra of fun, friendship and fitness in this fabulous series.

The two cups are as follows:

TOP CLUB AWARD: everyone who is a member of a masters club who swims counts! Even just one swim.

The more swimmers and the more swims, the better the club's chances. **Won by Brunswick Belugas**

HIGH PERFORMANCE AWARD: to celebrate the special achievements of our masters swimmers.

Every podium place wins points for the club for this award. **Won by Brunswick Belugas**

Great Victorian Swim Series - MSV OWS CUPS 2020-2021

Due to ongoing and rolling restrictions due to COVID no races were run at the start of the 2020-2021 season and no MSV award will be given for this season.

Baddaginnie Postal Swim

The Baddaginnie Masters Swimming Club originally ran the event but the club has since disbanded. Shirley Macfarlane (a driver behind the initial Animal Swim) then joined Surrey Park Masters for a couple of years and they revived the event in 2016 to celebrate its 30th anniversary. The swim comprises swimming 200m Fly, Back and Breast, a 400m IM and an 800m Free. All these events need to be completed in a 24 hour period ... followed by a really big rest. 2020 was the fifth SPSH Baddaginnie Animal Swim and was a quieter year than the recent past and the cut off date was extended and extended to enable as many swimmers as possible to complete the swim. Congratulations to all 27 swimmers who completed the event in 2020 from most states—still waiting on SA to join in the fun and they lost Tassie somewhere along the way but they have even gone international thanks to an NZ entry. Great to see new swimmers joining in the fun and - 2 from Alice Springs (NT), 1 from the Ettalong Pelicans (NSW) and another new Animal from great supporters at Tuggeranong Masters (ACT).





Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Victoria (MSV)

Congratulations to:

Million Metres Awards

- 1 Million – Jenny Hookey (Surrey Park Seahorses)
- 1 Million – Peter Duggan (North Lodge Neptunes and Malvern Marlins)
- 3 Million – Peter Lord (Surrey Park Seahorses)

Presented in 2020

- Amy Jones (Frankston) – MSV Coach of the Year 2019
- Neil Mitchell (Victorian Masters) – MSV Official of the Year 2019
- Neil Mitchell (Victorian Masters) – MSA Official of the Year 2019
- Mark Thompson (Powerpoints) – Involve Creative Masters Athlete of the Year
- Andrea McNeil (Malvern Marlins) – was awarded an OAM - the Medal of the Order of Australia for her service to swimming

Membership

After a very challenging year MSV finished off with 967 first claim members compared to 1112 in 2019 and 1119 in 2018. MSV MC is working on a Marketing strategy

Finances

MSV was successful in their applications for grants from the Victorian Government Business Support Fund to a total of \$30,000. MSV ended the year with

Acknowledgements

Thank you to our sponsors, we greatly appreciate your support. Vorgee and the The Way Funky Company (Funky Trunks and Funkita) support us throughout the year.

Cousins Travel support us with an incredibly valuable partnership in the Great Victorian Swim Series.

Thank you to our MSV Ambassadors: Linley Frame and Dr Geoff Toogood who continue to promote Masters swimming within the wider sports community.

Rachel Cairns

President

Masters Swimming VIC

Above: Commissioner Ro Allen; Alan Godfrey, Alan Shepherd, Minister Martin Foley.



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Western Australia (MSWA)

Overview

For many, 2020 was a year they'd like to forget, however when news broke of Australia's impending lockdown and implementation of restrictions, the Masters Swimming WA Board and Executive Officer galvanised, taking the approach to use the pandemic as an opportunity to innovate and update the way we operate. Change was immediate with Zoom becoming the primary and only mode of meeting, while working from home became the new norm. We continued to keep our members and other stakeholders engaged and informed through regular newsletters and social media, resulting in strong member retention rates this year. The year resulted in transformation for Masters Swimming WA and has provided a strong launch pad for new and exciting programs and activities in 2021 and beyond.

Membership

Following the resumption of normal activities for our clubs late winter, Masters Swimming WA sought to continue our engagement with members to ensure their retention in 2021. The Let's Swim Together Campaign held at the end of October 'relaunched' Masters Swimming post-lockdown and resulted in a strong finish to the year but more importantly set us up for growth in 2021. Final membership numbers were 1,542, only down 3% from our previous record high in 2019, an incredible achievement given the events of the year. December 2020 produced the record number of new members for the 2021 year and bodes well for another growth year.

Programs and Activities

Pool Meets

Early in 2020, one pool meet at Newman Churchlands was conducted before lockdown restrictions saw the cancellation of the LiveLighter SC State Championships and all other LiveLighter pool meets.

Pool meets resumed in July and saw three sprint meets hosted by Claremont, Stadium and Freo Fins and one distance meet, hosted by Leeming. The Just 100's was a new format competition hosted by Claremont as a fun way to get people back in the water at a short, sharp meet. Participation numbers were strong after the forced cancellation of so many meets throughout the year.

Direct Swimmer Registration via MySwimResults is now being mandated for all future spring meets in WA. This is exciting for many clubs who were finding the previous paper-based entry and payment system very labour intensive.

Virtual Meets

COVID-19 saw a reset of activities and exploration into finding new ways to continue to engage our members during the pool closures.

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Western Australia (MSWA)

- **LiveLighter Virtual Meet** – following on from the success of the NSW concept, we hosted a virtual ‘meet’ for members to take part in a variety of ‘fitness, friendship and fun’ type activities to earn points towards their clubs.
- **LiveLighter Winter Solstice** – another ‘virtual’ meet concept encouraging clubs to get as many members swimming in the open water as possible. Points were awarded for the length of time spent in the water as well as any photos and video content provided. This was a hugely successful concept with well over 300 swimmers taking part across the state and will remain a key part of the calendar in future years.

Coaching Clinics

With our inability to conduct any clinics due to aquatic facility closures, Tarquin and the Coaching Committee set about developing some videos for our members to be able to keep swimming during the colder months or in their own backyard pools. These received a great following and included:

- How to swim with a tether
- How to swim in a wetsuit
- Backyard pool swim programs

A Friday Fundamentals coaching clinic hosted later in the year attracted ten swimmers and was coached by Kareena Preston.

Australian Masters Games 2021

Masters Swimming WA will host the swimming competition of the Australian Masters Games 2021, which will be held in Perth from 9th – 16th October. Entries are now open and registrations are being received.

WOW Swims, The Community Swim Series For All

The beginning of 2020 saw four WOW Swims events complete, three achieving record numbers. Thankfully all swims managed to complete before the lockdown occurred. The commencement of the 2020-21 open water season saw an extraordinary uptake in open water swim participation, resulting in very solid numbers for our three swims held in November and December, with record numbers for the Freo Port Swim Thru, the Christmas 10k, both selling out. The growth in this market has been significant, with many new swimmers dipping their toes in to open water for the first time, setting us up for more growth in this market in 2021.

Online Club Coach Course Project

In the spirit of Masters Swimming WA Executive Officer’s drive for innovation and continuous improvement, Coach Education and National Coaching Committee member, Kim Tyler ably took up the challenge to repurpose the face-to-face Club Coach Workshop to an online delivery mode.

Kim led the delivery of this important project, dedicating hundreds of hours to launching a pilot program for testing in September last year. The results were impressive and resulted in the National Coaching Committee (NCC) endorsing this new mode of delivery. Following on from the success of this pilot program, Kim, the NCC and MSA are now seeking to transition this program onto the Dita Learning Management System, which will be an exciting new opportunity for potential coaches across Australia, with the ability to complete a large part of their training whenever they want and wherever they are located.





Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Western Australia (MSWA)

Marketing

Let's Swim Together Campaign

With the return to swimming, Masters Swimming WA launched a state-wide 'Let's Swim Together' campaign across all clubs. This was a syndicated series of 'come and try' swim sessions followed by social events open to the general public. This involved clubs selecting a swim session and social occasion over a specific weekend, which was then promoted heavily via social media by Masters Swimming WA. New branding and communication materials for the campaign were created in-house by Tarquin and distributed for the clubs to use in their own local promotions. In addition, freshly designed A-pop-up banners were made for each club for their continued use at the pool at each club event to promote the presence of the club.

In total 19 sessions were conducted by 16 clubs across WA. Overall, the campaign was very successful in its key objectives of building brand awareness for Masters Swimming WA, promoting the sport and driving new membership opportunities for clubs. New memberships reached record highs in December and January following the campaign and clubs are still receiving the benefits. The success of the campaign has assured its repeat in 2021.

Social Media

Social Media Brand Guidelines - New Social Media Brand Guidelines were developed by Samantha Parrotte before her departure and these were ably fine-tuned by Tarquin on her commencement. The clean, fresh branding looks appealing to a younger audience. This branding has now been applied to our webpages and other forms of advertising creating a consistent look and feel across multiple platforms. It was gratifying that Masters Swimming Australia liked the new branding guidelines such that they were picked up by the National Body and are now being utilised across the rest of Australia.

Marketing Tool - Social media has become an important marketing tool to build brand awareness and promote our events. New pages were established this year and we now have a presence with regular posts for both Masters Swimming WA and WOW Swims on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. Boosting posts through paid advertising has had a significant impact on our campaigns, introducing members of the public to Masters Swimming WA and our open water swim series. This has also seen our audience of followers and interactions increase over the course of the year, meaning we are reaching a wider and wider audience.

Social media tips and tricks videos – to assist our clubs in utilising this valuable marketing tool, Tarquin produced new videos providing clubs tips and tricks on how to use Canva for great graphics, how to boost a post on Facebook, along with more ideas planned for the future.

Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Western Australia (MSWA)

Club Conference

Our second Club Conference was held on 8th August and attracted nearly 40 committee members from nearly 20 clubs. Following a keynote address from former Wallaby and Cystic Fibrosis sufferer, Nathan Charles discussing developing resilience in the face of adversity, presentations covered the following topics:

- Club Essentials – governance, committees, conflict of interest
- Social Media Tips and Tricks
- Member Engagement
- Innovation and problem solving

Developing our clubs is a key strategic objective to ensure that they have the capacity and capabilities to provide a great experience to their members.



Stakeholder Engagement

To ensure the ongoing strength of our stakeholder engagement, two surveys were undertaken late last year to better understand the needs of our clubs and members.

Club Development Survey

This survey was sent to Club Committees for them to complete as a committee to better understand the way each club is managed and their level of planning and governance undertaken so that we can identify areas where clubs require the most support. The new Participation and Club Development Officer will drive club development and best practice initiatives during 2021.

Member Survey

Following on from the last member survey conducted in 2018, the purpose of this survey was to gauge the success of new initiatives developed over the previous couple of years as well as seek feedback to drive future planning. Feedback was excellent and ideas were excellent and have provided scope for new ideas. We were also delighted with the general level of satisfaction members have with the way Masters Swimming WA is currently being managed, suggesting we are getting a lot right.

Staffing

The Masters Swimming WA office is currently run by two part-time staff, being the Executive Officer, Sophie Row (30 hours per week) and Communications and Events Coordinator, Tarquin Bateman (20 hours per week).

Previous Events and Communications Coordinator, Samantha Parrotte (15 hours/week) resigned early in 2020 and the role was taken up by Tarquin Bateman. Tarquin's expertise in journalism, videography and social media has been put to excellent use on a number of different projects including the Online Club Coach Course, Brand Guidelines and social media pages.



Branch Reports

Masters Swimming Western Australia (MSWA)

Governance

Board Members

Our AGM held in March saw the addition of a new board member, Kate Baxter from Bold Park, taking over the Open Water Swim portfolio from Dr Ian Dunican.

COVID-19 brought different situations to different people and we found three of our board members resigning due to professional pressures brought on by the pandemic. Director of Finance, Lizzie O'Brien, Open Water Swim Director – Dr Ian Dunican and HR expert – Tanya Pavez all resigned their positions during the early stages of the pandemic. We were fortunate to fairly quickly recruit Claremont member and qualified accountant, Tiffany Fraser-Gillard as the new Director of Finance, and we continue to seek EOIs for the other two vacant positions.

Board Evaluation

As an annual exercise, the Masters Swimming WA undertakes a Board Evaluation to gauge performance and areas for improvement in terms of governance. Again, the Masters Swimming WA performed strongly across all metrics, however improvement areas were identified resulting in a review of these for the future.

Board Annual Planning Day

The Masters Swimming WA board again conducted their annual planning day in January this year, reviewing the Strategic Plan's objectives and deliverables against the macro environment. Following on from this planning day and on the back of feedback from the member survey, we reviewed our Strategic Plan to incorporate 'environmental and sustainability' initiatives, which will be incorporated into our operations in the future.

Acknowledgements

Moving into 2021 Masters Swimming WA has a number of incredibly exciting plans, additional staff members and a motivated Board. Never more so than now are we focused on creating a better swimming environment throughout the entire State and I look forward to working with all our Members, Clubs, Government partners and broader stakeholder groups to realise the opportunities that 2021 presents.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board and staff of Masters Swimming WA, who have strongly supported and allowed the organisation to quickly adapt, innovate and create opportunities for our clubs and members. Special mention should also be made to Kim Tyler for her tireless efforts in driving and delivering the new online Club Coach Course, which will provide a legacy for coaches nationally for many years to come. Also, thanks must go to our major funding partners, Department Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) and Healthway, who continue to support us in our endeavours.

Sophie Row

Executive Officer

Masters Swimming WA

National Championships Report

Nationals 2020 Report

Never before had we been in the situation of even thinking the National Championships would not go ahead, and in March 2020 very quickly it became apparent there was a possibility the meet would not happen, but I don't think we believed it, we thought the pandemic would be over in a few weeks and things would get back to normal!!

Well, how wrong we all were. The NBM got together one Sunday afternoon in early March and talked about the meet, but thought we would wait and see what happened. Within 5 days it was clear we needed to meet again and seriously think about postponing the championships.



We were so close- we had 241 entries already, 32 from international swimmers, coming from all over- the UK., Germany, US, the Philippines, and we hadn't even got the promised entries from our NZ friends. The rosters were nearly complete for the officials and volunteers. The medals had arrived, the swim caps were at the office, we were rostering the volunteers to put together the goodies for the welcome packs. The program was ready and we had quotes from the printer and we had started our meetings with the people at SOPAC to sort the finer details of the meet.

The rest is history, we all know what happened next everything stopped and COVID 19 took over our lives.

There was still hope though as we worked with SOPAC to get some new dates late in September for the meet to be held- little did we know what lay ahead.

A huge thankyou to Mark Hepple and Jillian Pateman, with the help of Kath and Sarah in the National office as refunding the money to our entrants proved extremely difficult. It had never happened before on such a large scale and there was no real process at STG to refund such large amounts, let alone to overseas swimmers. We were fortunate earlier in the year as quite a number of swimmers rolled over their entries to the later date, so their money was not refunded until later in 2020, lessening the burden on STG as they worked through their process.

Unfortunately, we all know the result, we had to cancel the meet altogether as the pandemic took so many twists and turns and it became apparent that it could never be a National event as state borders closed and opened or stayed closed during the year.

A massive thankyou to all the people who worked on all the different aspects of the National championships from the NSW branch. There were so many people who worked so hard to nearly run the event, but our health and safety is of utmost importance and we will once again get together when COVID is under control.

Thankyou to those swimmers who entered our championships or who were about to enter, and we hope to see you in Sydney in 2022- same place, same program and hopefully the same smiling faces. (plus, a lot more.)

Jane Noake

National Championships 2020

Award Winners



MSA Life Member – John Pollock

It is with great pleasure to be able to congratulate John Pollock (Darwin Stingers – MSNT) who was awarded Life Membership of MSA in 2020. This honour is awarded to MSA members who go above and beyond in their duties and responsibilities and whose contribution to the ideals of the Association has been demonstrated by direct, recognised and exceptional service of lasting benefit. John has dedicated himself to our sport of swimming and held multiple executive positions at Club, Branch and National levels for over 20 years. And he is, without doubt, the driving force behind Masters

Swimming in the Northern Territory. John has been a member of the Masters Swimming Australia National Board of Management (2010-2011) and (2012-2013), Chairman of the National Swim Meets Committee (2001- 2016) and Northern Territory Branch Delegate. He has also been the Director of two of the National Swim meets in Darwin in 1999 and 2007. Congratulations John on your award of Life Membership of Masters Swimming Australia, a very deserved honour.



2019 Official Of The Year – Neil Mitchell

A huge congratulations to Neil Mitchell (Victorian Masters – MSV) for an outstanding year of service to MSA. Anyone who knows Neil, is aware of his tremendous attitude to life which makes him a terrific and patient mentor to new officials. He always makes time for questions and provides training and evaluation. Since taking on the role of MSV Technical Director, Neil has been instrumental in the increase of officials available to attend meets especially during 2019. Neil organised the Officials rosters for every swim meet MSV carried out and maintained the electric timing equipment, so it is always

ready to use at any MSV event. Neil represented Masters Officials at the Swim Victoria Officials forum and was asked to facilitate a discussion for their Officials, how to best assist and officiate masters, multi class and special Olympic swimmers. Thankyou Neil!



2019 Coach Of The Year – Greg Gourley

Congratulations to Greg Gourley (Tuggeranong Masters – MSNSW) for his outstanding contribution in coaching and towards the development of coaching at all levels of masters swimming. During 2019 Greg had an outstanding year in coaching. Greg has been a coach at Tuggeranong Masters for over 10 years. As a collaborative leader, he is an integral part of the Tuggeranong Coaching team. Greg is an innovative coach and his swim sessions are always thoroughly planned with a focus, ensuring differentiation for all swimmers' goals and abilities. One of Greg's main goals is to foster inclusion and cohesion in the club and to make it fun! Thank you, Greg, for your wonderful contribution to masters swimming.

Meritorious Service Awards

This is awarded to a Club Member in recognition of the completion of five years continuous voluntary service to the Association at the National level.

NSW Di Coxon-Ellis (*member of the Coaching Committee, Chair since 2019*)

WA Elena Nesci (*member of the Coaching Committee*)

WA Kim Tyler (*member of the Coaching Committee*)

Conspicuous Service Award

This is awarded to a Club Member in recognition of the completion of ten years continuous voluntary service to the Association at the National level.

VIC Bruce Allender (*member of the Coaching Committee, Chair from 2010-2019*)

NSW Jane Noake (*member of the Swim Meet Committee, Chair since 2018*)

Award Winners

2020 Vorgee Million Metres

The Vorgee Million Metre Awards acknowledge progress from the “learn to swim” beginner to the distance swimmer. These awards are intended to stimulate members to strive for greater fitness and are open to all registered members of Masters Swimming Australia. The Million Metre Awards were originally launched in the late 1970's under the sponsorship of City Mutual and they have had some minor tweaking over the years.

Vorgee became a sponsor of Masters Swimming Australia in 2007 and were thrilled to become the naming rights sponsor of the Million Metre Awards, as one of the many programs that they support across the masters swimming organisations. They have provided certificates, prizes, trophies and the clothing awards since then and allow us to reward the members who clock up an incredible number of metres in the water.

Name	Club	Branch	Distance
AnneMaree Grainger	Port Macquarie Masters	MSNSW	One Million
Brinlei Baxter	Raymond Terrace	MSNSW	One Million
Anthea Gupta	Wollongong Masters	MSNSW	One Million
Joan Bratton	Ginninderra Masters	MSNSW	One Million
Kylie Lane	Tuggeranong Vikings	MSNSW	One Million
Aaron Cleland	Blacktown Beavers	MSNSW	One Million
James Pelosa	Campbelltown Collegians AUSSI Masters	MSNSW	One Million
Graham Matthews	Twin Town Masters	MSQ	One Million
J Barry Lloyd	Noosa Masters Queensland	MSQ	One Million
Bonnie Davies	Hobart Dolphins	MST	One Million
Errol Kilov	Launceston Lemmings	MST	One Million
Denise Sweetman	Swan Hills Masters	MSWA	One Million
Jean-Anne David	Swan Hills Masters	MSWA	One Million
Felicity Hawkins	Noosa Masters	MSQ	One Million
James Pelosa	Campbelltown Collegians	MSNSW	Two Million
Jane Waddleton	Tuggeranong Vikings	MSNSW	Two Million
Jane Davies	Darwin Stingers	MSNT	Two Million
Jacinta Stirrat	Darwin Stingers	MSNT	Two Million
Naomi McGilvray	North Mackay Sinkers	MSQ	Two Million
Mel Lutton	Noarlunga Masters	MSSA	Two Million
Rick Homan	Devonport Devils	MST	Two Million
Ann Reid	Tuggeranong Vikings	MSNSW	Three Million
Shiralee Bielenberg	Ipswich City Masters	MSQ	Three Million
John Middleton	Atlantis	MSSA	Three Million
Neal Bertram	Henley Beach Masters	MSSA	Three Million
Marin Slunjski	Henley Beach Masters	MSSA	Three Million
Leila Nazimi	Henley Beach Masters	MSSA	Three Million
Kay Bailey	Launceston Lemmings	MST	Three Million
Robert Kirkbride	Oak Flats	MSNSW	Four Million
John Miles	Sunshine Coast Masters swimming	MSQ	Four Million
David G Bale	Tuggeranong Vikings	MSNSW	Five Million
Nicholas Grinter	Tuggeranong Vikings	MSNSW	Five Million
Caroline Makin	Tuggeranong Vikings	MSNSW	Five Million
Roger Dibden	Barbarians Masters	MSQ	Five Million
Bevan Goodreid	Cockburn Masters	MSWA	Five Million
Merilyn Burbidge	Stadium Masters	MSWA	Five Million
Don Taylor	Toowoomba Tadpoles	MSQ	Fifteen Million



From top L-R: Jean-Anne David; Barry Lloyd; Neal Bertram;
Bonnie Davis; Jane Davies; Don Taylor; Jacinta Stirrat;
Naomi McGilvray; Robert Kirkbride.



2020 Vorgee Million Metres Awards



Award Winners

2019 Vorgee Endurance 1000

The Vorgee Endurance 1000 (e1000) program was launched as a national event over 20 years ago as the Aerobics program. The program is designed to encourage people to compete in distances from 400 metres to 60 minutes duration in a variety of strokes. Each year the program has enjoyed an increase in the number of swimmers competing, endorsing its popularity with the members.

2019 Award Winners

- **Vorgee Endurance 1000 Champion Club – Top scoring Club (Trophy) – Noosa Masters (QLD)**

Points are gained for the completion of each different event. These combine with points gained by fellow club members and contribute to a total point score for each competing club.

- **Vorgee Endurance 1000 Award – Average points per member (Award) – West Auburn (NSW)**

As an extension of the program, the Vorgee Endurance 1000 Award (previously known as the Tassie Award and National Aerobic Award) goes to the club averaging the highest number of points per registered member.

Even though there will be no club awards for e1000 for 2020, many clubs still offered the opportunities to swim and be timed. With 2020 being disrupted with pool closures and many swimmers unable to find suitable training venues, it was pleasing to see the number of swims added to e1000, either from time trials or club training. Some had got in early and completed many swims in January and February and then when pools opened (even for a short time) were back clocking up the kms. The number of swimmers with times in e1000 was 1306 and 44 completed all swims with 33 achieving maximum points.

Some members have achieved milestones of over more than 15 continuous years of either all/and or maximum points since 1993:

Name	Years	Name	Years	Name	Years
Russell McLeod	27	Michael Parkinson	20	James Pelosa	17
Jenny Whiteley	27	Rob Lucas	20	Kerry Blanch	16
Brian Walsh	26	Kay Bailey	19	Peter Coyle	16
Tracy Clarkson QBN	22	Hilary Morrison	18	Brenda Day	15
Colin McCraith	21	Jonathan Patterson	18		

A few swimmers also completed all the swims for the 1st time or backed up their achievement from 2019. Hopefully 2021 will see a return to the club awards and maybe a few more people will join the program.

2020 FINA World Records

Congratulations to our only 2020 FINA World Recorder holder: Doncaster Dolphins member Dorothy (Dot) Dickey.

At the Melbourne 2020 IGLA Championships held at the MSAC pool in Victoria in February 2020, Dot broke six world records - in the 100, the 200 (twice!), the 400 (twice again!) and the 1500m freestyle, long course in the 90-94 age group. Dot joined the Dolphins in 1986 and attended the very first FINA Worlds in Tokyo in 1986 where she won her very first medal. She is looking forward to competing again in Japan in 2022. She has told us she enjoys Freestyle more than the other strokes, but attempts a bit of Backstroke and even a 100 IM every now and then. The thing she likes most about Masters, is the friends she has made over the years, not only locally, but interstate and internationally. The other most important thing of belonging to a club is the social life. You will always meet someone at the pool, so you never have to swim alone. Congratulations Dot!





MSA Branches

NSW	PO Box 6941 Silverwater NSW 2128 www.mastersswimmingnsw.org.au
NT	PO Box 418 Parap NT 0804 www.mastersswimmingnt.org.au
QLD	PO Box 1279 Capalaba BC QLD 4157 www.mastersswimmingqld.org.au
SA	Po Box 120 Oaklands Parks SA 5043 www.mastersswimmingsa.org.au
TAS	PO Box 5229 Launceston TAS 7250 www.mastersswimmingtasmania.com.au
VIC	Level 2 Sports House 375 Albert Road, Albert Park VIC 3206 www.mastersswimmingvic.org.au
WA	HBF Stadium, 100 Stephenson Avenue, Mount Claremont WA 6010 www.mswa.asn.au

MSA Sponsors



Both [Vorgee](#) and [Ocean Swim Fiji \(OSF\)](#) have continued their partnership arrangements with MSA notwithstanding the setbacks of the COVID-19 environment in 2020.

During 2020, Vorgee experienced hardship due to the closure of pools and only regained their regular business from pool facilities later in 2020. We have renewed our partnership with Vorgee which will begin 1 January 2021 for another consecutive three (3) year term.

Due to the closure of interstate and overseas borders this year, MSA and OSF agreed to freeze any further payments from OSF following the onset of COVID-19 and restricted travel and will continue to monitor the circumstances next year.

Masters Swimming Australia acknowledges the audit services of Crowe www.crowe.com/au

