

FOUNDED 1975

ANNUAL REPORT

1999

AUSSI

Masters Swimming in Australia (Inc) Founded in 1975

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Office Bearers - 1999

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Mary Sweeney

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ivan Wingate

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

John Pugh

DIRECTOR OF COACHING

Kay Cox

BOARD MEMBERS

A.C.T. Diane Gregory - Director of Marketing
S.A. Andy Wills - Director of Recording
QLD. David Speechley - Director of Planning & Risk Management
N.T. Ted Giblin - Director of Swim Meet Policy
W.A. David Cummins - Director of Programmes
VIC. Roy Clee - Director of Technical Development
TAS. Pauline Samson - Director of Communications
N.S.W. Gary Stutsel - Director of Membership Development

AUDITOR

Garrott & Garrott

LIFE MEMBERS

Gary Stutsel Glenys McDonald Peter Gillett Kay Cox

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting my first Annual Report as AUSSI President. In this report I have not concentrated solely on events but rather more on my thoughts on the National Board. I have however touched on a few very important happenings this year and these events will be more fully discussed in other reports.

Taking over from an AUSSI icon such as Glenys Mc Donald was a daunting experience, however Glenys's attention to detail ensured a smooth transition of the position. After six years as President, Glenys has left her considerable mark on the progress of this organization and I thank her for her contribution over many many years.

Under the leadership of Glenys, AUSSI ran extremely smoothly and although there was no need for change, a new President does bring some change, if only in a different operational style. Any such change must also cause a readjustment for our National Executive Director and I thank Ivan Wingate for his willingness to adjust, offer constructive advice and accommodate any small change suggested by myself. I would also mention here that Ivan this year completes ten years as our National Executive Director, which is quite an achievement and we have been fortunate to have benefited from his many talents.

This year also saw a change in another Management Committee position; that of Financial Director and John Pugh has bought to AUSSI new ideas and vast knowledge in this field.

I came to the position of National President after many years on my Club Committee, Queensland Branch



Mary Sweeney - President

Committee, on the National Board as Branch Delegate and on a National Committee but I discovered quickly that being National President requires a complete dedication to using my time efficiently, to reading numerous reports and trying to understand fully such vagaries as the GST!! As Glenvs had pointed out to me, chairing two days of a National Board Meeting required total concentration and I found that this meant total exhaustion at the end of it. I also was to realize quickly that decisions or directions that needed to be made at times were not always popular ones. thank the Management Committee for their patience and indeed the entire Board for their support and friendship in my initial settling in period.

I am also ever conscious of the very different and difficult role of the Branch Delegate to the National Board, as Branch Delegates really have to wear two hats—that of representing their Branch at the National Board Meeting and that of representing the National Board in their Branch. Presenting the interests of the

Branch to the Board is a relatively simple process. The more difficult task is to go back to the Branch and present in a positive way a decision made by the Board which may be unpopular with their Branch but which was made for the overall benefit of all members. Fortunately for AUSSI, the Branch Delegates that I have known over the years have been mostly positive people and have worn those two hats wisely and represented both their Branch and the National Board well. I thank the present Branch Delegates for their dedication to their positions and for overseeing the Branch portfolios that go with these positions. A reallocation of some portfolios was achieved this year, necessitating new directions and new skills for some Delegates. Several changes in Delegates occurred during the year and I must mention retiring Delegates David Hawkes and Jodi-Ann Beard who have contributed much.

Misconceptions regarding the role of the National Board and the process of decision making still exist in some quarters. Perhaps the National Board needs to more actively promote the fact that it is each Branch that is a member of the National Board and is represented on the Board by their chosen Delegate. Perhaps the answer lies in Branch Delegates ensuring that the agenda items and reports for Board meetings are fully discussed at Branch level (and even wider if possible), thus ensuring that opinions put forward are majority opinions of Branch Committees. In this way, decisions such as the recent National fee rise and the logic behind this rise would not have come as an apparent surprise to some members. Perhaps those who question the relevance of the National Board should be encouraged to attend a two day Board meeting as a guest. Or,

perhaps we need to just accept that we can't please everyone.

AUSSI has progressively evolved into a very professional organization thanks to past Boards and past input from Branches, and we must continue to preserve this image to present to Government and other agencies we deal with both nationally and internationally. It may seem difficult at times for some members, swimming in a pool somewhere in the suburbs or a small town, to understand why we need to be concerned at these levels when only a small percentage of members swim nationally or internationally, but as a highly regarded masters sporting organization in our own country and a highly regarded masters swimming country on the international scene, we need to voice our opinion and be represented when appropriate and where appropriate. As a sport we must continue to network with other sports and groups. The same applies to Branches In this area it was on a state level. unfortunate that this year neither Ivan nor myself could, for various reasons. attend the Confederation of Australian Sports Annual Meeting in Canberra. It is a situation we have resolved to correct next year.

On a positive note a Federal Government Task Force was established during the year to review Commonwealth involvement in sport and recreation in Australia. This addressed all levels of sport and concluded that sport was more than elite competition. In the case of Masters sport it identified that many participants today are not former athletes and this is consistent with AUSSI surveys also. The Task Force's report also points out the relevance of sport and recreation

as a tool for achieving social objectives. It was recommended that funding to Active Australia members, and AUSSI has applied to be a provider, be doubled to increase participation. We trust that AUSSI is able to receive some financial benefits from this scheme.

It has been said that we have become too professional, with too many rules to the detriment of the slower or disabled swimmers. I believe the opposite is true. We have to conform to certain standards - be they legal, risk management, safety, government or council regulations, FINA requirements or our own modified rules specifically written to ensure no one is disadvantaged. At the same time we also must ensure that all our swimmers, whether experts in the pool or beginners are all provided with the same consistencies for competition, at all levels of competition - Club, Branch or National. AUSSI still remains a participation sport for all.

This year the AUSSI National Masters Games Guide was updated and the final draft of the National Swim Meet Guide was approved and produced. Both of these documents have led to even more professionalism but at the same time simpler organization of the Australian Masters Games and our National Swims. The first draft of a new important Risk Management document was approved at the October meeting. The National Board link with members remains our excellent National Newsletter which underwent a name change recently to AUSSINEWS.COM. As well our Web site is now fully functional and provided members with up to date records, results and information. Another resolution of the National Board was to write the National History of AUSSI for our 25th Anniversary in 2000. Glenys Mc Donald has agreed to write this history with assistance from Gary Stutsel and Ivan Wingate.

Two Board meetings were held - the Annual General Meeting held in conjunction with the National Swim and the mid-year Board Meeting held in Perth in conjunction with the Pan Pacs. each meeting guests were welcomed and these guests expressed greater understanding of the workings of the Board after attending. Three Management Committee phone conferlink meetings have also been held. Two weekend workshops were arranged in Adelaide during the year -one for the Computer Committee and more recently one for Branch Coaching Directors and the National Coaching Panel. Both were considered very successful with the aims of the workshops clearly achieved. Both of these will be dealt with fully in other reports. I must however make mention of the huge task and many hours of work put in by Kay Cox (National Coaching Director) in reconstructing our Coaching Accreditation Courses.

The National Swim was held in Darwin in May and its success was achieved by an enormous amount of work. Those of us who are from larger Branches where swim meets are held at least monthly and often fortnightly, can easily underestimate the enormity of this undertaking by a small Branch which has very few Masters Swims, and I congratulate Northern Territory on a job well done.

A successful Australian Masters Games was held in Adelaide in August and attracted many non-members as usual. AUSSI has tried over the years to encourage many of these non-members

to join, but it seems that more and more of these swimmers who regularly participate in such Games, do not want the involvement and responsibilities of belonging to a Club or organization. We can but continue to try. It was gratifying to see an AUSSI swimmer, Jen Thomasson, named at the time of this event as Confederation of Australian Sport Masters Athlete of the Year.

The Pan Pacs held in Perth in October was the culmination of years of planning. The event attracted over 700 swimmers with over two hundred Japanese as well as swimmers from another thirteen overseas countries. The Western Australian Branch and the organizing committee headed by David Cummins can feel proud of their achievement in making this international event such a success.

In Perth I had the opportunity to meet Masters Swimming Presidents from other countries in an informal atmosphere at the pool and in a more formal atmosphere at a President's meeting and dinner. The Presidents of the Pacific Rim countries have been communicating over the last few years regarding the Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships. The Chairman of this group is the President of the host country where the swim is to be held next, and as the 1999 swim was held in Australia, Glenys was Chair of this group. Unfortunately at the meeting in Perth, no definite host was found for the 2001 swim and Glenys volunteered to stay on in this position as it was felt the situation would be resolved quickly. However at the end of this year Glenys stood down and I have inherited the position of Chairman till a host for 2001 Pan Pacs is found.

intend to liaise with various people regarding this in the New Year.

As I re-read this report it occurred to me that altogether I have spoken of (although not named) hundreds of dedicated AUSSI members who in 1999 have given back to AUSSI a little of what AUSSI has given to them. AUSSI could not run smoothly without these dedicated people and I sincerely thank them all. I also include in my thanks those further hundreds and possibly thousands of dedicated members in Clubs across Australia who have kept the AUSSI banner flying high on a daily basis.

MARY SWEENEY PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This is my tenth Annual Report as National Executive Director. My ten years were up almost to the day at the Board Meeting in Darwin in May when I was presented with a nice memento to mark the occasion. In those ten years, Membership has increased by more than 50%, but more importantly we have grown in stature within the sporting community, are more professional in our operations and deliver many more services to our members. I am not wanting to sound egotistical because there are many excellent people who have contributed to this success pattern, but ten years ago we "bit the bullet" and put in a paid administration when many said we could not afford it. Ten years on, we can say that the decision was the right one to take.

I have one more year to serve as a contractor in providing and operating the National Office in the capacity of National

Executive Director, so later in 2000 we will advertise the position for an employed NED then AUSSI will set up its own office and employed staff for the following year. Additional revenue has been budgeted for this next stage of professionalism.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

At the May Board Meeting, Glenys McDonald stepped down as President after serving in that position for six years and Mary Sweeney, a very experienced leader in AUSSI circles, was welcomed in as our National President for (at least?) the next two years. Mary is already making her "mark" on the organisation and chaired her first meeting of the Board in Perth in October. Our Board Meetings go for two solid days, addressing volumes of well prepared pre-circulated documentation. constant SO concentration from the chair is quite demanding, as we past Presidents well know. It's now her turn.

Also at the May Board Meeting, we welcomed to the Management Committee, John Pugh as Director of Finance. John is a professional in this area and is also making his "mark" by making us all pay more attention to budgeting and astute financial management. I can assure the members that their funds are in good hands and they can expect good returns on investment.

Thankfully, the third elected member of the Management Committee, Kay Cox our Director of Coaching, stayed on for another two years. Kay's busy year is well documented in her report.

There were three Management Committee meetings by teleconference throughout the year, but we had almost daily contact with each other attending to day to day matters on behalf of the Board. This daily contact has been made much easier and more productive



Ivan Wingate - Executive Director

with everyone now on e-mail.

BOARD MEETINGS

The first meeting, the Annual General Meeting, was held in Darwin in May immediately preceding the National Swim, which is a departure from the usual March/April date as per the Rules. This situation came about as May in the 'Territory' is the commencement of the more reliable dry season. The second, so called "midyear" meeting was in Perth in late October immediately following the Pan Pacs.

Some of the matters decided upon include: Kay Cox awarded Life Membership, a new Logo adopted, a range of National merchandise agreed to, arrangements made for an Aerobic Trophy computer program to be made available to all Clubs, the National Swims to continue to be allocated on the rotation system as opposed to adoption of a bid process, a contract signed with the Australian Coaching Council which included adoption of a Code of Ethics for all coaching accreditations and a draft Risk Management policy agreed to. There were many other matters attended to regarding the numerous National and International events with which AUSSI is involved. All these and more are documented in the Board Meeting minutes which are available from your Branch office.

OTHER MEETINGS

Because of the many matters under discussion about our future computing requirements, a "face to face" meeting of the National Computer Committee was held in Sydney in April, which I chaired. It was the first time some of the members had met each other although they had been working together remotely for years. Just to meet in person was worth the investment, but a clear direction for the future was established and lots of jobs were handed out.

In July/August, a National Coaches workshop was held in Adelaide at which I was in attendance. Details are in the Coaches report.

I attended two meetings of the CAS Masters Committee in Melbourne in January and July. The first was essentially to deal with bids for future Australian Masters Games and a new strategy for CAS in Masters Sport, the second was to prepare a submission to the Sport 2000 Task Force established by the Federal Minister. I am pleased to say that the Task Force report "Shaping Up" reflects kindly on many of the issues we raised.

In June I attended a meeting of the FINA Masters Committee in Munich, Germany. This included a site inspection of the venue and a review of preparations for the FINA World Masters Swimming Championships to be held there in July/ August 2000.

Not strictly a meeting, but I also attended a CAS seminar held in Adelaide in August which addressed the development and implementation of the Sport Industry Training Package.

OTHER MAJOR EVENTS

The Australian Masters Games were held in Adelaide. Both the Games as a whole and the Swim Meet itself, were very successful. I met quite a few of the "Who's who?" in Masters Sport during the Swim Meet and at receptions at which I was honoured to be invited, given by the Premier at Parliament House and the Governor at Government House. I made a number of new international contacts as well as renewing past friendships.

I also attended the Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships in Perth which was also a success. Again, I met old friends from overseas and established new contacts which helps us greatly in the international arena. If there are any doubts about our standing, you need only to see the Seasons Greetings cards on the wall in the AUSSI Office.

THE YEAR 2000

The much maligned Y2K computer bug was addressed and some changes made to our systems for us to be 2000 Another forward planning compliant. issue we tried to prepare for was the implementation of GST. Many officers at National and Branch levels have attended seminars and read copious quantities of booklets on the subject but there were still too many unknowns at the end of the year for us to put systems into place. Allowance has been made to absorb the GST which will apply to the second six months of next year within our capitation fee.

Next year is our Silver Anniversary and plans are in place to recognise the event, so I look forward to a very exciting and productive 2000.

IVAN WINGATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT

ON THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1999

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The financial activities of not-for-profit organisations, such as ours, should show the extent to which Branches, and indirectly clubs and club members receive services for their affiliation fees and registration fees. Clubs and club members do get some services directly. For example, members get comprehensive insurance cover for their swimming related activities, have training provided for key coaches and officials and benefit from an extensive data base that supports the aerobic swim competition and national competitions and records. Individuals can also use the AUSSI National web-site and its many links to get and provide information about masters swimming at all levels

However, many of the benefits are indirect because the National organisation is mainly concerned with providing an infrastructure within which branches and clubs operate. So it coordinates branch activities and serves as a communications channel between Australian Masters Swimming and other swimming and sporting organisations nationwide and internationally. It also sponsors national and international competitions. The geography of Australia makes this infrastructure costly to maintain and the organisation relies heavily on volunteer workers at all levels. As well, the National office benefits from rent free accommodation, so the expenses reported are probably significantly understated.

The statement of income and expenditure reflects the incurred and reported expenditure of providing these many services matched against income. During 1999 total expenses exceeded total income by \$3,936 so branches, clubs and members clearly received full return for their contributions. This was a better than expected outcome as the budgeted deficit for the year was a little over \$10,000.

The major reliable and recurring source of income is member registrations that make up 89% of total income. Major expenditure items as a proportion of total expenditure are the National Executive Director's Fees (36%), insurance (15%), board meetings and teleconferences (13%), printing, stationery and postage (10%) and coaching services (7%). Together these come to 81% of total expenditure. Expenditures were closely monitored against budget amounts so there were few opportunities for savings.

FINANCIAL POSITION

The balance sheet shows that the organisation is in a relatively good financial position but this is largely due to the amounts on deposit for the World Swim Investments. The organisation pays its bills promptly and has the assets needed to present itself with confidence in bids for international events.

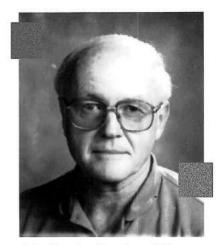
THE FUTURE

In the 1998 report the previous Director of Finance commented on a pattern of operating deficits and the decline in the World Swim Investments and recommended an increase in the membership fee as the only effective measure to reverse both trends. After an informed debate the membership fee was increased by a unanimous vote at

the Annual General Meeting in Darwin and the decision to maintain the World Swim Investments and restore them to their original amount was taken at the General Meeting in Perth. The budget for 2000 is now able to maintain the level of services and it allows for a build up the World Swim Investments.

CONCLUSION

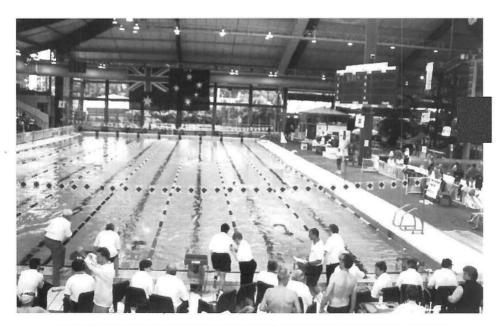
Annual reports traditionally are brief summaries and financial reports show aggregated amounts and not detail. However, detailed information, reports and budgets are presented to Board members at other meetings. The increase in the membership fees has provoked a lively interest and debate in financial matters and I urge interested clubs and individuals to refer to their branch organisations and National Board delegates for answers to their questions.



John Pugh - Director of Finance

I thank my fellow Board members for their patience and consideration during the financial presentations and debates.

JOHN PUGH DIRECTOR OF FINANCE



Adelaide Aquatic Centre during the 7th Australian Masters Games

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1999

To the Members of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc

SCOPE

We have audited the attached financial statements, being a special purpose financial report, of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc for the year ended 31st December, 1999 as set out on pages 13-17. The Association's Committee are responsible for the financial statements and have determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (South Australia) 1985 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on the to the members of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in Note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial statements have been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committees' financial reporting requirements under the Associations Incorporation Act (South Australia) 1985. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements. These policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

QUALIFICATION

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practicable for AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc to maintain an effective system of internal control over membership registrations and other fund raising activities until the initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to fund raising was limited to amounts recorded.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed:

- (a) the financial statements present fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements the financial position of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc as at 31st December, 1999 and the results of its operations for the year then ended;
- (b) we obtained the information we required to the audit and the Association kept proper accounting records and other books during the year ended 31st December, 1999; and
- (c) the rules relating to the administration of the funds of the Association have been observed.

GARROTT & GARROTT CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In the opinion of the Director of Finance the financial statements set out on pages 13-17:

- (a) present fairly the financial position of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc at 31st December, 1999 and the results of its operations for the year then ended: and
- (b) satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (South Australia) 1985 to prepare accounts.

JOHN PUGH DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Lynne Malone - Meet Director Pan Pacific Masters Championships



AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

1998	INCOME	1999
\$ -	Adjustment for cancellation of 1997 cheques	863
1,450	Branch Affiliations	700
640	Coaching Accreditation Fees	265
6,396 125,974	Interest Received	6,542
(2,451)	Members Registrations Sales of Merchandise	131,534 929
6,963	Swim Meets	6,457
		Control Control
\$138,972	TOTAL INCOME	\$147,290
	EXPENDITURE	
	General Administration	
\$ 1,307	Affiliations and Subscriptions	1,045
830	Audit	980
- 410	Awards and Gifts	937
418 18,432	Bank Charges and Interest Board Meetings and Teleconferences	469 19,471
864	Computer Software	569
3,337	Depreciation	2,685
5,454	Fax and Telephone	3,714
20,429	Insurance	22,517
53,978	National Executive Director's fees	53,982
9,105	Other Meetings and Conferences	739
4,988	Postage	4,005
7,710	Printing and Stationery	12,102
1,646	Refund NSW Branch - National Swim	-
1 000	Stocks Written Off	579
1,232	Sundry Repairs & Administration Expenses	968
\$129,730	Total General Administration	\$124,762
	Specialist Portfolios	
3,486	Coaching	11,082
-	Communications	677
1,365	Marketing	3,332
1,004	Membership Development	1,302 4,582
1,004	Planning and Risk Management Programmes	1,032
2,781	Recording	4,109
649	Technical Development	348
10,506	Total Specialist Portfolios	26,464
140,236	Total Expenditure	151,226
(1,264)	Net (deficit) for the year	(3,936)
190,589	Accumulated funds at the beginning of the financial year	189,325
189,325	Accumulated funds at the end of the financial year	185,389
	,	

AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.) BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1999

ASSETS

1998		10-24-100	1999
\$		NOTE	\$
	CURRENT ASSETS		
1,600	Cash on Hand		1,500
29,985	Cash at Bank	2	8 . €
126,987	Investments	3	139,927
13,124	Inventories		12,690
10	Shares - ESSO Employees Credit Union Ltd		10
(4)	Accounts Receivable		2,299
-	Prepayments		26,305
5,000	Advance - WA Branch Pan Pacs		2.000
2,000	Advance - NT Banch 1999 Nationals		2,000
178,706	Total Current Assets		184,731
	NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
1,034	Trophies and Cases		1,034
9,585	Equipment		6,543
10,619	Total Non-Current Assets		7,577
189,325	TOTAL ASSETS		192,308
			9
	CURRENT LIABILITIES		
+	Bank Overdraft	2	1,810
-	Accounts Payable		1,759
-	Unearned Revenue		3,350
-	Total Current Liabilities		6,919
-	TOTAL LIABILITIES		6,919
189,325	NET ASSETS		185,389
	EQUITY		
189,325	Accumulated funds		185,389
189,325	TOTAL EQUITY		185,389

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA (INC.) NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1999

NOTE 1: ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the accounts preparation requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (South Australia) 1985.

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

The financial statements have been prepared on a accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of these statements:

(a) Depreciation

Depreciation is provided using diminishing value method to write off each individual asset over its estimated useful life.

(b) Inventories

Stock of brochures, posters, books and lapel pins are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value on a first in first out basis.

NOTE 2: CASH AT BANK Commonwealth Bank Cheque Account	1999 \$ (1,810)	1998 \$ 29,985
	(1,810)	29,985
NOTE 3: INVESTMENTS ESSO Employees Credit Union Ltd		
Access Account	*	1,888
ESSO Employees Credit Union Ltd Fixed Term	-	1,532
Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit	21,121	5. *
Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit	118,806	123,567
teration design that an all enterprises the design physics of the properties of the company of t	139,927	126,987

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 7TH PAN PACIFIC MASTERS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS



National President - Mary Sweeney
At the official opening of the 7th Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships



Robert Dunstan - AUSSI WA Branch President,
Katie Hodson-Thomas MLA
(representing the Premier, performed the official opening),
David Cummins- Chair of the Organising Committee,
Mary Sweeney - National President AUSSI,
Glenys McDonald - Chair of the Pacific Rim Masters Swimming Presidents group.

COACHING

In 1999 there have been several changes within the coaching portfolio, particularly with respect to the administration of our accreditation course and our relationship with the Australian Coaching Council (ACC). These changes, I believe have been positive and have resulted in a formal contract with the ACC. These were discussed in depth and have been noted in previous reports so they will only be highlighted in this report.

CONTRACT WITH AUSTRALIAN COACHING COUNCIL

This contract was formalized on 7th June 1999. The key issues of the contract are:

- the ACC will continue to keep our accreditation records and notify us each six months,
- we have submitted our Coach's Code of Ethics
- ACC will be directly responsible for updating coaches at Level 1M.
- we will provide quality coach education
- our courses will be reviewed and reaccredited every 4 years

COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS

In recent times it has been necessary for sports to protect their integrity by developing a Code of Ethics. We have had a Coaches Code of Ethics since 1995, which has been discussed, at 2 workshops. The Code of Ethics now adopted covered all points in our original code and is very similar to that proposed by the Australian Coaching Council. The Coach's Code of Ethics was another commitment in the contract. Our new Code of Ethics was presented and discussed at the Coaches Workshop in August and the October Board meeting. Each person doing a coaching course



Kay Cox - National Director of Coaching

from now on will be required to 'sign on' to the code. All coaches updating their accreditation will also 'sign on' to the Code of Ethics. Anyone applying for Updating from September will have 'signed on' to this Code before reaccreditation can be granted.

I have had a little feedback with regards to the 'Code' and most of it appears to be positive. The challenge will be for Branch Coaching Directors in administering it and keeping the records.

UPDATING

In order to resolve the problem many sports have encountered with Updating the ACC has offered a system whereby Coaches apply directly to the ACC for Updating by demonstrating that they have been attending workshops, coaching or doing other coaching development tasks. The only drawback for direct Updating I see is that it is difficult for AUSSI to keep track of who is Updating and who is not. The procedure for Level 2M Updating stays the same, i.e. Coaches must gain 48 updating points over the four years since accreditation and submit these to the Branch Coaching Director who

forwards to NED.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR BRANCH COACHING DIRECTORS

The National Coaching Panel, Coaching Directors from all Branches (except WA), The National Executive Director (NED Ivan Wingate) and the National President (Mary Sweeney) attended the bi-annual National Coaching Workshop in Adelaide on the 30th, 31st July and 1st August. It was a very busy workshop and everyone's input was much appreciated. Some members from the SA Branch also took the opportunity to attend and their participation was very welcome. Besides the ACC contract and issues contained in this report the following were discussed:

- review of our Level 1M and 2M Coaching Courses
- attention to be paid to administrative procedures especially applying for course approval
- additional copies of all course details to be kept at Branch level so these are not lost
- continued involvement in the ASTCA conference
- future workshops
- course presenters training
- assessor training
- coaching Developmental Plans

Branch Directors went away well informed and appeared to be enthusiastic to implement proposals and changes. For this to succeed they need the support of their Branch both at the committee level and with practical resources such as volunteer assistance. Hopefully Branches will give them full support.

COACHING ACCREDITATION

We have now had 14 years of coach education programs in AUSSI. In my report last year I noted that even though we had increased the total number of accredited coaches the growth rate was down. I suggested this could be due to low numbers of coaches updating. The data for the past year unfortunately indicate that we have in fact a decrease of 9.6% in the number of accredited coaches. This is the lowest number since 1996 (Table 1).

Year	Number of Coaches	%Change
1995	161	
1996	191	23
1997	220	15
1998	228	4
1999	206	-9.6

Table 1. The number of trained coaches at the end of each year for the last 5-year period and the % change in numbers.



Kay Cox - Chief Referee Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships

This year, in an attempt to explain this drop in numbers I reviewed the number of course approvals being applied for the past 5 years. It is evident from Table 2 that we are now offering fewer courses than 2 years ago. In fact only 3 Branches conducted courses over the past year. I find this cause for concern for the future.

Branch	Level 1M	Level 2M	1999 courses	Total in 5 years
ACT	0	0	0	0
NSW	5	1	2	6
NT	1	0	1	1
Qld	6	2	1	8
SA	1	0	0	1
Tas	1	1	0	2
Vic	2	0	0	2
WA	2	2	0	4
Total	18	6	4	24

Table 2. The number of course approvals in Branches over the past 5 years (1995-1999)

We have spent much time and effort in developing quality courses and to not see them implemented is very disappointing. Each of the large Branches should be making a commitment to conduct 1 course each year and the smaller Branches 1 every 2-3 years. The other disappointing aspect of this has been the lack of follow-up of participants in courses and the cancellation of some courses. The advantage of having a regular schedule when courses are to be held is that people can plan.

I understand that Branch Coaching Directors are volunteers and I am not being critical of their efforts. They need the support from the Branch. If they are unable to conduct the courses Branches should actively look for expertise within the Branch to help.

If this is not available it may be necessary to look at other ways of doing this, i.e. contracting a course co-coordinator. After all 'out sourcing' is very much a way of doing business today or getting things done. With the right approach we can maintain quality control and achieve our training outcomes. I would be happy to work with Branches to achieve this end if anyone is willing to have a go.

On a positive note congratulations to Qld and NSW for their excellent record and attempts to lift the number of qualified coaches. It has also been pleasing to see NT conducting a level 1M course and NSW tackling a level 2M. The level O also got off the ground in 2 Branches and may lead to accreditation courses in the future.

'COACH OF THE YEAR' AWARD

This year we had 3 nominations for this year's award. It is pleasing to see Branches supporting this award and their coaches. Alina Graham from Queensland was the successful recipient of the award honoring her exceptional coaching record in AUSSI. Alina although only having a relatively short period as an AUSSI coach has certainly had an impact at club and Branch level in the past 12 months. She is a level 1M coach

and is working towards her level 2M qualification. Alina was presented with one trophy at the ASCTA Conference by National Coaching Panel member Ted Tullberg. The AUSSI Award was presented by retiring president Glenys McDonald at the National Swim Dinner in Darwin. Congratulations again Alina and thank you for your ongoing contribution to AUSSI coaching.

It is also pleasing to see that NSW has joined WA and Qld in offering Branch a "Coach of the Year" award. Well done, this is another way for us to recognize the efforts of coaches.

ASCTA CONFERENCE

This year, for a variety of reasons we had limited involvement in the ASCTA Convention held on the Gold Coast, A compromise program in the form of a package for Masters swimmers for the Friday was devised. Included in this was a session for Questions and Answers with 2 of the guest speakers Dick Hannula and Judy Bonning on Masters Swimming in the US. Rod Porteous '1998 Coach of the Year' and Director of Coaching Qld (North) chaired this session and participated in the discussion to give the AUSSI perspective. Whilst this was quite well received we need to lift our profile and take a more active role in this event. Ted Tullberg presented the Coach of the Year Award. The Qld Branch organized a display at the EXPO.

Planning has been in place for next year's event with AUSSI having a much higher profile and being more active in the conference as a whole.

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SWIMMING COACHES NEWSLETTER (AMSCN)

The AUSSI Masters Swimming Coaches Newsletter has progressed well this year with active involvement from coaches around Australia. Keep it up the editors Claire and Peter Reaburn are always looking for articles. Our thanks to the editors for a professional approach and quality presentation. We would also appreciate feedback on the newsletter, its style and content etc so we can continue to improve.

CHANGES IN BRANCH COACHING DIRECTORS

The year has seen many changes in Coaching Directors with Grant Watson taking on the position in Vic and Terry Diomis in NSW. Unfortunately, when I stepped down in WA the replacement was short-lived and this role has still not been filled. Delays in filling the position of Branch Coaching Directors has been a problem in many Branches for some time. All the more reason why the people doing the task should be fully supported by the rest of the Branch. We have the people qualified to do the task the reasons why they are not taking on the task needs to be reviewed.

CONCLUSION

This has been a year of change and challenges. Hopefully all the changes are now in place and we can look forward to moving ahead with an increase in numbers of coaches, projects and quality coaching being provided for all members. Thank you again to all those who have supported me during the year. The Branch Coaching Directors Workshop was inspiring for me to see all the hard work that these people put into AUSSI. Thanks to the Management Committee and Board for their continued support and to Ivan for his assistance in administering and implementing the various coaching programs. Special thanks to the 1999 outgoing President Glenys Mc Donald who has always encouraged our coaching programs and has given me enduring support over the years.

KAY COX DIRECTOR OF COACHING

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Annual Reports are usually a reflection of the past year. For this year I have chosen to focus on 2000 and the years ahead.

Firstly the only major development in the Membership portfolio in the past 12 months has been the decision to focus even more at the individual member level. National funding will no longer be provided for Club Presidents' Meetings. Instead it will be used to ensure that each and every member is advised of and fully appreciates the benefits of AUSSI membership. We will then have 8000 people out there selling our organisation. The challenge is to succeed in communicating the benefits and their



Gary Stutsel -Director of Membership Development

economic worth to every member. The other major development in 1999 through the Never Too Late pilot project, was the confirmation of the need for a daytime swimming program for adults.

The recognition of this need is timely as there is a mushrooming focus on participation in sport and physical activity. This is fertilised by Federal Government programs such as "The Year of the Older Person". "Active Australia" and "Never Too Late". In an ideal world government would coordinate the efforts of these programs but they have left his task to individual sports. At the same time State and Territory governments are increasing their interest in participation activities. Add to this the increase in interest in sports that the Olympic and Paralympic Games will generate in 2000. Finally the growing numbers of Masters Games will attract many first time participants.

These activities present us with many opportunities to promote the benefits of AUSSI membership. Membership of AUSSI has been only slightly better than static for the past four years. 2000 heralds the possibility of dramatically increasing the number of adults benefiting from AUSSI membership.

2000 is the 25th year of AUSSI and AUSSI has designated 2000 as the Year of Membership.

"Active Australia" requires sports to develop a framework and educative process for participation. Thanks to the efforts of many members over many years AUSSI has a well developed framework and its national-branch-club structure is better coordinated than that of many other sports. Our National Body has developed an educative process which includes nationally accredited Coaching and Officiating Courses. We

have a much admired Safety Program which has been awarded and a Club Development Manual to help clubs strengthen their structures and train their officers

The challenge now is to take these strengths and rapidly develop our on the ground (in the pool) coverage. Swimming is well recognised as one of the most preferred physical activities. The recent Australian Bureau of Statistics figures show that more than 15% of adult Australians participating in physical activities do it through 'swimming' - half of those had a frequency of more than 26 times a year, yet very few (1.3%) were in 'organised participation'. Our challenge is that swimming requires a greater basic skill level than most other activities. We need to put immediate emphasis on training more coaches, especially coaches who will be available to coach during the day. Branches can deliver the courses but individuals must be encouraged to participate. Clubs can help by encouraging and subsidising their members to train as coaches. Then we need to establish new clubs in areas and pools where there are none and at times when swimmers want them.

Finally each and every member must sell the benefits of membership to a friend or acquaintance. Remember we offer Support through organised groups Skills through coaches specially trained to teach adults Opportunities to become coaches, officials, administrators, and promoters Recognition through awards, medals, certificates and achievement lists Protection through insurance, the safety program and risk management Equal Opportunity to participate at all levels and Socialisation with other adults with similar interests.

If we follow this course then I will have much to report at the end of 2000 as the following numbers will be greatly increased and more importantly each member will recognise and value their membership.

GARY STUTSEL
DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT

Registrations for the past five years are as follows:

Branch	1995	1996*	1997	1998	1999
QLD	1932	2141	1873	2009	2009
NSW	1600	1685	1627	1554	1523
WA	1377	1418	1290	1419	1467
VIC	1400	1437	1371	1360	1288
SA	656	616	611	664	732
TAS	365	368	343	338	323
NT	115	142	114	158	186
ACT	89	97	122	139	107
Țotals	7534	7904	7351	7641	7635

^{*1996} was a 15 month "year".



National Computer Committee L to R: Dave Ryan (seated), Geoff Byfield, Darryl Hawkes, Geoff Upton, Brett Larkin at a meeting in Sydney

MARKETING

During 1999 the Marketing Portfolio has focused on producing a National merchandising line to be sold and distributed through a mail order system.

The purpose of introducing this line is to provide members with a range of goods which promote the national identity of AUSSI Masters in Australia, this is particularly important for those swimmers venturing overseas for international competition.

Four items were selected to commence the project and multiple copies of a coloured brochure, incorporating an order form, were distributed to all clubs in November.

The items; a polo shirt, jacket, pin and towel are all of a high quality and feature the National AUSSI colours of green and gold and the new National logo.

To reduce the risk of potential financial losses no inventory is held and stock is purchased from the manufacture on receipt of a minimum number of pre-paid orders. The exception to this being pins, where a small stock was purchased up front.

Pre-Christmas demand for these items was disappointing, however, it is hoped that interest may increase in the new year. So far only a small number of Branches appear to be actively promoting the National line and it is hoped that all Branches can be encouraged to be more active in this areas in the future.

DIANE GREGORY
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING.

PROGRAMMES

AEROBIC TROPHY AWARD

The Aerobic Trophy Programme is designed to encourage people to compete in distances from 400m to 1 hour duration in the full variety of strokes.

The programme is entirely optional and to achieve the required goals (which relate to gender and age groupings) the swims are to done over an extended part of the calendar year. As a result, a certain level of aerobic fitness needs to be maintained in order to complete the individual event requirements. Hence the name Aerobic Trophy.

The total number of swims (gaining points) that can be completed is 62 - broken down into:

25 individual 400m swims

25 individual 800m swims

3 by 1500m swims

3 by 1/2 hour swims

3 by 3/4 swims

3 by 1 hour swims

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. The highest scoring club is then declared the National Aerobic Champion.

This programme became a National event in 1982 and each year has enjoyed an increase in the number of competing, thus endorsing its popularity and acceptance with members.

1998 AWARD	POINTS
1st Somerset WA	9305
2nd Sunshine Coast Qld	6768
3rd Doncaster VIC	5783

1995 1996 1997 1998

Competing	Clubs:
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ACT	1	1	2	3
QLD	17	17	21	19
VIC	9	11	13	20
SA	3	2	4	4
NT	3	2	1	2
TAS	4	4	3	7
NSW	16	21	20	20
WA	22	21	21	19
TOTAL	75	79	85	94

Maximum Point Scorers:

Men	18	18	24	32
Women	29	23	28	34

Completed all Swims (Not gaining Maximum Points):

Men	11	12	18	17
Women	14	14	14	17

TASSIE AWARD

As an extension of the Aerobic Trophy Award, the Tassie Award (it commenced in 1986) goes to the club averaging the highest number of points per registered member.



David Cummins -Director of Programmes

This is designed to encourage as many members as possible in each competing club to complete one or more event in the Aerobic Programme. eg; 10 swimmers from a club of 10 members scoring 10 points each - total 100 points (average 10 points each) would beat a club of 5 swimmers out of 50 members scoring 50 points each - total 250 points (average 5 points each).

1998 AWARD

1st Campbelltown NSW 2nd Mackay Qld 3rd Surrey Park VIC	187.24 129.97 112.57
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POSTAL EVENTS

These continue to be popular and offer the membership choice. An up to date list of all sanctioned events is available on the AUSSI web site.

DAVID CUMMINS
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMES

NATIONAL RECORDING

RECORDS

It is a pleasure to report that the timeliness of record applications has improved dramatically.

National Record Certificates now need to be re-printed with the new logo. Branches suggestions on any changes are most welcome but must be submitted within two months.

TOP TEN

The FINA submission dead line was achieved without too many problems. Following experiences with this years submission two factors effecting recording should be aired to hopefully avoid future problems.



Darryl Hawkes - Director of Recording

- 1. Hand overs. It is essential that branch recorders maintain a short form list of do's and do not's to pass on to those that take over. Face to face meetings explaining first hand the procedures to follow would avoid many hours of frustration.
- 2. The more data the branch recorder needs to enter increases the possibility of errors. I continue to harp that clubs using the NACS software should input their own members aerobic times minimising incorrect data.

BOARD MEMBER

As my work load in AUSSI has kept increasing in scope and effort to the point that I am no longer able to do each task as well as I wished, I have decided to forgo some activities. One of these is the Director of Recording which I am very fortunate that SA Branch President Andy Wills has taken on, so between us we should be able to continue to satisfy the expectations of the portfolio.

DARRYL HAWKES NATIONAL RECORDER

NATIONAL SWIM MEET POLICY

The Northern Territory is responsible within AUSSI national hierarchy for the portfolio of Swim Meet Policy. involves overseeing the progression of yearly National Swims, liaison with current and future Branch National Swim organizers, development and regular updating of the National Swim Meet Guide publication; ensuring safety aspects of masters Swim Meets in Australia are known and complied with, continuing upgrade of the Australian Masters Games Guide through the AMG Committee, and the establishment and ongoing support of our Medical Advisory Panel for Masters Swimming Australia.

1999 saw the conduct of a successful National Swim in Darwin, as a result of which further modifications were made to the National Swim Meet Guide. Organisation of the 2000 National Swim in Gladstone, Queensland is advanced, and the meet promises to be spectacular with some very competitive swims.

Our AUSSI National Swim Meet Guide is now in the hands of all branches in Australia and is the gold standard for the conduct of swim meets. Organisations other than AUSSI have seen its merits, and enquiries have been received from several areas, as they have for our Australian Masters Games Guide, which outlines procedures for conducting a masters games swim meet, together with a sample contract, as in the AUSSI Swim Meet Guide. These publications will be updated as necessary.

The National Safety Policy, while no longer a part of our portfolio, remains of clear importance to us, as it impinges on the conduct of Swim Meets.



Ted Giblin -Director for Swim Meet Policy

Increasingly, safety aspects are of high priority at Masters level competition, and we are keen to see the standards as laid out in our national safety policy strictly applied. We are pleased that in recent Meets – Darwin National Swim, AMG in Adelaide, and Pan Pacs in Perth – safety policy was firmly in place.

The AUSSI Masters Games Committee determines policy towards the burgeoning Masters Games movement, keeps a meticulous record of all Games proposed, and grants AUSSI sanctions where appropriate. An increasing number of Masters sports activities are beginning to appear, and we feel this is only the tip of the iceberg: it is evident that in the next 5-10 years we will witness an explosion in Masters sport throughout Australia and This augers well for the overseas. collective health of our nation, provided that these events are conducted in a manner which pays attention to the welfare of the adult competitor. Because of the lucrative nature of Masters Games events, there is a tendency by some to view them as a promotional bonanza and examine them only in financial terms, and we hope to address this in the coming years.

Our Medical Advisory Panel had a quieter year in 1999, but towards the closing months, with the annual Panel meeting in Sydney at the IOC Sports Medical Conference, and the plans for a medical column in our AUSSI Newsletter, we have had more activity, and we hope this continues into 2000 and beyond. The question of fostering sports medicine research remains to be addressed.

TED GIBLIN DIRECTOR FOR SWIM MEET POLICY



Dr Ted Giblin (NT Branch President)
"The Safety Team" meets
(the now late) Des Renford



Atlantis was Runner up to the Darwin Stingers

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT

This year has seen the changing of the portfolio from Tasmania to Victoria. The smooth transition meant that no hiccups occurred in the administration.

AUSSI Masters Swimming continues to be a viable and vibrant organisation due in no small way to the number of people prepared to give of their time to become accredited officials. Without their participation, and in many of cases dual role of swimmer and official, swim meets would almost not function.

These last 12 months have seen another 70 people become accredited officials furthering our aim to be fully self-reliant at all swim meets. The number of Referees has increased with three more bringing the total for the end of 1999 to 38.

The National Technical Committee (NTC) was asked to consider applications from three of our members for inclusion on the FINA Masters Officials List No. 4. The highlight of the year the was that the nominees (Ivan Wingate, Alan Davis and Ken Liddy) were endorsed by the committee and subsequently accepted by FINA for a term of four years effective from January 2000.

During the year a number of technical issues were raised, presenting a challenge to the NTC to address in a constructive and thoughtful manner. The expertise and common sense of the NTC was evident in the democratic process with which each decision was reached. I am confident that this will continue in the New Year with each issue being considered with the aims and spirit of AUSSI in mind.

ROY CLEE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT



Roy Clee -Director of Technical Development

COMMUNICATIONS

The past twelve months have been quite busy for me with the handing over the Technical portfolio for that of Communications.

At the end of 1998. I undertook the task of setting up the national website. This was not a steep learning curve but a sheer rock face without a harness. Just six weeks after starting a web publishing course, the AUSSI website was launched into cyber space on January 25th, on the eve of Australia Day. At that stage the website was fairly basic with about 20 pages and links and occupying 3Mb disk space. Since then, many changes have been made to the look, with additional pages to include results, records, branch contacts, several editions of the national newsletter and the site now occupies between 10 and 18 Mb of space. With over 56,000 visitors to the website from all over the world and with our site linked to many Masters swimming sites, and listed on over 300 search engines, this is one of the easiest and cost effective



Pauline Samson -Director of Communications

methods of reaching lots more people and has given us more world wide exposure.

At the Board Meeting in Darwin when I officially handed over the Technical portfolio, I also accepted the responsibility of producing the National Newsletter, which will be known as AUSSINEWS.COM and published every alternate month.

There always seems to be an abundance of letters, articles to publish and also some feedback from the members. The use of email has also made this task easier, as comments, letters and articles are received this way and also the newsletter can be sent by this method to the National office for publication and distribution.

It has been difficult in the past for Branches and Board Members to comment on activities so often, and so some new pages have been trialled, What Do You Think, Dear Dr Ted and of course Lane 9. Hopefully members will use these opportunities to give their opinions, ask questions and relay the latest gossip.

During the year, I have received lots of positive comments from Board Members, our own members and from overseas and I hope this continues in 2000.

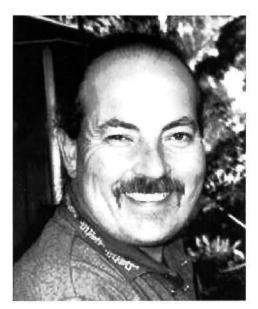
PAULINE SAMSON
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

PLANNING & RISK MANAGEMENT

Until the AGM in Darwin, Queensland was responsible for overseeing the portfolio of Marketing. This had included a long consultative phase culminating in the adoption of the new AUSSI National logo, with the branches endorsing usage of a state and territories variation for their own use and also extending permission to clubs to utilise the logo on letterheads, certificates and similar items.

The acceptance of the logo meant the development of lines of merchandise could now take place and subsequently a proposal was put. The incoming branch responsible for the portfolio - ACT, having now produced brochures and are accepting orders for a range of towels, shirts, pins and track suits. Queensland Branch stepped aside from this portfolio satisfied that all the goals set down 4 years ago had been meet and that the portfolio would be better served by the input of a fresh approach.

The change in portfolio responsibilities saw Queensland Branch accept the challenging areas of Computers, Risk Management, Policies and Planning. The National Computer Committee has meet by phone and undertakings are now in



David Speechley - Director of Planning & Risk Management

place that should see a suite of computer programs that are more user friendly, have an operator manual with them, that operate in a windows environment and will assist clubs in the areas of registrations, aerobics, top tens, records, swim meets, and hopefully will allow volunteers to have more time to do what they really want and that is - swim and have fun. The two swim meet programs are being moulded into one with all the bells and whistles and the best of both.

The process of developing a Risk Management Strategy is a broad ranging task of pro-actively considering the risks and responding by creating policy with due regard to legal, insurance, and government requirements, as well as members desires before the event occurs. What it will do is ultimately allow AUSSI to develop in a planned and orderly fashion instead of responding to situations as they arise. A number of policies have

been developed already and a comprehensive draft of the complete document should be circulated in May 2000.

Queensland Branch look forward to facilitating the continuing progress within our portfolio to enable AUSSI to more safely and efficiently service the needs of members around Australia.

DAVID SPEECHLEY
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING &
RISK MANAGEMENT.

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

Queensland have this year experienced a period of rapid growth with the number of clubs increasing from 53 to 67 in quick time and with interest from several more groups, we hope to be over seventy in the near future.

The 25th AUSSI National Swim has occupied a lot of time and effort especially for our Central Queensland based sub committee. The Branch's decision to conduct the event in a region outside of a capital city has been vindicated by the larger than normal response to sponsorship and the support we have generated in this community. The "big fish in a small pond" adage would be most appropriate for the situation. We invite all AUSSI members to come and visit Queensland - "Beautiful one day, perfect the next" and Gladstone for the 2000 National Swim.

Queensland Branch have consolidated their position as the largest Branch in Australia by again increasing membership numbers over last years figures. The focus in 2000 will be on continuing to service existing members even better than before and to encourage all members

to espouse the benefits of AUSSI to their friends and relatives. The ongoing viability of AUSSI and the efficiency of the organisation will improve by having an increasing membership base. We have recognised that greater membership numbers will enable the cost per member to be held to reasonable levels.

The decision was also made this year to confer hosting rights to our 2001 State Titles upon the Rats of Tobruk Club in Townsville. This will mean that the State Titles will travel from Logan to Gladstone to Townsville and back to the southeast of Queensland over a four year period. The decentralised nature of Queensland means our clubs are comparatively about as far apart as any Branch office is from the AUSSI National office in Adelaide.

Of significant ongoing impact to our Branch's administrative operations has been the regular and reliable volunteer support by a number of members. This has kept wage costs down but increased output and members service. The Branch altered the format of the newsletter this year by reducing the number of issues from 10 to 6 but increasing from 4 pages perissues to 8 pages perissue. We were able to deliver the extra 8 pages per year at no extra cost. We are also producing the newsletter "in house" which reduced turn around time dramatically, meaning issues can be received by a club with current up to the minute information.

Swimmers Forums and regional get togethers of clubs, financially assisted by AUSSI National were held in Cairns (February), Brisbane (May) and Gladstone (September) with a broad range of concerns tabled and addressed by both the Branch Delegate and Branch President.

Queensland is undergoing a constitutional

review with a range of recommendations to come before members in 2000. The 1999 year was one of continuing good management and progress. We look forward to 2000 and hosting the National Swim, the ASPAC Masters Games swimming section, 41 sanctioned meets and a host of technical, coaching and members get togethers.

DAVID SPEECHLEY
BRANCH ADMINISTRATOR

NSW BRANCH

1. MEMBERSHIP

Membership for the 12 months of 1999 totalled 1523, 2% down on 1998 figures. Clubs have increased in number by two to 46 affiliated clubs. Only two clubs number over 100 members being Manly compared with four in 1998 so club size seems to be decreasing. Membership development has concentrated on the North Coast Region of NSW, Hunter region, and SW Sydney. Masters Games committees have been formed for NSW Masters Games in Coffs Harbour in 2000 and Australian Masters Games in the Hunter in 2001. These activities will be incorporated in the NSW 2000 plan to attract members to AUSSI.

2. MAJOR CARNIVALS

In 1999 a new initiative was trialled by conducting the Short Course Championships at dual country venues, Forster and Tuggeranong. Results were emailed from one venue to another and merged for final results. We managed to run it with a total team of AUSSI qualified officials. There were 372 entries compared with 341 in 1998 at a Sydney venue.

The NSW Open Water Swim was

conducted by Shoalhaven Seahawks at Callala Beach in February.

The Long Course Championships were held again at Blacktown and attracted 375 entries

3. OTHER MEETS

NSW swimmers were well represented at the Darwin Nationals, the Australian Masters Games in Adelaide and Pan Pacs in Perth.

In NSW, there were 17 Pelican Pointscore (interclub) carnivals plus 4 long distance meets.

Masters Swimming NSW Charity Swimathon again raised money for ConnecTeD-thechildren with Connective Tissue disorders

4. RECORDING

Brett Larkin and Mark Hepple (from mid 1999) processed results at most Carnivals and produced the Top Ten listings on disk for the National Recorder.

At the conclusion of 1999 Helen Rubin documented latest developments in the aerobic recording software.

5. COACHING/ TECHNICAL

In 1999 NSW Branch conducted a Level "O" course, one Level 1M Coaching Accreditation, and it's inaugural Level 2M course, thanks to the hard work of SCD Terry Diomis and assistance from Jules Harnett.

NSW branch is proud to receive the Sporting Injuries Committee Award for a State Sporting Organisations in adopting or implementing a safe sport practice. The award was won for the Carnival Warm-up Safety procedures & signs, for the attendance of our medical team and the purchase of a Branch defibrillator.

NSW Safety Officer circulated a Safety Audit to all clubs to raise the awareness



Di Coxon-Ellis -Secretary/Administrator

of the National Safety Policy and set up a database of safety procedures.

Various Officials courses and a Masters Rules seminar were conducted under the auspices of the NSW Technical Committee.

6. ADMINISTRATION

The office at Sports House is now utilised five days a week and the phone is answered from 10am to 4 pm Monday to Thursday.

7. MEETINGS

Our Management Committee face to face meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at Sports House.

8. GRANTS

In 1999 Masters Swimming NSW Sports Development Grant was increased which enabled the mail out to all members of our quarterly newsletter, "Splash".

The "Never Too Late" grant from the Department of Veteran Affairs and the Sports Commission has verified the need for a daytime programme for swimming.

9. THE FUTURE

Looking forward to the year 2000 the challenges are to develop a website, complete the constitutional review, put all clubs "on line" for registrations, aerobic recording etc. We hope to phase out filling out race cards and have all carnival cards computer generated and maybe with internet banking all entries will be received electronically.

All new initiatives require a great deal of work and planning and thanks go to all the Management Committee under the leadership of Gary Stutsel and all the volunteers who are our greatest resource!

DI COXON-ELLIS SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

VICTORIAN BRANCH

WORLD RECORD

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly Michael Moloney's 200m Breaststroke World Record which was set at the Short Course Championships on 21 August 1999. Our congratulations must be extended to Michael for an inspiring performance that certainly added an air of excitement to the meet.

SWIM MEETS

Our two State Championship meets were both held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, the venue for the 2001 National Swim. Our officials and swimmers are now very familiar with the pool and are well rehearsed in using this world class facility. Our long-distance interclub swims have attracted increasing numbers of participants this year. This is a new trend that we will follow with interest as it comes after several years of declining attendance at the traditional sprint carnivals.

OFFICIALS

This was the first year that we were able to run both State Championship meets and all our Interclub swims using only AUSSI qualified officials. These meets have also provided many hours of valuable experience for our trainee Referee's. Self-reliance in terms of officials was one of our goals for 2000 and so we were pleased to be able to have achieved this sooner than expected with more trainees in the wings. Our Technical Officer, Alan Davis, has now established a number of regional Technical Officers to assist in the planning and implementation of Officials Workshops. These will be increasingly important as we prepare to host National and International meets in the near future.

MAJOR EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Branch has formed a Major Events Committee to assist with the running of the 2000 Australasian Public Sector Games, 2001 National Swim and 2002 World Masters Games. This Committee will coordinate the functions performed by the various sub-committees that will be formed for each meet

NEWSLETTER

'The Swimmer' continues to be a vital link in communication between members and the Branch. It is posted directly to each member to ensure that the information is being received at member level. We strongly believe that production of the newsletter is one of the most important functions of the Branch and a tangible benefit that the swimmers recognise.

MEMBERSHIP

Our numbers reached 1288 for the year, slightly down on 1998 (1360). Despite some research into the reasons why, there is still not a clear explanation for the

decrease (~5%). Re-registrations remain quite healthy at 78% but the overall downturn is of some concern.

COACHING

Our new Director of Coaching, Grant Watson, has helped a number of coaches from the 1998 course towards achieving their accreditation this year. We held a Butterfly Clinic in October and hope to run either a Level 2M or another Level 1M course plus more Stroke Clinics in 2000.

SPONSORSHIP & MARKETING

1999 has been another year of frustration with no support forthcoming from either the government departments or the private sector. This is an area that requires much time and attention within the Branch. Hopefully more successful outcomes will be achieved post the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

JODI-ANN BEARD ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SWIMMING

The successful conduct of the first international Masters swimming event to be held in Perth must be recorded as the highlight of the year for the WA Branch. While it is easy to rattle off the key statistics with 8 world records from more than 700 competitors from 16 different countries, the 7th Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships were successful because the competitors, the officials and the many volunteers involved in organising the event enjoyed it.

The 8 day Pan Pacific Masters was but one line on a busy 45 line AUSSI (WA) Swim Meet Calendar for 1999! The State Swim in May attracted 330 swimmers and the Finals for the Club Challenge Series saw 479 swimmers competing for the 4 pennants on November 6 and 7. Other State events successfully conducted were the State Open Water Swim on 1 March and the State Relays on 1 August.

The Somerset Club enjoyed a very successful year by winning the 1998 National Aerobic Trophy, the 1999 State Swim and the Club Challenge Group A Frank Mongan Pennant.

The 1998/99 Jardines Open Water Swim Series was conducted as a joint activity with the W A Swimming Association and culminated in a social Awards Presentation on 24 May.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcomed three new country Clubs at Busselton, Kalgoorlie and Pannawonica but unfortunately the Karratha and Guildford/Swan Clubs were unable to continue their affiliation. We recorded our highest ever number of affiliated Clubs with 10 in the country and 23 metropolitan Clubs.

The swim program and the fun also attracted a record 1467 members for 1999 – 48 more than the previous record set last year.

A member retention rate of 75% is quite healthy but membership would be even stronger if we could retain more of the 340 members who did not re-register this year.

PROMOTION

Two key documents are the AUSSI Open Water Swim Calendar which lists all the open water swim events for each season, including events conducted by other organizations such as surf life saving Clubs, and the AUSSI Swim Meet Calendar which lists all the AUSSI received

a refund of the half price registration at the end of the year. This promotion was arranged with a grant from the Seniors Sport Participation Scheme as part of the International Year of the Older Person 'celebration'.

"Different Strokes" Newsletters were published in May (8 pages) and August (4 pages) while a new publication – "In Between Strokes" was published in July (2 pages). Only two issues of "Different Strokes" were published because the Publicity Officer position on the Branch Executive Committee was vacant for five months.

Work has commenced on the production of a Branch web page.

COACHING

State Coach Sue Pow visited 14 Clubs, including the new Kalgoorlie Club, this year and these visits have been well received. Gordon Medcalf also visited the Broome Club with a coaching program. Ian White from Leeming Club was the WA Branch Coach of the Year.

A new scholarship, the Kay Cox Country Scholarship, has been introduced and provides up to \$150 support each year for a country member to participate in a Level 1 Coaching Accreditation Course.

TECHNICAL/RECORDING

Branch Technical Officer Peter Maloney conducted the first ever Referee Course to be conducted in Perth during July/ August and attracted 20 participants. Several Timekeepers and other courses were also conducted to ensure there were sufficient qualified people for the Pan Pacific Masters event. This event also added significantly to the heavy workload of Branch Recorder Maxine Fitzpatrick, who had a busy time producing, for the first time, Branch Top

10 compilations for Long Course and for Short Course. Recognition of Short Course records also saw a huge number of inaugural short course records being established with certificates to be produced and issued and files requiring constant updating.

ADMINISTRATION

Branch Administration Officer Malcolm Stokes has continued to operate from the office shared with the Multi Sport Secretariat which AUSSI (WA) has now joined to upgrade our administration. The office now boasts a new computer with Internet access which should improve club, member and external access to the Branch office. Implications of the new taxation system are being considered before the Branch determines what action to take and what recommendations (if any) to make to clubs. Clubs received 21 Administration Circulars with mailouts from the Branch office during 1999.

SPONSORSHIP

The major sponsor of AUSSI in WA is the WA Ministry of Sport and Recreation which contributes to the Branch through Business Plan funding as well as other grant schemes such as the Seniors Sport Participation Scheme and the Y2K Compliance in Sport Scheme.

The 1999 AUSSI Open Water Swim and Swim Meet Calendars were both sponsored by TYR Swimwear manufacturers.

MANAGEMENT AND MEETINGS

High profile Perth builder and AUSSI swimmer Dale Alcock accepted the role of Patron of AUSSI (WA) and has contributed by his attendance at a number of AUSSI functions.

The task of the Executive Committee has been made more difficult during this year because three portfolios on the Executive Committee were only filled for part of the year – the Director of Fitness & Education (3 months), Publicity Officer (7 months) and State Swim Meet Director (6 months) are all important and some activities normally managed through these positions have not been able to be arranged.

Changes to the Branch organisation structure have been discussed throughout this year and it is hoped that a new structure will be adopted at the Annual General Meting in February and provide a more effective Branch management structure.

The Branch held 4 Council of Clubs meetings, 13 Executive Committee meetings, 3 Recorders and Captains meetings and various other committees such as the Technical Committee also met during the year. AUSSI (WA) President Bob Dunstan also had meetings with the President of the WA Swimming Association, Surf Life Saving Association, WASA Open Water Swim Committee and with several AUSSI country Club Presidents during 1999. Vice President Bill Mortimer was called on to preside over several meetings while President Bob was away on business.

It has been a busy, productive and enjoyable year for AUSSI in Western Australia.

MALCOLM STOKES
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

The past year has been a very successful one for our Branch. Firstly we had the same committee members nominate for consecutive years, a far cry from the previous year when we struggled to fill our executive positions. Secondly, the Branch conducted a very successful swimming component for the 7th Australian Masters Games.

MEMBERSHIP

A 10% increase saw our registrations jump from 664 in 1998 to 732 this year, and our number of clubs increase by one to 11. As some of these new members can be attributed to our hosting the 1999 Masters Games it will be interesting to see whether we can retain our numbers in the year 2000. One aspect of our club membership that is missing is country clubs...we have none but will attempt to remedy that situation as part of a major initiative in 2000.

NATIONALS

47 of our swimmers competed in the Nationals at Darwin with one of our local clubs Atlantis winning the Visitors Trophy as well as Runners Up Trophy.

Our members certainly enjoyed themselves and our thanks go to the organising committee and officials.

COACHING

Well attended Coaching clinics that focused on each stroke were conducted each month during winter.

It is planned next year to conduct a Level 1 and Level 2 coaching course if enough interest can be generated.

well at these meets. Lefevre Portside in particular, a new club with a young member base performed extremely well finishing third in only its second year.

Open water swims also had increased participation and for the first time the State Branch took over the running of the prestigious Henley to Grange jetty to jetty long swim that attracted over 160 competitors.

STRATEGIC PLAN / BY-LAWS

A Strategic Plan has been drafted by our Secretary Anita McDonald and Vice President Jenny Bradley and will be formalised early in the new year, as will a revised edition of our By-Laws which have been reviewed by a small working party. This will bring the By-Laws more in line with our current operating practices.

7TH AUSTRALIAN MASTERS GAMES.

The feature for our Branch this year was hosting these Games which attracted over 600 entries. A hard working committee worked for over a year to ensure that the event was successful, and from the feedback we have received this goal was achieved. Our relationship with the Games committee was excellent and we were able to run the meet in accordance with AUSSI rules. (one exception being their medal policy of only issuing 1st & 2nd placegetters with medals if only three swimmers competed. This generated a lot of negative feedback)

The response from our members and from those around the country to assist was excellent and John Gamlen, who did an amazing job as Meet Director, was able to roster all official positions including timekeepers prior to the meet.

Unfortunately, the timing of our event was not the best with the Pan Pacs in W.A.

being held two weeks later with only a handful of competitors competing in both.

Thanks to Ivan and Sue for their continued support during the year and to all our members who helped make 1999 a very successful one for our Branch.

ANDY WILLS BRANCH PRESIDENT.



John Gamlen - Meet Director Australian Masters Games - Adelaide

TASMANIAN BRANCH

This year our Branch had some changes in administration as our Constitution only allows the President and Secretary to serve a maximum of four consecutive years. I am pleased to report that the transition has been successful and our Branch has continued to meet the goals of Masters Swimming.

At the end of last year we had nine clubs, however one went into recession due mainly to lack of a training facility for the winter months. It is expected that another Club will form as a new pool complex has opened in Hobart. This seems to be the trend that clubs have a pool as a home base.



Peter Neilson - President

Administration of Clubs will always be difficult with relatively small numbers within the Branch, however there are a number of enthusiastic members who remain the core of both the Clubs and the Branch. We also need to look more closely at retention rates and how we can compete in the wider sports choice market. Two Clubs are able to offer their members a corporate rate for membership to both a pool and gym complex.

Our coaching activities have been fairly quiet, although two coaches have gained level 2M accreditation. While there were no formal coaching courses conducted, clinics were held for the swimmers in both Launceston and Hobart with the use of local lecturers and coaches. Our coaching and Education Officer also attended the Coaches Workshop in Adelaide.

During the year there were three championship meets conducted - the long course summer at Davenport and both the short course long distance and winter short course held in Launceston. There have also been several interclub

long distance meets at the Aquatic Centre between the southern clubs. The organisation of these meets by the host clubs has been efficient and effective as social activities and to encourage new members to compete. The Branch Recorder has reported that 80 records were either broken or established and one of our younger members breaking four national records. Nine swimmers also achieved rankings in the World Top Tenin 1998 in their respective age groups.

A number of Tassie swimmers competed at both the National Swim in Darwin and at the Australian Masters Games in Adelaide in a variety of sports. Swimmers had an enjoyable time, performed well and brought home a swag of medals.

The Branch held five management meetings as well as its Annual General Meeting. The Committee members work well together and are united in commitment to providing an excellent service to the members. The Branch continues to monitor its strategic planning process which ensures that our goals are realised and that our budgeting process is clearly defined and secure.

As sponsorship is always difficult to find for swim meets we were fortunate to secure an ongoing sponsorship from a hotel/motel chain. This is in the form of discounted accommodation throughout Tasmania and the mainland states for all members and families and also provides a major raffle accommodation prize for each of the major championship meets. I would like to thank the members of the committee for their loyalty and support and to all the members whose contributions make the Tasmanian Branch so successful.

PETER NEILSON BRANCH PRESIDENT

ACT BRANCH

ACT MEMBERSHIP

Membership numbers are down on last year, due mainly to members enthused about swimming after the Masters Games (late 1997) not renewing in 1999. This stresses the point that we need to keep members interest up for the years after a big event. As at 31 December 1999 it is 55 female and 52 male, being a total of 107.

ACT SPORTS HOUSE (ACTSPORT)

ACT AUSSI continues its membership of this organisation which, through its ACTSPORT arm, supports and represents all affiliated ACT sporting organisations on matters affecting sport development, sporting policies, facilities, funding from the ACT Government.

BRANCH NEWSLETTER

TIDAL continued to be published throughout the year, depending on input from Branch members. TIDAL is a good medium for members to pass on information about swim meets, holidays after swim meets, new training techniques nutrition, injury management etc., to fellow members.

BRANCH MEETINGS

Meetings were held most months, at members' homes during 1999. Nonexecutive members attended most meetings, their contribution and interest is greatly appreciated.

PUBLICITY

Branch promotional activities during the year included:

- use of AUSSI National posters and flyers
- entry in the white and yellow pages
- promotion during Senior's Week

SWIM FOR HEART

The National Heart Foundation conducted its annual 'Swim for Heart' fund-raising event in July 1999. AUSSI swimmers coordinated two teams at the ADFA pool, with some others participating in corporate and social teams.

NATIONAL

The Branch was responsible for the Planning Portfolio with Jean Heath as Delegate but Judy Ford attended in her place at the AGM in Darwin in May. At the AGM, some portfolios were reallocated. We are now responsible for the Marketing Portfolio, with Diane Gregory taking over as Delegate. Diane attended the October meeting in Perth.

SWIM MEETS AND EVENTS

A long distances meet was held on 17 & 18 July 1999. Swimmers competed from NSW and ACT.

ACT swimmers participated in the NSW State Championships, other NSW meets, postal events and open water swims in NSW and NT. A small number of swimmers competed in the National Swim in Darwin, Masters Games in Adelaide and the Pan Pacs in Perth.

The ACT Championships (with the NSW Short Course Championships) were held on 18 & 19 September 1999 at Tuggeranong. Nearly 300 swimmers competed.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Social events, ranging from dinners to weekend swim camps, were organised by clubs, some on a monthly basis. These events are just as important to the members as the swimming.

A special thank you to Tanya Colyer, Miri Robinson and Norm Burmester. Tanya took over from Miri as Secretary until October when she stepped down from the position and I was elected to the position is. Normisthe Minutes Secretary and has greatly assisted the Branch and its members by taking and distributing minutes and agendas for the Branch meetings.

I wish to thank everyone who has helped me step into the shoes of my predecessors. I look forward to proving myself worthy of the position.

PAMELA J ALFERINK BRANCH SECRETARY

NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH

1999 was a successful year for the NT Branch. Membership of the three clubs rose from 158 in 1998 to 188 - Alice AUSSI 71, Darwin Stingers 90, Arnhem Salties 37.

The main event of the year was the staging of the National Swim in Darwin in May. Because of the distances involved, members of Darwin Stingers did most of the preparatory work, but members of Alice AUSSI and Arnhem Salties gave generously of their time and expertise during the meet.

396 swimmers from 77 clubs competed; 17 new national records were set; Darwin Stingers gained first place in the overall point score from Atlantis AUSSI and Adelaide Masters; Darwin also won six of the eight age group relay trophies; and Swimmers of the Meet were Jen Thomassen (Brisbane Southside) and Allan Dufty (Ettalong). Highlights included the welcome function hosted by the NT Minister for Sport and Recreation at Parliament House and the Presentation

Dinner at which the guest speaker was the late legendary Des Renford, 19 times master of the English Channel.

The 76 NT Branch members who competed gained a total of 38 gold, 42 silver and 52 bronze medals. The event returned a profit of \$12 914.

Alice AUSSI and Darwin Stingers participated in the 1998 National Aerobic Trophy, finishing 64th and 12th respectively, and 28 swimmers were ranked in the Top Ten. Ted Giblin, NT Branch President, once again attained the maximum 390 points. Apart from the National Swim, a number of members competed in the Australian Masters' Games, the New Zealand Masters' Games and the Pan Pacific Masters' Games, as well as several postal swims.

Of note in the latter category was the success by seven members of the Darwin Stingers Club in the United States Masters' 10 km Postal Swim. The club was placed 7th in the overall point score and two members, John Pollock (60-64) and Gerda Williams (55-59), were placed first in their respective age groups, Gerda breaking the existing record by almost 17 minutes. The swimmers raised over \$900 for the Australian Paralympians' Fund.

Gerda Williams was the Branch's most outstanding swimmer of the year, with 4 gold and 3 silver medals at the Pan Pacific Masters' Games and 4 gold and 1 silver at the National Swim in addition to her 10 km result.

In National Portfolio changes, the branch lost Safety and gained National Swim Meet Policy. It also completed the National Swim Meet Guide.

JOHN POLLOCK BRANCH SECRETARY

DARWIN NATIONAL SWIM

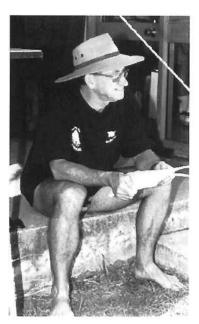


"Serious business this" Ken Liddy - Chief Starter

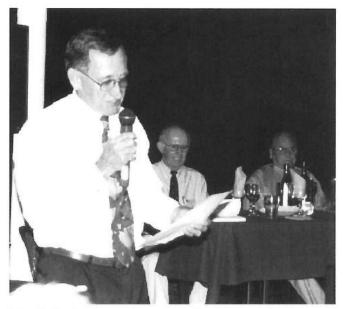


The Atlantis Frogs were there in force

DARWIN NATIONAL SWIM



The trials of a Meet Director John Pollock



John Pollock - Meet Director at the Presentation Function David Pearson - MC & Des Renford - Guest Speaker in background

NATIONAL TROPHY WINNERS

FOUNDER'S TROPHY: DARWIN STINGERS

RUNNERS UP TROPHY: ATLANTIS AUSSI

VISITORS TROPHY: ATLANTIS AUSSI

NATIONAL HEART FOUNDATION AWARD: ELAINE EDWARDS -

DARWIN STINGERS

SWIMMER OF THE MEET:

FEMALE: JEN THOMASSON -

BRISBANE SOUTHSIDE

MALE: ALLAN DUFTY -

ETTALONG PELICANS

RELAY TROPHIES:

80+ DARWIN STINGERS

120+ DARWIN STINGERS
160+ DARWIN STINGERS

160+ DARWIN STINGERS
200+ DARWIN STINGERS

240+ DARWIN STINGERS

280+ MANLY MASTERS

NATIONAL AEROBIC TROPHY: SOMERSET AUSSI

TASSIE TROPHY: CAMPBELLTOWN

COACH OF THE YEAR: 1998 ALINA GRAHAM -

NORTHWEST UNITED SHARX

OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR - 1999: NO AWARD MADE