



**MASTERS
SWIMMING**
Australia

ANNUAL REPORT 2006

CONTENTS

NATIONAL BOARD	2
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REPORTS

President's Report	3
Chief Executive Officer	5
Director of Finance	7
Independent Audit Report	8
Director of Coaching	12
National IT Committee	14
National Membership and Participation Committee	15
National Records Committee	18
National Swim Meet Committee	19
National Technical Committee	20

BRANCH REPORTS

New South Wales	22
Other Branch Reports	22
Queensland	23
South Australia	24
Northern Territory	25
Tasmania	26
Victoria	27
Western Australia	28

NATIONAL SWIM 2006	29
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NATIONAL TROPHY WINNERS 2006	31
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National Board



*Left to right:
Ian Davis (NSW),
David Ryan (Qld),
Pauline Samson (Tas),
Stephen Cardiff (CEO),
John Pugh (President),
Jeanette Holowiuk (Vic),
Mike Walker (SA),
John Pollock (NT),
Dianne Gregory (ACT),
David Chambers
(Coaching Director).
Missing for this photo
were Lynne Malone
(WA) and Cathy Codling
(Finance Director).*

National Committees 2006

	January to October	October to December
Coaching	David Chambers * Jacinta Stirratt Louise Stovin-Bradford Jan Wicks	David Chambers * Jacinta Stirratt Jan Wicks
Governance	Dianne Gregory Ian Davis *	Ian Davis
IT	Mark Hepple Helen Rubin Pauline Samson Paul Watmough *	Mark Hepple Helen Rubin Pauline Samson Paul Watmough *
Membership	Therese Crollick * Lawrie Fabian	Therese Crollick * 'Tricia Summerfield
Records	Lynne Malone Pauline Samson *	Lynne Malone Pauline Samson *
Swim Meet	Rob Lucas Lynne Malone John Pollock *	Jeanette Holowiuk Rob Lucas Lynne Malone John Pollock *
Technical	Judith Crawford Fran O'Hara Gary Stutsel *	Derek Coghill Judith Crawford John Marshall Fran O'Hara Gary Stutsel *

* Chairman

National Management Committee 2006

President	John Pugh
Finance Director	Cathy Codling
Coaching Director	David Chambers
Chief Executive Officer	Stephen Cardiff

National Presidents 1975 - 2006

Bill Lough	1975 - 1978
Peter Jackson	1978 - 1984
Ivan Wingate	1985 - 1988
Graeme Mc Dougall	1989 - 1992
Glenys Mc Donald	1993 - 1998
Mary Sweeney	1999 - Mar 2005
John Pugh	Apr 2005 - present

Life Members

Kay Cox
Peter Gillett
Glenys Mc Donald
Gary Stutsel
Ivan Wingate
Darryly Hawkes
Mary Sweeney
Pauline Samson

President's Report

Traditionally the annual report gives a brief overview of the events of the year just passed, and this one is no different. From a national perspective, two highlights were winning the right to stage the FINA XII World Masters Swim in Perth in 2008 and being well represented in the XI World Masters Swim in San Francisco. These were both reported in some detail in our quarterly newsletters. These happenings involved attending FINA meetings and I represented AUSSI at a meeting of the full Bureau in Shanghai and a Masters Technical Congress in San Francisco. Both gave insights into how we are affected by planning, deliberations and politics at the international level.

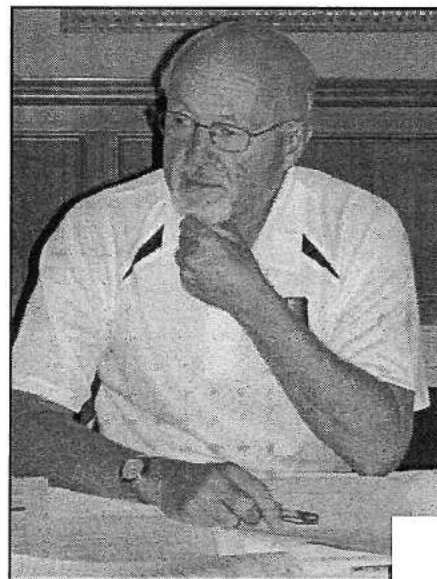
Domestically, Branch reports and newsletters showed that our community of Masters swimmers had lots of competitions and fun, and that coaches and volunteer administrators were again efficient at all levels. The ACT staged an excellent National Swim, but I am sad that the Branch decided to disband as from the end of last year. ACT swimmers will now swim for New South Wales, but we will miss the many useful contributions that ACT has made at board level over the years. The demise of the ACT branch illustrates a problem endemic to AUSSI, which is to get enough people willing to volunteer their scarce time to administer branches and clubs. ACT needed 24 (15.6%) of its 153 members to run two clubs and a branch and the burden

was too great.

Declining membership is still a problem. Statistics from the national database show that there was a net gain of 8 new clubs, and a net loss of 50 members. New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Victoria had 82% of our members, did the most recruiting, and yet had a net decrease of 39 members. We addressed the membership issue in the strategic review and the Membership committee produced a marketing plan that has received some special project funding. This may help the branches and clubs keep up their numbers. We also started a project to profile our 202 clubs so that we can better fit new members with clubs, training times and programmes. I will be pleased if we can maintain our membership number in 2007.

Stephen Cardiff, Jeanette Holowiuk and Loren Bartley administered the National office efficiently and published four informative newsletters. The experiment of administering the Victoria branch for a fee again satisfied that branch. It is a model that other branches may consider when their volunteers are under pressure.

Administration inevitably involves meetings and we held board meetings in Canberra and Melbourne. Again, excellent work by the specialist sub-committees meant that we completed the formal meetings in a day, which left time for productive workshop discussions on the second day. The National Management Committee met six times to deal



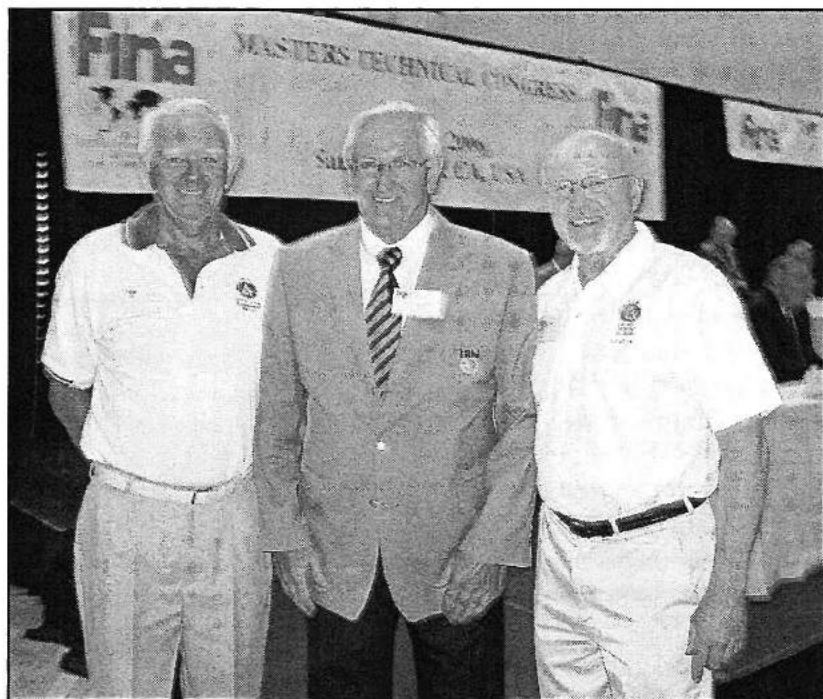
John Pugh, National President

with immediate business and issues and prepare Board agendas. Thank you Stephen, Cathy and David for your time and contributions.

The volunteers who run our specialist sub-committees did another splendid job, and detail of their activities is in their separate reports. As you will see, the Coaching, Technical, Recording, Membership and IT Committees got through an immense amount of work and I thank them for their time, expertise and efforts. A conservative costing of their time in dollar terms would surprise all of us, and to actually pay for the work done would mean a substantial increase in expenditure and in the membership fee. Our many volunteers help us run the national body very cheaply.

We recognised the exceptional work of four individuals during the year. Mary Sweeney and Pauline Samson were made life members, and Lynne Malone and Geoff Upton have earned

President's Report (cont.)



Left to right: Ken Liddy, Ivan Wingate and John Pugh representing Masters Swimming Australia at the FINA Masters Technical Congress, San Francisco USA, August 2006.

Meritorious Service Awards for five years of continuous service to the national body. I congratulate all of you.

As I mentioned last year, competition is an important part of Masters swimming and it comes in many forms. I have already referred to the International swim in San Francisco and the National swim in Canberra, and there was also a Pan-Pacific Masters Games hosted by the Queensland branch. Each branch held its own championships and inter-club meets, and clubs had sessions for time-trials and aerobic swims. At another level a host of individuals set themselves personal challenges to achieve million metre awards. New branch and national records were set regularly and showed

that standards improved continually. Yet the number of people competing was still modest, so fitness and fun are still important goals for many of us.

The corporate governance project proceeded steadily and I hope that the coming year will see a new constitution and a streamlined set of rules. Branches should have the answers to all their questions by the time motions about governance changes are presented.

Finance is always a problem in voluntary organisations and we are not free of them. I described the board's policy about using

cash 'reserves' for special projects in a previous newsletter and some of the criteria the management committee uses to determine whether a project is 'special'. But the problem of paying for the staffing the national office with two full-time equivalent employees remains. We must have these people, because volunteers have enough to do, and we must build their reasonable remuneration and increments into our operating budget. We have managed to do this to date but increases in the national membership fee must be expected. Unfortunately, Cathy Codling has decided not to stand for re-election to the Finance position. She has done a great job over two years and I thank her for her expertise and advice. We will miss her.



Above: new Life Member Pauline Samson with John Pugh, April 2006.

You all helped to make 2006 a successful year of swimming. Well done!

John Pugh
President

Chief Executive Officer

2006 proved to be a busy year, with a lot happening in many areas. Masters Swimming Australia remained affiliated with the Confederation of Australian Sport and Swimming Australia Ltd (SAL) throughout the year.

National Office

The National Office continues to operate from Williamstown, Melbourne, also staffed by Sport Administrator Jeanette Holowiuk and Technical Development Officer Loren Bartley.

Jeanette's main achievements for 2006 were successfully recording the many, sometime complex problems encountered by users of the Swimming Australia (SAL) Registration Database and coordinating a set of fixes that made it more accurate and useable. She also ably handled the Coaching and Technical course approvals and accreditation administration. In April, she attended MYOB training courses.

Loren worked on a number of projects during the year on behalf of the Coaching and Technical Committees. She led the writing of the Coaching Adult Swimming Training Programme, which was submitted to the Australian Sports Commission for accreditation. This will mean we have three Coaching courses accredited - Level 1M, Level 2M and Coaching Adult Swimming Training Programme. Subsequently she organised the training resource to accompany the new course, including new material to be written by appropriately experienced authors.

I attended a SAL Executive Director's Meeting in March which makes us more visible with SAL, SAL Branches and

ASCTA. As a revised MOU between Masters Swimming Australia and SAL has been discussed during 2006, the building of relationships is especially important. I attended the Commonwealth Games Selection Trials and National Championships in Melbourne in February, and was privileged to present medals on one night of the finals.

Administration

The main administrative functions performed by the national office in 2006 were:

- producing 4 National newsletters (the last 2 were the first to be emailed direct to members using the Registration Database);
- organising the April Board Meeting in Canberra and the October Board Meeting in Melbourne;
- sending seven media releases;
- renegotiating the Masters Swimming Insurance policies, and
- gradually circulating handbook sections (many updated) in the new size of A4.

IT

Masters Swimming Australia continues to use the Registration Database under the Service Agreement with Swimming Australia. Some technical problems have appeared and a significant amount of time and effort was invested in coordinating fixes for these with Swimming Australia. Late in the year a number of permanent fixes to ongoing problems were implemented, improving the situation. Swimming Australia are assessing



Stephen Cardiff, CEO

the feasibility of different options regarding the overall use of the database.

The content of the national website has been updated significantly this year. In particular the Technical, Coaching, About Us, 2007 National Swim and front page have been greatly enhanced. New pages were created for Membership, Million Metres, Branch Contacts and Top 10. Latest news dominates the front page, with a news archive holding stories that drop off the front page.

National Management Committee

One of the main roles of the Management Committee is to recommend policy or rule changes to the Board for acceptance and implementation. Good progress was achieved in this area throughout the year. The highlight of this work was the Strategic Review, accepted with small modifications at the October Board meeting. This brought the 2003 - 2008 Strategic Plan up to date and defined 2007 Operational Plans for NMC, CEO and National Committees.

A new Heat Policy was approv-

Chief Executive Officer

ed and incorporated into the updated National Safety Policy. An updated Communication Policy was circulated in June.

Board Meetings

The highlight of the April AGM was the awarding of Life Membership to Pauline Samson and Mary Sweeney. Congratulations to both of you.

In line with the President's drive to use the second day of Board Meetings for Professional Development Workshops, I planned and coordinated the following workshops:

- 2003 - 2008 Strategic Review Workshop, April
- Membership & Participation Committee Marketing Plan, October
- National Swim Roles and Responsibilities, October

Events

The 31st National Swim was hosted by the ACT Branch at the AIS Pool in Canberra. Organising a National Swim demands a high level of volunteer input and it is a credit to a Branch with only 2 Clubs that the event ran smoothly without any major problems.

The bi-annual FINA World Mas-

ters Championships were held in August at Stanford University, USA. The organisation was represented by 74 swimmers who won 1 gold, 9 silver, 8 bronze and a host of top 10 medals. Twin Towns (Qld) and Warringah (NSW) topped the Australian Club medal tally, both winning 10 medals.

The 1st World Outgames took place in Montreal in July/August. 60 swimmers represented Masters Swimming Australia clubs and brought home a total of 43 medals.

Awards

The Australian Sports Awards organised by the Confederation of Australian Sport were held on February 22, 2006. Masters Swimming Australia nominated Kris Apps in the category of Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability, Lynette Stevenson and Dorothy Dickey in Masters Athlete of the Year, and Blacktown City AUSSI Masters under Masters Club of the Year.

All made the final six, and Blacktown made the final 3, enabling them to attend the glittering awards dinner. Unfortunately they were not adjudged the winner, however this does not detract from their landmark achievement of being the first visiting team to win the overall pointscore at a National Swim. They achieved this at the 30th National Swim in Hobart, 2005. Congratulations to all nominees for their outstanding achievements.

Sponsors

Our major sponsor, International Sports Tours have worked hard handling all our official travel arrangements, and ran a successful group tour for many members to the FINA World Masters Championships in Stanford, USA in August. I thank them for their support.

Zoggs support of the past four years came to a conclusion early in the year. Subsequently, Vorgee Australia came on board as a supporting sponsor. Vorgee produce an extensive range of high quality swimming goggles, caps, swimwear and training equipment. They supported the Million Metre Awards throughout 2006 and contributed a significant amount of in kind sponsorship to the National Swim and some Championship events in about half of the Branches. I welcome Vorgee on board and thank them for their support.

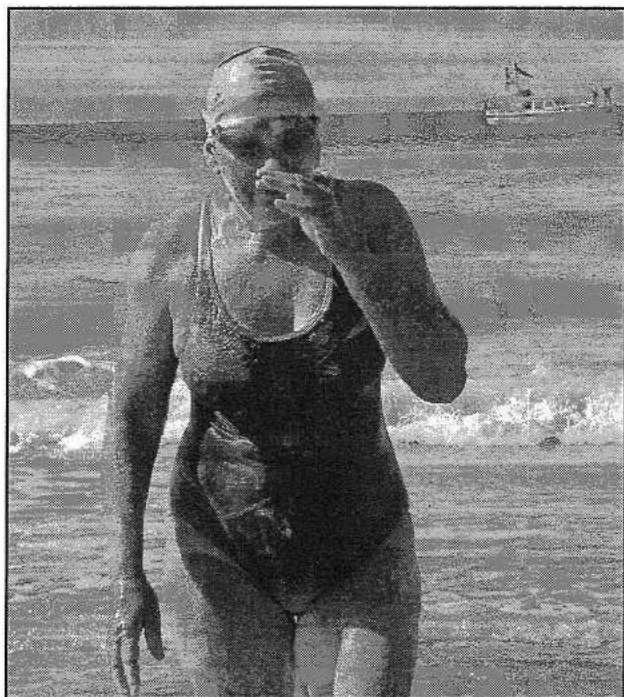
Looking ahead to 2007, the top issues appear to be to finalise and implement the new governance structure, launch a number of membership and marketing initiatives, and prepare for the 2008 FINA World Masters Championships.

I would like to thank the National Management Committee, staff, Board members, Life members, Committee members and other volunteers for their time and enthusiasm throughout 2006. The organisation would be a shadow of the well organised and efficiently run unit that it is without you.

Stephen Cardiff
Chief Executive Officer



National Swim in Canberra; April



Left:

Sue Oldham (WA) became the oldest woman to swim the English Channel, August.

Above:

WA Masters Swimmers became the oldest team to swim the English Channel, August.

Director of Finance

This report is to be read together with accompanying audited financial reports and the statement of actual to budgeted financial performance. Together they show the financial performance for the past year and the financial position at the end of the year.

Income Statement

The National Body achieved a net surplus of \$2,711 for the year ended 31 December 2006, compared to a net deficit of \$9,955 for the prior year. The result comprised an operating surplus of \$5,487 (versus an operating surplus of \$1,791 in 2005) and expenditure on special projects of \$2,775 (versus \$11,746 in 2005).

Administration expenses were below budget this year and with an increase in sponsorship income we are able to present

the positive result for this financial year. However, the surplus was small and achieving a breakeven result in financial year 2007 will be tight with costs continually increasing especially in the area of IT.

Balance Sheet

The financial position of the National Body remains strong. The vast majority of the assets are held in cash and interest bearing deposits.

As reported by the Finance Director in 2004 we have the cash resources to meet operating costs and debts easily. We can



Above: Cathy Codling, Finance Director

present the National Body with confidence in bids for major events or ventures with other players in the swimming industry.

Cathy Codling
National Finance Director

Independent Audit Report

AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA INC

INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2006

Income	2005	2006
Advertising	564	791
Branch Affiliations	1,636	1,636
Interest Received	13,926	13,745
Sanction Fees	3,273	3,445
Sponsorship	6,000	9,182
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,404	725
Registrations	<u>157,819</u>	<u>157,413</u>
	<u>184,622</u>	<u>186,937</u>
Expenses		
Wages Chief Executive Officer	38,541	56,135
Wages Staff	41,624	35,587
Victorian Branch Fee	(15,400)	(20,088)
Affiliations and subscriptions	1,643	700
Audit & IT Setup	1,080	1,080
Awards & Gifts	648	919
Bank Charges & Interest	248	199
Board Meetings & Conferences	25,352	17,693
Other Meetings & Conferences	4,309	2,501
Computer Software	9,000	9,057
Depreciation	2,897	2,321
Office Expenses	12,944	6,222
Printing /Photocopying	5,651	2,292
Rent, storage & utilities	14,025	14,786
Legal Costs	474	1,454
Furniture & Equipment	820	1,279
Insurance	37,367	35,378
Special publications/projects	11,746	14,121
Sponsorship Costs	1,300	2,316
Stocks/Equipment written off	(211)	73
Sundry Repairs & Administrative Expenses	<u>519</u>	<u>200</u>
Total Expenses	<u>194,577</u>	<u>184,225</u>
Net Surplus (deficit) for the year	(9,955)	2,711
Accumulated funds at the beginning of the year	250,510	240,555
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	240,555	243,267

Independent Audit Report (cont.)

AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA INC

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2006

	2005	2006
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash on hand	85	101
Cash at bank	10,278	3,803
Investments	225,212	240,057
Shares – ESSO Employees Credit Union Ltd	10	10
Accounts Receivable	19	1,192
Advances	2,000	1,472
Inventories	1,961	1,888
Prepayments	500	1,552
Total Current Assets	<u>240,065</u>	<u>250,075</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Equipment	9,801	7,480
Trophies and cases	1,034	1,034
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>10,835</u>	<u>8,514</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>250,900</u>	<u>258,589</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	7,784	5,832
GST clearing	(2,307)	(1,599)
Unearned Revenue	4,868	7,182
PAYG	-	3,494
Superannuation	-	163
Accruals	-	250
Total Current Liabilities	<u>10,345</u>	<u>15,322</u>
NET ASSETS	240,555	243,267
EQUITY		
Accumulated Funds	<u>240,555</u>	<u>243,267</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>\$240,555</u>	<u>\$243,267</u>

Independent Audit Report (cont.)

FINANCE DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc
31st December 2006

In the opinion of the director of finance the financial statements set out on pages 1 to 5:

- (a) present fairly the financial position of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc at 31 December 2006 and the results of its operations for the year then ended:
- (b) satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria) 1981 to prepare accounts: and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc can pay its debts as and when they fall due and payable.

Director of Finance:
Cathy Codling

Date: 10th April 2007

AUDITORS' INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

TO THE BOARD OF AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING IN AUSTRALIA INC

In relation to our audit of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc for the year ended 31 December 2006, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the independence requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria) 1981 or any applicable code of Professional code of conduct.

TAXLINK ACCOUNTING & TAXATION SERVICES

Director:

Date: 10th April 2007

Independent Audit Report (cont.)

DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Inc

31st December 2006

	Original Cost	Dep Rate	WDV b/f	Dep Charge	WDV c/f
PLANT & EQUIPMENT					
Conference phone		10	41.4	4	37
Printer	878	33	19.43	6	13
Floppy disk drive	172	33	-	-	-
Office furniture (various)	3409	10	2012.4	201	1811
CompaQ PC, modem and monitor	2778	40	216	86	130
Filing cabinet	245	10	144	14	130
Colour jet printer and cable	172	40	13.2	5	8
Telephone handset	72	10	42.3	4	38
Laser printer Xerox docuprint 2125	2500	40	194.4	78	117
Konica photocopier/document feeder	5855	40	759	304	455
Refrigerator (GR - 131SSF)	273	33	54.94	18	37
Telephone handset and headset	403	10	264.6	26	238
Microwave oven (MS 194A)	149	33	30.15	10	20
Elite 4 drawer filing cabinet	226	10	148.5	15	134
Digital camera - Pentax Opto 330 RS	906	40	117.6	47	71
Filing cabinet trolleys (2)	140	10	91.8	9	83
IBM Think Pad	2133	40	532.2	213	319
2 Filing cabinets (historian)	362	10	263.7	26	237
Brother fax 645 plain paper	217	20	111.2	22	89
Predator CD writer	272	33	81.74	27	55
Trophy display cabinet	1414	10	1145.7	115	1031
Intel Celeron 2.4 Ghz system	764	40	274.8	110	165
Panasonic KX-P7100 laser printer	291	40	105	42	63
Trophy display cabinet	2035	40	732.6	293	440
Telephone System	2293	33	2009	249	1761
	<u>27959</u>		<u>9406</u>	<u>1926</u>	<u>7480</u>
Accumulated Depreciation	20479				
DISPOSALS					
Panasonic fax machine KX-F2710AL	800	20	111		89
Panasonic fax machine KX-F2710AL	800	20	111		89
Desk pedestal	332	10	242		218
	<u>1932</u>		<u>464</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>396</u>
	1536				

Director of Coaching

2006 ASCTA Conference

AUSSI Masters Swimming were asked by ASCTA to have a representative at the awards dinner to present the AUSSI Masters Coach of the Year award. As the Coaching Director it was my honour to attend and present the award to Nicole Badani (WA).

AUSSI Masters Swimming Australia has again been asked to attend the conference to present some modules and also to present the 2006 Masters Coach of the Year Award. Last year we presented three modules. They were: Transition from Age Group Swimmers to Adult Swimmers (David Chambers); Differences between Coaching Age Group Swimmers vs Adult Swimmers (Jan Wicks); Health and Medical Aspects of Adults (Andre LaGerche).

These sessions were well attended with very positive feedback. At the 2007 conference we are running the first Adult Swimmers Training Programme (the new look L1M). The task to run and administrate has been given to Swim Ed.

Coaching Courses

There have been three Level 1M coaching courses this year; one in NSW, one in QLD and one in WA. This is down after having five courses last year.

There have been various issues with the courses that have been run this year. There has been various reasons for these issues, so I will make a couple of proposals at the May (2007) Board meeting to avoid these situations again. Hopefully the proposals will help the

Branches with the administration of the courses.

Approved Coaching Courses in 2006				
	L1M	L1M Brid- ging	L2M	Tot
ACT	0	0	0	0
NSW	1	0	0	1
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	1	0	0	1
SA	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0	0
WA	1	0	0	1
National	3	0	0	3

Workbooks

Loren Bartley and I have developed a Level 1M coaching workbook. This has involved many hours of work and research. The workbook has been widely used now and is a major part of the L1M. A workbook has also been developed for the Coaching Adult Swimmers Training Programme.

Resource Folder for Coaching Adult Swimmers Training Programme

Authors have been contracted to write on the various topics for the resource folder (please see below table for topics and authors).

Topic	Author
Coaching the Adult Swimmer	John Ornsby
Physiology of the Adult Swimmer	Brad Thurlow
Teaching New Skills to Adult Swimmers	David Chambers
Planning for the Adult Swimmer	Anita Iossifidis
Goal Setting for Adult Swimmers	Shayne Hanks

The resource folder is due for completion by the end of March 2007. We are also looking into the possibility of selling the resource folder as an e-book. A RRP is yet to be determined.

Presenter Kits for Coaching Adult Swimmers Training Programme

The presenter kits are around 20% complete and are due for completion by the middle of April 2007. The presenter kits will be based on the author submissions from the resource folder, so therefore they are on hold until the author submissions are in and complete.

Matching of Competencies

The matching of competencies has been completed. The finished result was the Coaching Adult Swimmers Training Programme. The coaching committee recommends this as the best avenue for people who wish to coach adults. Anybody can sit in on the training programme, however to become qualified you must hold your Swimming Australia Bronze license at the time of completing the training programme requirements.

The reason for the recommendation is because too many people are finding the L1M course too hard for their first coaching course. The SAL Green license is a much easier course because it covers the

very basics of swim coaching, which is all that the majority of coaches need.

If the coach is coaching at a higher level and they feel they need further and more in-depth education they can

Director of Coaching

complete the SAL Bronze and the Coaching Adult Swimmers Training Programme which will give them a dual qualification of Bronze and L1M. The updating process for the L1M is still the same, however this needs to be looked at and updated.

L2M Coaching Course

Due to the amount of time that it has taken to finish the L1M and Coaching Adult Swimmers Training Programme, the L2M course has not evolved. I feel that with the development of the training programme that there is no need for the L2M. At present we only have 213 (26 are L2M) registered current qualified coaches in Australia. The L2M will cost around \$20 000 to develop; therefore I do not believe that we should be injecting the time and money into a course that would only benefit a very minimal amount of coaches.

If in the future there is a demand for a L2M course, I think only then the course should be re-designed and sanctioned. Unfortunately this would mean that the current L2M coaches (26 in total) will only be able to have a L1M qualification.

SAL and ASCTA Relationship with AUSSI

Loren and I have had regular contact with SAL and ASCTA regarding our coaching course. Both organisations are happy that we are all working together to achieve more educated coaches across Australia.

This has been a very big and successful step for AUSSI Masters Swimming Australia to progress strongly into the future.

Coaching Committee

The coaching committee consists of three people: myself as Chair (VIC), Jan Wicks (QLD), and Jac Stirrat (NT). I would like to thank the coaching committee for their hard work during the year and I would also like to thank Louise Stovin-Bradford who sat on the coaching committee last year.

I am looking forward to working with the coaching committee again to achieve many great things for Masters coaching.

Dave Chambers
National Coaching Director

Accredited L1M Coaches at the end of 2006

	Male	Female	Total
ACT	1	1	2
NSW	31	34	65
NT	0	1	1
QLD	28	31	59
SA	4	7	11
TAS	3	0	3
VIC	18	9	27
WA	16	17	33
National	101	100	201

L1M Accreditations in 2006

	Accreditation	Re-accreditation	Total
ACT	0	1	1
NSW	7	9	16
NT	0	1	1
QLD	1	11	12
SA	0	1	1
TAS	0	0	0
VIC	3	2	5
WA	8	6	14
National	19	31	50

Accredited L2M Coaches at the end of 2006

	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0	0	0
NSW	1	2	3
NT	0	0	0
QLD	5	3	8
SA	0	0	0
TAS	1	1	2
VIC	0	0	0
WA	6	8	14
National	13	14	27

L2M Accreditations in 2006

	Accreditation	Re-accreditation	Upgrade	Total
ACT	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	2	0	2
NT	0	0	0	0
QLD	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0
VIC	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0
National	0	2	0	2

National IT Committee

2006 has passed in a rush, but from an IT perspective, a relatively successful year, with few major IT problems encountered.

The Committee's thanks go to both Di Coxon-Ellis and Jeanette Holowiuk, who have both been enthusiastic and resolute in identifying problems and testing changes, to resolve outstanding issues with the Australian Swimming Registration system.

Registration System

Another year has passed using the Australian Swimming registration system. This year has seen most of the registration renewal issues resolved, in particular as they relate to 4 & 16th month renewals. The major outstanding task is now accurate reporting to enable the Branches to reconcile their registrations through the year.

A number of issues, which were highlighted at the beginning of 2005, have finally been addressed for 2006.

Australian Swimming has started to rapidly respond to our requests for problem resolution.

Hopefully, 2007 will see a minimal number of problems relating to registrations.

Meet Management Software

All of the States are now running State meets using Meet Manager.

Based upon the 2006 Records & Ranking Portal statistics, NT, SA, TAS, NSW & VIC are running all of their meets using

Meet Manager, WA are using the software for the majority of their meets, with QLD still using MEET for the majority of their meets.

As has been advised for the last 2 years, the ability to upload non Meet Manager meets will be removed from the portal in 2007.

Aerobics

Redevelopment of the Aerobic software is the priority of the NITC in 2007, with the Board giving approval for funds to do so at the October Board meeting.

Meet Registration System

The web-based Meet Registration prototype has been developed in Victoria; it interfaces into Meet Manager and allows an authorised Club/State person to register a meet, date, times, costs and events. Individual registered swimmers can then register for the designated meet.

The system interfaces to the Portal, therefore when a swimmer enters their details and enters a specific event, it will look up the portal and provide the last swim time for that event that the particular swimmer swam as a nominated time. If the swimmer hasn't swum the event before i.e. there isn't any history. The field will be left blank.

The swimmer always has the opportunity to edit their nominated times before submitting.

Once submitted, the authorised Club/Branch person then

extracts & downloads the entries; importing the file into their Meet Manager meet details. Any additional details can still be manually entered from sheets (as per normal).

The October Board meeting also approved funds for this to progress in 2007.

NSW and Tasmania have also used the Team Manager Lite software (a limited functionality version of the full package, freely distributed by Hy-Tek) to enable clubs to register their members for a meet. The NITC will develop & issue documentation relating to this during 2007.

Masters Swimming National Web site

This continues as a work-in-progress. David Chambers, Stephen and myself have met to review the requirements and identified and clarified content as against function.

Several vendors have been approached to quote on content design, with a "theme" that can be used both on the web site and flyers and stationery.

It is expected that a vendor will be selected in early 2007 and the content/layout of the National web site developed as a result.

Functional development of the web site will continue through 2007.

Paul Watmough
Chairman
National IT Committee

National Membership & Participation Committee

The committee met by teleconference several times during the year. Late last year we were sorry to see Lawrie Fabian leave the committee, but thank him for his valuable contribution. We welcomed Tricia Summerfield from the WA Branch, and I look forward to working with her to bring our many projects to fruition.

Our main goal for the year was to produce a National membership card and I am happy to announce that this is happening in 2007. We are working on getting more "in kind" sponsors so that members can show their card and receive discounts at various retailers around Australia. The committee is following up several possible sponsors and aim to have more signed up by the end of 2007.

Another major project which was completed by Stephen Cardiff (CEO), with assistance from a professional sports manager, was the committee's Marketing Plan. This plan will be our guide for the next 2 – 3 years and we aim to achieve many of the goals set out in it. We have already made a start with the launch of the membership card and other immediate projects are the signing up of a Patron, the release of more news stories and information by Masters Swimming Australia to regional

media, the redesigning of the National web site and following on from that the production of a new National poster and flyer. We have several businesses and individuals interested in this last project and will award the job to one very soon, aiming to have a new, interesting and user friendly web site up and running by mid 2007.

Other projects on our agenda are looking at the production of

associated with us as sponsors.

The membership numbers are listed at the end of this report and it is interesting that while club numbers have increased slightly the actual number of members has decreased slightly. While not significant in a National context, it would obviously be better for the number to increase by 50 rather than decrease by 50 as we have seen. It is also interesting to

note that two of the States with the biggest population growth – Qld and WA have had a decrease in numbers; perhaps the demographics are changing as a result of the population influx and the marketing strategy for these branches may need to be reassessed? It also gives this

committee something to think about when we are looking at membership marketing and we would encourage the branches to work with us on this issue.

I would like to thank Stephen Cardiff (CEO) and Jeanette Holowiuk (Sport Administrator) for their assistance. Both of them are a great support for this committee and we certainly could not even think of achieving what we have without their hard work and dedication to Masters Swimming.

Therese Crollick
Chairman
National Membership & Participation Committee



Above: Victorian Premier Steve Bracks presenting David Falzon with his 1 Million Metre Award with his Western Alligators clubmates in support.

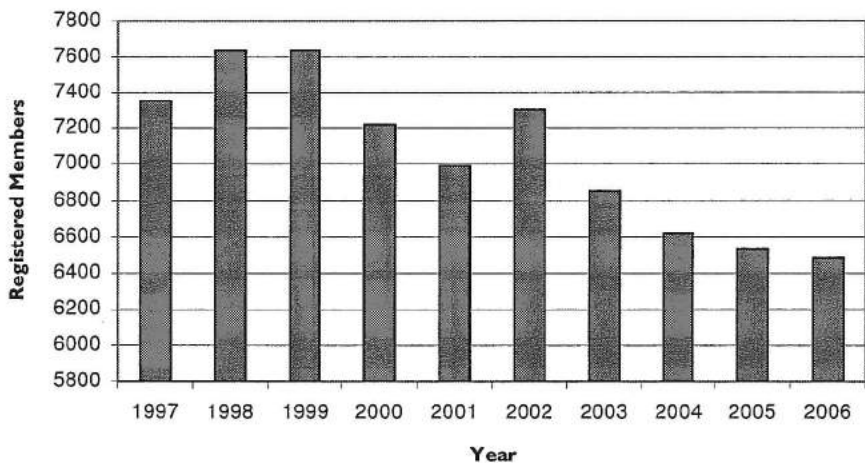
Masters swimming clothing and souvenir type items, a club survey to update our database so that membership enquires can be directed to the most appropriate club, attending and encouraging branches to attend appropriate major lifestyle expo's and conventions to spread the word about the health benefits of Masters Swimming, greater sharing of resources, including promotional resources with Swimming Australia and of course the ongoing project to bring on board more businesses to be

National Membership & Participation Committee (cont.)

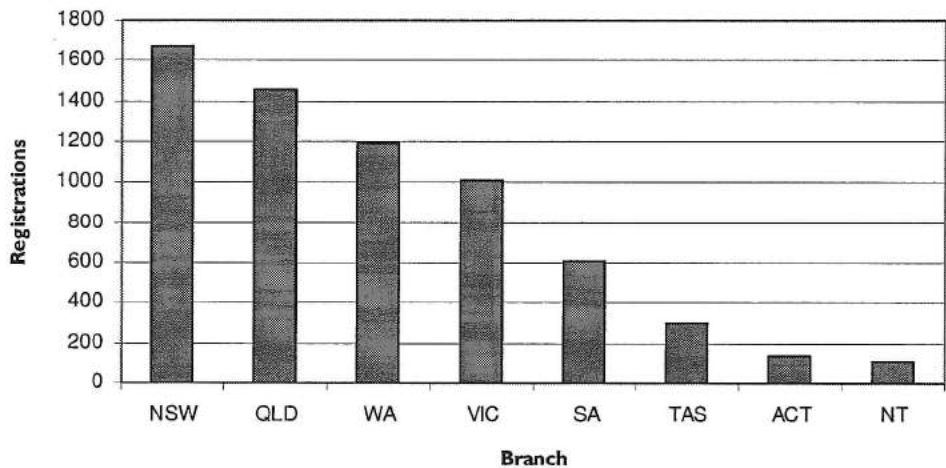
Membership by Year and Branch

Branch	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
ACT	122	139	107	115	162	169	164	152	153	140
NSW	1627	1554	1523	1523	1553	1724	1631	1640	1645	1670
NT	114	158	186	153	143	156	132	105	89	109
QLD	1873	2009	2009	1879	1726	1886	1660	1606	1517	1455
SA	611	664	732	675	719	658	597	612	611	606
TAS	343	338	323	348	321	305	301	281	309	296
VIC	1371	1360	1288	1195	1134	1134	1065	993	987	1013
WA	1290	1419	1467	1331	1238	1277	1303	1227	1217	1189
Total	7351	7641	7635	7219	6996	7309	6853	6616	6528	6478

Membership Registrations by Year



2006 Membership Registrations by Branch



National Membership & Participation Committee (cont.)

Million Metre Awards supported by

Congratulations to the new members of Million Metre clubs listed below. All Clubs and members are encouraged to continue supporting this fantastic programme.

Ten Million Metre Club	Ian Repath	Brisbane	QLD
Five Million Metre Club	Diana Fabijan	Aquadome Otters	SA
Three Million Metre Club	Gail Parsons	Stadium Snappers	WA
	Marjory Muller	Adelaide Masters	SA
	Ray Brien	Launceston Masters	TAS
	Robyn Brown	Marion	SA
	Roy Swan	Coogee-Randwick Masters	NSW
	Kay Hutchins	Rum City	QLD
	Les Young	Hobart Dolphins	TAS
	Kiku Mukai	Brisbane Southside	QLD
One Million Metre Club	Kris Apps	Talays Masters	TAS
	Steve Pendlebury	Talays masters	TAS
	Jane Bradley	Malvern Marlins	VIC
	Kent Nelson	Adelaide Masters	SA
	Clifford Ryan	Noosa	QLD
	Stephen Grey	Toowoomba	QLD
	Mike Dooley	Brisbane Northside	QLD
	Geoff Lander	Noosa	QLD
	Beatie Norris	Stadium Snappers	WA
	Margot Milne	Geelong Catfish	VIC
	Lynette Newman	Geelong Catfish	VIC
	Robert Birch	Belmont	WA
	Bonnie Gow	Twin Towns Services	QLD
	Gerald Kirkham	Port Augusta	SA
	Sue Vincent	Hobart AUSSI	TAS
	John Hammer	Darwin	NT
	David Misson	Twin Towers Services	QLD

National Records Committee

2006 has been an eventful year - our second year of using the portal for uploading results from swim meets and quickly verifying records for branch, national and world.

Results from overseas meets (World Swim, Gay Games & Out-games) which used Meet Manager as the meet recording system has enabled results to be uploaded to the portal and therefore results have been more accurate.

Other meet's results included the Alice Springs Masters Games and the Pan Pacific Masters Games.

This year a total of 619 individual records were recognised, 171 long course and 448 short course, of which 330 records were for women and 279 for men.

For those who like statistics, I've separated these records even further so that you can see which age groups are setting/breaking records.

Women:

20-24 (14); 25-29 (17);
30-34 (27); 35-39 (22);
40-44 (15); 45-49 (14);
50-54 (16); 55-59 (18);
60-64 (46); 65-69 (15);
70-74 (68); 75-79 (10);
80-84 (23); 85-89 (19);
90-94 (4); 95-99 (2)

...including 4 world records.

Men:

20-24 (9); 25-29 (13);
30-34 (13); 35-39 (12);
40-44 (27); 45-49 (23);
50-54 (27); 55-59 (12);
60-64 (44); 65-69 (18);
70-74 (22); 75-79 (44);

80-84 (12); 85-89 (8);
90-94 (3).

There were 95 relay records:

- 32 long course & 63 short course
- 30 women, 38 men & 27 mixed

...and included 1 World Record.



Above: Pauline Samson and Paul Watmough recording at the 2006 National Swim.

The records in the relay age groups were:

- 80-119 - Mixed 4;
- 120-159 Women 3, Men 5, Mixed 4;
- 160-199 Women 8, Men 8, Mixed 7;
- 200-239 Women 5, Men 11, Mixed 8;
- 240-279 Women 7, Men 8, Mixed 3;
- 280-319 Women 2, Men 6, Mixed 2;
- 320-359 Women 4.

It is appreciated that the National Office has printed and posted 1094 record certificates during 2006 and in some cases where certificates were never received or lost, these certificates were reissued.

With results being published within a few days of an event being swum, records are automatically listed in pending, although

there is a waiting time for up to 30 days after a meet before these records are 'live'. However with the records being so public, swimmers and recorders are able to check that these are correct and over the year some records have been amended, especially the historical records.

The swims for the 2006 National Aerobic Trophy have continued and branches have used the portal to publish results during the year as this enables swimmers to check missing swims and correct times/distances. Lynne Malone has undertaken the collation and reporting at National level.

It is expected that during 2007, an upgraded, window based version of the aerobics software will be available for clubs to use and it will be a seamless transfer of results from the old software to the new software.

The FINA Top Ten was successfully extracted from the portal. This is also made easier as Branches upload all results during the year and as swim meets are usually completed by mid December, the deadline for submission is well within the required framework for FINA.

Many thanks to the Branch recorders for their support, patience and their diligence in ensuring the results from swim meets are published quickly and that any records are verified within the specified time.

On behalf of the recorders and especially the swimmers, I would also thank Frank Braun (Vic) for his support and his ongoing work in maintaining the portal.

Pauline Samson
Chairman
National Records Committee

National Swim Meet Committee

Members of the Committee in 2006 were Rob Lucas (Qld), Lynne Malone (WA) and John Pollock (NT) (Chairman).

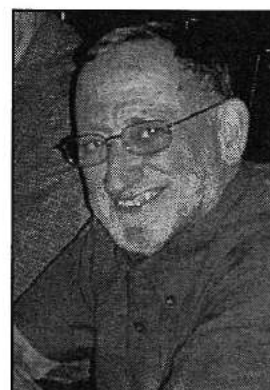
During 2006 the process of revising the National Swim Meet Guide and its accompanying checklist continued, with major changes being made as a result of a workshop held at the National Board meeting in April and minor revisions arising from changes made to the Rules and By-Laws at the October Board meeting.

The new edition of the Guide is now on the National Website; hopefully this will ensure that

National Swim organisers refer to the current edition and hence avoid some of the problems that have arisen in the past through referring to superseded editions.

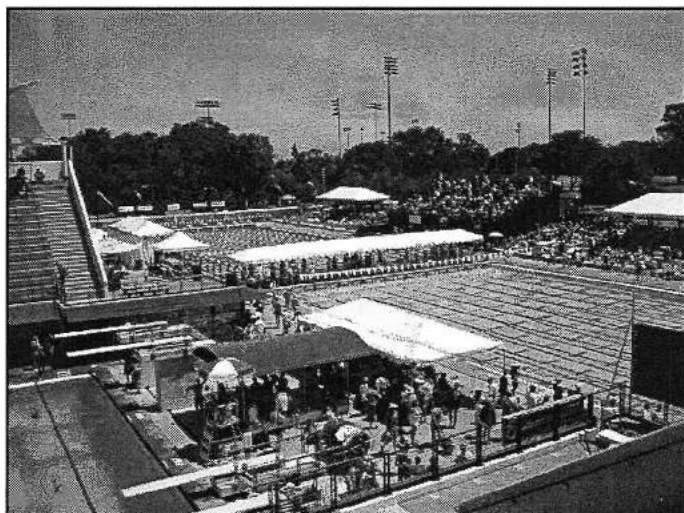
The National Swim Meet Committee maintained contact by email – a cost effective means of operating but one that has logistical disadvantages in terms of full participation by all members in an undertaking of this nature.

Existing committee members were reappointed at the October 2006 National Board Meeting, with the welcome addition of Jeanette Holowiuk (Vic).



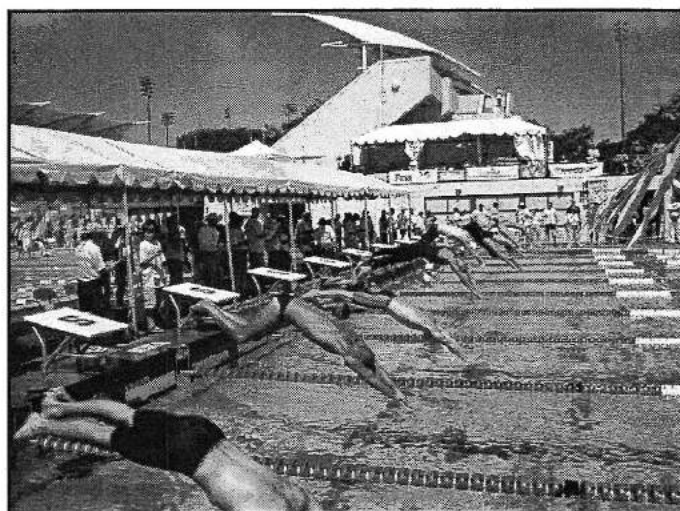
Above: John Pollock

John Pollock
Chairman
National Swim Meet Committee



*Left:
Facilities at the XI
FINA World Masters
Championships,
Stanford University
USA, August.*

*Right:
Swimmers take off
at the XI FINA
World Masters
Championships,
USA, August.*



National Technical Committee

The NTC started 2006 with three members, Judith Crawford (WA Technical Director), Fran O'Hara (NSW Officials Training Co-ordinator) and Gary Stutsel (NSW Technical Director).

Our key objectives for the year were to:

- involve Branch Technical Directors in our decision making loop;
- align AUSSI and Swimming Australia Limited (SAL) technical courses;
- accreditation for OWS Referees as a separate qualification to Referees;
- align AUSSI By-Laws with AUSSI Rules where there is conflict;
- explore both re-accreditation for AUSSI officials; and
- cross accreditation AUSSI to SAL and SAL to AUSSI.

The year ended with advances having been made in all except the last of these objectives, but with much work still to be done.

Judith continued to conduct pilot Technical courses for AUSSI and Swimming WA officials in WA which will guide us in designing the joint courses for AUSSI and SAL (our second objective). She also conducted a review of the OWS Rules as used in WA and in 2007 will prepare a draft rewrite of our AUSSI Open Water Swimming (OWS) Rules.

The Board Meeting in October endorsed the move to accredit OWS Referees as distinct from pool Referees, so the way is clear to include this in the OWS review.

Fran prepared an article for the

May/April issue of "AUSSI masters news" on attracting and retaining officials, drawing on her extensive experience with the NSW Branch. This has attracted interest from several branches and should help increase the number of pool officials across Australia, a major objective given the World Championships in 2008 and the World Masters Games in 2009.



Above: Gary Stutsel with Gillian Laughton

Fran has also played the lead role in shaping and preparing the pilot Starters and Referees Workshop for January 2007.

After much discussion it was decided that participation in workshops would be a key element of re-accreditation (our 5th objective).

Gary submitted articles to the October News advising of the workshops and their role in promoting uniform interpretation of the rules, and to the July News on the dolphin kick in breaststroke and the last swimmer in a relay team.

Realising a major impediment to achieving objectives 2 and 6 was the different numbering systems used for AUSSI and SAL Rules, Gary obtained the approval of the Board to rewrite the AUSSI Rules so their numbers matched those of SAL and therefore of FINA.

This was a major mental and

physical task but one that has proven to be very rewarding for all involved. A first draft of the rules was distributed to Branch Technical Directors for comment.

This process set us well on the way to achieving our first objective with many positive suggestions coming from the branches.

Prominent in the process were Derek Coghill (Qld Technical Director) and John Marshall (Vic Technical Director); both of whom joined the NTC following the October Board meeting giving us a team of five.

Other major contributors to the review process were Alan Davis (current FINA Referee and former National and Vic Technical Director), John Pollock (NT), Jeanette Holowiuk (Vic), Di Coxon-Ellis (NSW), John Keppie (SAL Technical Chairman), and Ivan Wingate (FINA Masters Committee).

The October Board Meeting adopted new versions of the By-Laws, the Swimming Rules, and the new General Rules, completing objective 4 and clearing the way for 2 and 6.

Rule changes lead to changes in many other documents and as a result the NTC has been very busy in November and December reviewing and redrafting MD forms, Disqualification codes, Infringement forms and the pool technical course materials. This process will continue on into 2007 when we look forward to clearing all of the matters of which we are currently aware.

Gary Stutsel
Chairman
National Technical Committee

National Technical Committee (cont.)

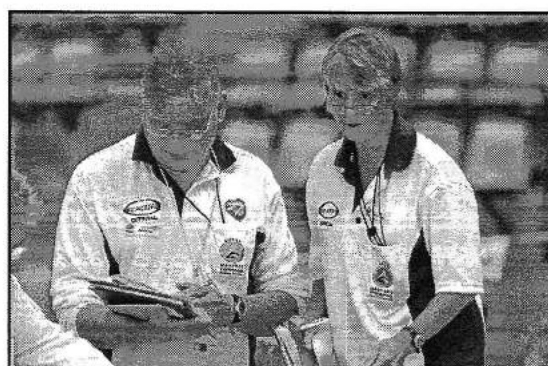
Approved Technical Courses in 2006

	Timekeeper	Check Starter	Marshal	Starter	Referee	Total
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	4	2	3	1	0	10
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0
QLD	1	1	1	1	0	4
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	1	1	1	1	0	4
WA	4	4	4	3	3	17
National	10	8	9	6	2	35

Technical Accreditations in 2006

	Timekeeper	Chief Timekeeper	Check Starter	Marshal	Starter	Referee	Total
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	18	9	7	9	1	2	46
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
QLD	4	0	1	1	0	1	7
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	3	3	2	2	0	1	11
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National	25	12	10	12	1	4	64

Note: The numbers quoted above are based on the State or Territory candidates reside in rather than the Branch whose course they attended.



Branch Reports

New South Wales



Governance

Masters Swimming NSW is governed by a Board of seven members. The Country Vice-President does not usually attend meetings in person but votes and communicates his views on issues by email prior to, or by phone during, the monthly Board meetings.

Membership

MSNSW membership once again increased and two new clubs formed towards the end of the year.

Committees

The Board sincerely thanks the Committee members for their continued dedication in 2006 as they play a pivotal role in the Branch.

The Events Committee is responsible for the overall organisation and conduct of all events in NSW.

The Technical Committee organises training courses and

provides support and continuing education for all technical officials.

The Coaching committee with various tasks assigned to each member has been reformed under a new Branch Coaching Director who was appointed after the May AGM.

The Marketing and Club Development Committee actively seeks new sponsors from a number of sources and is working on redesigning the New Club Kit.

The Branch Safety Co-ordinator has made strong efforts for clubs to follow the National Safety Guide-lines. A guide for club Safety Officers is being compiled.

Events

No MSNSW Open Water Swim was conducted in 2006 though it will be reinstituted in 2007.

Four State Championship meets were held and 19 Branch Point Score carnivals. Added to this were the Hunter Sports Festival and the Harris Wheeler Lake Swim.

The winning club at the National Swim was the Seaside Pirates.

A large NSW contingent of around 50 swimmers brought home a multitude of medals from the 11th FINA World Masters Swimming Championships in Stanford University, California.

Awards

Lynette Stevenson was a finalist for the NSW Masters Athlete of

the Year for 2005. In 2006 Lyn went on to break a further three world records.

Government Support

Over the three years from June 2006, the funding from the NSW Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation was allocated to the sport of swimming as a whole (and not directly to MSNSW in part, as in the past). A split was agreed with Swimming NSW Ltd to reflect the relative percentages that each body had received in the past.

The total amount of funding was reduced and will further decline over the next two years notwithstanding MSNSW's obligations to run the swimming events in the World Masters Games in October 2009.

In late November 2006, the State Office of MSNSW was finally relocated to fantastic new premises in Sydney Olympic Park. The accommodation remains rent-free at the new Sports House, but so far only for the first year.

Ian Davis
NSW Branch President

and

Di Coxon-Ellis
NSW Branch Administrator

Other Branch Reports

Regretfully, no report was received from the Australian Capital Territory Branch.

Branch Reports

Queensland



Major Swim Events

The State Long Course Swim Meet was held in April 2006 at Nudgee, Brisbane. With 247 competitors (an increase from previous years) we awarded 387 gold, 263 silver and 175 bronze medals.

This year we also



hosted the swimming section of the Pan Pacific Masters Games. Over 400 competitors attended the meet and 575 gold, 430 silver and 375 bronze medals were awarded. The thanks and appreciation we received from swimmers was overwhelming not only in regard to the events available but also the way the meet was conducted.

The State Open Water Swim was held at Lake Kawana on the Sunshine Coast in November this year. The venue is a salt water lake which is protected from marine predators and hence very safe for this type of event. This meet was held in conjunction with Swimming Queensland and proved successful for both organisations.

We have already started to organise another State Open Water Swim at the same venue in February 2007.

Special Events

30th birthday celebrations continued in 2006 with a major raffle. The prize was a return flight and accommodation holiday package for two to Vanuatu. I made an announcement at the AGM that profits from the Raffle would be directed towards those Clubs that were affected by Cyclone Larry. This announcement was well received by all and considered the least we could do to help out fellow members in the north of the State.

Membership

During the 2006 year we again had a slight reduction in Branch membership numbers (4%) but it was noted that the rate of membership loss has reduced when compared to recent years.

Although there is no identifiable factor to suggest a reversal in the trend of membership decline, we feel confident that within 12 to 18 months, we will again be enjoying a member increase in Queensland.

David Ryan
Queensland Branch President

*Above left:
Nudgee College
Pool, venue for the
2006 State Long
Course
Championships.*

*Below left:
Technique Clinic for
16 Sunshine Coast
Masters member,
October.*

Branch Reports

South Australia



Social

The annual presentation night was again held at the Royal Adelaide Golf Club in November. The golf club is a fantastic venue and provides a great ambience for the awards night.

Congratulations go to Phil and Leanne Beames on receipt of their Life Memberships and to Merit Award winners, Claire Nayda, Doug Morton, Andrew Martin, Tim Calver, Jeremy Clarke and Brian Skeates. Life Members Kit Simons, Daryl Hawkes & Leanne and Phil Beames were on hand to help with the presentations.

It was pleasing to see Margo Bates in attendance. Margo is a great ambassador for Masters Swimming and the virtues of swimming in general. This was our largest turnout for the dinner in recent years.

Interclub Series

The interclub series continues to be strongly supported and the numbers have been stronger this year, as well as very competitive. It is also great to see the Mildura crowd continue to

trek the miles to compete with us in Adelaide. Now we will have to work on getting a bus load from Port Augusta and Port Pirie.

Open Water

This year we have through our Open Water Swim Director Shane Murphy put details on the website regarding Surf Lifesaving operation times for beach cover and aerial patrols. The Open Water program is also now up on the web.

Our new beach flags are in operation at this season and have added a sense of colour and carnival to the swims. They also help as a mark to aim for on the beachfront as they are 5 metres high and bright red.

Come & Try

In February, in conjunction with 'Life Be In It' we will be jointly promoting a Come & Try Masters Swimming program.

We will be inviting people to join us via an extensive advertising campaign run by Life Be In It including club specific posters and local press advertising.

Long Course, Long Distance

The Branch, through the Atlantis Club ran a great outdoor meet at the Unley pool, which was in its usually pristine condition.

Publicity & Membership

The Branch membership at years end remains relatively steady: 2002 - 658; 2003 - 597; 2004 - 612; 2005 - 611; and 2006 - 606.

Over recent months we have produced our 'new' revamped

membership brochure, a club swim times flyer, the 2006 Jetty to Jetty entry and 2006/7 Open Water swim calendar and the Annual Swim Calendar for 2007. We have inserted copies of the club swim times flyer, Open Water swim calendar and Jetty to Jetty entry in the newsletter of the South Australian Road Runners Club (SARRC) who have some 700 members including runners, walkers and triathletes. We hope this promotion and exchange of ideas (you will see their weblink and details on our website and maybe an article/advert in our newsletters) will continue into the future for our mutual benefit.

We have had 'A frame' pool deck advertising boards made to promote Masters Swimming at Branch training sessions and our swim carnivals.

As a Branch, we took advantage of the free Yellow Pages listing by encouraging all clubs to list in the Clubs Swimming category this year.

'Jetty to Jetty' and the Australasian Masters Games

Branch committees have been meeting on a monthly basis for these events and organisation and planning for both is well in hand.

AMG meetings are regularly attended by our representatives. Phil Beames will be run a timekeepers course in the new year in preparation for the AMG in October.

New Venue

At the time of this report, there still seems to be little progress

Branch Reports

South Australia (cont.)

on a new state swimming venue at Marion to replace the ageing Adelaide Aquatic Centre.

SA Branch Board Meetings and Other Business

This year we have reverted back to regular monthly meetings, which are well attended and meetings always have a full business agenda.

One club has changed its name from Henley & Grange to Henley Beach Masters and has incorporated in its own right, separating from its amateur club affiliation.

Financially, the SA Branch has the Dept of Recreation and Sport

grants back on track and we remain in a sound financial position. We have been advertising for a new Treasurer prior to the Branch AGM in May as Phil Beames will be standing down having completed his current term of office.

Under the new system, several coaching course opportunities are planned for 2007. We are getting quotes on new digital underwater camera equipment.

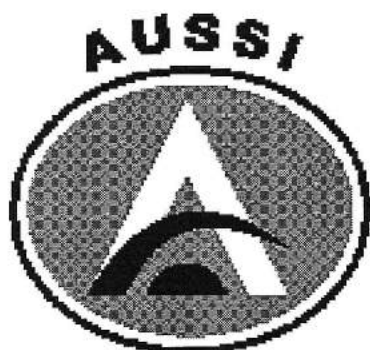
Johnny Trower continues to put together a Branch newsletter of exceptional quality.

2007 will herald an extremely busy swimming year with the

balance of our Open Water Series, the 'Come & Try' in February, SA Branch support to the World Police & Fire Games in March, the Murray Bridge Regional Masters Games in March, the 24 hour 'Mega' swim in March, Interclubs & State Cups & LDSC (7 pool swims), the National Swim in Darwin in May, the Mildura Masters Games in August and The Australasian Masters Games in Adelaide in October. All in all, a pretty good program for existing members and newcomers to contemplate.

Mike Walker
SA Branch President

Northern Territory



**MASTERS
SWIMMING**
Northern Territory

Swim Meets

The NT Branch held five swim meets during 2006. The Branch Short Course Championships were held in Darwin in May and the Long Course Championships were held in October in conjunction with the Alice Springs Masters Games. The Games meet, run by Alice AUSSI, was

the largest (402 competitors) since the inauguration of the Games in 1986.

Three email interclub meets were conducted during the year, with the first also serving as an Australia Day Carnival open to non-members.

Funding

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

Branch Meetings

Regular Branch meetings were held in Darwin, with a Darwin member representing Alice Springs. The AGM was held in Alice Springs in October.

Top Ten Rankings

For the second year in succession, three Branch members, all from Darwin Club, achieved listings in the FINA World Masters Top Ten for 2005:

- Rosemary Bromwich (80-84);
- Bobbie Lea (70-74); and
- Gerda Williams (60-65).

Many other members featured prominently in the AUSSI Top Ten rankings.

National Aerobic Competition

The two NT clubs - Darwin and Alice Springs - again preformed well in the 2005 National Aerobic Competition. Darwin was placed 3rd in the overall point score and 8th in the Aerobic Award, while Alice Springs' placings were 54th and 45th.

John Pollock
NT Branch Secretary

Branch Reports

Tasmania



I have pleasure in presenting this report outlining the activities of the Tasmanian Branch during 2006.

Membership numbers were inline with historical averages, but attendances at State championships were down.

2006 also marked the end of the current strategic plan. A final review of the plan was carried out late in the year and formed the basis for the drafting of our next three to four year plan. The next strategic plan will cover the preparation and operation of the 2010 National Swim to be conducted either in Hobart or possibly Launceston.

The Branch executive has held meetings on a regular basis, at a nominal three-month interval.

The Branch continued the affiliation with "Tasports" and is redeveloping links with Swimming Tasmania.

Through the efforts of the State executive and Club committees, Championship swim meets for Long course, Short course,

Short course long distance (800 & 1500m) and Long course long distance were conducted.

The Tattersall's AUSSI Club's monthly "Masters in the Pool" events continued to be popular with a reasonable number of members attending on a regular basis

None of our activities would have occurred without the efforts of the Branch executive, Club committees and the active participation of members of AUSSI Tasmania. The Branch will hold the AGM prior to the next Summer Championships in February 07.

The efforts and expertise of Pauline Samson at a State and National level were recognised with the award of National Life membership during the year.

AUSSI in Tasmania and nationally would not be the organisation it is today without the efforts of Pauline.

I feel that the 2007 will be a better year for AUSSI Tasmania with increases in membership, participation and greater recognition within the community.

Ray Brien
Tasmania Branch President

Below: 20th Summer Long Course Championships, Windmill Hill Swimming Complex, February.



Branch Reports

Victoria



With frightening speed, 2006 has been and gone and we are on the cusp of another year.

In 2006, Victoria has faced the same challenges that many of the other Branches have faced and will continue to face through 2007.

It is pleasing to note that as a Branch we maintained our membership level from 2005, if anything increasing it slightly. However one of the disappointments is that we have clubs who are unable to continue due to either lack of involvement by their membership in the running of club or loss of annual fund-raising capability.

Our VP Operations (Colin McCraith) has been in contact with many of our regional clubs, many of whom we don't hear from as they don't compete, but manage to maintain a large membership. We believe this is due to the attraction of training as a club and thus the ability to influence the allocation of lane

space.

The Aerobics programme continues to operate, with no new clubs participating, however it is heartening to note that one of our regional clubs, with only 13 members, had an 80% participation rate.

Another success was the negotiation by the Chair of the State Swim Meet sub-committee to have all of the State meets run at MSAC, the premier swimming venue in Victoria.



*Above:
Action from Malvern
Marlins Meet,
February*

This in effect gives us a fixed price for the venue hire, regardless of the duration of the meet.

The swim calendar for 2007 has been tentatively established and will be finalised in early January.

The administration of the Branch from the National office continues to be a success. There is some fine-tuning of accountabilities, but overall a resounding success.

During the year, the Branch decided to purchase a SAT timing

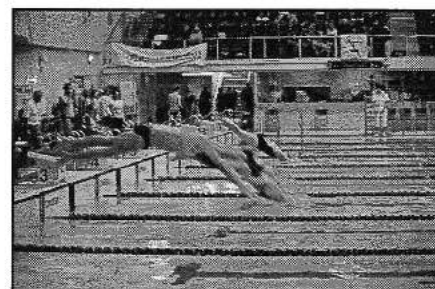
system and starting console for use by the clubs at the many interclub meets. There will be several benefits to this purchase; replace the ailing starting systems developed by a member/ long-term official/ handyman; avoid transposing times from paper into the meet management software; improve the accuracy of results and speed up the entry of results. This was also an opportunity to provide benefit back to the clubs at no cost. It is expected

we will take delivery of the system in early 2007.

We are gearing up for the National swim in 2008, with the establishment of a convening committee.

2006 also saw many of our clubs achieving major milestones in terms of longevity.

Paul Watmough
Victoria Branch President



*Above:
State Short Course,
MSAC, August*

Branch Reports

Western Australia



MASTERS SWIMMING Western Australia

2006 was another eventful year in WA with all positions filled at the February AGM.

Membership for 2006 was slightly down on 2005 however with the newly formed Membership Growth sub-group it is hoped to address the decline by working with Clubs who can and/or wish to grow.

With the FINA World Masters in 2008 we will gain more members and then work with the Clubs to keep them. We are promoting the Worlds at every opportunity and that all information is available on the event website.

New Initiatives

- Number Plates: 20 members are now proudly promoting their love of swimming.
- New promotional stickers for all members.
- Celebration Sundowner in March: we expressed our appreciation with a small gift to our key volunteers, sponsors and stakeholders.
- BE ACTIVE Spring into

Swimming: we expanded on our traditional membership drive during the discount membership period. Many Clubs conducted activities during September to November and the two Clubs which achieved the best percentage increase will be awarded with their ZOGGS prizes at the 2007 AGM.

- Coach education program: we conducted the Ramsay Health Care workshop in December with Olympian and adult squad Coach Bill Kirby. We anticipate continuing this program on an ongoing basis according to the excellent feedback.
- New sponsor RIVAL Swimwear: many Clubs have purchased new bathers or gear after having viewed the excellent parade at our Annual Awards Function in June.
- Open Water Seminar: we expanded this annual education session to other OWS event organisers and all participants learnt about event management and officiating processes as part of event sanctioning requirements.

Regular Projects & Events

- HeartSwim: we again supported the Heart Foundation in November to raise funds for heart research with many Clubs volunteering, swimming and fundraising.
- Dale Alcock State Open Water Swim, the BE ACTIVE State Swim and the Annual Awards Function were all successfully held.
- Annual launch of the Open

Water Swims calendar at the launch of the BE ACTIVE Spring into Swimming project held in conjunction with Somerset's distance meet.

- Level 1M coaches course – held in August with most participants well on their way to completing all competencies.

Congratulations to:

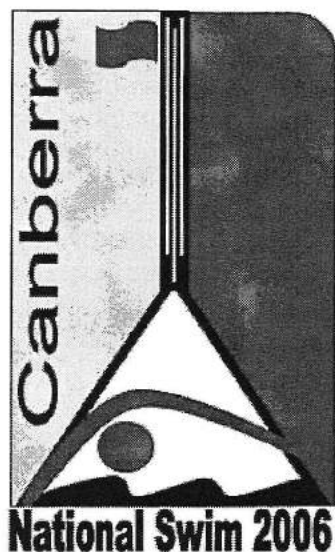
- Armadale's Nicole Badani on winning the coveted National Coach of the Year Award, which was presented at the National Swim Meet in Canberra in April.
- Bold Park's Vic Paul on winning the National Male Swimmer of the Meet trophy.
- Project Co-ordinator Trina Lane for expanding strategies to increase membership of BE ACTIVE Sandgropers Club through conduct of coaching clinics in Wheatbelt area.
- WA Clubs on board with National database – only a couple to go.
- Technical Officer Judith Crawford for continuing to support our officials' team, however burn-out is an issue. The Joint Officiating program with Swimming WA is still a work in progress as are other projects due to staff changes.

We look forward to another successful year in 2007 especially in the lead-up to April 2008 when hopefully the world will descend on Perth!

Wendy Holtom
Executive Officer

National Swim 2006

31st AUSSI Masters National Swim



The ACT Branch hosted the 31st National Swim in Canberra. This event followed the 9th Australian Masters Games in November 2003.

After a 12 month break the ACT Branch was again organising another major swimming event. Both familiar and new faces answered the call to help and this provided a balance between enthusiasm and experience.

The swim was set for 6–9 April 2006, just after the Commonwealth Games to hopefully ensure maximum pool availability at the AIS.

Competitors numbered 509 which was close to the Host's target of 450 swimmers. This number of entries meant there was just enough pool time if everything ran smoothly. All states and territories were represented.

For many, the Welcome Function held the night before commencement of competition at the Canberra Labor Club was

their first contact with the event. ACT Branch President Greg Gourley gave a short welcome speech while registration took place.

On day 1 of the swim, the programme got underway with the 400IM. At its conclusion, the Opening Ceremony took place, featuring the Governor General of Australia, his Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery. Attending with his wife, Mrs Jeffery, the Governor General gave an excellent welcome speech which showed good knowledge of not only Masters Swimming, but the specific health and well being effects that participation in swimming provides.

He highlighted a number of famous as well as fundamentally influential people involved with Masters Swimming, including Shane Gould, Ivan Wingate and Gary Stutsel.

After a vote of thanks from Meet Director Craig Allatt, the state shoot out relay took place. Tasmania finished closest to their nominated time without exceeding it and won the relay. They finished just 0.27 seconds outside their nominated time.

The swim programme proper saw some incredible performances.

The first of the two World Records broken was by Lynette Stevenson (Blacktown City, NSW) on day 3.

Swimming in the women's 60 - 64 age group in the 50m freestyle, Lynette clocked an amazing time of 31.40, taking 0.15 off the old record.

In the second last event of the National Swim on day 4, Seaside Pirates (NSW) were being talked up by the Announcer as potential World Record breakers in the Women's 4 x 50m freestyle relay in the 200 - 239 age group. With their sights set on the old record of 2.04.78 and with the crowd on the edge of their seats, they brought the house down taking 1.77 seconds off and setting a new mark of 2.03.01.

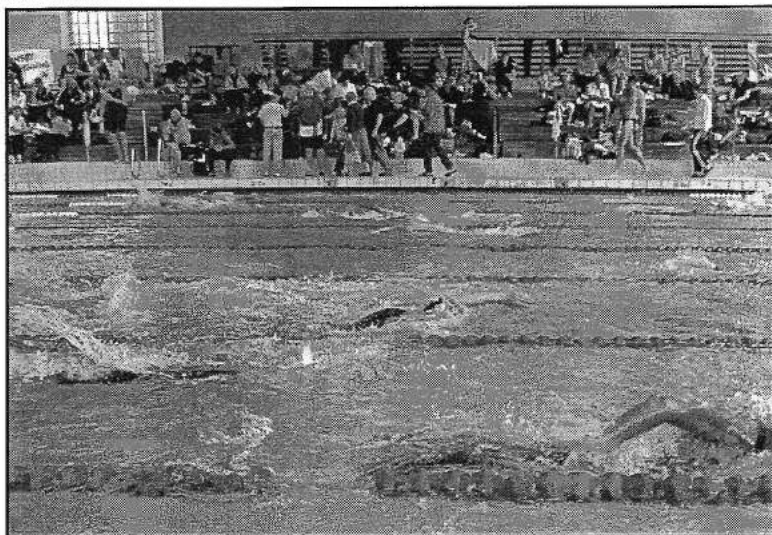


Above: Seaside Pirates (NSW) World Record 4 x 50m freestyle relay team. Left to right: Cathy Codling, Tracy McGuire, Pam Hutchings and Robyn Miller-Walton.

Congratulations to our World Record holders, Lynette Stevenson, and the Pirates team of Robyn Miller-Walton, Pam Hutchings, Tracy McGuire and Cathy Codling.

Many National Records fell over the 4 days; 49 individual and 6 relay. Male swimmer of the meet, Victor Paul (Bold Park,

National Swim 2006 (cont.)



Above: Action in the 800m freestyle

WA) topped the list with six National Records, tying with Bob Barry (Wollongong, NSW).

In the women's, Lise Mackie (Yarra Roughies, VIC) broke 4 National Records, 3 of which were more than 10 years old.

Two swimmers managed the remarkable achievement of swimming in the maximum allowable number of individual event - 12, and winning them all. They earned the maximum

possible points of 120 for their clubs. Well done Ebony Ebenwaldner (Casey Seals, VIC) and John Crisp (Miami, QLD).

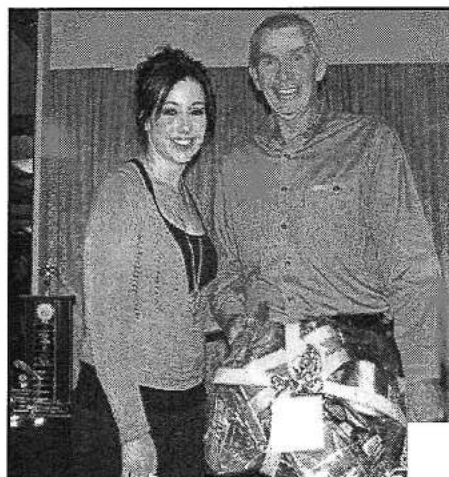
A Members Forum was held at the Labor Club after the conclusion of events on day 3. Really useful discussions took place in a number of topics including the National Swim, the planned National Swim Camp, the Million Metres Programme and the Aerobics Programme.

The Presentation Dinner was held at Rydges Lakeside. The food, MC'ing speeches and awards were all received very well.

On the whole the event ran smoothly, which is a tribute to the planning and volunteers.

The ACT Branch could not have organised and run this event without the generous help of all the local and interstate volunteers, many of whom did not swim.

Stephen Cardiff, CEO
on behalf of the ACT Branch

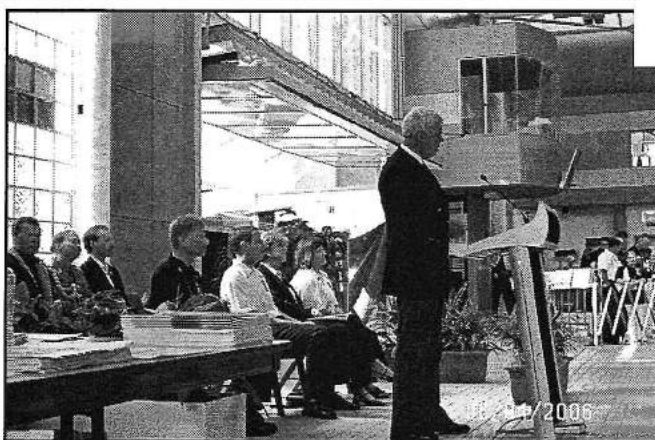


Above: Leigh from Vorgee presents Male Swimmer of the Meet, Victor Paul (Bold Park, WA) with his prize pack.

Below: Seaside Pirates (NSW) Club Captain, Robert McLellan happily receives the Founder's Cup and Visitor's Trophy from National President, John Pugh.



Below: the Governor General of Australia, his Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery opening the 31st National Swim.



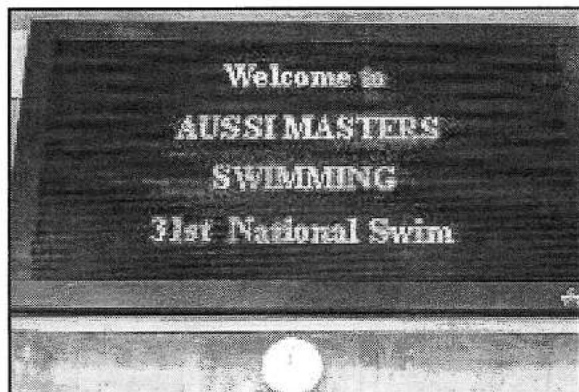
National Swim 2006 (cont.)

National Trophy Winners 2006

Founder's Trophy	Seaside Pirates (NSW)
Runner-Up Trophy	Blacktown Masters (NSW)
Visitor's Trophy	Seaside Pirates (NSW)
Male Swimmer of the Meet	Victor Paul - Bold Park (WA)
Female Swimmer of the Meet	Lynette Stevenson - Blacktown (NSW)
National Heart Foundation Trophy	Jane Lindsay (ACT)
National Aerobic Trophy 2005	Sunshine Coast (QLD)
ZOGGS Aerobic Award 2005	Kawana (QLD)
Coach of the Year 2005	Nicole Badani (WA)
Official of the Year 2005	Jane Noake (NSW)

Age Group Relay Trophies:

80 - 119 years	Seaside Pirates (NSW)
120 - 159 years	Seaside Pirates (NSW)
160 - 199 years	Adelaide Masters (SA) & Seaside Pirates (NSW)
200 - 239 years	Seaside Pirates (NSW)
240 - 279 years	Warringah (NSW)
280 - 319 years	Seaside Pirates (NSW)
320 - 359 years	North Lodge (VIC)

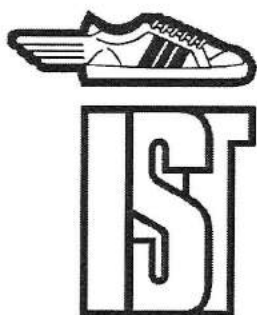




MISSION STATEMENT

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 well being.

Masters Swimming Australia
acknowledges the support from:



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