



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023 HOBART

2023 Masters Swimming Australia National Championships Hobart

Post Championships Report

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to record the key outcomes of the 2023 Masters Swimming Australia National Championships (the Championships) Hobart hosted by Masters Swimming Tasmania (MST). Key details are as follows:
 - a. The Championships were conducted over five days from 18 to 22 April 2023.
 - b. The venue was the Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre, 1 Davies Ave Hobart TAS. The venue has a current survey certificate.
 - c. This was a long course Championships conducted in an eight-lane pool. Lanes were available in the adjacent 25 metre diving pool for warm up and swim down.
 - d. There were 422 individuals (233 women and 189 men) from 82 clubs registered to participate. The club participation summary is at Annex A.

Championships planning

2. Planning for the Championships began in 2019 when MST submitted an offer to host the 2022 Championships 5-9 April 2022. Following the cancellation of the 2020 Championships (allocated to masters Swimming Northern Territory) and 2021 Championships (allocated to Masters Swimming New South Wales - MSNSW), it was agreed with Masters Swimming Australia (MSA) that MSNSW would host the 2022 Championships and MST would host the 2023 Championships. This required a change of dates from those initially proposed, driven mainly by the 2023 Easter public holidays and school holidays in States and Territories.
3. We note that selecting dates that avoid or minimise clashes with other events is challenging when dates need to be selected about two years in advance so that the pool facilities can be booked, and planning can commence in detail. Our selection of dates occurred well before dates for other events were known. The dates for the 2023 Championships were primarily selected to avoid the Easter public holidays, and to coincide with school holidays as

much as possible (noting state and territory variations). The dates also needed to be coordinated with Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre to ensure their program of works (delayed by COVID-19) would not unduly disrupt the Championships. It was not until much later that other meets that might affect participation by swimmers and technical officials in the 2023 Championships were scheduled, including Masters Swimming Queensland Branch Championships 30 March–1 April in Mackay and MSNSW Branch Championship 1–2 April at Sydney Olympic Park. The 2023 National Age and Open Championships were also conducted 7–15 April at Gold Coast Aquatic Centre.

4. We recognise that an important aspect of Championships planning is early and ongoing liaison with the MSA National Office. There are many matters that needed to be formally approved at that level, as indicated in the *Masters Swimming Australia Swim Meet Guide 2022*. In addition, there are other matters that needed to be closely coordinated at that level as early as possible, including the opening ceremony, presentation dinner, and Vorgee sponsorship arrangements.

5. **Open Water event.** Under the current MSA rules for open water swimming events, which impose a minimum water temperature of 18C, MST was unable to host a Championship event. The maximum average water temperature at most potential open water event venues in Tasmania is at best 18C, and in April is closer to 16C. MST has proposed changes to the MSA open water swimming rules so that an MSA-sanctioned championship event could be held in Tasmania in the future. The 2023 MSA National Open Water Championship event was hosted by Masters Swimming Western Australia on 4 March.

Program of events

6. The Championships program is at Table 1 and includes the number of heats per event.

7. Key points are as follows:

a. It was a five-day program of events because the venue has only one eight-lane competition pool available, and five days were estimated to be needed to complete the program of events whilst avoiding long days at the venue. The actual start and end timings for each event are indicated in Table 1.

b. The 800-metre freestyle event only was conducted on Day 1. This decision took into account the 8-lane pool and historical timings to run the event.

c. Marshalling was conducted via a self-marshalling system that required swimmers to be aware of their event heat and lane allocation, and to make sure they were available behind their lane block before the commencement of their heat. The availability of heat programs via several online sources (MSA Live Results App, SwimPhone, and Meet Mobile) and in printed form supported this approach. Public address announcements that tracked the progress of heats also enabled swimmers to time their warm-up swims and movement to the self-marshalling area. We believe this is an effective option for marshalling Masters events and have been using the system for Branch meets for many years.

8. **Opening Ceremony.** The opening ceremony was held on Day 2 commencing at 11.00 am. This time was selected so that the ceremony could be conducted between the last heat of

the 100 metres backstroke and the first heat of the 100 metres breaststroke (see Table 1), thereby avoiding disruption to the continuity of an event. The VIP party included:

- a. Mr Dean Young, MP, Member for Franklin, representing the Minister for Sport and Recreation
- b. The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Hobart, Councillor Anna Reynolds
- c. The President of Masters Swimming Australia, Jane Noake
- d. The President of Masters Swimming Tasmania, Megan Stronach.
9. Branch Presidents and MSA Life Members and were included in the official party.

Table 1: Program of events

Events	Actual Start/end times
<p><i>Day 1 – Tuesday 18 April</i></p> <p>Event 1 - 800 metres freestyle (Heats 1 to 11)</p> <p>Lunch break</p> <p>Event 1 - 800 metres freestyle (Heats 12 to 24)</p>	<p>8.40 am to 12.30 pm</p> <p>1.10 pm to 4.00 pm</p>
<p><i>Day 2 – Wednesday 19 April</i></p> <p>Event 2 - 200 metres butterfly (8 heats)</p> <p>Event 3 - 100 metres backstroke (21 heats)</p> <p>Opening ceremony</p> <p>Event 4 - 100 metres breaststroke (21 heats)</p> <p>Lunch break</p> <p>Event 5 - 200 metres freestyle (35 heats)</p> <p>Event 6 - 4 X 50 metres mixed medley relay (5 heats)</p> <p>Event 7 - 4 X 50 metres mixed freestyle relay (5 heats)</p>	<p>8.40 am to 9.12 am</p> <p>9.20 am to 0.15 am</p> <p>11.00 am to 11.15 am</p> <p>11.20 am to 12.15 am</p> <p>12.45 pm to 3.10 pm</p> <p>3.15 pm to 3.35 pm</p> <p>3.40 pm to 4.00 pm</p>
<p><i>Day 3 – Thursday 20 April</i></p> <p>Event 8 – 400 metres individual medley (10 heats)</p> <p>Event 9 – 50 metres breaststroke (24 heats)</p> <p>Event 10 – 50 metres butterfly (25 heats)</p> <p>Lunch break</p> <p>Event 11 – 100 metres freestyle (38 heats)</p> <p>Event 12 - 4 X 50 metres women’s medley relay (4 heats)</p> <p>Event 13 - 4 X 50 metres men’s medley relay (3 heats)</p>	<p>8.40 am to 10.05</p> <p>10.10 am to 10.55 am</p> <p>11.00 am to 11.35 am</p> <p>12.10 pm to 1.30 pm</p> <p>1.35 pm to 1.55 pm</p> <p>1.55 pm to 2.05 pm</p>
<p><i>Day 4 – Friday 21 April</i></p> <p>Event 14 – 400 metres freestyle (29 heats)</p> <p>Lunch break</p> <p>Event 15 – 200 metres backstroke (17 heats)</p> <p>Event 16 – 100 metres butterfly (15 heats)</p> <p>Event 17 - 4 X 50 metres men’s freestyle relay (3 heats)</p> <p>Event 18 - 4 X 50 metres women’s freestyle relay (4 heats)</p>	<p>8.40 am to 12.30 pm</p> <p>1.00 pm to 2.25 pm</p> <p>2.30 pm to 3.00 pm</p> <p>3.05 pm to 3.15 pm</p> <p>3.20 pm to 3.35 pm</p>
<p><i>Day 5 – Saturday 22 April</i></p> <p>Event 19 – 200 metres individual medley (20 heats)</p> <p>Event 20 – 50 metres backstroke (24 heats)</p> <p>Event 21 – 200 metres breaststroke (16 heats)</p> <p>Lunch break</p> <p>Event 22 – 50 metres freestyle (38 heats)</p>	<p>8.40 am to 10.10 am</p> <p>10.15 am to 11.00 am</p> <p>11.05 am to 12.25 pm</p> <p>12.55 pm to 2.20 pm</p>

Registration and results

10. **Registration.** Online registration for individuals opened on Monday 12 December 2022 and closed on Monday 23 March 2023. Relay team entries opened on 24 March 2023 and closed on 28 March 2023. The relay closing date had to be managed to accommodate clubs that had overlooked the original date and time. The closing dates were driven primarily by printing deadlines for the souvenir program and events program.

11. **Relay closing date.** Many changes were made to relay teams on each day that relay events were held. This was partly due to the early closing date for relays. This could be largely

overcome by keeping relay entries open until about 24 hours before the event and using estimated timings for the duration of each relay event. Relay teams could then be published online via the IT systems being used to provide the Championships program.

12. **Meet registration.** Meet registration ID cards, merchandise and presentation dinner tickets were available for collection on Day 1 at the Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel in one of the reception rooms. All participants were given a souvenir booklet. We chose this venue for Day 1 registration so that participants could meet up and chat in a relaxed venue where food and beverages could be purchased. It also provided a suitable venue for a Tourism Tasmanian representative to take enquiries and make tour bookings. An informal welcome happy hour was held at 5 pm. We are appreciative of the support provided by the Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel for our registration and social activities held there. It was also a popular accommodation option for our visitors.

13. Meet registration was relocated to the Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre from Day 2, initially in two small marquees at our exclusive entrance to the venue and subsequently to the medals table. Curiously, a few swimmers did not collect their registration ID cards, despite encouragement to do so.

14. **Results.** Event results were available at the conclusion of each event (after the protest window had been closed) via the MSA Live Results App, SwimPhone, and Meet Mobile. Full results including split times were available via the MSA Results and Records Portal after the conclusion of each day's events. Printed results were not provided other than to the Medals presentation table. MST was given great support by Mr Mark Hepple from MSNSW, who was instrumental in enabling MST to set up the MSA Live Results App.

15. **Protests.** The Meet Referee's report, which is addressed later in this report, records the number of disqualifications recorded. Most swimmers responded appropriately to their disqualifications. However, there were at least three incidents where swimmers behaved inappropriately when questioning their disqualification with technical officials. The protest procedure was published in the Championships souvenir booklet. We would urge all swimmers and club representatives to ensure they behave in a respectful manner to technical officials, adhere to the protest process, and avoid confronting technical officials when a disqualification has been recorded.

16. **Timekeeping.** Automatic Officiating Equipment (AOE) was used to record times and determine results. Semi-Automatic Timing (SAT) was used as the back-up system, and manual stopwatch timekeeping was provided as a further back-up. The AOE was operated by Swimming Tasmania personnel and functioned smoothly throughout the Championships.

17. **Records.** Over the five days of the Championships, 176 Branch records and 32 National records were set. Subject to World Aquatics ratification, four world records were set, and one world record was equalled.

Finance

18. Key points are:

- a. Registration (per entrant) \$90
- b. Event entry \$9.60

- c. Relay Entries \$20
- d. Presentation dinner \$85

19. The financial statement is at Annex B. A net surplus of \$20,762.92, was realised. Of note is the cost of hiring the Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre, which was significantly less than our forecast in the draft budget and included a reduced daily price when we finished earlier than the booked time. We are also grateful for the grant of \$7500.00 provided by Events Tasmania for conducting a national championship event in Hobart over five days and promoting Tasmania as a tourist destination. The Championships surplus does not include merchandise, which contributed a further \$434.22 to the overall surplus.

20. A range of merchandise was available for purchase via the online registration system, along with tickets to the presentation dinner.

21. Vorgee supplied a 2023 Nationals swimming cap, which was available for purchase via the online registration system. We ordered 250 caps; however, only 69 we sold via the online registration system. The remaining caps will be distributed separately.

Medals and lanyards

22. The medals were the standard MSA National Championships medal design. They were produced by Cash's Awards and Promotion Solutions. The lanyard featured thylacine stripes to provide a distinctive Tasmanian theme.

23. Medal engraving was available on-site on Days 2 to 5 at a cost of \$5.00 per medal.

24. Our medals order was based on the following estimates:

- a. 14 male and 14 female age groups
- b. 16 individual events, three medals per event/per age group = 1344 medals
- c. Six relay events, eight age groups, 12 medals per age group = 576 medals
- d. Total medals required = 1920 (640 per colour).

25. The following medals were not collected or allocated and will be returned to Cash's Awards and Promotion Solutions for re-use:

- a. Gold – 82
- b. Silver – 136
- c. Bronze – 238.

Trophies

26. Winners of the Championships trophies are listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Championships Trophy winners 2023

Trophy	Description	Winner 2023
Founders' Trophy	For top scoring Club	Malvern Masters
Runner-up Trophy	2nd highest scoring club	PowerPoints
Visitors' Trophy	For top scoring club (excluding the winners of the Founders' or Runners Up Trophy at this Meet) from another branch.	Blacktown
Life Members Trophy	For Clubs with 5-20 members.	Townsville Aquaholics
Presidents Trophy	For Clubs with 21-50 members.	North Shore
Vorgee Female Swimmer of the Meet		Lisandra de Carvalho (PowerPoints)
Vorgee Male Swimmer of the Meet		Paul Blackbeard (Claremont)
Age Group Trophy – 72-99 years		Not awarded
Age Group Trophy – 100-119 years		Superfins
Age Group Trophy – 120-159 years		Superfins
Age Group Trophy – 160-199 years		Blacktown
Age Group Trophy – 200-239 years		PowerPoints
Age Group Trophy – 240-279 years		Malvern Masters
Age Group Trophy – 280-319 years		Malvern Masters
Age Group Trophy – 320-359 years		Malvern Masters

27. Trophies were designed and supplied by local Tasmanian company Ironbark Works, which specialises in wood crafting with Tasmanian timbers. We took this approach to acquiring the trophies to ensure they would be unique to these Championships.

28. **Visitor's Trophy.** We believe the purpose of the Visitors' Trophy needs to be reviewed. Currently, the Visitors' Trophy is awarded to the top scoring visiting (interstate) club excluding the winners of the Founders' or Runner up Trophy at the Meet. This excludes a local club that may have scored the third highest points from being recognised (where a local club has not won the Founders' Trophy or Runner Up Trophy). Considering 2023 as an example, the Founders' Trophy, Runner Up Trophy and Visitors' Trophy all went to interstate clubs. In effect, the Visitor's Trophy was awarded to the third placed club. In its current form, the Visitors' Trophy

is most relevant when a local club wins either the Founders' Trophy or Runner Up Trophy, but less relevant when a local club does not win either of these trophies.

Communications

29. **Website.** The format for the Championships website followed that used by MSNSW for the 2022 Championships. The website was launched in August 2022 and progressively developed with information as it became available. The website was available via the Masters Swimming Tasmania website: <https://mastersswimmingtasmania.com.au/2023-national-championships/>

30. **Email.** A Championships email address was also established via the website to provide a means by which queries could be received and addressed. The email address was also used to receive communications from volunteers.

31. **Social media.** Social media was provided via Facebook and Instagram.

32. **Media.** The Championships were well-supported by positive local television and print media. We endeavoured to highlight the attributes of fitness, mental health, participation, friendly rivalry, and companionship. Table 3 summarises the media coverage.

Table 3: Media coverage

4 April	ABC radio 'Drive' interview with Megan Stronach, Gabrielle Osborne and Jayde Richardson. Each spoke about their swimming goals and nationals lead-up. Duration close to 30 minutes, which is great for that format.
18 April	Commercial TV stations Southern Cross and WIN ran items in their evening news. Focus on Phil Tyrell interview as Meet Director, and grabs from several swimmers.
19 April	ABC attended pool with a focus on Margie Clougher as oldest (93yo) Tasmanian competing. Radio news grabs through the afternoon on Margie's story. ABC social media and website posts.
20 April	The Mercury ran front page picture and inside story and more pictures featuring Jayde Richardson and Gabrielle Osborne (Tas) and Stuart Ellicot (NSW). Social media and web site posts from The Mercury. ABC social media continued to run.
21 April	Margie Clougher story ran on ABC evening news. Extended coverage. Picked up by ABC nationally on news grabs.
24 April	Jayde Richardson interview on ABC radio Breakfast show.
4 May	Megan Stronach as president of MST double-page spread in The Mercury 'Talking Point' on benefits of adult swimming.

Technical officials

33. The 2023 Championships webpage included a tab for technical officials to register their interest in participating. Technical officials were offered a Championships collared t-shirt.

34. The National Technical Committee was requested to assist with recruiting volunteers to officiate at the Championships as MST did not have enough qualified officials for the Championships. Fortunately, a sufficient number of technical officials made themselves available to allow the Championships to run smoothly. This includes the technical officials that

had not previously volunteered but made themselves available in between their swimming commitments.

35. **Catering.** Technical officials were provided with lunch and snacks. This support was provided by the Salamanca Rotary Club, who prepared lunch packs off-site and delivered them daily. This proved to be an excellent and cost-effective option for our catering needs. Of note, the demand for bottled water in the warm and humid Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre environment was high, exceeding our original estimate.

Meet Referee's report

36. The Meet Referee's report (see Annex C) details items of a technical nature that arose during the Championships. Key points are:

- a. There were 12 individual disqualifications (of which five did not finish) and five relay team disqualifications. Most individual disqualifications were for single hand touches during turns and finishes in butterfly and breaststroke events.
- b. No safety-related accidents were reported.
- c. The stability of two swimmers on the starting blocks was of concern.
- d. One swimmer participated as a multiclass swimmer, for which the technical officials were not prepared. The Meet Referee's report recommends action to be taken at MSA level following this incident.

37. The Meet Referee's report will be provided to the National Technical Committee separately.

Volunteers

38. Volunteers were invited to register their interest and availability to support the Championships via the Volunteers and Officials tab on the Championships website.

39. All MST clubs made significant contributions to the volunteering workforce, as did many interstate visitors and friends of Masters swimming. Hobart Dolphins were especially prominent in this area, and took sole responsibility for Championships registration, the social program, and the highly successful presentation dinner. Similarly, Talays took the lead on organising our merchandise.

40. Coordinating volunteers to be at the right place at the right time was a challenge. This included activities such as timekeepers, lap counters, warm up pool supervisors and several amongst others. Fortunately, we were able to shift people around to cover gaps in most cases or multitask where appropriate. We acknowledge that volunteer coordination is an important aspect of managing a meet on the scale of a national Championships, and one that must be given priority during meet planning. The efforts of Hobart Dolphins members who assisted with this coordination task are greatly appreciated.

Social events

41. The scheduled social events included the following:

- a. Welcome function on the evening of Tuesday 18 April at the Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel.

- b. A casual social function at the Hobart Brewing Company, Macquarie Point on Thursday 20 April.
- c. Technical Officials function on Friday 21 April at the Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel.
- d. Presentation Dinner on Saturday 22 April at the Hobart Function Centre. This function was attended by 216 people. We placed emphasis early in our planning on having a presentation dinner that would provide an appropriate opportunity for trophies and awards to be presented, and to give those in attendance an opportunity to celebrate the Championships in a party-like atmosphere. We are satisfied that this was achieved.

Conclusion

42. The Championships provided MST with a great opportunity to host a national event and build on our experience gained as host Branch in 2015. Planning the Championships was a major undertaking for MST over an extended period due to the interruption caused by COVID-19. The Championships, including swimming events, opening ceremony and social activities proceeded in accordance with our plans, and we have received positive feedback from many sources indicating that we successfully delivered the Championships.

Philip Tyrell
2023 Nationals Co-convenor
On Behalf of the 2023 MSA National Championships Hobart Planning Committee

9 June 2023

Annexes

- A. Club Participation Summary
- B. Financial Statement
- C. Meet Referee's Report

ANNEX A – CLUB PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Clubs		Individuals				Relays	
Code	Name	Women	Men	Total	Total Indiv Events	Relay Teams	Combined Points
SAM	Adelaide	1	0	1	10	0	68
CAS	Alice Springs	1	0	1	8	0	16
QAL	Aqualicious	0	1	1	8	0	23
SAT	Atlantis	0	2	2	12	0	25
VBL	Ballarat	0	1	1	8	0	35
QBR	Barbarians	1	3	4	13	0	77
WOP	Beatty Park	1	1	2	14	0	94
NBT	Blacktown	8	8	16	127	15	843
QBN	Brisbane Northside	1	1	2	17	0	86
VBS	Brunswick Belugas	1	0	1	7	0	46
TBU	Burnie	1	0	1	8	0	29
NBR	Bush Rangers	1	0	1	5	0	45
NCA	Campbelltown	6	1	7	70	2	423
VCS	Casey Seals	2	1	3	17	0	102
WCM	Claremont	7	4	11	72	7	571
NCX	Coffs Harbour	2	2	4	34	2	194
NCR	Coogee-Randwick	1	2	3	15	0	51
QCT	Cotton Tree	4	0	4	32	0	136
CDW	Darwin Stingers	5	2	7	53	4	298
TDP	Devonport	6	4	10	80	5	501
VDC	Doncaster Dolphins	12	4	16	112	9	838
NET	Ettalong Pelicans	0	1	1	9	0	0
WFR	Freemantle	0	1	1	5	0	9
VGS	Glamourhead Sharks	1	8	9	63	4	355

Clubs		Individuals				Relays	
Code	Name	Women	Men	Total	Total Indiv Events	Relay Teams	Combined Points
VGV	Goulburn Valley	2	0	2	11	0	57
QGF	Gympie Gold Fins	1	3	4	35	4	353
TAC	Hobart AC	11	6	17	86	9	516
THB	Hobart Dolphins	20	2	22	97	9	536
THV	Huon Valley	6	2	8	48	4	262
ZMS	Indonesia	0	1	1	3	0	27
WIW	Inglewood	1	0	1	9	0	67
ZMNA	Jakarta	1	0	1	2	0	18
TLC	Launceston	6	3	9	61	4	221
VMV	Malvern Marlins	17	13	30	210	20	1,197
NML	Manly	6	2	8	55	4	252
SMR	Marion	1	2	3	30	0	187
VML	Melton	1	0	1	10	0	54
NMR	Merrylands	3	3	6	48	2	200
QMM	Miami Masters	2	1	3	13	0	88
NCN	Molonglo Water Dragons	0	1	1	5	0	26
VMP	Mornington Peninsula	9	2	11	87	6	519
QNA	Noosa	12	4	16	110	7	551
NHS	North Shore	3	9	12	78	9	659
VHU	Northern Masters	1	0	1	9	0	39
ZON	Noumea	0	1	1	10	0	52
NNC	Novocastrian	0	1	1	4	0	22
NPN	Penrith	1	10	11	75	4	538
SPM	Phoenix Masters	1	0	1	8	0	43
NPM	Port Macquarie	1	0	1	10	0	55
VPP	Power Points	13	10	23	148	19	1,093
QRL	Rackley	2	1	3	18	0	80

Clubs		Individuals				Relays	
Code	Name	Women	Men	Total	Total Indiv Events	Relay Teams	Combined Points
QRT	Rats of Tobruk	1	1	2	16	0	81
QRB	Redlands Bayside	1	0	1	12	0	0
QRC	River City	7	3	10	63	2	249
WRK	Rockingham	4	1	5	35	0	181
QBB	Rum City	1	0	1	7	0	49
NRY	Ryde	2	5	7	49	4	190
WSG	Sandgropers	2	1	3	22	0	155
NSP	Seaside Pirates	2	2	4	23	0	93
QSS	Somerset	0	1	1	4	0	7
QPB	Southport	0	1	1	5	0	31
WSF	Superfins	6	10	16	117	12	652
VSP	Surrey Park	0	1	1	6	0	21
NSA	Sutherland Sandbern	3	4	7	39	2	206
VSC	Swimland	0	1	1	10	0	36
TTL	Talays	1	3	4	15	0	86
NTS	Tattersalls	1	4	5	24	1	69
TTS	Tomatoes Swim	0	1	1	11	0	82
QTW	Toowoomba	2	0	2	13	0	83
QTA	Townsville Aquaholics	1	3	4	41	0	263
NTN	Tuggernong	8	2	10	84	4	413
QTT	Twin Towns	1	0	1	6	0	20
QUQ	Uni Queensland	1	4	5	42	0	341
TVA	Van Diemens	0	2	2	12	0	103
VVM	Vic Masters	1	2	3	25	0	168
NWG	Warringah	3	10	13	76	6	413
VWA	Western Alligators	1	0	1	5	0	33
NWV	Woden Valley	0	1	1	11	0	51

Clubs		Individuals				Relays	
Code	Name	Women	Men	Total	Total Indiv Events	Relay Teams	Combined Points
NWL	Wollongong	0	1	1	4	0	20
NWY	Wyong Wobbygongs	0	1	1	6	0	43
QYP	Yeronga Park	1	0	1	8	0	55
Total	82	233	189	422	2870	180	16770

ANNEX B – FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Masters Swimming Tasmania Inc For the 11 months ended 31 May 2023

Event is Nationals 2023.

JUL 2022-MAY 2023

Trading Income	
Entries - Individual Nationals 2023	27,542.00
Presentation Dinner income	18,360.00
Postage income	17.00
Programs - Nationals 2023	1,008.00
Registrations - Nationals 2023	37,980.00
Entries - Relay Nationals 2023	3,360.00
Total Trading Income	88,267.00
Gross Surplus	88,267.00
Other Income	
Other Income	740.00
Grant Income	7,500.00
Total Other Income	8,240.00
Operating Expenses	
Medals & Trophies	12,160.33
Postage	68.01
Printing & Stationery	2,569.70
Gifts	64.99
Pool Hire	22,712.09
National Championships Welcome Function & Happy Hour	500.00
Accommodation	555.00
National Championships Functions	183.50
Catering	3,866.55
Stripe Fees	5,762.86
Registration costs (other than Stripe fees)	170.00
National Championships Presentation Dinner	19,246.55
Sanction fees	5,907.26
AOE (Automated Officiating Equipment)	1,650.00
National Championships Opening Ceremony	100.00
Marquee Hire	227.24
Total Operating Expenses	75,744.08
Net Surplus	20,762.92

ANNEX C – MEET REFEREE’S REPORT

Meet Referee’s Report 2023 Masters Swimming Australia National Championships Hobart Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre, Hobart

Overview

The National Championships were conducted in the long course format (50m) in the 8-lane main pool at the Hobart Aquatic Centre. The pool has a recorded survey. A summary of events, event and daily timings are supplied in the Championships report.

Conduct of the competition.

The Championships were conducted in accordance with the Masters Swimming Australia Swimming Rules and By-laws current at the date of close of entries. The meet ran smoothly with self-marshalling and starting over the top contributing to the on-time result.

Competitor Problems/ Disqualifications

There were 12 individual disqualifications, of which 5 were ‘Did not finish’. The majority of the disqualifications were for incorrect (single hand) touches during turns and finishes for Butterfly and Breaststroke.

The relay competition attracted 5 team disqualifications with 3 teams breaking during changeovers, 1 team member swimming the incorrect stroke in a medley relay, and one team member incurring a stroke infraction.

There were two protests lodged. One questioned a disqualification for single hand touches during the 200m Butterfly event. The second questioned a disqualification for a relay team break on the second swimmer changeover. Both were dealt with in a timely manner and dismissed after discussion with the pool deck official raising the disqualification.

Incidents/Accidents during the Meet.

There were no accidents reported during the Meet. Although there were 5 swimmers who did not complete their respective events, only 1 required some assistance from the pool attendants as he did not have rapid access to his asthma inhaler. He recovered quickly and required no further assistance. The other swimmers did not request or require assistance on exiting the pool.

Other Issues

There were two issues of concern during the Meet:

Firstly, two elderly swimmers insisted on mounting the starting block prior to their events. Both took some time and required assistance to actually mount the block and were very unsteady until the start. There was some concern for the swimmers’ safety whilst on the blocks. Whilst it is up to the individuals as how they wish to start an event, it may be incumbent on Club coaches to ascertain the suitability of some members to continue to use starting blocks and possibly suggest that they may be better served by starting from the pool deck or in the water.

Secondly, one swimmer competed under his multi class classification. As Meet Referee I did not have the training or experience to adequately guide the pool deck officials as to how to assess the swimmer's ability to swim under his classification. I was fortunate to be able to draw on the experience of Paul Carter OAM, an MSA referee with experience at international Paralympic competitions. He highlighted the fact that the swimmer, in listing his classifications had not added '+' which indicated that he was capable of conducting a butterfly kick. This led to some discussion as to the swimmer's leg action during breaststroke events where it was difficult to determine if the vertical movement was only a leg drag sympathetic action caused by his body movement or actually performing a propulsive butterfly kick.

In view of this, I would request that the National Board, with the assistance of the National Technical Committee instigate a training program to bring sufficient referees up to a standard to allow swimmers with classifications to compete fairly at MSA sanctioned events including the National Championships.

Officials in attendance.

I wish to thank the group of Technical Officials from interstate and Tasmania for their efforts throughout the meet. It was a pleasure and a privilege to work and learn from this group of experienced officials. All members of the group willingly worked in various pool deck positions between their respective swimming events.

- Meet Director Philip Tyrell
- Meet Referee Ray Brien
- Meet Recorder Pauline Samson OAM
- Referees: Jane Noake, Paul Carter OAM, Kerryn Blanch, Karin Haxell.
- Pool Deck Officials: Ann Reid, Victoria Wilson, Bill Woodworth, Diana McHenry
Tony Forman, Jose Tillema, Mendelt Tillema, Richard Hughes
Kerry-Ann Michels, Mark McDonald, Megan Blamires.
- Swim Tas Officials: Mike Greatbatch, Susan Cure OAM, Glenise Gale OAM, Leisl Wylie.

I certify that all the CONDITIONS OF SANCTION were fulfilled at this Meet.

Ray Brien
Meet Referee

