John Pugh

• Life Member MSA 2011

John started swimming at the age of 10 in his home country of Rhodesia and belonged to several clubs in South Africa. He not only swam but played water polo.



When John arrived in Tasmania in 1987 to take up a position at the University of Tasmania, Launceston he joined the Launceston Lemmings Masters swimming club. His first major event was the 1st Australian Masters Games on the NW coast at Devonport later that year.

John soon took on several roles within the club as Coach, Treasurer and President. He also took on these roles at branch level. John moved to the National Board of Management in his role at Director of Finance for 2 terms from 1999 – 2005. It was during his tenure as Director of Finance that branches were able to move to a sanction fee for hosting the National Championships instead of a 50% share of the surplus. John was then elected as National President of MSA and completed 2 terms from 2005 – 2011. During his time as President, he represented MSA at FINA meetings both in San Francisco and Shanghai in the bid to host the FINA World Championships, Perth, 2008.

John has also been a member of the National Coaching Committee. John has enjoyed being part of the organisation at club, branch and national level and has travelled extensively to compete interstate as well as many international meets, including the 1st Oceana Masters Swim in Fiji and World Championships.

