

Brian Hird ASM

A.U.S.S.I. NSW Life Member

Swimming was part of Brian's life from early years as a member of Bondi SLSC and Bondi ASC.

In 1970 Brian joined Auburn ASC with his children, and he ran their swim meets every Saturday morning. He was Auburn ASC Treasurer for over 10 years, his services to the club being rewarded with a Life Membership.



While at Auburn, Brian joined the Royal Life Saving Club and competed at their competitions, he was State Champion in the Veterans for several years.

In October of 1980, Ann Still asked Brian to help establish an AUSSI Club at Auburn Pool. As Brian ran the adult group who raced after the young folk on Saturday morning there was a willing membership available and Western Suburbs was born. Brian was Treasurer of West Auburn for 12 years.

Brian competed with Western Suburbs at interclub, state and national events. It didn't take long before Brian's knowledge, ability and work effort were recognised.

In March 1981 in Perth, Gary Stutsel and Peter Jackson approached him with a request to take on the roles of State and National Secretary.

After 12 months in the dual roles, the workload was so great that Peter and Gary advised Brian to concentrate on the role of National Secretary which he did for a number of years.

Brian also filled the role of NSW State President between the years of 1987 to 1992. In 1984, Warwick Webster, the Swim Coach at Ashfield ASC, asked Brian to establish an AUSSI club at Ashfield in 1985. Brian competed for Ashfield at all levels of competition including the first World Masters Swimming Championships in Tokyo in 1986.

Brian was a true all-rounder, as he swam, he administered, but he may be best remembered for his role in officiating.

In 1984, Brian updated the AUSSI Club Guide.

Brian, known as 'The Phantom' produced the NSW Branch Newsletter 'Splash' until 1993.

Brian was a member of the Masters Games Committee in 1996 and was NSW Branch Delegate to the National Board Meeting.

As an ASA qualified official, he was a Starter or Referee at many AUSSI Swim Meets, until he retired from the role of Referee in 2003. However, his ability as a Meet Director was second to none; he was the Meet Director for the 1983 Pan Pacific Swim Meet.

For many years it became almost a given that Brian Hird would be the Meet Director for any major meet in NSW. In 2000 Brian was awarded the Australian Sports Medal in recognition of his services to swimming.

The Brian Trophy is awarded to the club which wins the most points over all the weekend carnivals in a calendar year.