

**SWIMMING NEW SOUTH WALES LTD.  
SINCE 1896**



**MINUTES**

**FIFTY SIXTH  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**SATURDAY 24 JULY 2021**

**ZOOM WEBINAR**

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**FIFTY SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**SATURDAY 24 JULY 2021**  
**ZOOM WEBINAR**

**PRESENT**

**LIFE MEMBERS**

Cliff Harris OAM

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chris Fydler OAM (President)	Justin Rothwell	Graham Towle OAM	Lynn Lonngren
Mark Heathcote (CEO)	Janelle Barnett	Mark Payne	Sarah Platts

**AREA DELEGATES**

<b>AREA</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>	<b>AREA</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>
Coast & Valley	Norman Roberts	Metro North West	Graham Taylor
Metro North East	Helen Collett	Metro South East	Mark Smith
Metro South West	Bruce Innes	Mountains & Plains	Stephen Howell
North Coast	Warren Phillips	New England & North West	Brian Coombs
South Eastern	Joseph Gerada		

**CLUB DELEGATES**

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>
Auburn	Judy Wartmann	Bankstown Sports	Neil Rogers
Canberra	John Skene OAM	Carlile	Adam Mallett
Kempsey	John Miall	Ku Ring Gai	Graeme Field
Lane Cove	Joshua Baker	Laurieton	Ann Pilkie
Liverpool	Glen Burt	McCredie Park	Dennis Browning
Menai	David Ryan	Merrylands	Peter Johnston
Newington	Ross Payne	Parkes	Barbara Weaver
Peakhurst	David Goff	Revesby Workers	Gail Cauchi
Ripples St Marys	Glyn Stockley	Ryde Carlile	Shane Gibson
Sydney University	Carmel Kanaley	Trinity Grammar	Benjamin Tuxford
Twin Towns	Faye Rowles	Warringah Aquatic	Cameron Gledhill
Wollongong	Sue Worthington		

## **VISITORS**

Chris Myers	Josh Karp	Dave Cooper	Faye Lewis
Lyn Connell	Ariel Darley	John Rohloff	Kaz Suzuki
Maree Pavlovec	Christine Taylor	Belinda Nowland	

## **APOLOGIES**

Ian Thorpe AM

### **1. WELCOME**

At 10.05am the President, Chris Fydler, declared the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting open. Chris extended a welcome to the Delegates and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wangal people, on which the event took place, he paid respects to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present.

Chris acknowledged that a quorum for the meeting was 20 Clubs and this has been reached.

Chris then noted that the apologies for the meeting would be as per noted in the meeting Q&A section.

Chris then made mention of those members who had passed during the year: Jon Konrads – Olympic Gold Medalist & Record Holder, Harry Gallagher OAM– Olympic Gold Medal Coach, Judith Arnold – Life Member of St George Swimming Club, Kevin Hession – Life Member of Parramatta Memorial Swimming Club, Dorothy Brown – Life Member of Roselands Swimming Club, David Billingham – Life Member of Western Suburbs Swimming Association and Peter Ryan, Life Member of Camden Swimming Club.

Chris requested a silent remembrance to those members.

## **BUSINESS**

### **2. MINUTES**

**2.1** Moved and Seconded that the Minutes of the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Swimming NSW held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2020 be taken as read.

**CARRIED**

**2.2** Moved and Seconded that the Minutes of the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Swimming NSW held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2020 be accepted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

### 3. ANNUAL REPORT

#### 3.1 The President presented the 124<sup>th</sup> Annual Report for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Chris Fydler reported that like last year, the 2020/21 year had been a season of many challenges and significant changes as we adapted to running our sport in a COVID-19 environment. Chris thanked all of the coaches, pool managers, clubs, athletes, parents and technical officials who had been unfaltering in their persistence in allowing the sport to return to something close to normal over the last 6 months. As a community, we had shown incredible resilience and innovation during this year and in fact in many circumstances found ourselves in a better position that we were prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chris noted that despite the challenging year, there had been some outstanding performances by NSW athletes at the National Age Championships, with NSW recording its best overall medal result in seven years. SNSW also had four Clubs finish in the Top 10 Pointscore.

Then at the recent Australian Swimming Trials NSW had five Swimmers earn selection onto the Olympic Team and eight Swimmers onto the Paralympic Team as well as several Coaches appointed to the Teams. This was a great result and he wished everyone all the best for the upcoming Games.

Chris extended his thanks to the NSW Government who were proactive in providing support and advice in ensuring our sport restarted as soon as possible in NSW, whilst safeguarding our members and broader community.

Chris made special mention of the incredible commitment, innovation and resilience of Mark Heathcote and the whole SNSW team. Throughout this year of constant change, Mark and the team had continued to evolve and find solutions to the constant impediments placed in front of all organisations wishing to run a sport. Through hard work, creativity and the utilisation of all of our extended resources, they had ensured that we not only survived the difficult year but entered the current year in a strong and proactive position.

Chris then thanked Swimming NSW's commercial partners for their ongoing support: Hancock Prosecting, Speedo, Courtyard by Marriott North Ryde, Wylas Timing, the NSW Olympic Council and the NSW Commonwealth Games Association.

Chris noted that despite Greater Sydney being locked down at the time of the meeting the future for swimming was looking bright. He had no doubt that pools would re-open again and swimmers and coaches and SNSW as a whole would bounce back just like it did last year.

In closing, Chris noted the fantastic news that Brisbane had been awarded the 2032 Summer Games and laid out a challenge for SNSW to have Olympic & Paralympic team representation that reflected our majority of the Swimming Australia members and that this would be the perfect opportunity to showcase Swimming NSW swimmers in front of all Australians and the World.

The CEO, Mark Heathcote, then gave his report which further highlighted the following Operational aspects: -

- Highlighted how the 2020-21 year had been like no other with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting all members in at least some way.
- The Board and Management worked extremely hard to ensure that Swimming NSW led the way both in terms of the sport's recovery and ensuring that it wasn't left behind as restrictions eased.
- There had been numerous obstacles to overcome to achieve this, but he was very proud of how our sport has worked together to navigate through this difficult period.
- Extended his appreciation to the members who have supported SNSW this year, by renewing their memberships, attending events and supporting their local Clubs and Areas.
- Launched a new online store which provided access to our retail store for thousands more members who had previously not been able to access the store at SOPAC.
- When events resumed, adopted full online ticketing expediting the entry process to SOPAC and offered pre-sales for our event merchandise for the first time which meant more event attendees were able to access the Merchandise that they wanted.
- Assisted Swimming Australia to create a much more user-friendly Swim Central for our volunteers and members. The integration of the NSW Government's Active Kids Vouchers into the system was a key component to improving the user experience of Swim Central
- After initially predicting membership falls of up to 20%, SNSW was pleased to report that its membership had remained stable at 27,619, an 0.1% increase year on year.
- Noted the outstanding performances by NSW athletes at the various National Championships held over the past six months.
- 80% of Olympic Team members came from our Performance Hubs, so these will remain a key element of our Performance Strategy as we head towards Paris.

- Kept Coaches engaged via webinars led by NSW Coaching Director Jon Shaw, who interviewed some of the leading coaches in NSW who shared their valuable insights on coaching.
- Kept Swimmers engaged by running some fun activities like the Swimming NSW Insta Live Trivia Challenge, sharing innovative training techniques through our social media channels and when it was safe to do so, organising the Wylas Timing Club Challenge
- Utilised Swim League as a key part of the Return to Competition Plan and were excited to host several gala days across the State during September and October. Over 1000 participants attend Swim League Gala Days and for many of these swimmers it was their first opportunity to experience this unique team vs team format and the fun and exciting competition it provides.
- The work of the Coach Leadership team in educating, developing and mentoring NSW Coaches across the State
- The Technical Swimming Committee ran several webinars to maintain engagement with our volunteers and also provide various educational opportunities for them.
- The continued implementation of Online Technical Official modules which now boasted almost 4000 unique candidates
- That SNSW was pleased to record a 25% increase in Technical Officials volunteering at the Summer Championships and extended a big thank you to all those volunteers who supported the sport's return to competition.
- The continued work of the Company's Standing & Management Committees
- Thanked the members of these Committees for their fantastic contributions
- Acknowledged appreciation for Company Sponsors; Hancock Prospecting, Speedo, Courtyard by Marriott North Ryde, NSWIS, the NSW Office of Sport and Wylas Timing who had all supported SNSW during a difficult year for all businesses.
- Congratulated Liz Avery OAM and Norma Cowper OAM on receiving an OAM in the Australia Day Honours List and Les Barclay OAM on receiving an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours List
- Congratulated Winners and Finalists in the NSW Champions of Sport Awards and Sport NSW Community Sport Awards
- Congratulated the NSW swimmers, coaches and managers who represented Australia throughout 2020-2021.
- Gave special thanks to Chris Fydler, the Board of Directors, the Office Staff, Club and Area representatives, technical officials, parents and swimmers

In closing Mark reiterated the challenging year for Swimming NSW and its members, but they looked forward to rebuilding the sport in the year ahead. They had introduced many new initiatives throughout the year as a result of COVID-19 that would serve SNSW well into the future. It was then Moved and Seconded that the 124<sup>th</sup> Annual Report be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**3.2** Moved and seconded that the Financial Statements for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 be received.

**CARRIED**

The CEO presented the Financial Statements, highlighting the following:

- A Group Operating profit of \$310,842
- Consolidated Entity with accumulated funds totaling \$2,357,916
- Total Current Assets of \$2,452,305

Cash & Cash Equivalents for the Consolidated Entity were \$1,687,495 and the increase in cash was mostly due to financial support from the State and Federal Governments in the form of JobKeeper, Payroll Tax relief, CashFlow Boost and Recovery Grant Funding and this has helped put SNSW in a good position as it headed into the next phase of the pandemic.

There was an increase of approximately \$300,000 in employee expenditure with no increase in full time equivalent staff. This was due to two factors. Firstly, some of the casual and part-time staff received a pay increase in order for SNSW to meet the requirements of the Job Keeper program. Secondly, there were four staff who were employed in the last financial year and were therefore counted in the full time equivalent, but only worked a period of three months in the last financial year. This year those staff worked a full 12 month period, so a full year of their employee expenses were included in the financial statements for this year as opposed to only 3 months last year. As reported last year, all of these staff were covered by income from contracts with other parties and therefore there was no SNSW member funds attributed to these staff.

SNSW has an investment with Swimming Australia's Investment Fund, which is managed by Escala Partners, and this grew to \$653,254 as the markets rebounded from the initial COVID-19 losses. The unrealised gain on this investment of \$84,544 combined with the net SNSW profit provided an overall profit for the year of \$310,842.

Mark noted that there will be continuing financial challenges in the year ahead due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation and Swimming NSW Management and Board are continuing to monitor both the Profit and Cash Flow Forecasts on a regular basis to ensure the SNSW financial position is protected as best as possible.

It was then Moved and seconded that the Financial Statements be adopted.

**CARRIED**

#### **4. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Chris Fydler noted that in 2019 the Members had approved changes to the Constitution with respect to the number of Elected and Appointed Directors on the Swimming NSW Board and that at the time Clause 39 – Transitional Arrangements was added to the Constitution to allow the changes to take place over a period of two years.

Chris noted that at the end of the 2021 Annual General meeting, this process would be complete and therefore the Board has proposed the deletion of Clause 39 from the Constitution to the members. The motion was put to the meeting and Motion A, Deletion of Clause 39 was Moved and Seconded. As this was a Special Resolution, Chris confirmed that more than 75% of the members present and entitled to vote, voted in favour of the motion.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

It was Moved and Seconded that Ernst & Young be appointed Company Auditors for the 2021/22 financial year.

**CARRIED**

#### **6. DECLARATION OF DIRECTORS**

In accordance with provisions of the By Law 11 the declaration of the poll was undertaken.

Mark Heathcote reported than in accordance with By Law 11 (a), he had called for nominations for the two (2) vacant Director positions three months prior to the AGM. Following the closing date of these nominations, two nominations had been received.

Therefore, the following Directors were duly elected for a three (3) year term: -

- Janelle Barnett
- Sarah Platts

#### **7. PRESENTATION OF SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

The recipients of the 2021 Service Excellence Awards were announced and presented by the CEO & various Directors: -

- Faye Lewis
- Graham Taylor
- Bill Ford

The President expressed his thanks to the Presenters and congratulated the recipients.

## **8. MEETING CLOSURE**

Chris Fydler then thanked everyone for their attendance and then closed the meeting at 10.58am.

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