

## News from the **Technical Swimming Committee**

Welcome to the **August** Edition of the Technical Swimming Committee Newsletter.

### **Queen's Birthday Honours**

Congratulations to the following Technical Officials who were recognised with an OAM for their contributions to swimming in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours

Graham Towle	McCredie Park Aquatics and President SNSW
Peter Hall	Sladem Swimming Club
Kevin Archer	North Ramsgate ASC
Mary Archer	North Ramsgate ASC
Karen Stephenson	Sydney Swim PLC

### **Vale**

It is with great sadness that the TSC notes the passing of Mick Ticehurst Life Member of the Springwood Swimming Club, Bob Logan from the Bay and Basin Club and Joan Kellett OAM from the Dickson Swimming Club and Life Member of ACT Swimming. More information on Joan can be found [HERE](#)

### **TSC Awards Dinner**

The 2017 Annual Technical Officials Awards Dinner was held on 22 July at the Marriott Courtyard, North Ryde.

Congratulations to the following recipients -

Christine Etter	Technical Official of the Year
Cheryl Knapp	Open Water TO of the Year
Jann Fathers	Services to Officiating
Jacqui Currey	Berry Rickards Encouragement Award
Jenny Dunstan	ATSC Convenor of the Year
Nicole Jeffery	Appreciation Award

Dave Cooper was also recognised for his recent appointment to the FINA List.

### **SAL Technical Official Reaccreditation Process**

During May this year, SNSW provided feedback to SAL on their proposal to replace the current manual logging of officiating activities with MyLane.

SAL has recently advised that the majority of feedback indicated a preference to continue with the manual system as MyLane does not have the functionality needed to continue to update accreditations. As a result, SAL has removed the MyLane section for accreditation. The revised Reaccreditation Kit can be found [HERE](#).

## My Lane – Jacqui Currey

**1. What Club did you start your swimming career?**

**What Club are you with now?**

I started with Beresfield Swimming Club in 2014 and have remained there since.

**2. What was your first TO credential and what year did you attain that credential?**

I started with Time Keeper, Chief Timekeeper and Starter 2015.

**3. Why did you become an official? Why do you still officiate?**

Like most people, the club needed timekeepers each Friday night for our regular club nights. I volunteered and enjoyed it more than sitting in the grandstand, watching a couple of races for my kids, and waiting for the night to be over. With encouragement from our club president, also an active technical official in Coast & Valley, I did the training and theory, then attended an area meet to be assessed on my practical skills. All the other technical officials were so encouraging that I decided it was something I wanted to continue for myself. Since then I have officiated at over 60 meets at area, state and national level, as well as refereeing every Friday night at Beresfield Club. The people I have met, the friends I have made, and the personal sense of accomplishment at creating a fair and encouraging environment which allows the swimmers to compete and achieve their potential, all keep me coming back meet after meet.

**4. What is the highest credential received**

Referee Level 1, Starter Level 1 and AOE

**5. What is your goal(s)?**

My goal is to become a Level 3 Referee and Level 2 Starter. Currently my short-term goal is to be assessed as a Level 2 Referee within the next 12 months.

**6. What is the highest level meet at which you have officiated**

I have recently returned from officiating at the 2017 Australian Age Championships in Brisbane. Prior to that, I officiated at the 2016 Australian Short Course Championships, as well as 2016 & 2017 NSW State Open, 2016 & 2017 NSW Country Championships (including as Referee for one session), 2016 NSW State Age Championships and the 2016 National A Squad Meet.



**7. With respect to your answer to Question 6, can you please pass on some of the strategies/tips you used to help you achieve your appointment?**

Firstly, just nominate for everything you can be available for and be happy with whatever role to which you are appointed. No matter what position you are in, you can always learn more, especially about pool-deck protocols. Be aware of and watch everything that goes on throughout the meet. Talk to other officials and share your experiences. Ask lots of questions to those more experienced TO's at the meet and be open to furthering your knowledge. Know the rules and how to apply them – read the rules before each meet. Take part in the Swimming NSW Technical Official Pathway – I went to B&C Squad Meet in 2015, National A Squad in 2016, and hopefully State Teams in 2017. Attend the Swimming NSW forums and take any opportunity that is offered to you.



### **SNSW Announcer Training Notes**

Thank you to Barry Lovegrove and Gail Cauchi who have recently updated the SNSW Announcer course Training Notes. The revised Notes can be found [HERE](#)

### **New Technical Officials**

Congratulations to our newest Technical Officials. The full list can be found [HERE](#)

### **NOAP Level 1 Referee Exams**

Referee Examinations have been scheduled for the following dates and will be held at the SNSW Office –

- Friday 25 August at 9.00AM (Big Age SC); and
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00AM (Little Age SC).

Country candidates who are unable to travel to Sydney to sit their examination may arrange a suitable time to undertake their exam during a visit to their Area by their TSC Buddy.

### **Thank You**



Many thanks to all who officiated at the recent SNSW Country SC and Metropolitan Championships and the NSW MC Meet #3.

### Starter Module now Online

The TSC is very pleased to announce that the Starter Training Course is now available online. The Starter Course represents the fifth online course available and the TSC hopes to add a further course over the coming months. The Starter course can be found [HERE](#)

### Competency Assessment of Technical Officials

When undertaking an assessment, the Assessor should address the task processes, maturity and the understanding shown by the trainee.

The following guidelines have been adopted in a number of rural Areas in order to give Assessors some guidance in the process.

#### **Competency Assessment**

Once the on line training has been completed the member undergoes a basic practical competency assessment to complete the credential. Assessors should be a person other than the Trainer and preferably from another club.

- Inspector of Turns requires a recommended 5 hours of “on deck” practical experience before assessment at an Area Meet.
- Starter requires a recommended 10 hours of “on deck” practical experience before the **two assessments** at an Area Meet.
- Judge of Strokes requires a recommended 20 hours of “on deck” practical experience before assessment at an Area Meet.

This takes into account the long distances between towns and summer only clubs. Some Metropolitan Areas have adopted the position whereby an Assessor from a neighbouring Area assesses their major credential candidates.

The on-deck experience is always under the guidance of a qualified person. In most cases the experienced trainer would recommend the candidate for assessment. It should be remembered that the candidate is able to request assessment.

Area Committees and Technical Coordinators are encouraged to formulate guidelines for Assessors that will allow trainees to progress to Referee without unnecessary delay.

### 2017 State Teams Meet

Congratulations to the following Technical Officials who have been appointed to the upcoming State Teams Meet and TO Workshop, to be held at the AIS, Canberra in September. Thank you to everyone who nominated, however there were more nominations received than positions available.

Brett Patrick  
Sue Worthington  
Jacqui Currey  
Murray Smith

Ben Ramsden  
Matt Neal  
John Rohloff (Mentor)

### Ask SAM

Don't forget the SNSW Online "Question and Answer" forum to help you if you have questions about Technical Officiating and training course content. The forum, called "Ask Sam" can be found [HERE](#)

### SAL Working Group

Congratulations to Ben Ramsden who has been appointed to a SAL Working Group, established to develop detailed strategies and resources to assist Swimming Australia and their partner States to increase both the number of officials and the quality of officiating for all states across Australia.

A recent SAL TSC meeting considered the most important initiatives to bridge the gap between the current position and the goal of Officiating Excellence, including identifying the areas considered as priorities for the improvement for Technical Officiating moving forward.

The SAL TSC discussion centred around 'People, Resources and Equipment across the officiating space', from which the following priorities for improvement were highlighted -

- Recruitment and Retention
- Technical Skill Development
- Mentoring

### Annual Technical Official Forum

This year, the Annual TSC Forum was held at the Pullman Hotel, Homebush. It was pleasing to see so many Technical Officials in attendance. Agenda for the day included -

- An overview of Para Swimming and the Technical Official Pathway was presented by Paul Carter, World Para Swimming ITO from Swimming Northern Territory ;
- Swimming Rules and themes from Nationals by John Hart;
- Protests by Ken Jones;
- The Rio Olympic Experience was presented by Ken Jones;
- SNSW Appointments Policy and SAL Values were presented by John Hart; and
- Check Starting by Neil Rogers

A special thank you to our guest speakers Paul Carter, Neil Rogers and Ken Jones.

Power Point presentations from a number of the speakers can be found on the SNSW website or by clicking [HERE](#)

Thank you to those who provided feedback. Your feedback is currently being correlated, and will be used to help develop topics for next year's Forum.

### Uniform Requirements for SNSW State 13-18 Years and NSW State Open

To align with SAL and to eliminate confusion, the TSC at its June Meeting agreed to change the dress requirements for State Long Course 13-18 years and Open to black SNSW shirt for **both** heats and finals.

### 2017 Technical Official Development Programme

Thank you to those who have nominated for this year's Development Programme. Squad participant allocation is being finalised with nearly 60 Technical Officials applying.

The Development Programme commenced on 29 and 30 July with the Target Squad at Peninsula Leisure Centre, Woy Woy. For the Technical Officials, the weekend consisted of a balance of theory and practical, which were well supported by some very experienced mentors.

Thank you to everyone who took part, and a big thank you in particular to our Presenters and Mentors Graham and Sue Towle, Neil Rogers, Ken Jones, Dave Cooper, Faye Lewis, John Hart and John Williams. Many thanks also to Chris Hayes for putting together the Technical Official Programme.

The venues for the remaining 2017 sessions are:

1. National A Meet 23-24 September- Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre, Bexley.
2. Achiever Squad Meet 7 October - SOPAC

### Next SNSW Meets

Nominations are open for a number of SNSW Meets, including -

Meet	Location	Dates	Closing Date for Nominations
NSW State Age 13 & over SC Championships	SOPAC	25 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> August 2017	15 <sup>th</sup> August 2017
NSW State Age 12 & Under SC Championships	SOPAC	9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	29 <sup>th</sup> August 2017
NSW Metro Championships	SOPAC	24 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	14 November 2017

To nominate, please click [HERE](#)

### FINA Consolidates Growth in the Olympic Programme

FINA recently announced that the International Olympic Committee approved the addition of three swimming medal events and two women's water polo teams for the programme of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

In a statement issued on 9 June 2017, FINA President said "The additional medal events are 800 metres Freestyle (men), 1500 metres Freestyle (women) and 4 x 100m mixed medley relay."

"At Tokyo 2020, FINA will become the sport with the greatest number (49) of finals on the Olympic programme, with 35 for swimming, eight for diving, two for water polo, two for marathon swimming and two for synchronised swimming."

## FINA Rule Changes

At the recent Technical Congress, FINA made a number of Rule changes for both Swimming and Open Water Swimming. More details will be provided once SAL incorporates the FINA amendments. At this stage it is envisaged that the current Rules will remain in place until approximately October 2017.

## The QUIZ

### June Quiz Answer

To recap on the June question – “You are the Women’s Referee for the NSW The Metropolitan Championships. During the first heat of the Women’s 16 years and over 200m Individual Medley you notice a Judge of Stroke approaching. As they begin their report a second Judge of Stroke appears and interrupts saying: “You’re not going to accept that report, are you?” As Referee should advise the two Judges of Stroke that you are prepared to listen to them both. You should ask the first JOS for their report and then ask the second JOS if he/she has an infraction to report. If they do, the Referee should listen to their report as well.

*Both Judges of Stoke have provided their reports to you as the Referee. However, there is a contradiction between the two reports. As Referee, what do you do?*

### Answer

As there is a contradiction between the two reports, as Referee you should thank both Judges of Stroke for their report and explain that you would take no action, as there is now doubt in your mind as to the swimmer's action. Note that it was obvious that the two TOs had been discussing the swimmer's action, since the second understood what the first was going to report. The JOS should make their decisions independently. If they have to seek confirmation, they aren't really sure of what they have seen, and shouldn't make a report to the Referee.

### The August Quiz question

You are appointed as an IOT to Lane 9 at the turn end of the SNSW Metro Long Course Championships. The second heat of the Women’s 800M Freestyle is in the water. As your swimmer is about to turn at the 150 mark, a coach hands the swimmer in your lane a pair of goggles. As IOT, what do you do?

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please email Josh Karp:  
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**Swimming New South Wales Technical Swimming Committee**  
August 2017