

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



MINUTES

STATE FORUM

SATURDAY 22 JULY 2017

**COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT NORTH RYDE
7-11 TALAVERA RD NORTH RYDE**

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PRESENT

LIFE MEMBERS

Ron Jordan OAM Helen Wood OAM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Graham Towle OAM David Goff Janelle Barnett Suzanne Bergersen
Mark Heathcote (CEO)

AREA DELEGATES

AREA	DELEGATE	AREA	DELEGATE
ACT	Vikki Jacobsen	Coast & Valley	Norm Roberts
Metro South East	David Kennedy	Metro South West	Phil Wilkie
Metro North West	Sarah Maguire	North Coast	Ann Pilkie
South Eastern	Sue Worthington	Southern Inland	Mike Donnelly

CLUB DELEGATES

CLUB	DELEGATE	CLUB	DELEGATE
Bankstown Sports	Neil Rogers	Canberra	John Skene OAM & Murray Smith
City of Sydney	Luke Finn & Paul Bruce	Gunnedah	Brian Coombs
Leichhardt	Anne-Marie Whelan	McCredie Park Aquatics	Dennis Browning & Leonardo Repeti
Merrylands	Peter Johnston	Murwillumbah	Deborah Parmenter
Narrabeen Carlile	Lilian Washer	Novocastrian	Russell Waugh
Parkes	Barbara Weaver	Peakhurst	John Owen
Revesby Workers	Phil Wilkie & Gail Cauchi	Ripples St Mary	Glyn Stockley
Singleton	Debbie & Gareth Fleming	Sydney University	Helen Deas
Tuggeranong Vikings	Bob Alford	Twin Towns	Faye Rowles
Woodenbong	Jennie Riley & Ken McLennan		

VISITORS

Peter Lozan OAM Paul Dobson Sarah Koen Ryan Holloway
Jon Shaw

APOLOGIES

Cliff Harris OAM
Lynn Elliott
Ursula Carlile

Patrick Troy
Mark Payne

Tek Samuel OAM
Steve Traplin

Gladys Pye
Benjamin Tuxford

PRESENTATION No. 1

The CEO announced, and Graham Towle presented the banners to recognise the Top Ten point scoring clubs through Swimming NSW Championships conducted between 1st April 2016 and 31st March 2017.

The top ten clubs were:

1. Carlile
2. Knox Pymble
3. Trinity Grammar
4. Abbotsleigh
5. SOPAC Swim Club
6. Narrabeen Carlile
7. SLC Aquadot
8. Ginninderra
9. AquaBlitz Toongabbie
10. Ravenswood

PRESENTATION No. 2

Lane Ropes to Leadership & Junior Dolphin Program Updates – Sarah Koen & Mark Heathcote (Swimming NSW)

Sarah Koen gave a brief highlight of what Swimming NSW had achieved in the last year in the participation space and that she was planning to better these results again in the upcoming year. Sarah highlighted the organisation's shift in focus towards participation in addition to traditional membership.

Sarah then introduced the Lane Ropes to Leadership concept she had initiated in September 2016. Sarah noted that almost 100 metro based swimmers had applied to be part of the pilot project and in the end 24 teenage swimmers were selected to be part of the Group and had attended a six-week Toastmasters Course at three locations in Sydney. The group also had the opportunity to attend the Office of Sport Youth Sport Forum in the city with kids from other sports.

From the original group of 24, 18 swimmers were selected for the first SNSW Youth Advisory Panel (YAP), which was split into two working parties. The Panel members have focussed their work on developing strategies to keep swimmers aged 12-19 engaged in our sport. Their first project was to create a group digital story to describe their purpose and Sarah then showed this digital story to the meeting.

Sarah noted that the Panel members had now met on four occasions and were working on two key projects; a Youth Leadership Camp & a Twilight Race Party. Sarah explained that the two-day Leadership Camp would be held at the end of October and would focus on fun and leadership skills that the attendees can take back to their home clubs to improve the sport swimming for other teenagers.

The Twilight Race Party concept was to organise a fun event to engage teenage swimmers (members and non-members) in a racing event. Two carnivals have been planned with a key focus on fun, only 50m races and mixed relays, plus novelty races & BYO pool toys. Music will add to the party atmosphere. Sarah noted that these events would take place at Auburn on Saturday January 13th & at Bexley on Saturday February 17th.

Sarah then answered a few questions from the floor regarding the Youth Advisory Panel and handed over to Mark Heathcote to provide an update on the Optus Junior Dolphin Program.

Mark highlighted the successes of the Optus Junior Dolphin Program in its first full year, with over 300 Clubs participating in the program and almost 6000 Junior Dolphin members in NSW. Mark noted that despite the initial success of the program, Swimming NSW were committed to growing the program even further in the upcoming season.

Mark noted that the program guides and templates would be available much earlier this year, to allow Clubs and Areas more opportunity to plan their activities in time for the start of the summer season. There would also be an improved distribution system of the Junior Dolphin Packs, so children would get these quicker than previously.

Mark noted that Swimming NSW would be investing further in the equipment for those Clubs & Areas that would be running Optus Junior Dolphin Carnivals this summer which would include more readily available use of the Junior Dolphin Mascot.

Finally, Mark updated on the meeting on what was being planned to achieve greater results for the program in the Learn to Swim School space, which included the launch of an Optus Junior Dolphin App for Parents and Children to use.

Mark then answered some questions from the club's present regarding the program. Sarah and Mark were then thanked for their presentations.

PRESENTATION No. 3

eSafety & Social Media for Clubs & Swimmers – Sarah Koen (Swimming NSW)

Sarah introduced her presentation, noting that it was based off a presentation that had been provided from the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner. Sarah then outlined the role of the Office and its functions to provide online safety for children.

Sarah then referenced the Office's eSafety website, which had a plethora of information available for Parents, Children and administrators. Sarah noted that she would focus her presentation on some key areas that the website covered.

The first of these was cyberbullying, including its definition in a sporting context. Sarah then noted how this type of bullying could be reported and addressed by the eSafety Commissioner's Office. Sarah then explained the importance of looking after a child's digital reputation and how to give them the tools to protect this. Sarah then led the meeting through the eSafety Health Check poster, of which handouts were provided.

Sarah highlighted the importance of Areas and Clubs in managing the risks associated with Social Media and to make sure they had the appropriate Policies and Procedures in place to cover this area. Sarah noted that there are some great Social Media Policy templates available online that Clubs and Areas could use as a starting point for their own Policy. There are also aspects of the Swimming Australia Safe Sport Framework that outline the safe use of social media in the swimming environment.

Another important Area that Sarah reported on was the taking, posting and distribution of photos and videos. Sarah explained how quickly images and videos can be shared to others, often without the people's consent and for this reason it was again important that children and their parents protect themselves against this.

Finally, Sarah provided some links to some other very useful websites where further information could be found on the topics that she had covered. Sarah then answered some questions from the Clubs present and was then thanked for giving her presentation.

PRESENTATION No. 4

Fundraising for Sport – Ryan Holloway (Australian Sports Foundation)

Ryan Holloway introduced the Australian Sports Foundation which many of the members present had already heard some information about. Ryan gave some history about the Foundation, noting that it had been formed in 1986 but had undergone a transformation in 2014 which had greatly increased its ability to increase donations to sport and overall awareness of the Foundation. Its mission is to raise money for sport with the view to building a healthier, more active and inclusive Australia through sport.

This transformation of the Foundation included development of a leading-edge technology platform enabling online sign-up and donation, new products and services including tax-deductible crowdfunding, athlete fundraising and numerous tools, guidelines and templates to help organisations fundraise effectively. Ryan then highlighted several of the reasons that sport is vital to local communities.

Ryan then outlined to the meeting the current tax-deductible giving market and that there had been significant growth experienced in sport donations in the last three years. Overall the Australian Sports Foundation had grown from funding just over 400 projects in 2005 to over 2300 in 2017.

Ryan then outlined the various items that Clubs and organisations could fundraise for and specifically what projects that Swimming Clubs had been successful in securing funding for in the past which had been; Community Programs, Facility Development, Participation Programs, Elite Pathways & Equipment. Ryan also noted that individual athletes could also fundraise to assist them with the various costs associated with training and competing.

Ryan then informed the meeting of the process to sign up their own Club or Area for a project, noting that it was a very simple to do. Then, importantly what services the Australian Sports Foundation provided to help promote each project and therefore achieve donations.

Finally, Ryan highlighted some fundraising success stories that had been achieved in in the sport of swimming and also across other sporting organisations. Ryan then took some questions from the floor and was then thanked for his presentation.

PRESENTATION No. 5

Performance Pathway Presentation – Jon Shaw (Swimming NSW)

Jon Shaw introduced himself to the meeting and highlighted the key aspects of his role as Swimming NSW Coaching Director. Jon reported that he had started in the role in October 2016 and his first objective was to get out and visit as many Coaches and Clubs as possible, include each of the regional areas of NSW, so he could gather a clear understanding of the current state of play in NSW and therefore identify the areas where he could best add value through his role.

Jon noted that in January of this year, he had been joined by Ron McKeon who had been appointed as NSW State Head Coach by Swimming Australia and furthermore that Swimming NSW were currently recruiting for a Regional Club Development Coach to assist Clubs and Coaches in regional NSW. Jon reported that this significant investment by Swimming NSW and Swimming Australia highlighted the importance of ongoing Coach development in NSW.

Jon then provided the meeting with an outline of the areas where he had been focusing his attention, which included numerous visits to Coaches in both the metropolitan and regional areas of NSW, conducting several presentations at major meets across the State to talk to both Coaches and Parents about his role and also about the development of swimmers. Jon had also spent considerable time assisting the SNSW Performance Pathway Team in the delivery of the various Athlete Development Days, Camps and Tours. He noted that he was beginning to see a marked change in the level of Coach engagement in these activities which was very encouraging.

Jon noted that he was now focusing on the roll out of the 2017/18 Coach Development Framework to many of the State's Coaches and to continue to look to provide increased educational and development opportunities for Coaches in NSW which would in turn assist our athletes in achieving their potential.

Jon then answered a number of questions from the Clubs present on the objectives of his role and what he hoped to achieve in the short to medium term. Jon was then thanked for giving his presentation.

FORUM CLOSURE

Swimming NSW CEO, Mark Heathcote thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions, and reminded those present about the Technical Officials Dinner and Technical Official Forum taking place tonight and tomorrow respectively, and then closed the Forum at 3.18pm.
