

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



**swimming**  
new south wales

**MINUTES**

**STATE FORUM**

**SATURDAY 27 JULY 2019**

**NOVOTEL SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK  
11 OLYMPIC BOULEVARD,  
SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK**

**MINUTES**  
**STATE FORUM**  
**SATURDAY 27 JULY 2019**  
**NOVOTEL SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK**  
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**PRESENT**

**AREA DELEGATES**

<b>AREA</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>	<b>AREA</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>
ACT	Vikki Jacobsen	Coast & Valley	Norm Roberts
Metro South East	David Kennedy	Metro South West	Phil Wilkie
Metro North East	Amanda Vance	Mountains & Plains	Jo Keown
New England & North West	Brian Coombs	North Coast	Warren Phillips
South Eastern	Sue Worthington	Southern Inland	Tom Murphy

**CLUB DELEGATES**

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>
Abbotsleigh	Cameron Gledhill	Albion Park	Joseph Gerada
Auburn	Carolyn McDonald	Bankstown Sports	Neil Rogers
Beresfield	Jacqui Currey	Blacktown City	Richard Galea
Canberra	John Skene OAM	East Maitland	Judith Duma
Gunnedah	Karen Coombs	Katoomba RSL	Peter Ticehurst
Kempsey	Margaret Jopling OAM	Laurieton	Ann Pilkie
Liverpool	Darren Howard	Merrylands	Graham Edwards
McCredie Park	Dennis Browning	Narrabeen Carlile	Justin Barrett
NC Aquatic	Jen Noel	Peakhurst	John Owen
PLC Sydney	Craig Stokes	Port Macquarie	Alexandra Phillips
Queanbeyan Leagues	Bob Alford	Revesby Workers	Lachlan Black
Ripples St Marys	Glyn Stockley	Ryde Carlile	Dianne Seary
Sans Souci Sea Devils	Mark Smith	Sydney University	Carmel Kanaley
Taree	Andrew Jones	The Hills	Graham Taylor

**VISITORS**

Joanne Cox	Lorraine Alford	Di Silk	Vinh Tran
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**APOLOGIES**

Cliff Harris OAM	Ursula Carlile	Helen Wood OAM
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## **PRESENTATION No. 1**

The CEO announced, and Chris Fydler presented the banners to recognise the Top Ten point scoring clubs through Swimming NSW Championships conducted between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

The top ten clubs were:

1. Knox Pymble
2. Carlile
3. Trinity Grammar
4. University of NSW
5. SOPAC Swim Club
6. Abbotsleigh
7. PLC Sydney
8. Revesby Workers
9. Hunter
10. SLC Aquadot

## **PRESENTATION No. 2**

### **Swim League – Adam Beisler**

Mark Heathcote introduced Adam Beisler, the Founder of Swim League Australia and noted that with the announcement of Swimming NSW's acquisition of Swim League, Adam would present what Swim League is all about and his plans for the future.

Adam firstly outlined what the Swim League concept was all about and how it was a team-based swimming competition where two teams race each other in a duel meet format for points. There is a random assortment of traditional and non-traditional swimming events at each match to keep each event exciting. Team sizes can vary but there is a minimum number of races that each team member must compete in and also a maximum. At the end of the match the team with the most points wins. There is no official timing at these meets and also a minimum number of officials to start and judge the races.

Adam noted that swimmers are assigned teams and may compete with other swimmers not necessarily from the same Club and this has helped build friendships outside of existing Club allegiances, which a lot of the participants really enjoyed.

There are currently two ways that Swim League is being rolled out, a League format where approximately four to six teams race each other in a round robin competition, with the top teams progressing through to the finals. The other format was a gala day where two teams race each other in a one-off match. This format is used as an introduction to Swim League for those swimmers who haven't tried it before.

Adam noted that both formats have been very successful since he first started Swim League and that Swimming NSW would be looking to hold a combination of Leagues and Gala days in 2020. Adam further explained that his objective now that Swimming NSW had acquired the League would be to grow the concept across the State. And that Swimming NSW had been searching for a new competition format that would attract fresh interest for swimmers who are looking for an alternative to traditional full weekend swim meets. This new competition would provide an exciting sporting experience whilst remaining true to the spirit of swimming - hard racing!

Adam noted that Swim League provides a point of entry for many swimmers into the sport and also a place for swimmers to extend their swimming careers beyond the more traditional event formats.

Adam then took numerous questions from the meeting attendees about Swim League and what his plans were for the future and also noted that he would be formally commencing with Swimming NSW in early September and would begin working on the 2020 Swim League events and would share that information with Clubs and Areas as soon as it was available.

### **PRESENTATION No. 3**

#### **H2GrOw Project Update – Shaun Abbott**

Shaun Abbott introduced himself and gave an overview of the H2GrOw project, which had been commissioned by Swimming Australia to better understand the relationships between growth, maturation and facets of athletic development. Shaun explained that every child grows and matures at different rates depending on numerous factors and that obviously the rate at which a child grows and matures will affect their athletic performance particularly when compared with other children who are growing and maturing at different rates.

Rightly or wrongly, the sport of swimming had been set up to compare swimmer's athletic performance at a particular point in time, to award an overall winner at an event. For adult swimmers who had finished growing and maturing this was fair way to compare who was the fastest swimmer but for younger swimmers who were in different stages of their development it may not be a true reflection of their swimming performance.

The H2GrOw project had been set up to investigate the affects that the relative age of swimmers and also how the different stages of maturity may affect their performance. For example in the 14 years age group at the National Age Championships, there may be swimmers aged 14 years and 3 days competing against swimmers aged 14 years and 300 days. So those swimmers who were 297 days older would most likely have an advantage.

Similarly, some children mature earlier than other children, so a child who matured early would most likely have an advantage over a child who matured later. The H2GrOw project aimed to better understand what impact this may have on results. Shaun stressed that the athletic performance would still remain the key performance indicator, but the project would give Swimmers, Parents and Coaches a better understanding of why a child might be performing at different stages of their development. For example, an earlier maturing swimmer may initially be a long way in front of their competitors but as the other children mature later, they may find that other swimmers catch up to them. Similarly, a late maturing swimmer may initially be a long way behind other swimmers of the same age but when they mature themselves, we would expect that they would catch up to the others. Whilst at this point in time it was not an exact science, the project was also about making people aware of these factors so they could better understand their swimming performances when compared with others.

Shaun then answered some questions from the meeting attendees and noted that as the project progressed, he would be keeping Swimming NSW informed who would then pass on the information to members. Shaun was then thanked for his informative presentation.

#### **PRESENTATION No. 4**

##### **Swimming Central Presentation – Josh Karp & Greta Brodie (Swimming NSW)**

Josh Karp and Greta Brodie gave a presentation on the new Swimming Australia Customer Relationship Management system, Swim Central. Firstly, they gave a general overview of how and why the system had been developed and the roll out plan that had been adopted to ensure every Club and Area was set up in Swim Central prior to the eventual switch off of Club Lane.

Josh and Greta then took the meeting through the membership functionality of Swim Central including how Clubs would set up their Membership products and also how the workflow would look for a member joining. They then took the meeting through how online meet entries would work in Swim Central both from a Club or Area setting up their meet point of view and then also how this would look for a member entering an event.

Josh and Greta noted that at present the functionality of the system was regularly being updated and improved, which was good, but also meant that Swimming NSW would need to regularly update information for Clubs and Areas as things changed so their understanding of how Swim Central worked would be current.

Swimming NSW and Swimming Australia had developed numerous support guides to assist Clubs, Areas and Members on how to use the system and these were available on the Swimming NSW website and would be updated regularly over the coming weeks and months. Additionally, if any Club wanted further training on Swim Central, they were encouraged to contact the Swimming NSW office.

## **FORUM CLOSURE**

Swimming NSW Sport Development & Operations Manager, Vinh Tran 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 3.12pm.

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