



# Masters Swimming NSW Annual Report 2008

## Governance

Masters Swimming NSW is governed by a Board of seven members, three of whom were newly elected at the June AGM. The new Country Vice-President attends the monthly Board meetings in person. Because the President relocated interstate and resigned after the AGM, a new President and Vice President were appointed mid year. Thanks to those who served on the Board previously for their substantial contribution.

## Membership

Membership figures decreased in 2008 by a small percentage. One small club folded in 2008.

## Committees

The Board sincerely thanks the committee members for their continued dedication in 2008 as they play a vital role in the conduct of the Branch's activities.

- **Events Committee**

The Events Committee is responsible for the overall organisation and conduct of all events in NSW. It monitors the carnival calendar and recommends programmes and venues for all State events.

- **Technical Committee**

This committee organises training courses and provides support and continuing education for all technical officials. Two members of this committee were actively involved in the National Technical Committee. Continued regular training courses for officials ensures that each club hosting a swim meet is able to provide its own designated officials. In 2008, concentrated efforts have gone into courses for Timekeepers and Inspectors of Turns, the focus of which is the 2009 World Masters Games. In 2008 MSNSW required that Branch records require a pool survey to be recognised.

- **Coaching Education and Training Committee**

From the June AGM, this Branch has not had a Coaching Director so most of the administrative tasks have fallen to the Branch office. The members of the committee have continued their various tasks; one administers the allocation of resources on request from the resource list of books, DVDs and videos while another contacts the coaches who are due for reaccreditation.

- **Marketing and Club Development Committee**

This committee seeks sponsorship and looks at marketing opportunities. The club mentoring programme is an integral function of this committee.

## Communication

Our website is constantly evolving and all swim meet programs are posted on the web prior to the meets, with results listed promptly after each meet. The MSNSW newsletter *Splash* is produced every quarter and mailed to all members unless they have opted to receive an electronic notification. Communication with clubs is moving towards electronic contact and the Branch is looking forward to utilising the new database for this purpose.

## Safety

The Branch Safety Co-ordinator continued to ensure that clubs follow the National Safety Guidelines, particularly in the completion of Incident Report Forms at all club and interclub activities.

## Events

The NSW Long Course Championships were held at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre (SOPAC) over one evening and one day in March 2008, a change from the usual full weekend program. The number of swimmers entered was 371 from 44 clubs. Two world and 23 national and 43 branch records were broken at this meet.

The State Relay Meet in July was also at SOPAC with 317 swimmers from 18 clubs competing. This year we introduced 4x100m medley relays to the program. Eighteen national and 28 branch relay records were broken plus 4 national and 6 branch first split individual records.

The State Short Course Championships in October 2008 were held at Peninsula Leisure Centre at Woy Woy on the Central Coast of NSW, with 312 entries from 38 clubs. An astounding 3 world, 25 national and 54 branch records were broken.

In November the MSNSW Long Distance Championships were held as a long-course event over two days at Blacktown. The meet attracted 107 swimmers from 38 clubs. Seven national and 17 branch records were set at this meet.

In the Branch Point Score (BPS) annual trophy, 18 clubs hosted meets for MSNSW. Added to this were the Hunter Sports Festival in July and the Hills Long Distance Meet in August. Also in August the Events Committee ran a 'Fabulous Fun' Open meet and Cronulla Sutherland held an invitational meet. The BPS trophy winners in the four divisions were Warringah, Lake Macquarie Crocs, Gosford and Penrith.

Many of our swimmers enjoyed the competition and camaraderie at the national swim in Melbourne in April 2008 and a strong contingent of NSW swimmers attended and enjoyed the FINA Masters World Championships in Perth.

## Volunteers

We again had the assistance of Volunteering NSW at state championships with timekeeping and running. Various clubs assisted with raffle-ticket selling under the direction of the Events Committee. We have some dedicated members who volunteer their time on a regular basis to assist in the office.

## Government support

The funding from the NSW Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation was allocated to the sport of swimming as a whole and split with Swimming NSW Ltd; it has remained at the same reduced level as the previous year. This funding is not guaranteed for the future, notwithstanding MSNSW's obligations to run the swimming events in the 2009 World Masters Games. The Branch Office is located at Sports House in Sydney Olympic Park and the accommodation remains rent free, just paying for outgoings.

MSNSW wishes the restructured national administration plus all members, staff and volunteers of other branches every success for 2009.

Jane Noake, President, and  
Di Coxon-Ellis, Administrator.