



# THE NSW ASSOCIATION OF AUSSI MASTERS SWIMMING CLUBS INC

trading as Masters Swimming NSW

## 2021 Annual General Meeting

held on 07 May 2022  
at Murray/Lachlan Rooms, 8 Parkview Drive,  
Sydney Olympic Park and online via ZOOM.

### Minutes

The meeting commenced at 09:33am.

#### 1. Welcome to members by President

Kerryn Blanch gave an Acknowledgment of Country and welcomed and thanked the Member Clubs' delegates and Registered Persons for their attendance.

**Moment's silence in memoriam of deceased members.**

#### 2. Apologies

Registered Persons: Phil Murray (NCK), Anne Smyth (NTN), Terry Gainey (NWS), Luca Alessi (NWO).

Clubs: Armidale, Clarence River, Coffs Harbour, Myall, North Sydney, Oak Flats and Tuggeranong.

#### Declaration of Delegates

Delegates for the 16 clubs both present and online as follows:

Blacktown City – Mark McDonald, Ordinary Member	Blue Mountains Phoenix – Murray Garlan
Campbelltown Collegians – Greg Jacques	Cessnock Masters – Di Partridge
Hills AUSSI – Di Coxon-Ellis	Lane Cove Masters – Nigel Van Reyk
Manly Masters – Ross Hall	North Shore – Stuart Ellicott
Ryde AUSSI – Andrew McCrindell	Seaside Pirates – Sandra Rogers
Trinity Masters – John Kulhan	Warringah Masters – Graham Campbell
Wests Auburn – Kerryn Blanch, MSNSW President	Wett Ones – David Loader, MSNSW Vice President
Wollongong – Sue Johnstone (Life Member)	Woden Valley – Marcus Stokes

Other Registered Persons present were:

**Vice President, Country:** Lawrence Powderly (Wett Ones).

**Ordinary Members of the Board:** Jon Hawton (Seaside Pirates).

**Life Member:** Jane Noake (Seaside Pirates) in person and Helen Rubin (Ryde) via Zoom.

**Administrator/Minute taker:** Jillian Pateman (Blue Mountains)

**Registered Persons:** Sue Wiles (Blue Mountains), Suzie Haddad, Hans Preiss & Belinda Meek (Campbelltown), Kevin Willoughby (North Shore), Daphne Kulhan (Trinity), David Bale (Woden Valley).

**3. Declaration of Postal Votes**

Nil postal votes

**4. Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 15 May 2021**

As the minutes have been available on the MSNSW website, they were taken as read.

Matters arising: Nil

**Motion:** That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15 May 2021 be accepted as correct.  
Moved: Greg Jacques (Campbelltown) seconded: Lawrence Powderly (Wett Ones). Motion carried.

**5. Receipt and review of the reviewed reports of the Statement of Income and Expenditure in the Treasurer's Report**

Financial reports are presented in the Annual Report. S. Ellicott (North Shore) queried summary of Cash Flows, will follow up with outgoing Treasurer. Moved: Sue Wiles (Blue Mountains) seconded: Di Coxon-Ellis (Hills). Carried.

**6. Appointment of an independent assurance practitioner for the next financial year**

In 2008 the Association gave the Board the discretion to present an independent assurance practitioner's review of accounts by a qualified accountant to the Annual General Meetings. Again, this year (31 December 2021), a review was made of the functions in the branch office by Cabel Partners, as stated on page 23 of the Annual Report. All in favour, nil against. Motion carried.

Appointment of Reviewing Accountants Cabel Partners confirmed.

**7. To receive reports on the activities of the Association**

It was agreed that all reports would be accepted (or not) at the conclusion of the presentation of them all.

**President – Kerryn Blanch**

Kerryn spoke to her report which is on the website.

Tough two years but amazing team of people working in the background. Kerryn thanked the Administrator for efforts in receiving and providing regular Covid Updates, advised that Mark Hepple and Jane Noake teamed up to get the membership back in the water. It was understood that clubs found it too difficult to host carnivals so the Branch took on that pressure and held as many events as possible. The Grant committee looked at all options. Kerryn thanked the Board and all committee members and Position Holders and strongly thanked the members for staying with MSNSW.

**Vice-President, Country – Lawrence Powderly**

Lawrence noted his report is on the website. 2021 was a quiet year for the regions.

**Coaching Director Report – Anne Smyth**

-Report is on the website

**Technical Director – Marilyn Earp**

Marilyn's report is on the website.

**Administrator – Jillian Pateman**

Jillian noted her report is on the website.

**Training Co-ordinator – Diane Partridge**

Di outlined the many Zoom meetings that had been arranged and attended to keep Officials qualified and up-to-date. She asked that clubs keep encouraging their members to qualify and that the Technical Officials at the recent National Championships, were, in large 65+. Di thanked all those who volunteered and those that attended courses. It is requested that clubs check that their members are interested in training before putting their names down. Training can be conducted via Zoom, Di thanked all those that did train in 2021 & thanked the Administrator for organising the many Zoom meetings out of hours. Question from Di Coxon-Ellis: when MSA goes over to the DITA platform will there then be a cost imposed on volunteers to qualify? Di replied that there has been no mention of online courses to date. Course notes are all being updated by the National Technical Committee. Jane Noake replied that online courses will be introduced within the year with the initial launch of Timekeeper training but no decision on cost yet. Fortnightly meetings are underway.

**Endurance Report – Jenny Whiteley**

The report is on the website

**Meet Director – Jane Noake**

Jane's report is on the website

**Motion:** Kerry Blanch moved that all the above-mentioned reports be accepted.

Accepted: Di Coxon-Ellis (Hills) Seconded: John Kulhan (Trinity). All agreed

**8. Election of Office Bearers—**all positions are declared vacant.

**Election of Executive**

**President** — one nomination had been received for Kerry Blanch, who was declared elected.

**Vice-President** — one nomination had been received for Mark McDonald, who was declared elected.

**Vice-President, Country** — one nomination had been received for Lawrence Powderly who was declared elected.

**Treasurer** — no nominations received.

**9. Ordinary Members of the Board –**

Three nominations had been received for the three positions – Julie Orr (Manly), Suzie Haddad (Campbelltown) & Nigel Van Reyk (Lane Cove).

The elected Executive and Ordinary Members will constitute the MSNSW Board from the conclusion of this meeting until the next Annual General Meeting. The National Delegate will be decided by the Board.

**10. (a) General Business –**

**(1) To consider motions and all agenda items for which due and proper notice has been given.**

Motion from Tony Goodwin, Manly Masters member: We move that MSNSW subsidise electronic touch pads at a number of carnivals at appropriate locations either completely, or in part as a matter of urgency.

Considerable intense discussion ensued about the validity of item as a Motion or Discussion item. As written, it was presented from a Registered Person and, according to the Constitution, Motions are to be considered only from MSNSW's members i.e Affiliated clubs. To move on from this it was agreed to table the idea as a Discussion item.

#### 10. (b) Expressions of Interest

The Board seeks expressions of interest in appointment to the following positions:

- Branch Coaching Director
- Branch Technical Director
- Branch Training Coordinator
- Webmaster team
- Endurance 1000 Recorder
- Branch Safety Co-ordinator
- Social Media team

These positions will be ratified at the following Board Meeting.

An expression of interest form is available online for Member Clubs and it was requested that all members seriously consider volunteering as succession planning is essential for the future viability of our sport.

#### 11. Close 10:10am

##### Discussion item

(FINA require Automated Operating Equipment to be in place & utilised at sanctioned swim meets for World Record times to be recognised)

Ryde — can't offer touch pads (TP'S) because they don't hold a licence for it.

Woden Valley—understands if TPs are available at a venue then that venue should hold the necessary licence.

Manly spoke for the idea as Tony Goodwin, now 85, is a World Champion & has travelled to Victoria to attain a World Record (WR). While WR's are not an issue for most members there are others in Tony's class so Manly Masters would like MSNSW to subsidise this technology. Understood that it is an expensive exercise but there is frustration that swimmers need to travel so far and wide. Request that MSNSW subsidises this.

North Shore spoke FOR the idea as he considers Long Course opportunities scarce in 2022 & would like to see 2-3 SC & LC events utilise AOE, perhaps adding an extra cost to meet entry fees or MSNSW to subsidise. LC opportunity is not until October in 2022.

Seaside Pirates explained that, while he enjoys electronic timing this would be subsidising the elite few. The number of members in a WR class are relatively few so the discussion is about the whole organisation subsidising few. Kerryn explained this has been 4 swimmers in the last few years, 4 of our swimming membership of 1300.

Hills spoke both for and against. That perhaps a separate membership type be available for potential WR swimmers that compete at that level but that \$38 annual MSNSW membership fee (x 1300 members) for 4-5 swimmers is not best spent on this item.

Cessnock asked how many pools, that we use, have this electronic capability and five could be named. Branch hosts SC, LC & Relay meet. If the cost goes on to the membership then this is tough after the last two years. Can we go for Grants specifically for this? Admin replied that this might be successful for one year but cannot be guaranteed to be a repeated offering.

North Shore— As mentioned earlier we need 2-3 both SC & LC meets a year offering AOE. National Record breakers liked electronic timing too.

Wollongong —there were three World Records attained at the recent National Championship event over four days of competition & 109 National records (which do not require AOE) from 567 competitors.

Seaside Pirates—other Branches across Australia don't offer this variety of choice either and the need to serve swimming members should be underlying principle could drive decisions. So, in perspective, our Branch offers choice across every twelve-month period already.

Blacktown—AOE only serve elite swimmers while regular swimmers do like touch pads in terms of enjoyment of competition. Having AOE could promote our competitions to younger swimmers currently with Swimming NSW. Recent quotes received by Blacktown Masters was \$345 for touch pads, \$345 for Scoreboard PLUS the

need to also pay for the Operator. As it was their carnival only achieved a small profit and would have suffered a large loss if they had gone ahead with AOE. They benefit only a small number of record achievers but if we want to entice and provide the excitement of professional level of competition they do offer an added bonus.

Wests Auburn—in every two-year cycle, from a planning perspective, MSNSW does offer we hit every swim in SC & LC. In each age-group you can swim every swim twice through.

Blacktown—could MSNSW train our own Operators?

Seaside Pirates—answered. MSNSW use Swim Data Services, an experienced company, and they have problems at times and it does need to be a non-swimmer. They do also need to be paid.

Ryde— need to know exactly how many swim meets are being discussed/costed.

Lane Cove—asked, to set a benchmark, how many opportunities does a potential World Record breaker have? So, what is a fair & reasonable thing?

Woden Valley— IN ACT this would be at AIS & all meets have that opportunity. All AIS swims have touch pads included in hire & other ACT pools are trying to get them. Swimmers pay \$5-\$9 per race. 200-250 swimmers on average, more leading up to Championships. Younger swimmers have a limit on events but qualifier meets don't have a limit.

Cessnock— asked if Swimming Australia subsidise pool hire—no they don't.

10:43am Woden Valley's Marcus Stokes and David Bale left the meeting.

Seaside Pirates— Vastly different offerings from SOPAC. SOPAC & SNSW charges and fees are so much more & that we need to consider that grant money has been plentiful recently due to Covid but in a normal year we run financially close to the bone. 2022 MSNSW has had two SC meets and the LC still to come in October.

Warringah—Warringah Aquatic Centre charges \$1,700 extra for AOE.

Blacktown— had received complaints that the price of their carnival did not include pool hire so in 2022 the decision NOT to offer AOE was partly to absorb the entry fee.

Lane Cove—would there be more interstate swimmers if AOE was offered? No.

President—To wrap up taking this idea back to the Board they will look ahead for planning opportunities in 2023 and if any left-over grant money can be used to implement anything this year they will. The membership needs to be surveyed on this topic. Once the pools are identified then MSNSW can look at opportunities like e.g Merrylands pool. Any pools that offer AOE and an operator will be considered.

#### OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The recent National Championships saw unsteady swimmers being assisted up on to the blocks & this is a WH&S issue for both swimmer & assistant. Timekeepers are not trained to physically assist & this is not only an age-related issue. Could it be suggested that these swimmers deck start or should clubs discuss the issue with their members?

A club mentioned that the 2022 schedule of events was unclear. It was explained that the calendar is out and published but that all events are now considered *Subject to Change* due to Covid so advance notice needs to be tempered with caution. Question — where to find swim meets put on by other Branches? Reply that the website has a link on the top of EVERY page to every other Branch & MSA newsletter also has information and links.

Age Group Pointscore will be back but towels will no longer be offered due to cost. Members clubs are asked to take this discussion back to their members for alternatives. Swim caps?

The discussion finished at 11:02am.