

SOUTHERN INLAND SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENTS' REPORT 2019-2020

I am pleased to present this report which highlights the continuing strong achievements of our SISA Swimmers, Coaches, Officials and Management Committee members.

The year has seen outstanding performances by our SISA swimmers at not only area meets but at Regional and State. Unfortunately, due to the impact of the COVID 19 restrictions imposed by the Federal Government prevented the opportunity for our swimmers to compete at the Brophy, Junior State and Australian Age Nationals. A special acknowledgement must go to Ashley Van Rijswijk of the Wagga Wagga Swimming Club who was rewarded for her training and commitment with selection to represent Australia at the 2020 World Para Series, Sheffield, England. Ashley was all set to go, and again due to the COVID19 restrictions this event was cancelled.

Locally the impact of the COVID 19 virus has and is being felt in every facet of our daily lives. The impact of 'social distancing' and other measures imposed by Local, State and Federal governments has brought an end to all swimming pursuits. Resultant from these restrictions the SISA Management Committee unfortunately had to cancel the 2020 SISA Short Course Championships.

The SISA Long Course Championships and Speedo Sprints were conducted at the Oasis Aquatic Centre, Wagga Wagga on the 1st and 2nd February 2020 and thanks must go to Paul Gianniotis and his team at the Wagga Wagga Swimming Club for their role in hosting this event. This was for the first time in many years that the Championships were conducted over two days. Whilst there were many highlights over the two days, the March Past of all clubs on day 2 was a reminder of our 'proud traditions'. The Deputy Prime Minister – Mr Michael McCormack was on hand to award the Bernie Boy Shield to a very smartly turned out Cootamundra Swimming Club. The naming of the March Past Shield after Bernie Boyd was a fitting acknowledgement of a stalwart and great supporter of swimming in this part of the state over many, many years. Perpetual Shields were also awarded to relay team winners, with special thanks to Noel Poynter who was on hand to ensure that winners names were affixed to the shields at time of presentation. It was also pleasing to see some 12 currently accredited referees officiating at the SISA Championships.

On behalf of the entire Southern Inland Swimming Association I would like to congratulate the following SISA swimmers who achieved a 'National Top 25 Ranking' in either Long Course or Short Course.

Long Course

Samantha Taylor, Griffith Swimming Club	- ranked 19 th in the 15yrs girls 50m breaststroke - ranked 21 st in the 15yrs girls 200m breaststroke
Eddie Dodds of the Tumut Swimming Club	- ranked 19 th in the 14yrs boys 50 freestyle
Kade Knight, Wagga Swimming Club	- ranked 21 st in the 16yrs boys 400m I/Medley
Jamie Mooney, Wagga Swimming Club	- ranked 10 th in the 15yrs boys 50m freestyle - ranked 3 rd in the 15yrs boys 100m freestyle - ranked 11 th in the 15yrs boys 200m freestyle

Short Course

Kade Knight, Wagga Wagga Swimming Club - ranked 22nd in the 16yrs boys 400m I/Medley

The scheduled SISA Annual General Meeting (AGM) also had to be deferred and through consultation with Fair Trading NSW and under the provisions of the Incorporated Associations legislation the 2020 SISA AGM was postponed till Saturday 26th September 2020.

The BY-LAWS of the Southern Inland Swimming Association Inc. have been completely revised and once presented at the Annual General meeting will be uploaded to the SISA website for the information of all members of SISA. A huge thank you to all the SISA Management Committee members who contributed to the endeavour. Special thanks to Merv Penny who not only coordinated the revision but had the huge task of integrating the amendments, additions and suggestions into an evolving document. Whilst we, SISA Executive believe we have a contemporary and encompassing document, we are always open to further recommendations for continual improvement.

Billy and Erica are to be congratulated for the dedication and commitment to the training and development of swimmers and coaches within our SISA area. There is not a week that goes by during the summer swimming season where they are not involved directly or indirectly in providing training, support and development to our swimmer and coaches. The measure of their commitment is evident in the success of our swimmers and coaches during the year. Erica also provides a valued and timely liaison between SISA and Swimming New South Wales. Be it through access to and coordination of visiting coaches or providing advice to resolve Swim Central issues.

2020-2021 brings exciting new club and facility developments within SISA. Leeton and Yanco Swimming Clubs will be merge into what will be a club to take notice of during the next season. New pool developments are well under way with Griffith to get a new 50m outside pool, Leeton's pool is getting a make-over. Construction and improvements are also progressing on the amenities at the Young pool.

As we are all too acutely aware of – it takes many committed people to make SISA the success it is. I wish to thank all the clubs, their committees and swimmers for their commitment to SISA. To the SISA Management Committee;-

- Ingrid Corcoran for her comprehensive secretarial commitment,
- Stephen Mawbey for his work as vice president and together with his wife Michelle for ensuring that all our SISA equipment, clothing and swim gear meets the rules and regulations,
- Merv Penny for ensuring that all our finances meet not only regulatory requirements but are spent wisely and after due consideration.
- Phil Evans for his commitment as vice president and willingness to help whatever the task,
- Billy Nicholson and Erica Beggs for their work in the development of not only our swimmers but also our coaches. Erica also provides a timely and extensive conduit to SNSW.
- Kayleen Murphy for giving so much of her time to ensure that our Technical Officials get as much training and ongoing support as needed.
- Kevin Dodds for his webmaster's role in managing our SISA website,

- Michelle Mawbey for her role as the SISA Property Steward, ensuring that SISA always has all manner of SISA representative and official clothing.

Our SISA coaches, who during the impact of the COVID19 are to be commended for the way they have who have embraced social media in delivering new and innovative 'dry-land' exercising for swimmers.

Whilst the impact of COVID19 has affected us all I am sure that once the restrictions are eased and/or lifted SISA has the right dedicated administrators, support people, coaches and swimmers to bounce back to where we were. Whilst it is acknowledged there may be some clubs that will struggle to get back on their feet. I want those clubs to clearly understand that they are not alone and assistance and support is only a phone call or email away. SISA is only as strong when we are united.

My final thankyou is to the parents of our SISA swimmers for your continuing support of your child/ren. You get them to training, to swim meets and if fortunate take them to compete at distant centres. You are the backbone of SISA, you are our greatest asset.

Tom Murphy
President