



# Water Polo

AUSTRALIA



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
**2024/25**





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## ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

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# PRESIDENT REPORT

As President of Water Polo Australia (WPA), I'm proud to present our Annual Report for 2024/25 on behalf of the WPA board. This year has been one of success, growth and change, highlighted by our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers performance on the world stage, continued growth at the grassroots and development level of our game and significant organisational realignment to our new strategic plan, high performance strategy (Win Well), and participation strategy (Play Well).

## NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

WPA are in the last stages of finalising our new Strategic Plan - 2032+ Powered by Purpose, which will set out a clear vision to future proof the sport and empower our community to grow the game through to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games and beyond.

The plan builds on the achievements of our 2020-2030 National Strategic Framework and reflects a sharper organisational purpose which is: to future proof Water Polo in Australia and empower our community to grow the game.

This is more than a plan - it's a shared commitment to working together, making smart decisions and ensuring that water polo is sustainable, inclusive and successful at every level.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE

Whilst it was reported in last year's Annual Report, it would be remiss not to note again the performances of our Australian teams at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Our Aussie Stingers achieved the best Olympic result since Sydney 2000 with their inspiring silver

medal performance, while our Aussie Sharks had their best Olympic campaign since London 2012, defeating eventual gold medalists Serbia, powerhouse Hungary and host nation France in the pool stages, finishing eighth overall.

Following the Paris Olympic Games, WPA conducted a comprehensive, independent and stakeholder-informed review of our high performance system, from which the outcomes were used to shape our 2024-2032 High Performance Strategy.

Our strategy has been designed to build, lead and deliver a system that provides the environments to sustainably enable our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers to 'Win Well' when it matters. The strategy is simplified, data informed, focused and most significantly is people first. Success will be measured by not only podium performances, but through the people we develop and the culture we create.



Over the next eight years, we will be focused on what is most important to enable our Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers to achieve repeatable Olympic Games podium performances, and to enable our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks to continue their upward performance trajectory in Los Angeles 2028, and to podium for the first time in history in Brisbane 2032.

Aligned with our Strategy, we were pleased to confirm the re-appointment of our Head Coaches Bec Rippon and Tim Hamill through until the LA 2028 Olympic Games.

The first benchmark event for our national teams in the new Olympic cycle was the 2025 World Aquatics Championships, hosted in Singapore. The Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers narrowly missed out on a semi finals berth, with a one goal loss to eventual gold medalists Greece in the quarterfinals. While the Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks faced a tough pool and finished 13th.

### **GRASSROOTS, PATHWAYS AND DEVELOPMENT**

Building the future of water polo in Australia remains one of our top priorities. WPA is in the process of finalising our participation strategy - Play Well 2032, which will provide the blueprint for how we will grow the game like never before. Our ambition is clear is to have more people engaging with water polo, in more ways, more often.

Our National Age Group Program continues to grow, with teams selected to represent Australia at the men's and women's U20 World Aquatics Championships and a women's team for the World University Games. A number of teams travelled on development tours to Europe and New Zealand, amongst development camps hosted at home in Australia.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

As we look ahead to the next 12 months and beyond for Water Polo in Australia, I'm confident in and excited by what the future holds.

With new strategies to ensure we Lead Well, Play Well and Win Well, aligned values and ambitious goals, I have no doubt that our sport will continue to thrive as we look to leverage the green and gold runway building into a home Olympic Games in Brisbane 2032.

Water Polo Australia has secured hosting rights of the 2026 World Aquatics World Cup Finals that will be in Sydney. A huge achievement for our sport, and great recognition of the success of our national teams and also our team behind the team. It will mark the return of a world class aquatics event to Oceania for the first time since Melbourne held the World Aquatics Swimming Championships (25m) in 2022. I look forward to working with our colleagues at World Aquatics to deliver a memorable event that will leave a lasting impression and form a legacy for our water polo community for many years to come.

In closing, I would like to extend my deepest thanks to all of our athletes, coaches, volunteers, administrators, partners and fans for their unwavering commitment and support over the last 12 months. And to the Water Polo Australia Board and committees for their continued hard work in leading the organisation and identifying new strategies to help our sport grow.

**Trent Birkett**  
President, Water Polo Australia



# CEO REPORT

The past year has been one of growth, resilience, and renewed ambition for Water Polo Australia as we continued to strengthen our sport at every level from grassroots participation to elite international competition. Our athletes, coaches, officials, clubs and volunteers have demonstrated exceptional commitment, reflecting the passion that drives our water polo community nationwide. As we look ahead, we remain focused on expanding opportunities, enhancing performance pathways, and building a sustainable future for our sport.

## EMPOWER

Water Polo Australia has made substantial progress in strengthening its governance framework and ensuring the organisation is well-positioned for sustainable growth. The Board's approval of a new constitution marks a major milestone in this journey, aligning our operations with the Australian Sports Commission's Sports 'Governance Principles' and setting a clear foundation for future success.

A series of amendments to the organisation's constitution will ensure closer alignment with international and national sporting governance requirements while continuing to uphold its values of inclusivity, safety, and community. The changes follow the adoption of a new constitution by World Aquatics (formerly FINA) in December 2022, which established updated statutes and regulations for aquatic sports worldwide. As a voting member of Swimming Australia, WPA is required to bring its constitution into conformity with these standards.

WPA is proud to report that 19% of our membership identifies as being from culturally diverse backgrounds, over 50% of our membership being female, and celebrated pride round in our Australian Waterpolo League in partnership with the Victorian Phoenix.. Through our social impact strategies across the Inclusion, Diversity & Equity and Reconciliation Action Plan programs, WPA remains committed to fostering an inclusive environment and will continue to actively engage with multicultural communities to increase this representation moving forward.

## DEVELOP

Water Polo Australia made significant strides in strengthening the pathways that support the growth and success of our athletes and referees. The development and implementation of new Athlete and Referee Development Frameworks have provided a clear, nationally consistent approach to nurturing talent, enhancing performance, and ensuring sustainable progression from grassroots to elite levels.

These frameworks were designed in close collaboration with Member Associations, high-performance coaches, and technical officials to ensure they reflect the realities of the sport across all levels. For athletes, the focus has been on creating a holistic model that supports both athletic excellence and personal wellbeing, with clear benchmarks and education programs to guide development. For referees, the framework delivers a structured pathway for recruitment, training, and advancement, supported by enhanced mentoring and assessment systems that promote consistency and professionalism across competitions.

Together, these initiatives form a cornerstone of our long-term strategy to elevate the quality and depth of Australian water polo. By investing in our people, both in and out of the pool, WPA is building a stronger, more connected community.



## PLAY

WPA is in the final stages of the development of our new 'Play Well 2032' Participation Strategy - designed to inspire more people to stay involved and to invite many others to experience water polo, in its many forms, for the very first time.

Following the release of the Australian Sports Commission's Play Well Strategy in 2023, WPA recognised the critical importance of aligning our participation growth initiatives to the national system strategy.

The new Play Well 2032 Strategy will strengthen the connectedness, capability, diversity and scale of our delivery system, expand access to offerings that meet the diverse needs of participants and fuel sustainable growth, and expand the footprint of water polo clubs and facilities across Australia.

## PERFORM

WPA welcomed Andrew Pratley as the GM - High Performance to oversee the High Performance team and strategy execution in preparation for the LA 2028 Olympic Games. WPA thanks outgoing GM - High Performance Lorinda Rugless for her dedication and leadership in the final stages of our Paris 2024 campaign.

Our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers travelled to Singapore for the 2025 World Aquatics Championships. The World Championships marked the official start of the LA 2028 Olympic cycle, as the first benchmark event in this new quad.

Under the guidance of Bec Rippon, our Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers went down by one goal in the quarterfinals stages, missing a berth in the semi finals, and finishing in sixth place overall.

Our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks, led by Tim Hamill, faced a tough group stage, and recorded an eventual 13th place.

With the structure of our new High Performance 2024-2032 Strategy now in place, our high performance teams are working hard to deliver on our goal of winning well when it matters, to inspire the nation.

## PROSPER

During the last financial year, WPA commenced the process to shift the Foundation from a sub-committee of the Board to its own legal entity, the Water Polo Australia Foundation Ltd. This includes the drafting of a new constitution with proposed independent directors whilst still continuing to leverage the Australian Sports Foundation for tax deductibility.

As an organisation, our revenue continues to grow - with increased high performance funding following the outstanding performances of our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers at the Paris Olympic Games, as well as increased participation funding following a recalibration of the Australian Sports Commission's distribution mechanism.

## IN CLOSING

I would like to extend my thanks to the WPA Board for their ongoing trust and support, and for extending my tenure as CEO through until after the LA 2028 Olympic Games.

Looking ahead, the next 12 months presents some exciting opportunities for our sport, highlighted by the hosting of the 2025 World Aquatics World Cup finals (men's and women's) in Sydney. This is a significant milestone for our sport, and the first taste of what we hope will be more international water polo down under on the green and gold runway to Brisbane 2032.

The evolution of our National Strategic Plan will hold us accountable as we enter this new stage of growth for our sport, and aligns to the Participation Strategy that will help us to grow the game like never before, and our High Performance Strategy which will allow us to develop Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers athletes that win well to inspire all Australians.

**Tim Welsford**  
CEO, Water Polo Australia





# NATIONAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK SCORECARD

	SUCCESS BY 30 JUNE 2025	TARGETS TO BE ACHIEVED BY 30 JUNE 2025	RESULT	
EMPOWER	Water Polo is considered to have an optimal operating model for sport, with clear alignment, communication and efficiency of operation.	>75% of members and participants are satisfied with communication systems and access to information	✓	
		WPA scores 4 and States >2 on Sport Australia Governance Assessment.	✓	
		75% of Members are satisfied with shared services and support received from WPA	NA	Decision made not to pursue a shared services model nationally
DEVELOP	Growth in availability of suitable coaches, officials and administrators exceeds the growth in demand at all levels	>75% of coaches and referees are satisfied with L&D framework and the support they receive	✓	
		There is no more than 70% of any one gender in coaching and officiating roles across Australia in any level of the game.	✓	
PLAY	Water Polo achieves exponential growth in participation, and provides opportunities for all.	90,000 people are exposed to (LTS) or participate in some form of water polo annually	✗	35,488 total members and exposures
		5% of members are from culturally diverse backgrounds	✓	19%
		Water Polo is played in 20 Universities around Australia	✓	
		100 LTS centres around Australia include some water polo activities in their program	✗	WPA undertaking Play well strategy development
		There is a 20% reduction in member protection complaints through an improved culture and education	✗	Member protection complaints have increased YTD. This is in line with increased data and education on complaint making
PERFORM	Water Polo has integrated pathway and performance programs that provides Australians with the best chance of success.	National teams achieve Olympic Games target performance	✓	
		>80% of process targets achieved in Senior and NAGP Campaign plans	✓	
		Each of the engaged top 30 coaches and referees have individual development plans in place and each mentor at least 3 others within the system	✗	Not achieved
		At least 20 Schools of Excellence are established around Australia	✗	Not prioritized this year
PROSPER	Water Polo is positioned as the number one Australian Olympic team sport in terms of commercial partnerships and community profile.	Water Polo doubles its exposure and awareness through increased reach, content and engagement	✓	Social media impressions and page views increased by over 100%
		5% of general population are familiar with water polo	✗	Not tracked
		WPA generates an additional \$1.2M in revenue	✓	
		Deliver two events annually to celebrate Water Polo	✓	
		Grow Alumni to 300 members	✓	

# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION

I am delighted to have recently commenced as Chair of the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and I look forward to continuing the legacy of those that have led the organisation before me.

I know the joy and pride that sport can bring us all, and the opportunities it provides. On the eve of the Paris 2024 Olympics and Paralympics, and eight years out from Brisbane 2032, my vision is for sport to be safe, fair, accessible and inclusive for everyone, with every athlete supported to reach their full potential.

We want to bring out the best in everyone involved in sport because that's how we will become the world's best – by working together and bound by a common purpose.

We encourage and help Australians of all backgrounds, ages and abilities to get involved in sport and we advocate for sport and the positive influence it has on the nation.

Our grant programs support athletes, coaches, officials and organisations, while our Sporting Schools program is helping more children access free and fun sporting opportunities than ever before. More than 9,200 schools are registered with the program and our goal is to reach 32 million participants by Brisbane 2032.

We're now 18 months into Australia's High Performance 2032+ Sport Strategy which is a united commitment from our Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games sports to 'Win Well' and build sustainable success towards Brisbane 2032 and beyond.

Australia's high performance sport system is more united than ever, working together to deliver the Horizon 1 Win Well Projects which included the landmark Connection to Country Action Plan.

Likewise, work continues to help Australians to 'Play Well' as part of the nation's first codesigned Sport Participation Strategy with a Play Well Leadership Group assembled that will oversee the implementation of the strategy and deliver on its vision that 'everyone has a place in sport'.

We are proud that our Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Campus has been the home of sport in Australia for over 42 years and welcome the \$249.7 million investment announced in the FY2024-25 Federal Budget to upgrade our high performance facilities to ensure they are once again world-leading.

The funding will ensure our athletes have access to the best testing and training facilities available and includes a new multi-story and para-accessible accommodation building and Testing and Training Centre to provide state-of-the-art equipment and support for our athletes' development. An indoor Sport Dome will also provide 24/7 all-weather training facilities for our track and field sports.

I know success will be greatest when every part of the system is able to perform their role at their best, and I look forward to leading the ASC, including in its work towards ensuring there is a lasting legacy for all Australian sports and the community from this green and gold decade – when the eyes of the world will be on Australian athletes, Australian sport and Australian venues.



**Kate Jenkins AO**  
Chair of the Australian Sports Commission



# HIGH PERFORMANCE

It was a significant year for the High Performance program seeing the culmination of the Paris 2024 Olympic cycle and transitioning through to the commencement of the LA2028 Olympic cycle under the direction of the WPA 2024-2032 Win Well High Performance Strategy.

The Paris 2024 Olympic Games saw fantastic performances from both the Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers and Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks.

## ORD MINNETT AUSSIE STINGERS

The Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers arrived in Paris after a successful preparation camp with Greece, where they won the Gold Medal in the Thetis Cup. They followed that with a camp with the French team before moving into the Olympic village. The Aussie Stingers got straight to work winning all four round matches against China, The Netherlands, Canada and Hungary to top Group A. This saw them crossover against Greece in the quarter finals with a strong 9-6 win taking them into the medal rounds.

In the semi finals the Aussie Stingers took on the USA, winning a heart-stopping penalty shootout to advance to the gold medal game for the first time since the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and securing the country's first Olympic medal since 2012.

In the final, the Aussie Stingers came up against the very talented and tough Spanish team, eventually going down 9-11. It was a fantastic tournament for the Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers to finish with an Olympic silver medal with Alice Williams sitting atop the tournament scorers list with 21 goals.

Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers Olympic Team – Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Elle Armit, Zoe Arancini (c), Keesja Gofers, Sienna Green, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Danijela Jackovich, Tilly Kerans, Genevieve Longman, Gabriella Palm, Alice Williams.

## ORD MINNETT AUSSIE SHARKS

The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks came into Paris on the back of camps held in Germany, Serbia and Greece. In a competitive opening match, the Aussie Sharks went down to Spain, but followed it up two days later with a massive 8-3 win against the reigning Olympic champions Serbia, before beating the home nation France and then the 2024 world champions Hungary 9-8 to secure second spot in Group B.

This saw Australia draw the USA in the crossover quarterfinals, unfortunately losing in a heartbreaking penalty shootout after the scores were locked 7-all at full time. The team played at an amazing level and were moments away from a first Olympic semi finals berth, eventually finishing in eighth place.

Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks Olympic Team – Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Blake Edwards (c), Lachlan Edwards, John Hedges, Angus Lambie, Milos Maksimovic, Jacob Mercep, Charles Negus, Luke Pavillard, Chaz Poot, Nic Porter, Nathan Power (c).

## OLYMPIC DEBRIEF

Following reviews of both the Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers and Aussie Sharks Olympic campaigns, and in recognition of the performances of the teams in and out of the pool in Paris, Water Polo Australia re-appointed Head Coaches Bec Rippon and Tim Hamill respectively through to the LA 2028 Olympic Games.

The Olympic review process, with a view to an eight-year runway to a home Olympic Games in Brisbane in 2032, also informed WPA's 2024-2032 Win Well High Performance Strategy, which was launched in December 2024. This strategy provides the blueprint for how WPA will enable our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers to Win Well when it matters and inspire all Australians.





## 2025 WORLD CUP SERIES

The Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers commenced the season at World Cup Division 1 in Greece in January, finishing fourth at the event to qualify for the World Cup Finals in April in China. At the World Cup Finals, the Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers lost their opening match – the tournament quarterfinals – to the eventual silver medalists Hungary, before defeating China and then Italy to officially end the World Cup Series in fifth place.

**Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers World Cup Series Squad –** Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Kasey Dalziel, Tayla Dawkins, Claire Durston, Jessica Emerson, Tenealle Fasala, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Samantha Henderson, Danijela Jackovich, Alexie Lambert, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Pippa Pedley, Emma Putt, Nioka Thomas, Alice Williams.

## 2025 OCEANIA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFICATION

Doubling as the International series for the Australian Youth Water Polo Championships, the Ord Minnett Aussies Sharks hosted New Zealand for a three-test series in Perth in April.

The winners of this series qualified their nation for the 2025 World Championships. The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks put on a dominant display in their first international hit out since the Paris Olympic Games, winning the series 3-0.

Game 1 – 18-7

Game 2 – 24-9

Game 3 – 21-9

**Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks Squad –** Laurence Barker, Matthew Byrnes, Tristan Glanznig, John Hedges, Zac Izzard, Luka Krstic, Angus Lambie, Drew McJannett, Daniel Magasanik, Milos Maksimovic, Jacob Mercep, Tyson Mutsch, Charlie Negus, Luke Pavillard, Nathan Power, Tim Putt.

## USA TEST MATCH SERIES

The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks headed to the USA in June for a combined training camp and three-test series with the USA as a start to their international preparations for the 2025 World Championships. After a close one-goal loss in the opening game, the Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks won the final two games to win the series.

Game 1 result – 12-13 (USA)

Game 2 result – 13-12 (Australia)

Game 3 result – 14-11 (Australia)

**Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks Squad –** Laurence Baker, Nicolas Bicari, Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Tristan Glanznig, Andrej Grgurevic, Luka Krstic, Angus Lambie, Drew McJannett, Jacob Mercep, Sam Nangle, Nicholas Porter, Nathan Power, Tim Putt, Loui Schuler.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Through June both the Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers and Aussie Sharks were in preparation mode for the 2025 World Championships to be held in July. The Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers held a three-week preparation and selection camp on the Gold Coast before heading to Perth to host the USA and Italy, whilst the Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks came home from the USA for a Sydney-based block before heading to Thailand for a preparation camp with Serbia.

**Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks 2025 World Championships selected team –** Laurence Barker, Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Tristan Glanznig, Andrej Grgurevic, Luka Krstic, Angus Lambie, Milos Maksimovic, Drew McJannett, Jacob Mercep, Sam Nangle, Charles Negus, Nic Porter, Nathan Power (c), Tim Putt.

**Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers 2025 World Championships selected team –** Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Tenealle Fasala, Sienna Green, Bronte Halligan (c), Sienna Hearn, Danijela Jackovic, Tilly Kearns, Alexie Lambert, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Gabriella Palm, Pippa Pedley, Alice Williams.



# COMPETITIONS & OFFICIALS

## NATIONAL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2024 National State Championships were successfully staged on the Gold Coast, with matches held across two venues – the Gold Coast Aquatic Centre and Miami Aquatic Centre. Delivered in partnership with Experience Gold Coast, the five-day event brought together the best young talent from across the country, as well as an invitational team from New Zealand.

Featuring one representative team per state across the 15&U and 17&U age groups, the championship format ensured all teams played each other in round matches, followed by semi-finals and finals.

### Key Highlights:

- Queensland claimed dominance in the 17&U Boys and Girls divisions, securing both national titles on home soil.
- In the 15&U Girls division, New South Wales emerged victorious.
- In a tightly contested 15&U Boys gold medal match, New Zealand defeated New South Wales, though NSW were awarded the 15&U National Championship title as the highest-ranked Australian team.

Looking ahead to 2025/26, the National State Championships transition to Canberra, with the successful 2024 format to be retained.

## AUSTRALIAN YOUTH WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2025 Australian Youth Water Polo Championships (AYWPC) marked another milestone for Water Polo Australia's largest participation event, successfully transitioning from its traditional January timeslot to April. Held in Perth, Western Australia, the event was proudly supported by Tourism WA, reinforcing the state's commitment to hosting major sporting events.

This year's championships saw record participation levels for a west coast event with 167 teams and over 2,900 athletes and support staff competing across 14 age divisions over 10 days. The tournament spanned four venues, utilising eight fields of play simultaneously, and delivered a total of 565 games across the competition period.

### Key Highlights:

- Over 260 hours of live water polo action were broadcast, increasing national visibility of the sport.
- The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks hosted New Zealand in a World Aquatics World Cup Qualification Series, delivering thrilling performances in front of near-capacity crowds.
- The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks extended their impact beyond the pool, engaging with fans through post-game signing sessions, enhancing community connection and event atmosphere.

The 2025 AYWPC once again demonstrated the strength of Australia's junior water polo landscape and its ability

to deliver large-scale, multi-venue events. The positive outcomes achieved in Perth set a strong foundation as the event prepares to return to Brisbane in April 2026, continuing its role as the premier club-based event in Australia.

## AUSTRALIAN WATERPOLO LEAGUE

The 2025 Australian Waterpolo League (AWL) season ran from 18 January through 6 April, and featured a home-and-away regular season, culminating in the Finals Series at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre from 4-6 April. Ten clubs competed in each division with six teams qualifying for the finals in each division.

### Key Highlights

- Clubs entered: UNSW Wests Magpies, UWA Torpedoes, Griffith University Queensland Thunder, Sydney Uni Lions, Fremantle Mariners/Marlins, Drummoyne Devils, Hunter Hurricanes, Victoria Phoenix and UTS Balmain Tigers
- Men's Grand Final: The UNSW Wests Magpies claimed their eighth AWL men's title, defeating UWA Torpedoes in the final.
- Women's Grand Final: Griffith University Queensland Thunder defended their 2024 AWL crown.

Overall, the 2025 AWL season reaffirmed the strength of the domestic competition, showcasing exceptional talent across all clubs. 2026 will see a small change in the structure of the AWL competitions with the home and away rounds moving to a four day, week on and week off cycle and Finals changing from three to four days in duration.

## 13&U DEVELOPMENT CARNIVAL

2024 saw 19 teams descend on Hobart for the 13&U Development Carnival from 4-7 July. The National Development Carnival is designed to introduce young athletes and officials to representative based competition and assist in their development through exposure to teams from other states.

## REFEREES AND OFFICIALS

- AWL Referee debuts: Ryan McEwen, Jane Pavlides, Isabelle Walls
- AWL Referee Milestones: Andrew Carney (reached 850) | Conor Davis (reached 150) | Fiona Haigh (reached 200)
- Number of referees at: AYC 2025 (63), NSC 2024 (17) and 13 Development 2024 (12)
- 89 Referees utilised over all WPA competitions

## INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- World Championships – Nick Hodgers / Fiona Haigh
- U20 World Championship – Daniel Bartels / Nicola Johnson
- World Uni Games – Ash Kaesler
- World Cup – Nicola Johnson / Ash Kaesler



# PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS



Over the past 12 months, Water Polo Australia placed a strong emphasis on player development and team preparation in the lead-up to the 2025 U20 World Championships, while also providing valuable international experience for emerging athletes within the U16 and U18 men's and women's programs.

A key focus during this period was the integration of the U20 programs with the senior national teams—the Sharks (men) and Stingers (women)—to strengthen the connection between age-group and senior high-performance environments.

In December 2024, eight U20 women joined the Stingers' World League preparation camp, while the U20 men participated in a joint training camp with the Sharks in Canberra in January 2025. These initiatives provided athletes with valuable exposure to senior team culture, performance standards, and training environments, while also allowing NAGP coaches to align with the coaching philosophies and style of play led by Head Coaches Bec Rippon and Tim Hamill. Feedback from both athletes and staff was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the effectiveness of this integrated approach and reinforcing the importance of maintaining such collaborative initiatives in future programs.

During 2024/25, the following teams represented Australia across a series of international tours to train and play against some of the best Age Group teams in the World.

## MEN'S

### Men's U20 European Tour 2024

In preparation for the U20 World Championships in 2025, Head Coach Dragan Bakic led the men's team on a European tour, commencing in Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, where they trained and competed with teams from Croatia, Germany, and Montenegro. The team then travelled to Istanbul, Turkey, to compete in the ISPOLO U19 Tournament.

### Men's U16 New Zealand Tour 2024

An Australia U16 team, led by Head Coach John Fox, participated in the U18 New Zealand club championship where they performed strongly to secure 5th place overall.

### Men's U20 World Championship 2025

The Men's U20 Team competed at the 2025 U20 World Water Polo Championships held in Zagreb, Croatia. The team finished 10th overall, following a closely contested match against Germany for ninth place. Under the leadership of Head Coach Dragan Bakic, the team delivered a commendable performance, recording only two losses throughout the tournament—a strong achievement at this level of international competition.

Men's 2025 U20 World Championship Team – Sam Bloomfield, Sean Bright, Ashton Brown, Zac Izzard, Daniel Magasanik, Jake Martin, Rex Palazzi, Ethan Payne, Oliver Purcell, Lewis Saupin, Jamie Sharman, Thomas Sherhan, Harper Stewart, Harrison Tucker, Cory Tucker



## WOMEN'S

### Women's U20 European Tour 2024

As part of preparations for the Women's U20 World Championships 2025, Co-Head Coaches Jackie Northam and Dusan Damjanovic led the women's U20 team on a tour of Europe, beginning in the Netherlands for training and match play against the Dutch National Team, followed by a training and competition block in Italy with the Italian National Team.

Feedback from Jackie and Dusan highlighted that the matches against the Dutch and Italian squads provided the athletes with invaluable exposure to the physicality and tactical intensity characteristic of the world's leading junior nations—experience that will serve the group well in their continued preparation for next year's championship.

### Women's U16 and U18 New Zealand Tour 2024

As part of Water Polo Australia's ongoing national development pathway, squads were selected to compete in the New Zealand U18 and U16 Club National Championships, providing emerging athletes with valuable international competition experience. The U18 team, led by Head Coach Rowie Webster and Assistant Coach Kate Pipkin, performed strongly to secure third place overall, while the U16 team, under Head Coach Bronwen Knox, showed significant progress throughout the tournament and finished seventh overall.

## Looking Ahead

WPA held a 10-day integrated female World University Games and World U20 Championships selection and preparation camp at the AIS in June. The teams for both competitions were selected following this camp, with these events being held in Germany in July and Brazil in August respectively.

Selected team for the 2025 World University Games – Jessica Bihler, Lilli Harris, Samantha Henderson, Jasmine Higgs, Chelsea Issac, Nancy Lee, Lucinda Marsh, Madeline Marshall, Alexandra Nasser, Emma Putt, Isabella Sayer, Mimi Stoupas, Alyssa West

Selected team for the female U20 World Championships – Koco Bacic, Georgia Chapman, Bless Daly, Tayla Dawkins, Saskia Dunn, Samantha Hardingham, Chelsea Johnson, Ebony Nash, Sienna Owen, Anneliese Pamp, Isabel Scott, Layla Smith, Charley Stephens, Kali-yah Taoso



# ATHLETE WELLBEING/ENGAGEMENT & ATHLETES' COMMISSION

## AIS ELITE ATHLETE EDUCATION NETWORK

Many of our athletes continue to progress their tertiary studies through universities within Australia and abroad. Within Australia, over 40 universities operate within the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Elite Athlete University Network to support elite athletes. A special thank you to all universities that continue to support our water polo athletes through both elite athlete scholarships and advocacy for extensions and special consideration to support them during international tours.

Additionally, the following athletes have been rewarded financial assistance to support their education costs through the **AIS Athlete Education Scholarship**. A special thanks to John and Myriam Wylie Foundation! Your contribution is having a remarkable impact on our athlete's ability to study, train and compete! Thank you.

- Alexandra Nasser: Australian Catholic University, Bachelor of Physiotherapy
- Georgia Chapman: Australian Catholic University, Bachelor of Education
- Isla Mulligan: The University of Western Australia, Bachelor of Science

## PKF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PKF Sydney and Newcastle, through National Water Polo Alumnus Nick Falson, for the third year, supported national program athletes through professional development scholarships. These scholarships are highly valued with many quality applicants from our Stingers, Sharks and Pathways athletes opting into this competitive process to seek a scholarship.

Congratulations to the 2024/2025 scholarship recipients:

- Bronte Halligan: TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) course
- George Ford: Data Science and Machine Learning
- Harper Stewart: Financial Management, and Marketing
- Georgia Chapman: Curriculum Design

As Nick shared, "The balance between making the commitment to being an elite level athlete and still creating a well-rounded life can be challenging, and the water polo community should be very proud of the way these young people achieve that."

## ATHLETE AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

Athlete Ambassador Programs aim to provide our High-Performance athletes with meaningful opportunities to connect and build relationships with causes and opportunities that align to their interests. It may include speaking and coaching appearances, active contributions

to program development, posting on social media and developing and leveraging the ambassadors' own profile and voice through

photo and video shoots. Thanks to WPA partners KAP7 Australia and Hello Period, and the Australian Institute of Sport, the following athletes and alumni were given the opportunity to support broader National System Initiatives:

- AIS Thrive with Pride – Alyssa West and Sofie Pontre
- AIS Share a Yarn – Kali-Yah Taafil Taoso
- AIS Problem Solvers – Luci Marsh
- WPA KAP7 Athlete Ambassadors – Nathan Power, Tim Putt, Abby Andrews and Gabi Palm
- Project Confidence/Hello Period Ambassador – Alice Williams

## ATHLETES' COMMISSION

The past 12 months have been highly productive for the Athletes' Commission. Since Paris, the Commission has:

- Contributed to the revision and strengthening of the Athletes' Commission Charter
- Provided detailed and constructive feedback on the updated Athlete Agreements
- Advocated strongly for the financial support for athletes across tours and camps

Water Polo Australia would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Commission for their effort, leadership, and commitment throughout this period.

### 2024/2025 Commission Members:

- Bronwen Knox – Board Director
- Blake Edwards – Chair
- Bronte Halligan – Secretary
- Angus Lambie
- Alice Williams
- Gabriella Palm
- Lachlan Edwards
- Matthew Byrnes
- Nathan Powers

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the AIS Wellbeing and Engagement Team for their ongoing funding and support of the WPA Athlete Wellbeing & Engagement program. Access to a diverse range of programs and services has supported the wellbeing of our HP athletes, coaches, and staff.

In addition, WPA would like to acknowledge the wellbeing support provided to our athletes through our NIN partners. Thank you to Amanda Schonfeld (WAIS), Jaime Krol (QAS), Sam Waters (VIS) and Cara Dobinson (NSWIS).



SINGAPORE 2025



# SPORT DEVELOPMENT

The 2024/25 financial year marked a transformative chapter for the Water Polo Australia (WPA) Sports Development team within water polo across Australia. This period was characterised by strategic growth, enhanced program delivery, and a revitalised emphasis on education and capacity building.

State organisations, working in close alignment with the national office, demonstrated a unified commitment to cultivating a vibrant, inclusive, and high-performing water polo ecosystem. Together, they laid the groundwork for long-term sustainability and excellence—ensuring that athletes, coaches, officials, and communities across the country are empowered to thrive.

From grassroots engagement to elite pathways, the year's achievements reflect a shared vision: to elevate water polo as a sport that inspires participation, celebrates diversity, and fosters national pride.

## MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AND ENGAGEMENT

This year, WPA proudly recorded a 6% increase in overall membership—welcoming 1,316 new members into our vibrant community. This marks a significant improvement from the 2% growth seen the previous year and reflects the growing appeal of our sport nationwide.

The surge was especially strong across our WPA Platinum, Silver, and Bronze membership categories, which saw impressive growth rates of 3.5%, 28%, and 10% respectively. These increases highlight the value our members place on the diverse benefits and opportunities for deeper engagement that each tier offers.

Such growth is a testament to the strength of our community-driven approach and the rising enthusiasm for water polo across Australia. We're thrilled to see more people diving into the sport and becoming part of our passionate network.

## P10X PROGRAM: SUSTAINING GROWTH THROUGH COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT

The P10X program, a cornerstone of our participation strategy, has continued to flourish thanks to the unwavering dedication of state-led initiatives and the vital support of national funding. This financial year, WPA proudly engaged over 4,500 participants—an achievement that reinforces the program's sustainability and enduring value.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to the success of P10X across all tiers of the organisation. In particular, we acknowledge the tireless efforts of our volunteers, whose passion and commitment remain the backbone of this initiative.

## WATER POLO LEARNING CENTRE

One of the standout achievements this year was the remarkable 6,709 individual course completions on the Water Polo Learning Centre (WPLC) — a testament to our community's commitment to growth and excellence. The WPLC continues to be a cornerstone initiative, offering structured, accessible online learning that empowers members across all levels of the sport.

## NEW COURSES LAUNCHED THIS YEAR:

- Advanced Referee Course – Elevating officiating standards and decision-making skills.
- Social Media for Coaches and Athletes – Enhancing digital presence and engagement.
- Introduction to Diversity and Equity in Water Polo Officiating – Promoting inclusive practices and awareness in our sport.

These additions reflect our ongoing dedication to providing relevant, high-quality education that supports the evolving needs of our members. The WPLC remains a vital resource, helping shape a more skilled, informed, and inclusive water polo community.





## SCHOOL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

A key initiative this year for WPA has been to work closely with School Sport Australia (SSA), their states and key water polo organisations with a common goal to secure participation from a minimum of four states to launch a national competition in the future. This initiative represents a significant opportunity to elevate youth water polo nationally, foster inter-state collaboration, and create a structured pathway for junior athletes.

WPA is proposing a strategic revamp of its Sporting Schools offerings to address low participation and improve program delivery. The key changes include:

- Centralising program applications to ensure consistent quality and communication.
- Introducing Learn2Polo for Primary Schools, focusing on fun, foundational water polo skills and water confidence.
- Repositioning Flippa Ball to the Secondary School Program, offering more structured gameplay suited to older students

- New Membership Model: The updated membership model used for the 2023/24 season has shown growth in overall members for this year. This model supports a more modern approach to our members especially to support the advancements in the P10X program.
- Government Funding: P10X extension funding was made available to WPA and states which has assisted in the growth of participants and exposure rates to the sport of water polo.
- Staff: New staff were appointed in 2025 to the national participation team which have continued in the delivery of the Play Well Plan and 10X extension grant.

WPA is proud to announce the upcoming launch of the WPA Participation Plan, set to roll out in September 2025. This marks a pivotal step in our strategic evolution, aligning with the new WPA Strategic Plan and our commitment to growing the sport nationwide.

Under the new leadership of the GM – Play, the participation team will drive forward initiatives focused on; expanding membership across all age groups and communities, elevating coach and referee development through targeted education and support; delivering on Play Well funding with innovative, inclusive programming. A consistent focus of this strategy will be the integration of water polo into aquatic facilities, enabling broader access and engagement. By partnering with aquatic centres and stakeholders, we aim to bring water polo to new demographics and make it a staple in community sport offerings.

Collaborating with state organisations has proven to be the most impactful and insightful strategy for driving participation in water polo. Building on this success, the national office is committed to equipping states with the necessary tools, resources, and guidance to meet participation targets. This united approach will foster the sport's growth, ensure long-term sustainability, and strengthen water polo's presence across the nation.



# STATE GRANTS

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**Regional Development:** Funding contributed towards the implementation of a regional development officer, focussed on supporting increased participation in water polo of players in regional and rural Australia. The successful achievement of the outcomes sought by having the role was recognised by WPA with Wagga Wagga Water Polo Association being awarded Club of the Year in 2024.

**Club Investment Project:** Funding contributed towards the creation of the Club investment package, enhancing the sport at a grassroots level and ensuring development of referees, coaches, and governance within our member clubs.

**Participation Project:** Successfully held Girls Only come and try events all over the ACT with Olympian Alice Williams in the lead up to the summer season.



## NEW SOUTH WALES

WPNSW is very grateful for the grants received from WPA over the last period. As many of these funds were awarded during the season, we made a deliberate decision—agreed with WPA—to align most strategic outcomes with the start of the 2025/26 summer season.

We have some exciting initiatives ahead, including coach and referee education and development across our regional and metro service plans, as well as FunFit “come and try” programs for adults. However, these activities will largely sit outside the FY24/25 reporting period.

For FY24/25, I’m pleased to report on the following:

### WPA Project 10x Grant

WPNSW utilised a portion of this funding to deliver the Coach Development Camp in partnership with the Singapore National Team. Full details and photos can be found here:

<https://www.waterpolonsw.org.au/news/coach-development>

### WPA State Lead Coach Grant

Funds from this grant supported NSW-based coaches of Categorised Athletes to participate in key Coach Development Opportunities, including the NSWIS Senior Women’s Training Program (U20 World Championships & World University Games preparation) and Ord Minnett Australian Sharks Training Camps (Senior World Championships preparation). WPNSW will continue to utilise these funds to support casual and specialist coaching within the NSW Talent Program, State Team Program, and any DTE/DPE activities for Nationally Identified Athletes.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- Part-time employment of Dayna Richman as Events and Growth Projects coordinator.
- Equipment and expertise support for implementation and continued growth of the SA Aquatic and Leisure Centre Swim School Learn Water Polo program.
- Social and Flippaball Water Polo through the Autumn and Winter period which was a new initiative in 2025.



## TASMANIA

Water Polo Australia funding has been instrumental in supporting the continued growth of our Flippa Ball program. The grant enabled us to purchase much-needed new equipment to cater to our expanding participant base, ensuring that all players have access to quality resources and a positive experience.

Term 4, 2025, is shaping up to be one of our largest Flippa Ball competitions to date, with strong interest from new and returning teams. In addition to growing participation, the funding also allowed us to establish a Flippa Academy – a dedicated training program designed to introduce new players to the game while developing their fundamental skills and understanding.

The Academy also created an opportunity to strengthen our coaching pathways, successfully developing eight new junior coaches who gained valuable hands-on experience and formal training. This dual focus on player and coach development has set a strong foundation for the continued success and sustainability of our grassroots water polo programs.



## VICTORIA

Participation funding provided by Water Polo Australia has allowed the team at Water Polo Victoria to invest in our social programs throughout 2025. The support from WPA was channelled into resourcing, staffing, and hiring of pool space for several initiatives which aim to engage new participants in our great sport. This includes adult social evenings, junior FlippaBall and a planned Learn 2 Water Polo program through Aligned Leisure.

Our Water Polo Nights adult social program consisted of 8- weeks of casual competition, targeting new or returning Water Polo participants. We had over 60 individuals engage in the program, of which 60% were entirely new or had only played a few times. We utilised coaches and referees

with the WPV community to help deliver this program, and were thrilled to see the community, friendships and skills on display over the 8 weeks. We were also pleased to see 10 to 15 of these participants go on to join a club for the 25/26 membership year.

Put forward to ease new juniors into our sport, WPV ran three weeks of FlippaBall at the start of our 12&U Summer Competition in 2025. Participants engaged in Water Polo were encouraged to bring friends along to these sessions, and we mixed all the teams together to run drills, skills and play FlippaBall as a community. We ran 3x1 hr sessions per week, and saw an average attendance of 20 kids in each session across the length of the program. We also noted that 15 participants who attended had no connection with a club at the time, and over 50% of attendees were playing Water Polo for the first time in 2025.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### Associated and Catholic Colleges (ACC) Inclusive Carnival

As a new initiative in April 2025, Water Polo WA joined with ACC Schools to provide a Strollo Polo option at their Inclusive Carnival for students to engage with the game when not participating in swimming events. Eight teams from both public and private schools participated and the games of Strollo Polo were a tremendous hit with the students, Education assistants, carers and teachers. Delivered by WPWA representatives it was a wonderful inaugural event that WPWA hopes can be built on in the future

### Subiaco Primary School Program

A four-week program of 40 in-school sessions involving four WPWA coaches was delivered in Term 4. The sessions involving students from Grade 4 to Grade 6, many newcomers to the sport, introduced the game in a fun, safe and familiar environment being their own school pool.

### Leinster Primary School.

A session was held for all students at Leinster Primary school, a town in the northern Goldfields area, 968 km northeast of Perth, Western Australian. State Coach Andrew Barber teamed with a Notre Dame University Physical Education student to conduct a one-day course in Leinster and to 'train the trainer'. The session introduced basic water polo skills to students from Grades 3-6 and the fun of a game while also introducing programs for school teachers to incorporate in lesson planning.



# CARBON FOOTPRINT ANALYSIS

## MAIN TAKEAWAYS FROM CARBON FOOTPRINT ANALYSIS

### COMPETITIONS & TRAVEL

Although there was a slight increase in the number of competition days and participants for WPA-run competitions and events compared to the previous year, there was a substantial decrease in the number of flights taken across both corporate travel and competition-related travel. This reflects a shift in how competitions were scheduled and delivered, reducing the need for air travel.

As such, players, coaches, officials, and support staff were not required to travel as frequently by plane to attend competitions, which significantly lowered the organisation's travel-related carbon footprint.

A major reason for this decrease was the reduced number of overseas competitions during the reporting year. With fewer international events on the calendar, the reliance on long-haul flights was greatly reduced, resulting in a meaningful drop in emissions from air travel.

### OFFICE OPERATIONS

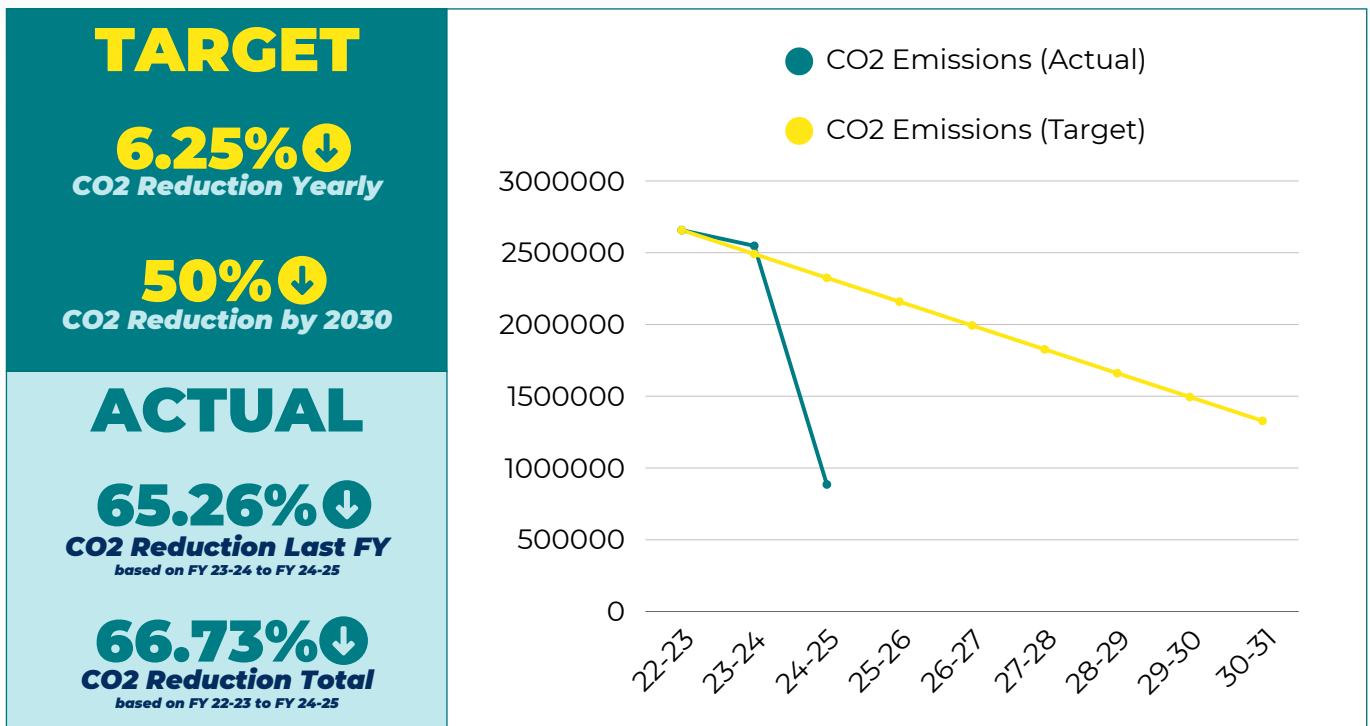
WPA made a structural change to its office arrangements, no longer maintaining a head office at Accor Stadium. Instead, the organisation now rents a single office space at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

This shift meant that all but one staff member are now required to work from home on a full-time basis, representing a significant change in the way day-to-day operations are conducted.

As a result of the downsizing from a large physical office space to a much smaller footprint, there was a notable decrease in energy consumption, office-related waste, and recycling activities. These reductions positively contributed to lowering emissions from centralised office operations.

However, the move to remote working arrangements created an offsetting effect. With most staff working from home, there was an increase in emissions related to home energy use, such as heating, cooling, and electricity consumption for work equipment.

## PROGRESS TOWARDS REDUCTION TARGETS





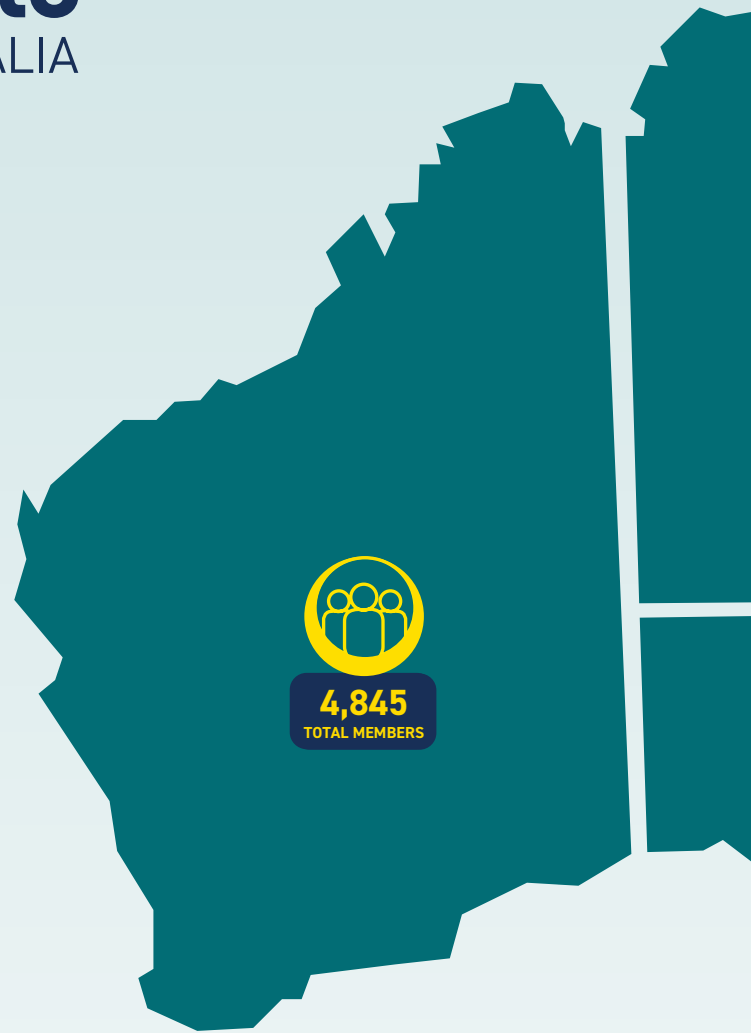
# Water Polo

## AUSTRALIA

### ACTIVE MEMBERS

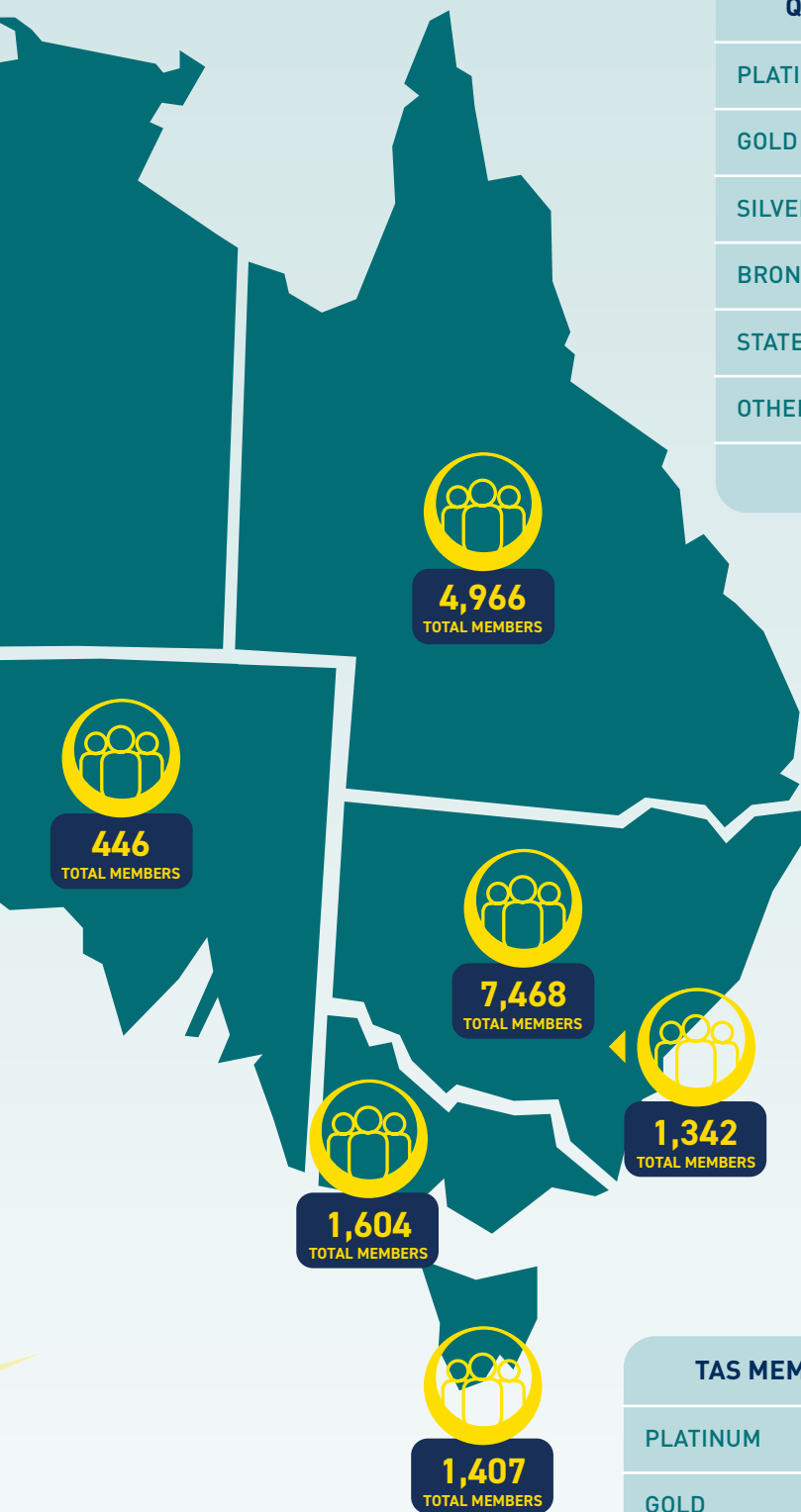
NATIONAL	
PLATINUM	12,774
GOLD	239
SILVER	1,334
BRONZE	7,319
WPA LIFE	13
STATE LIFE	103
OTHER	375
<b>22,157</b>	

INTERNATIONAL	
PLATINUM	33
GOLD	0
SILVER	0
BRONZE	43
OTHER	3
<b>79</b>	



WA MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	2,666
GOLD	10
SILVER	205
BRONZE	1,895
STATE LIFE	30
OTHER	5
<b>4845</b>	

SA MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	238
GOLD	9
SILVER	28
BRONZE	149
STATE LIFE	6
OTHER	16
<b>446</b>	



QLD MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	3,014
GOLD	130
SILVER	281
BRONZE	1,469
STATE LIFE	6
OTHER	66
	<b>4,966</b>

NSW MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	4,327
GOLD	62
SILVER	504
BRONZE	2,352
STATE LIFE	6
OTHER	217
	<b>7,468</b>

ACT MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	807
GOLD	8
SILVER	180
BRONZE	309
STATE LIFE	2
OTHER	36
	<b>1,342</b>

TAS MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	571
GOLD	11
SILVER	0
BRONZE	821
STATE LIFE	16
OTHER	6
	<b>1,407</b>

VIC MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	1,118
GOLD	9
SILVER	136
BRONZE	294
STATE LIFE	24
OTHER	23
	<b>1,604</b>

# RESULTS

## MEN

### AUSTRALIAN WATERPOLO LEAGUE, 2025

1. UNSW Wests
2. UWA Torpedoes
3. Sydney University Lions
4. Fremantle Mariners
5. Drummoyne Devils
6. UTS Balmain Tigers
7. Cronulla Sharks
8. Griffith University Queensland Thunder
9. Hunter Hurricanes
10. Victoria Phoenix

### STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### 17 & Under State Boys' Championships, Gold Coast, September 2024

1. Queensland
2. New South Wales
3. Western Australia
4. New Zealand
5. Australian Capital Territory
6. South Australia
7. Tasmania
8. Victoria

#### 15 & Under State Boys' Championships, Gold Coast, September 2024

1. New Zealand
2. New South Wales
3. Queensland
4. Western Australia
5. Victoria
6. Australian Capital Territory
7. Tasmania
8. South Australia

### AUSTRALIA YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, PERTH, APRIL 2024

#### 18 & Under Gold

1. UQ Barras
2. UNSW Wests
3. Sydney Uni
4. UTS Balmain
5. SNB Breakers
6. Polo Bears
7. UWA 18 B Bears
8. Hunter Hurricanes
9. Sunshine Coast
10. Dolphins
11. Melville Marlins
12. Warriors Water Polo
13. Melbourne Collegians
14. Cronulla Sharks
15. DVE Aquatic
16. UQ Tugun

#### 18 & Under Green

1. Nordek
2. Tasmania
3. Geraldton/New Wave
4. Triton
5. Pilbara Cyclones

#### 16 & Under Gold

1. Sydney Uni Blue
2. UWA 16B Bears
3. SNB Breakers
4. UTS Balmain
5. UQ Barras
6. Richmond Tigers
7. UNSW Wests
8. Sydney Uni Gold
9. Mantas
10. Ryde Rhinos
11. Cronulla Sharks
12. Melville Sharks
13. Melbourne Collegians
14. UWA Blues
15. RiverCity
16. Polo Bears/UQ

#### 16 & Under Green

1. Mermaids Blue
2. Brisbane Vikings
3. Nordek
4. UQ Barras

5. Richmond Tigers
6. RiverCity
7. Cronulla Sharks
8. Water Polo SA
9. Canberra Kracken
10. UNSW Wests
11. Sydney Uni Gold
12. New Wave Water Polo
13. Drummoyne Devils Green
14. Geraldton Water Polo
15. Triton

#### 14 & Under Gold

1. Sydney Uni Blue
2. Mantas
3. SNB Breakers
4. UWA 14B Bears
5. Drummoyne Devils
6. Ryde Rhinos
7. Melville Sharks
8. Cronulla Sharks
9. Hunter Hurricanes
10. Melbourne Collegians
11. UQ Barras
12. UWA 14B Blue

#### 14 & Under Green

1. Sydney Uni Gold
2. Nordek
3. Wests Tigers
4. Water Polo SA
5. Melville Saints
6. New Wave Tsunami
7. Richmond Tigers
8. Drummoyne/SNB Breakers
9. Tasmania
10. Cronulla Sharks/Albury
11. UWA Green Bears
12. Tritons

#### 12 & Under Gold

1. Hunter Hurricanes
2. Sydney Uni Blue
3. Melville Sharks
4. Drummoyne Devils
5. UWA 12B Bears
6. SNB Breakers
7. Melville Saints
8. UWA Orcas
9. New Wave
10. UQ Barras



## WOMEN

### AUSTRALIAN WATERPOLO LEAGUE, 2025

1. Griffith University Queensland Thunder
2. Sydney University Lions
3. Fremantle Marlins
4. UTS Balmain Tigers
5. Cronulla Sharks
6. Drummoyne Devils
7. UWA Torpedoes
8. UNSW Wests
9. Victoria Phoenix
10. Hunter Hurricanes

### 17 & Under State Girls' Championships, Gold Coast, September 2024

1. Queensland
2. New South Wales
3. New Zealand
4. Victoria
5. Western Australia
6. Australian Capital Territory
7. Tasmania
8. South Australia

### 15 & Under State Girls' Championships, Gold Coast, September 2024

1. New South Wales
2. Queensland
3. New Zealand
4. Australia Capital Territory
5. Barbarians
6. Western Australia
7. Tasmania
8. Victoria

### AUSTRALIA YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, PERTH, APRIL 2024

#### 18 & Under Gold

1. Polo Bears
2. UTS Balmain
3. Sydney Uni Blue
4. Melville Marlins
5. Mermaids Pink
6. UQ Barras

7. SNB Breakers
8. Diocesan Blue
9. Drummoyne Devils
10. North Harbour NZ 18 & Under Green
1. Diocesan Red
2. Mermaids Blue
3. UNSW Wests
4. AHS 18-1
5. Water Polo SA
6. Hunter Hurricanes
7. Brisbane Vikings
8. Nordek Vikings
9. Geraldton Water Polo
10. Phoenix Breakers
11. Tasmania

#### 16 & Under Gold

1. SNB Breakers
2. Mermaids Pink
3. UTS Balmain
4. AHS 16-1
5. UQ Barras
6. Sydney Uni Blue
7. Drummoyne Devils
8. Melville Marlins
9. RiverCity Bull Sharks
10. Hunter Hurricanes
11. UNSW Wests
12. UWA 16G Bears
13. Ryde Rhinos

#### 16 & Under Green

1. Mermaids Blue
2. Brisbane Vikings
3. Nordek
4. UQ Barras
5. Richmond Tigers
6. RiverCity
7. Cronulla Sharks
8. Water Polo SA
9. Canberra Kracken
10. UNSW Wests
11. Sydney Uni Gold
12. New Wave Water Polo
13. Drummoyne Devils Green
14. Geraldton Water Polo
15. Triton

#### 14 & Under Gold

1. AHS 14-1
2. Sydney Uni Blue
3. Mermaids Pink
4. Hunter Hurricanes
5. SNB Breakers
6. UNSW Wests Yellow
7. Melville Marlins
8. RiverCity Blue
9. UTS Balmain
10. RiverCity
11. UWA 14G Bears
12. UNSW Wests Black

#### 14 & Under Green

1. Nordek
2. Tasmania
3. Mermaids Blue
4. UQ Barras
5. Sydney Uni Gold
6. Drummoyne Devils
7. Brisbane Vikings
8. Sunshine Coast
9. Water Polo SA
10. Melville Mermaids
11. Busselton Stingrays
12. Melbourne Collegians
13. Triton/Dolphins

#### 12 & Under Gold

1. AHS 12-1
2. Sydney Uni Blue
3. SNB Breakers
4. UWA 12G Bears
5. Mermaids Pink
6. Melville/New Wave Mermaids
7. Melville Marlins



# RESULTS

## SENIOR MEN

### EUROPEAN TOUR, JULY-AUGUST 2024

Team: Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Blake Edwards, Lachlan Edwards, John Hedges, Angus Lambie, Milos Maksimovic, Jacob Mercep, Charlie Negus, Luke Pavillard, Chaz Poot, Nick Porter, Nathan Power. Head Coach: Tim Hamill. Assistants Andrew Yanitsas, Vedran Cirkovic, Strength & Conditioning Coach Marin Lazic, Physio Mick Moran.

### International Friendlies, Stuttgart, Germany, July 2024:

Match 1: Australia 15 Germany 12,  
Match 2: Australia 17 Germany 10.  
Australia wins series 2-0.

### International Tournament, Sabic Invitational Serbia, July 2024:

Match 1: Australia 10 France 7.  
Match 2: Australia 11 Germany 6.  
Match 3: Australia 13 Montenegro 11.  
Match 4: Serbia 15 Australia 9.  
Final placings: Serbia, Australia,  
Montenegro, France, Germany.

### International Friendly Podgorica Montenegro

Montenegro 7 Australia 7  
(Normal Time). Penalty Shootout  
Montenegro 13 Australia 11

### OLYMPIC GAMES, PARIS, FRANCE, JULY-AUGUST 2024

Day 2: Spain 9 Australia 5  
(M Maksimovic, A Lambie 2, J Mercep).  
Day 4: Australia 8 (L Pavillard 4,  
M Byrnes 2, J Mercep, C Negus)  
Serbia 3.  
Day 6: Australia (M Maksimovic 3,  
A Lambie, L Pavillard, J Mercep,  
M Byrnes, C Poot, B Edwards) France 8.  
Day 8: Australia 9 (M Maksimovic,  
N Power, B Edwards 2, C Poot, L  
Pavillard, M Berehulak) Hungary 8.  
Day 10: Japan 14 Australia 13  
(M Maksimovic 3, N Power, L Edwards,

L Pavillard 2, C Negus, M Byrnes,  
C Poot, B Edwards).

Final points: Spain 12, Australia 9,  
Hungary 9, Serbia 6, France 3, Japan 3.

Day 12: Quarterfinal: USA 11 Australia  
10 (L Pavillard 4, M Maksimovic 2,  
J Mercep) in penalty shootout. FT: 7-7.  
Pens 4-3.

Day 14: Classification 5-8 Semifinal:  
Greece 15 Australia 9 (M Maksimovic,  
N Power, M Byrnes 2, A Lambie,  
L Pavillard, J Mercep).

Day 15: Classification 7-8: Italy 10  
Australia 6 (M Maksimovic 2, C Negus,  
J Mercep, L Pavillard, N Power).

Final Placings: Serbia, Croatia, USA,  
Hungary, Greece, Italy, Australia,  
Montenegro, France, Japan, Romania.

### OCEANIA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS QUALIFICATION SERIES, PERTH, AUSTRALIA, APRIL 2025

Team: Laurance Barker,  
Matthew Byrnes, Tristan Glanznig,  
John Hedges, Zac Izzard, Luka Krstic,  
Angus Lambie, Drew McJannett,  
Daniel Magasanik, Milos Maksimovic,  
Jacob Mercep, Tyson Mutsch,  
Charlie Negus, Luke Pavillard,  
Nathan Power, Tim Putt. Head Coach:  
Tim Hamill. Assistant Coaches:  
Andrew Yanitsas, and Raf Sterk,  
Strength and Conditioning Coach  
Marin Iazic, Swimming Coach  
Hayden Bellshaw, Physio James  
Fannon.

Referee: Nick Hodges

First Test: Australia 18 (N Power 5,  
L Pavillard 4, A Lambie 3,  
M Maksimovic, T Putt, M Byrnes,  
D Magasanik, T Glanznig, Z Izzard)  
New Zealand 7.

Second Test: Australia 24 (A Lambie 5,  
J Mercep, T Glanznig 3, M Maksimovic,  
C Negus, T Putt, D Magasanik, Z Izzard  
2, M Byrnes, N Power, T Mutsch)  
New Zealand 9.

Third Test: Australia 21 (A Lambie,  
M Byrnes 4, M Maksimovic, C Negus,  
J Mercep, T Glanznig, D McJannett 2,  
N Power, T Putt, D Magasanik) New  
Zealand 9.

Australian wins series 3-0.

### EXHIBITION SERIES WITH USA, CALIFORNIA, JUNE 2025

Team: Laurence Baker, Nicolas Bicari,  
Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes,  
Tristan Glanznig, Andrej Grgurevic,  
Luka Krstic, Angus Lambie,  
Drew McJannett, Jacob Mercep,  
Sam Nangle, Nicholas Porter,  
Nathan Power, Tim Putt, Loui Schuler.  
Head Coach: Tim Hamill. Assistant  
Coaches: Andrew Yanitsas, Raf Sterk  
Strength Conditioning Coach  
Marin Iazic, Physio Mick Moran  
Swimming Coach Hayden Bellshaw.  
Match 1: USA 13 Australia 12 (J Mercep  
3, N Power, A Lambie, L Krstic 2,  
M Byrnes, M Berehulak, T Glanznig).  
Match 2: Australia 13 (M Maksimovic 4,  
M Berehulak 3, L Pavillard, N Power 2,  
J Mercep, M. Byrnes) USA 12.  
Match 3: Australia 14 M Maksimovic,  
M Berehulak, L Pavillard 3, N Power,  
M Byrnes 2, L Krstic) USA 11.  
Australia wins series 2-1.

### 20 & UNDER EUROPEAN TOUR, JULY 2024:

Team: Jonah Allan, Sam Bloomfield,  
Matt Bonser, Jack French,  
Owen Lilleyman, Ben Lucas,  
Marcus Moncur, Ethan Payne,  
Oliver Purcell, Charlie Reynolds,  
Thomas Serhan, Jamie Sharman,  
Harper Stewart, Ben Taylor,  
Harrison Teague, Lucas Young,  
Sam Winchester.  
Head Coach: Dragan Bakic.  
Assistant Coach: Dusan Krstic.



## **WORLD AQUATIC U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS, ZAGREB, CROATIA, JUNE 2025:**

Team: Sam Bloomfield, Sean Bright, Ashton Brown, Zac Izzard, Daniel Magasanik, Jake Martin, Rex Palazzi, Ethan Payne, Oliver Purcell, Lewis Saupin, Thomas Serhan, Jamie Sharman, Harper Stewart, Harry Tucker, Cory Webber. Head Coach:

Dragan Bakic. Assistant Coaches: William Downes, Dusan Krstic.

Manager: Paul Heffernan.

Physiotherapist: Danielle Woodhouse. Referee: Daniel Bartels.

Day 1: Australia 16 (Z Izzard 4, D Magasanik 3, J Martin, H Stewart, R Palazzi 2, S Bloomfield, H Tucker, A Brown) Colombia 11.

Day 2: Australia 19 (H Stewart, D Magasanik 4, Z Izzard 3, H Tucker, L Saupin, C Webber, A Brown 2) Argentina 11.

Day 3: Final points: Australia, Argentina, Colombia.

Day 4: Classification 1-12 Crossover: Australia 19 (D Magasanik 5, H Stewart 3, J Sharman, E Payne 2, J Martin, Z Izzard, H Tucker, C Webber, S Bright, A Brown, R Palazzi) China 8.

Day 5: Classification 1-12 Crossover: Italy 17 Australia 6 (H Tucker 2, J Martin, Z Izzard, D Magasanik, S Bright).

Day 6: Lay day

Day 7: Classification 9-12 Semifinal: Australia 17 (H Tucker, D Magasanik 4, H Stewart 3, S Bloomfield, J Martin, Z Izzard, E Payne, A Brown, R Palazzi) Iran 13.

Day 8: Germany 13 Australia 12 (J Martin, A Brown 3, L Saupin, 2, S Bloomfield, Z Izzard, J Sharman, H Stewart).

Final placings: Spain, United States of America, Croatia, Hungary, Serbia, Montenegro, Greece, Italy, Germany, Australia, China, Iran, Brazil, Canada, Argentina, Kazakhstan, Colombia, Singapore, South Africa, New Zealand

## **WOMEN**

### **THETIS CUP, GREECE, JUNE 2024:**

Match 1: Australia 12 Hungary 11.

Match 2: Australia 15 Germany 12.

Match 3: Australia 9 Greece 6.

Match 4: Australia 10 France 8.

Match 5: Australia 12 Canada 8.

Final Placings: Australia 1st ,

### **OLYMPIC GAMES, PARIS, FRANCE, JULY-AUGUST 2024**

Team: Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Zoe Arancini, Elle Armit, Keesja Gofers, Sienna Green, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Danijela Jackovich, Tilly Kearns, Genevieve Longman, Gabriella Palm, Alice Williams. Head Coach: Rebecca Rippon. Assistant Coaches: Eddie Denis, Taryn Woods. Manager: Bronwyn Smith. Medical: Gary Couanis, Marguerite King.

Day 1: Australia 7 (A Andrews 3, A Williams 2, Z Arancini, B Halligan) China 5.

Day 3: Lay day.

Day 5: Australia 15 (S Green, A Williams 2, A Andrews, C Andrews, Z Arancini) Netherlands 14 in sudden-death penalty shootout. FT: 7-7. Pens 8-7,

Day 7: Australia 10 (B Halligan, A Williams 3, S Green, A Andrews, C Andrews, T Kearns) Canada 7

Day 9: Australia 14 (A Williams 4, K Gofers, E Armit, A Andrews, C Andrews, Z Arancini) Hungary 12 in penalty shootout. FT: 9-9. Pens: 4-5.

Final points: Australia 10, Netherlands 10, Hungary 7, Canada 3, China 0.

Day 11: Quarterfinal: Australia 9 (A Williams 5, B Halligan, A Andrews 2) Greece 6.

Day 13: Classification 1-4 Semifinal: Australia 14 (A Andrews 4, B Halligan 2, C Andrews, Z Arancini) USA 13 in sudden death penalty shootout. FT: 8-8. Pens: 6-5.

Day 15: Classification 1-2 (Gold Medal): Spain 11 Australia 9 (A Williams 5, S Hearn 2, A Andrews, D Jackovich).

Final placings: Spain, Australia, Netherlands, USA, Hungary, Italy, Greece, Canada, France, China.

MVP: Alice Williams (AUS).



### **WORLD AQUATICS WORLD CUP DIVISION I TOURNAMENT, ALEXANDROUPOLIS, GREECE, JANUARY 2025:**

Team: Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Kasey Dalziel, Tayla Dawkins, Clare Durston, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Danijela Jackovich, Genevieve Longman, Lucinda Marsh, Olivia Mitchell, Pippa Pedley, Emma Putt, Nioka Thomas, Alice Williams. Head Coach: Bec Rippon. Assistant Coaches: Eddie Denis, Taryn Woods. Physiotherapist: Bernie Petzel. Referee: Nicola Johnson.

Day 1: Netherlands 11 Australia 9 (A Williams 4, D Jackovich, B Halligan 2, A Andrews).

Day 2: Australia 15 (C Andrews 5, A Andrews 3, P Pedley, D Jackovich 2, B Halligan, S Hearn, N Thomas) Israel 6.

Day 3: Greece 12 Australia 8 (A Andrews 2, P Pedley, B Halligan, A Hearn, A Williams, D Jackovich, E Putt).

Final Points: Group B: Netherlands 9, Australia 6, Italy 3, Israel 0

Classification 5-8 round robin:

Day 4: Spain 14 Australia 11 (A Williams 5, H Ballesty, A Andrews 2, C Andrews, N Thomas).

Day 5: Greece 12 Australia 6 (A Williams, C Andrews, S Hearn, N Thomas, D Jackovich)

Day 6: Netherlands 12 Australia 6 (A Williams 2, C Andrews, S Hearn, N Thomas, D Jackovich).

Final Classifications (With first six to finals): Spain, Netherlands, Greece, Australia, Hungary, Italy; United States of America, Israel.

# RESULTS

## WORLD AQUATICS WORLD CUP FINALS SERIES, CHENGDU, CHINA, APRIL 2025:

Team: Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Tayla Dawkins, Clare Durston, Jessica Emerson, Tenealle Fasala, Sienna Hearn, Samantha Henderson, Danijela Jackovich, Alexie Lambert, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Philippa Pedley, Emma Putt, Alice Williams. Head Coach: Bec Rippon. Assistant Coaches: Scott Nicholson, Fabio Pavanello. Physiotherapist: Bernie Petzel. Referee: Ash Kaesler.

Day 1: Quarterfinal: Hungary 14 Australia 10 (A Andrews 3, A Williams, D Jackovich 2, T Fasala, C Andrews, S Hearn).

Day 2: Classification 5-8 Semifinal: Australia 16 (D Jackovich 6, A Andrews 4, S Hearn 2, T Fasala, A Lambert, P Pedley, A Williams) China 14.

Day 3: Classification 5-6: Australia 14 (A Andrews 4, A Williams 2, O Mitchell, C Andrews, J Emerson, D Jackovich) Italy 13 in penalty shootout. FT: 10-10. Pens: 4-3.

Final Placings: Greece, Hungary, Netherlands, Spain, Australia, Italy, Japan, China.

## 18 & UNDER NEW ZEALAND TOUR, JULY 2024:

Team: Koko Bacic, Catie Boyle, Sophia Cooper, Emma Doube-MacLeod, Molly Dyer, Alice Hockings, Lucy Levenberg-Penkli, Stela Lovrinovic Kaic, Claire McCulloch, Matilda Morrow, Sophie Pethers, Poppy Rawlings, Willow Spero, Emily Taylor, Annabelle Waugh. Head Coach: Rowie Webster. Assistant Coach: Kate Pipkin. Australia Finished 3rd

## WORLD AQUATICS UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIPS, CHENGDU, CHINA, SEPTEMBER 2024:

Team: Bridget Cranley, Bless Daly, Christina DiGiandomenico, Saskia Dunn, Tilly Hughes, Chelsea Isaac, Olivia Muir, Isla Mulligan, Sienna Owen, Emma Pittman, Izzy Scott, Indiana Smith, Charley Stephens, Matilda Waugh. Head Coach: Rowie Webster. Assistant Coach: Harry Sanderson. Referee: Nicola Johnson.

Day 2: Australia 15 (S Owen, C Isaac 3, S Dunn, C Stephens 2, C DiGiandomenico, J Potts, B Daley, M Waugh, I Smith) New Zealand 12.

Day 3: USA 16 Australia 12 (S Dunn, C Isaac 4, B Daley 2, S Owen, C DiGiandomenico).

Day 4: Hungary 18 Australia 8 (B Daley 2, B Cranley, J Potts, C Isaac, O Muir, E Pittman, S Owen).

Day 5: Classification 1-12 crossovers: Australia 12 (C Stephens 3, C DiGiandomenico, B Daley 2, E Pittman, J Potts, C Isaac, T Hughes, S Dunn) Israel 10.

Day 6: Classification 1-8 Quarterfinals: Greece 16 Australia 3 (I Smith, B Cranley, C Stephens).

Day 7: Classification 5-8 semifinals: Australia 10 (J Potts, C Stephens 2, M Waugh, C Isaac, C DiGiandomenico, I Smith, S Dunn, E Pittman) Netherlands 8.

Day 8: Classification 5-6: Australia 11 (J Potts 4, S Owen, S Dunn 2, C Isaac, B Daley, C DiGiandomenico) Italy 10.

Final Placings: Spain, Greece, Hungary, United States of America, Australia, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, China, Croatia, Israel, Canada,

## NEW ZEALAND TOUR, JULY 2024:

Team: Kaia Bottomer, Emily Broadbent, Lucy Burchard, Zoe Cannon, Alyssa Chan, Emily Cope, Amie Glass, Harlei Kricak, Lara Lane, Poppy Lochran, Alice McMeniman, Evelyn O'Neill, Loren Peacock, Alana Taylor, Jess Wiley. Coaches: Bronwen Knox, Kristina Sherer. Result Australia finished 7th

## 16 & UNDER WORLD AQUATICS U16 CHAMPIONSHIPS, MANISA, TURKIYA, JUNE-JULY 2024:

Team: Claudia Booth, Sara Connors, Zara Cooke, Caroline Healy, Amelie Hoefel, Georgia Joosep, Ali McCarthy, Emmerson McEwan, Kiera Mironova, Abigail Oates, Isabelle O'Connor, Alannah Paul, Ellie Sefton, Lucy Stuart, Sienna Walker. Head Coach: Georgina Kovacs-Muller. Assistant Coach: Chloe Wilcox. Referee: Fiona Haigh.

Day 1: Australia 11 (S Connors 3, E McEwan 2, G Joosep, A McCarthy, Z Cooke, A Oates, K Mironova, L Stuart) Turkiye 2.

Day 3: Australia 13 (L Stuart 4, A Paul, A McCarthy, S Walker 2, E McEwan, A Oates, A Hoefel) Turkiye 3.

Final points: Australia 6, Turkiye 0.

Day 4: Divisions 1 & 2 Crossovers: Australia 16 (S Connors, G Joosep, Z Cooke, E Sefton, A Hoefel, S Walker 2, A McCarthy, A Paul, E McEwan, K Mironova) Ukraine 0.

Day 5: Quarterfinals: Australia 13 (S Walker 4, E McEwan 3, A Hoefel 2, S Connors, A Oates, E Sefton, L Stuart) Italy 8.

Day 6: Semifinals: Spain 14 Australia 7 (A Hoefel 2, S Connors, E McEwan, A Paul, K Mironova, L Stuart).

Day 7: Classification 3-4: Australia 13 (S Walker 4, A McCarthy, A Oates, E McEwan, E Sefton 2, L Stuart) Croatia 10.

Final Placings: Spain, Hungary, Australia, Croatia, Greece, Italy, United States of America, Netherlands, China, Germany, Canada, Serbia, Turkiye, Thailand, South Africa, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Czechia, France, Malta, New Zealand, Zimbabwe



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# WPA BOARD SKILLS MATRIX

Board Members	Kay Copeland	Susan Smith	Trent Birkett	Chris Corbin	Don Cameron	Stuart Coventry	Jacqui O'Dwyer	Lisa Lilleyman	Bronwen Knox
Term Expiration Date	Nov 2026	Nov 2027	Nov 2026	Nov 2027	Nov 2025	Nov 2026	Nov 2027	Nov 2025	Oct 2028
<b>SKILLS &amp; EXPERIENCE</b>									
Belief in/ Support of Strategy	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Committee/ Board Experience	4	3	4	3	3	2	1	3	3
Marketing and Branding	2	2	1	3	3	3	1	2	1
Accounting and Finance	2	1	4	3	2	3	2	2	1
High Performance Sport	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Community Sport and Participation	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3
Governance	4	3	4	3	3	3	1	3	3
Legal	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	4
Communications and IT	1	2	4	3	2	2	1	2	1
Government and Public Sector	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	3
Corporate and Private Sector	2	3	3	3	1	2	1	2	1
Research Techniques and Consumer Insights	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	1	2
Commercialisation of Assets and Business Development	1	3	2	3	1	3	3	2	1
Human Resources	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
Organisational Management	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2
Risk Management	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3
Strategic Planning	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Leadership	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Broadcast / Digital Media	1	2	1	3	2	2	1	1	1
Demographic Background	WPA Board comprises 5 females and 4 males								

## PRIORITY LEGEND

### High 4

A formal qualification and greater than 5 years' direct experience delivering or working in this area (or substantially equivalent exposure to this area)

### Medium 3

A formal qualification or greater than 5 years' direct experience working in this area (or substantially equivalent exposure to the area)

### Low 2

No formal qualification and more than 1 year's but less than 5 years' direct experience working in this area (or substantially equivalent exposure to the area)

### Limited/NA 1

No formal qualification and no or limited (ie less than 1 year's) direct experience working in this area



# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

## **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors present this financial report on Water Polo Australia Limited (the "Company") for the financial year ended 30 June

## DIRECTORS

The names of each person who has been a Director during the year and to the date of this report are:

NAME	ALLOCATION	RE-ELECTED/RE-APPOINTED
Trent Birkett	Elected Director	first elected 25/11/2017 re-elected 21/11/2020 (for 1 year) re-elected 20/11/2021 (for 3 years) re-elected 16/11/2024 (for 3 years)
Dr Kay Copeland	Elected Director	first elected 23/11/2019 re-elected 21/11/2020 (for 3 years) re-elected 18/11/2023 (for 3 years)
Don Cameron	Elected Director	elected 21/11/2020 (for 2 years) re-elected 19/11/2022 (for 3 years)
Alex Alderson	Elected Director	elected 20/11/2021 (for 3 years) resigned 16/11/2024
Lisa Lilleyman	Elected Director	elected 19/11/2022 (for 3 years)
Stuart Coventry	Elected Director	elected 18/11/2023 (for 3 years)
Chris Corbin	Elected Director	elected 16/11/2024 (for 3 years)
Susan Smith	Appointed Director	appointed 11/01/2018 re-appointed 18/01/2019 re-appointed 03/12/2020 (for 2 years) re-appointed 25/11/2022 (for 2 years) re-appointed 22/11/2024 (for 3 years)
Jodie Cross	Appointed Director	appointed 03/12/2020 (for 1 year) re-appointed 30/11/2021 (for 2 years) re-appointed 24/11/2023 (for 1 year) resigned 24/11/2024
Jacqueline O'Dwyer	Appointed Director	appointed 22/11/2024 (for 3 years)
Bronwen Knox	Athletes' Commission Director	appointed 14/12/2021 (for 3 years) re-appointed 22/11/2024 (for 4 years)

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.



## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of Water Polo Australia Limited (WPA) during the financial year was to act as the national governing body for the sport of water polo in Australia. The Company's purpose is "to facilitate and grow the sport of water polo, thereby increasing participation at all levels and achieving sustainable success at the elite level".

## OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The Strategic Plan identifies the following five strategic priorities:

<b>EMPOWER</b>	Unite our sport to unlock its potential
<b>DEVELOP</b>	Enhance capacity and capability to enable scalable growth
<b>PLAY</b>	More people playing Water Polo
<b>PERFORM</b>	Provide an aligned performance framework to create sustainable success
<b>PROSPER</b>	Raise the profile of Water Polo, strengthening the sport and its financial foundations

## REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The Company's net profit for the financial year was \$277,945 (2024: \$272,349). The increase in net profit has been driven by decrease in expenses.

## LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

Likely developments in the operations of the Company and the expected results of those operations in future financial years have not been included in this report as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Company.

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs this year.

## EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR

There are no matters or circumstances that have arisen since 30 June 2025 up to the date of signing this report that have significantly affected or may affect the Company's operations, the results of those operations or the Company's state of affairs in future financial years.

## INFORMATION ON DIRECTORS

### Trent Birkett Director & President

Trent was elected as a Director of Water Polo Australia on 25 November 2017. He has been involved in water polo for over 35 years as a player, manager, coach and Director on the Water Polo ACT Board. Trent played over 300 national league games and represented Australia at the junior, university and senior levels.

As the Chief Operating Officer at the National Portrait Gallery, Trent manages a team responsible for the planning, development and strategic management of the finances, human resources, governance, ICT and facilities. He brings experience in the commercialisation of government funded entities and has worked closely with the governing Board ensuring appropriate governance practices are in place.

Trent holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Information Systems) and Bachelor of Economics from the Australian National University. He is also a Chartered Accountant and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

### Dr Kay Copeland Director

Kay is a Specialist Sports and Exercise Physiotherapist (as awarded by the Australian College of Physiotherapy in 2018) and works in a private sports medicine clinic. Kay has previously served on the WPA Board from 2010 -2014 and was Chair – Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and a member – Remuneration Committee. Kay is also the Chair of Sports Medicine Australia and has served on the SMA Board since 2019.

Kay has unique backgrounds in both sports management and elite sports medicine. Kay worked for 17 years for Sports Medicine Australia-Victorian Branch and then managed the medical program for Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. Kay currently works as a Specialist Sports and Exercise Physiotherapist in two elite sports medicine clinics and has worked internationally for women's tennis and Australian Women's basketball and was the first person to work with the Australian Women's Water Polo Team from 1984-1991 including their historic 1986 World Championship win in Madrid.

Kay has been involved in water polo for over 40 years having started playing for Footscray Swimming and Water Polo Club and been involved at all levels of water polo – player, coach, manager, physiotherapist, Victorian Board member and inaugural Chair Victorian ITC program.

Kay has a degree in physiotherapy and a degree and masters in physical education and completed ongoing education in sports management, business, physiotherapy and sports medicine and the AICD Company Directors Course. Kay is currently a life member of Footscray Swimming and Water Polo Club, Fellow Sports Medicine Australia, Member Australian Physiotherapy Association and Member Australian Institute of Company Directors.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

## Don Cameron Director

Don Cameron comes to the WPA board bringing over 30 years of experience in sports participation and high performance and is a Life Member of Water Polo Australia.

An Olympic water polo athlete, Don captained the first year of the AIS men's program. He was a coach throughout four Olympic campaigns including as head coach of the men's team at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. Moving to the Australian Sports Commission in 2001, Don oversaw the funding, participation, high performance, governance and integrity relationships between the Commission and the AIS with over 20 National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) from grass roots to Board and CEO level. For the last 5 years of Don's career with the AIS, he worked with NSOs to review and manage their athlete pathways using evidence based assessment and international best practice research. Don is currently chair of WPA's Sport Development Committee, Chair of WPA Technical Committee and is a member of the World Aquatics Technical Committee.

Don worked as a physical education and science teacher for ten years before his coaching and administration careers during which he graduated with a Master of Business Administration majoring in marketing and public relations. He also holds a graduate diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

## Alex Alderson Director

Alex is an accomplished leader in Australian sport. Starting his career in professional services – as a lawyer and management consultant – Alex then joined the National Rugby League where he held various management and executive roles, most recently leading the NRL's broadcast media, digital and consumer divisions. Today, Alex works with Sportsbet as its Head of Value Strategy. Alongside his commitment to the WPA Board, Alex is a guest lecturer in sports law and digital innovation at UNSW, UTS and Bond Universities. Alex is passionate about the role that sport plays in the community and is a strong advocate for the role that technology can play in helping sport grow through better engagement with its fans and participants.

## Lisa Lilleyman Director

Lisa has over two decades experience in managing and advocating for Sport across all levels from grass roots through to high performance and elite and is currently General Manager with Binar Futures following 9 years at the Australian Olympic Committee. She believes sport has the power to create strong communities and social cohesion, improve mental health and wellbeing and provide a source of inspiration and empowerment for our youth.

Lisa brings extensive experience in delivering strategic advice and structural change related to organisational objectives, primarily in the not-for-profit sector. Through her work with

various State organisations in stakeholder management and Government liaison, she brings an extensive sporting and corporate network to the Water Polo Australia Board.

Lisa has been involved in Water Polo as a player, parent and manager since 2009. She values authenticity and has a genuine desire to see Water Polo Australia grow and take advantage of the runway to the 2032 Brisbane Olympic Games. Holding a bachelor's degree in Physical and Health Education from UWA, Lisa is a member of the Australian Institute of Management WA, has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors course and also currently sits on the Board of Royal Life Saving WA.

## Stuart Coventry Director

Stuart has over 25 years experience in Sport and Entertainment, having spent five years as COO of one of the biggest Live Action Sports brands, Crusty Demons, seven years as CEO of the Melbourne Renegades in cricket's Big Bash League (BBL Champions 2019), and as COO of Basketball Australia (and Acting CEO).

Stuart has consulted across sports such as Swimming, Golf and more recently with Food and Drink Victoria Ltd (Melbourne Food and Wine Festival). Stuart is currently Group Manager of Corporate Services for one of Australia's largest Employment Services businesses Opendoor Ltd.

Stuart holds a Bachelor of Business/Marketing Degree, is a Chartered Accountant, and has completed a Senior Executive Program in Negotiation and Competitive Decision Making at Harvard Business School.

## Chris Corbin Director

Chris has been involved in water polo in all levels from a junior player, QLD & Australian representative player, local club / QLD & Australian Countries coach, committees of local clubs, AWL clubs as well as sponsorship. Also been a member of the AWLAC.

In the business world he is an investor, CEO and board member of various organisations ranging from Industrial marketplaces, Rent to Own industries and Wellbeing business.

His passion is to assist organisations to grow and foster on a local, state and national level in all areas.

## Susan Smith Director

Susan (Susie) was appointed to the Board of Water Polo Australia in January 2018.

As a highly regarded chief executive, Susie leads a network of some of Australia's largest businesses, in national and international climate change and energy policy. Her leadership and strategic insights have shaped policy for these critical sectors, navigating complex environments and driving impactful change. She brings extensive executive and

board-level experience across strategic planning, government relations, and project approvals.

Susie also holds Directorships with the South Australian Cricket Association and Future Energy Exports CRC and is a Ministerially appointed member of the South Australian Premier's Climate Change Council.

A dual Australian representative in water polo (1989-90) and swimming (1991-93), Susie has represented South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory as a player, captain and coach (1986-94, 2005-07).

Her unique perspective, drawn from experiences in both the corporate world and elite sports, brings valuable insight to the Board, helping drive high-performance outcomes and broaden the reach of our sports programs and membership.

**Jodie Cross**

**Director**

A leading strategist and senior executive widely acknowledged for her commercial acumen, strategic vision, and knowledge and understanding of the sporting landscape in Australia and abroad that is robust and unparalleled. A ground-breaking career forged over 20 years in the highly competitive Australian professional sports market, driving and delivering commercial outcomes, media and digital strategy and major events. Charged with growing and establishing the NSW Blues as one of the premier sporting brands in the world, she secured the largest sponsorship deal in the history of the New South Wales Rugby League (NSWRL), where she has been employed since October 2014, as the first female senior executive in the organisation's 109-year history. Worked with National Rugby League (NRL) Clubs in Queensland and New South Wales, as well as at the governing body, the NRL, in a broad range of roles, from Healthy Lifestyles Manager, Player Welfare and Development, and Community Relations Manager to her current position as Chief Commercial Officer. Highly creative and a confident and strong communicator with proven ability in event management, management of digital ecosystems, writing and presenting sponsorship proposals, and designing and executing marketing and communication plans.

**Jacqui O'Dwyer**

**Director**

Jacqui is a highly experienced and accomplished leader in the Aquatic and Leisure industry, with a distinguished background as a former National athlete. Jacqui is the General Manager of Partnerships at Aligned Leisure, where she leads the development and delivery of strategic partnerships that generate shared value, driving both revenue growth and measurable social impact across the Company's national footprint.

Jacqui brings a deep understanding of sport, community engagement, and the broader health and wellbeing landscape. She has held several senior roles at Aligned Leisure, including Interim CEO and Strategic Projects Manager, where she was instrumental in delivering key

outcomes across risk and compliance, ISO certifications, and the implementation of the Company's Strategic Plan. Jacqui has an extensive history in aquatic operations, including managing Aligned Leisure's school-based facilities at Caulfield Grammar School's three metropolitan campuses. She collaborated with Water Polo Victoria to launch the innovative 'Learn to Water Polo' pilot programs and facilitated the use of Caulfield's facilities for premier events such as National League games, junior camps, and training sessions. Her leadership extends to integrating sustainability, diversity, inclusion, and reconciliation initiatives between Aligned Leisure and the Richmond Football Club, further demonstrating her commitment to creating positive, inclusive, and impactful environments. Jacqui brings a unique combination of industry expertise, stakeholder collaboration, and a passion for water polo.

**Bronwen Knox OLY**

**Director**

**(Athletes Commission Chair)**

Bronwen Knox is a four-time Olympian, with just under 400 international caps and a bronze medal from both the Beijing and London Olympic Games, Bronwen has been a key figure in the sport for nearly two decades. Off the field, she is a qualified legal practitioner and currently serves as National Integrity and Complaints Manager across multiple national sporting organisations and athlete educator with Sport Integrity Australia. In 2024, she was appointed Deputy Chef de Mission for the Australian Olympic Team for Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Bronwen continues to shape the future of water polo through her continued involvement as a player and coach.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

## MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

The number of meetings of Directors (including meetings of Committees of Directors) held during the year and the number of meetings attended by each Director is as follows:

Directors' Meetings		
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Trent Birkett	8	8
Dr Kay Copeland	8	8
Don Cameron	8	8
Alex Alderson	2	2
Lisa Lilleyman	8	8
Stuart Coventry	8	8
Chris Corbin	6	6
Susan Smith	8	7
Jodie Cross	3	3
Jacqueline O'Dwyer	5	4
Bronwen Knox	8	8

## MEMBERS' GUARANTEE

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$1 towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2025, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$7 (2024: \$7).

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2025 has been received and forms part of the financial reports for Water Polo Australia Limited.

## INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE OF OFFICERS AND AUDITOR

During the financial year, the Company paid a premium under a contract insuring each Director, the secretary and all members of the Company against liability incurred in their respective capacities. Disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium is prohibited by the confidentiality clause of the contract of insurance.

The Company has not provided any insurance to an auditor.

## PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY

No person has applied to the court under section 237 of the Corporations Act 2001 for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or part of those proceedings.

This Directors' report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



Trent Birkett  
(Director & President)



Lisa Lilleyman  
(Director)

Dated this 10th day of October 2025



# AUDITORS INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION



## WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LTD.

ABN: 86 159 573 403

### AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

We declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2025 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**National Audits Group Pty Ltd**  
Authorised Audit Company

**Steven Watson**

Managing Director

Dated 10 October 2025

Sydney



**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Fees & Contributions	3	4,286,342	5,631,284
Government & Other Grants	3	5,327,601	5,096,172
Other	3	525,349	1,041,319
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>10,139,292</b>	<b>11,768,775</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Travel		3,441,798	5,066,631
Facilities		448,996	534,709
Equipment		218,885	166,037
Grants & Scholarships		1,346,461	1,023,338
Advertising & Promotion		9,070	126,366
Professional Fees		1,473,773	1,533,878
Employee Benefits	4	2,465,326	2,547,735
Insurance		104,829	102,838
Other Overheads		341,696	379,208
Depreciation & Amortisation	5	10,512	15,687
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>9,861,347</b>	<b>11,496,426</b>
<b>Current Year Surplus</b>		<b>277,945</b>	<b>272,349</b>
Other Comprehensive Income			
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>		<b>277,945</b>	<b>272,349</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6	2,942,116	2,401,651
Investments		1,200,000	-
Trade and Other Receivables	7	272,234	497,256
Contract Assets	12	50,000	
Inventory on Hand		-	57,745
Other Assets	8	681,812	551,530
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>5,146,162</b>	<b>3,508,183</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Plant & Equipment	9	16,418	18,415
Right Of Use Asset	10	-	14,695
Intangible Assets		226	317
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>16,644</b>	<b>33,428</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>5,162,806</b>	<b>3,541,611</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	11	1,103,061	528,454
Income Received in Advance	12	127,859	247,188
Deferred Income	12	2,232,651	1,338,174
Employee Benefits	13	172,790	184,540
Lease Liability		-	15,062
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>3,636,360</b>	<b>2,313,417</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Employee Benefits	13	52,339	32,031
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>52,339</b>	<b>32,031</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,688,699</b>	<b>2,345,448</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>1,474,107</b>	<b>1,196,162</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated Funds		1,474,107	1,196,162
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>1,474,107</b>	<b>1,196,162</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Accumulated Funds \$	Total Equity \$
Opening Balance at 1 July 2023	923,813	923,813
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity	272,349	272,349
Closing Balance at 30 June 2024	1,196,162	1,196,162
Opening Balance at 1 July 2024	1,196,162	1,196,162
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity	277,945	277,945
Closing Balance at 30 June 2025	1,474,107	1,474,107

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts in the course of Operations		12,034,135	12,901,810
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(10,439,825)	(12,923,856)
Interest Received		170,484	119,141
<b>Net Cash inflows from Operating Activities</b>		<b>1,764,794</b>	<b>97,095</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
Payments for Plant and Equipment		(9,267)	(24,990)
Investments		(1,200,000)	-
<b>Net Cash outflows from Investing Activities</b>		<b>(1,209,267)</b>	<b>(24,990)</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>			
Lease Liabilities Repaid		(15,062)	(60,246)
<b>Net Cash outflows from Financing Activities</b>		<b>(15,062)</b>	<b>(60,246)</b>
<b>Net Increase in Cash</b>		<b>540,465</b>	<b>11,859</b>
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Year		2,401,651	2,389,792
<b>Cash at the End of the Financial Year</b>		<b>2,942,116</b>	<b>2,401,651</b>



# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The financial report cover Water Polo Australia Limited as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Water Polo Australia Limited is Australia dollars.

Water Polo Australia Limited is a Company limited by guarantee.

### NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

#### Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Corporations Act 2001. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 10th October 2025 by the Directors of the company.

#### a). Revenue and other income

##### Membership Income

Membership fees are recognised as revenue over the membership period to which they relate, consistent with the delivery of member benefits and services. Amounts received in advance are recorded as a contract liability (unearned income) until the membership period commences.

##### Athlete Contributions

Athlete levies and contributions towards training camps, international tours, or competition programs are recognised over the period of the related program as services are delivered. Where fees are paid in advance, they are recorded as a contract liability until the corresponding program or event occurs. If an event is cancelled or not delivered, the related income is reversed or refunded in accordance with contractual terms.

##### Sponsorship Income

Sponsorship revenue is recognised over time in accordance with the period of the sponsorship agreement, reflecting the ongoing delivery of agreed benefits (e.g., branding, promotion, hospitality rights). Where specific deliverables are linked to milestones or events, revenue is recognised when those obligations are satisfied.

##### Sales and Services (Gate takings)

Sales and Services revenue, including gate takings from water polo events, is recognised when the event occurs and spectators receive access. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the ticket proceeds received.

##### Competition Entry Fees

Revenue from events, tournaments, and competitions is recognised at the point in time when the event is held and the related performance obligation has been satisfied. Entry fees received in advance are recognised as a contract liability until the event occurs.

##### Government and Other Grants

- Reciprocal grants: Where grants are provided with specific performance obligations (e.g., delivery of programs, events, or services), revenue is recognised over time as those obligations are satisfied.
- Non-reciprocal grants: Where grants are received without specific performance obligations, income is recognised immediately upon receipt. Unspent grant funding that is subject to return or ongoing conditions is recognised as a liability until such conditions are satisfied.

##### Other Income

Other income, including interest, donations, rebates, and miscellaneous income, is recognised when it is earned and the amount can be reliably measured.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

### b). Employee Benefits

A liability is made for the Company's provision for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

### c). Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div. 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

### d). Economic Dependence

Water Polo Australia Limited is dependent on the Australian Sports Commission and its members for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report, the Board of Directors has no reason to believe the Australian Sports Commission or its members will not continue to support Water Polo Australia Limited.

### e). Financial Instruments

#### Financial Assets

The Company's financial assets consist of the following:

Financial assets at amortised cost The Company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, short-term deposits (< 3 months), and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

#### Trade receivables

Impairment of trade receivables have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The Company has determined the probability of nonpayment of the receivable and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectible then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

Where the Company renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain debtors, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

#### Financial liabilities

The Company measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Company comprise of trade and other payables and lease liabilities.

## NOTE 2: CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGMENTS

### Key estimate – allowance for expected credit losses

The allowance for expected credit losses assessment requires a degree of estimation and judgement. It is based on the lifetime expected credit loss, grouped based on days overdue, and makes assumptions to allocate an overall expected credit loss rate for each group. These assumptions include recent membership trend, historical collection rates and forward-looking information that is available. The allowance for expected credit losses is calculated based on the information available at the time of preparation. The actual credit losses in future years may be higher or lower.

### Key judgements – grant income

For the grant agreements received, the determination of whether the contract includes sufficiently specific performance obligations was a significant judgement involving discussions with a number of parties at the Company, review of the proposal documents prepared during the grant application phase and consideration of the terms and conditions.

Grants received by the Company have been accounted for under both AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers based on the terms and conditions and decisions made.

### Key judgments – employee benefits

The Company recognises provisions for annual leave and long service leave based on estimates of future liabilities. The Directors assess these provisions annually, considering factors such as the term of employment, salary changes, and other relevant assumptions



	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>NOTE 3: REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME</b>		
<b>Revenue From Contracts With Customers</b>		
Membership Fees	771,480	903,496
Athlete Contributions	857,173	1,744,458
Sponsorship	1,032,900	970,980
Sales and Services	54,879	67,605
Competition Entry Fees	1,569,910	1,944,745
	<b>4,286,342</b>	<b>5,631,284</b>
<b>Government and Other Grants</b>		
Australian Sports Commission Grants	5,170,896	4,940,602
Other Grants	156,705	155,570
	<b>5,327,601</b>	<b>5,096,172</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Interest Income	170,484	119,143
Donations	153,161	40,874
Rebates	56,228	20,128
Prizemoney	-	122,907
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>145,476</b>	<b>738,266</b>
	<b>525,349</b>	<b>1,041,319</b>
<b>Total Revenue and Other Income</b>	<b>10,139,292</b>	<b>11,768,775</b>

#### NOTE 4: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Salaries and Wages	1,987,246	2,109,063
Provision for Leave	138,269	97,720
Superannuation	239,183	230,689
Other Employee Benefits	100,628	110,263
<b>Total Employee Benefits</b>	<b>2,465,326</b>	<b>2,547,735</b>

#### NOTE 5: DEPRECIATION & AMORTISATION

Depreciation	10,421	15,116
Amortisation	91	570
<b>Total Depreciation &amp; Amortisation</b>	<b>10,512</b>	<b>15,687</b>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>NOTE 6: CASH &amp; CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cash at Bank	2,942,116	2,401,651

### NOTE 7: TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES

#### Current:

Accounts Receivables	194,615	502,848
Less: Provision for Expected Credit Losses	7a (16,114)	(16,114)
Other Receivables	93,733	10,522
	<b>272,234</b>	<b>497,256</b>

#### a) Provision for Expected Credit Losses

Movement in the provision for expected credit losses is as follows:

Provision for expected credit loss as at 1 July	16,114	8,650
– Taken up	-	8,514
– Written Off	-	(1,050)
<b>Provision for expected credit loss as at 30 June</b>	<b>16,114</b>	<b>16,114</b>

### NOTE 8: OTHER ASSETS

#### Current:

Prepayments Including Tours	681,812	551,530
	<b>681,812</b>	<b>551,530</b>

### NOTE 9: PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Plant and Equipment at Original Cost	45,030	51,831
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(28,612)	(33,415)
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>16,418</b>	<b>18,415</b>

#### Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Computer Equipment (\$)	Fixtures and Fittings (\$)
Balance at the beginning of the year	18,341	74
Additions	8,424	-
Depreciation	(10,347)	(74)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the year</b>	<b>16,418</b>	<b>0</b>



	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>NOTE 10: RIGHT OF USE ASSET</b>		
Office Licence – Stadium Australia at Original Cost	-	200,822
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	-	(186,127)
	-	<b>14,695</b>

#### Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for right of use asset between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Cost	Depreciation
Balance at the beginning of the year	200,822	(186,127)
Depreciation for the year	-	(14,695)
Disposals	(200,822)	200,822
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the year</b>	-	-

The licence agreement for the use of office space within Stadium Australia expired during the year and no option was taken to extend the lease. The Company has no leases in place in accordance with AASB 16.

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>NOTE 11: TRADE &amp; OTHER PAYABLES</b>		
<b>Current:</b>		
Accounts Payable	906,690	312,973
Accruals	131,748	147,529
Other	64,623	67,953
	<b>1,103,061</b>	<b>528,454</b>

#### NOTE 12: CONTRACT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

##### Current:

Contract Assets		
Accrued Income	50,000	-
Contract Liabilities		
Athlete Contributions	-	7,012
Funding in Advance – Other	127,859	240,176
Grant Funding in Advance – Australian Sports Commission	2,057,238	1,338,174
Membership Fees in Advance	175,413	-
	<b>2,360,509</b>	<b>1,585,362</b>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>NOTE 13: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>			
Annual Leave		172,790	184,540
Long Service Leave		52,339	32,031
		<b>225,129</b>	<b>216,570</b>

		Employee Benefits	Total
<b>Analysis of total provisions</b>			
Balance at the beginning of the year		216,570	216,570
Additional provisions raised during the year		186,368	186,368
Amounts used		(177,809)	(177,809)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the year</b>		<b>225,129</b>	<b>225,129</b>

## NOTE 14: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Company's financial instruments consist of deposits with banks, accounts receivable and payable, and leases.

The carrying amounts for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 9: Financial Instruments as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Financial Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		2,942,116	2,401,651
Investments		1,200,000	-
Trade and Other Receivables	7	272,234	497,256
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>		<b>4,414,349</b>	<b>2,898,907</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>			
Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost:			
- Trade and Other Payables	11	1,103,061	528,454
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>		<b>1,103,061</b>	<b>528,454</b>

## NOTE 15: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL REMUNERATION

The totals of remuneration paid to key management personnel (KMP) of the company during the year are as follows:

<b>Aggregate compensation</b>		<b>206,103</b>	<b>228,527</b>
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## NOTE 16: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company's related parties include key management personnel (KMP) and their close family members, as well as entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMPs or their close family members.

There were no related party transactions during the year ended 30 June 2025 (2024: Nil), other than key management personnel compensation which is disclosed in Note 16.



	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>NOTE 17: AUDITOR REMUNERATION</b>			
Remuneration of the auditor, National Audits Group Pty Ltd, for:			
- auditing the financial report		20,000	-
Remuneration of the previous auditor, CBC Partners for:			
- audit services		1,600	24,600
- other services*		2,430	3,660
		<b>24,030</b>	<b>28,260</b>

\*Other services include taxation advice and regulatory compliance.

#### NOTE 18: COMMITMENTS

There are no non-cancellable commitments as at reporting date.

#### NOTE 19: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES & CONTINGENT ASSETS

##### Legal Proceedings – Debtor Recovery

As at the date of this report, the Company has initiated legal proceedings against a debtor for non-payment of outstanding amounts. The matter is currently with the Company's legal representatives. While the outcome remains uncertain, the Directors consider that any potential financial impact is not expected to be material. The Company will continue to monitor the matter and assess the need for further disclosure or recognition as more information becomes available.

#### NOTE 20: EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

The Directors are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

#### NOTE 21: SEGMENT REPORTING

	Revenue \$	Expenses \$
<b>2025</b>		
High Performance	5,955,540	6,027,758
Competitions	2,288,998	2,480,427
Sport Development	1,894,754	1,353,162
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,139,292</b>	<b>9,861,347</b>
<b>2024</b>		
High Performance	7,151,399	7,150,935
Competitions	2,810,494	3,155,154
Sport Development	1,806,882	1,190,336
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,768,775</b>	<b>11,496,426</b>

#### NOTE 22: ENTITY DETAILS

Registered office and principal place of business (to 30 September 2024):  
'Stadium Australia', Level 3 East  
Edwin Flack Avenue  
Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127.

From 1 October 2024:  
C/ CBC Partners Pty Limited  
Level 11, 22 Market Street  
Sydney, NSW 2000.

## CONSOLIDATED ENTITY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Water Polo Australia Limited does not have any controlled entities and is not required by the Accounting Standards to prepare consolidated financial statements. Therefore, section 295(3A) (a) of the Corporations Act 2001 does not apply to the entity.

## DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors of Water Polo Australia Limited, the Directors of the Company declare that:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the financial position of Water Polo Australia Limited as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date;
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that Water Polo Australia Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable;
- the information disclosed in the attached consolidated entity disclosure statement is true and correct.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Directors made pursuant to section 295(5)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.



Trent Birkett  
(Director & President)



Lisa Lilleyman  
(Director)

Dated this 10th day of October 2025



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



## WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LTD.

ABN: 86 159 573 403

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

##### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Water Polo Australia Ltd. (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended 30 June 2025, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, the consolidated entity disclosure statement and the Directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- ii. complying with the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Standard and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

##### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the Directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the Directors as at the time of this independent auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LTD.

ABN: 86 159 573 403

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### Other Matter

We draw attention to the fact that the financial report of Water Polo Australia Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2024 were audited by CBC Partners who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on 4 October 2024. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company Directors report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information, and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information, and in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Standard, the *Corporations Act 2001*, *Corporations Regulations 2001* and the consolidated entity disclosure statement that is true and correct in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and the consolidated entity disclosure statement that is true and correct and is free of misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LTD.

ABN: 86 159 573 403

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025


#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an independent auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

[https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

National Audits Group Pty Ltd  
Authorised Audit Company



Steven Watson

Managing Director

Dated 10 October 2025

Sydney



# THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

## MAJOR PARTNERS



## PRESENTING PARTNERS



## SUPPORT PARTNERS



## SUPPLY PARTNER



## PROGRAM PARTNERS



## PREFERRED PROVIDERS

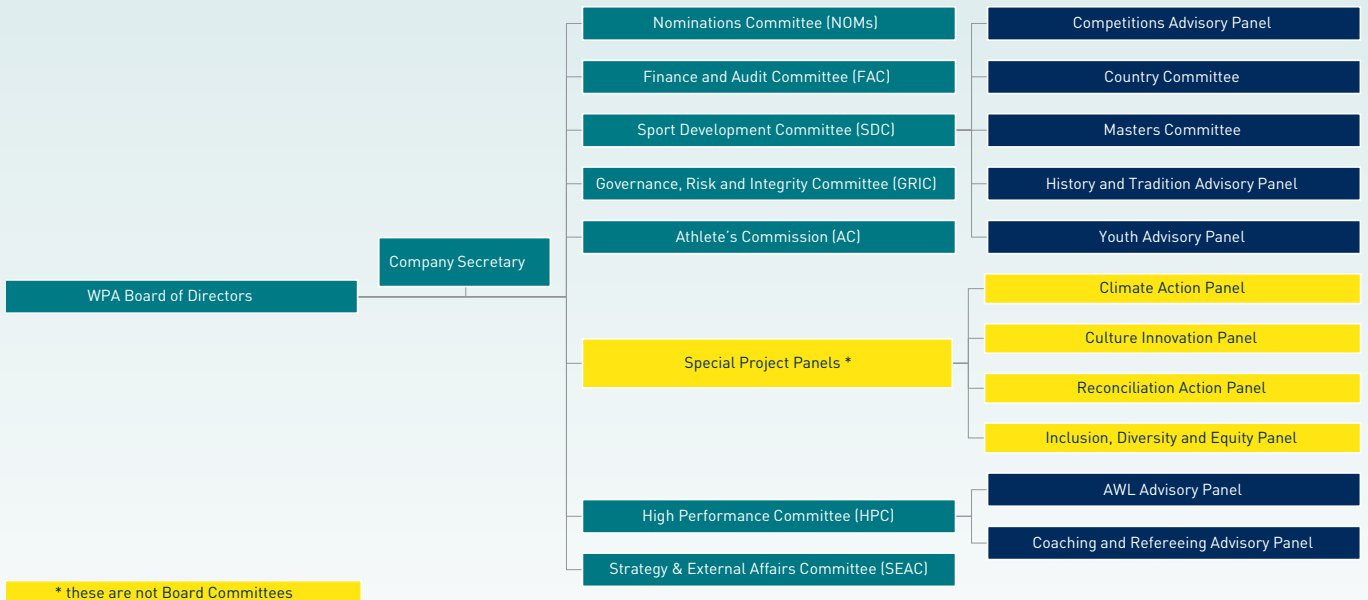


## INDUSTRY COLLABORATORS

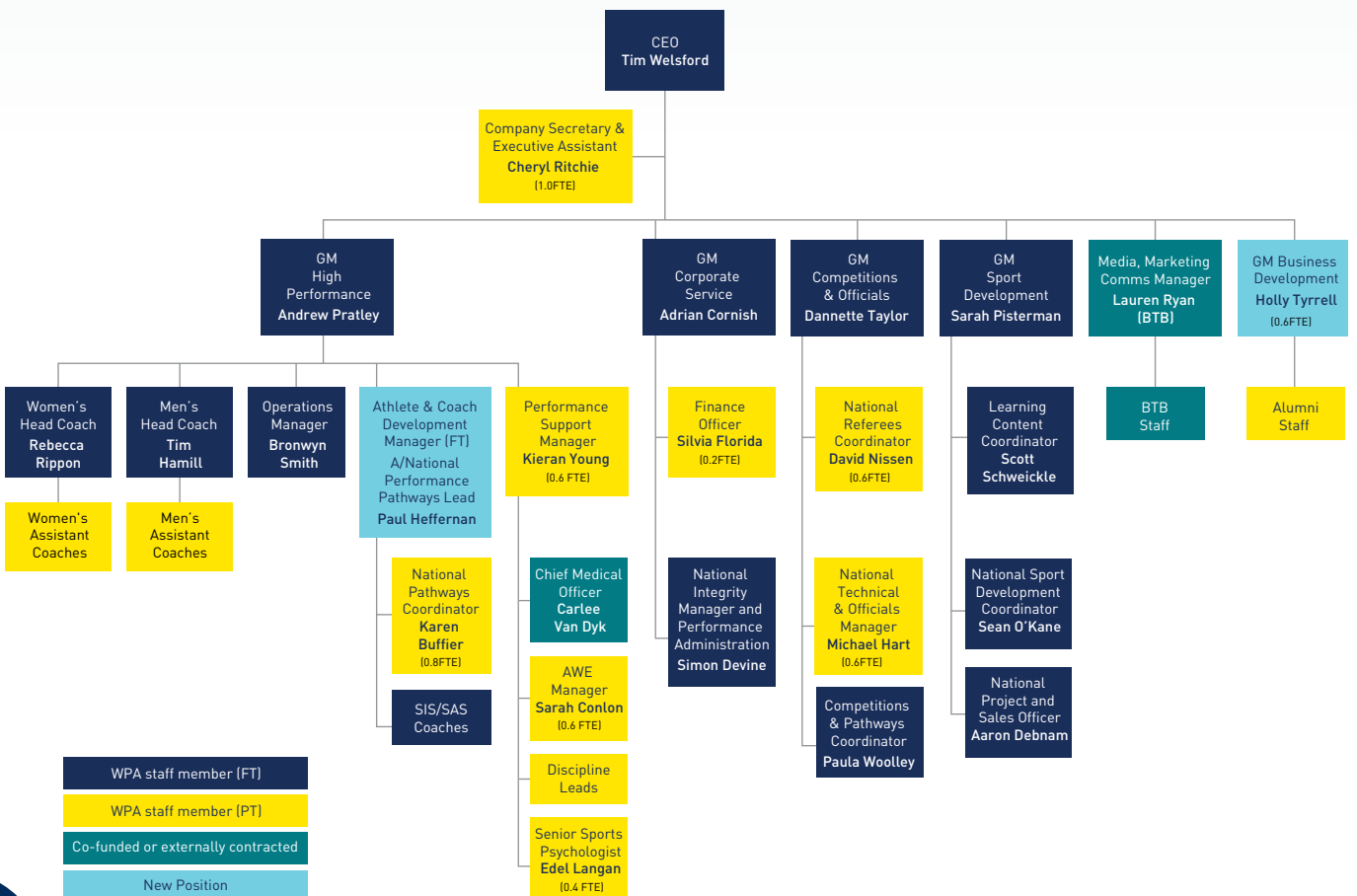


# ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

## CURRENT – WPA BOARD & COMMITTEE STRUCTURE



## WPA ORG CHART



# HONOUR ROLL

## LIFE MEMBERS

1993 Peter Montgomery AM  
2009 Tom Hoad AM  
2009 Pat Jones  
2009 Harry Quittner (deceased)  
2009 David Woods (deceased)  
2015 Peter Kerr AM  
2020 John Whitehouse  
2021 Leanne Barnes OAM  
2021 David Neesham OAM  
2022 William R (Bill) Jones  
2023 Thomas Whalan  
2024 Debbie Watson OAM  
2024 Don Cameron

## HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT

Harry Quittner (deceased)

## HARRY QUITTNER MEDAL RECIPIENTS

1986 Charles Turner  
1987 Debbie Cummins  
1988 Peter Montgomery AM  
1989 Tom Hoad AM  
1990 Andrew Kerr OAM  
1991 John Whitehouse OAM  
1992 Chris Wybrow & Debbie Watson OAM  
1993 Not awarded  
1994 Ray Mayers  
1995 Pat Jones  
1996 Don Cameron  
1997-1999 Not awarded  
2000 John Fox  
2001-06 Not awarded  
2007 Nathan Thomas  
2008 Tracy Rockwell  
2009 Leanne Barnes  
2010 Jeanette Gunn  
2014 Peter Kerr AM  
2022 Graham 'Doc' Wulf

## HALL OF FAME

2009 Wendy Arancini (nee Meloncelli, WA)  
2009 Debbie Cummins (nee Handley, QLD)  
2009 Tom Hoad AM (WA)  
2009 Andrew Kerr OAM (NSW)  
2009 Peter Montgomery AM (NSW)  
2009 Cathy Parkes OAM (NSW) (deceased)  
2009 Charles Turner (SA & NSW)  
2009 Debbie Watson OAM (NSW)  
2009 John Whitehouse OAM (TAS)  
2010 Bill Berge-Phillips (NSW) (deceased)  
2010 Bridgette Gusterson OAM (WA)  
2010 David Neesham (WA)  
2010 John O'Brien (VIC) (deceased)  
2010 Ray Smee OAM (NSW) (deceased)  
2010 David Woods (NSW) (deceased)  
2011 Leanne Barnes (VIC)  
2011 Peter Kerr AM (NSW)  
2011 Ian Mills (VIC)  
2011 Les Nunn (WA)  
2011 Michael Withers (VIC, NSW)  
2011 Chris Wybrow (NSW)  
2012 Leon Wiegard OAM (VIC)  
2012 Peter Bennett (VIC) (deceased)  
2012 Alan Charleston (WA) (deceased)  
2014 Naomi McCarthy OAM (nee Castle, QLD)  
2014 Ron Wootton OAM (VIC) (deceased)  
2014 Michael Turner (SA)  
2019 Bronwyn Smith OAM (nee Mayer)  
2019 Gavin Woods  
2019 Istvan Gorgenyi  
2021 Colin French (WA) (deceased – awarded posthumous)  
2021 Amanda Leeson-Smith  
2021 Ian Trent  
2023 John Fox  
2023 Nathan Thomas  
2023 Thomas Whalan  
2025 Bronwen Knox  
2025 Rhys Howden  
2025 Pat Jones  
2025 Harry Quittner (deceased – awarded posthumous)



# Water Polo

AUSTRALIA

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