

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26


UNITED BY POWER
WORLD AQUATICS
SEVEN
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WATER POLO AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

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PRESIDENT REPORT



As President of Water Polo Australia (WPA), I am proud to present our Annual Report for 2025/26 on behalf of the WPA Board. With my term reaching its maximum allowable length, this will be my final report as President, a role that has been a great honour.

This year has been defined by continued progress against our strategic ambitions, the successful delivery of a landmark event for our sport on home soil, and the commitment of the athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, clubs and members who continue to drive water polo forward across Australia.

HIGH PERFORMANCE

In line with our Win Well strategy, we have continued to strengthen the pipeline for representing the green and gold. This year, we introduced the first-ever National Development Squads for both our men's and women's programs. This genuine, structured pathway gives future athletes the opportunity to work closely with our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers programs through deliberate training environments and increased exposure to elite competition.

At the 2025 World Aquatics Championships in Singapore, the first benchmark event of the LA 2028 Olympic cycle, our Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers finished sixth and our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks finished 13th. Both results sharpened our focus heading into a huge year ahead, with our national teams provided with the opportunity of a lifetime: competing in front of family and friends at a home 2026 World Aquatics World Cup Finals in July 2026.

The event delivered moments our sport will remember for years. The Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers produced a bronze medal performance in front of a passionate home crowd, while the Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks surged into the semi-finals. These results showed the belief, resilience and quality now running through our national programs, and gave Australian water polo a powerful platform heading towards LA 2028 and Brisbane 2032.





GRASSROOTS, PATHWAYS AND DEVELOPMENT

Nowhere is the growth of our game more visible than at the Australian Youth Water Polo Championships. A record 246 teams took part across the two weeks in Brisbane this year, making it the largest water polo participation event in the Southern Hemisphere, with record participation levels and international representation. What began as a domestic junior fixture has developed into a genuine festival of the sport.

The next generation of Australian water polo talent was on full display on the international stage this year, with Australia selecting women's and men's teams across the U16 and U18 World Championships. The standout result was our Australian Women's U18 team being crowned world champions for the first time, defeating defending champions Spain and securing Australia's first-ever medal at the U18 Women's World Championships. Across the age-group campaigns, our young athletes showed the depth, confidence and international quality now emerging through the national pathway.

SECURING A HOME WORLD CUP

One of the standout achievements of the year was the work done to secure and prepare for the 2026 World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup Finals, held in Sydney in July 2026. It was the first time a world-class aquatics event of this scale returned to Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre since that golden moment at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. The work put in by the Water Polo Australia team to prepare and deliver an event of this calibre was phenomenal and set us up for what was a landmark moment for our sport. I want to acknowledge the team behind the scenes, who worked tirelessly to bring this opportunity to life.



LOOKING BACK

I want to use this opportunity to reflect not just on the past twelve months, but on the growth of the organisation over the period I have had the privilege of serving as President.

When I look at the strength of WPA today, I see an organisation built on stronger foundations than the one I joined. Our financial position has been rebuilt and stabilised, and our governance has matured to a standard that gives our Board, members and partners real confidence in how this organisation is run. That work rarely gets a headline, but it is the platform on which our sport is built: our High Performance programs, our participation growth and our ability to bid for and host global events like the World Cup Finals.

We have also professionalised our athlete pathways in a way that would have been hard to imagine a decade ago. Our green and gold pathway to the Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers and Aussie Sharks squads is now structured and supported, underpinned by our High Performance strategy, Win Well, and reflected in the calibre of programs our very best athletes operate within.

At the grassroots level, few things make me prouder than the growth of the Australian Youth Water Polo Championships. This ultimate festival of water polo is one of the biggest highlights on our national calendar and continues to get bigger, more competitive and more valued by clubs and states each year. The event has also garnered international recognition, with teams from across the globe entering to compete. It is a direct pipeline into our National Age Group Program and ultimately into our national teams. It stands as one of the clearest signs of a sport building depth for the long term.

The strategic foundations are now in place through to Brisbane 2032 and beyond, and I leave this role with real confidence in the direction of the sport and the people leading it forward. It has been my privilege to serve as President of Water Polo Australia. One of the great thrills of my presidency was seeing our Sharks and Stingers perform so strongly at the World Cup Finals, lifted by the joy, pride and support of fans who showed just how much these teams mean to Australian water polo. To our athletes, coaches, volunteers, administrators, partners and fans, thank you for your trust and support. To the WPA Board and committees, past and present, thank you for your dedication in helping build an organisation I am proud to have led.

Trent Birkett
President, Water Polo Australia

CEO REPORT



The past year marked a genuine turning point for Water Polo Australia as we completed the first year of our new Strategic Plan, 2032+ Powered by Purpose. The year was defined by twelve months of disciplined execution against our three strategic pillars: Lead Well, Play Well and Win Well, building toward what will be a landmark moment for our sport.

I'm thrilled with the progress we've made across all three and grateful to our staff, Board, Member Associations, clubs, volunteers and athletes for the work that sits behind every number and every story in this report.

LEAD WELL

Our financial performance this year was a highlight with WPA delivering a surplus 271% ahead of budget with a draft actual of $207,964 against a budgeted $76,544. Revenue grew 11.4% year-on-year from $9,968,807 in FY25 to $11,187,141 in FY26, keeping us firmly on track toward our $20 million annual revenue goal under 2032+ Powered by Purpose.

This financial discipline was matched by strong governance progress: our new constitution, aligned with the Australian Sports Commission's Sport Governance Principles, is now complete and we executed 100% of our Member Organisation contracts. This is an excellent result that reflects the strength of our relationships across the water polo delivery system.

Staff engagement remained strong at 78% above industry benchmark, and this year we began work on the cultural blueprint to underpin how we want our people to work and lead as WPA continues to grow. On the digital front, Phase 1 of our Digital Strategy - a complete rebuild of our website - was delivered this year, with Phase 2 scheduled for completion in March 2027.



PLAY WELL

Our membership base grew 5% to 22,257 members, keeping us on the pathway toward our target of 30,000 playing members under our strategic plan. In this past year, our combined social media reach soared to over 21 million users while our website views increased by 20% to 2.28 million this financial year. It's a clear sign that interest in our sport and our new digital presence is translating into real audience growth as we moved towards our home World Cup Finals. Member retention also improved and lifted to 41% against a 40% benchmark.

We also completed and released our new Referee Development Framework this year, providing a clear, structured pathway for the recruitment, training and progression of match officials. This is a foundational piece of work to support the growth we're chasing under Play Well 2032.





WIN WELL

Our Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers programs continued to build toward our goal of two medals at the Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games. Following the 2025 World Aquatics Championships in Singapore, the Aussie Stingers sat sixth and the Aussie Sharks 13th in the LA 2028 benchmark tracking. The results gave our squads clear ground for improvement as they prepare to compete in front of a home crowd at the World Cup Finals in July.

This year we also completed Phase 1 of our comprehensive Sharks Review, with implementation now underway. This was a deliberate, evidence-based step to ensure our men's program has the structure and support it needs heading into LA 2028.

Alongside this, our Athlete Categorisation Framework was completed and is now being used to categorise athletes across our system and our National Development Program reached a major milestone with both Women's and Men's National Development Squash now fully established. These squads provide a formalised pathway from our National Age Group Program through the Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers for the very first time.

Much of this work was building towards the biggest moment on our calendar: hosting the World Cup Finals in Sydney in July. With over twelve months of preparation across venue planning, broadcast and ticketing infrastructure, athlete pathway investment and community engagement, we headed into this home event with both national teams ready to fly the Australian flag with pride - a moment that delivered a genuine legacy for our sport.

IN CLOSING

I would like to thank the WPA Board for their continued trust, guidance and support throughout the first year of our 2032+ Powered by Purpose strategy. To our staff, coaches, officials, volunteers and Member Organisations, thank you for the work you put in every day to bring this plan to life, often well away from the spotlight. To our Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers and Aussie Sharks and everyone who supports them, we look forward to seeing what you can achieve on home soil in July, a moment I'm sure our sport will remember for a long time.

As we move into Year 2, our focus turns to consolidating this progress: continuing to grow toward our targets of 30,000 playing members and $20 million in annual revenue, embedding the frameworks and pathways we've built this year, and ensuring our national teams have everything they need heading into the 2027 World Championships in Budapest and the LA 2028 Olympic Games. The home World Cup Finals in July will give Australian sporting fans a taste of what our sport can be on the biggest stage. Our task now is to build on this momentum every day between now and Brisbane 2032.

Tim Welsford
CEO, Water Polo Australia



STRATEGIC PLAN

2032 + POWERED BY PURPOSE

THE WATER POLO AUSTRALIA STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2032+

Our blueprint for how Water Polo Australia (WPA) will purposefully collaborate with our partners to future proof Water Polo in Australia and empower our community to grow the game.

OUR PLAN WILL:

- Provide clarity of purpose to the WPA board, staff, Member Organisations, Australian Water Polo League clubs, community clubs, and partners.
- Ensure WPA remains focused on the priorities most critical to our current and future sustainability and success.
- Support the future capability and sustainability of Member Organisations, Australian Water Polo League clubs, and community clubs; and
- Future-proof Water Polo within a rapidly evolving Australian sport and active recreation landscape.

OUR VALUES

HIGH PERFORMING

We strive for excellence through innovation, accountability, and a growth mindset - always aiming to be better tomorrow than we are today.

2-GETHER

We act with unity of purpose and integrity, we understand our roles and work as one team to support each other's success.

OPEN

We are inclusive, welcoming, and proud to say: there's a place for everyone in Water Polo.

OUR GOALS

20 MILLION
ANNUAL REVENUE

30 THOUSAND
PLAYING MEMBERS

02
MEDALS AT THE 2032 BRISBANE OLYMPIC GAMES

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITY AREAS

LEAD WELL
Strengthening WPA's capability to achieve our purpose.

PLAY WELL
Supporting the water polo community to grow our game like never before.

WIN WELL
Enabling our national teams to Win Well when it matters most.

OUR ENABLERS

2032+ POWERED BY PURPOSE IS ENABLED BY:

- The right people, in the right roles, at the right time.
- Safe, fun, and inclusive Water Polo environments.
- Positive, mutually beneficial relationships with Member Organisations, Australian Water Polo League clubs, community clubs, government, and commercial partners.
- Clear roles and responsibilities across the water polo delivery system.
- Smart, data-driven decisions.
- Athletes who inspire – winning well on the world stage when it matters most.
- A financially strong and sustainable business model.
- Digital systems which transform how we connect and operate.

KPI TRACKER

STRATEGIC PRIORITY / MEASURE	BENCHMARK	OUTCOME		
		30 June, 2026	Status	Comments
LEAD WELL				
Budget Position	5% ahead of budgeted surplus	Surplus 271% up on budget	🟢	Budgeted surplus $76,544; Draft actual $207,964
Revenue growth	10% Increase	11.4% increase	🟢	FY26 $11,187,141; FY25 $9,968,807
Staff engagement	80%	78%	🟢	Engagement slightly lower that expected, still above industry b/m
NSO Governance Rating	Tier 1	44/48	🟢	Next assessment due but ASC have requested postponement. Major work remaining is the whole of sport risk management strategy
Staff performance Review	100% Complete	13/22	🟡	100% complete prior to WCF was too ambitious
Compliant Constitution	Approved at 2025 AGM	Complete	🟢	Constitution now aligned with the ASC SGS
WPA Staff SIA Education Compliance	100%	100%	🟡	Not including Board
Social Impact Plan	Complete September 2026	In development	🟡	Embedded in Commercial Strategy.
Commercial Strategy	Complete September 2026	Development post WCF	🟡	Draft developed, consultation with WPA members and partners required.
Digital Strategy	Complete April 2027	Phase 1- website complete	🟢	Phase 1 complete. Phase 2 scheduled for 31 March 2027.
MO Contract execution	100%	7/7	🟢	Excellent result
MO Contract Review	100%	0	🟢	No review required until December 2026
PLAY WELL				
Members	3% Increase	22,257	🟢	5% increase from 2024/25 as of the end of June
Referees	3% Increase	1,339	🟡	5.7% less than the 1420 in 24/25 season
Coaches	3% Increase	1,526	🟡	4.1% less than the 1591 in 24/25 season
Socials Reach	5% Increase	Increase 55.6%	🟢	World Cup has been bigger than the Olympics
Website Page Views	5% Increase	Increase of 17.3%	🟢	New website has been fantastic
Member Retention	40%	41%	🟡	2025/26 to 2024/25 Comparison
Athlete Development Framework	Complete March 2026	Work yet to be started	🔴	Awaiting completed of HP Athlete Framework before work can commence
Coach Development Framework	Complete June 2026	Work yet to be started	🟡	Will be started mid/late 2026
Referee Development Framework	Complete December 2025	Completed	🟢	Released
WIN WELL				
Stingers LA2028 outcome	Podium	6th	🟡	Following Singapore WCs
Sharks LA2028 outcome	Top 8	13th	🟡	Following Singapore WCs
Sharks Review	Review Complete Dec 2025	Phase 1 complete	🟢	Implementation underway
Athlete Categorisation Framework	Complete November 2025	Complete	🟢	Used for athlete Categorisation 2025/26
Athlete Development Framework	Complete March 2026	Progressing	🟡	Published Dec 2025. Implementation plan project commenced with Sarah Conlon as Project Lead
National Development Program	# of PP and Dev athletes, # of days in National activity	Progressing	🟢	Women's and Men's squads complete. Activity on men's side subject to investment availability post Sharks review
National Coaching Workforce	All coaches in role March 2026	Progressing	🟢	Almost complete

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION



The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) continues to drive Australian sport forward, helping it grow and deliver lasting benefits for communities across the nation.

From grassroots participation and community sport to high performance, we work alongside the sector to create positive environments where everyone can succeed.

We are committed to ensuring sport is safe, fair, inclusive and accessible, with every athlete supported to realise their full potential.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on ensuring Australians can access quality sporting experiences and that our sporting system empowers people to develop, achieve and perform at their best, both on and off the field.

This includes investing in athletes, coaches, officials and organisations through our grant programs, and helping young Australians experience sport for the first time through initiatives like our Sporting Schools program.

Through the Play Well and Win Well national sport strategies, we continue to build a stronger, more connected sporting system that expands opportunities for participation while supporting athletes to deliver elite performances in exceptional environments.

Our performances at the Milano Cortina Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games and Glasgow Commonwealth Games reflected the dedication of athletes, coaches, support staff and sporting organisations across the country, and demonstrated our collective commitment to win well.

Looking to the future, those same values will guide Australian sport through Los Angeles 2028, the French Alps 2030, the Amdavad Commonwealth Games and Brisbane 2032.

Supported by the Australian Government's recent $513 million investment in sport, we are helping athletes pursue success at the highest level while strengthening the systems, people and infrastructure that will support Australian sport for years to come.

This includes continued investment in the Para Uplift, creating greater opportunities and support for Para athletes across the country.

The AIS Podium Project is now underway, transforming the AIS campus through its most significant redevelopment since opening more than four decades ago. Backed by a $249.7 million Australian Government investment, the project will deliver contemporary facilities and support services that strengthen the AIS as Australia's home of high performance sport. This includes a new world-class Testing and Training Centre, a 24/7 Indoor Sports Dome and Australia's most accessible athlete accommodation.

I am confident that our collective commitment to Australian sport will continue to strengthen communities, inspire achievement and create positive outcomes for generations to come.

Kate Jenkins AO
Chair of the Australian Sports Commission





LEAD WELL

At the commencement of year one of the 2032+ Powered by Purpose strategic plan, the Lead Well pillar provided the important role of strengthening Water Polo Australia's capability to achieve our purpose. As we strive to become the $20m business we are aspiring to be, the completion of the first year for the Lead Well pillar has seen great shifts towards achieving our goal, including continued revenue growth and a surplus for the year.

Under Governance, we have taken action to reach an Australian Sports Commission governance maturity benchmark of a Tier 1 NSO rating, and we are on track to meet and maintain these expectations. Vital work on the WPA Constitution was completed and approved to ensure it aligned with Sport Governance Principles, allowing the sport to perform to a high standard. We also achieved 100% compliance with our Sport Integrity Australia policy, reporting and training obligations.

The Cultural Blueprint was a pivotal strategic initiative for the first year of the Lead Well pillar. The Water Polo Australia staff took part in a two-day workshop to redefine the culture of our organisation to ensure cohesion in the team towards 2032. The workshop produced the internal Cultural Blueprint identifying the core values of the team and how we will measure this in line with the 2032+ Powered by Purpose strategic plan. This focus on culture is reflected in our staff engagement results, which consistently sat between 78% and 82% across the year, well above industry benchmarks.

We saw great progress with our Digital Strategy, which started with a complete digital review of our systems and how we can improve online experiences for our audience. In May 2026, a new user-friendly website was launched alongside a refreshed brand and fit-for-purpose digital systems that enhance our organisational performance and are accessible for new fans, clubs and members of our sport. As we move into the second year, WPA will continue to update and innovate the digital landscape of the website, including elevating the competition and membership platform.





We took the first steps in developing and executing the Member Organisation Partnership Program. The contracts enable Member Organisations to effectively deliver national priorities at a local level and support partners in activities that contribute to achieving success in line with the strategic plan.

Work on our Commercial Strategy and Social Impact Plan is progressing, setting the foundations for sustainable growth and a broader positive impact for the water polo community.

We would like to thank our sponsors Ord Minnett, Kap7 and Turbo for their ongoing support of Water Polo Australia, from the grassroots level to supporting the Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers. We also welcomed Valour as a new clothing sponsor, providing uniforms for the Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Aussie Stingers team and support staff, as well as Water Polo Australia staff, referees and officials.

PLAY WELL

The 2025/26 financial year marked an important period of transition and progress for Water Polo Australia, with Competitions, Officials, Sports Development and Education coming together to form the Play Well pillar. This alignment strengthened the connection between participation, events, workforce development and education, creating a more coordinated approach to supporting the sport from grassroots through to national competition.

A major milestone was the launch of the Play Well Participation Plan in September 2025. The plan has already supported the release of a new Referee Framework and the completion of the Enhance tranche of the strategy, positioning the department to move forward into the Perform tranche with clear priorities for growth, capability and long-term sustainability.

Key highlights for the year included an increased focus on learning and development for officials at WPA events, stronger engagement through Sporting Schools, and the launch of the Learn 2 Polo pilot at the end of the financial year to encourage participation through aquatic facilities. Membership remained consistent with the previous year, with approximately 100 additional members. Through the participation strategy, a dedicated retention strategy will be initiated to help shift membership growth closer to the goal of 30,000 members by 2032.

Looking ahead to 2026/27, the Play Well team will focus on refreshing the Water Polo Learning Centre and developing new content to support the learning and development of athletes, coaches and officials. A key priority will also be the transition of membership and the competition model onto a new platform, while continuing to deliver initiatives that strengthen participation pathways and build the capability of the water polo community.

2025/26 EVENT DELIVERY SNAPSHOT

Across the year, the Play Well team delivered a strong national events calendar that supported athlete development, participation growth, domestic competition and officials' development which was inline with the Competition Framework released in September 2025. Key delivery highlights included:

National State Championships: Delivered in Canberra across three venues, bringing together leading 15&U and 17&U athletes from across Australia, alongside an invitational team from New Zealand.

Australian Youth Water Polo Championships: Returned to Brisbane with record participation, including 246 teams, more than 4,000 athletes and support staff, 14 age divisions, six venues and more than 1,000 games.

Australian Waterpolo League: Delivered a full home-and-away season and Finals Series at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre, reinforcing the strength of the domestic competition pathway.

13 & Under National Development Carnival: Hosted in Hobart with 25 teams, providing young athletes and officials with exposure to representative-style competition and development opportunities.

Looking ahead to 2026/27, WPA will continue to review, improve and grow its competition offerings to better support participation growth and the development of athletes, coaches and officials, while work will also continue exploring new competition opportunities that strengthen pathways across the sport.

AWL Referee debuts - 1 (Jacob Sharkey)

AWL Referee Milestones - according to my records - Andrew Carney (900) | Nicola Johnson (600) | David Gerrie (600) | Liam Ireland (250) | Ash Kaesler (200)

Number of referees at

- AYC 2026 - 74
- NSC 2025 - 18
- 13 Development 2025 – 19
- AWL 2026 - 23

2883 appointments during the season

International Appointments (Michael to advise)

- Men's Water Polo World Cup 2026, Division 2 (Malta) - Gabor Boros
- Women's Water Polo World Cup 2026, Division 2 (Malta) - Nicola Johnson
- World Aquatics World Cup Final 2026 (Sydney) - Nick Hodgers and Ashleigh Kaesler
- World Aquatics U20 Mens (Zagreb) - Daniel Bartels (gold medal game)
- World Aquatics U20 Women's (Salvador) - Nicola Johnson
- World Aquatics World Championships (Singapore) - Nick Hodgers / Fiona Haigh
- World Aquatics Women's Under 16 World Championships (Zagreb) – Libby Magann
- World Aquatics Men's Under 16 World Championships (Zagreb)– Liam Ireland
- World Aquatics Women's Under 18 World Championships (Tenerife)– Fiona Haigh
- World Aquatics Men's Under 18 World Championships (Rio Maior)– Daniel Bartels


UNSW
WATER

WIN WELL

ORD MINNETT AUSSIE SHARKS AND AUSSIE STINGERS

2025 WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS, SINGAPORE

The 2025 World Aquatics Championships marked the official start of the LA 2028 Olympic cycle and the first benchmark event for both national teams in the new quad.

The Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers, under Head Coach Bec Rippon, narrowly missed a semi-final berth, going down by a single goal to eventual gold medallists Greece in the quarterfinals and finishing sixth overall. The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks, led by Head Coach Tim Hamill, faced a tough group stage against Spain, Hungary and Japan and recorded an eventual 13th place.

Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers Team: Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Tenealle Fasala, Sienna Green, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Dani Jackovic, Tilly Kearns, Alexie Lambert, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Gabi Palm, Pippa Pedley, Alice Williams

Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks Team: Laurence Barker, Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Luka Krstic, Tristan Glanznig, Andrej Grgurevic, Angus Lambie, Milos Maksimovic, Drew McJannett, Sam Nangle, Charlie Negus, Jacob Mercep, Nic Porter, Nathan Power, Tim Putt

Beyond the World Championships, the Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers opened 2026 with a training tour to Spain in January, combining a camp with the Spanish national team with a pair of international matches. The tour provided valuable exposure to a leading European nation and sharpened combinations ahead of the 2026 World Cup Division 1 where the Aussie Stingers finished with a 3-3 win-loss record to finish in fifth place.

Through May and June, the Aussie Stingers moved into a series of integrated National Institute Network camps, bringing athletes together across and beyond the national institute system and laying the platform for their home 2026 World Cup Finals campaign.

The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks held a green and gold camp and a series of matches in Canberra and Sydney in December 2025 involving 37 athletes. The team then completed a competition block in Slovakia as the core of their World Cup Division 2 preparations, where the team finished fifth despite a 6-1 win-loss record after a tight quarter final loss to Germany.

In June 2026, the Aussie Sharks commenced an integrated Aussie Sharks/National Development camp on the Sunshine Coast, the first official activity of the newly established National Development Squad and a strong entry point to the broader men's national program. The camp brought 36 senior and emerging athletes together in a single environment and began preparations for the home World Cup Finals.

2032+ WIN WELL HP STRATEGY UPDATES

The Water Polo Australia Athlete Development Framework was launched, noting a significant couple of years remain ahead in building the associated resource portal and its implementation as a key athlete and coach development initiatives.

The Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks and Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers national squads were re-established.

The inaugural men's and women's National Development Squads were launched.

A review of National Men's Program was conducted to provide recommendations to best align the Sharks program in support of delivering on our 2032+ Win Well HP Strategy.

The High Performance Cultural Blueprint was finalised – an internal anchor that will see the core values and behaviours of our National senior programs reinforced across the national pathway.

Our National Athlete Categorisation Framework and associated processes were refined.



Performance Pathways

The Performance Pathways delivered a coordinated national approach to athlete identification, development, selection and preparation across the U16, U18 and U20 age groups. Working alongside state associations, institutes and academies, clubs, coaches and senior national programs, the national age group programs continued to strengthen the pathway for Australia's emerging water polo athletes.



A revised identification and selection policy was introduced leading into the 2025 National State Championships. Athletes were selected within provisional Squad 1 and Squad 2 groups, with movement between squads possible throughout the domestic season based on their development, performances and engagement within their daily training environments. This ensured selection remained an ongoing process rather than being determined by performance at a single competition.

More than 400 athletes were observed by national coaches through state-based Performance Pathways camps and major domestic competitions. Athletes were provided with opportunities to train within the national pathway, complete benchmark testing and receive feedback from national and state coaches. These activities also strengthened collaboration between Water Polo Australia, state associations, academies and clubs.

Following the Australian Youth Championships, selected athletes attended final selection camps for the U16 and U18 National teams. World Championship preparation then commenced through Australian-based camps, performance testing, individual development planning and engagement with athletes' daily training environments. In May, the AIS hosted combined camps for the U18 World Championship squads and identified 2007-born athletes, supporting both immediate campaign preparation and longer-term progression towards U20, World University Games and senior national-team opportunities.

MEN'S PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS ACTIVITY

The New Zealand Development Tour in Rotorua in August 2025 provided 28 athletes born in 2008 and 2009 with valuable international experience at the New Zealand U21 Club Championships.

The U18 Men's final selection camp was held in Brisbane from 12–16 April 2026. The selected team subsequently undertook pre-tournament preparation in Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro. Australia recorded an impressive 12–10 victory over Spain before a narrow 15–13 loss to Montenegro in front of a capacity crowd in Herceg Novi, ahead of travelling to Rio Maior for the World Championships.

WOMEN'S PERFORMANCE PATHWAYS ACTIVITY

Australia competed at the World University Games in Germany in July 2025, finishing seventh under head coach Rowie Webster and assistant coaches Fabio Pavanello and Scott Nicholson. The campaign provided athletes with valuable international competition and supported their progression towards senior national-team opportunities.

The Australian U20 Women's team competed at the World Championships in Salvador, Brazil, finishing ninth under head coach Dusan Damjanovic and assistant coach Kate Pipkin. Australia's only loss came against Hungary in the crossover match, which prevented the team from progressing to the top eight despite strong performances throughout the campaign.







2026 U16 AND U18 WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Australia's U16 and U18 national teams will compete at the 2026 World Aquatics Championships through July and August 2026.

U18 Men

Coaches: John Fox (Head Coach) and William Downes (Assistant Coach)

Team: Alexander Woolfe, Ashton Brown, Callum Pugh, Cooper Semmens, Dylan Jennison, Ivan Zorotovic, Jake Cox, Jake Taboni, Jett Semmens, Lachlan Davies, Mitchell Lazarus, Sam Regan, Savo Todic and Toby Gould.

U16 Women

Coaches: Harry Sanderson (Head Coach) and Melissa Rippon (Assistant Coach)

Team: Amelia Edmonds, Alexia Spartalis, Amelia Zuza Titio, Beatrice Tallis, Ella Morrison, Georgia Gray, Jade Visch, Jayde Veverka, Juliette Trbojevic Cabrera, Lily Emu, Lulu Lorchan, Molly Walters, Ruby Walker and Sophie Zampech.

U16 Men

Coaches: Dean Semmens (Head Coach) and Adam Richardson (Assistant Coach).

Team: Alexander Punzmann, Chase Staskiewicz, George Kennedy, Jacob Hebden, Jack Putter, John Ziros, Jonah Edelman, Kody Ryland-Adair, Levi Clapper, Luka Trbojevic Cabrera, Nate Kell, Patrick Bosner, Phoenix Irvine and Thomas Gamble.

U18 Women

Coaches: Fabio Pavanello (Head Coach) and Jemma Semmens (Assistant Coach)

Team: Ali McCarthy, Abigail Oates, Alannah Paul, Amelie Hoefel, Bless Daly, Caroline Healy, Claudia Booth, Emmersen McEwen, Evelyn O'Neill, Isabelle O'Connor, Kiera Mironova, Sara Connors, Sienna Walker and Zara Cooke.

Athletes' Commission

The past 12 months have been highly productive for the Water Polo Australia Athletes' Commission. With a new Chair and Secretary appointed, the Commission identified an opportunity to further develop its understanding of its role within WPA and strengthen its ability to contribute meaningfully to the organisation and the broader athlete community.

Over a four-month period, Commission members undertook a professional development process focused on understanding the group's strengths, interests and passions, while completing a deeper exploration of their roles and responsibilities. The process has provided the Commission with greater clarity around its purpose, direction and opportunities to influence positive change across Water Polo Australia.

Athlete Commission Members – Bronwen Knox (Board Director), Bronte Halligan (Chair), Tim Putt (Secretary), Alice Williams, Angus Lambie, Gabi Palm, Nathan Power, Marcus Berehulak

AIS ATHLETE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Many athletes continue to progress their tertiary studies through universities across Australia and internationally. More than 40 Australian universities are part of the AIS Elite Athlete University Network, providing valuable support to athletes balancing high-performance sport with education.

WPA would like to extend a special thank you to all universities that continue to support our athletes through elite athlete scholarships, flexible study arrangements, extensions and special consideration during international tours and major competitions.

AIS Athlete Education Scholarship recipients – Hayley Ballesty (UNSW, Bachelor Honours Degree in Landscape Architecture), Samantha Hardingham (UTS, Bachelor of Medical Science), Sienna Hearn (ACU, Bachelor of Primary Education)

ATHLETE AMBASSADOR PROGRAMS

Athlete Ambassador Programs provide our high-performance athletes with meaningful opportunities to connect with causes, organisations and initiatives that align with their interests and values. Opportunities may include speaking and coaching appearances, contributing to program development, participating in community initiatives, creating social media content, and developing and leveraging the athlete's own profile and voice.

Through the support of WPA partners Ord Minnett and KAP7, and alongside the AIS the following athletes were provided opportunities to contribute to broader national system initiatives:

- AIS Share a Yarn – Tyson Mutsch, Taafili Taoso
- AIS Problem Solvers – Lena Mihailovic
- Ord Minnett Athlete Ambassador – Abby Andrews
- WPA KAP7 Athlete Ambassadors – Gabi Palm, Nathan Power

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Water Polo Australia would like to sincerely thank the AIS and National Institute Network Wellbeing and Engagement Teams for their ongoing funding, collaboration and support of the WPA Athlete Wellbeing & Engagement Program. Access to a diverse range of wellbeing programs, services and specialist support plays an important role in supporting the wellbeing and performance of our high-performance athletes, coaches and staff.




361
AUS

ACTIVE MEMBERS

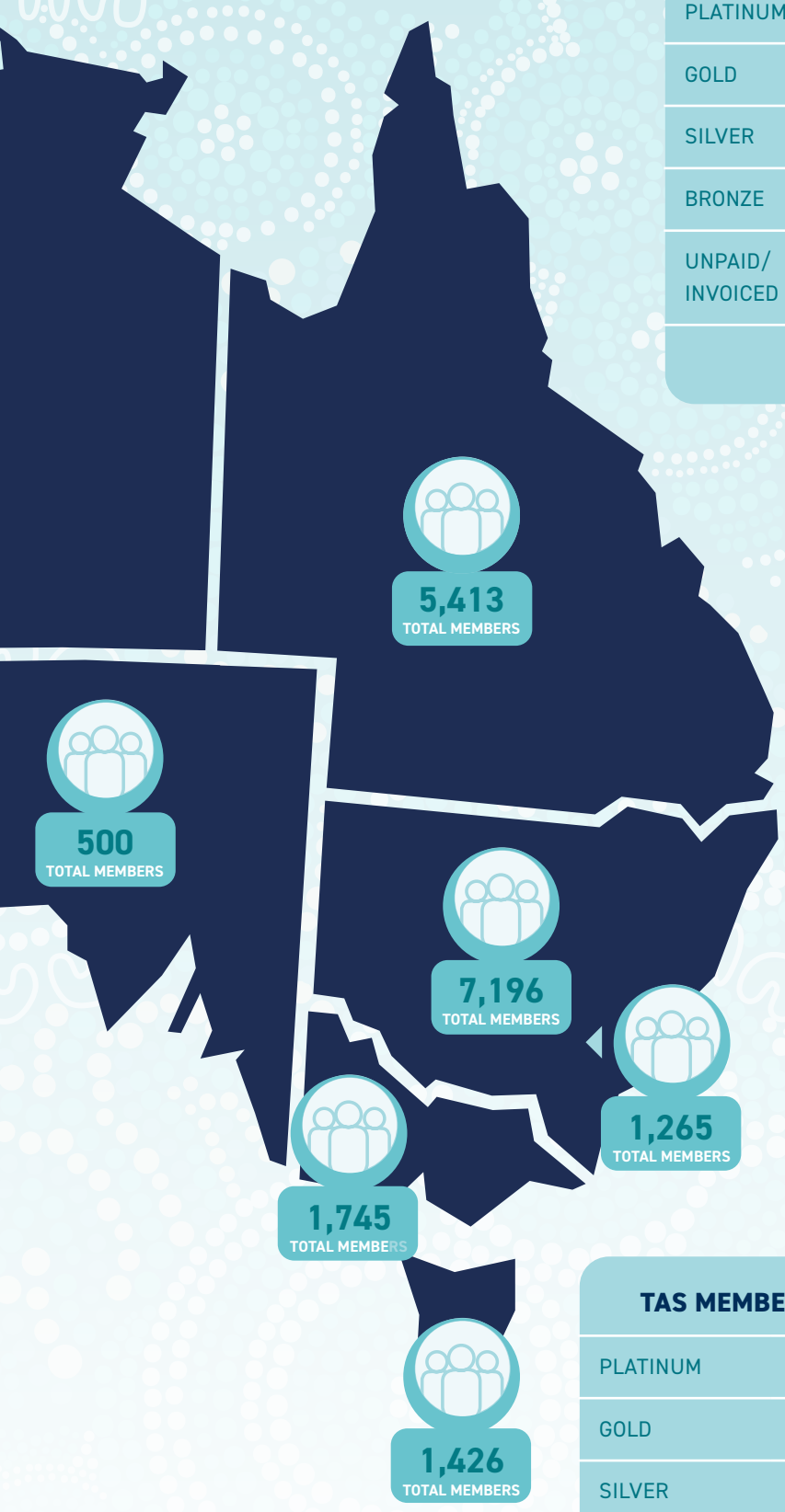
NATIONAL	
PLATINUM	12,698
GOLD	314
SILVER	1,452
BRONZE	6,827
UNPAID/ INVOICED	354
STATE LIFE	103
WPA LIFE	13
INTERNATIONAL	277
OTHER (8 Game, Categorised Player, State Staff, WPA Staff	219
	22,257



WA MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	2,216
GOLD	14
SILVER	150
BRONZE	1,707
UNPAID/ INVOICED	13
	4100

SA MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	279
GOLD	4
SILVER	31
BRONZE	64
UNPAID/ INVOICED	122
	500

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA



QLD MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	3,344
GOLD	185
SILVER	250
BRONZE	1,521
UNPAID/ INVOICED	113
	5,413

NSW MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	4,187
GOLD	82
SILVER	774
BRONZE	2,096
UNPAID/ INVOICED	57
	7,196

ACT MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	707
GOLD	5
SILVER	116
BRONZE	393
UNPAID/ INVOICED	44
	1,265

VIC MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	1,284
GOLD	8
SILVER	131
BRONZE	318
UNPAID/ INVOICED	4
	1,745

TAS MEMBERS	
PLATINUM	681
GOLD	16
SILVER	0
BRONZE	728
UNPAID/ INVOICED	1
	1,426

RESULTS

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AUSTRALIAN WATERPOLO LEAGUE, 2026

Men

1. University New South Wales Wests Magpies
2. Cronulla Sharks
3. Fremantle Mariners
4. Drummoyne Devils
5. UTS Balmain Tigers
6. UWA Torpedoes

Women

1. Cronulla Sharks
2. Sydney Uni Lions
3. Griffith University Queensland Thunder
4. UTS Balmain Tigers
5. Fremantle Marlins
6. UNSW Wests Killer Whales

NATIONAL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2025

Men's 17 & Under

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

Women's 17 & Under

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

Men's 15 & Under

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

Women's 15 & Under

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

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, BRISBANE, APRIL 2026

18 & Under Boys' Gold

1. SWPSA
2. SNB Breakers
3. UWA Bears
4. Melville Sharks
5. SU Blue
6. Berkeley WPC
7. Hunter Hurricanes
8. UNSW Wests
9. UQWPC Barras
10. Richmond Tigers
11. UTS Balmain
12. Nordek
13. Mantas Blue
14. DVE Aquatic
15. Polo Bears
16. Cronulla Sharks

18 & Under Boys' Green

1. SWPSA 16 Boys
2. Tasmania
3. UWA Blues
4. RiverCity Sharks
5. Carina League Warriors
6. SNB Breakers
7. WPSA

18 & Under Girls' Gold

1. SNB Breakers
2. SU Blue
3. Mermaids Pink
4. UQWPC Barras
5. Melvile Marlins
6. UTS Balmain
7. Polo Bears/St Ritas
8. AHS
9. Drummoyne Red
10. UWA Bears
11. Nordek
12. SWPSA
13. UNSW Wests

18 & Under Girls' Green

1. Harbour City Hawks
2. SWPSA 16 Girls
3. BGGS
4. Mermaids Blue
5. Hunter Hurricanes
6. Cronulla Sharks
7. RiverCity Sharks
8. WPSA
9. Richmond Tigers
10. Brisbane Vikings
11. Tasmania
12. Carina Leagues Warriors
13. Nordek
14. Drummoyne Black
15. Sunshine Coast

16 & Under Boys' Gold

1. SU Blue
2. SWPSA
3. Ryde Teal
4. UQWPC Barras
5. Mantas
6. Cronulla Sharks
7. RiverCity Sharks
8. Melville Sharks
9. Melbourne Collegians
10. UWA Bears
11. Canberra Kraken
12. Hunter Hurricanes
13. UNSW Wests
14. SNB Breakers
15. Richmond Tigers

16. Ryde Black
17. Singapore
18. Drummoyne
19. St Andrews
20. UWA Blues
21. SU Gold

16 & Under Boys' Green

1. WPSA
2. Otago Wahoos
3. Cronulla Sharks
4. Tasmania
5. SU White
6. Mantas Black
7. Melville Saints
8. DVE Aquatic
9. Canberra Kraken
10. Central Coast/UNSW
11. UQWPC Tugun
12. Richmond Tigers
13. River City
14. Busselton
15. Carina League Warriors
16. Tamworth

16 & Under Girls' Gold

1. SU Blue
2. Mermaids Pink
3. UTS Balmain
4. River City Sharks
5. UNSW Wests
6. AHS
7. SNB Breakers
8. UQWPC Barras
9. SWPSA
10. Hunter Hurricanes
11. Brisbane Vikings
12. Melville Marlins
13. Richmond Tigers
14. UWA Bears
15. Tasmania
16. Nordek
17. Mermaids Blue

16 & Under Girls' Green

1. UNSW West Black
2. Cronulla Sharks
3. SNB Breakers
4. RiverCity Sharks
5. UTS Balmain
6. SU Gold
7. AHS White
8. Drummoyne Red
9. Harbour City Hawks
10. UQPWC Tugun
11. St Andrews
12. SRC Yellow
13. Central Coast
14. Melville Mermaids
15. WPSA
16. Otago Wahine Toa
17. Tasmania
18. Sunshine Coast
19. AHS
20. Mermaids White
21. UNSW Wests Yellow
22. Nordek
23. Geraldton
24. Polo Bears
25. Richmond Tigers/Warriors
26. Busselton

14 & Under Boys' Gold

1. Drummoyne Red
2. SU Blue
3. Mantas Blue
4. Storm NZ
5. Canberra Kraken
6. UWA Bears
7. UTS Balmain
8. St Andrews
9. Cronulla Sharks
10. Hunter Hurricanes
11. SNB Breakers
12. UQWPC Barras Black
13. Melville Sharks

14 & Under Boys' Green

1. O&M
2. SNB Breakers
3. UNSW Wests Black
4. Nordek
5. Carina Leagues Warriors
6. Tasmania White
7. Drummoyne Black
8. SU Gold
9. Richmond Tigers
10. Cronulla Sharks
11. WPSA
12. Canberra kraken
13. Central Coast
14. UNSW Wests White
15. Sunshine Coast
16. Tasmania Green
17. Polo Bears
18. Harbour City Hawks
19. River City Sharks
20. Kraken Barras
21. Melville Saints
22. Hunter Hurricanes
23. DVE Aquatic

14 & Under Girls' Gold

1. SU Blue
2. SNB Breakers
3. UNSW Wests
4. BGGS
5. River City Sharks
6. Hutt
7. UWA Bears
8. Mermaids Blue
9. SRC Brown
10. Hunter Hurricanes
11. Mermaids Pink
12. AHS

14 & Under Girls' Green

1. SU Gold
2. Melbourne Collegians/O&M
3. Polo Bears
4. Tasmania Green
5. Canberra Kraken
6. Monash Penguins
7. SRC Yellow
8. SNB Breakers
9. Mermaids White
10. Tasmania White
11. UTS Balmain
12. BGGS
13. Cronulla Sharks
14. Carina Leagues Warriors
15. UWA Blues
16. St Catherines
17. AHS White
18. Hunter Hurricanes
19. UQWPC Tugun
20. St Andrews
21. Nordek/Drummoyne
22. Brisbane Vikings
23. Drummoyne Red
24. AHS Blue
25. Central Coast
26. Sunshine Coast
27. Richmond Tigers
28. WPSA

12 & Under Boys' Gold

1. Melville Sharks
2. SU Blue
3. Cronulla Sharks
4. Drummoyne Red
5. Hunter Hurricanes
6. Mantas
7. RiverCity Sharks/UQ Barras

RESULTS

8. UWA Bears
9. St Andrews
10. SNB Breakers

12 & Under Boys' Green

1. Central Coast
2. Melville Saints
3. GC Hippos
4. UWA Blues
5. Monash Penguins/Sunshine Coast

12 & Under Girls' Gold

1. Mermaids Pink
2. SNB Breakers
3. Central Coast
4. Melville Marlins
5. AHS
6. SU Blue
7. UTS Balmain
8. Drummoyne Red
9 SRC Brown

12 & Under Girls' Green

1. BGGS
2. River City
3. UQWPC Tugun
4. AHS
5. UWA Bears Blue
6. Carina Leagues Warriors
7. Mermaids Blue
8. Polo Bears/Sunshine Coast
9. St Andrews
10. Loreto College
11. SRC Yellow

AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS, BALLARAT, VICTORIA, MAY 2026

Men

1. NSW
2. ACT
3. QLD Maroon
4. Victoria
5. QLD Gold
6. South Australia
7. Tasmania
8. ADF

Women

1. QLD Maroon
2. NSW
3. ACT
4. Victoria
5. ADF
6. QLD Gold
7. South Australia
8. Western Australia
9. Tasmania

MEN

WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS, SINGAPORE, JULY 2025

Team: Laurence Barker, Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Tristan Glanznig, Andrej Grgurevic, Luka Krstic, Angus Lambie, Milos Maksimovic, Drew McJannett, Jacob Mercep, Sam Nangle, Charlie Negus, Nic Porter, Nathan Power, Tim Putt. Head Coach: Tim Hamill. Assistant Coaches: Dean Semmens, Andrew Yanitsas, Marin Lazic. Medical: Carlee Van Dyk, Mick Moran. Referee: Nick Hodgers.

Day 2: Hungary 18 Australia 6 (A Grgurevic 3, N Power, M Byrnes, M Berehulak, M Maksimovic).

Day 4: Spain 10 Australia 7 (L Krstic, A Lambie, M Maksimovic, J Mercep, M Berehulak,).

Day 6: Japan 12 Australia 11 (N Power 5, J Mercep, M Byrnes, M Berehulak 2).

Final points: Spain 9, Hungary 6, Japan 3, Australia 0.

Day 8: Classification 13-16 Semifinal: Australia 27 (N Power, M Byrnes, T Glanznig 4, L Krstic, M Berehulak 3, T Putt, J Mercep, S Nangle 2, A Lambie, C Negus, D McJannett) South Africa 4.

Day 10: Classification 13-14: Australia 16 (N Power 5, M Byrnes, M Berehulak, T Glanznig, A Grgurevic, J Mercep 2, L Krstic) China 9.

Final placings: Spain, Hungary, Greece, Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, Ital, United States of America, Japan, Romania, Canada, Brazil, Australia, China, Singapore, South Africa.

USA V AUSTRALIA, CALIFORNIA, USA, JANUARY 2026

Team: Laurence Barker, Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Tristan Glanznig, Andrej Grgurevic, Zac Izzard, Sam Keightley, Luka Krstic, Drew McJannett, Jacob Mercep, Sam Nangle, Charlie Negus, Luke Pavillard, Nic Porter, Tim Putt, Loui Schuler, Matt Wilson. Head Coach: Tim Hamill. Assistant Coaches: Andrew Yanitsas, Rafael Sterk, Marin Lazic. Medical: Mick Moran.

Day 1: USA 17 Australia 9 (M Berehulak 4, J Mercep 2, M Byrnes, L Pavillard, T Putt).

Day 2: Australia 13 (M Byrnes 4, L Pavillard 3, M Berehulak, J Mercep 2, C Negus, M. Wilson) USA 10.

Series squared.

WORLD AQUATICS WORLD CUP DIVISION II, MALTA, APRIL 2026

Team: Laurence Barker, Marcus Berehulak, Matthew Byrnes, Nicolas Constantin-Bicari, Tristan Glanznig, Andrej Grgurevic, Zac Izzard, Angus Lambie, Milos Maksimovic, Jacob Mercep, Sam Nangle, Charlie Negus, Nic Porter, Tim Putt, Loui Schuler, Savo Todic. Head Coach: Tim Hamill. Assistant Coaches: Vedran Cirkovic, Marin Lazic, Andrew Yanitsas. Medical: Mick Moran. Team Official: Joshua Dipple. Referee: Gabor Boros.

Day 1: Australia 15 (N Constantin-Bicari 4, J Mercep, M Berehulak 3, M Maksimovic, M Byrnes 2, T Glanznig) Malta 12.

Day 2: Australia 16 (M Byrnes 8, A Lambie, T Glanznig 2, N Constantin-Bicari, A Grgurevic, Z Izzard, L Schuler) China 12.



Day 3: Australia 27 (T Glanznig 6, A Grgurevic, Z Izzard 4, S Nangle, M Berehulak 3, A Lambie, J Mercep, S Todic 2, L Schuler) Singapore 6.

Day 4: Australia 18 (J Mercep 5, M Berehulak 4, N Constantin-Bicari, C Negus, T Glanznig 2, M Maksimovic, M Byrnes, T Putt) Slovakia 9.

Day 5: Quarterfinals: Germany 14 Australia 11 (M Byrnes 4, N Constantin-Bicari, M Berehulak 3, C Negus).

Day 6: 5-8 Semifinal: Australia 21 (J Mercep 6, A Lambie, N Constantin-Bicari, M Byrnes 3, T Putt, L Schuler 2, M Berehulak, T Glanznig) Ukraine 15.

Day 7: Classification 5-6: Australia 16 (J Mercep, M Byrnes 3, A Lambie, S Nangle, M Berehulak, T Putt, T Glanznig) Romania 14 in penalty shootout. FT 11-11. Pens 5-3.

Final placings: Montenegro, Georgia, Germany, France, Australia, Romania, Neutral Athletes B, Ukraine, Canada, Malta, Brazil, Slovakia, Argentina, Turkiye, China, Portugal, Slovenia, Poland, Kazakhstan, Singapore, Great Britain, South Africa, Hong Kong China.

2026 MEN'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Ashton Brown, Sean Bright, Patrick Duggan, Edward Handley, Sam Hughes, Zachary Izzard, Sam Keightley, Daniel Magasanik, Drew McJannett, Tyson Mutsch, Oliver Purcell, Noah Rowe, Harper Stewart, Savo Todic, Harry Tucker, Matthew Wilson, Alex Woolfe.

WOMEN

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION SERIES, PERTH, AUSTRALIA, JULY 2025

Team: Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Tenealle Fasala, Sienna Green, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Danijela Jackovich, Tilly Kearns, Alexie Lambert, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Gabi Palm, Pippa Pedley, Alice Williams. Head Coach: Bec Rippon. Assistant Coaches: Eddie Denis, Taryn Woods; Manager: Bronwyn Smith Officials: Sylvia Pfeffer, Edel Langan. Medical: Bernie Petzel, Carlee Van Dyk. Referees: Andrew Carney, Fiona Haigh.

Match 1: Australia 12 (A Williams 3, D Jackovich 2, A Andrews, S Hearn, O Mitchell) United States of America 11 in penalty shootout. FT: 8-8. Pens 4-3.

Match 2: Australia 12 (A Andrews 4, B Halligan, S Hearn, A Williams 2, T Kearns, O Mitchell) Italy 10.

WORLD AQUATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS, SINGAPORE, JULY 2025

Team: Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Tenealle Fasala, Sienna Green, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Danijela Jackovich, Tilly Kearns, Alexie Lambert, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Gabi Palm, Pippa Pedley, Alice Williams. Head Coach: Bec Rippon. Assistant Coaches: Eddie Denis, Taryn Woods. Medical Officials: Bernie Petzel, Carlee van Dyk. S&C Antony Giorgio. Manager: Bronwyn Smith Sports Psychology: Edel Langan. Referee: Fiona Haigh.

Day 1: Australia 34 (A Williams 5, T Fasala, T Kearns, O Mitchell 4, B Halligan, S Green, D Jackovich 3, C Andrews, S Hearn, A Lambert 2, H Ballesty, P Pedley) Singapore 2.

Day 3: Australia 19 (A Andrews 5, A Williams 4, C Andrews, T Kearns 3, H Ballesty 2, B Halligan, D Jackovich) Italy 15.

Day 5: Australia 15 (S Hearn, A Williams, D Jackovich 3, B Halligan, A Andrews, C Andrews) New Zealand 6.

Final points: Australia 9, Italy 6, New Zealand 3, Singapore 0.

Day 7: Lay Day.

Day 9: Classification 1-8 Quarterfinal: Greece 8 Australia 7 (A Andrews, C Andrews 2 A Williams, T Kearns, D Jackovich.).

Day 11: Classification 5-8 Semifinal: Australia 21 (T Kearns, D Jackovich 5, S Hearn 4, A Andrews, A Williams 2, B Halligan, S Green, C Andrews) Japan 17.

Day 13: Classification 5-6: Netherlands 13 Australia 11 (A Williams 3, H Ballesty, B Halligan, C Andrews 2, S Green, D Jackovich).

Final Placings: Greece, Hungary, Spain, United States of America, Netherlands, Australia, Italy , Japan, China, New Zealand, Great Britain, France, Croatia, Argentina, South Africa, Singapore.

RESULTS

SPAIN TRAINING CAMP, MATARO, BARCELONA, SPAIN, DECEMBER 2025-JANUARY 2026

Team: Abby Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Bless Daly, Claire Durston, Tenealle Fasala, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Dani Jackovich, Tilly Kearns, Alexie Lambert, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Ani Pamp, Philippa Pedley, Emma Putt, Alice Williams. Head Coach: Rebecca Rippon. Assistant Coaches: Eddie Denis, Taryn Woods. S&C: Emma Hay. Physiotherapist: Bernie Petzel

WORLD AQUATICS WORLD CUP, DIVISION I TOURNAMENT, ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, MAY 2026

Team: Abby Andrews, Charlize Andrews, Hayley Ballesty, Bless Daly, Tenealle Fasala, Sienna Green, Bronte Halligan, Sienna Hearn, Danijela Jackovich, Tilly Kearns, Genevieve Longman, Olivia Mitchell, Gabi Palm, Annaliese Pamp, Phillippa Pedley, Alice Williams. Head Coach: Rebecca Rippon. Assistant Coaches: Neven Cirkovic, Eddie Denis. Manager: Bronwyn Smith. Medical Officials: Ben Currie, Carlee van Dyk. PA: Joshua Dipple, S&C: Billy Macklin. Sports Psych: Edel Langan. Referee: Nicola Johnson.

Day 1: Netherlands 14 Australia 8 (C Andrews, A Williams 2, T Fasala, B Halligan, S Hearn, T Kearns).

Day 2: Italy 15 Australia 14 (A Andrews, C Andrews, A Williams 2, B Halligan, S Hearn, T Kearns, A Pamp) in penalty shootout. FT: 10-10 Pens: 4-5.

Day 3: Australia 13 (A Andrews 3, B Daly, S Hearn, A Williams 2, H Ballesty, T Fasala, B Halligan, T Kearns) Greece 10.

Final Points: Group B: Netherlands 6, Italy 5, Australia 4, Greece 3.

Group 5-8 Rounds:

Day 4: Australia 22 (S Green, S Hearn, A Williams, T Kearns 3, T Fasala, B Daly, D Jackovich 2, A Pamp, B Halligan, A Andrews, O Mitchell) Japan 10.

Day 5: Australia 17 (B Halligan, D Jackovich 4, T Fasala, A Andrews, S Hearn 2, S Green, B Daly, A Williams) Greece 6.

Day 6: Hungary 9 Australia 7 (A Andrews 3, H Ballesty, S Green, A Williams, D Jackovich).

Final Points: Group 5-8, Australia 6, Hungary 6, Greece 6, Japan 0.

Final positions: USA, Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Australia, Hungary, Greece, Japan.

UNIVERSITY
FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES, RHINE-RUHL, GERMANY, JULY 2025

Team: Jessica Bihler, Lilli Harris, Samantha Henderson, Jasmine Higgs, Chelsea Isaac, Nancy Lee, Lucinda Marsh, Madeline Marshall, Alexandra Nasser, Emma Putt, Isabella Sayer, Mimi Stoupas, Alyssa West. Head Coach: Rowie Webster. Assistant Coach: Scott Nicholson. Referee: Ash Kaesler.

Day 1: Australia 10 (A Nasser 3, M Stoupas, S Henderson 2, J Bihler, L Harris, L Marsh) Germany 9.

Day 3: Australia 22 (A Nasser, S Henderson 4, C Isaac 3, L Marsh, E Putt, L Harris, M Marshall 2, M Stoupas, J Bihler, N Lee) Turkiye 10.

Day 4: Hungary 12 Australia 11 (E Putt 3, C Isaac, L Marsh 2, A Nasser, I Sayer, L Harris, M Stoupas

Day 5: Quarterfinal: USA 10 Australia 8 (I Sayer 3, C Isaac, A Nasser, M Stoupas, M Marshall, J Bihler).

Day 6. Classification 5-8 Semifinal: Australia 24 (A Nasser 7, E Putt 4, M Stoupas 3, L Harris, M Marshall, I Sayer 2, L Marsh, C Isaac, S Henderson, J Bihler) Turkiye 6.

Day 7: Classification 5-6: Japan 14 Australia 13 (E Putt 3, C Isaac, A Nasser, I Sayer 2, L Harris, M Stoupas, S Henderson, N Lee).

Final Placings: Germany, USA, Italy, New Zealand, Japan, Australia, Hungary, Turkiye.

JUNIOR WOMEN
WORLD AQUATICS U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS, SALVADOR, BRAZIL, AUGUST 2025

Team: Koko 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. Head Coach: Dusan Damjanovic. Assistant Coach: Kate Pipkin. Manager: Lisa May. Referee: Nicola Johnson.

Day 1: Australia 17 (A Pamp, T Taoso, B Daly 3, S Owen, T Dawkins 2, S Hardingham, S Dunn, G Chapman, C Stephens) South Africa 4.

Day 2: Australia 9 (T Dawkins, B Daly, E Nash 2, A Pamp, S Owen, L Smith) Canada 4.

Day 3: Australia 14 (T Taoso, B Daly 4, E Nash 2, S Hardingham, S Owen, G Chapman, C Stephens) China 8.

Final Points: Australia 9, China 6, Canada 3, South Africa.

Day 4: Crossovers: Hungary 17 Australia 12 (S Dunn, G Chapman, L Smith, B Daly 2, A Pamp, S Owen, T Taoso, C Stephens).

Day 5: Classification 9-12 Semifinal: Australia 13 (B Daly 4, S Owen 3, A Pamp, S Dunn, T Taoso, G Chapman, C Johnson, C Stephens) New Zealand 5.

Day 6: Classification 9-10: Australia 12 (B Daly 3, S Owen, T Dawkins, C Stephens 2, S Hardingham, A Pamp, C Johnson) China 8.

Final placings: United States of America, Spain, Greece, Italy, Hungary, Netherlands, Croatia , Brazil, Australia, China, New Zealand, Israel, Canada, Argentina, South Africa, Mexico.


Yakult
6
AUS
TURBO
13
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TURBO
AUS

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 2028	Nov 2026	Nov 2027	Nov 2028	Oct 2028
SKILLS & EXPERIENCE									
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

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

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LIMITED ABN: 86 159 573 403

DIRECTORS REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 26

The Directors present this financial report on Water Polo Australia Limited (the "Company") for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

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) appointed 21/11/2025 (for 3 years)
Lisa Lilleyman	Elected Director	elected 19/11/2022 (for 3 years) re-elected 15/11/2025 (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)
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.

DIRECTORS REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 26

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 three strategic priorities:

LEAD WELL	Strengthening WPA's capability to achieve our purpose.
PLAY WELL	Supporting the water polo community to grow our game like never before.
WIN WELL	Enable our national teams to Win Well when it matters most.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The Company's surplus for the financial year was $207,964 (2025: $277,945). Revenue increased by $1,047,849 to $11,187,141, however expenditure increased by $1,117,830 to $10,979,177.

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 2026 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 and President**

Trent was elected to the Board in November 2017 and has served as President since December 2019. He is Chief Operating Officer of the National Gallery of Australia, and has led finance, human resources, governance, legal, IT and facilities. He brings extensive experience in operational leadership, commercialisation and corporate governance. Trent has been involved in water polo for over 40 years. He played more than 300 National League games and represented Australia at junior, university and senior levels. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Economics from ANU, is a Chartered Accountant and is a Graduate of the AICD.

Dr Kay Copeland — **Director, Chair of High Performance committee**

Kay is a Specialist Sports and Exercise Physiotherapist working in elite sports medicine practice. She previously served on the WPA Board from 2010 to 2014, where she chaired the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee. She was Chair of Sports Medicine Australia from 2022 to 2025 and managed the medical program for the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. Kay has been involved in water polo for over 40 years. She was the first physiotherapist to the Australian Women's Water Polo Team (1984–1991), including its 1986 World Championship win. She holds degrees in physiotherapy and physical education and a master's in physical education. She is a Fellow of SMA and of the Australian College of Physiotherapy, and is a Graduate of the AICD.

Don Cameron — **Director, Chair of Play committee**

Don is a Life Member of Water Polo Australia with over 30 years' experience in sports participation and high performance. He is an Olympic water polo athlete and coached across four Olympic campaigns, including as Head Coach of the men's team at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. From 2001 he worked with more than 20 national sporting organisations at the Australian Sports Commission and AIS, covering funding, high performance, governance and athlete pathways. Don is Vice- Chair of the World Aquatics Technical Committee. He holds an MBA and is a Graduate of the AICD.

DIRECTORS REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 26

Lisa Lilleyman	Director, Chair of Finance and Audit committee

Lisa Lilleyman Director,

Lisa has more than 20 years' experience managing and advocating for sport, from grassroots to elite level. She is General Manager at Binar Futures, following nine years with the Australian Olympic Committee. She brings extensive experience in strategic advice, structural change, stakeholder management and government liaison, mainly in the not-for-profit sector. Lisa has been involved in water polo as a player, parent and manager since 2009, and wants to help the sport grow in the leadup to Brisbane 2032. She holds a Bachelor of Physical and Health Education from UWA, is a Director of Royal Life Saving WA.

Stuart Coventry	Director

Stuart has over 25 years' experience in sport and entertainment. He is Group Manager, Corporate Services at Opendoor Ltd, one of Australia's largest employment services businesses. He was previously CEO of the Melbourne Renegades for seven years (BBL Champions 2019), COO and Acting CEO of Basketball Australia, and COO of Crusty Demons. He has also consulted to swimming, golf and Food and Drink Victoria. Stuart holds a Bachelor of Business (Marketing) and is a Chartered Accountant. He has also completed Harvard Business School's Senior Executive Program in Negotiation and Competitive Decision Making.

Chris Corbin	Director, Chair of Strategy and External Affairs

Chris has been involved in water polo at every level. He has played as a junior and as a Queensland and Australian representative, and has coached at club, Queensland and Australian Countries level. He has also served on local club and Australian Water Polo League club committees, the AWLAC, and in sponsorship. In business, Chris is an investor, CEO and board member of organisations in industrial marketplaces, rent-to-own and wellbeing. He is committed to helping organisations grow at local, state and national levels.

Susan Smith	Director

Susie was appointed to the Board in January 2018. As a highly regarded chief executive, she led a network of some of Australia's largest businesses in national and international climate change and energy policy. She has extensive executive and board experience in strategy, government relations and project approvals. Susie is a Director of the South Australian Cricket Association and Future Energy Exports CRC, and a Ministerially appointed member of the SA Premier's Climate Change Council. She is a dual Australian representative in water polo (1989–90) and swimming (1991–93), and has represented South Australia and the ACT as a player, captain and coach.

Jacqui O'Dwyer	Director, Chair of Governance, Risk and Integrity

Jacqui is an experienced leader in the aquatic and leisure industry and a former national athlete. She is General Manager, Partnerships at Aligned Leisure, where she leads strategic partnerships that deliver revenue growth and social impact nationally. Her earlier roles at Aligned Leisure include Interim CEO and Strategic Projects Manager, where she delivered risk and compliance, ISO certification and strategic plan outcomes. Jacqui managed aquatic operations across Caulfield Grammar's three campuses. With Water Polo Victoria, she launched the 'Learn to Water Polo' pilot and hosted National League and junior events.

Bronwen Knox OLY	Director

Bronwen is a four-time Olympian with nearly 400 international caps. She won bronze medals at the Beijing 2008 and London 2012 Olympic Games. A qualified legal practitioner, she is Legal Counsel (Integrity) at the Australian Olympic Committee and a casual education presenter with Sport Integrity Australia. She was Deputy Chef de Mission for the Australian Olympic Team at Paris 2024. Bronwen remains involved in water polo as a player and coach and a member of the WPA Athletes' Commission and is a Graduate of the AICD.

DIRECTORS REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 26

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	7
Don Cameron	8	8
Lisa Lilleyman	8	7
Stuart Coventry	8	7
Chris Corbin	8	7
Susan Smith	8	6
Jacqueline O'Dwyer	8	8
Bronwen Knox	8	7

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 2026, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is $7 (2025: $7).

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2026 has been received and forms part of the financial report for Water Polo Australia Limited.

INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE OF OFFICERS AND AUDITOR

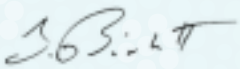
During the financial year, the Company paid a premium under a contract insuring each Director, the secretary and all members of the Company against liability incurred in their respective capacities. Disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium is prohibited by the confidentiality 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 12 October 2026

AUDITORS INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

National Audits Group
Authorised Audit Company No.: 325055

Water Polo Australia Limited

ABN: 86 159 573 403

Auditor's Independence Declaration

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

We declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2026 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: 12 October 2026

Sydney

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 26

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
Revenue			
Fees & Contributions	3	4,752,959	4,286,342
Government & Other Grants	3	5,970,984	5,327,601
Other	3	463,198	525,349
Total Revenue		**11,187,141**	**10,139,292**
Expenditure			
Travel		3,972,279	3,441,798
Facilities		493,270	448,996
Hire of Equipment		318,141	218,885
Grants & Scholarships		1,056,899	1,346,461
Advertising & Promotion		12,547	9,070
Professional Fees		1,330,396	1,473,773
Employee Benefits	4	3,288,746	2,465,326
Insurance		125,540	104,829
Other Overheads		371,428	341,696
Depreciation & Amortisation	5	9,931	10,512
Total Expenditure		**10,979,177**	**9,861,347**
Current Year Surplus		**207,964**	**277,945**
Other Comprehensive Income			
Total Other Comprehensive Income for the Year		-	-
Total Comprehensive Income for the Year		**207,964**	**277,945**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 26

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6	2,498,127	2,942,116
Investments	7	1,200,000	1,200,000
Trade and Other Receivables	8	1,217,631	272,234
Contract Assets	13	-	50,000
Other Assets	9	2,012,397	681,812
Total Current Assets		**6,928,155**	**5,146,162**
Non-Current Assets			
Plant & Equipment	10	10,989	16,418
Intangible Assets	11	135	226
Total Non-Current Assets		**11,124**	**16,644**
Total Assets		**6,939,279**	**5,162,806**
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	12	823,264	1,103,061
Contract Liabilities	13	4,186,837	2,360,509
Employee Benefits	14	225,100	172,790
Total Current Liabilities		**5,235,201**	**3,636,360**
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee Benefits	14	22,007	52,339
Total Non-Current Liabilities		**22,007**	**52,339**
Total Liabilities		**5,257,208**	**3,688,699**
Net Assets		**1,682,071**	**1,474,107**
Equity			
Accumulated Funds		1,682,071	1,474,107
Total Equity		**1,682,071**	**1,474,107**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 26

	Accumulated Funds $	Total Equity $
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		
Opening Balance at 1 July 2025	**1,474,107**	**1,474,107**
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity	207,964	207,964
Closing Balance at 30 June 2026	**1,682,071**	**1,682,071**

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LIMITED ABN: 86 159 573 403 · FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 26

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Receipts in the course of Operations		16,358,171	12,034,135
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(16,982,550)	(10,439,825)
Interest Received		182,362	170,484
Net Cash inflows from Operating Activities		**(442,017)**	**1,764,794**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for Plant and Equipment		(1,972)	(9,267)
Investments		-	(1,200,000)
Net Cash outflows from Investing Activities		**(1,972)**	**(1,209,267)**
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Lease Liabilities Repaid		-	(15,062)
Net Cash outflows from Financing Activities		-	**(15,062)**
Net Increase in Cash		**(443,989)**	**540,465**
Cash at the Beginning of the Financial Year		2,942,116	2,401,651
Cash at the End of the Financial Year		**2,498,127**	**2,942,116**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 26

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

The functional and presentation currency of Water Polo Australia Limited is Australian 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 12 October 2026 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

Government and other grants are assessed against the terms and conditions of each agreement. Where the agreement is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, the grant is recognised under AASB 15 as those obligations are satisfied, and amounts received in advance are recognised as a contract liability. Where the agreement is not enforceable or does not contain sufficiently specific performance obligations, the grant is recognised under AASB 1058 as income when the Company obtains control of the funds.

Other Income

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 26

The Company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, term deposits, and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Trade receivables

Impairment of trade receivables has 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 other overheads. 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 AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers where the agreement is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, and under AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities where it does not.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 26

	2026 $	2025 $
NOTE 3: REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME		
Revenue From Contracts With Customers		
Membership Fees	969,061	771,480
Athlete Contributions	858,433	857,173
Sponsorship	868,146	1,032,900
Sales and Services	33,615	54,879
Competition Entry Fees	2,023,704	1,569,910
	4,752,959	4,286,342
Government and Other Grants		
Australian Sports Commission Grants	5,970,984	5,170,896
Other Grants	-	156,705
	5,970,984	5,327,601
Other Income		
Interest Income	188,689	170,484
Donations	7,667	153,161
Rebates	38,446	56,228
Prize Money	4,485	-
Profit/Loss on Asset Disposal	100	-
Other Revenue	223,811	145,476
	463,198	525,349
Total Revenue and Other Income	11,187,141	10,139,292
NOTE 4: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		
Salaries and Wages	2,627,897	1,987,246
Provision for Leave	173,013	138,269
Superannuation	328,402	239,183
Other Employee Benefits	159,434	100,628
Total Employee Benefits	3,288,746	2,465,326
NOTE 5: DEPRECIATION & AMORTISATION		
Depreciation	9,840	10,421
Amortisation	91	91
Total Depreciation & Amortisation	9,931	10,512

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 26

		2026 $	2025 $
NOTE 6: CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash at Bank		2,498,127	2,942,116
NOTE 7: INVESTMENTS			
Term Deposits		1,200,000	1,200,000
NOTE 8: TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Current:			
Accounts Receivables		1,178,088	194,615
Less: Provision for Expected Credit Losses	8a	(10,960)	(16,114)
Other Receivables		50,503	93,733
		1,217,631	272,234
8a) 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	16,114
– Amounts reversed		(5,154)	-
– Written Off		-	-
Provision for expected credit loss as at 30 June		10,960	16,114
NOTE 9: OTHER ASSETS			
Current:			
Prepayments Including Tours		2,012,397	681,812
		2,012,397	681,812
NOTE 10: PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
Plant and Equipment at Original Cost		46,955	45,030
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		(35,966)	(28,612)
Net Carrying Amount		10,989	16,418
NOTE 11: INTANGIBLE ASSETS			
Website Development at Original Cost		29,250	29,250
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		(29,115)	(29,024)
Net Carrying Amount		135	226

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 26

	2026 $	2025 $
NOTE 12: TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES		
Current:		
Accounts Payable	636,532	906,690
Accruals	111,888	131,748
Other	74,844	64,623
	823,264	1,103,061
NOTE 13: CONTRACT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		
Current:		
Contract Assets	-	50,000
	-	50,000
Contract Liabilities		
Athlete Contributions	5,065	-
Funding in Advance – Other	2,270,475	127,859
Grant Funding in Advance – Australian Sports Commission	1,716,853	2,057,238
Membership Fees in Advance	194,444	175,413
	4,186,837	2,360,509
NOTE 14: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		
Annual Leave	225,100	172,790
Long Service Leave	22,007	52,339
	247,107	225,129

	Employee Benefits	Total
Analysis of total provisions		
Balance at the beginning of the year	225,129	216,570
Additional provisions raised during the year	238,420	186,368
Amounts used	(216,442)	(177,809)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	247,107	225,129

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 26

NOTE 15: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

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

		2026 $	2025 $
Financial Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		2,498,127	2,942,116
Investments		1,200,000	1,200,000
Trade and Other Receivables	8	1,217,631	272,234
Total Financial Assets		4,915,758	4,414,349
Financial Liabilities			
Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost:			
– Trade and Other Payables		12 823,264	1,103,061
Total Financial Liabilities		823,264	1,103,061

NOTE 16: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL REMUNERATION

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

Aggregate compensation	233,477	206,103

NOTE 17: 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 2026 (2025: Nil), other than key management personnel compensation which is disclosed in Note 16.

NOTE 18: AUDITOR REMUNERATION

Remuneration of the auditor, National Audits Group Pty Ltd, for:		
– Auditing the financial report	21,000	20,000
– Grant Acquittal Services	2,000	-
Remuneration of the previous auditor, CBC Partners for:		
– audit services	-	1,600
– other services*	-	2,430
	23,000	24,030

*Other services include taxation advice and regulatory compliance.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS AT 30 JUNE 26

NOTE 19: COMMITMENTS

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

NOTE 20: CONTINGENT ASSETS

Legal Proceedings – Debtor Recovery

As at the date of this report, the Company has obtained judgement against a debtor for non-payment of outstanding amounts totalling $10,960. 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 21: EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

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

NOTE 22: SEGMENT REPORTING

	Revenue $	Expenses $
2026		
High Performance	6,221,328	6,346,032
Competitions	2,469,951	2,786,306
Sport Development	2,495,861	1,846,838
Total	11,187,141	10,979,177
2025		
High Performance	5,955,540	6,027,758
Competitions	2,288,998	2,480,427
Sport Development	1,894,754	1,353,162
Total	10,139,292	9,861,347

NOTE 23: ENTITY DETAILS

Registered office and principal place of business:

C/ CBC Partners Pty Limited

Level 11, 22 Market Street

Sydney, NSW 2000.

CONSOLIDATED ENTITY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Australian Accounting Standards do not require Water Polo Australia Limited to prepare consolidated financial statements.

This statement is made in accordance with section 295(3A)(b) of the Corporations Act 2001.

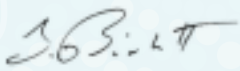
WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LIMITED ABN: 86 159 573 403 · FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION AS AT 30 JUNE 26

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 2026 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 12 October 2026

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

National Audits Group
Authorised Audit Company No: 325055

Water Polo Australia Limited

ABN: 86 159 573 403

Independent Auditor's Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

To the Members of Water Polo Australia Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Water Polo Australia Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, 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, 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 2026 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

ii. complying with the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures 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 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (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.

YOUR AUDIT AND ASSURANCE SPECIALIST ABN 89 128 581 920
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.
info@audits.com.au
1300 734 707
www.audits.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Water Polo Australia Limited

ABN: 86 159 573 403

Independent Auditor's Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's Directors' Report for the year ended 30 June 2026, 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 Entity are responsible for the preparation of:

1. the financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures (AASB 1060), the Corporations Act 2001; and
2. 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:

3. 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
4. the consolidated entity disclosure statement that is true and correct and is free of misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Water Polo Australia Limited

ABN: 86 159 573 403

Independent Auditor's Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report (continued)

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. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

National Audits Group Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company



Steven Watson
Managing Director

Dated: 12 October 2026

Sydney

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

MAJOR PARTNERS

ORD MINNETT

TURBO

Billi

VALOUR

SPORTSLINK TRAVEL

PROGRAM PARTNERS

AIS

Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission

wais

nswis
NSW INSTITUTE OF SPORT

QAS

AUSTRALIA

AUS

cmSport

INVICTUS AUSTRALIA

ASAPD
AUSTRALIAN SPORTING ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

B.I.W.P.A.
BARCELONA INTERNATIONAL WATER POLO ACADEMY

INDUSTRY PARTNERS

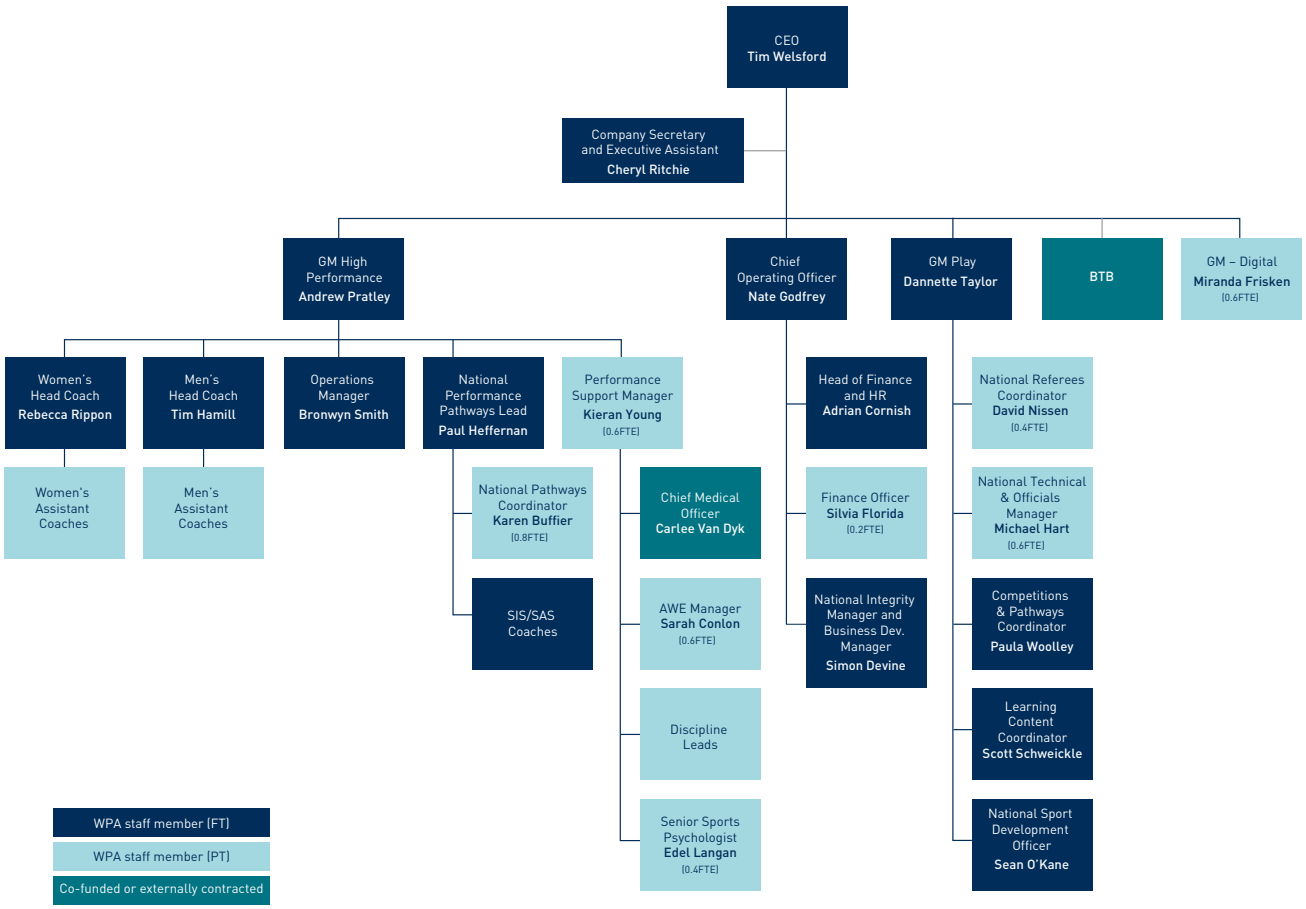
Queensland

brisbane

News Corp Australia

Tourism
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



HONOUR ROLL

LIFE MEMBERS

1993 Peter Montgomery AM
2009 Tom Hoad AM
2009 Pat Jones (deceased)
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 (deceased)
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 (deceased)
2025 Harry Quittner (deceased – awarded posthumous)









WATER POLO AUSTRALIA

Water Polo Australia Ltd.
PO Box 580 Sydney Markets NSW 2129
www.waterpoloaustralia.com.au

@WATERPOLOAUS