



## **2015 Annual General Meeting President's Report**

The 2014/15 swimming season has been an interesting one for our Club. Over the 2012-14 periods the club experienced a rather dramatic decline in our club finances with the club starting the 2014/15 season with a very low bank balance which was not able to cover our annual pool hire fee.

The committee was made up of all new members in the clubs core positions so our focus for 2014/15 was to restore the club finances so the club could continue.

This had required monthly BBQ's at Big W, multiple fundraising events as well as instigating a new training regime for Friday evenings with the committee taking the lead with all volunteers. We received a large cash donation during 2015 from the Sunbury Sports Stadium Group which we are truly grateful for. The committee also applied for 2 grants during the year but unfortunately both were not successful. Due to the excellent work of the committee as well our members the club is now better placed to enter the 2015/16 season.

Memberships had held steady, with a number of new members joining and unfortunately others leaving. The club has a strong base of younger swimmers but needs to work on increasing its membership by continuing to bring in new members as well as keeping swimming interesting for our current older swimmers.

A number of swimmers during 2014/15 started to enter Interclub meets. We had a few swimmers qualify for states swimming events. We also had a number of swimmers attend both Encouragement and Qualify meets which was great to see.

I would like to acknowledge the work of our coaches – Head Coach Karen Garrad, Friday coaches Angela Ballinger and Troy Hanlon. They are the faces of our club and help our club to move forward and grow.

The committee also completed the updates to our honour boards, which had been neglected for the past 7 years. Our club rooms were also cleaned and reorganised to make them useable again. Unfortunately, the clubs rooms were broken into over the Christmas break leading to a few thousand dollars in equipment and assets being stolen. With the help of donations and the committee we were able to continue with no impact on our swimmers.

Participation in the Club's Short and Long Course competitions were well represented, with many PB and a few club records broken. Sunday club night events were also well represented which were great to see.

The committee advertised our coach's position as per our constitution, which had not been done for the past 6 years. Six candidates applied with three being interviewed, bringing different skills and experience to the table. In the end the committee decided to go with a new coach for the 2015/16 season, Lance Vesel.

Lance has many years coaching experience at M1 Swimming club/ Academy of swimming Malvern, Watermarc Greensborough and the St Kilda Swim Academy.



## **Sunbury Amateur Swimming Club Inc.**

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I would like to personally thank the time, effort and dedication that Karen showed our club over many years. Karen joined as our club coach at a time of instability after the previous coach resigned, initially only to fill in until the club was able to find another coach. Quickly this turned into 6 years of dedication.

I would like to finish with a thank you to the committee, their devotion and commitment to the everyday running of the club has enabled the club to continue for another year. Without such people the club would cease to exist. I would like to thank all the current committee.

Also thanks needs to be mentioned for all club members who have helped out with the Big W and Bunning's Sausage sizzles and time keeping duties at club events. Every little bit helps and your assistance has been very much appreciated. It is my hope that more of you will have time and be willing to become involved in this coming year.

Regards  
Darren Woodvine President