



MST Annual General Meeting, 2021

Consolidated Club Reports for 2020 - Amended

This Consolidated Club Reports covers information received from seven of our eight Clubs, the other one having not submitted a Report at this time.

1. Burnie Masters

Welcome and good morning fellow swimmers. At the AGM held on Sunday, 9th February 2020, I was re-elected to President (3rd term), Mitch Martin, Secretary (3rd term) and Kate Furmage as Treasurer (2nd term).

At that meeting it was noted that the Club had 18 financial members with three (3) persons still un-financial. A panel of three persons were elected as “coaches” to design training programs on a monthly rotational basis with an aim to provide variety of training programs for members and to tap into a range of expertise from Andre de Beijl, Christine Brown and Marcie Watkinson. Marcie offered her services after the Club received Joan Coleman’s resignation due to moving interstate in December 2019.

It had been noticed by “coaches” that the fitness of club members had improved since members have had access to the Burnie Aquatic Centre for 12 months of the year. Well done to all.

Tas Branch conducted the 36th Summer Championships at the Doone Kennedy Aquatic Centre, in Hobart on Saturday, 14th March (afternoon) and Sunday, 15th March 2020 (morning). Christine Brown attended this meet and swam as a second-claim member to Launceston Lemmings. Christine won the 60-64 female aged group and broke three (3) Tas Branch Records in 50m, 100m and 200m backstroke events in that aged group. Christine was also awarded the “Female Swimmer of the Meet” for her efforts.

The Tasmanian championships was the last masters competition event to be held in Australia due to closure of pools across the country due to the Corona Virus (COVID-19) Pandemic. The Burnie City Council and Burnie Aquatic Centre management made the decision to close the centre on 18th March until 13th July 2020.

On Sunday, 19th July 2020, members returned to swimming at the Burnie Aquatic Centre and most noticed a sufficient lack of swimming fitness due to the long time away from the pool. The Club held a general meeting of members on that day, to ratify documentation regarding COVID-19 pandemic and the appointment of Christine Brown as the Club’s “COVID-19 Liaison Officer” and “Responsible Officer”. Members at the meeting were very appreciative of the efforts by Christine in preparing and getting the Club’s COVID-19 Safety Plan approved. Tas Branch hosted the 36th Winter Championships at the Launceston Aquatic Centre on the weekend of 22nd and 23rd August 2020 with Christine Brown competing (with 2nd claim club

Launceston Lemmings). Approximately 80 swimmers attended the meet, which is less than previous years, due to COVID-19 pandemic and the Tas Government/Public Health travel restrictions. In addition, the Launceston Aquatic Centre had procedures in place due to COVID-19 and their COVID-19 Safety Plan. All in all, the meet went well and Christine won silver in the 60-64 age group and placed second in the "Female Swimmer of the Meet" to Amanda Duggan from Hobart.

Club training commenced in the 50m outdoor pool in early October and the 50m pool will remain open until the end of March 2021, all going well with the on-going situation with the COVID-19 pandemic. During the summer months so far, the swim sessions have seen a slight drop in attendees but those who have attended the training sessions have enjoyed swimming in the outdoor environment and enjoyed the training programs set by the Club's Program Designers (Christine and Marcie). The Club received notification via email from Andre that he was standing down from this role. I wish to express the Club's appreciation to James Lyons (Manager of Burnie Aquatic Centre) and his staff for all their hard work in providing a facility for us to all enjoy.

The Club's fun carnival was held prior to Christmas with Mitch Martin, as Co-ordinator. Thanks to those members who attended and for the extras that joined in the fun on the day. Thank you to Barbara and Adrian for hosting the morning tea and to Mitch for organising the event. Everybody had a great time with many laughs, in and out of the pool and plenty of eats at the morning tea.

I would like to make mention of Gary Dazeley, who has been a long-term member of the Club and former vice-president, who decided to move to Hobart in early 2020. Gary and Anne wished to be closer to other family members in the south of the State. At the time of moving to Hobart, Gary hadn't decided which southern masters club he would be joining in the future. I would like to express my thanks to Gary and Anne for their friendship and assistance with hosting Club functions over many years.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Committee for their tireless work during 2020 and to inform members that this would be my final President's report, as I'm standing down from this position. I feel it's time for someone with fresh ideas to take this role on. I would like to also thank those members who assisted with the design of training programs throughout the year.

I wish the Club and its members all the best for 2021 and to keep swimming for friendship, fun and fitness.

Christine Brown, President

2. Devonport Devils

Current active and financial members: 29

- A warm welcome to Fiona, Tania, and Mel who have all joined us in 2021 for the first time.

Training: 3 sessions a week, with 3 lanes per session

- Tuesday 0600-0730
- Wednesday 1830-1930
- Saturday 0815-0915

- We noticed a steady drop of members that were attending training in the last 3 months of 2020. We are hoping that now Summer is over and school is back to normal, that the numbers will pick back up and stabilise again.

Coaching

- Rick has taken a step back from coaching the Devils to focus on his other commitments with Cradle Coast Aquatic. He is still providing programs for Tuesday's and Saturday's sessions which is much appreciated. We can't thank Rick enough for all the effort he has put in over the last few years, which has always been unpaid.
- Our Wednesday sessions are currently uncoached and the members are taking it in turns to provide programs.

Committee

- We recently had our AGM where we have had a big shake up of the current board. We thank all of the outgoing board members for their contributions and welcome the members who have stepped up to their new roles.

Ocean swims

- A lot of our members have enjoyed the warmer weather and getting back into ocean swims
- We have had a significant portion of our members competing in the various events of the Tasmanian Ocean Swim Series.

Social

- Barefoot Bowls and a barbeque lunch was organised for our members and their families at the end of last year, which we had nice weather for!
- We have an upcoming swim at Dove Lake in the pipeline
- The Devils have had the chance to participate in 3 of Cradle Coast Aquatic's club nights/time trials over Summer which have been enjoyable.

Club merchandise

- We are working on potentially redesigning our swimming caps.
- The Devils organised some hoodies for the first-time last year to go along with our club jackets and polo shirts.

3. Hobart Dolphins

Membership

The club finished the year with 47 members, an increase of six members from 2019.

Activities

Sadly, 2020 saw the passing of four of our older, longer-term members during 2020; Ron Bloomfield, Les Young, Rex Wise and Barbara Ross will all be remembered fondly for the huge contributions they made to the club throughout their lives.

The biggest challenge of 2020 was of course the difficulties and distractions brought about COVID -19. Despite the ever-evolving environment we found ourselves we were pleased that most members remained active and engaged in club activities throughout the 12 months. Thanks to the efforts of many different members during the period that swimming pools were closed; on-line Pilates sessions, weekly quizzes, an active WhatsApp group, open water swimming, organised walks and regular newsletters kept members involved and in-touch. We are grateful to the Clarence Pool management who offered us priority access to lanes as soon as the pool opened enabling us to return to training in late June. All club members are to be congratulated for responding enthusiastically and responsibly to the new training

environment. A bonus resulting from the extended pool closure was the increased interest in open water swimming with many more members now competing in the Tasmanian Ocean Swim Series.

Despite the disrupted year:

- 20 club members took part in the summer championships while 12 made it up to Launceston for the Winter Championships.
- 11 members competed in Long Course Long Distance Meet.
- Club members broke 6 Branch individual records and 5 relay records.
- The 320+ ladies relay teams were acknowledged for their FINA top ten placements in 2019 and Margie Clougher recorded 2 individual FINA top 10 placements.
- 58 new club records were set.
- 19 members made the National top ten list for times swum during 2020.
- 10 members competed in the 2019/20 Open Water Swim Series.
- One member received their Million Metres Award.
- 21 club members took part in the MS Mega Swim contributing significantly to raising approximately \$25,000.
- We conducted our first Open Water Challenge over the winter months with ten members taking part. Megan Stronach completed the furthest distance achieving 436 kms over a 7months period.
- The club organised the very successful presentation function for the Summer Championships.
- A prepaid card system was introduced for Saturday training sessions removing the need for cash transactions.
- The number of Social functions conducted throughout the year were reduced due to COVID restrictions, however the end of year presentation function was a huge success.

Financial

The club achieved a surplus of \$1,720.74 in 2020, ensuring we maintain a comfortable bank balance. The greater than normal profit was largely due to decreased number of club subsidised activities throughout the year due to COVID restrictions. The club has also moved to a card system whereby members prepay for 10 training sessions, this new process is reflected in the higher cash balance.

Committee

Once again, small group of committee members have worked hard during the year to keeping the club running. The existence of COVID protocols added a further complexity to running the club and coaching resources were tested throughout the year as we had to adjust to the ever-evolving training environment. The treasurer's workload also increased significantly as we responded to the need to remove cash from our processes, All committee members stepped in to undertake whatever tasks were necessary to keep the club running and to respond to changing requirements.

Perpetual trophy winners for 2020 were:

Club person of the Year: Diane Gregory
Most Improved Swimmer: Siska Hocking
Swimmer of the Year: Megan Stronach

Di Gregory, President

4. Launceston Lemmings

It is with pleasure that I present the President's report on the 2020 activities of Launceston Masters Swimming Incorporated, the Launceston Lemmings. Membership of the club was similar to previous year with XX Members. 2020 was a very different year with the impact of the COVID Pandemic shaping our year significantly. Here is a summary of the year's highlights:

Swimming:

The Club has again maintained a safe swimming environment with an incident free year. Swimming was suspended due to COVID under public health advice from late March to late July 2020. I would like to thank all members for their compliance with the changes that occurred as a result of pool management policies to help ensure safety during this Pandemic.

Adam and John have continued to provide excellent coaching to all members and their success is highlighted in the high attendance rates at all training sessions.

Swimming for fun and fitness is still the main objective of our members with competition not high on most members' priorities but our Club Captains have outlined the club's efforts in the competition pool.

E1000 – the club finished 2020 with XXXX points.

Financials:

This year saw the introduction of the new system of regular and casual swimming to cover lane hire and coaching costs. This income has followed very closely to the financial modelling done by our Treasurer Rae last year, with the only significant variation being the pausing of memberships during the period of COVID shutdown. Given our expenses for this period were also reduced, there was negligible impact on the club's finances. The Club has achieved its aim of roughly breaking even over the year.

Social:

Most social functions were cancelled due to COVID, with only the Trivia night proceeding. Many thanks to Mick who organized a highly successful night. Not only did everyone have a great time but this event was the major fundraiser for the club again.

40th Anniversary Publication

Michelle has undertaken a herculean task of collecting, collating and publishing an 8 page memorial booklet for this occasion. Copies are being circulated this evening and a PDF version will be emailed to all members.

Focus for 2021/22:

- **Negotiation with Masters Swimming Tasmania (Branch)** to recognise financially the time and effort that club members contribute to hosting these events was largely ineffectual with State Branch deciding on a "point system" instead of our proposed "hosting rights system". We will monitor how this system works over the coming year and make a decision if continuing to host events is worthwhile.
- **Committee restructure:** As per the resolution passed prior to this AGM, the committee is going to have the roles of the various committee positions more clearly defined. It is hoped this will make the committee run more efficiently with the workload more evenly distributed. It will also make it clearer to club members who they should approach about any issue they

may have, rather than everything having to go through the secretary. The new points of contact and their relevant email addresses will be circulated to all club members shortly.

- **Expansion of club membership benefits:** With the club hopefully back in the black financially this year, the club will engage with members as to what they would like from the club going forward.

Finally, many thanks to all our members, coaches, family members and especially the committee members that helped with the running of the club in 2020. I would again like to especially highlight all the hard work Bec does as Secretary – this role I believe is the hardest of the committee and often goes unnoticed by club members when it is done well.

Tim Shaw, President

5. Talays Masters

I am confident that I am reporting on a year like no other – in many ways a “Claytons’ Report” as I cannot reference the usual swimming-related activities and achievements of our various Members due to COVID-19 pulling the plug on many of our pool-based efforts. (For those of you who are too young to remember see: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claytons>)

On the other hand I am impressed with how members have adapted to the challenge and allowed the Club to tick along, albeit in a largely “holding pattern” ahead of a resumption of “business as usual” in 2021. Pauline S., for example, swapped her “Recorder-In-Chief” role for that of TCCWAUGC (Talays Coffee Club “Whats App” User Group Coordinator) which met online routinely for several months on a Sunday morning. This allowed Club members to at least keep in touch via the ether and swap yarns about knitting, wet suits (& accessories), and what Ian G. was having for breakfast.

Speaking of wet suits, several other Talays members (Stacy K., Annette P., Annie M. and Tony F.) were inspirational during the peak of COVID-19 restrictions in Tassie by doing their swimming almost exclusively in the invigoratingly bracing waters of the Derwent Estuary, while Ros D. reported enjoying swimming in waters even further south, in the Tasman Peninsula area.

As COVID-19 restrictions eased a little, the Club tentatively resumed some monthly vis-à-vis contact over coffee at the Beach Café, Lower Sandy Bay and at the Sandy Bay Bakery. Following on from these tentative excursions back to normality I want here to express a big thankyou to Tony F. for encouraging the Club to take a risk management approach and revert to a business as usual (sort of), but COVID-19 safe, approach. And so your Committee has agreed with Tony that it is indeed very appropriate for the Club to try and pursue BAU as safely as possible in 2021. To this end, a big thankyou is also offered to Mendelt T. and Stacy K. for guiding the Club in the development of its plan for operating in the COVID-19 environment.

On behalf of all, huge appreciation to the 2020 Talays Committee (Janet B.; Tony F.; Anne H.; Judy H.; Stacy K.; Annie M.; Annette P.; Pauline S.; and Mendelt T.) for steering the Club through a challenging year. Finally, a hearty thankyou to all members for being part of the Club and joining in our activities where possible: attached is a summary of what we were able to “get up to” in 2020.

Steve Pendlebury, **President**

Appendix - 2020 at a Glance

Membership Numbers

- Member numbers were just on thirty (30) and we welcomed new member Lou Hill.

Awards Night

- The Black Buffalo was the venue for our Awards Night on Tuesday 25 February: a splendid night was had by all!

Social Events

- Family fun day at the Glenorchy Pool on Sunday 16 February.
- The Club's Annual Pizza Night was held at Solo Pasta and Pizza, Sandy Bay on Tuesday 22 September: again another very enjoyable meeting of like-minded pizza lovers!
- Talays Coffee Club "meetings" held via Zoom at 10 am on many Sundays between early June and September.
- Monthly morning teas at the Beach Café, Lower Sandy Bay from June through to August, and at the Sandy Bay Bakery pre March and again in October.

Swimming

- E1000 started off as usual at the Hobart Aquatic Centre on 01 January 2020, but pretty much fizzled as restrictions started to bite in March while various members helped in the running of, or swam in, those state-based events that Masters Swimming Tas Branch was able to hold.

6. Hobart Aquatic Masters

Overview

2020 was a successful year for the Club in the pool, despite the challenges presented by COVID-19. The Club once again won the Summer Club Championships and came second to Launceston by a narrow margin for the Winter Club Championships. We also narrowly missed winning the annual Club Relay trophy.

In an unusual year, the Club had 11 individual members and 15 relay teams achieve FINA world top ten listings. At the end of 2020 Club members had set five female Branch records, 23 male Branch records, one male relay Branch record and five mixed relay Branch records.

Membership

At the end of 2020 membership was 59. This level of membership is consistent with our recent past. Membership continued to be based on a core of about 40 long-standing and active members of the Club. As in the past the Club has continued to attract new members as well as some returning after a break and has seen others move on.

Training

The 2020 training schedule fell into abeyance from late March to August 2020 whilst DKHAC was closed due to COVID-19. A significant number of swimmers turned to open water swimming as an alternative to pool training. Many continued to swim throughout winter and have continued to swim regularly at the beach since.

The planned training schedule was as follows:

2020 TRAINING SCHEDULE

Day	Time	Venue
Evenings		
Tuesday	6.30-7.30 pm	DKHAC
Wednesday	6-7 pm	DKHAC
Thursday	6.30-7.30 pm	DKHAC
Mornings		
Mon-Fri	6-7 am	DKHAC
Sat	8-9 am	DKHAC
Sunday	8-9:30 am	DKHAC
Open water		
Saturday	7-8.30 am (Oct-Mar) 8-9 am (Apr-Sep)	Open water swimming, usually at Kingston Beach

7. Huon Valley Aquatic

There is no doubt this year has indeed been a bumpy one. I apologise in advance that my report is not nearly as exciting as the others, but bear in mind our club is not a stand-alone club but part of the Huon Valley Aquatic Club.

Our Masters members currently stand at 5 financial and 1 second claim. We have lost some members and gained a couple of new ones, two of whom are very keen to compete. We are hoping to get more for the Winter Champs.

So last year's Summer champs saw 4 of us competing, with some medals and pleasing results. We have 4 competing again for this year.

Due to Covid many things were changed including the MS Mega Swim in which we had approx. 11 swimmers.

Our club has been going through many changes with our committee, and we are hoping to see some improvements and increase in numbers.

Thanks.

Sharon Smith, Masters Coach/Swimmer.