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# The Platypus Press

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia (Tas) Inc

PO Box 659, Rosny Park, 7018

**TASMANIA**

**DECEMBER 2004**



**MASTERS  
SWIMMING**

Tasmania

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## PREZ'S PRATTLE

Hello fellow swimmers – trust you are all fired up and ready to go for Xmas, the Tassie Summer Championships and the National Swim.

Devonport Club is conducting the **Tasmanian Long Course (summer) championships** over the last weekend in February 2005 – a great chance for you to practice for the National swim. Ross Belbin and his team have put a great deal of effort into organising this event and it needs your support. This meet also provides an opportunity for your club to try fine tune relay teams and also see how accurate your nominated times are. The flyer and entry forms are on the website.

The **National Swim** commences on Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> March and planning is moving on well. We are getting quite a deal of interest from interstate and overseas and we hope to achieve 500 competitors. Even if you are not going to compete, you can be of assistance. We will need help during the swim meet for timekeeping, marshalling and manning the information booth. Prior to the meet we will need assistance to assemble the registration packages and man the registration area on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March in the afternoon.

Remember that this event is our opportunity to showcase AUSSI Tasmania and Tasmania generally – the more help the better. Contact either myself (0418 540 819) or Pauline if you can help – even an hour or two will be appreciated.

On the National Swim entry form you will find a box to nominate for “The Grand Finale” – an inter-branch relay (4 x 50 free). This is open to all swimmers and is a handicap event, so speed is not all that important – just the ability to swim an accurate time. We need swimmers from all age groups and abilities – don't be shy, put your name up for this unique and exciting event. There will be a small memento to the selected participants.

At the last Branch Executive meeting Pauline described what is now available on the National web site – YOU and your glorious record of swims – even state and national top ten listings. Go to the website: [www.aussimasters.com.au](http://www.aussimasters.com.au) and click on records.

See you in the swim



Ray Brien  
President

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### Winter Championships

The Winter Championships were held in August at THAC, hosted by Talays. All 8 clubs were represented. Congratulations again to Launceston for winning the Club trophy, and to Garth Slade (TTL) and Mary Cousins (THB) Swimmers of the Meet

### Long Course Long Distance Champs

The LCLD Championships were held as a postal swim at three venues – Windmill Hill, THAC and Clarence on 27 November. 57 swimmers competed, (including one visitor from UK). See page 4 for results.

### FIN SWIMMING

The Japan-Australia Fin Swimming Championships were held again at THAC over three days in early December. There were plenty of AUSSI members on pool deck helping as officials, and in the water wearing both mono and duo (?) fins.

### RECORDS AND TOP TEN

As of mid September, all State and National records and Top 10 can be accessed from the Records & Results page from either the AUSSI National or AUSSI Tasmania websites using the following link.

<http://www.results.aussimasters.com.au/>

You can view your individual history and your national/state top 10 ranking as well as the national/state records.

Results & records from swim meets around Australia will be uploaded as they happen so the top 10 is ongoing throughout the year and we won't have any missed swims after the top 10 is printed in March -.

So - go and have a play!!!

And if there's something amiss etc, let your recorder know. (Keep in mind if a swimmer isn't registered at the time a swim is completed, these swims will not appear as the program will reject their times.)

### Paddle, Peddle, Plod Interclub Triathlon

A Tri Club Tri or Paddle, Peddle, Plod Interclub Triathlon is planned for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2005 at Beauty Point. This is a joint venture between Launceston AUSSI, Launceston Athletic Club veteran runners and the Northern Veterans Cycling Club. It is designed to provide a social and sporting event for the three clubs and to promote cross training and each club's sport. It will be run over the sprint triathlon course of 750m swim, 20 km ride and 5 km run. Each club will participate in its own discipline and be responsible for the conduct of that leg. Wet suits will be allowed, as is usual for triathlons but not in the AUSSI open water swim rules. Teams will be drawn from a hat on the morning of the event so there will be no scheming on team membership. An individual entry fee will apply. The tri will be followed by a BBQ breakfast and prize presentation.

### CLUB ROUNDUP

#### *Devonport Devils*

Are hosting the Summer Championships on 26-27 February – see you there.

#### *Launceston Lemmings*

The Lemmings are approaching the end of another successful year. We have 82 financial members with a 41/41 male/female split. Good planning! Under the watchful eye of Coach John Pugh we currently enjoy five one hour sessions a week:

Mon/Thurs 7:00pm Windmill Hill

Tuesday 7:00pm Maritime College

Wednesday 6:00am Windmill Hill

Saturday 7:30am Windmill Hill

There will be a short break over Christmas and when we restart in the New Year the Tuesday session will be dropped for January. There is a breakfast in our clubrooms, which we share with the South Esk Swimming Club, after the Saturday morning session. Fresh fruit salad, toasted raisin bread and

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cappuccino. These are excellent for swimmers to get to know their club members better. Anyone visiting Launceston during the summer break is most welcome to join us at any (all) of the sessions. We will appreciate your company.

Socially we have a couple of treats in store. A special, family BBQ breakfast in the Windmill Hill grounds on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Our annual, and most popular, Christmas Cocktail Party is on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 7:30pm, at the home of Pam & Paul Stancombe. These are not to be missed occasions.

Focus in the New Year will be on retaining the Summer Championship shield at Devonport in February and then on the National Swim in Hobart in April.

### *Talays*

As at 15th November, Talays swimmers had 3973 aerobic points and still counting, with two having finished all their swims.

### *Oceana Orcas*

Maureen Hindley was surprised with the cake & "40" candles at Afritas for her birthday. She has been nicknamed "Marion" (after Marion Jones the American sprinter who is under a drugs cloud). Maureen recently improved her 50m freestyle time by around 8 seconds. Sound suspicious? AUSSI doesn't test for performance enhancing drugs. As if the pool efforts weren't enough, Maureen injured herself sprinting across Macquarie Street to beat the traffic. The "roids" can make you feel invincible.

Wayne Pretty reached the half century milestone on September 24. Not too many 50 year old's are as fit as Wayne. He was seen entering the steam room recently. When questioned why, he said he needed to lose a bit of weight – where Wayne? I have seen fatter racing greyhounds.

**The Winters:** How many swimmers tumble turn twice in 50 metres ? Katie Harrison did just that in her 50m backstroke – after seeing the flags above her she counted the usual 4 strokes and tumbled – but not against the wall – she mistook the false start rope for the flags.

Some women will go to great lengths to gain attention from the opposite sex. Mary couldn't hear the starter's whistle and dwelt on the blocks in one event for about 5 seconds. After that she arranged for Chris to touch her leg to signify the start.

Irene bettered her nominated time in the 400m freestyle by 20 seconds and was invited by one of the timekeepers to "pee in a bottle" after she got out of the pool.

### *Hobart Dolphins*

In addition to our training, the social events we have enjoyed or will be enjoying in the future include a cruise on the Lady Nelson, a Quiz Night, a badminton afternoon, gardening swap meet, Christmas function at the Beltana, final committee meeting at Sen's Asian plus every Saturday and Sunday morning we meet for a cuppa after training.

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| <b>Calendar 2005</b> |
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**19 February 2005** Rottnest Virtual Swim  
<http://www.rotnestchannelswim.com.au/>

**26-27 February 2005** Long Course State Championships Devonport  
The flyer and entry forms are on the website  
<http://www.trump.net.au/~tasaussi/html/events.html>

**30 March – 2 April 2005** AUSSI National Swim Hobart THAC  
The flyer and entry forms are on the website  
<http://www.aussimasters.com.au/html/events.html>

**22-28 July 2005** World Masters Games Edmonton Canada (swimming dates)  
<http://www.2005worldmasters.com/>