TASMANIAN MASTERS GAMES

Launceston, July 14-16, 1989

TASMANIAN Masters GAMES

Masters brave cold

By ROD SMITH

More than 2000 competitors braved near freezing conditions to compete in the Tasmanian Masters Games in Launceston yesterday.

Despite a maximum temperature of seven degrees, competition on the second day of the games continued unabated in 20 sports.

Competition culminated last night with an official opening ceremony by the Minister for Sport and Recreation, Mr Peter Patmore MHA (Bass.Lab), at the Silverdome.

The games will conclude today with medals in 19 sports to be decided.

• Trish Beveridge, as organiser and competitor, has been busy in and out of the pool this weekend.

Swimming a way of life for Trish

By SARAH MAGUIRE

TRISH Beveridge lives what she loves.

As well as playing a major part in organising the swimming competition in the Tasmanian Masters Games, she's in the pool with the rest of them.

Fresh from her heat in the 400m freestyle at the Mowbray Swimming Pool yesterday, Mrs Beveridge took a breather from her hectic organisational tasks to talk about her passion.

She is the State secretary of AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia, a member of the national administration board and a founding member of the AUSSI Devonport Devils team.

On top of that, she works full-time over the summer managing the Devonport Olympic Swimming pool and teaching young children to swim.

"I swam as a child, but I was never a champion," she said.

"I was asthmatic, I gave up smoking when I fell pregnant, and I thought swimming was a good way of helping me to keep fit."

Mrs Beveridge is delighted at the rapid growth of AUSSI, now eight years old. At the Australian Masters Games in 1987, there were 105 swimmers.

This time round, on a State level, there are 140.

"It's a lot harder for adults to swim than for children. To start with, the adult has to overcome the embarrassment of standing up there on the starting blocks half-naked," she said.

"A majority of the competitors are in the 40 to 50 age group, because I think that's when people really start becoming aware that it's necessary to have a release from work, and that the things they were once able to do readily are becoming difficult."