

AUSSI Masters Swimming in Australia Launceston Inc

18 October 1998

Winter Short Course Swimming Championships 1998

Meet Director's Report

The Meet was held at the Mowbray Aquatic Centre over the weekend of 15th and 16th August. Eight clubs participated and individual and relay entries were comparable with previous years. There was the usual swag of individual and relay records broken or established, which is one of the benchmarks we can use to evaluate the successful operation of our clubs.

Facilities

Mowbray Pool is a fairly 'old' pool with limited changing and showering facilities. However, the pool was well prepared and was at the correct temperature for adult swimmers. Showers and toilets were cleaned each day, as were the pool surrounds. The pool manager and his staff were pleasant and co-operative, which we have come to expect.

Safety

The pool has a fully equipped first aid box and a room for dealing with cases of minor injuries. Our club also had two Doctors and two qualified nurses available to meet emergencies. Fortunately their services were not required.

Officials

The smooth functioning of a meet depends on the efficiency and skills of the officials present and Launceston once again was able to muster an efficient team.

Elsa Wallace, as referee controlled the events admirably. *Mike Jetson* was an excellent starter and *Ken Jordan* made sure that the group of timekeepers was always up to scratch.

The marshals ensured that competitors were ready for their events, even if this meant searching the change rooms and toilets.

Recording

Behind the scenes Pauline Samson made sure that results were produced and posted quickly, which was important in keeping the swimmers interested and well informed of their progress, PBs and so on. We now tend to take for granted that this

information will be available almost on demand, but this was not the case some years ago. We are lucky to have a recorder who seems to enjoy this type of work.

General Matters

- The 10-minute breaks during the two sessions are essential when using a facility that does not have a separate warm up pool. Due to an oversight (the Meet Director was not there!) the break was not held during the Saturday session, but it was fitted in to the Sunday session. Several competitors expressed their appreciation of this break.
- The officials were given refreshments at appropriate times and also appreciated the short break in the proceedings.
- The overall success of the meet is attributable to the efficiency of the Launceston organising committee who also make the Meet Director's job easy and enjoyable
- Finally, *Shane McHenry* managed to galvanise some enthusiasm for each race by naming each competitor and recognising their efforts individually. Many participants reported that they appreciated this feature of the meet.

Presentation Function

This was held at the Riverside Motor Inn and more than 80 people attended. The meal was a little slow in arriving but the food was excellent. From the responses during and after the medal presentations, the event capped a good weekend.

John Pugh

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Meet Director