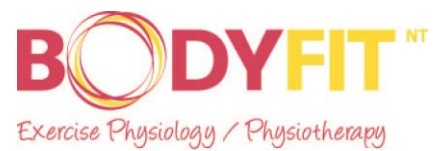


ANNUAL REPORT 2014



**2013 State Teams Age
Short Course Championships**

OFFICIAL SPONSORS



CONTENTS

Official Sponsors
Contents
Life Members and Service Awards
Office Bearers and Staff
President's Report
Executive Officer's Report
Sponsorship Report

Committee & Office Bearer Reports

Athlete Development Committee
Competition Committee
Technical Committee
Selection Committee

Other Reports

Community Swimming Officer
Indigenous Sport & Active Recreation Program Officer
2014 Vorgee NT Open & Age Championships
2014 McDonald's 9&Under Championships
2014 Vorgee NT Short Course Championships

2013 State Teams Age Short Course Championships (Team Manager Report)
2014 School Sport Championships Report

Appendices

Appendix 1	Financial Statements Records
Appendix 2	Records
Appendix 3	Membership Statistics

LIFE MEMBERS & SERVICE AWARDS

LIFE MEMBERS

NAME	CLUB	DATE OF AWARD
Rose Gerlach	Palmerston & Rural	2013
Paul Carter	Casuarina	2008
Joan Curtain	Darwin	Pre 2004
Alex Cutts	Darwin	Pre 2004
John Dove	Darwin	Pre 2004
Trish Dove	Darwin	Pre 2004
Peter Fanning	Nightcliff	Pre 2004
Lyn Hull	Darwin	2006
Gwen Gabel	Darwin	Pre 2004
Clare Labowitch	Darwin	Pre 2004
Max O'Callaghan	Alice Springs	Pre 2004

SERVICE AWARDS

GOLD

MEMBER	CLUB	AWARD DATE	
Carol Bolton	Darwin	2009	
Paul Carter	Technical Committee	2006	
Rose Gerlach	Palmerston & Rural	2008	
Lyn Hull	Palmerston & Rural	2004	
Tracey Netherway	Top End Storm	2009	
Josie Parry	Nightcliff	2009	(Bronze 2008)
John Pollock	Darwin	2009	
Ken Reid	Top End Storm	2008	(Bronze 2008)

SILVER

MEMBER	CLUB	AWARD DATE
Jim Burrow	Darwin	2009
Kathy Cantrell	Darwin	2003
Ric Innes	Top End Storm	2009
Judith Reid	Top End Storm	2009
Mez Ryan	Top End Storm	2009
Jenny Verrall	Casuarina	2004-2005
Phil Verrall	Casuarina	2004-2005

BRONZE

MEMBER	CLUB	AWARD DATE
David Chalker	Alice Springs	2009
Kevin Glover	Darwin	2004
Tanya Hazel	Top End Storm	2009
Norm Jarvis	Nhulunbuy	2004
Kathy Rochford	Casuarina	2009
Sue Ward	Darwin	2009

OFFICE BEARERS & STAFF

PATRON

Her Honour the Honourable Sally Thomas AM

Administrator of the Northern Territory

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Joel Wecker	Elected President 2013 First Appointed Director 10/12/2012 Due for re-election 2015
Vice President	Shane Cross	First Elected October 2010 Due for re-election 2014
Director	John McRoberts	Board Appointed Director February 2011
Director	Kia Naylor	Board Appointed Director September 2011 Elected October 2012 Due for re-election 2014
Director	Barbara Radecki	First Elected 2011 Due for re-election 2015
Director	Charles Staples	Board Appointed Director March 2012 Elected October 2012 Due for re-election 2014
Director	Amanda Bagley	Elected October 2013 First Appointed 10/12/2012 Due for re-election 2015

STAFF

Executive Officer	David Evans	28/09/2009
Support Officer	Virginia Burrow	07/09/2009 Resigned 13/06/2014
Indigenous Sport & Active Recreation Officer	Mark Walker	07/12/2012
Community Swimming Officer	Paul Schindler	17/10/2011 Resigned 27/06/2014

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Data Manager	Judith Reid
Records Steward	Virginia Burrow
Meet Director	Karen Messenger
Equipment Officer	Ken Reid
Registrar	Rose Gerlach

COMMITTEES

COMPETITION SELECTION

Rose Gerlach, Karen Messenger and Kathleen Rochford
Karen Messenger, Jenny Culgan, Rebecca Mather-Brown
and Rose Gerlach

TECHNICAL

Paul Carter, Nicole Jones, Judith Reid, Shane Cross and Marg
Chamberlain

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

Kia Naylor (Chair), Paul Schindler, Rose Gerlach, Joel Wecker
and Nicole Jones

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In my first year as President I would like to say that has been both an enlightening and exciting experience with many highlights.

I would like to begin by acknowledging the hard work of the key stakeholders for SNTI including fellow Directors, Committee members, Club Officials, Coaches, Technical Officials, Swimmers, Volunteers, Sponsors, Parents and all SNTI staff. Thankyou and I look forward to your ongoing support for the 2014/2015 season!

Nationally our sport has faced a number of challenges during the past 12 months with the publicity surrounding the conduct of a number of our national swimming identities, fallout from the London Olympics and the recent Royal Commission. On a very positive note, Swimming has come out the other side with an outstanding performance in the Pool at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, with internal sources lauding the distinct change in internal team culture. This change in culture was no more evident than at the recent Pan Pacific Games held on the Gold Coast where Australia went head to head with the number one Swimming Nation, the United States and came out with many outstanding results. The Australian Swimming Team is in a very positive space and positioned well to achieve its goal of being the Number One Swimming Nation by 2020.

Swimming Northern Territory has also faced a number of challenges and again I would like to extend my personal thanks to the Board members, SNTI staff and key stakeholders who remained positive and were willing to work together to enable positive outcomes for our sport.

The past 12 months has been about growing our sport and focusing how we can achieve our key strategic goals of increased participation, athlete development, facility improvement, increasing Swimming's profile in the Northern Territory and ensuring all is done under sound governance. I feel we have made significant steps in all of these areas with further works to be done this coming season to position our sport for further growth.

The year started well from a Strategic point of view with our Governance and Strategic workshop which identified many opportunities for our sport. Since this workshop we have conducted the following important activities:

- A full review of the SNTI Constitution with the assistance of the Northern Territory Department of Sport & Recreation with numerous recommendations to enhance the governance of our sport.
- Held an Athlete Development meeting to identify opportunities to enhance our Academy Program with many of the recommendations implemented in the updated 2014/2015 Academy Program.
- Updated the 5 year Strategic Plan for SNTI with the assistance of Paul Mead from Sprocket. This should certainly give all key stakeholders a clear understanding of the future direction of the sport and comfort that we are operating under sound governance principles.

In terms of highlights from a strategic point of view we certainly have achieved new heights in participation with record numbers attending our Indigenous Sport and Recreation Program and I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our Indigenous Sport & Active Recreation Program Officer Mark Walker who has worked tirelessly with schools all over Darwin and in remote communities across the Territory raising the profile of swimming. SNTI membership has also set new heights with an increase in membership of 12% and the re-establishment of Tennant Creek Swimming Club along with record entries in our marquee events.

The 2014 NT Open and Age Championships also delivered on many strategic fronts with record participation and 6 interstate clubs sending athletes, along with the fantastic opportunity to promote our sport with the appearances and media commitments made by Leisel Jones & Daniel Kowalski. The Championships were certainly the jewel in the crown for SNTI this past season and we look forward to a bigger and better event in 2015 with planning already underway.

A number of swimmers also had the opportunity to work with SNTI to develop a number of Television Commercials which have been utilised to promote our sport and we hope that this additional media will encourage additional people within our communities to join their local swimming club.

From a facilities point of view we have seen a number of cosmetic upgrades to Casuarina Pool prior to our Championships including new lane ropes and we are delighted to confirm that funding has been approved by Darwin City Council to install 16 new Kicker blocks this season which should give our swimmers a significant performance increase once they become familiar with them. We hope for the new blocks to be installed in late 2014. This is a significant infrastructure win for our sport and I would like to thank those directors and SNTI staff who invested their time and effort into making this facility improvement a reality. We have since requested funding for 16 new timing pads to compliment this, so along with our new electronic scoreboard we should be able to present a first class meet from a facilities point of view moving forward.



Our President explaining the benefits of the sport to an eager listener

The Academy Program has now been operational for a number of seasons and I hope to see it continue to grow and aid many of our swimmers realise their potential and achieve their goals. I would hope this is just a start for the Academy Program with our swimmers striving to become part of the Academy and NTIS programs. An enhanced Academy Program will be launched season 2014/2015 and I am excited on what it offers for both our athletes and coaches.

This year we had three swimmers attend the National Open Water Age Championships, one of those also attending the National Age Championship's, two swimmers attend Multi Class National Age Championships, with Nikaiya Payne from Katherine Swimming Club also qualifying for the Australian Open Multi-class Championships. Swimming Northern Territory again sent a team of eight swimmers to the State Teams Age Short Course Championships in Canberra in September 2013 where they performed extremely well in a high standard of competition.

I would like to thank the volunteers on our various committees for all their hard work throughout the year and a special thank you to the Selection Committee for the updating of the point scores for this past season, I know that was not an easy task. Thank you to Karen Messenger for taking on the role of Meet Director for the year and to Ken and Judith Reid for their technical roles with equipment and entries.

I would like to make particular note of the work done by David Evans our Executive Officer who has worked tirelessly in the interests of the sport and delivered many strategic and financial windfalls for SNTI. David has played a pivotal role in achieving an upgrade in the NTIS Program which has resulted in Swimming being upgraded to a Tier 2 Sport. This upgrade has provided the opportunity to fund \$20,000.00 per annum in coaching scholarships for the next 3 years which is a fantastic investment in the development of our coaching capability. This has also been complimented by the Swimming Australia Coach Mentor program with the appointment of Jim Fowlie to be the mentor for Northern Territory coaches moving forward. David has displayed great loyalty and pride to Swimming NT during the past year and I would like to personally say thank you for all your help and support during the past year.

I thank Paul Schindler for his 2 ½ years of service in the challenging role as our first Community Swimming Officer. Paul was very energetic in his approach to a challenging and diverse role and I wish him every success as he pursues his dream to become a professional coach where the enthusiasm he brought to pool deck will surely flourish.

In terms of recognising SNTI staff, last but certainly not least, I would like to offer a huge thank you to Virginia Burrow our Support Officer, who after many wonderful years of service has recently moved interstate and I know the NT swimming community wish her every success both personally and professionally in the future.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Ross Gage and his team for their contribution this past season and I look forward to working closely with the ascta NT Branch moving forward. The third ascta SwimNT Conference was again a success with a broad range of delegates representing a variety of SNTI membership categories. Great to see the progress of two of the delegates from the first SwimNT Conference now accredited Bronze Coaches and the first NTIS Coach Scholarship recipients.

Last but not least I would like to ask all parents to consider learning various roles within the sport of Swimming as we always have opportunities for technical officials on pool deck. It is a rewarding skill to learn with on the job training and please remember that without officials the swimmers are without swim meets. Thank you all for giving me this rewarding opportunity as President of Swimming Northern Territory for the past year and I look forward to the 2014/2015 with significant optimism in all aspects of our sport. Our future is bright!

Yours in swimming.

Joel Wecker
President Swimming Northern Territory



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

While the 2013-2014 year has proven to be extremely challenging it has also been exceptionally rewarding with a range of new projects tackled whilst always striving for continual improvement.

While the challenges that have severely affected our efficiency and effectiveness since November 2013 including the National IT Project and our office relocation continue to be felt, the Association has delivered some exceptional results across a range of projects and events.

These include an outstanding Asia Pacific OutGames where our volunteers came to the fore to ensure the smooth delivery of a very well patronised event in May. Also through the financial support of the NT Government we were able to continue to drive the Bush Schools Swimming & Lifestyle Clinic at Yipirinya School and take the lead in planning and sport delivery. The 2013 Bush Schools Swimming & Lifestyle Clinic was the most successful on record.

The participation levels for the 10th Anniversary were outstanding and the clinic has continued to grow since Swimming Northern Territory has been funded to deliver the sporting activities. In the first year Swimming Northern Territory was engaged to deliver the swimming component the clinic was on a serious decline with only five schools and approximately 70 swimmers participating.

With the improved planning and highly structured sporting schedules now offered growth has been achieved each year the project has been funded by the Department of Sport Recreation & Racing. In 2012 there were 9 schools and a total of 106 participants but this rose by 64% in 2013 where we attracted 10 schools and 174 swimmers. Swimming Australia Limited are to be acknowledges for their input with high profile swimmers Ellie Cole and Aisling Scott assisting and the presence of Patrick Johnson delivering the Athletics NT station was also a highlight.



Record numbers of smiling faces at the 2013 Bush Schools Swimming & Lifestyle Clinic

Our Championship meets were all highly successful, the Gatorade Open Water Championships attracted a quality field and was delivered to a very high standard. Our Vorgee NT Short Course Championships hosted by the Alice Springs Swimming Club continues to develop and attract competitors from interstate to showcase the only indoor facility in the Territory. The contribution from the club is most appreciated and without their commitment this important meet, a key event for our State Teams Age Short Course representatives, would not be possible.

The Vorgee NT Open & Age Championships and McDonald's 9 & Under Championships both attracted significant competitor entry levels and were both promoted widely with the appearance of Daniel Kowalski and Leisel Jones certainly increased the interest levels in the sport and it was great to see them at the full house "After party" celebration at Tracy Village on the Sunday night.

The visits of Leisel and Daniel are an indication of the work being done in promoting our sport across the Northern Territory and the "Swimming Grows With You" video clip and soon to be televised series of advertisements are testament to the Board consideration of, and investment in, recommendations from the November 2013 Governance and Strategic Planning Workshop.

In March work ramped up on the planning and implementation of coaching development initiatives concurrently rolled out by the NTIS and Swimming Australia Limited. The NTIS Coach Scholarship Program and SAL Coach Mentor Program were well aligned and dovetailed neatly into an overall strategy to develop coaches across the Territory. This also met with objectives being discussed with ascta.

SNTI is delighted with the work done by Jamie Salter at Swimming Australia, the positive relationship we are currently enjoying with our Territory Institute and the input from Ross Gage at ascta to deliver a structured and collaborative program to help develop our coaches and provide the platform for enhancing athlete development. We welcome Mr Jim Fowlie as our Coach Mentor and look forward to working with him and our scholarship coaches, Tim Few and Grant Pennington in 2014-2015.



NTIS Scholarship Coach, Grant Pennington on pool deck with Peter Brasher

Our Association has continued to benefit from the ongoing support of ascta in other areas of Coach Development, specifically through their support of in hosting the third annual SwimNT Conference. A variety of coaches from affiliated clubs, Indigenous communities, Masters Swimming NT and the school system enrolled this year to take advantage of an opportunity that has provided the springboard for developing up and coming coaches such as Tim Few and Grant Pennington.

The contributions from our sponsors has been fantastic and we have continued to enjoy significant levels of Government and corporate support. Our sincere thanks are extended to the NT Government, City of Darwin, NTIS, Department of Premier & Cabinet, Swimming Australia Limited, ascta, McDonald's, PowerWater Corporation, Vorgee, Bodyfit NT and Canterbury Clothing Company.

The year ahead sees many challenges with the National IT Project being at the forefront however we also face a period of change with a new Strategic Plan being developed and Constitutional reform ahead of us. We will also be impacted by membership reviews being conducted at Swimming Australia and how this may affect other organisations such as Masters Swimming NT.

Further challenges lie ahead following the resignations in June of two of our staff members, Paul Schindler and Virginia Burrow. Paul was with us for approximately 2 ½ years and made great strides in delivering swimming programs to schools and assisting in hosting our suite of Athlete and Coach Development Clinics.

Virginia has been an outstanding servant to the sport and a tireless worker in the office and on pool deck. Her departure will leave a significant void that will be difficult to fill as the Association continues to face systems, membership and meet management issues. I wish Virginia and her family all the very best for the future and thank her for her outstanding contribution over her five years of service.

In closing I thank everyone who has made such a positive contribution to our objectives. The staff, Directors and our committees have a considerable workload and their cohesive efforts are integral to delivering outcomes for all our members. I draw special attention to the Board and thank the Directors for their support and especially to our President, Joel Wecker for his leadership, focus and enthusiasm.

David Evans
Executive Officer
Swimming Northern Territory

SPONSORSHIP REPORT

Swimming Northern Territory enjoys significant support from all levels of Government including the Northern Territory Government through the Department of Sport Recreation & Racing and the Northern Territory Institute of Sport. Federally we receive Indigenous development funding from the Department of Premier and Cabinet. We also receive significant assistance from the City of Darwin.

Financial support from Swimming Australia Limited has contributed to the Academy Program and the Community Swimming Officer role. This support enables Swimming Northern Territory to provide a range of programs to the membership and to retain professional and responsive staff. Corporate sponsorship is of great importance to our viability and ability to provide services to our members. Swimming Northern Territory has developed long term relationships with leading national and regional companies including Vorgee, McDonald's, PowerWater, BodyfitNT, and Canterbury.

In addition to the sponsorship component with our commercial partners we also have merchandise arrangements with Vorgee, funds raised through the sale of Vorgee merchandise go directly to the "Rising Star Foundation". We urge all Clubs and swimmers to support our sponsors.

McDonald's

McDonald's are the of major Sponsor of Swimming Northern Territory's Junior Development programs and this support has been instrumental in our capacity to deliver our suite of camps and clinics. In addition to providing financial support for our junior development initiatives McDonald's provide a range of products for new members, participants at Junior Development Camps, monthly JX Awards and also recognition packs for Northern Territory representatives at the Australian Age Championships, Australian Open & Age Open Water Championships and Australian Open Swimming Championships.

- Naming rights sponsors of the McDonald's 9 & Under Championships
- Sponsorship of the McDonald's 9 and Under Series
- Provider of all medals and ribbons
- Supporter of all Junior Development Camps
- Recognition packs for all representative Teams
- Supplier of shade marquees used at all swim meets



Another delighted McDonald's 9 & Under winner

City of Darwin

The City of Darwin has been a significant sponsor of the Vorgee NT Open & Age Championships, waiving pool hire fees. We are also heavily dependent on the City of Darwin for affordable access to well-maintained pools across the city for club programs and Territory meets. We thank the Lord Mayor, Katrina Fong Lim and her staff led by CEO Brendan Dowd for their support.

Vorgee

The financial support from Vorgee provides the Association with the capacity to offer development programs that provide opportunities for swimmers to achieve excellence. Vorgee are also the naming rights sponsor for the NT Open and Age Championships and NT Short Course Championships. Our partnership also includes a merchandise component for Swimming Northern Territory to sell Vorgee products at Swimming NT Meets. Vorgee contribute to Swimming Northern Territory by providing:

- Financial support to assist in the delivery of the Vorgee NT Open and Age Championships
- Assistance with Training Camps
- Provision of merchandise for sale at Meets. All profit made from selling merchandise goes directly into the “Rising Star” Foundation.



Power and Water

The Power and Water Corporation has the naming rights to the Power in the Water Series where recognition is given to swimmers who attain personal best times across the meet series. This series provides the opportunity for athletes to be rewarded for setting and attaining personal goals. Power and Water Corporation provide significant financial support that assists greatly in the delivery of each meet and also supply the colourful pennants that are on offer for achieving a personal best at each meet.

Canterbury Clothing Company

Canterbury Clothing Company is the provider of uniforms for Swimming Northern Territory officials, volunteers and all representative teams. In addition to subsidising our uniform requirements the relationship provides members with 10% discount at “The Rugby Shop” in the Mitchell centre, Darwin City.

Bodyfit NT

For three years Bodyfit NT have been the strength and conditioning service provider to the Academy Program. The services are provided at a greatly reduced rate and allow our most talented swimmers access to strength and conditioning programs designed to replicate those on offer to Institute level athletes around the country.

COMMITTEE & OFFICE BEARER REPORTS

Athlete Development Committee

2013-14 has been a positive year for the Athlete Development Committee with continued refinement and development of the programs offered to our swimming membership. Throughout the year the committee has been working hard on a range of areas across the program including refinement of the entry and exit protocols, now allowing for a rolling entry and exit's dates to ensure that the swimmers get the best from the programs and services offered to ensure continued success in the pool. All swimmers have been performing very well in the pool with some outstanding results that are evidenced at the State Teams Age Short Course Championships.

Kia Naylor

Chair: Athlete Development Committee

Competition Committee

The Competition Committee comprised Rose Gerlach, Kathleen Rochford and myself.

The Committee prepared the Meet Calendar to best meet the needs of the Clubs and swimmers. The season opens with the Open Water series at the Waterfront Lagoon. This series is becoming increasingly popular with competitors from other disciplines, and it was particularly difficult to find SNT Officials to assist in the running of the meets which made it somewhat challenging.

The pool calendar comprised five components, the Distance series, the Power in the Water series, the McDonald's 9 and Under series, various Club Invitationals and the Vorgee NT Open and Age Championships. We introduced a relay component into the Power in the Water series so that our younger swimmers especially, can gain more experience in this area. It was especially gratifying to see Casuarina Storm's 8&Under female team break a 14 year old relay record at one of these meets – previously this would not have been possible.

This was the first season where we incorporated the McDonald's 9 and Under Championships into the Vorgee Open and Age program and this was a great success. As a result of this change, we had more helpers on pool deck, the older competitors had more rest between events, and our younger competitors were able to be part of an exciting competition. It certainly added an amusing aspect to the weekend sessions! Given that this was the first time we have run the incorporated program, there are certainly some changes that can be made to improve the functionality and the timing of the event. It was fantastic to have six interstate teams to compete at the Championships and we hope the event will continue to grow in popularity.

All the Club Invitationals continue to be very well attended, and it was most unfortunate, that the Casuarina Storm event was cancelled midway through the meet, due to Tropical Cyclone Alessia threatening the western Top End. Unfortunately, the Club had no option but to err on the side of caution.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rose and Kathleen for their assistance over the past season, and their continued support over the last two years.

Karen Messenger

Chair: Competition Committee

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee comprised Jenny Culgan, Rose Gerlach, Rebecca Mather-Brown and myself.

The Selection Committee continues to play a supporting role to the overall administration of Swimming NT. The Committee continues to update the Australian Age Point Scores Table and the Open and Age Qualifying Times on an annual basis.

The committee selected an eight member squad to attend the Australian Teams Short Course event in Canberra. The 2013 team of Jacqui Culgan, Rochelle Basset, Abbey Brown, Emily Jones, Jayce Brown, Brody Leibhardt, Jesse Staples and Chad Blenkinsip were selected from their performances at the 2013 Vorgee Northern Territory Short Course Championships held in Alice Springs in May 2013. Paul Schindler, Helen Brown and Tim Few travelled with the team as team managers and coaches.

The Championships were contested over four sessions and the team competed in 49 events achieving a good result of 27 personal bests.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your contribution towards the Committee throughout the season.

Karen Messenger

Chair: Selection Committee

Technical Committee

The focus for the Technical committee for 2013-2014 has been training of technical officials in new roles including the Technical Committee where Paul Carter has assisted Shane Cross in taking on the role as Chair.

Swimming Northern Territory sought to develop officials through a number of programs and meets including the State Teams Age Short Course Championships at the AIS. Rob Portelli, Marg Chamberlain, Steve Wolfardt and Paul Carter travelled to Canberra and attended the training workshops conducted by Swimming Australia and then officiated at the Championships. This is an excellent initiative of Swimming Australia and provides new technical officials a glimpse of what their career can be.



Rob Portelli on pooldeck at the 2013 State Teams Age Short Course Championships

COMMUNITY SWIMMING OFFICER

School Swimming Programs

The Association was able to increase its level of service to School Sports NT swimming by assisting in the running of all regions' clusters carnivals. This was done with the assistance of the area coordinators and the help of the clubs involved. The CSO also attended the School Sports Australia Championships in Adelaide as Team Manager for the School Sports NT team.

In October a Teacher Training Course was delivered based on the Swimming Victoria program. Fifteen teachers attended the course from various schools in Darwin with all gaining solid exposure and knowledge on how swimming competition and coaching is delivered. The popular course allowed SNTI to establish valuable contact with key school PE teachers to be invited to assist with their programmed school carnivals.

The Colorado Dolphin Timing System has proven popular with schools and using this the Association has been able to deliver more streamlined meets for the schools. The CSO has successfully assisted the following school swimming carnivals:

- Parap Primary School (coaching program and competition) - the school going on to win the City Cluster
- City Cluster Carnival (coaching program and competition)
- Northern Cluster Carnival (coaching and competition)
- Desert Storm Cluster Carnival (coaching and competition)
- St John College Swimming Carnival (competition)
- Our Lady Sacred Heart combined campus Swimming Carnival (competition)
- Good Shepherd Lutheran College (competition)
- Marrara Christian College (competition)

With some carnivals attracting in excess of 400 students the opportunity to promote swimming competition, identify talent and encourage membership has been significant.

Metropolitan and Regional Development

During the 2013-2014 year the CSO also delivered a range of services to both metropolitan and regional clubs. Assistance with the development and delivery of the following programs has been provided:

- Water Safety Week
- Wane Goldsmith Clinic
- Nightcliff GoSwim Day
- Ready Set Race with dual Olympian Mel Gorman
- Defence Community Expo
- On deck coaching support to club coaches
- Delivery of the McDonalds Mini Clinics
- Katherine Development Clinic
- Club Nights
- DO Open Water Clinic
- DO Starts and Turns Clinic
- Alice Springs Open Training Day
- Tennant Creek Development Coaching and Carnival

Urban Indigenous Swimming

This year was the second year the Urban Indigenous Program has been delivered and is now developing strongly. The program involved two weeks of swimming and culminated in a highly enjoyable and very well attended swimming carnival. In the first year five Indigenous students went on to compete strongly at the 2012 School Sports Northern Cluster Swimming Carnival, a fine testament to the success of the program and the skills the program develops.

From the 26th August to 6th September 2013 the Urban Indigenous Program was supported by our Indigenous Sport & Active Recreation Program Officer, Mark Walker, who conducted an intensive two week series of sessions to students from Marrara Christian College, St John's Catholic College and Kormilda Catholic College. Each session incorporated components of dry land strength and conditioning and a stretching routine. Water activities included stroke correction, fitness testing, race skills instruction, water polo and ball skills. The two week program culminated in a Carnival between the schools. This year's carnival was attended by over 48 students from Marrara Christian College and St Johns Catholic College with Kormilda Catholic College forced to withdraw prior due to unforeseen circumstances arising at the school. By the end of the program all participants showed higher levels of competency and confidence in the pool and many wanting to swim on a regular basis.

Splash into the Dry

This program operated between 10 June and 28 September 2013. The program involved a free community swimming competition that meant participants raced in their own time without the pressure of competition. Participants submitted their personal best times achieved in various distances over four rounds of competition. Each swimmer was placed on a ladder with other swimmers and improvements were averaged over the 100m time. The winner was declared the most improved after four rounds of competition. Katherine was strong to take up the challenge with over 24 swimmers taking part. The competition was fierce with Mike Thompson, Joe Dobson and Fraser Graham taking out first, second and third by an overall improvement of over 2 minutes between them.

Senior Swimmers

Over the past 12 months the CSO has been running swimming training targeting Uni students and staff. This UniSquad has currently been running every Tuesday night from 5:30pm - 6:30pm at Nightcliff pool since 5th March 2013. The program has grown with much interest and now sits at 30 members with anywhere between 9 and 15 attending regularly. The CSO has been able to work with the Charles Darwin University and on the 8th May the UniSquad was recognised as an affiliate to the by the Charles Darwin University Students Association gaining recognition which has giving the squad opportunities in advertising and with the university. The CSO has recently been working with Nightcliff Swimming Club in opening opportunities to these swimmers in transferring them into membership and competition.

SWD Development

Swimming Northern Territory experienced significant results at the 2014 GHSF Australian Age Championships in Brisbane on the 14 – 21 April. Nikaiya Payne, Brandon Edwards, Lachlan Boye and Isaac Boye all competed in various events over the week achieving outstanding results. It was sad to see the Boye's move south at the beginning of the year but seeing their results at the Championships is a testament to the hard work that Rose Gerlach has been doing at Palmerston. The CSO visited Total Recreation's Swimming Carnival on the 22 November which included Darwin and Palmerston Special needs schools. This carnival was run by Royal Life Saving NT and involved about 70 participants. Overall It was good to see the amount of excitement and enjoyment that the whole carnival brought to these students.

SNTI Academy Pathway Program

2013-2014 season saw another successful year of clinics and competitions. In July the CSO set about preparing the State Teams Age Short Course Team which competed in Adelaide in August and then went on to achieve a fantastic result at State Teams Age Short Course in September. The team scored a massive 164 points and put up a great fight against national and international athletes.



The CSO was successfully able plan and coordinate three SNTI clinics and secure some well known interstate names for the following clinics.

Flipper Clinic	Jen Noel & Chris Twomey with athlete appearance from dual Olympian Mel Gorman
Skills Clinic	Gary Barclay
Target 12 Clinic	Leigh Nugent

INDIGENOUS SPORT & ACTIVE RECREATION PROGRAM

The 12 months July 2013 to June 2014 was a very rewarding time, KPI's were met and in many cases above the recommended targets. These levels were achieved by a reluctance not to be disheartened by shire hurdles and always the ability to be flexible with bookings. The true success in the year 2013/2014 was the ongoing reward. That is, schools such as Maningrida, Nauiyu, Angurugu, Pirlangimpi and Nguiu welcoming future visits of the "Swimming pathways program" into their school program. Multiple visits to Yuendumu and Areyonga are also forming excellent relationships, while the 2nd Annual Kintore multi sport carnival is creating a positive community relationship in one of the remotest, desert communities. One off visits to Borroloola and Tennant Creek and the running of a whole school swim program, culminating in a school swim carnival were also highlights.



ISARPO, Mark Walker teaching diving technique

One of the major impacts of our Indigenous Pathways Program is to increase attendance at schools and we are delighted to see school attendances increase wherever the program is delivered:

Positive Impact on School Attendance

	Participation #	2014 School Enrolment	Average School Attendance %	Participation Rate %	% Increase in School Attendance
Alyangula	106	115	44.2%	92.17%	47.97%
Angurugu	121	233	32.7%	51.93%	19.23%
Areyonga	43	43	76.3%	100.00%	23.70%
Borroloola	226	311	60.0%	72.67%	12.67%
Daly River	59	75	78.6%	78.67%	0.07%
Kintore	59	59	81.1%	100.00%	18.90%
Maningrida	363	715	49.3%	50.77%	1.47%
Pirlangimpi	79	79	81.0%	100.00%	19.00%
Yulara	56	57	88.2%	98.25%	10.05%

Review of the 2014-2014 Indigenous Sport and Active Recreation Program KPIs:

Performance Indicator	Planned Annual Target	TOTAL Full Year
The number of Indigenous people involved with the management of the activity	70	108
The number of Indigenous people who successfully completed accredited training in coaching / officiating	20	3
The number of participants in the funded activity	1,300	1,986
The number of participants with a disability	30	59
The number of times the activity was held	100	350 sessions over 105 days
The percentage of participants in the activity who are Indigenous	95%	92.5% 1,850
The percentage of participants who are male	50%	47.5% 945
The percentage of participants who are over 18	20%	3% 32



2014 VORGEER NT OPEN & AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS & McDONALD'S 9 & UNDER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Female and Male Age Aggregates

10 years	Rosanna Materazzo (Casuarina)	Joshua Staples (Casuarina)
11 years	Emma Pannell (Playford Aquatic)	Coen Mobbs (Playford Aquatic) Nicholas Wecker (Casuarina)
12 years	Jasmine Kilyen-Coles (Playford Aquatic)	Cameron Seyfang (Playford Aquatic)
13 years	Jacqui Culgan (Casuarina)	Matthew Wofaardt (Nhulunbuy)
14 years	Rochelle Basset (Casuarina)	Charlie Newton (Alice Springs)
15 years	Lucy Quinlan (Darwin)	Chad Blenkinship (Darwin)
16 years	Chloe Ireland (Playford Aquatic)	Brody Leibardt (Casuarina)
17 years & over	Kiah Hazel (Darwin)	Timothy Few (Darwin)

Champion Female

Awarded to the female swimmer gaining the most points in finals and timed finals:

Jacqui Culgan Casuarina Storm 119 points

Champion Male

Awarded to the male swimmer gaining the most points in finals and timed finals.

Brody Leibhardt Casuarina Storm 124 Points

Jim Gayton Trophy

Awarded to the winner of the Women's Open 50m Freestyle

Savannah Rossingh Darwin 27.90 seconds

Paul Kinter Trophy

Awarded to the winner of the Men's Open 50m Freestyle

Ben Cooper Darwin 25.32 seconds

Champion Distance Female

Awarded to the female who achieved the strongest performance, as measured by the Australian Open or Age Points scale, in any one of the following events: 400m or 800m freestyle, 400m individual medley or a 200m form stroke.

Kate Giersch Playford Aquatics 39 Points 400m IM

Champion Distance Male

Awarded to the male, who achieved the strongest performance, as measured by the Open or Australian Age Points scale, in any one of the following events: 400m or 1500m freestyle, 400m individual medley or a 200m form stroke.

Tie between

Zachary Hussein	Geelong	200m Backstroke	37 Points
		400m Freestyle	34 Points
Jayce Brown	Alice Springs	200m Backstroke	37 Points
		200m Freestyle	34 Points

Judith Green Trophy

Awarded to the swimmer gaining the most points in multi class events

Lachlan Boye GT Aquatics 41 Points

SWIMMER OF THE MEET

Awarded to the Northern Territory swimmer with the most outstanding performance in one or more events, as measured by the Australian Open or Age Points system.

Jacqui Culgan	Casuarina Storm	50m Freestyle	42 Points
		100m Freestyle	41 Points

Relay Trophy

Awarded to the Club gaining most points during the Championships relay events

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Casuarina Storm | 286 Points |
| 2. Darwin | 262 Points |
| 3. Playford | 98 Points |



A delighted Rosanna Materazzo collecting her Age Aggregate Trophy from Leisel Jones and Daniel Kowalski

Keith Gabel Trophy

Awarded to the NT club whose swimmers gain the most points in finals and timed finals of breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly events.

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Casuarina Storm Swimming Club | 582.5 Points |
| 2. Darwin | 521 Points |
| 3. Playford | 338.5 Points |

McDONALD'S 9 & UNDER CHAMPION CLUB TROPHY

Awarded to the Club gaining most points during the McDonald's 9 & Under Championships

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Casuarina Storm | 536 Points |
| 2. Darwin | 259.5 Points |
| 3. Nightcliff | 171 Points |

VORGEE NT OPEN AND AGE CHAMPION CLUB TROPHY

Awarded to the Club gaining most points during the Open & Age Championships

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Casuarina Storm | 1323.5 Points |
| 2. Darwin | 1223 Points |
| 3. Playford Aquatic | 797.5 Points |

OVERALL CHAMPION CLUB TROPHY

Awarded to the Northern Territory Club gaining the most points at the Open & Age Championships combined with the 9 & Under Championships

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Casuarina Storm Swimming Club | 1,859.5 |
| 2. Darwin Swimming Club | 1,482.5 |
| 3. Playford Aquatic Club | 842.5 |
| 4. Alice Springs Swimming Club | 424.0 |
| 5. Nightcliff Swimming Club | 318.8 |
| 6. Nhulunbuy Swimming Club | 239.0 |
| 7. Palmerston & Rural Swimming Club | 223.0 |
| 8. Kilmore Swimming Club | 184.0 |
| 9. Katherine Amateur Swimming Club | 183.5 |
| 10. Geelong Swimming Club | 149.0 |
| 11. Broome Barracudas Swimming Club | 99.0 |
| 12. GT Aquatics | 74.5 |
| 13. Lilydale Swimming Club | 54.0 |



2014 VORGE NT SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Vorgee NT Short Course Championships are now in their fourth year after the inaugural event at the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre in 2011. The Championships also incorporate events for swimmers 9 and under and the Alice Springs Swimming Club have been a major driving force with this. The 2014 Championships attracted 58 competitors from five clubs, slightly down on the 2013 Championships where a larger contingent came up from Adelaide and Nightcliff and Katherine Swimming Clubs also competed. Congratulations to Swimmer of the Meet, Brody Leibhardt and the Champion Club, Alice Springs.



AGE AGGREGATES

10-11 Women

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	Everingham, Chloe	11	Darwin Swimming Club	120
2	Jones, Jemma	10	Darwin Swimming Club	99
3	Portelli, Erica	11	Alice Springs	88

10-11 Men

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	Culgan, Damian	10	Casuarina Storm	140
2	Byrne, Nicholas	10	Casuarina Storm	114
3	Newton, Harry	11	Alice Springs	84

12-13 Women

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	Yun, Rachel	12	Casuarina Storm	132
2	Williamson, Emily	12	Darwin Swimming Club	86
3	Kleeman, Sophie	13	Alice Springs	80

AGE AGGREGATES

12-13 Men

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	O'Dowd-Day, Benjamin	12	Darwin Swimming Club	112
2	Hutt, Lance	12	Darwin Swimming Club	101
3	Cross, Jarrod	13	Alice Springs	76

14-15 Women

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	Culgan, Jacqui	14	Casuarina Storm	136
2	McSkimming, Lauren	14	Darwin Swimming Club	119
3	Quinlan, Lucy	15	Darwin Swimming Club	76

14-15 Men

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	Pittick, Will	14	Casuarina Storm	112
2	Newton, Charlie	14	Alice Springs	110
3	Davie, Thomas	14	South Coast	101

16 & Open Women

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	Mader, Rachael	21	South Coast	94
1	McSkimming, Shannon	16	Darwin Swimming Club	94
3	Wise, Kellie	17	South Coast	83

16 & Open Men

Place	Name	Age	Team	Points
1	Leibhardt, Brody	16	Casuarina Storm	117
2	Brown, Jayce	16	Alice Springs	108
3	Noblett, Thomas	16	Palmerston	96



STATE TEAMS AGE SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS – MANAGER’S REPORT

20th – 22nd September, AIS Canberra

Athletes, Team Managers, Coaches

Rochelle Basset, Jacqui Culgan, Abbey Brown, Emily Jones, Brody Leibhardt, Jayce Brown, Jesse Staples, Chad Blenkinship and Harrison Oakhill (replaced by Chad Blenkinship)

Team Managers/Coaches Helen Brown, Timothy Few, Paul Schindler (CSO)

Selection

Having our Short Course Championships early is a big benefit for the team giving the team a really good chance at preparation. The team being selected in May gave us the opportunity to travel to a pre-meet in Adelaide and gave the athletes a good lead in time to Canberra. Because of the level of this meet and the level of competition experienced, training must be second to none. On selection, all athletes must be fully aware of what the expectations are and adhere to the requirements or be removed from the team.

Training and Preparation

Once a week training for those based in Darwin was provided but poorly attended. The reason this was delivered was to have the team begin to work together and also provide that extra opportunity of training in a short course pool. Attendance at this was disappointing as out of the 13 weeks of training the full team was only in attendance no more than 4 of these sessions. The positive out of these sessions was that coaches Paul and Tim were able bond with the team and identify strengths and weakness in skills at these training sessions. This was particularly helpful and proved valuable tool in coaching the athletes before during and after competition in both Adelaide and Canberra.

Individual athlete preparation was inconsistent and sporadic. Individual training was inconsistent up until training came back online only six weeks out from Canberra. For those based in Alice Springs training had been mostly on their own whilst their primary coach was away on holidays up until 4 weeks out from Canberra. Abbey Brown fell injuring her elbow playing netball which put her in a cast up until one week out from Adelaide. This kept her out of the pool for a good two weeks giving her minimal training before Adelaide. It did come as a surprise the good results at the SA Short Course in Adelaide as the team was only barely back in the water. Not much can be done without the home coaches’ support for their athletes and the complexities that go with this. Apart from Jacqui and Brody training at Palmerston under Grant Pennington the other athletes were at a disadvantage not having their home coaches supporting the program. This does present an issue alone and to take into account the number of athletes chosen for the team and the event being so early in the swimming season and the training period clashing with our open water season.

On selection the team must be fully briefed on the expectations that will be required on making the team. I would suggest that this be a serious decision and the commitment needed be more than stressed. The level of competition that is experienced at State Teams Age is of a national standard. The team must be properly prepared, fit enough to compete and meet the expectations of the team and selection.

Pre-Meet Competition

The team had the opportunity to compete at the 2013 SA 12-18yrs Short Course Championships held in Adelaide on the 16th – 18th August. This was a fantastic opportunity for the team and really saw the team gel together. This event gave the athletes the opportunity to gain more experience in racing in a 25m pool. Results at this event gave Paul Schindler (Head Coach) the opportunity to really identify strengths and weaknesses seeing the athletes individually compete in a short course environment. This also gave him strategic advantage on selecting the right events for the team for Canberra. This meet also gave the team and immense amount of confidence going into Canberra and proved very worthwhile considering the competition the team faced.

Accommodation

The team stayed at the AIS and was given a unit block to them. This was a good benefit having the team stay together as other teams were being scattered with managers and coaches having to sleep away from the team. Having selection of the team being so early this gave the team the opportunity to choose their accommodation options and chose to keep the team together.

AIS Meals

Meal timings were inconsistent and too often threw out the opportunity for the athletes to spend down time adequately. Not to mention our block was deep cleaned with noisy equipment during a vital down time between sessions not allowing our athletes rest.

Competition and Events

Competition this year was stronger than anticipated. The team was up against overwhelming odds having to compete against athletes who had competed in the world championships in Barcelona and Dubai. The team's overall goal was to achieve an improvement of 75 seconds over 50 entered events and fell short of this goal with no more than 34 seconds taken off. This did not help the matter when Jesse Staples having been away and off training for a full week with the School Sports Swimming Championships fell sick with a virus returning the weekend prior. Jesse asked to be removed from his 400m Freestyle in the first session on the Friday. This decision had to be made before leaving on the Wednesday to which his health was still very much under consideration.

Further to this Paul Schindler was informed that Abbey Brown after Adelaide had been away on a netball competition and had fallen sick after only allowing her to complete 3 training sessions since Adelaide (4 weeks). Jacqui Culgan (who had been one of our most prepared) had escaped a virus that had hit her family prior to leaving but could not escape and fell sick with a temperature on the first session. Although she did a fantastic effort to continue to compete, Jacqui did not begin to recover until competition had finished.

The rest of the team did extremely well under the circumstances with Emily Jones dropping her 100 Fly time by 3.03 seconds and Chad Blenkinship breaking the minute and dropping his 100 Freestyle by 3.03 seconds. Brody Leibhardt, Jayce Brown, and Rochelle Basset all shaved off personal bests on some swims but also equally swam outside of events. From a coaches perspective the team did not seem to be mentally in the event and the energy within the team seemed to lack substantially to that which was seen in Adelaide. The team seemed tired and although big efforts were made to have the team properly rehydrated and recover after each session the team did not seem to pick up energy needed until the last day where the most personal bests were achieved leaving it too late in the competition to make a substantial results toward their overall team goal. It is not fully known as why this occurred and could point toward the athletes having their schedule too full whilst they were there or the fact that the athletes were not fully prepared to the level of competition the meet provided.

On a positive the team achieved a fantastic result in achieving an overall point score of 164 beating last year's result of 95. This was helped by the team being able to have a full four athletes within a single age group and the boys were spread out over two in each age group. With the girls having four in a single age group this provided us the ability to put a full team to compete in the 4 x 100 freestyle and Medley relays giving the team the extra valuable points needed. Suggestions in making the team stronger for next year should take into account the age groups and benefits the team has with being able to swim these relays. It was suggested for next year that the Northern Territory submit the request to be able to import athletes for this event. This would not only boost team numbers but also strengthen the team bringing in talent that has moved interstate. By doing this we could be in for a fighting chance raising the opportunity to reach the 300+ point that Tasmania has in front of the team making us more competitive within the competition.

Summary

In summary of the event, a fantastic opportunity for Swimming Northern Territory to be able to support a team of a reasonable size and a fantastic opportunity for athlete who may not necessarily make national qualifying but still experience a national level competition. This was best team the Territory had to offer with only that of Ben Cooper and Harrison Oakhill who were missed. The team could not have done better with athletes put forward and was good opportunity for them to bring back that experience to implement into their home clubs.

The standards for this team must be continually be assessed allowing us not to slip behind the other states in this competition. The team as a whole needs to understand what level they are competing against and understand the ramifications of not achieving the minimum standards. The Northern Territory is at a disadvantage as we do not have adequate, accessible facilities to train for this type of competition. Those selected on the team must realise that this is a national level competition and a minimum 12 weeks out is need to be ideally focused on this event. To keep the success of this team improving I would put forward that that the following be considered for next year's team:

- If an athlete spends more than 5 days continuously away from training whether this is with other sport commitments or by being sick or injured that their position on the team is brought into question. Training commitment for this competition needs to be stressed clearly and is paramount to having a fit, health and well prepared team going into this competition.
- The ability to import athletes who have moved interstate be put forward to help boost the team in numbers, strength and competition.
- A comprehensive training camp is considered prior to departure to this competition. Whether this be held at the AIS, Alice Springs or Darwin and become a compulsory element to the lead into this competition.
- Thought be taken into whether age group relays are available to the team and if we are able to provide a team capable to entering relays in Canberra.

Overall this year was a good success we overcame the previous year's point score, and the team really showed strong potential of improvement between the pre-meet in Adelaide and the event in Canberra the team of eight cut off over 109 seconds in improvement over all there events. Apart from points I have brought out the team I feel could not have done better considering our circumstances and what is available for the team. Many thanks to the support from SAL staff, SNTI, team managers and swimmers to make this the event opportunity that it was.

SCHOOL SPORT TEAM

THE MEET

School Sport National Championships is a five day meet in a format of both timed finals and preliminaries & finals. This year 751 students competed from eight States and Territories. The Northern Territory was represented by eighteen students:

Alexandra Blyton, Damian Culgan, Jacqui Culgan, Tayla Dowzard, Chloe Everingham, Kyra Garner, Jemma Jones, Jaime Kruger, Lauren McSkimming, Thomas Noblett, Will Pittick, Jordin Ritschie, Joshua Staples, Teegan Wattam, Nicholas Wecker, Jenti White, Matthew Wolfaardt and Rachel Yun

THE RESULTS

Joshua Staples had an outstanding meet winning two medals. Silver in the Boys 10 years 100m breaststroke and bronze in the Boys 10 years 50m breaststroke. Collectively, eighteen finalist places were achieved by Damian Culgan, Tayla Dowzard, Kyra Garner, Jemma Jones, Jaime Krueger, Lauren McSkimming, and Joshua Staples. All swimmers achieved personal bests during the meet amounting to an impressive 102 PBs for the team.

