

Annual General Meeting

12th of July, 2026

Club Performance Report

1. Strategic Goal Achievement

We commenced the 2025/26 season with 59 Swimmers. We finished the 2025/2026 season with 124 active members including 64 swimmers in our current program. During the season, there were 6 swimmers left our program for different personal reasons. The seasonal enrolment hit 75 swimmers. The percentage of competitive swimmers had reached over 90% of our total numbers.

We can proudly announce that our club development has achieved our 25/26 seasonal Strategic Goal of “recruiting 65 swimmers and 75% of them are Competitive swimmers”.

2. Coaching

During the season, our coaching and training regime has remained very stable. Coach Wenbo has been responsible for the Development Squad on Saturday mornings. Coach Bridget looks after the State Target Squad, and shares responsibility for the Junior Squad and Development Squad with Coach Grace. Coach James remains as Head Coach overseeing the whole training program.

Coach James has been participating in the mentoring program hosted by the Australian Dolphins Head Coaches and Swimming Australia’s High Performance Pathway Director on a weekly basis. The Club supports and funds the program subscription to ensure the Head Coach is always up to date with the most advanced swimming coaching knowledge and new trends of competitive swimming at the highest level. Coach James has satisfied the prerequisite for application for the Performance Endorsed Coach Development program. Now he is into the program to study Performance Coach Course.

In the 25/26 season, Coach Bridget has actively participated in Swimming Australia’s Women in Coaching; The W32 Project. She also actively joins the State Leading coach groups provided training sessions for the State Junior Talent Squad. She is also pointed as Fill In Coach for the Victorian Institute of Sport’s Para-Program. Her is responsible to provide training for Victorian Top Multi-Class Swimmers. These help her with broader knowledge and practical experience in performance coaching.

Coach Grace had achieved her Development Coach accreditation (Bronze Licence). She also participated varies Swimming Vic Junior Talent Sessions and Coaches Workshops. Grace has evolved into next level coaching category.

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3. Club Structure

As a result of our club growth, we restructured the squads and reinforced the club rules and culture to align with the club's shift towards becoming a more competitive swimming club. In the new structure, we refined 4 levels of the Competitive Swimmer Pathway.

We introduced the beginning level squad, Development B Squad, where we teach young swimmers all competitive strokes in our own way. This corrects swimmers' basic skills from inefficient survival strokes to the real competitive strokes.

The second squad in the first level is the Development A Squad. In the Development A Squad, swimmers start to learn the fundamental skills of competition, and basic endurance work. They start to learn how to do the proper training and participate in the novice level encouragement meet. When swimmers have finished all foundation techniques of competitive swimming training, they will be advanced into the level 2, Junior Squad.

In Junior Squad, swimmers will be taught to all competition training elements, including speed and pacing, breathing control. They will be progressively building up their endurance for competition events longer than 50M. When swimmers achieve State Sprint Championships qualifying time, and are physically and mentally READY, they should be advanced into level 3, State Target Squad, according to their Age Category, to prepare them to compete at Short Course and Long Course Championships. However, the swimmers younger than 12 years old, due to the Age Restriction set up by Swimming Australia, we kept them in the Junior Squad to refine their competition skills and prepare them for long term development.

When Short Course Season finished, several State Target swimmers had advanced to State Squad, and start training along side with the National/Senior Team.

During the season, Several swimmers were placed in the Transition program to prepare them to advance into the next level up Squad. When the new course season started, these swimmers were moved into next Squad. This has smoothly transit swimmers to progress withing our program. We also were able to recruit new young swimmers from other Learn-To-Swimming programs, and they were moved into the Development Squad and Junior Squad.

The Club has started to achieve good results after the restructuring of our squads in the right way.

4. Training

In our club, we have designed structured training templates for all squads. The systematic training programs have set up the pathways for young swimmers from "Learn to

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Train"(Development Squad) to "Train to Compete"(Junior Squad). This foundation training is paving the pathway for the future State level and National level swimmer to "Train to Performance". The result has shown in the external competition for the last few seasons. There are more swimmers shining at the Victorian Junior District Championships, Victorian Metro All Junior Competition, Victorian Age Short/Long Course Championships, Victorian Sprint Championship, Victorian Open Championships, National Age Championships, and Australian Open Short/Long Course Championships during the season. These results have proven our training program structure is successful for committed swimmers.

After the 25/26 season started, we identified quite a large gap between our State level swimmers' times and Age National Qualifying Times. As a result, we introduced more dry-land training and started to teach younger swimmers dry-land training.

For the State National team, we added an extra Tuesday and Thursday afternoon cross training session in conjunction with normal pool training sessions. Swimmers over 13 years old progressed into the first level of a structured gym program.

The fundamental elements of competition were also added into our training, such as "goal setting", Psychology and Mental training. We are also constantly addressing basic "Nutrition Talks" to swimmers and parents. The concept of "hydration", "Food Before & after Training", "Food in competition Day" have been put into daily training discussions between coaches and swimmers. These steps have given dedicated swimmers the understanding of the importance of food and drinks that they are taking. This has resulted in big improvements in our swimmers' performance at major competitions.

Our Open National Multi-Class swimmer competed in more events at Australian Open Championships and qualified for more finals events this season. Our Age National Team has new swimmer stepped up to qualified Age National Time. However, We were unable to send any relay teams to the Age National competition due to the consideration of swimmers' commitment and performance, and the swimmers changing clubs.

There are improvements need to be made with some swimmers and parents who are yet to grasp the concepts of quality competitive swimming due to the lack of enthusiasm. This shows we have a long way to go to achieve our club goal. We need to do more to help swimming families have a fully integrated healthy swimming lifestyle.

5. External Competitions

During the season, our training programs incorporate competitions outside the club. We entered swimmers to various targeted qualifying meets and encouragement meets. Normally our competition cycle of every 3~5 weeks aligns with our training cycles. Some enthusiastic swimmers went to extra meets to gain extra competition experience. Through

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these external competitions, we had 14 swimmers qualify for State Short Course Age Championships and Open Championships, two swimmers achieved qualification to the Australian Short Course Championships (Open Nationals). There were 30 swimmers who qualified for the State Sprint Championships - 11 more swimmers than previous season. There were 13 swimmers who qualified and competed at the State Long Course Age Championships and Open Championships.

During the State Long Course season, we had one swimmer qualify for Multi-Class National Championships, 2 swimmers qualified for their individual events for the Age National Championships. Due to the personal preferences and team arrangement, we had 2 swimmers compete at the Australian Open Swimming Championships, no swimmer competed at Age National.

6. Major Championship Event

In September 2025, 10 swimmers competed in 2024 Uncloud Victorian Short Course Age Championships, 6 of them made events into the Finals, and two of them medalled in their final events. Their individual and team relay performance placed our club ranking at 26th within Victoria.

In 23rd August 2025, 8 swimmers competed at the Victorian Short Course Open Championships. 3 of our Multi-Class swimmers all made into their finals. The medal winning performance by them placed our club ranking 7th at this Championships. 2 of our Multi-Class swimmers competed at the 2025 Australian Short Course Championships for his 13 individual events. They made 12 of their events into finals. Their outstanding performance with two bronze medals for each, placed our club at 18th ranking of 118 clubs Australian wide, and 6th within Victorian clubs. This was the best ever achievement of our club.

On September 25th, 48 swimmers took part in the Metro South District Championships and District Junior Competition Selections. 23 of our 13 years old and over swimmers competed for the District Championships. 17 of them won totally 31 medals. This placed our club in No.2 ranking at District level among all the Metro South Clubs.

25 of our 12 years old and under swimmers competed at this meet as Metro South District Junior Selection Meet. 14 of them reached top 10 placings. They qualified and represented Metro District South to compete against the top 10 swimmers of their age group events from other Districts in the 2025 Metro Junior District Competition Final.

In 29th November 2025, we had 30 swimmers who competed at the 2025/25 Mattioli Victorian Sprint Championships. This highest number of our State Sprint Championships campaign. 3 of them made finals.

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We had 11 swimmers representing our club to compete at the 2025 Mattioli Victorian Age LC Championships (10/12/2025 ~ 15/12/2025). Karen, Miguel, Julia, and Lithara made their debut at the State Long Course Championships. Daniel, Keith, Keran, Fiona, Scott, and Julia all swam their favourite events into the finals. All other swimmers achieved their new personal bests. Keith qualified in multiple events for Age National and Open National times. At the end of this Championships, our club ranked 37th place in Victoria.

In February 13~15th, We had 4 swimmers, Athan, Kelvin, Keith and Bronwyn, representing our club to compete at the 2026 Mattioli Victorian Open LC Championships (13/02/2026 ~ 15/02/2026). All swimmers swam very well. Our MC swimmers' results placed our club ranked at 18th place in Victoria.

In end 28th March 2026, we had 18 swimmers qualified for the Victorian Metro All Junior Competition. 17 of them competed in Semi-Finals. 5 of the 17 swimmers advanced to the Finals, and two of our boys won silver medals. These are their first Victorian Medals.

We sent 2 swimmers to Gold Coast Aquatic Centre to compete at the 2026 Australian Swimming Championships (06/04/2026 ~ 10/04/2026), Kelvin competed in 5 individual events. Keith qualified for both Age National and Open Nation for his Breaststroke event. After serious discussion with the coaching staffs, we decided it was the best interest for Keith to compete at Open only, not at Age National. He swam new PB in his first debut in Open National level.

7. Long Term Goal for Our Club

Swimming Australia has made big shift on National Championship competition. From 2026 onward, the ultimate highest National Competition will be held on June for Australian Swimming Trials. Swimmers' goal should be advanced to aiming for this competition, Not just aiming for Age/Open National Championships. It is a very important step toward a proper competitive swimming regime. We need help both parents and swimmers start changing their lifestyle and mindset toward serious swimming training and competition.

Coaches are expending more knowledge in the area of Coaching Swimmers with Disabilities, Coaching Masters Swimmer, and Strength and Conditioning. We are recruiting more parents for volunteer work to help promote the club in local communities and help the club grow. The long-term goal for the club should be to grow into a strong club which can directly deal with local government and can attract commercial sponsorships.

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Future work needs all the coaches, club officials and all parents all work together as a unified team. We also need committee members to organise more promotion events. We are going to work hard to make our club a better and bigger competitive swimming club.

8. Management and Committee Works

This year the committee turned its attention to three main strategic areas to improve its operations and to assist in continued growth of the club, in line with the longer-term club strategy.

The areas of focus where:

- Digital Footprint: The biggest change this season was the development and rollout of a new website and the dedicated focus to keep our digital footprint (website and social media platforms) up to date and engaging.
- South East Leisure (SEL) collaboration: Changing the dynamics of our relationship from a “venue for hire” to a “trusted partner” relationship and creating opportunities to collaborate.
- Community: Develop a sense of community within our club as well as externally with our competitive swimming clubs in our local municipalities.

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

There was a big focus at the start of the 2025/2026 season on improving our Club’s digital footprint. The scope of the work included a new website and concentration on improving our social media output and engagement.

After weeks of exploration, development, review and feedback, our new website was launched in September 2025. Our new website features and improvements include:

1. A new Members area with important information and resources for our swimmers and their families. In the Members area, there is a trove of information:
 - a. Club Handbook
 - b. Club Policies
 - c. Submit a request for new uniform
 - d. Submit a training suspension request (suspend deduction of training fees)
 - e. Update bank direct debit details for training fees
 - f. View direct debit dates and schedule
 - g. View how to discounts for Arena swimming products

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- h. Download the Visitor Training form (for swimmers from other clubs, interstate or international visitors).
 - i. Photo Gallery, Mini Meet results, Coaches tips and Parent resources.
- 2. Dedicated page for the latest club news with headlines that feature on the homepage. Club news includes items such as timetable changes, coaches reports, and important announcements.
- 3. See all upcoming events directly from the homepage; external swim meets, our mini meets and special presentations. Also in our events, our targeted club meets can now be clicked through to swim central for swimmer registration.
- 4. Dedicated sponsor and partner pages and sections to highlight their all important support and contributions.
- 5. Improved the new joiners process from our website to make it easier and reduce manual work for our committee and coaches.

Our social media presence on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram have also grown. Instagram followers have grown to 134 followers, with 50 posts (after starting with under 15 followers, and 2 posts). Due to login issues, our old Facebook page could not be accessed, and a new one created that is linked to our current instagram and website. Posts on instagram are replicated across Facebook to provide a similar experience across both platforms.

Our club's digital footprint has dramatically improved over the course of the 2025/26 season, setting up the next season to create more opportunities to attract new swimmers, talent and sponsorship opportunities.

SOUTH EAST LEISURE (SEL)

Over the course this season, there has been a focus on rebuilding our relationship with South East Leisure from venue operator to trusted partner. We have continued to work closely together and improve our communications (which are now open and timely), and create win-win opportunities across different teams like Marketing and Learn to Swim. The biggest highlight is the creation and rollout of Swim X that now creates a direct transition platform from their Learn to Swim Program to our squad. Other wins include their support of our Club events, such as our Annual Twilight Encouragement Meet, inclusion of other clubs at our mini meets (Boronia Penguins), and hosting of the inaugural Interclub Relay Network Competition).

Our "MOU" with SEL, a Memorandum of Understanding (a contract in place for our use of the centre and lane space) is a yearly contract and was renewed in June 2026, within a few

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days for the 2026/2027 swimming season, directly showing their confidence and support for our swimming club. This new trusted partner relationship comes at a critical time as preparation and negotiations start shortly for lane space for the new centre.

COMMUNITY

With the establishment of our digital footprint, we were able to start creating our own story and reinforcing our values.. One of the key values we wanted to pursue and develop this season was, Community. Whether that's improving involvement from swimmers and parents, to our relationship with our Centre (SEL), other local community competitive swimming clubs, and in doing so, Swimming Victoria.

One of the big success stories of this season is our collaboration with other clubs. Collaborations can be in many forms and are a win-win for all clubs involved. It allows us to combine resources to ultimately enhance the swimming journey for our swimmers.

At the committee level, it allows us to work closely together to generate and execute ideas that could help each other grow in our own communities.

For our coaches it allows them to work closely together and create a supportive network that extends to competitions and also support at training sessions when opportunities or absences arise.

For our swimmers and their families, it provides competition opportunities to refine race skills at no additional cost and allows our swimming community to grow through new friendships.

There is potential for more growth in the community and volunteer space within our club. To continue to grow and respond to the challenges in the best interest of our swimmers, all members in the club are required to support in every way they can.

OTHER NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS

- Continue to operate Club at a professional level with training programs run on time with little disruptions (except those not in our control) even with coach absences, attendances at competitions and training.
 - Meeting monthly to discuss and decide the operations of the Club.
 - Supporting our coaches development (training, references for adhoc coaching roles/training with Swimming Victoria/Australia).

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- Our results! Forged by our coaches' passion and commitment to the sport and their swimmers.
- Implementation of same day superannuation for our coaches.
- Rollout and enforcement of a range of policies and processes including:
 - Child Safety Policy, specifically the Watch Around Water for under 10s
 - Discrimination/Bullying/Harassment Policy
 - Disciplinary Process
 - Club Handbook
 - Social Media Policy
 - Volunteering specifically for External Competitions
- Annual Twilight Encouragement Meet
- Annual Christmas Party

REVENUE

The club experienced an increase in costs due to facilities access, staff wages/superannuation, and software costs resulting in a loss of approximately \$500 each fortnight after training fees were taken into account. As a result, the Club was required to increase training fees to ensure the Club can continue to grow and invest in its coaches, swimmers, and operations:

- No grants were received in this swimming season.
- \$500 was received as a once off donation from TierONE Capital.
- Our annual Encouragement Meet helped to offset the lack of grants and fundraising activities (Bunnings barbeques) with a profit of \$6000 generated from the event.

9. Future Work

Future work and goals for the committee include the following:

1. Continue to improve swimmer's training and development:

- Design and implement reward and recognition programs that occur multiple times a year; across long course, short course for example.
- Design and implement safer swimming spaces initiatives; wellness programs, pressure programs, buddy/mentor system etc.
- Continue to review and implement technology requirements to support and enhance training.
- Continue to build and maintain relationships with other clubs, and be a leader in creating connected and engaged swimming communities.

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2. Create multiple income streams for our club:

- Find, apply and secure grants available for our club throughout the year.
- Find, apply and secure multi year sponsorships.

3. Continue to improve the Club's operations:

- Emphasis on a united club, and volunteers the key and glue to taking the club to the next level.
- Continue to support training and development for our coaches.
- Design and implement a communications strategy for the club; across emails, WhatsApp, website, social media etc.
- Continue to build and foster a positive relationship with South East Leisure (SEL). This will be important as the new centre nears completion and an MOU for the new centre is required.
- In the new year, start discussions with the view to finalise the MOU prior to the new centre opening (e.g before 31 June)