

Vice President's Report for 2009/2010

The 2009/2010 saw my first year as Vice President of Gippsland Swimming. I hope I see a few more. It has been a year of listening and sitting back and learning about how the administration of our District operates. I have enjoyed the journey so far, and hope to contribute on a more significant level next season.

This last season was a 'proficiency year', where our district offered both a 'proficiency meet' at Warragul on the 5th December 2009 and the district proficiency meet held traditionally with the district's All Juniors qualification meet on 20th February 2010.

The Swimming Victoria Proficiency meet provides swimmers from our district with the opportunity to achieve proficiency at varying levels, with awards and badges provided by Swimming Victoria. Unfortunately this meet was not well supported by district swimmers, with only 14 swimmers participating in the proficiency component. Although club secretaries were provided with information relating to the meet, swimmers and families did not attend. It was held on the same weekend as the second week of December competitions in Melbourne, but the swimmers that would normally participate in a proficiency competition would not have been attending the meet in Melbourne. The Swimming Victoria Proficiency meet is usually only offered every 2 years, but I recommend that we review offering this meet in 2010/2011 given the current lack of support.

The district's proficiency meet held with All Juniors selection was well supported, with 110 swimmers entering for proficiency certification. This proficiency is offered each year, and given the current level of support, it should continue in its current format next season.

Gippsland Championships saw the culmination of district's swimming for season 2009/2010.

The district saw the introduction of two new trophies, which replaced the 'Ben Holman' trophy from previous years. The 'Jeremy Saunders' trophy was introduced to recognise the most outstanding swimmer 15 years and over outside of Gippsland. This trophy was won by Jeremy Meyer (Tgn). The 'Noelle Brajkovic' trophy was introduced to recognise the most outstanding 14 years and under swimmer outside Gippsland. Georgia Tsebelis (Tgn) was the inaugural winner of this trophy.

This year saw multiple winners for both the Anne Bree Memorial Trophy, which was awarded to Stephanie Spehar (Tgn) & Sarah Davine (Wgl) and the Jewell Family trophy with Stephanie Morgan (Tgn) & Georgia Tsebelis (Tgn) the joint award winners.

Matthew Davey (Wgl) was awarded the Otto Ford/Kathleen Froud Encouragement trophy for boys and it was a family affair for the Tsebelis (Tgn) children, with Georgia and Alex being awarded the Alan Harlow trophies for the most outstanding 14 & under female and male swimmer at Gippsland Championships.

After last winning the award in 1999, Ben Geard (Tgn) was awarded the Charles Ford Memorial Trophy for the Male Gippsland Champion.

James Vandersteen (Sale) was awarded the International Power Mitsui and Co. Loy Yang B Trophy - Most Outstanding Swimmer within Gippsland District

The Traralgon Swimming Club won the Ashley Delaney trophy for the 14 & Under Club for the second year and won the Ken Hewat Memorial Trophy for the 11th year in succession. An outstanding effort!

Traralgon Swimming Club was also awarded the Stan Brown Memorial Shield, the Gippsland Relay Shield, the Faye Staughton Open Division A and the Andy Barnes Open Interclub Division A Shield.

East Gippsland Water Dragons were awarded the Coaches Shield – Interclub Division B and the Swimmers Shield Open Swimming Division B.

I look forward to another competitive and interesting year in 2010/2011.

Karen Tsebelis
Vice President
Gippsland Swimming Inc.