

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2010

My first year in office has passed very quick and pleasantly and I wish to thank the delegates for their faith in me.

I represented the Area at the **NSW President's committee meeting** on the 31st October 2009. Memorable presentations and discussions were—Online Registrations & Entries, Boundary Review and Competition Strategy & Development Pathway Implementation. The minutes of this meeting were circulated to Area clubs.

Janelle and I carried on the **club visits** that were initiated last year. The first club visited was Taree. After this visit both Janelle and I talked about the distance she had travelled to come south and the distance I would have to travel to go north. It was a mutual decision Janelle would visit the northern clubs with Rob Guyer helping with the development squad info and I would visit the southern clubs with Ann Pilkie helping with the officials talk. This worked out very well with a record number of clubs being visited. The talks were well accepted by the swimmers and parents at the clubs visited. Many questions were asked and we did our best to answer them. The list of officials has grown as result of these visits and the squads will have to be gauged when they are run this year. The clubs visited were Taree (by Janelle and I) and Lower Macleay, Coffs Harbour, Sawtell and Kempsey (by Janelle and Rob) and Crescent Head, Wauchope, Wingham, Forster and Laurieton (by Ann and I).

My Congratulations:

- Port Macquarie for winning the district point score once again.
- Sawtell also the same as last year for the handicap point score.
- Djaran Smith, Sawtell won the "More than Gifts Shield" for the NSW Country point score.
- 41 record breakers at the Championships, a massive 22 of these were broken by Leigh Bird, Sawtell.
- Swimmers selected in the development squads and there will be more about these later in the meeting.
- Andrew Stoner Trophies won by Leigh Bird and Djaran Smith
- The swimmer's who qualified for Country, State and Australian Championships, Jesse King from Forster club for his silver medal in the 14yrs 100 Breaststroke at Australian Age Championships in Sydney.
- And thank you to Linda Dewbery for being a finalist in the Bank of Queensland Volunteer of the year and for nominating SMNC as a beneficiary of the award -- \$2500.

I wish to **thank** all the clubs who hosted an area carnival and the officials who work all day in the sun or rain. Also the host clubs workers who fed, and watered everyone who worked and generally set up and pull down all the gear for the general running of the meet. We need more help with the meets. As An official you get a bird's eye view of the swimming and are fed and watered all day. Many hands make light work. You only have to approach Janelle and she will arrange a presenter and have you accessed in the position at next meet. There is no longer an exam!!!

Due to a directive by SNSW, our Championships and meets will have to be restructured and a committee was set up to deliver this. The motions and structure will be explained later in the meeting.

The **membership** of the area has been dropping over the last 4 years but this year the drop off was not as great as in previous years with the membership at 1587 with 20 clubs. We saw the loss of Cundletown club due to their pool failing. The swimmers are generally spread between Taree and Wingham.

I would recommend to you the SMNC **Web site**. All results, news, and contacts etc can be found on this site. NSW swimming web site is also a good source of news, forms and almanacs (summer and winter). On the Swimming Australia webs site you will find that the Telstra Assistance fund is now open. You will need to fill out a Go Club booklet which can be down loaded from that site.

The AGM of Swimming NSW is on Saturday 24th July 2010 commencing at 10am at Lidcombe Catholic Club. Do try and be there and have your say. This will be followed by the State Forum.

The **Merger** between Far North Coast and Mid North Coast an ongoing problem with Swimming New South Wales failing to acknowledge our correspondence from our meetings. We have had two meetings, one in August last year and one in January this year. Both meetings were followed by a letter being sent to SNSW detailing our motions and options. Both of the feelings of these meetings were against any kind of amalgamation or merger. This was not taken into account by Swimming New South Wales and in March this year we were asked to put forward 3 representatives to meet with Far North Coast in May, June and July. The culmination of this will be the inaugural meeting to set up the new area on 22nd August.

My thanks to my hard working **Executive**-- Ann Pilkie, Secretary, Pam Guyer, Treasurer; Rob Guyer, Registrar and Web site operator and Linda Dewbery, Race Secretary. Also my thanks to Janelle Barnett, Area Technical Swimming Committee coordinator and Tracy Bake, Publicity Officer, who took over the reins in November last year.

Thanks to the people who worked on the Amalgamation Committee which met in August last year. They were Pam Guyer, Janelle Barnett, Margaret Cornall, Sean Harrington, David Cooper, Alan Witchard, Ann Pilkie and myself. Also the meeting held in January this year, was attended by most of the delegates from the clubs in the middle of the week. This was due to the time constraints put on by SNSW. An excellent roll up, well done.

My thanks also go to Ann Pilkie, Margaret Cornall and Neil Murray who nominated for the Merger Committee and will meet on the 6th June at Coffs Harbour. I wish them well.

Also to the Competition Committee—Ann Pilkie, Janelle Barnett, Margaret Cornall and myself for their input to the current structure that has been put forward by SNSW. This will appear later in the meeting.

Faye Rowles

President Swimming Mid North Coast.