

# Minutes

## AQUATIC SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING

The Council meeting was held at **Level 1, Life Saving Victoria, 200 The Boulevard, Port Melbourne commencing at 7.00pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

### 1 Welcome

### 2 Preliminaries

#### Attendance

Paul Puhar	Phil Mawkes	Chloe Hardman
Alison Wyatt	Aaron Hamstead	Mark Patterson
Lloyd Thomas	Jo Pfister	Max Collins
Jemma Harrison	Jonathan Myers	Martin O'Brien
Nicole Tregelis	Bruce Sampson	Alex Judd
Malcolm Freake	Iris Cassell	Michael Corrigan

18 Delegates and Proxies were in attendance including 4 via remote log in

#### Executive and Observers

Rachael Rylance (RR)	Whitney Michael	Jonathan Holt
Brian Happ (BH)	Sarah Webster	Simon Wilson
Matt (Jan) Culka (MJC)	Sandra Madeley	Kirstin Charlesworth
Bruce Sampson (BS)	Natalie Hood	Robyn Marshall
Aaron Green (AG)	Tom Cullen	Michael Artz
Leonie Newey (LN)	Dwayne Cananzi	
Tamara Brawn (TB)	Sally Dawson	
Maurice McCutcheon (MM)	David Altamara	
Jo Teagle (JT)	Paul Francis	

14 observers were in attendance

#### Apologies:

Stuart Hamill	Judy Silom	Ben Griffin
Nicholas Tissot	Paul Buchanan	

**LSV Staff:** Kirsty Clark, Alex Winterbauer, Kate Simpson

### 3 Business arising from previous minutes / action items

- IRB Officials training has been completed.

- Junior Panel has reviewed the Composite Teams Policy, and the paper is being presented later in the agenda.

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held in February 2018.

**Moved:** Lloyd Thomas

**Seconder:** Max Collins

Carried

## 4 Agenda items

### 1. Officer Reports

#### Pool Report – Jo Teagle

- 2 Junior carnivals for the season have been run and Junior State Champs will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> June.
- 1 senior carnival so far, which was a short course format including U10s and U11s.
- Successful season so far with new clubs competing
- MSAC training is continuing, please refer to Facebook page for further dates
- Contact Aquatic Sport for other training venues
- Brendon Smith has been selected for Australian Youth Lifesaving Team, to compete in the World Lifesaving Championships in Adelaide
- Thank you to clubs for their support this season

#### Board & Ski Report – Bruce Sampson

- Seeking members for the Board & Ski Panel
- We are seeing an increase in Junior ski's (U17/U19)
- Have been in contact with kayaking clubs and would like to formalize an arrangement for training/competition

#### Surf Boat Report – Matt Culka

- Come & Try Day at Mt Martha, 24 June, looking for new crews and clubs to join, boats will be available
- Hoping to implement come and try days once a month over the next few months
- If anyone is interested in learning to row boats, there are many opportunities to borrow equipment and gear – contact [sport@lsv.com.au](mailto:sport@lsv.com.au) or the VSRL
- ASRL National Surf Boat Selection will be at Lorne SLSC on December 1<sup>st</sup>

#### Director Report – Rachael Rylance

- New SEMS system will be in full use for entries and results at IRB National Championships in July
- Training will be provided to states with the intention to be running in the 2018/19 season for all other carnivals
- A change has been approved by SLSA to remove double dipping from U14 age group, they will only be able to compete in U14 individual events, and no longer able to compete in U15 individual events (can still compete in U15 team events).

#### IRB Report – Rachael Rylance (on behalf of Ben Griffin)

- Overall we had a successful Season
- IRB State Championships was hindered by weather and made into a 1 day carnival format

#### Beach Report – Maurice McCutcheon

- Overall, seeing a decline in Beach competitors from Victoria across Youth and Open age groups at Aussies
- Open Mixed Relay will continue to be a sponsored event
- Two new events will be added this year – 2 x 1km beach relay and mixed beach relays for other age groups.

## **2. Junior Qualifying Events – Presented by Leonie Newey**

- Leonie provided an overview of the Qualifying Events paper (refer to appendix 1)
- Mornington questioned how children will have an opportunity if they are unable to attend an event, Leonie announced that a 'Wild Card' Policy is currently being developed
- Portsea mentioned they are in favour of the team day being unrestricted however expressed concerns on timing for State Champs. Leonie described the panel discussed it is easier to pull those teams who may be causing delays and that Team managers will need to take more responsibility in entering the ability of their participants.  
Portsea further commented that they felt we had time delays on the Sprint track, it was agreed to look further into opportunities of hiring more gates.
- Mentone felt we would still have similar issues that we have faced in previous years. The executive gave a brief update on how SLSA are currently exploring the use of new technology which will significantly help improve timings with marshalling and result recording – we aim to trial this at one carnival this season.  
Mentone further questioned bringing back 'Regional' qualifiers. The executive mentioned that regionals also posed challenges such as differences across competitor ability in regions and cancellations of events.
- Mordialloc mentioned we should restrict each club to nominations their top competitors and not have qualifiers at all. The executive felt this was difficult to ensure fairness and unbiased practice across clubs, as well as the pressure this puts on team managers.

Vote to move that the council endorse the re-structured qualifying process for the 2018/19 season.  
Carried

## **3. Combined Club Junior Teams Policy – Presented by Leonie Newey**

- Leonie Newey provided an overview of the CCJT Policy (refer to appendix 2. Leonie mentioned this is similar to last year's policy with the minor change being that clubs who have an aggregate score of over 50 who aren't able to field a team are able to submit composite participants. Also, those clubs who have a team already aren't able to submit for a composite team.
- Bonbeach asked that if composite teams have been competing together all year that they don't then be split up for State Champs. They expressed that if they identify as a composite team at the beginning of the year they would be able to pre-register them with LSV Sport prior to competing at States, if you are unable to do that, then register for the ballot. The executive was in agreeance with this and will update the policy as required.
- Mt Martha expressed deep concerns with the policy after having issues in previous years where kids are allocated and then not able to compete on the day, leaving other participants out and preferred to allocate teams on the line. Anglesea agreed we seem to be making things complicated for something that is about participation.
- The executive commented that the competition transfer rule still applies for kids who may not be able to form teams at their smaller clubs. This policy has been introduced to help individual members from smaller clubs and feel we shouldn't be over complicating the policy too much with a hybrid model
- Portsea explained the ease of rotating 5 participants across team events throughout the day.
- Chelsea expressed they have one particular age group which pushed their aggregate score and could we look into scores across age groups. The executive responded this would be too difficult to administer and this is something that also occurs across masters and senior competition.

Vote to move that the council endorse the CCJT Policy for the 2018/19 season with the amendment that clubs can pre-register full composite teams during the season and if they are unable to compete as a team at States then they go into a ballot.  
Carried.

#### **4. U14 Competition Restructure – Presented by Bruce Sampson**

- Bruce provided an overview of the proposed U14 Competition Restructure (refer to appendix 3)
- Mordialloc questioned why we would be able to allow U14s their own team races and Bruce mentioned doing that would require extra water safety and officials, however we could look to do this at some carnivals.
- Mentone mentioned they feared we would be spreading the participants ability by moving to Seniors and as we already struggle with quality venues for seniors asked if this would cause more cancellations as we cater to the lowest common denominator. The executive agreed that we need to carefully select the appropriate venue for all competitors.
- Fairhaven & Sandridge felt that this change would force U14s to not compete next season. They also mentioned the additional strain they felt would be added to parents. The executive felt that this would be a difficult transition year, however the burden would become less and less in coming years.
- Mordialloc felt perhaps we need to conduct testing rather than rely on emotional opinions. The executive mentioned that we have often invited U14s to join Senior Carnivals in the past 3 years.
- LSV staff noted that statistically we have approximately 50% of U14 competitors competing as U15s across all senior carnivals.
- Warrnambool feel this would greatly help increase retention rates allowing for U14s to train with the U15s, which happens at many clubs already.
- Fairhaven believed the effect on SRC would cause issues for clubs and U14s to compete at senior carnivals and how they already struggle to allow for water safety. Fairhaven believed it was difficult to implement as a largely holiday club.
- Point Leo mentioned they felt this change would take away volunteers for their water safety, but were supportive of the change.
- Bonbeach remarked that this would take away the stigmatism of competing in senior competition.
- The executive mentioned they felt we have implemented many variations with U14 and U15s over the years and still agree that what we are doing isn't working.
- Mt Martha believes we need to conduct some transition carnivals and ensure we have an inclusive and welcoming first senior carnival for the U14s.

Vote to move that the council endorse the proposed re-structure of U14/15 competition for the 2018/19 Season  
Carried.

#### **5. 2018/2019 Sport Calendar – Presented by Aaron Green**

High level presentation on:

- Issues/ Challenges  
World Championships, Ocean 6, Ocean Thunder, Clubhouse redevelopments, shortened competition 'series', logistical considerations
- Opportunities  
Different formats, new club hosting opportunities, combined hosting opportunities
- Current Status  
Dates selected for the 2018/19 season. Some venues selected and confirmed, however still have issues with clubs nominating to host, especially surf beaches.  
Currently requested clubs nominate to fulfill the rest of the carnival venues.

#### **6 General Business**

- Senior Carnival qualification for State Championship entry- presented by Rachael Rylance  
Proposal that competitors must compete in at least one carnival to be eligible to compete at State Championships. Notion was agreed by the council and the executive will prepare a paper for the upcoming meeting.
- Can laying course update- presented by Kirsty Clark  
3 courses currently be arranged across the regions, dates and locations will be released in the coming weeks
- Bonbeach urged all clubs to supply at least 2 attendees as we have difficulty in the Powercraft area

- Williamstown requested that all course facilitators meet prior and agree on teaching methods
- Sport Administration Review Taskforce update- presented by Kate Simpson  
Currently in Stage 2 and looking through all preliminary findings. Based on all feedback we will prepare a workplan to address the issues. The final report will be sent to the LSV Board on 24 July and then shared externally.
- Portsea asked about High Performance program of which the executive mentioned logistical planning is occurring and we are about to release requests for beach and surf coaches
- Chelsea requested that the U14 point scores be eliminated from the aggregate scores for Combined Teams for the 2018/19 season. This will be actioned by LSV Sport.
- With the change in structure for U14 competition, the executive will review which carnivals U14 Belt & Reel, Marsh Past and U15 2 Person R&R will be held at.

## **7 Meeting Close**

8.55 pm Meeting Close

## Appendix 1

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**SUBJECT:** Qualifying Events for Victorian Junior Lifesaving Championships 2019

**DATE:** 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

**AUTHOR:** Junior Referee, Aquatic Sports Council

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### PURPOSE

To provide an overview of the proposed qualifying process for the 2019 State Championships that is fair to all athletes and reduces the administrative burden on Officials and LSV staff.

### BACKGROUND

- It has become increasingly clear over recent years that the current qualifying process has become an administrative burden, as well as a barrier to participation.
- The two qualifying days bring large numbers of athletes, creating time pressures, inconsistencies across age groups and difficulty in administration processes.
- We have seen differing practises in recording and processing results, often creating situations where qualifiers have needed to be ignored and therefore creating further administrative and timing issues for the state championships.
- The timing pressures for qualifiers has lead athletes to be forced to not compete in additional carnivals if they have already placed previously
- The large numbers of participants across the qualifying events creates huge waiting times for all events and does not allow for maximum participation
- It has been difficult to accurately allow for 'reserves' to each event

Overall, these experiences have become frustrating for athletes, parents, officials and staff, and are not aligning with the overall purpose of the qualifying days; to adequately, fairly and consistently identify the top athletes to participate at the Victorian Junior State Championships.

Subsequently, a Juniors working groups was established to develop a proposal for a possible re-structure of the qualifying process.

### DISCUSSION

The following proposal outlines the re-structure of qualifying events and subsequent process.

#### Qualification Events:

Only the events in the table below require qualification. All other events are open to all competitors.

Event		Automatic Qualifiers (# competitors)	Reserves or Wildcards (# competitors)
Individual	Beach Flags	36	4
Individual	Board Race	60	4
Individual	Iron	28	4
Individual	Tube Race	16	2
Team	Board Rescue	16	2

## **Qualification Process:**

Taking the qualification events into account, the following is an overview of the proposed qualification process:

- We propose to revert to a single qualification model. This model is aligned to previous approaches where a single opportunity was available to qualify at states, albeit at a regional level.
- We propose to use Junior Carnivals 4 & 5 to qualify the above proposed events. The format would be:
  - o Two specified qualifying events for each age group at each carnival
  - o Carnival 6 would act as a contingency to complete qualifications if they do not get competed during Carnivals 4 and 5.

We appreciate this process may experience some challenges as outlined below;

- Only one opportunity to qualify for State Championship events
- Increased necessity to attend two specific carnivals for participants who wish to qualify across different events
- Fewer individual opportunities for some qualifying events
- Potentially increased duration of the 'team day' of State Championships

However, we strongly believe the following advantages allow for a more positive experience at qualifying events and the Junior State Championships;

- By removing qualification for team events (Aqua Cameron and Board Relay), we are aiming to encourage overall participation and a sense of inclusion.
- By halving the number of qualifications for the Board Race, we feel this will significantly reduce the time to run the event at the State Championships. We estimate that we will remove approximately two hours from the individual day and therefore be showcasing our best athletes within that event.
- The time gained from reduced Board Race numbers, allows for the possibility of the Board Rescue to be completed on the Saturday, leaving more time on Sunday for all the non-qualifying team events.
- By reducing the number of qualifiers for the Board Race, we allow all competitors to have a chance to compete in that specific type of event in the relay the next day.
- By offering a single chance to qualify for each event, we feel that this removes ambiguity and uncertainty about the qualification process. This reiterates best practise for participation, ensuring athletes aren't left sitting for hours at a time
- To achieve a dual day qualification requires better technical systems for managing competitors and results. The current system, which is a blend of computerized and manual systems, is prone to errors. This will be continuously updated, however now, we feel this is the best process.
- The one qualifier approach improves the integrity of results and improves the likelihood of accuracy. There's no need to worry about how the two results are merged and managed, reducing LSV administration workload and providing the opportunity to finalise state competitors early and easily.
- This allows for our carnival programs, i.e. the events to be qualified to be tailored to venues suitable to that event, also allowing clubs/parents to plan their attendance in advance.
- Allowing the team events to be non-qualifying, ensures we can use the Combined Clubs Junior Teams Policy for those eligible at the Junior State Championships

## **NEXT STEPS**

There may legitimate reasons why people cannot come to a qualifying carnival. We propose to leave wildcard openings for each qualified event. Development of the wildcard policy is in progress.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council endorse the re-structured qualifying process for the 2018/19 season

## Appendix 2

### 2018/19 LSV Combined Club Junior Teams (CCJT) Policy

#### Aim:

To encourage the developing clubs who are unable to field teams in the team events to become more involved in Surf Sports.

#### Policy:

1. Competitors from clubs that had an aggregate score of 50 or more from the 2018 State Championships are ineligible to create combined teams at the 2019 Victorian Junior Lifesaving Championships.
2. Competitors from all other clubs that are unable to field at least one team in an age group will be able to combine with other competitors from clubs in the same position.
3. It is applicable at the 2019 Victorian Junior Lifesaving Championships only.
4. Each competitor will represent their own club within their combined team.
5. Competitors will compete in their own club competition cap within the combined team.
6. Points will be distributed accordingly. For example, in a 4 member team, if each member is from a different club, they will each receive 25% of the point's allocation.
7. LSV will randomly ballot competitors into teams for each event. Once a composite teams has been entered, those competitors will be represented in that team and no swapping between competitors will be permitted. A reserve list will also be formed to account for individuals that may withdraw from the composite team in the lead up to or on the day of the Championships.
8. Where there is a reserve list, the Chief Referee and/or Junior Referee or their representative may amend the approved composite team on the day of the Championships to address competitor withdrawals.
9. The priority will always be to form a club team rather than a combined club team. A club can therefore only provide members to a composite team if they are unable to form a team of their own from the competitors registered for that event on the day.
10. Failure to comply will result in loss of points and competitors/team being ineligible to receive medals.
11. Combined teams are eligible to win medals.

#### Notes:

- The Carnival Referee's discretion can be employed if it is deemed that the CCJT is not within the intention of this policy.
- This policy will be reviewed at the conclusion of the 2018/19 season.

#### Procedure:

Combined club teams will be based on the total of the previous year's aggregate point score from the State Championships event. Those scoring less than 50 points will be deemed eligible to create combined teams at the 2019 Victorian Junior Championships. Those scoring greater than 50 points cannot combine, nor can they have any of their members participate in a combine team with clubs that are eligible to combine teams.

The following clubs will be unable to create CCT's for the 2019 Victorian Junior Lifesaving Championships:

1. Ocean Grove SLSC
2. Mentone LSC
3. Mornington LSC
4. Mordialloc LSC
5. Fairhaven SLSC
6. Portsea SLSC
7. Williamstown S&LSC
8. Point Leo SLSC
9. Warrnambool SLSC
10. Half Moon Bay SLSC
11. Jan Juc SLSC

12. Torquay SLSC
13. Hampton LSC
14. Anglesea SLSC
15. Lorne SLSC
16. Chelsea Longbeach SLSC

**Combined teams can be formed in two ways –**

1. Clubs can pre-register a combined team of their choosing with LSV by submitting the competitor's names, the clubs involved, the events and the relevant age group to sports@lsv.com.au
2. Clubs can send a list of competitors and the events that they wish to be considered for composite teams to sports@lsv.com.au. A random ballot will then be drawn to form the composite team and the clubs will be notified.

**In both instances, the information should be received by close of entries to the Victorian Junior State Championships.**

The events to select include:

- Beach Relay
- Wade Relay
- Board Relay
- Surf Teams
- Aqua Cameron Relay

Please be aware that Board Rescue as a qualifying event is not included.

A reminder that this only applies to the Victorian Junior Lifesaving Championships, Combined teams at the remaining junior carnivals can still be made that include members from any club.

## Appendix 3

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**SUBJECT:** Possible restructure of U14/U15 competition for the 2018-19 season

**DATE:** 31 May 2018

**AUTHOR:** Board & Ski Representative Aquatic Sports Executive

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### **PURPOSE**

To provide an overview of a proposed change to the structure of U14 and U15 competition for the upcoming season for the consideration of delegates.

### **BACKGROUND**

1. In recent years, it has become clear that larger Junior carnivals (eg Cosy Corner) are difficult to fit in one day and States is difficult to fit into two. Reasons for this are many but certainly one issue is the sheer number of competitors, particularly in the U11 and U12 areas. Some possible ways to alleviate this time stress would be to provide either a split water area (male/female) for one or both of these age groups, a dedicated board rescue area (permanently set up for the entire carnival), a spare water area, and/or a spare sprint track. At the venues currently used and with the equipment LSV currently holds all of these are difficult to achieve.
2. U14 competitors often compete as U15s at senior carnivals, as well as U14 at junior carnivals. At senior carnivals age groups work in two year intervals (U15 = U14 and U15, U17 = U16 and U17, U19 = U18 and U19), so this is normal at senior carnival, but does disadvantage U14s who are new to mals and/or are physically smaller than U15s.
3. For many, being a senior and a junior causes extra stress – some clubs like to have all U14s at senior carnivals, some certainly encourage it and therefore U14s and their families are faced with having to decide whether to prioritise junior competition or senior competition or to try to do it all. In some cases, the team of which an U14 has been a part for a number of years as a junior loses them to senior competition; in other cases, the U15s in a senior team feel let down when U14s don't attend; in many cases parents and competitors face a 14-carnival season by trying to do it all.
4. Most clubs have limited resources for coaching competitors in the skills required for mals, so that, in most cases where there is a senior team, the U14s train with the seniors in some manner (as a transition squad, or simply as part of senior training). In other cases, senior coaches attend junior sessions to coach u14s, doubling their coaching load. In many cases, U14s are coached by Junior parent coaches with limited experience.
5. Senior carnivals numbers are relatively low (in comparison to junior carnivals) and U15 events by themselves rarely take up an entire day. Indeed, U15 events often commence after the start of U17-Open competition and conclude before U17-Open events finish. The result of this is that U15s (and their parents) often feel isolated and not part of a team – arriving after and leaving before their older team mates.
6. At the Australian titles for the last 5 years U14 and U15 competitors have competed as "Youth". U14s and U15s compete in individual races in their own (single year) age groups, but compete in teams only as U15. This formula has been very successful and well supported across all Australian clubs.
7. At the recent SLSA National Sport Workshop a decision was taken to make a change to the "double dipping" rules in the Surf Sports Manual (Section 2.3.4 and 2.3.6) so that proficient U13 and U14 competitors cannot compete in U15 individual but must compete, individually, only in their own. These competitors will be able to compete in U15 team events – this reflects the Aussies Youth format.

## **DISCUSSION**

The following proposal outlines a re-structure of U14 and U15 events which addresses the issues noted above.

### **Proposal**

1. That U14s are removed from Junior Competition and attend only senior carnivals.
2. That all senior carnivals run an U14/U15 program mirroring the Aussies Youth formula so that individual events run separately as U14 and U15 and that all team events run as U15 only.
3. If possible that U14 and U15 beach events before or after water events for that program (tide dependent) to allow that age group to compete on the beach; this is obviously time dependent and may not be possible.
4. That Victorian Senior Championships are conducted in the same manner.

### **Advantages**

1. At junior carnivals, this frees up beach space and one water area, which would alleviate stress on time and space.
2. There is no added water safety load in this proposal – water safety for an U14 area at a junior carnival would simply now be providing that at a senior carnival. In fact, this may be seen as being safer for U15s as well.
3. U14 competitors and parents do not need to choose between senior and junior competition and need not have a year with a possible 14 carnivals.
4. Competition would reflect the new national “double dipping” rules.
5. Club coaches can conduct U14 training at senior sessions or provide separate training for U14s as a transition group, without removing them from the junior team.
6. U14s who qualify for SRC during the season would be able to provide water safety at junior carnivals and for their club junior training sessions (and potentially be trained as coaches for juniors)
7. U15 teams can rely on U14 numbers at senior carnivals
8. U14s have a less stressed transition to senior teams but retain identity as U14s for individual competition to assist in that transition.
9. There is a greater pool of parents at senior carnivals – possibly providing more officials/club support.
10. U14s will begin to get to know senior competitors, who will all be patrollers, at their club and be more likely to transition to doing an award and patrolling.

### **Disadvantages**

1. As most U14s are not SRC qualified, water safety would need to be provided in the U14/15 area as per junior ratios at senior carnivals (see point 2 above)
2. More consideration as to appropriate senior carnival venues will need to be given for U14/U15 events.
3. Clubs will need to develop a more robust transition process from junior to senior (actually this is an advantage – all clubs should be doing this anyway; this just forces the issue)
4. Senior carnivals programs will need to be carefully planned to fit U14/15 events
5. Possible need for competitors to make a choice between beach or water events a year earlier than currently.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council endorse the proposed re-structure of U14/15 competition for the 2018-19 season.