

*Summer
Edition*

LIWA
LEISURE INSTITUTE OF WA
AQUATICS

Kellerberrin Aquatic Centre

DECEMBER 2023

AQUATIC RECREATION WA

Official e-Newsletter of LIWA Aquatics

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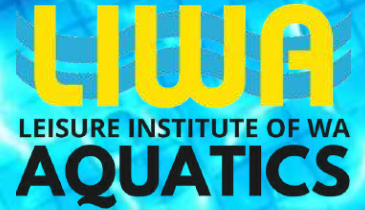
ROYAL LIFE SAVING
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



AQUATIC RECREATION WA



Our Purpose

To support the aquatic recreation industry.

Our Vision

To advocate for the betterment of the aquatic recreation industry and to promote more and diverse innovative opportunities for professional development.

LIWA Aquatics Membership:

If you are working in the Aquatic Recreation Industry in Western Australia, you must be accredited by LIWA Aquatics to ensure your compliance to the Western Australian Health Department Code of Practice.

Membership Benefits include:

- Access to Conference & Seminars
- Professional Development Sessions
- Industry Accreditation
- Aquatic Recreation WA eNewsletter
- Member only access areas on Website
- Industry Representation & Advocacy

Further benefits can be found at the LIWA Aquatics Website www.liwaaquatics.org.au

LIWA Aquatics would like to thank the following industry partners/supporters

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Royal Life Saving Society WA
Water Corporation

LIWA Aquatics is always on the look out for news and content, If you have some interesting news about yourself, your facility or the aquatic recreation industry please email us at info@liwaaquatics.org.au

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Western Australia (Aquatics) Inc**

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From the President

Greetings to all across the WA Aquatic Recreation Industry.

What a start to summer with Western Australia seeing heatwaves across the state to end Spring. A sign of what will be a hot summer for all West Australians.

LIWA Aquatics AGM was held on Thursday 26th October. This year both John Simmonds and Dale Morrissy were recognised as Life Members to LIWA Aquatics after both having many years of service to the industry. Congratulations John and Dale on your recognition to supporting industry for many years and thank you.

Following the AGM in the November board meeting, Melissa Warren was appointed to the role of Vice President for the next 3 years. Mel who has been an active board member since 2020 provides great insight to the industry with her experience across a number of facilities and also her regional perspective has been much appreciated. Mel is one of three regional board members.

I was elected to the role of President for another term, however with succession planning underway. I have advised board that this will be my last year in the role. This has been an amazing privilege to be supporting our members across the state and see that a change in the leadership will be important to continue driving new ideas.

Thank you to all of the board who have had a collaborative and often hands on support roles to assist Steve Good with major events. To SJ, Mel, Dan, Duncan, Alex, Peter and Billy thank you for your volunteered hours to ensure we achieve the board objectives.

I would like to recognise Sarahjayne Westberg who finished up after three years as the Vice President. Thank you SJ, for your commitment to the WA Aquatic Industry for the last 10 years. We wish you and Adam all the best as you start your family. SJ will continue on the board in 2024.



From the President

LIWA Aquatics finished the 2022/2023 financial year in a sound position. Operational surplus for the year was nearly \$30,000 which came about with great attendances in the State Conference and through record registrations of delegates and traders. All of this continuing you show that LIWA Aquatics is financially sustainable.

Over the next 12 months the key objectives through the Executive Officer Steve Good, for state and regional conferences, implementation of events and awards, and continued engagement with our members, the industry key stakeholders and partners.

With Steve as the leader driving the objectives for LIWA Aquatics, congratulations on the successes in 2023. The State Conference was by far Australia's largest and with a bit of bias, most exciting 2-day conference. Amazing keynote speakers, with a second year including content in the swim school stream resulted in record delegates and traders. Steve in 2023 was assisted in the office and at events by Caitlin, who we will miss while on maternity leave next year. We wish you all the best Caitlin and look forward to seeing you back for the August conference.

As Board, we will continue to ensure that our Governance, Risk Management and the development of a plan for Strategic Marketing and Sponsorship are priorities in 2024. We also look forward to the implementation of a mentoring program to support emerging pool operators and leaders in the aquatic industry.

To all our members, sponsors and partners I wish you all a safe and happy festive season. Be rescue ready, resilient and provide your teams with support through what will be a hot summer.

Sincerely,

Nick Wilkinson

Nick Wilkinson
President LIWA Aquatics

Meet the Board



Nick Wilkinson
President



Steve Good
Executive Officer



Melissa Warren
Vice President
(Merredin)



Billy Vibart
Secretary
(Esperance)



Duncan Hutton
Treasurer



Alex Baxter
Board Member
(Leonora)



Peter Leaversuch
Board Member



Dan Barber
Board Member



SJ Westberg
Board Member

We would like to thank the board for their continued service, commitment and passion to the aquatic recreation industry.

2023/24



Regional WA Representatives

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST **LIFE MEMBERS**



JOHN (SIMMO)
SIMMONDS



DALE
MORRISSY

We would like to congratulate John and Dale in becoming LIWA Aquatics Life Members at our recent AGM in October for their commitment, passion, service and support to both LIWA Aquatics and the Aquatic Industry over many years.

Well Deserved

Shaping a global strategy. Mobilising for local action.



World Conference on Drowning Prevention



Co-hosted by



ROYAL LIFE SAVING
AUSTRALIA



The International Life Saving Federation's World Conference on Drowning Prevention will be held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Western Australia from 4-7 December 2023.

This globally significant event will focus world attention on drowning prevention. WCDP 2023 will gather experts in drowning prevention, lifesaving and water safety with the goal of Shaping Global Strategy and Mobilising for Action.

<https://wcdp2023.com/>

Are you compliant?



Accreditation is a requirement under the Code of Practice and is essential to ensure this is up to date to remain compliant to operate Group 1 Public Swimming Pools in WA.

So what is Accreditation?

Accreditation is being officially recognized or certified to work in the aquatic industry, the aquatic technical operator's position is often called an aquatic supervisor, a duty or pool manager, basically, it is someone who manages the plant room and pool water quality of an aquatic facility as well as other supervisory or management roles.

Accreditation was first implemented in 2008 with the release of the Department of Health Code of Practice for the Design, Construction, Operation, Management & Maintenance of Aquatic Facilities.

This was certainly a turning point, a positive step for the aquatic industry in WA as it provided legislative requirements to ensure that the people operating our facilities had to be formally trained to industry standards. It ensured that the operators had to keep their skills and knowledge up to date with continuous Professional Development.

So what is required to become Accredited?

Currently, the requirements to obtain accreditation, are that you must have completed the Aquatic Technical Operator (ATO) Skillset, in WA this is the Pool Operations Course run by Royal Life Saving.

The Pool Operations Course is a 2-3 day face-to-face training course as well as completing both online and workplace assessments.

This course provides operators with an entry-level qualification that focuses on

- Testing pool water quality & Pool Water Maintenance Procedures
- Maintain aquatic facility plant and equipment and maintenance procedures
- And Identify risk and apply risk management processes

In WA we have a large percentage of facilities that use Chlorine Gas. If you want to operate a facility that has Chlorine Gas you will need to complete some additional training. Training will need to cover the safe use and monitoring of liquefied chlorine gas and a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus course, these are usually additional courses linked to the Pool Operations Course or by third party companies delivery this type of training. (The training must meet the minimum training requirements listed in the Australian Standards AS 2927:2021)

The ATO skill set has been adopted nationally as the baseline qualification to operate and manage an aquatic facility, So if you already have the ATO Skillset for example from another State in Australia, then the Chlorine Gas and SCBA course might be the only additional training you require to gain accreditation.

Changes are currently being reviewed in the Code as the aquatic technical operator skill set will now be the base level qualification for all commercial aquatic facilities in WA.

So not only will this be a requirement for Group 1 Public Swimming pools but also Group 2 School Pools, Learn to Swim Facilities, hydrotherapy pools, Group 3 pools such as Hotels, Motels, Caravan Parks and even Group 4 facilities such as a B&B with a pool.

Whilst Accreditation is currently required for commercial facilities (Group 1 - Public Swimming Pools) , it is NOT a requirement for Group 2 - 4 Pools or residential non-commercial swimming pools (just like your home pool).

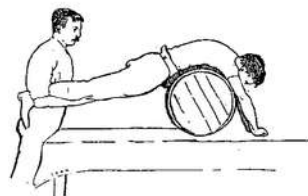
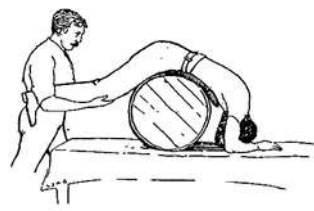
So now that you have achieved Accreditation - How do you Maintain it?

It is really important to ensure that once an operator has been trained in the skills and knowledge to operate a facility, continuous professional development is being done to ensure you are keeping your knowledge and skills up-to-date, maintaining a network and collaborating with industry.

Industry qualifications such as Pool Lifeguard, Resuscitation and First Aid all require people to renew these qualifications at various timeframes, this is because your knowledge and skill level diminish over time, and training delivery, regulations and standards also change from time to time.

Could you imagine in this day and age if we didn't update our skills and knowledge we may still be rolling a person over a barrel or blowing smoke up their butts to try and revive a drowning person. **Yes this did happen!**

This is the same for operators. – *well some patrons still might be trying to blow smoke up the pool manager's bottom, but this is a separate conversation*



The "barrel" method.
Top: Expiratory phase.
Left: Commencement
of inspiratory phase.
Reproduced from
the Lancet, 1909.

FIGURE 1-16 An attempt at resuscitating an apparently drowned person using the modified Dutch method. One resuscitator is assisting respiration by massaging the chest. The fumigator is instilling tobacco smoke through the rectum. (From Morch, 1985, with permission.)



Standards, training requirements, knowledge and skills all change over time and maintaining regular Professional Development will ensure operators are kept up to speed and build on their current skills and knowledge. When starting out in the industry accreditation is issued for 1 year. (the learning phase). As the ATO Skillset is an entry-level qualification, it should not be expected that our operators will have the full range of skills and knowledge within the industry, they are going to be an operator that still requires nurturing and guidance.

Real-life learning will happen On the Job. Also having a good robust induction process and ongoing mentoring and support is often the best way to develop an operator in the workplace. It is important for employers to understand that by doing an entry-level qualification, learning does not stop there, the operator is not going to know everything nor should they be expected to.

The employer and industry support is vital to allow the operator to develop and grow into the role.

After the first year, a reminder will be sent to renew accreditation. This is often NOT linked with LIWA membership fees, so updating and paying for membership does not renew your accreditation.

Accreditation is Free for LIWA members, so no additional payments are required to renew your application.

All new and renewing applications for accreditation need to be completed online with all the relevant documentation attached to the application. LIWA Aquatics is issuing accreditation on behalf of the Dept of Health, you must be able to provide evidence of completing PD, This includes any additional third-party PDs you have completed such as a certificate of completion or qualification, without this we do not have the evidence to support your application.

So this leads us into, **What sort of PD is best or valid?**

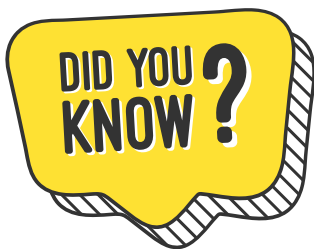
We highly recommend that attending conferences and seminars is your best form of PD as it covers off on so many different aspects of the industry. The importance of PD though is to ensure it is relevant and valid for accreditation. Programs and PD such as Bronze Medallion and Swim Teacher PD are not deemed valid for an Aquatic Technical Operator. These are usually associated with program delivery and not the technical operational aspects of running a pool.

Other areas that are being reviewed but are still currently required to gain and maintain accreditation, is a Current Pool Lifeguard and Provide First Aid qualifications. These cover the aspects of emergency response for operators and are vital in facilities especially Single Operators, as these operators are the Pool Manager, the Lifeguard and the First Aid person at the pool. PLG and First Aid are considered mandatory training as are Chlorine Gas and SCBA (only if working in a facility with Chlorine Gas) and are not considered additional PD's as required.

LIWA is currently working with industry partners such as RLSS to work out what else can be done especially in the online environment of PD and continuing learning as well as trying to link in other PD to conferences and seminars to minimise travel and days away from work.

We are also continuing discussions to ensure documents such as the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations (GSPO) and The Department of Health Code of Practice are up to date to ensure the operators have the correct information they need to remain compliant and maintain a highly professional and competent workforce.

If any of this information has raised questions, please get in touch with us via our email at accreditation@liwaaquatics.org.au or visit the LIWA Aquatics Website for more information.



that you can download your accreditation certificate from your LIWA Account profile, Log in to check it out now.
www.liwaaquatics.org.au

If it has expired, you will need to re-apply here
www.liwaaquatics.org.au/accreditation

This article can also be listened to via “**On Pool Deck**” Podcast by LIWA Aquatics





ON POOL DECK

with

LIWA
LEISURE INSTITUTE OF WA
AQUATICS

LIWA Aquatics will be hosting a new Industry Podcast **"On Pool Deck"**
We will discuss everything in and around the aquatic recreation industry.
Speaking with members, industry professionals and organisations across all
things aquatic.



We hope that you can join us
"On Pool Deck"



and other directories



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

Sport and Recreation Events Funding Program

Next Funding Opportunity (Opening 29 January 2024)

Who can apply

- Active recreation organisations
- Community organisations
- National sport league clubs
- National sporting organisations
- Regional organisations
- Regional sporting associations
- Sport or active recreation clubs
- State sporting associations

Amount available

- Event project: Up to \$15,000
- Country Sport Enrichment Scheme: Up to \$30,000
- Event Hosting: Up to \$50,000

More Information

Brad Denham
Senior Project Officer,
Sport Business Engagement

Department of Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries

Telephone 61 8 9492 9769

Email sport.business@dlgsc.wa.gov.au

Recent successful grants

Organisation	Project	Description	Funding
Masters Swimming WA Inc	Pride Swim Carnival	Delivered in partnership with Masters Swimming WA LGBTQIA+ Affiliated Club, the Pride Swim Carnival will promote Pride inclusion with participation open to all members of the community. The event will be held in the morning of the Perth Pride Parade, attracting greater participation and an opportunity for sport to advocate for inclusion and diversity.	5,500
Swimming Mermaids Inc	Swim The Margaret River Wooditjup Bilya	The inaugural Swim the Margaret River is a mass participation event for more than 200 people that will encourage and promote people to swim the actual river that the town of Margaret River is named after. This is the first time an open water swimming event in the river has been proposed for the region.	26,100
Western Australian Diving Association Inc	2023 World Aquatics Continental Championships: Oceania Inc 2024 World Championships Team Qualification	The World Aquatics (formerly FINA) Championships, is a recognised Paris 2024 Olympic Diving qualifying competition for the Oceania nations. The World Aquatics Continental Championships is an integral pathway competition in the lead up to Paris 2024 Olympics, with the championships providing 4 individual National Olympic Committee (NOC) quota places.	50,000



<https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au>

Sport and Recreation Events Funding Program

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries' (DLGSC) vision is to make Western Australia a world-class arts, cultural, sport and...

UPCOMING EVENTS 2024



**4-7
DEC
2023**

**WORLD CONFERENCE ON
DROWNING PREVENTION**
PERTH CONVENTION CENTRE



POOL LIFEGUARD CHALLENGE
FREMANTLE LEISURE CENTRE

**FEB
23**



**MAY
17**

NORTH WEST SEMINAR
PORT HEDLAND

WA ARI AWARDS
VENUE AND DATE TBC

2024



**AUG
15-16**

**WA AQUATIC
RECREATION CONFERENCE**
PERTH CONVENTION CENTRE

WA REGIONAL SEMINARS
VENUES AND DATES TBC

OCT



Events can be viewed at
<https://www.liwaaquatics.org.au/events/>

2023/24



TRADE MEMBERS

Atlantis Liquid Dynamics
Afex Technology
AIS Water
Aquatic Services WA
AUSTSWIM
BEC / Geoff Ninnies Fong & Partners
Chadson Engineering
Chemtrol Australia
Commercial Aquatics Australia
Delta T Technologies
Elite Pool Covers
Fluidra
Heat Exchangers WA
Heliocol
Hydrilla Pty Ltd
International Quadratics & Pierce Pool Supplies
Jonas Leisure
Kestral Computing
LaMotte Pacific (Waterlink Spintouch)
Metra Australia
Paragon Construction Solutions
Perfect Gym Solutions

Pool Assist
Pool Robotics Perth
Poolshop Online
Priority 1 Fire & Safety
ProMinent Fluid Controls
Royal Life Saving Society WA
Shenton Enterprises
Sportsworlds of WA (Zoggs)
Technogym Australia
Telford Industries / Sigma Chemicals
Total Chlorine Solutions
Vorgee
Waterlink Equipment
WestWater Enterprises
Xplor Recreation

***Thank you to our Trade Suppliers
and Business Members***

***Please ensure you support the
businesses that support our industry***