

# AQUATIC

RECREATION WA



December 2022

## Summer Edition



**Featuring the Albany and Kulin Regional Seminars 2022**



Proudly supported by



# 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:

- Reduced fees at 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](http://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](mailto:info@liwaaquatics.org.au)*



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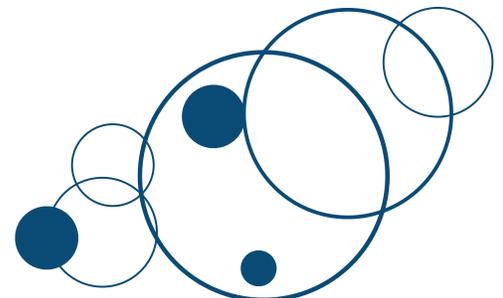
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# Albany Regional Seminar 2022

With a three year absence of visiting the southern regions of WA due to COVID, it was great to get back to meeting face to face again with our industries southern regional members. So it was on the road to Albany. The event was held at a new venue of the Retrovision Stadium located just a couple of minutes from the Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre.

City of Albany Mayor Dennis Wellington welcoming members to Albany and officially opening the Seminar. This was followed by CEO of Royal Life Saving WA Peter Leaversuch come down to provide a sneak peak of the latest Bigger, Better, Safer Report due to be released later in October. Peter was able to provide invaluable information about the great southern regions as to how the region is doing statistically and the great work these facilities and the staff have done.

Tom Scott-Jones who now runs the Watch Around Program for RLSSWA, provided the attendees an opportunity to discuss the WAW program from a regional perspective, what works, what doesn't so that the program can be reviewed and improved to ensure the programs continued success.



The attendees then had an opportunity for a site visit to the newly renovated Albany Leisure and Aquatics Centre. With many changes that have happened over recent years there was a lot to look at. The group was split into two with one group touring the dry side facilities such as upgraded Gym to the impressive 2 multi-functional sports halls. Group 2 were taken on a tour of the aquatic facility and plantroom operations then both groups swapped so that they had tour of the entire facility.

After lunch, was a presentation from special guest RJ Houston from Royal Life Saving Australia. RJ is the National Manager of Aquatics for RLSSA and the chair for the National Aquatics Industry Committee.

RJ provided an up-to-date overview of the aquatics industry, and insights to how regional pool managers and aquatic facilities fit into this system and the importance of what you do for the communities. RJ provided some information from the recent Social Value report and what social impacts has on patrons who visit our facilities.

It was a very successful seminar. Thank you to John and Chris from the Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre for all of there help and assistance in hosting the event.



# Kulin Regional Seminar 2022

It had been 10 years since LIWA Aquatics last visited Kulin in 2012 for the re-opening of the refurbished Aquatic centre. Kulin Aquatic Centre is renowned for the biggest waterslide in regional WA (182 metres long and 18 metres high) which attracts many surrounding locals and tourists of WA during the summer months.

The 26th Annual Regional Seminar was held on 27th October with 30 registered delegates from around the regions attending for a day of networking and collaboration.

The day started with introductions and a review of the State of the Industry report by LIWA Aquatics President Nick Wilkinson.



LIWA Aquatics board member Billy Vibart traveled from Esperance to present and facilitate an open forum session around Staffing, Training, and Mentoring in Regional Areas. Mark Gillbard who is the Kulin Aquatic Manager took the group on a facility tour to highlight the current works being done on the Kulin pool and waterslide.

We were fortunate to have Erin Vis and Tammy Wynne from Water Corporation join us at the seminar and provided delegates with Waterwise Program updates and insights to the benefits of being a Waterwise aquatic centre. before finishing up in the afternoon we were privileged to hand out a 10-year industry service award to Shaun Franich from Kondinin Aquatic Centre.

The day finished with further networking and open floor discussions around our industry moving forward, LIWA Aquatics current involvement for advocacy and development in future programs and events. It is always great to get out to the regions to meet with our members face to face to "Maintain and support the Network" throughout WA.



# Annual General Meeting

On the 10th of November we held the LIWA Aquatics Annual General Meeting at Royal Life Saving Society WA. It was a great evening, sharing the achievements of the past 12 months. To read over the achievements for the 2021/22 year, you can view the LIWA Aquatics Annual Report [HERE](#).

It was at the AGM that we welcomed our three new elected Board members, Alex Baxter, Dan Barber and Duncan Hutton. Whilst we are excited to have the three new board members join us, we are sad to see three leaving. Wendy Cole, Grace Darby and Ryan Scally, it has been wonderful to have your help over the years and LIWA Aquatics would not be where it is today without your assistance, passion and drive over the years. Thank you.

We look forward to the next 12 months and what we can all achieve together.



*Thank You*

## Upcoming Pool Ops Courses

Below are the dates and availability of the upcoming Pool Operator Courses with Royal Life Saving Society WA.

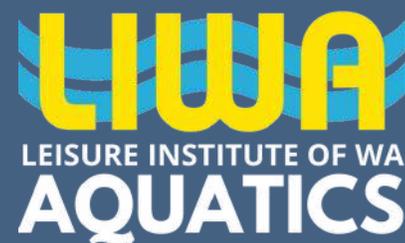
Dec 7 – 9	Spaces Limited
Dec 21 – 23	Course Full
Jan 16 – 18	Spaces Limited
Feb 27 – Mar 1	Spaces Available
Mar 7 – 9	Spaces Available
Mar 22 – 24	Spaces Available



To book into one of these courses please visit:

<https://royallifesavingwa.com.au/training/pool-operations-group-1/c-25/p-184>

# OUR NEW BOARD



## LIWA Aquatics Board



**Nick Wilkinson**  
President



**SJ Westberg**  
Vice President



**Billy Vibart**  
Secretary



**Duncan Hutton**  
Treasurer



**Peter Leaversuch**  
Board Member



**Melissa Warren**  
Board Member



**Alex Baxter**  
Board Member



**Dan Barber**  
Board Member

## LIWA Aquatics Staff



**Steve Good**  
Executive Officer

**Caitlin Oxlade**  
LIWA Admin Officer

# Membership vs. Accreditation

LIWA Aquatics is often asked questions about the aquatic industry, but one of the most common questions or misunderstandings is about Membership and Accreditation.

A LIWA membership (Individual Membership) is a fee that is paid either annually or can be paid for a 3-year period. By being a member of LIWA Aquatics is that you get discounted rates at LIWA events such as Conferences and Seminars. e-News, Aquatic Recreation Journal, industry representation by LIWA Aquatics as the Peak Body, and **FREE processing of your Accreditation Renewal.**

Accreditation is a requirement of the Health Department of WA Code of Practice that all Aquatic Technical Operators (Duty Managers/Supervisors/Aquatic Managers) of Group 1 pools **MUST** hold accreditation which is issued by LIWA Aquatics. Accreditation is a certification that is given to people who have completed the criteria of accreditation. Accreditation is issued for a 3-year period. As part of being a LIWA Member you can renew your accreditation for **FREE.**

You need to complete 2 PD sessions in a 3-year period. You will need to provide certificate evidence for your PD if it has been done with a third party (examples could be a SCBA, Fire Warden Course or Chemical Handling etc). Pool Lifeguard and First Aid are **NOT** considered PD as they are mandatory requirements. PD has to relate to your role as an **Aquatic Technical Operator.**

One of the biggest misconceptions about accreditation is that members think that their accreditation is **automatically** renewed if they attend LIWA conferences and seminars. This is **NOT True.** If you are unsure if your membership has expired or if your accreditation is due for renewal please log into your account here [www.liwaaquatics.org.au/login](http://www.liwaaquatics.org.au/login)

## Watch Around Water

The Watch Around Water program has been critical for ensuring that public swimming pools in WA remain safe for the community. The program provides a number of benefits including

- Contributing to overall safety of the centre
  - Supports staff to promote supervision messages
  - Reducing drowning and aquatic injuries
  - Provides a clear and consistent message about safety to the community and enforces that it is everyone's responsibility to promote Watch Around Water, from reception staff to lifeguards and swim school staff.
- There are a number of resources available for pools to help promote the Watch Around Water message to the community.

For more information or to order resources, download the resource order form and return to [watcharoundwater@royallifesavingwa.com.au](mailto:watcharoundwater@royallifesavingwa.com.au)



**YOUR CHILD YOUR FOCUS**  
PARENTS SUPERVISE - LIFEGUARDS SAVE LIVES.

# WA ARI Awards - Sole Operator of the Year Award

As you know, back in June, LIWA Aquatics held the inaugural WA Aquatic Recreation Industry Awards.

At the time of the awards event, the winner of the Sole Operator of the Year Award, Steve Girschik was away, enjoying his break in Indonesia. Recently, we were able to get this award up to him in Warburton.



This award recognises a commitment to excellence including high level customer service, knowledge and skills relating to manager's responsibilities, commitment to safety, developments in facility operations and community engagement as a single operator.

Congratulations to Steve.



## Are you a seasonal pool?

As part of your opening duties, don't forget to renew your subscription to the Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations (GSPO). Subscriptions are on a per pool annual basis and provide access to all aspects of safe pool design and operations.

Subscriptions can be made here: <https://buff.ly/3a8lQj2>

## Keep us in the loop.

Here at LIWA Aquatics we love to hear what's going on at your local pool. If you have some news that you want us to share with the LIWA community, let us know. Email us at [info@liwaaquatics.org.au](mailto:info@liwaaquatics.org.au)

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