

MINUTES
AIF SWIMMING ASSOCIATION – GENERAL MEETING
Monday, 20 July 2026, 7.00pm via Zoom

PRESENT: Peter Bain (Wentworthville), Helen Little (Southport), Russ Crane, AO (Patron), Sean Henly (Wentworthville), Anita Hawtin (Bondi Diggers & Bondi Junction Waverley), Bob Kelsall (Manly Diggers), Michael McMahon (Coogee Randwick), Lizzy Lodge (Kurranulla)

APOLOGIES: Gavin Batcheler (Bondi Diggers & Bondi Junction Waverley), Joanne Falla (Coogee Randwick),

Helen Little welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES AND ACTIONS ARISING

The minutes of the general meeting held on 20 April 2026 were accepted as correct.

CORRESPONDENCE

Out:

- Nil.

In:

- 21/4/2026 - John Stanford (Southport), proposing an amendment to Rule 3, Definition of Service Swimmer/s.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was noted that as at 20 July 2026, the current bank balance is \$22,153.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Helen Little advised that she would liaise with Steve Donnelly regarding arrangements for the 2027 Carnival to being held in Grafton.
- Helen Little proposed swapping the order of the Tobruk Shield and Ray Weekes events to provide the Carnival Director with more time between events.
Action: A motion to implement the change of event order will be circulated for consideration and voting at the next AGM.
- The 25-metre heats were noted as being difficult to judge. It was agreed to trial staggering heats at the next carnival with a mix of faster and slower swimmers.
- Subject to suitable technology being available at Grafton, a video honouring past service personnel will be shown during the 2027 presentation function.
- Helen proposed replacing championship event trophies with medals presented in Perspex display cases for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place recipients. It was noted that the cost would be comparable to the current trophies.

MAJOR TROPHY PROJECT

To ensure the history of the AIF Swimming Association and its major trophies is preserved, the meeting discussed the need to obtain information from clubs holding major trophies, including measurements, condition, photographs and engraving details. Sean Henly will display this information as a feature under the history tab on the AIF Swimming Association website. This information will also assist in determining options for a permanent display.

Action:

Anita Hawtin will write to clubs who hold major trophies requesting photographs, engraving details, measurements, and a brief condition report.

SERVICE SWIMMER/S DEFINITION

Detailed discussion was held regarding the proposed amendment to the definition of *Service Swimmer(s)* under Carnival Rule 3 to ensure it continues to reflect service swimmers who have served or are serving in the Australian Defence Force or its predecessor. It was agreed that the proposed amendment should also include a process to consider applications from Defence Force personnel who have served outside Australia.

The AIF Swimming Association Constitution will also be amended to include a minimum eligibility requirement of six months' service for service swimmers.

Action:

A draft motion will be prepared and circulated for consideration and voting at the next AGM to amend Carnival Rule 3 and the AIF Swimming Association Constitution.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Anita Hawtin proposed the creation of a dedicated email address for correspondence directed to the Secretary: aifswimmingassociation@gmail.com.

Action:

Clubs will be formally advised of the new email address at the next AGM.

Clubs will be requested to confirm the contact information for their Club so that the Association's distribution list remains current.

Helen Little thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

Meeting closed: 7.55pm

Next Annual General Meeting: Monday, 7 September 2026, 7pm (via Zoom)