

Drummoyne Water Polo Club

Annual Report 2016/17



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The Devils' Daniel Lister (left) and Matt Deloraine played in the Princess Chulabhorn Water Polo Cup in Thailand in 2016. Daniel and Matt were selected to play in the Australian Men's Representative team during the Australian Country Championships held in 2016.

About DWPC

Drummoyne Water Polo Club Inc was formed in 1904 as one of the foundation water polo clubs in Sydney. From humble beginnings, it now has more than 425 members, making Drummoyne Water Polo Club one of the biggest in Australia. Known as the 'Drummoyne Devils', the club has men's, ladies, boys and girls' teams across a growing number of grades.

With values of participation, competition and community, DWPC is an engaged and vibrant organisation that offers opportunities for those who wish to play for fun and fitness, to those who aspire to the highest competitive standard.



Drummoyne Pool, home of the Drummoyne Devils

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Drummoyne
Water Polo Club

Stay up to date via our website: www.drummoynewaterpolo.com.au

Welcome to Drummoyne Water Polo Club – home of the Drummoyne Devils!

Drummoyne Water Polo Club (DWPC) is a club built on the values of participation, competition and community. Formed in 1904, DWPC is today one of Australia's largest water polo clubs.

DWPC has over 20 teams, including junior girls and boys, 1st and 2nd division senior men's and women's team and National Water Polo League men's and women's teams. The club is supported by an enthusiastic extended community of supporters, volunteers and sponsors. And with its beautiful waterfront position and our famous deck, our home pool offers a magnificent setting to play or watch water polo.

We are tremendously proud of our history, our vibrant community and the many successes achieved by our players and teams. Please contact us if you'd like to know more about the Drummoyne Devils.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DWPC Presentation Night - Hawaiian style!

Date: Sat 13 May 2017
Time: 17:30 - 21:00
Location: DWPC Clubhouse

Our DWPC Presentation Night is on Saturday 13 May in the

LATEST NEWS

Vivid Cruise! - 26 Apr 2017

Club Sponsor Drummoyne Sailing Club has organised Vivid Cruises on 29 & 30 May. Tickets include a \$25 meal voucher at Sailor's Grill (Kids eat free). Early bird special available! [read more >](#)

Our Sponsors

On behalf of the Drummoyne Water Polo Club's members and supporters, we offer a huge thank you to our sponsors for 2016/17.

Without your support, we could not deliver our DWPC water polo program to the high standard we are known for.

A special thanks to our major sponsors:

Drummoyne Sailing Club
Warwick Williams Real Estate
Alcatel Onetouch

James Tuite & Associates, and
The City of Canada Bay.



We also thank all our 2016/17 National League cap sponsors:

Pikes & Verekers Lawyers
5 Financial
BBC Consulting Planners
Civic Hotel
James Tuite & Associates Lawyers
Moore Stephens
Orthosports
Lantmannen Unibake
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Scott Baldwin Plumbing
Peter Wynn's Score
Craig Cook's Prime Quality Meats
Alcatel onetouch
Wilsons Private Wealth Advisory
Godfrey Pembroke Financial Consultants
Sinclair Sports Consulting
Haywards Solicitors
City of Canada Bay Council
The Skin Pharmacy
The Agency
Scaffolding NSW

Thank you! We could not have achieved all we have without your help!

Office Bearers 2016/17

President	James Tuite
Vice President	James Brennan
Treasurer	Neale Murphy
Secretary	Ross Dembecki
Director of Women's Water Polo	David Baxter
Director of Men's Water Polo	Tony Watson
Registrar	Wendy Tuite
Communications	Anne Farrell
Events and Fundraising	Tim Smith
National League Delegate	Michael Hahn
Operations	Peter Corbett
Primary School Comp/Junior Dev	Lora Cipriani
Club Apparel	Amanie Janes
Player Liaison	Fraser Foristal

President's Report



2016/17 has been another colourful and successful year in the life of the Devils, both in and out of the water.

As you will see in these pages, 27 teams represented Drummoyne – ranging from juniors and seniors, to National League. A common theme across the board was our commitment to improving our game as well as enjoying ourselves – with different teams focusing on each end of the spectrum to varying degrees.

One of the aspects of which I'm most proud is how the Devils cater to people who choose to play at any standard: from beginners to seasoned players, from those who like to play for fun and fitness to those who aspire to the highest representative level.

A hearty congratulations to Aidan Roach (in his second Olympics), and Mitch Emery and Tyler Martin (their first) who proudly wore the green and gold for Australia at the Games of the XXXI Olympiad in Rio. To have three Devils in the Olympics was truly remarkable, and made all the more special by the fact that all three played for the Devils from a very young age. Everyone in the Drummoyne community is very proud of you.

Congratulations also to Morgan Baxter on her selection in the Aussie Stingers for the World Super League Finals in Shanghai and the FINA World Championships in Budapest.

In summary, 27 of our players were named in Australian squads or teams during the year. Almost all of these players got their start in water polo through our Junior Development Program.

At state level, 15 players were selected in State based school representative (i.e. CIS, CCC or CHS) squads or teams and many won medals in their respective competitions. Connor Wicks, Joe Kospetas, Bronson Ronan, Sam Yip, Carla Traplin, Brooke Mather, Jolie Marsden and



Drummoyne's Morgan Baxter (pictured above right, with her sister Kelsey, left) went to China in May 2017 as part of the Aussie Stingers. The Stingers played in the Kunshan Cup in Kunshan, followed by World SuperLeague Finals in Shanghai and the FINA World Championships.

Phoebe Hall (with Georgia Gray in reserves) were selected in NSW All Schools Teams. Lilly Hawthorn, Pip Nash and Charlotte Gates were selected in the ACT All Schools Team. Carla Traplin, Jolie Marsden Lilly Hawthorn, Pip Nash, Connor Wicks (and Charlotte Gates as a reserve) were also selected in their respective Australian All Schools teams. Again, the vast majority of these players started among our junior ranks.

We had 42 U/14 through to U/20 players vying for State team selection for the Sydney Youth Festival. From these squads 31 players were selected to play for NSW - 11 U/14, 13 U/16 and 7 Junior players.

Well done to the big list of Devils who were named in representative squads and teams throughout the year. You can find a summary at the end of the Annual Report.

Our littlest Devils - our U12s - have had a great time in their first carnivals in Balmain, Wagga Wagga and Canberra. Congratulations to our mixed U12 team that won gold at WATERPOLOOZA in Canberra.

We couldn't be more delighted to learn that the Devils' Tyler Martin was awarded Sports Citizen of the Year by the City of Canada Bay. Congrats Tyler and well deserved!

We also welcomed Drummoyne Sailing Club (DSC) on board as Club and National League sponsors for the next 3 years. A big thank you to Pat Eagleton and his team for your support!

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

The Sydney Summer Metro Comp had 24 competitions, and we put 27 teams in the water. Of these, 19 teams made the semis and we won silver in 7 competitions. Overall our ladies teams won 3 silver and the men 4 silver. We finished third place in 7 comps and fourth place in 4. A fantastic result with over 70 % of our teams finishing in the final four.

We were also thrilled that our Men's National League team once again made the final series - a great result! Our men's team finished in 6th and our ladies 8th overall.

Congratulations to our L20 who won gold at the Cole Smee State Championships and our M20 won silver at the same event. Our M16 won bronze at Nationals. Our L18 won gold and our L16 and M18 bronze at state.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Over the year we hosted 9 events that contributed to build the camaraderie our club is famous for.

These included the Back to Drummoyne Day/Largie Shield, Parents Cocktail Night, Devils Big Lunch, Derby Day, National League season launch, White Christmas Party, Life Members Lunch and the Presentation Night.

Special mention must be made the organising committee for the Devils Big Lunch. A huge thank you to event organisers Neale Murphy, Michael Hahn, James Brennan, Frances Watson and Jen Blair.

PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPETITION

Our Junior Development Program has had a makeover this season, and is now replaced by a new Primary School Competition (PSC). Sponsored by Drummoyne Sailing Club, the PSC offers girls and boys from Years 3 - 6 to learn skills, make friends and enjoy playing in a real competition. It's wonderful to see over 150 children from 40 primary schools attending each week. A huge thank you to Lora Cipriani for her work organising the program, and to over 20 players who assisted by coaching and refereeing each week. Thank you also to Steph Patrick, Michelle and Michael Wicks, Fran Simpson, Kellie and Mark Garroway and Peter Gainsford for all of your work at the bar, BBQ, kitchen, or behind the scenes.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the 100+ volunteers who help out in some way throughout the season, and who make it possible for our club to fulfil its many and varied responsibilities. This includes coaches, managers, table officials and referees. Lots of people help with setting up and packing away the pool for each home game, and there are many who help on the barbecue, bar, shopping, cooking and serving. For the teams that tour, a lot of time and effort is contributed by helpers in planning accommodation, travel arrangements, catering and more.

There are many people I would particularly like to acknowledge:

Thank you to our Men's Head Coach Petar Petrovic and Women's Head Coach Daniel Marsden on your efforts throughout the season.

Thank you to our water polo directors, Tony Watson and David Baxter who each did a great job, as did our Club Captains Kelsey Baxter and Tyler Martin.

Our gratitude also goes to Tracey Baxter and her team of helpers who keep us well fed with delicious food from the kitchen and barbecue throughout the season. To Peter Corbett our Gear Steward who stays on top of our equipment needs and to Anne Farrell and Tanya Ryan who kept us updated through the Devil's Updates.

To my fellow Committee members, a hearty thank you. I know that each of you contribute many hours to your role and the club is indebted to you sharing your time and talents with us. We would not be able to function without you.

A huge thank you to all of our major sponsors and National League cap sponsors listed at the front of this report. We are very reliant in your support to be able to run the club successfully and to have the range of playing opportunities we offer.

A REQUEST

A thriving club requires the ideas and input of many. We always welcome new volunteers and we would love to hear from you if you would like to know how you can help. Please

make contact with a member of the committee if you would like to know more. Contact details are listed on the website www.drummoynewaterpolo.com.au under the “About” page.

In particular, we need people to step up and contribute on pool deck as coaches, referees, managers, and to assist in sourcing sponsors etc. Otherwise the growth of our club cannot continue and the number of teams we enter will be a reflection on the available resources.

Drummoyne continues to grow in its standing in the Australian water polo community. If we are to maintain this position we need to spread the workload and this can only happen if we have more helpers.

At our heart, we are a family based sporting and social club.

Everyone’s contribution made it possible for the club to compete at all levels.

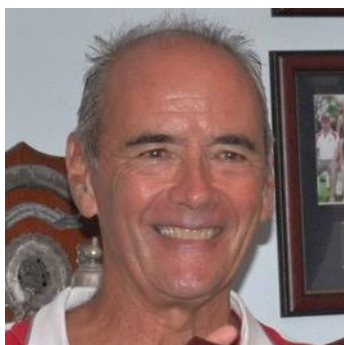
Thank you again for your support.

Go Devils !!

James Tuite
President



Functions & Events



This year's major event was the Devils Luncheon at Cockle Bay, where nearly 500 guests celebrated in style. Mick Colliss kept the audience entertained and Sam Kekovich kept the audience guessing. It was a great day out and proved a major fundraiser for the club. Many thanks to the hard working committee and Neale Murphy in particular for organising this event.

There were a number of other events staged during the season including the annual "Back to Drummoyne Day" which proved as popular as always. A junior parent Cocktail party was held at our new sponsor's Drummoyne Sailing Club, as was the National League season launch.

The Presentation once again ran with the Hawaiian theme and the dress code and the DJ helped make it a great night.

Whilst the Devils always have the most fun it was a little disappointing to see our events and fundraising slip a little this year. Next season we will need a greater focus and more support for such events if we are to be the successful club we aim to be. So if you are keen to help, please get in touch.

James Brennan
Vice President



Life Members Lunch

Held on 26 August 2016 at the Greg Davies Stand at Drummoyne Oval, the Life Members Lunch was another huge success. The Devils faithful turned up in big numbers to toast both Tyler Martin and AJ Roach who had just returned from the Olympics. (Mitch was sunning himself in Fiji!)

Rugby League legend Laurie Daley entertained the crowd with some fabulous stories. There were plenty of laughs and good times and as a club we are very thankful to all those who attended this fundraiser and contributed to the success of the day.

Special thanks to Neale Murphy who led the charge in organising this great event.



White Christmas

We hosted our White Christmas Party on December 20th. It was a terrific night out for a social catch up, and to watch quality water polo played by many of our young and more seasoned players. Well done to M7 Black who won the Pro Cup, named in honour of the late great Tony Profilio.



National League Cap Presentation Night

We held our NL season launch event at the home of our newest sponsor, Drummoyne Sailing Club. On Friday 6 January, around 70 of the Devils' community gathered and enjoyed drinks and dinner, as well as some great speeches from our Women's coach, Dan Marsden, and Men's coach, Petar Petrovic. Thank you to Tim Smith for doing a fab job as event co-ordinator and MC. Thank you to General Manager, Pat Eagleton, and all the team at DSC for your hospitality.



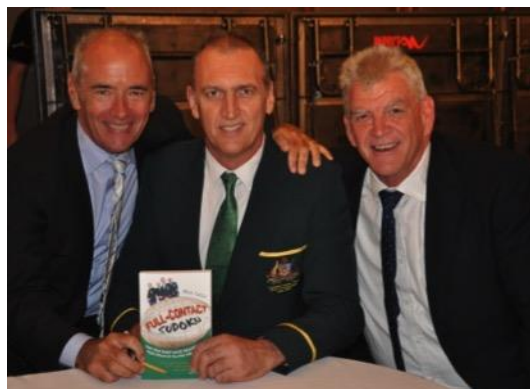
Derby Day

On 29 January, we hosted Derby Day with our National League teams going head to head with Sydney Uni. Unfortunately both teams lost with a matching 15-4 scoreline, but it was a very pleasant evening spent at our gorgeous home pool by the harbour.



Devils Big Lunch

On 24 February 2017, we hosted our major social event of the year: the Devils Big Lunch! Around 460 Devils and friends turned up for a fantastic lunch and entertainment at Dockside Cockle Bay. Mick Colliss gave us all a hilarious insight into how he became an Australian representative in Sudoku with zero experience or credentials. Tim Gilbert did a great job as MC and auctioneer, and the lunch crowd partied well on into the evening. A huge vote of thanks to event organisers Neale Murphy, Michael Hahn, James Brennan, Frances Watson and Jen Blair, and thank you to everyone who supported this event via prize donations and/or coming along on the day.



Back to Drummoyne Day + Largie Shield

Thank you to the big crowd of supporters who came along to our Back to Drummoyne Day & Largie Shield event v UTS Balmain Tigers Water Polo Club on 19 March 2017.

Once again there was nothing between the two clubs. The Tigers won the women's #NWPL17 game 10-6, and the Devils won the men's game 9-5.

With a tie on points, the Devils (who won it last year) retained possession. Thanks Tigers for two terrific games!

The late Stephen Large, who played for both clubs in the 1980s, was remembered as a player who enjoyed the sport, in and out of the water. His nephew, Robbie Large, presented Drummoyne's Vice President (James Brennan) and NL Men's Captain (John Hahn) with the Largie Shield.

Until next year Tigers!



Largie Shield in memory of Steven Large
2017 retained by Drummoyne
[pictured above, John Hahn, James Brennan + Robbie Large]



Parents Cocktail Night

Thank you to all the parents and supporters who came along to our Parents Cocktail Night on 24 March at Drummoyne Sailing Club. The focus for this event was to help our L14s and L16s fundraise for a tournament in Hawaii in August 2017. Many thanks to all our prize donors, and to everyone who helped organise the night!



Presentation Night

Mahalo to everyone who helped organise and run our Hawaiian style Presentation Night! Held on 13 May, we enjoyed lots of yum eats and cool refreshments, as well as great music by DJ Cameron Smith. Big congrats to our major award winners, Amanie Janes on being named Michael Corry Clubman of the Year, and Ben Scobie for being awarded the Garry Nicholls Junior of the Year!

Well done too, to our long list of MVPs and MIPs who were acknowledged. You can see a summary of all award winners in the final pages of this report.



Primary Schools Competition

A new name and a new focus was the key to success for our new and improved Friday night program! We welcomed over 150 new junior members to the club in both the Term 4 and Term 1 programs. Each member was allocated a team and this is the team they trained with and played a game with each week. We allocated a coach to each team who helped them develop their skills and game play each Friday night.



The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience of learning new skills and being able to apply them in a game against different opposition each week. This ensured we fostered a love of water polo to each and every child who attended.

We had many coaches who assisted in the very successful running of the program. Each coach needs to be named as we are very fortunate to have so many members of the club who put their hand up to help mould the future water polo stars of our great club! A special thank you to: Adam Hall, Ben Scobie, Blake Artemi, Chris Artemi, Carla Traplin, Emma Tuite, Jaz Yip, Savannah Henshaw, Cara Murray, Bronte Ryan, Olivia Patrick, Tessa Barry, Ruby Boroza, Sarah Harnwell, Morgan Baxter, Kelsey Baxter, Keenan Marsden, Mitch Marsden, Stephanie Calaizis, Sarah Kerrison, Nate Griffiths and the many other coaches who filled in from time to time if these coaches were unavailable.

This Friday night program would not be so successful if it wasn't for all the behind-the-scenes parents and volunteers who assisted each week. Steph Patrick answered many questions and ensured all the children arrived and signed in each week. Michelle and Michael Wicks ran the bar and helped sell dinner to the masses at the end of each session. Fran Simpson and Kellie and Mark Garraway picked up the food each week and helped Peter Gainsford to fire up the BBQ each Friday night. There were many other parents/volunteers who assisted each Friday night, and to them we thank you also!

We look forward to welcoming more new members to our VERY successful program in Term 4 again this year.

Lora Cipriani
Program Director

Treasurer's Report



The 2017 financial year produced a \$55,487 surplus on the back of our hugely successful every 2nd year Lunch, and better controlled expenditure with National League and pool hire.

Ross Dembecki deserves enormous thanks for integrating the invoice system for player fees and clothing sales so monitoring and collection is now easier.

It is disappointing that fund raising was restricted to the big & little lunches. Unfortunately the golf day, trivia night and harbour cruise fell off the agenda this year – hopefully these can be resurrected.

Sponsorship was down some 25% over the previous year and needs greater focus by the full committee and members.

I'd sincerely like to thank Kevin Prout for his accounting assistance via his firm Gibson Prout. KP gives of his time freely and I am very much indebted to him.

Neale Murphy
Treasurer

Secretary's Report



Your Committee is responsible for managing the club on behalf of all members. This includes communicating with members, responding to feedback, developing external relationships, obtaining resources and ensuring all financial and legal matters are properly managed.

In the year to April 2017, the Committee met regularly, discussing all aspects of operating the club from major decisions like coaching appointments, to matters like developing policies on reporting player suspensions.

As Secretary, I provided a central point for feedback to and from both Water Polo NSW and Water Polo Australia and a way for members and teams to raise issues with these bodies.

These covered a wide range of matters like forfeits, player suspensions, disqualifications, and appeals relating to Metro matches and state and national tournaments. It is important to raise issues impacting players, or teams, through your team manager to our relevant Water Polo Director so the Committee can decide how to best respond for all involved.

It is wonderful to see the enthusiasm and camaraderie across all levels of our club's volunteers. The time and skills contributed benefit all members. I'm bullish that, having already built a strong club, the plans being put forward are going to make this club one all members should be proud to be associated with.

Continue to raise issues and challenge myself, or a relevant committee member, with ideas that can make our club stronger. (The committee roles and contact details are on the website under 'About'.)

There is much to do! So please consider volunteering your skills to a role that can make your club better!

Ross Dembecki
Secretary



Devlin supporting our U14s



Drumoyne hosted a team from Diablo, California in February 2017

Men's Water Polo



Planning for the 2016/17 season started with the news that 3 of our Drummoyne players, Mitch, Tyler and AJ had been selected to play together at the Olympics in Rio. When thinking of the season past it is hard not to think we must be doing something right that our programme could produce 3 players of this stature.

Unfortunately, the 2016/17 season didn't live up to this start with almost all teams featuring in the finals including 4 grand finalists but no premierships to show for our trouble.

The junior boy's teams had a mixed year, the standout being our 18's who lost in the Sydney grand final and featured at the pointy end of both their state and national championships. Our other teams, while competitive at times, struggled against the top sides. While an improvement on the previous season, we will again need to focus on the development of the skills of our younger players to ensure they are competitive in the big games. We will also start to benefit from the feed in from our hugely successful primary school competition which will feed more players into our 14's over the next few seasons. We have also entered teams in the many under 12 competitions now being held which again will boost the numbers and strength of our junior ranks.

We had record numbers of club juniors playing Tuesday night polo this season. After a number of seasons promoting this career path we seem to have finally reached a point where most of our junior players who don't want to continue to train as seriously as they have in the junior ranks progress to Tuesday night to play with their mates. While this didn't result in any premierships this season, I can see our teams growing in strength as the maturing boys learn from our seniors to compete with the experienced players from other clubs. While M6 struggled against a much younger, faster Stingers team in their grand final, M7 did everything but win theirs! A couple of unlucky breaks and maybe a few poor options late in the game seeing them run down with a minute to go.

We introduced a new batch of 16's and 18's players to M3 this season, and while very competitive, found the going a bit tough against a Sydney Uni team full of past representative players in their semi-final. A greater commitment on game day during the normal season by the seniors should see this team develop into a very competitive unit next year.

M2 were the surprise packet of our men's programme. While losing to a stacked Sydney Uni team in the grand final, the team, without a player over 21 years of age, were clearly the best M2 side in the competition. If Sydney Uni hadn't found several ex-Australian players and current national league starters to boost their team for the final, the side would have been rewarded with an M2 pennant.

M1 struggled with the loss of Mitch and Tyler, resting after Olympic duty, and finished 4th in the metropolitan competition. These struggles continued in the early part of National League, however, the side turned their season around with a great second half of the season to clinch a playoff berth. For the second season in a row, we lost the elimination game to the eventual champions. It was a great result for a squad which on paper didn't look a threat and it is a tribute to the boys that they went as far as they did.

I thought this season was Head Coach, Petar Petrovic's, greatest result in his time as a coach. After losing Mitch and AJ to season ending shoulder surgery, most coaches would have resigned themselves to build for next season. This is not our Petar. He dragged performances out of a young squad that others could not achieve. We often talk what if's in sport but this team with 2 more Olympians would surely have brought home our first NL title.

My thanks to the junior coaches, Connor Wicks, Rok Crnica, Charlie Kospetas, PJ Hahn, Rod Perez, Srdjan Maric and Mitch Emery and to the managers Kristin Hay, Amanie Jane, Jennifer Gwynne, Yumi Bondy, Mike Wicks, Caryn Schmitt and Matt Farrell for their tireless efforts with all the teams.

Another great season for the men and all signs are for many great seasons to come.

Tony Watson

Director – Men's Water Polo



National League cap presentation night at Drummoyne Sailing Club, Jan 2017.



Strategy talk at half time during M6 game at Drummoyne, Dec 2016.



M14s line up at Nationals in Albury/Wodonga.



Women's Water Polo



Devlin got to see a lot of the country this year! Here he is with our U14 girls in Bathurst in December at State Champs.

The 2016/2017 season has been a season of mixed results. We have had our fair share of success and seen further development of some outstanding talent in our women's teams.

The work of selecting, training and playing teams in Metro competitions, State and National Championships falls upon an army of volunteer coaches, managers and parents. Drummoyne teams on tour are always well prepared by their coaches and managers and well looked after by their parents, carers and supporters. We do tours well and this summer has been no exception.

I thank everyone for the wonderful work they have done over the summer past.

I note in the case of our L16 teams, preparation will continue until National Championships to be held at the end of September and I wish the teams success.

1st Division

All 5 teams in the women's 1st division reached the semi-finals or better. A wonderful achievement by any standard.

Our L1 team was coached by Dan Marsden and capably managed by Greg Harnwell. The absence of key players Emma Jones, Savannah Henshaw (both in New Zealand playing in the World Youth Championships with the Australian Youth team) and Morgan Baxter (a miss-timed holiday) no doubt affected our chances of winning the final and the team finished 3rd.

In the course of the short but intense L1 season, the team played a very quick and attractive brand of water polo which led to a number of the players finishing among the leading goal scorers in the competition.

The L2 Red team (which up till this year has been the L2 Black team) was again coached and managed by the team of Michael Hahn and Neil Murphy. The team qualified for the Grand Final for the 5th year in a row. However, a 5th premiership was not to be and the team suffered a 1 goal loss. A silver medal is a great achievement and I know this team will return next year hungry to avenge their loss and regain their Premiership.

The form of our young L2 Black team, coached by Jenny MacGregor and managed by Alison Greig, was exciting to see throughout the season. The team finished 3rd after losing their semi-final to UNSW Wests by 1 goal only, the same margin as the more experienced L2 Red team lost to UNSW Wests in the Grand Final. A wonderful effort by this young team and its coach. They can only improve in seasons to come. Our L2 Red team will find some of its strongest opposition comes from within their club.

Our evergreen L3 Black team again had a change of colour and unfortunately a change of fortune. This 5 time Premiership winning team qualified for its 6th straight Grand Final. Unfortunately some unsympathetic scheduling meant key players (including coach Jenny MacGregor) were unavailable for the Grand Final. Team manager, Alison Greig, was required to jump into the cage (as she had capably done a number of times throughout the season) and direct the defence of a number of juniors who had put up their hands to support this team at very short notice.

A wonderful effort by all involved and I would like to thank all the juniors and their parents for turning up and playing so well at very short notice. There is a wonderful spirit within the club.

The L3 Red team finished equal 3rd. They came up against their team mates in the semi-final and lost by 2 goals in what was a very exciting game. It is very encouraging to see so many young girls being given the opportunity of playing in the 1st Division and responding to the opportunity by playing so well.

2nd Division

Our ladies social grades play for the pleasure of the game. Long may they continue to do so.

Unfortunately they were not as successful this season as they had been in the last.

Lora Cipriani continues to manage/coach and coordinate the L4 team. They were not able to repeat last year's effort in making the final and finished 5th in the competition. Congratulations to the team and to Lora on a great effort throughout the season and the ability of this team to simply get things done with a minimum of fuss.

Our L5 coordinators Anna Corry and Leanne Costantino had a difficult season. Player retirements and unavailability of players at certain times made their job very difficult. Ensuring numbers were available each week was a huge task which Anna and Leanne willingly took on.

The team was not as successful as last summer but can boast they had a current Olympian among their numbers. Genevieve Horton, 2016 Rio Olympic rower, joined the club and this team to spend the summer playing a sport she enjoyed at a social level rather than the huge commitment involved in her first choice sport.

Every effort must be made to boost numbers for this team for the 2017/2018 season.

Juniors

This summer saw a change in our approach to junior development with the introduction of the Primary Schools Competition. It has proved to be an instant success and will be reported on elsewhere.

We have been able to select and develop under 12 teams from the participants in PSC and these teams have begun to proudly represent the club at under 12 tournaments. These culminated in the 2017 Waterpolooza under 12's competition in Canberra. Drummoyne entered the mixed competition with a team of 7 girls and 5 boys and won the Championship.

A wonderful result for the hard work over the summer by Lora Cipriani, Andrew Murray, a team of hard working parents and dedicated young coaches.

I congratulate everyone involved in the under 12's and particularly wish to thank all of the young coaches who have given their time to assist with PSC and then coach the teams at tournaments. A graphic demonstration of the spirit of the club.

The enjoyment and excitement of our youngest players is evident in the wonderful pictures posted on our social media. If you have not browsed them, I suggest you do so. They are a delightful demonstration of what the hard work by an army of volunteers has achieved in just one season.

L14

Prior to the commencement of the season we were struggling for numbers in this age group. An initiative brokered by Andrew Murray resulted in Stefani Jelic of the Waves Club joining DWPC with a number of Waves players, which formed the core of L14B. Stef Jelic coached the team and Mark Simpson was the manager. After a difficult start the team improved throughout the season in a tough competition finishing 8th on the table. Well done to Stef, Mark and the team.

L14A was coached by Fraser Foristal and managed by Tim Smith. The team narrowly missed semi-finals in Metro Competition coming 5th on the table, and performed well at both the NSW State Championships and the National Championships held on the Gold Coast in April where they finished as runners up in the Bowl final. Through the hard work of coach, manager and dedicated parents, DWPC junior tours are always a mix of water polo success and team fun. I again commend the photos of the Gold Coast tour available on our social media. No one enjoys these tours more than club mascot, Devlin.

Thank you Fraser, Tim, the team and all parents and supporters for your efforts throughout the summer.

L16

L16B was also a team coached by Stef Jelic, combining Waves and Drummoyne girls. The team gained momentum throughout the season finishing 7th in a very competitive Metro Competition. They are a young team many of whom will still be L16 in the summer to come and can only have benefited from their experience this summer. Congratulations to Stef and the team on their efforts.

L16A commenced this summer coached by Jenny MacGregor and managed by Tim Smith. When Jenny's commitments with the Hunter National League team required her to be elsewhere, Andrew Murray stepped in as caretaker coach. The team finished 3rd in Metro Competition and 3rd in the State Championships. Several of the talented players in this team will be playing L16 again next summer and we look forward to improving success.

I would like to thank and congratulate Jenny, Andrew, Tim and the team on their success over the summer and I would particularly like to thank all the parents for their efforts.

The team will now move ahead to the National Championships in September and we wish them every success.

L18

L18 had a very successful summer finishing as NSW State Champion, runners up in Metro Competition and runners up in the Plate final at the National Championships. L18 was a very tough Competition all summer. The teams we defeated to win the NSW State Championship went on to take gold, silver and bronze in the National Championships.

I am sure it was disappointing for coach Michael Hahn, the managers, the team and supporters that the team could not carry its fabulous form from the State Championships through to the National Championships. However, the team should be congratulated on an excellent summer. Many of this teams players will be playing L18 in the summer to come and we can look forward to another strong performance next year.

L20

The strength of our L18 team and the abundance of talented players within the club who are less than 20 years old is demonstrated by our dominance of the annual Col Smee tournament where Drummoyne not only returned to the finals but won the Championship. The confidence I expressed last year that we would return to the winners circle in this tournament was well founded.

I wish to congratulate coach Michael Hahn, his manager Bev Southern and the team on an outstanding result.

National Championships

I have touched upon our results in National Championships throughout the summer. Full particulars will appear in the team reports.

Representative Players

The talent in our junior ranks is evident by the number of players who have been selected in NSW squads, National age group squads and NSW and Australian school squads. The players will be individually acknowledged elsewhere.

I wish to congratulate each of these players for the hard work which has resulted in their selections. They are following a pathway which is becoming well-trodden by Drummoyne players.

National League

The women's National League will be the subject of a separate report in which more detail will appear. The team was coached by Dan Marsden, assisted by Michael Hahn and managed by Greg Harnwell.

I wish to thank all three for their hard work throughout the National League season. The game schedule, road trips and training commitments make the National League season as hard on the officials as it is on the players. Dan, Michael and Greg worked very hard throughout the summer to ensure our National League women's team had the best chance of performing well.

The team finished 8th in a very competitive league. I must point out we played with only one import player and only one other player who had not played junior water polo with the Drummoyne Water Polo Club. Considering the extent to which our opponents use imports or players poached from other clubs, this is a wonderful achievement. It is testimony to the clubs commitment to giving our players every opportunity to perform at the highest level.

We were a very young team and it was particularly encouraging to see players such as Georgia Southern, Carla Traplin, and Jolie Marsden playing in their first National League season and demonstrating their ability to perform at this level. As the team grows in experience, it can only improve.

Acknowledgments

I wish to thank all parents, players and supporters without whom the club would not exist. Everyone who has assisted with table duties, pool set up and pull down, the barbeque, bar and kitchen duties has contributed to the success of the club and enhanced game day experiences for everyone. Thank you all.

I thank all coaches and managers. Both positions involve huge commitments of time and physical and emotional energy. The club could not function without your willingness to give so freely to coaching and assisting young players to play their best. The passion of our coaches and managers for their teams and the club is obvious in the way they present themselves and the work they do.

I thank my fellow committee members who give their time to ensure the success of the club. I could not perform my role without your support.

Players, you have played and performed at your best throughout the summer and rewarded the efforts of your coaches and managers with your results and commitment in the pool. I

hope you all continue to enjoy your water polo and perform at the best level you can for many years to come.

Farewell

Work commitments demand that I give more time to my paid profession and I have reluctantly decided to step down as the Director of Women's water polo at DWPC.

I have immensely enjoyed my time in the role and I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has assisted me in performing my duties over the past 3 years. You have made it an enjoyable experience.

David Baxter
Director of Women's Water Polo

Report by Women's Club Captain

The Devils have concluded yet another superb summer season! The 2016/17 season brought some excellent results in and out of the pool, showing the true Devil spirit.

With entries in many competitions at all levels, the Devils soared through the ranks having numerous players from all teams named in representative teams. Congratulations to all players selected to represent the Devils in school, state and National Levels; we are all very proud of you!

A special mention goes out to our Men's National League team, who yet again placed in the final series facing some tough competition. Although the outcome was not what they were aiming for, their efforts to place within the top 6 of the competition is an outstanding achievement. Congratulations to all players and coaching staff involved!

The closing summer season also saw the start of a great club initiative: the primary school competition. This saw hundreds of kids from years 3 to 6 swarm to the Devil's playground to learn some skills and get to play with friends each week in what became a very fun and



Kelsey Baxter (right) with NL import Carla Grapeura (left) at the NL Cap Presentation Night at Drummoyne Sailing Club, 6.1.17.

competitive program. A HUGE Devil thank you to all involved each week whether it be the behind the scenes organisation, pool set-up, coaching, referring, catering and general promotion of the program, your efforts do not go unnoticed.

While Drummoyne is known for its numerous achievements within the pool, its social events are what set us apart from the rest. These events could not be held or be as successful as they are without the help of the whole Drummoyne Community, so a big thank you to all club members, players, parents, sponsors, volunteers and spectators! Can't wait to see what the future seasons bring. GO DEVILS.

Kelsey Baxter
Women's Club Captain

Report by Men's Club Captain



Lars Foged (left) with Tyler Martin (right) alongside Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull after the Bondi to Bronte swim, Dec 2016.

The 2016/17 Summer season at Drummoyne Water Polo Club was another big success both in and out of the water. With 27 teams across the grades and ages, 16 teams making the finals and 7 proceeding to the Grand Final, whilst we may not have had the luck of the draw in the Grand Finals, the number of teams who made it that far is a testament to the program at the club.

Catering for both the elite pathway to representative teams as well as to members playing socially, Drummoyne has successfully shown the ability to provide a platform for all players irrespective of their team or individual aspirations.

Outside of the pool, the club hosted another hugely popular and successful Devils Big Lunch, as well as eight other events. As one of very few water polo clubs competing nationally who does not have the direct support from any Government body, University or private benefactor, DWPC has again set the bar for sustainably running one of the largest programs in the country with the tireless work of countless volunteers. The club is built upon the strong community and support from the members, family and friends and without this key element, would not be able to sustain itself, let alone grow year on year.

From a high performance perspective, the 2016/17 season was a mixed bag with plenty of promise building towards the future. The National League men lost their qualifying final game against eventual competition winners by the narrowest of margins in a season where many younger players stepped up and showed their caper at the highest level. The National League Girls, with one of the youngest rosters in the league, had some fantastic wins in their season of near misses. The girls showed they could compete with any team and fought hard until the end with a number of juniors showing they can match it with the best in Australia. There are exciting times on the horizon for both our male and female National League teams and we are eagerly awaiting the 2017/18 season already!

Tyler Martin, Men's Club Captain



Major award winners 2016/17

Our club is fortunate in having a large pool of volunteers who give freely of their time and talents in supporting the club. Each year there are a number of strong contenders for our major awards, and this year was no exception.

Michael Corry - Clubman of the Year

Michael passed away 12 years ago. His contribution and legacy is a major reason for the success and growth of DWPC. This is awarded to a member of the club who has made an outstanding contribution to the club's operations. It can be won by a player, administrator, manager and/or coach or anyone whose activities have had significant impact to the core activities of DWPC. Previous winners include: Anne Farrell, Lora Cipriani, John Hahn, Tracey Baxter, Wendy Tuite, Andrew Maddocks, Mark Simpson, Richard Dill-Macky, Matthew Fitzpatrick, Craig Scott and Brad Palmer.

Nominees this year were John Kospetas, Mitch Emery, Matt Farrell, Morgan Baxter, Barry Calaizis and Amanie Janes.



Michael Corry - Clubman of the Year winner: Amanie Janes

Amanie has been organising the club's apparel for a number of years, and is often at the pool three or four nights a week assisting in this role. She has managed a number of teams over the years, and is always happy to help out behind the bar or BBQ. Amanie rarely misses a Devils event or NL home game. She demonstrates Michael Corry's qualities in going about her business in a low key, easy going and diligent manner.

Gary Nicholls - Outstanding Junior

This award goes to a player from the Junior ranks who has performed well in and out of the water. While the award is not meant to just recognise the most "successful junior who achieves the highest level as a representative player", it also recognises a player's commitment and their contribution to the club's day to day activities e.g. helper at PSC, referee, coaching juniors, helper at home games and other volunteer activities. Previous winners include: Rowan Farrell, Sarah Cain, Joshua Sharrock, Daniel Trent, Isabella Mercuri, Ryan Marnell, Serena Reid, Kate Murphy, Mitchell Emery, Kate McGraw, Tyler Martin.

Nominees this year were: Olivia Patrick, Ben Scobie, Cara Murray and Bronte Ryan.



Gary Nicholls - Outstanding Junior winner: Ben Scobie

Ben has been a stalwart of the junior coaching programs: in the old JDP as a volunteer, as a coach in the new format of PSC on Friday nights, and coaching our newly formed U/12 representative sides. Ben took a team of our U12s to the Balmain carnival in January, and also to Nationals in Wagga. He does all this travelling from Cronulla! He is reliable, has a great manner with the kids and always sets a fine example.

Congratulations Amanie and Ben on your very well-deserved awards!

Sharks & Stingers

The Aussie Sharks and Stingers are Australia's elite representative teams. We are tremendously proud to have players in both. What's particularly notable is that all players played as juniors with our club!

As we reported in last year's report, the Devils were thrilled to have three members selected for the Men's Olympic Team for the 2016 Rio Olympics. Congratulations once again to **Aidan Roach, Mitch Emery and Tyler Martin** on this massive achievement. We were (and continue to be) mighty proud of you!



We're also delighted that **Morgan Baxter** has been selected in the Aussie Stingers in this year. Morgan played in the Kunshan Cup, World SuperLeague Finals in Shanghai and World Championships in Hungary. Well done Morgan! You've come a long way from playing in our Junior Development Program as a 9-year-old!

Tyler Martin – Sports Citizen of the Year

On Australia Day 2017, we were delighted to learn that the Devils' Tyler Martin (pictured right) had been awarded Sports Citizen of the Year by the City of Canada Bay. Congrats Tyler and well deserved!



Mural project

Sponsored by the City of Canada Bay, artist Emma Anna created a series of murals celebrating the past and present of Drummoyne Pool.

Many Devils are immortalised among the selected images!

You can view the murals on both sides of the entrance to Drummoyne Pool.



U12 Girls & Boys

The enthusiasm generated from our Friday night program was so great Drummoyne entered 5 teams in the Balmain Invitational Competition in early January.

It was with much excitement that 50 of our youngest Devils arrived at Dawn Fraser Baths to participate in their very first Water Polo Carnival. Each team played 7 games over the 3 days against 41 other participating teams from across NSW and Interstate. Each participant tried their best, learnt a lot of new skills and had an absolute blast playing water polo with their friends.

Katie Kyneur from the 'Little Devils' team was voted Most Valuable Player from her division, which included 8 other teams! A wonderful achievement. Well done Katie!

A big thank you to all our wonderful devils parents and friends who came along rain, hail or shine each day to support their children. They cheered loudly and were great ambassadors for our club!

Lastly, a massive thank you to our amazing coaches, Ben Scobie, Olivia Patrick and Cara Murray for leading their teams with such enthusiasm and making the 3 days an enjoyable experience for our youngest devils.

This led to the inclusion of a boys team and 2 girls teams who were entered into the National U12s Tournament in Wagga Wagga at the end of January. It was a wonderful showcase of talent from our littlest Devils! Our two girls teams were the only Sydney based teams to enter.

A very BIG thank you to Trevor Folsom (Girls Red) and Ben Scobie (Boys) for coaching our teams, and to our managers Gerard Pignatelli, Paul Cartwright and Michelle Wicks for all their organisation and help over the weekend. Also a big thank you to Cara Murray and Bronte Ryan who travelled with the teams to help with the refereeing over the weekend. Congratulations to Trevor and the Drummoyne Red girls team who finished the competition in 2nd place - an awesome result! A mighty effort by the Girls black team and Boys team who both finished the competition in 4th place.

In April, our youngest Devils again participated in an U12s Carnival, the Canberra Waterpolooza Competition. Drummoyne entered an U12s mixed team with ages ranging from 2005-2009. Remaining undefeated throughout the competition, Drummoyne were the eventual winners of the Mixed Competition! A wonderful achievement from some of our youngest Devils!! Again thank you to Michelle and Michael Wicks for managing the team so successfully.

At the end of May, Drummoyne entered its very first U12s girls team in the Sydney Metro Competition. The girls have played some tough games so far against some older competitors, however have won a couple games and are improving their skills each week.

Lora Cipriani
Program Co-ordinator



Under 14A Girls

TEAM: Rose Bouwman, Stef Dunn, Ella Foristal, Jemma Gilligan, Miah Gough, Jasmine Higgs, Chessie Lewis, Sarah Prasai, Bronte Ryan, Kara Simpson and Annabel Smith.

Metro-we finished 5th in a very competitive comp. A few too many heavy defeats at the start of the season dented our confidence and made us realise there was a lot of work to do. Our girls were lacking early season fitness and the stronger teams made the most of it with lots of counter attack goals. Having been heavily reliant on Macy Hansford at CF for the last few years, her elevation to L16s left a huge gap to fill. We improved somewhat by Christmas and led eventual Comp winners Balmain at halftime before fading to lose by three in the last game before the Chrissie break. The only team we didn't come close to were Minor Premiers, UNSW - a very disciplined side that plays to instruction. By season end, there had been some improvement in this area in our team.

NSW Club Champs - We set off for the Golden West in mid December with the sun at our backs and hope in our boots. With late notice regarding the venue and dates, it was difficult to find accommodation for eleven families in the one venue. Upon arriving at the pool on

the first morning the clocks weren't working and the goals were toppling forwards upon the merest ripple of water. Cool Hand Luke (Mark Simpson) took things in hand as he fixed the clock issue by bridging 2 broken wires with a bulldog clip, then tied two shopping bags, after filling them with rocks, to the back of the goals to provide ballast. All this whilst games progressed.



We played well in some games but failed to capitalise on many extra man attacks. We had done well to earn those exclusions but that becomes a mere statistic if transformation to goals doesn't occur.

In the end, we faced off against S.U. for 5/6th classification. We battled gamely and lost by two which realistically, under the circumstances, was probably where we sat.

This team is still very much in the learning stage so fun is the main objective, which I think was achieved.

We had six players selected for TAP Camp from this tournament which was the equal most of any club. It would seem the Coach's hours being put in were paying off. Out of the water, people were enjoying the delights of Bathurst & the girls were learning much from our video sessions.

Aust Club Champs - After offering three trainings per week in the time between Metro concluding and Nats starting, the girls who took advantage of this were well and truly ready once April arrived. We gathered on the Gold Coast for most of this group's last foray in the 14s.

Most teams are of an unknown quantity in these comps and so it was as we hit the water on morning one for an 8am game. We came out of the blocks well with everyone contributing but we lost that game very narrowly to Melville, despite leading by three at first quarter change. A tough lesson.

With our next game at 1pm that day, there was little time to contemplate navels. After a light lunch and a video session, we were back at Southport for game two against Mermaids Blue. We were much better in converting our chances and the score reflected that. A good way to complete day one.

In a four team round robin, after one win and one loss, a win was essential for us in our last game to progress to the Championship Rounds. Unfortunately, despite playing well and having terrific support from the stands, we lost that final round game to Sunshine Coast, who then went through with Melville.



After that disappointment we re-gathered our thoughts as we re-focussed on doing as well as we could in our quest for the Bowl. We beat City Beach that night, then Central Coast and Somerville House the day after to finish undefeated in that stage of the Comp. With momentum building nicely, we commenced the Quarter Finals with a gritty win against Queensland Country, followed by another win against the Central Coast to set up a Bowl Final against City Beach Gold who we had beaten a few days earlier.

The girls deserved no less than the opportunity to play in this game, and no doubt were excited by doing a line up before the game and being introduced to the small but boisterous crowd. But unfortunately, on this occasion, the girls from the West got the better of us in a game probably deserving of a friendlier start time than 8am. Not sure if we were just too tired after the amount of games, but we were flat and after C Beach jumped out to an early lead, we never really reined them in. A disappointing way to end the week of polo and their time in the U/14s but no doubt a fantastic way to spend time with family and friends. The journey is just starting girls. From where we started to where we finished, everyone can be proud.

Out of the water, the trip was fabulous also. Coinciding with Easter, we all ate way too much chocolate after filling our boots in the Tim Smith Egg Hunt, and everyone did their bit to boost the coffers of the shopkeepers in Cavill Avenue and the theme parks.

Whilst the girls are moving ahead, I'm taking a breather. After pouring myself into the coaching of most of this group for the last few years, and very intensely for the last seven months, its time to realign things. Coaching at this level in an amateur sport is voluntary; undertaken by people for the love of the sport or club or their desire to give back to something which they feel has given them much. I am just a parent with a knowledge and passion for water polo who loves to share it with kids.

I want to wish all of the girls the very best in their endeavours in the 16s and beyond.

Much thanks to Tim Smith for his efficiency and enthusiasm in his role as Manager this year. Also thanks to Mark Simpson, Stef Jelic and Morgan Baxter for their assistance.

Fraser Foristal
Coach

Coach: Fraser Foristal
Manager: Tim Smith
MVP: Bronte Ryan
MIP: Stephanie Dunn

Under 14B Girls

TEAM: Chloe Judge, Grace Earls, Erin Duffy, Tayla Bondy, Amber Simpson, Elodie Gilchrist, Maja Strbac, Amelia Maher, Bianca Walton, Alice Norbury, Mila Folsom, Pearl Collins, Sarah Pignatelli, Sofia Bell, Jemma Gillis, Macy Smith and Stephanie Sinapi.

This summer season we enjoyed the company of many new young smiling faces to the Drummoyne L14B's side, many of whom had never played water polo before.

The season started with only the bare minimum of 9 players to field a team of determined young ladies, keen for a new challenge of learning to play a new sport, make some new friends and have fun at the same time.

The first half of the season was a steep learning curve for the young girls, who had a couple of losses and also managed to string together a number of good victories, building on their skills and confidence after each win.

With a few injuries and illnesses, the odd clashes with other sports and holidays, we struggled to field the minimum required 7 players on a number of occasions. After the Christmas break, and we were lucky to have a number of girls from Coogee join the team, following a very enjoyable Balmain under 12's tournament with one of the Drummoyne sides. This enabled us to field a much healthier numbers at the games each week and we continued to have some good victories in the second half of the season, narrowly missing out on the semi finals.

It was great pleasure to be associated with such an enthusiastic bunch of young girls who were always keen to learn, have fun and win a bunch of games in the process. I hope that you all enjoyed the season and we hope to see you all back over the winter and next summer seasons.

Mark Simpson, Manager

Coach: Stefani Jelic
Manager: Mark Simpson
MVP: Chloe Judge & Bianca Walton
MIP: Maja Strbac



Under 14A Boys

TEAM: Adam Lukic, Brandon Wicks, Corey Brown, Duke Wieland, Eaden McNeill, Ed Wydell, Elio Del-Ben, Hugh Garraway, Jarrah Ronan, John McCaffrey, Jordan Lancaster, Oliver Wastie-Pero and Tamas Totszer.

The team was a mix of experienced and inexperienced players all very eager to play and win.

The 2016/17 summer season saw some mixed and sometimes surprising results over the season. As we had no dedicated goalie, all the boys had a go in goals and the first half of the season the team saw more losses than wins.

The week before Christmas saw us travelling to Dubbo for the NSW U14 State Club Championships. For many boys this was their first experience of playing a State tournament. It was here under the guidance of Rok Crnica that the team began to find their feet. With the help of Federico Canas-Velasco from the 14B's as goalie, we secured a spot playing for bronze. We played a very strong Cronulla team and came away with a win and took home the bronze medal.

Following the State Championships a number of boys were selected for NSW State Teams:

- Jarrah Ronan and Brandon Wicks (Blues)
- Jordan Lancaster (Platypus)
- Corey Brown and Adam Lukic (Opals)

Our first game back after the Christmas break was a rematch against Cronulla. We again won 9-6 which proved we were now a team to be reckoned with. However our early season



losses made it hard to claw back points in the Metro comp and saw us finish 4th overall.

With our momentum on the rise we were looking forward to U14 Nationals in Albury over Easter.

Unfortunately Coach Rok could not make the trip and Charlie Kospetas came to the rescue, stepping in at the last moment. It was here the boys really got it together and came top of their group undefeated.

Unfortunately one loss in the second round saw us pushed out of the Championships and into the Plate round together with Sydney Uni, who were the Metro and State Champion winners.

Although we lost and finished up 10th overall, the result did not reflect just how well this team had progressed. These boys played their best games at Nationals and should be very

proud of themselves. It was great to see how much the boys developed as players and a team.

I would like to thank Rok for coaching the boys, his passion for the game and for the boys and Charlie for giving up his Easter holiday for a trip to Albury. I would like to thank the parents for their help and support during the season. The boys had a great time and made new friends. Looking forward to seeing the boys progress in the U16s.

Amanie Janes
Manager

Coach: **Rok Crnica** (and **Charlie Kospetas** for Nationals)
Manager: **Amanie Janes**
MVP: **Jordan Lancaster**
MIP: **Jarrah Ronan**

Under 14B Boys

TEAM: Lipina Ata, Yorke Bodecott, Federico Canas Velasco, Alex Coombe-Swanson, Keenan Ewings, Lachlan Hay, Jacob Johnstone, Jack Kahui, Reuben Palmer, Ryan Palmer, Kellen Parker and Jayden Wong.



Coach: **Connor Wicks** (**Rod Perez** for Nationals)
Manager: **Kristin Hay**
MVP: **Alex Coombe-Swanson**
MIP: **Kellen Parker**

Under 16A Girls

TEAM: Olivia Patrick, Tori Workman, Phoebe Hall, Macy Hansford, Charlotte Gates, Cara Murray, Lilli Harris, Georgia Smith, Gabrielle Hooper and Jolie Marsden.

With the majority of the team working hard over the winter season preparing for the 16 Nat's the previous year, expectations were high coming into the summer competition. And with three players of high calibre from outside the Sydney region joining the team, the girls were ready to go come October.

As the season progressed it was clear that there were only three teams worthy of being premiers. This was a bit unfortunate as strong competition matches for the girls were

nonexistent on a weekly basis. There was nothing separating the top three teams with draws and one goal victories common.

The first test came in the NSW State titles and the girls drew UNSW Wests (the eventual winners) in the rounds where a valiant performance saw the match end in a draw. The girls progressed easily into the semi finals however as with most tournaments, a team usually has one match they would like to forget. Unfortunately it was this one. However to the girls credit they showed wonderful DWPC character to pick themselves up and deliver one of their better performances of the tournament with a crushing victory over Cronulla to secure the bronze medal.

Bronze was the inevitable colour in the metro competition as well for the girls.

Despite not winning a premiership, the girls showed tremendous dedication and commitment and proved to themselves that they have the ability to play a high standard of water polo, even at this age level.

Congratulations to Macy Hansford for MVP and Tournament 6 along with Jolie Marsden who also made Tournament 6 at the NSW state titles.

Further congratulations to the rest of the team who all made their respective NSW state age teams. We will have to check the record books to see if any team has successfully had every player be selected as a NSW representative! A wonderful feat for a group of girls who by in large seem to have just as much fun out of the water as within.

The strong friendship that all of these girls have developed over the season will no doubt ensure that irrespective of where each of them end up in the future they will always be connected.

In closing I would like to thank all the parents for taking their daughters to all the trainings and matches and providing all the support on pool deck to ensure the journey was enjoyable as possible.

Andrew Murray, Manager

Coach: Jenny MacGregor
Manger: Andrew Murray
MVP: Macy Hansford
MIP: Lilli Harris



Under 16B Girls

TEAM: Cara Parker, Deb Span, Erika Lucas, Gabrielle Costantino, Isabella Mincher, Kate Coyne, Maddison Jabbour, Parker Hall, Ruby Peresa, Sophia Zorzi and Stephanie Kegg.

As a new member to Drummoyne, I was excited to be able to take on the L16B Devils. The team was made up of current Devil members and Piranhas' junior members who also saw each other on a couple of Wednesday nights as part of the Ladies Second Division competition.

The girls bonded quickly, made some great new friends and turned up each week ready to play. As a coach, that is all I can ask of my players. We had some great yet tough training sessions with the help of Morgan Baxter.

A trying season with some near misses in which the results could have easily gone in our favour, but each time, the girls showed resilience turning up and starting fresh the following game every time.

The second half of the season brought some difficulties with having a few players not continuing with the team due to illness, relocation and other commitments. I'd like to thank the L14A Devils for stepping up and helping out the team when we were short to be able to field a competitive team.

The girls travelled to Canberra for the U16 State Championships, the last junior tournament for many players before they hit the U18 age group. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank **Mark Simpson and Denise Kegg** for taking on the role of coach and manager at the tournament on my behalf. By all accounts, the girls had a great time despite some losses, but were never without a smile all four-days.

It was a pleasure to coach and mentor this group of girls. While results might not have gone our way at times, they were enthusiastic in getting in the water with a clean slate each week.

I hope you all enjoyed the season and have made some long-time friends!

Stef Jelic
Coach

Coach: **Stefani Jelic**
Manger: **Leanne Costantino**
MVP: **Maddi Jabbour**
MIP: **Cara Parker**

Under 16A Boys

TEAM: Nathanael Griffiths, Will Kablau, Jackson Brown, Nikita Strbac, Ben Tuite, Ben Wood, Alex Cornish, Nabeel Hatoum, Jack Pringle, Alex Leckie, (and Charly Simoni at State Champs).



It was a tumultuous season of summer water polo for a new 16A team - just like a theme park ride (one of those crazy ones that go from side-to-side and up and down).

From the start of the season Rod worked hard with the boys on two things - fitness in the water at training (after a winter hiatus this was a good thing); and their teamwork and play at games - asking the boys to setup correctly and get the ball moving between players.

Their first match (their first in the water together) v Balmain Black finished with a nice win. This was followed by a win v Cronulla Black - getting our goals from good field play and extra man - keeping control of the ball and the match. The following game vs Hunter was a draw - a close game, with evenly matched teams, the game only lost by being caught off-guard. The team was definitely coming along and working together.

We lost our fourth game against SNB, but the close 2nd half meant a smaller loss. The learning was to keep moving forward - don't dwell on mistakes, regroup and refocus - and give 100% to the game when you're in the water. Next was a 'carnival round' at Parramatta with an early game vs Wests White (lost) then a late game vs Balmain Gold (won) - it seemed in the end that the first game was a warm-up for the second.

Back at Sutherland we drew against Cronulla Blue 6-6. The boys had been given a challenging brief to attempt goals from outside the 5m mark - so they worked at that and scored 3 goals this way. The boys gave 100% to this game and it showed.

A weekend off with a bye and then the boys came back fighting to win 7-2 over Wests White (whom they had lost to at Parramatta!) The marked thing about this game was that the boys

warmed up, and they listened to and then acted on Rod's instruction. The final two rounds before the break weren't as successful so it was a good time for a rest and regroup.

Over the summer break, Rod spent additional time at the pool keeping everyone who was around swim fit. These early morning sessions at Drummoyne were fantastic and well attended - it was encouraging to see so many turn up. This was then backed up by regular evening water polo training - all in preparation for the State Championships in February.

Before heading to the tournament, we played Sydney Uni Blue and had a gratifying win on home ground. The boys played their own game. Rod had asked them to play a defensive game against the season leaders and control the game. The boys did exactly that, fighting hard and winning 8-7. It was an awesome start to the final half of the season! The following weekend was another 'carnival' round: 2 games, hours apart, with one win and one loss.

Next were the State Championships in Canberra. Words to describe this tournament were fun, tough, eventful, rollercoaster, tiring, sociable, enjoyable and hot. And while the boys didn't do as well as expected, they never gave up and took a lot of setbacks on the chin as they went. It was hot, very hot - but at least the nights were cool and there was time to relax.

A huge thanks to Rod and Srdjan for their time, support and commitment to both our 16s boys teams who took part in the tournament. Thank you Rod for your time, effort, passion and enthusiasm for the 16A team and all the 16s boys, in training and in games, to get us to the State tournament and back in great shape. Notwithstanding the illness, injuries and the dramas that unfolded while away, the boys returned with the skills and confidence as a team to finish the summer season. On a lighter note - in the final days, the boys performed the Guacamole song as a warmup under the trees. Thanks boys. Avocados are forever changed and I have video, so watch out.

After the State Championships, PJ took over the coaching to steer the boys to the end of the season. The tournament away together, some rest and a home crowd paid off and the boys won their second game more decisively vs Cronulla Black, 13-5. The next game vs SNB was at home - and while not a win, it was a good tight game for the first 3 quarters. The 2 teams had very different styles - ours slower than SNB - and the final quarter just rushed away. It was still a good game to watch from the deck - which is always great for our parents!

Back at Parramatta for another 'carnival' round - and with another slow starting game - the boys lost 5-6 (but that was a good result given they were down 0-4 at halftime). The early evening game was the reverse - the boys started out fresh and gained momentum right till the end, defeating Sydney Uni Gold 9-3. In this match it was rewarding to see the extra man training that PJ had been working on playing out so well in this game. With that, the 16s said goodbye-farewell-amen to Parramatta Pool - it has closed and will be demolished.

That brings us to the penultimate round for the season - which was non-stop excitement for parents watching, and a record 107 WhatsApp messages of blow-by-blow coverage of this home game. This was a 'do or die' game for Drummoyne against Cronulla Blue with both teams fighting for a spot in the semi-final. Nothing stopped our boys - but all the way to half time the teams scored goals 1 for 1! The boys responded brilliantly to the occasion to end with an 11-8 win - securing a semi final spot for this summer season. This was a big achievement to finish in this position after such an up-and-down competition.

The following week - our final round was against Sydney Uni Blue (who ultimately took the gold for the summer). The boys lost the game 13-2 - but the following week played them again in the semi-final and took out all the stops - taking their game to the opposition. We lost 10-6 - but with 5 of those goals on extra man. This was seriously gratifying as this was a play that had been worked on in the preceding weeks and the work paid off with a great result. It was game worthy of being a semi-final - and showed the team deserved to be there.

Out of the grand final - but a great way to finish. My thanks to PJ for taking the team for the latter half of the season and onwards - and getting the boys delivering on their combined talent in the pool.

Jennifer Gwynne
Manager

Coach: **Rod Perez/PJ Hahn**
Manager: **Jennifer Gwynne**
MVP: **Nikita Strbac**
MIP: **Jackson Brown**

Under 16B Boys

TEAM: Curtis Palmer, Bill Athanassiou, Max Manak, Fergus McCrory, Nicky Sabine, Mac Hay, Charly Simoni, Will Bondy, Oliver Kenny, Sebastian Gilchrist and Finn Barry.

Each season unveils a different journey and the boys' development over the summer comp was reflected in their overall ranking. The boys worked incredibly hard placing us higher and higher in the ladder each week. Our final round was against the undefeated Sydney Uni Blue. Whilst we narrowly lost that game, we managed to rattle them – which we took away as a big win that night! We came across Sydney Uni Blue again in the Semi's the following week which resulted in another narrow loss of 4-3. A great result to wrap up a fantastic season!

All the boys made a huge contribution throughout the season so it was tough for Srdjan to select the MIP and MVP.

Our MVP was awarded to **Finn Barry** who had his first season as a field player and quickly became the anchor for the team. His lethal shots each game placed him on top of the goal scoring leader board. He would strike anytime and from virtually anywhere in the pool which helped us move higher on the ladder each week. Finn is also a real team player and earned the respect of his team mates.

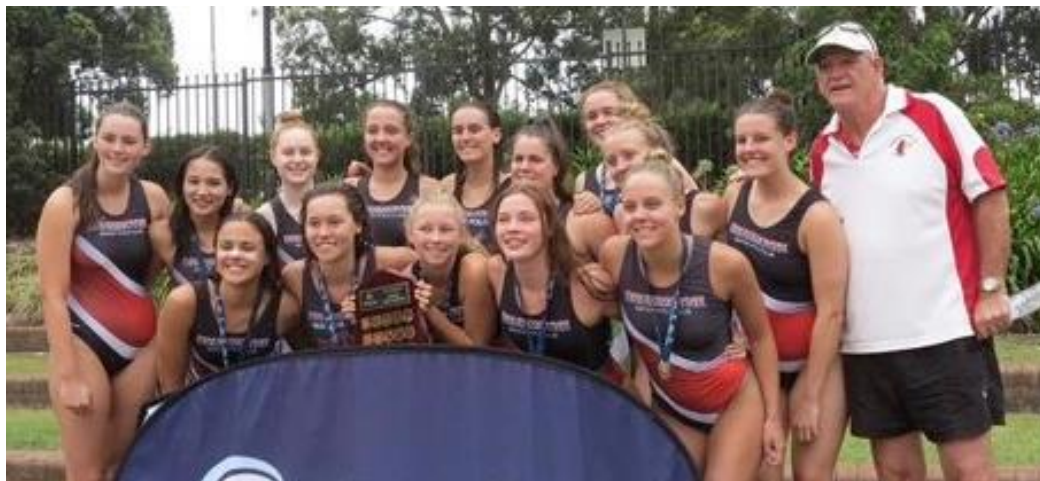
The Most Improved Player was awarded to **Max Manak** who worked incredibly hard all season and quickly became one of the most instrumental players. Each player has their individual strengths but Max developed into one of our strongest defenders. He mastered playing a game with strength, strategy and intelligence and managed to continually shut down the most challenging centre forwards in each game.

Yumi Bondy, Manager

Coach: **Srdan Maric**
Manager: **Yumi Bondy**
MVP: **Finn Barry**
MIP: **Max Manak**

Under 18 Girls

TEAM: Brooke Mather, Emma Jones, Georgia Southern, Kayla Rogers, Ruby Borozan, Lilli Borozan, Carla Traplin, Sarah Kerrison, Georgia Gray, Lillian Hunt, Tessa Barry, Georgie Gardner, Georgia Webb, Olivia Harrison, Grace Marsh and Phoebe Hall.



LU18 NSW STATE CHAMPIONS

A successful season for the Under 18 girls team NSW State Champions, Sydney Runners-Up and 6th at the Nationals. A bonus with plenty of the group part of the NSW Under 20 Championship team.

After spending a couple of seasons playing to the new rules, the change to 13 players presented its challenges. There were plenty of distractions away from the pool with school, injuries and representative water polo.

I said a couple of seasons back that consistency was the key to success. Reflecting back on the season when we played consistently and there were no distractions we did well e.g. NSW U18 and U20 tournaments.

Congratulations to the winners of the team awards, Georgia Southern MVP and Lillian Hunt MIP, plus all the girls who earned selection in all the different representative teams. Great experience for Emma to play for Australia at World Juniors and Brooke, Carla and Georgia to gain selection in AUS age group squads.

Thanks to Cheryl and Bev who were both great support throughout the season and put on another fantastic trip to Perth. Thanks also to all the parents, grandparents, siblings and water polo purists who toured with the group and supported the team in a very busy season.

Well done to the girls who completed their HSC and entered the next stage of their life. We have a great group. We had some great times and plenty of laughs in and out of the water. Wouldn't have it any other way. Looking forward to seeing you all on pool deck.

Michael Hahn, Coach

Coach: Michael Hahn
Managers: Cheryl Jones & Bev Southern
MVP: Georgia Southern
MIP: Lillian Hunt

Under 18 Boys

TEAM: Connor Wicks, James Kolenda, Jacob Taranto, Angus Davis, Jack Rector, Nikita Strbac (Metro and States), Ben Wood – (Nationals), Joe Kospetas, Bronson Ronan, Sam Yip, Aidan Schmitt, Alex Hooper and Jamie Samuel.



U18, as we know, are an interesting age group with new and competing priorities in life such as social engagements, girls and increased school responsibilities. We started the Summer U18 season with the core of the U16 team who had just won

bronze at Nationals two weeks before, and added two '99 born players in James and Jack.

There were some high hopes for what the boys might be capable of. They started off the season very well, even scoring a solid win against a full strength Wests before Christmas. We knew Wests were going to be our main competition for the pennant. We went into State Championships at the end of January (always a challenging time with boys away) where we managed a Bronze behind Wests and Cronulla.

With some work to do before Nationals, we realised our fitness and speed were not where they needed to be over the 30m format. We started work for Nationals, which was in Perth during April school holidays. Hard work started to pay off and we finished the metro season strongly with a silver medal, but still had more work to do.

As the boys prepared for Nationals, our coach Teo also found that NL commitments were impacting his ability to coach and play so we were very appreciative of Mitch Emery who stepped in and agreed to take the boys to Nationals. We started slowly by losing the first 2 games that were expected to be wins. Maybe it was all part of a cunning plan to fool the opposition into a false sense of security. The boys then found themselves having to win every game and hope for a few other results to go our way as well so we could move to the championship rounds. Who said they don't like a challenge?

After some gentle mentoring from lifestyle coach big John Kospetas along the lines of "Put in or we won't feed you," and a look from Mitch like, "What did I get myself into?" the boys turned a corner and started playing some good water polo. The boys dug deep and won their required games and by the requisite goal margin to get them through to the championship rounds.

It was here that we came up against Melville and their Japanese import whose registration validity was questionable. If it wasn't for meeting Melville in the Quarter Finals we could well have made top 4! We lost that game by the number of goals scored by the import, but we went on to win all our other games to claim a respectable 5th, making us the 2nd ranked NSW team. Overall a good season and it is hoped that the bulk of this team will be back for U18 Summer 17/18 and another tilt at the prize.

I would like to say a big thank you to Teo and Mitch for coaching the boys, and John Kospetas for the support on tour! I want to also thank the parents for enthusiastically supporting the team throughout the season.

Mike Wicks
Manager

Coach: **Teo Galic** (and **Mitch Emery** at Nationals)
Manager: **Michael Wicks**
MVP: **James Kolenda**
MIP: **Alex Hooper**

Col Smee – U20 Girls & Boys

It was a hot old week at Parramatta Pool for the Col Smee U20 State Champs - but as befits the Devils - we fired up and finished hard! Congratulations to our U20 girls who won gold in a come-from-behind win against Sydney Uni (7-5), and to our U20 boys who finished with silver after losing to UNSW Wests (8-4).

Special congrats to Savannah Henshaw who was named Girls' MVP, and who along with Emma Jones and Jolie Marsden, was named in the Tournament 7. Well done too to Keenan Marsden and Rowan Farrell who were named in the Boys Tournament 7. Thank you to our coaches (Michael Hahn for the girls and Mitch Emery for the boys), the managers (Beverly Southern

and Phil Artemi), the volunteers who helped on the table and the supporters who braved the blistering conditions.

Our girls team consisted of Brooke Mather, Emma Jones, Georgia Southern, Kayla Rogers, Emma Tuite, Sarah Harnwell, Carla Traplin, Georgia Gray, Savannah Henshaw, Sarah Kerrison, Jolie Marsden, Georgie Gardner, Ruby Borozan and Lilli Borozan.

Our boys team members were Blake Artemi, Ben Scobie, Joe Kospetas, Bronson Ronan, Rowan Farrell, Adam Hall, Ben Cochrane, Alejandro Perez, Chris Artemi, Charlie Kospetas, Keenan Marsden, Mitchell Marsden and Aidan Schmitt.



Women's National League /L1

TEAM: Steph Calaizis, Emma Jones, Carla Graupera, Erin Moodie, Jolie Marsden, Sarah Harnwell, Savannah Henshaw, Breanna Appel, Elise Holden, Karlee Assef, Morgan Baxter, Alex Corbett, Georgia Southern, Carla Traplin, Kelsey Baxter and Brooke Mather.

In my first year with the ladies squad we have implemented a culture of mutual respect and support that acknowledges each other for making it possible to practise and play our game. We also started building attitudes, accountabilities and skills to develop a winning culture.

Our results during the metro league and national league were mixed, and this reflects a disjointed preparation programme and a relatively inexperienced player group that had to learn a different style of play. However, the team played some fantastic water polo at times which has laid the foundation for our future success.

The players and I learnt some valuable lessons during the season. The most important lesson was delivered by Rob Rowland-Smith (aka The Sandhill Warrior), who has been the fitness trainer and mentor for many sporting greats such as Layne Beachley. Rob's message about

self-belief and dedication to achieving personal success was very well received by the squad, and the immediate result was a superb win against UNSW Wests. If we can continually live and breathe this attitude, we will achieve long-term personal and team success!

I would like to especially thank Michael Hahn, Greg Harnwell, Peter Corbett and David Baxter for their assistance with running the squad. Also, a very big thank you to all the parents, junior players, club 'helpers', sponsors and supporters who made every game-day possible.

Thank you ladies and strength to your arm!

Dan Marsden
Coach

Coach: Dan Marsden

Assistant Coach: Michael Hahn

Manager: Greg Harnwell

MVP NL: Bre Appel

MVP L1: Morgan Baxter

First Division MIP: Georgia Southern



L2 Red

TEAM: Brooke Mather, Alana Jones, Nicola Murphy, Dani White, Emma Tuite, Ellen Pittorino, Kelsey Baxter, Elise Holden, Shannan Martin, Lillian Hunt, Kate Murphy, Ellen Hahn, Erin Moodie.

METRO RUNNERS UP

Plenty blamed the colour change for our inability to defend our title. I think it came down to the fact the opposition were fitter in the final in what was a close game where we had our chances to win.

We were not as diligent in our preparation this year however it was great to come together as a group and play some great water polo and see everyone enjoy each other's company. Good to see some juniors join the group and I'm sure they all enjoyed the experience. Well done Elise Holden, Erin Moodie, Kelsey Baxter and Brooke Mather who all played National League. Plenty of highlights away from the pool with a first for the group - our first engagement. It was a big season for Nicola Murphy snaring her man and the MVP. Congratulations and all the best to Nicola and Anto in their life away from the pool.

Thanks again to Neale for another tremendous effort managing the group and doing a brilliant job week in week out.

You all have busy a life with school, university, careers and life away from the pool. All these distractions and we can still put together a very solid performance week in week out. Well done girls and I look forward to seeing you all backing up next season.

Michael Hahn

Coach

Coach: **Michael Hahn**
Manager: **Neale Murphy**
MVP: **Nicola Murphy**



L2 Black

TEAM: Lily Hawthorne, Sarah Harnwell, Georgia Southern, Macy Hansford, Siani Swarbrick, Ruby Boroza, Carla Traplin, Georgia Gray, Pip Nash, Sarah Kerrison and Lily Boroza (up to February).

It was a very good season for the L2 Black team. They finished the rounds in 2nd position behind Drummoyne's L2 Red team. This is a great achievement since this is a development team with players all being U18. Training for the team was with the National League Squad which gave the opportunity for rapid development towards future national league representation.

The 2 v 3 semi-final saw Drummoyne Black narrowly defeated (one goal) by a very strong and experienced UNSW team.

I would like to thank Bev Southern who stepped up to take on the managerial role each week and always being there for me when I needed the score sheets sent to the Association.

Jenny MacGregor
Coach/Manager

Coach & Manager: **Jenny MacGregor**
MVP: **Carla Traplin**

L3 Red

TEAM: Olivia Patrick, Kristyn Bennett, Steph Polivka, Elissa Branwhite, Kaitlin Laycock, Lilli Harris, Olivia Harrison, Rachel Horton, Tessa Barry, Grace Marsh, Gabby Hooper, Kayla Rogers, Georgie Gardner and Georgia Webb.

Another successful season qualifying for the semis and providing a great opportunity for some juniors to get a taste of playing in the top division. From the youngest to the oldest player – and as frustrating as it was at times – everyone enjoyed themselves and it was a great effort by everyone.

Congratulations to the quiet achiever, Georgie Gardner, who had a very consistent season and was the team MVP. Thanks to the senior girls who played every week and were a great support for the younger group of players.

Congratulations to Bronte Ryan who played some L3 games and looked very comfortable playing at this level.

Thanks to Neale Murphy for doing another brilliant job managing the group and to all the parents, partners and siblings for helping out on game day and away from pool deck.

I look forward to seeing everyone on pool deck next season. Go Devils!!

Michael Hahn, Coach

Coach: **Michael Hahn**
Manager: **Neale Murphy**
MVP: **Georgie Gardner**

L3 Black

TEAM: Lucy Coon (post Christmas), Alison Greig, Julie Rohl, Charlotte Gates, Cara Murray, Phoebe Hall, Jenny MacGregor, Georgia Smith, Brooke Dredge, Sharna Small and Tori Workman.



It was not a Premiership this year for this group of senior players with their new junior recruits. The team performed very well in the semi-final to comfortably defeat the L2 Red team. This game was probably the team's best performance for the season.

Unfortunately the team had many players unavailable for the following week's Grand Final against a very strong UNSW team and those who made the game fought hard to defend the previous seven year premiership run by this team.

I would like to thank Julie, Sharna, Brooke and Alison, the old heads who kept the team running each week. Well done on the silver medal.

Jenny MacGregor
Player/Coach

Coach/Player: **Jenny MacGregor**
MVP: **Julie Rohl**

L4

TEAM: Annette Jamieson, Lora Cipriani, Bronte Ryan, Danielle Mackay, Georgia Clarke, Kaitlin Foster, Kelly Parker, Rebecca Smith, Stephanie Boatswain and Maddison Tilyard.

Our ladies L4 team consisted of a mix of senior players and juniors. A little bit of youth and enthusiasm mixed with experience is the combination that we have found works best for this team. We had a successful season with many wins and most importantly a lot of fun!

A BIG thank you to Stephen Boatswain who was our designated referee for the season. It's very hard to find referees to come out on a Wednesday night to referee a game of L4! He did a SUPER job for us all season - a big thank you!

Another thank you to Tanya Ryan who sat on the table each game to do the clock and game card - another job that is very hard to fill - a big thank you to her too!

Most of the girls from the Summer Comp have backed up again in Winter and we are looking forward to another successful season!

Lora Cipriani
Manager

Manager: **Lora Cipriani**
MVP: **Bronte Ryan**

L5

TEAM: Anna Corry, Leanne Costantino, Claudia Elwaw, Genevieve Horton, Janya Koschnitsky, Leanne Lister, Grace Marsh, Iris Matthey-Jaquet, Prue Rayner and Holly Wright.

Manager: **Anna Corry & Leanne Costantino**
MVP: **Holly Wright**



Men's National League & M1

NATIONAL LEAGUE: John Hahn, Matteo Sessantini, Nate Sinclair, Rowan Farrell, Charlie Kospetas, James Smith, Mitch Emery, Tyler Martin, Sammy Avallone, Rok Crnica, Justin Trabinger, Hamish Cuthill, Teo Galic, Chris Artemi, Adam Hall, Keenan Marsden, Mitch Marsden, Ben Scobie, James Kolenda and Joe Kospetas.

M1 TEAM: Ben Scobie, Matteo Sessantini, Nick Taylor, Nate Sinclair, Chris Artemi, Keenan Marsden, Mitch Marsden, Charlie Kospetas, Adam Hall, Rok Crnica, Adam Polivka, Justin Trabinger and Hamish Cuthill.

I would call it a tough season: a season with ups and downs, happiness and sadness, learning and improving.

We gathered a bit later than usual, due to many commitments in the months leading up to the summer comp. Players coming back from overseas and Olympics looked fresh and recovered. A couple of new enthusiastic faces just lifted the bar one more level. The beginning of a new chapter was about to start.

The only concern at this stage was managing the time before our first game. The week before starting our National League season, we still didn't have a full squad. Looking at the roster for this season, there would be up to 25 games spread across 13 weeks. Not enough time to increase our fitness, and it was the first time the season would finish before Easter. First round we hosted Fremantle and it was clear that we needed to work on our fitness if we wanted to progress into the finals. After losing these 2 games, we lost much more than 6 points. We lost confidence, spirit and most importantly, belief in each other. Our next opponent was Adelaide, opposition we knew from before, which caused lots of mixed emotions. Everyone was expecting us to win, but we were just focussed on our team performance and getting better. Creating extra pressure has resulted in extra anxiety. After a bad performance against Wests, we knew what needed to happen. It took us 3-4 weeks and 10 games to get back on track.

Our road trip to Brisbane brought the team together and they continued to improve. Coming home with 3 wins out of 4 games was a good achievement. By carefully putting the pieces together, we went on to win 7 out of the next 8 games.

Making the finals this year was extra hard. One team out of four will not make finals, even if they had 13 wins throughout the season. This statistic shows how close this season actually was. Up to the last round, only 3 teams had qualified for finals.

The Drummoyne Devils team remained persistent. There was a desire and hunger for bigger and better results. The instinct of digging deep when it's needed most began to show. Our team spirit was back. Making the finals was something this team deserved and worked hard towards.

We played our best two games of the entire season in the finals. Even though we fought hard and gave our best to the end, unfortunately it wasn't enough to progress into the grand final.

I was pleased to coach this team for the past year. This season was brilliant in terms of how far we came, considering where we started to where we finished. Ideally we would have begun the season with the fitness, mental strength and team commitment we had at the end.

I'm looking forward to fighting back next season, drawing on all the qualities we possess now.

Petar Petrovic , Coach

Coach: **Petar Petrovic**
Assistant Coach: **Srdan Maric**
Manager: **Matt Farrell**
MVP NL: **Justin Trabinger**
MVP M1: **Sammy Avallone**
First Division MIP: **Charlie Kospetas**



M2

TEAM: Steven Xenakis, Ben Scobie, Joe Kospetas, Bronson Ronan, Ben Cochran, Jack Rector, Rowan Farrell, Adam Hall, Charlie Kospetas, James Kolenda, Nate Sinclair, Hamish Cuthill, Chris Artemi, James Brennan Jnr, Keenan Marsden and Mitch Marsden.



M2's this season was quite difficult at times as it was challenging to put a team together due to other commitments on a Saturday night.

The Drummoyne M2s was quite a strong team as all the players, apart from 3, were playing National League. This helped us to beat every team in the comp apart from the very

strong Sydney Uni team.

At the back end of a strong season Drummoyne M2's qualified to the semi finals in a tough game against a large and very experienced Wests squad who came up against only 7 of us (including two goalkeepers). The Drummoyne M2s played their best game all season and beat Wests in a nail biting game by two goals.

The following week in the Grand Final, the Drummoyne M2s came up against the comp favourites and previous winners, Sydney Uni. It was a tough game and unfortunately Drummoyne came out second best with a respectable silver medal.

Mark Ronan, Manager

Coach: **Srdan Maric**
Manager: **Mark Ronan**
MVP: **James Kolenda**

M3

TEAM: Blake Artemi, James Brennan Jnr, Angus Davis, Eli Deloraine, Matt Deloraine, Matt Dembecki, Phillip Emery, Alexander Hooper, Ryan Marnell, Andrew Murray, Alejandro Perez, Jamie Samuel, Aidan Schmitt, Jacob Taranto, Connor Wicks and Sam Yip.



At left, 2016 M3
Winter Gold
Medallists.

Manager: **Caryn Schmitt**
MVP: **Ryan Marnell**

M4

TEAM: Oliver Fitschen, James Hayward, Daniel Sturrock, Paul Helyar, Harry Tunstall, Joel Foristal, Daniel Lister, Josh Rogers, Adam Richardson, Duncan Ritchie, Mark Simpson, Benj Murray and Michael Hayward.

This season our M4 side returned to defend the M4 title from the 2015/16 summer season. The Drummoyne M4 side had a strong start to the season, remaining undefeated up to the Christmas break, with 9 wins and 1 draw. After returning from the Christmas break we lost our way a little, with a number of close losses in the second half of the season, leaving the M4 side placed 3rd at the end of the rounds.

In the semi-final we came up against our archrivals, Cronulla, for a place in the grand final. Cronulla were unfortunately too good for us on the night and knocked us out at the semi-finals and eventually went on to win the M4 Grand Final against SNB.

It was great to see the younger players in the M4 side stepping up and dominating many of the games during the season, setting a very solid foundation for the M4 side for many years to come.

It was another enjoyable season of BBQ water polo, even if it was not the end to the season that we were after. Hope to see you all back over the winter and next summer.

Mark Simpson
Player/Manager

Manager: **Mark Simpson**
MVP: **Harry Tunstall**



M4 gold medallists in Winter 2016 Metro.

M5 Red

TEAM: Craig Pendergast, Ethan Parker, Troy Ready, Daniel Lukic, Paul Whelan, Thomas Linfield-Kent, Ben Wastie-Pero and Will Cornish.

A tough season with a lot of new young players and a couple of old hard heads and we ended up with only 8 players, after Fraser pinched a couple for his 7th grade side.

With the average age coming down about 40 years and 40 kg's the young guys battled on well and often played above their age and size.

Finishing a credible fourth.

Craig Pendergast
Manager

Manger: Craig Pendergast
MVP: Thomas Linfield-Kent

M6 Red

TEAM: Mark Rogers, Greg Broome, Col Churton, Nick Grbin, Darren Spooner, Josh McMahon, Patrick Zadow, Sam Acioli, James Tuite, James Brennan, Serge Gonzalez, Angelo Tsirekas, Greg Bray, Patrick Hahn, Neale Murphy (and Michael Hahn as our ref).

The motto of the season was "the bench" as many know in the lower grades, a few mature Devils play year after year and often have to miss a throw on a Tuesday night due to their careers, missus, children or plain old family commitments.

This season we decided to emphasise how important it was to have a strong "bench" at games to ensure that we could rotate those players in the pool (a little worse for wear) a little more often, other than our strong young team members. This proved to be very successful all season. We were never short and had a very committed bunch of caps.

Our mix of players was our strength, we gained 4 caps that fell down from M5. These old caps – all veterans of the club and well known to all around the pool deck – Bub, Gub, Mayor and Argie, these 4 budgie smugglers brought experience and yes, goals. And with a Hahn skill set (one with the whistle and one in the pool) PJ and 2 swimming in their late teens (fish) combined with Mr Swim Off, a man bigger than the net in goals and the rest of us would be's, we'd created a good balance.

We lost our first game but then progressed to produce some good form all season stringing a long list of wins together, even a couple coming from behind against the stronger competition.

"The one that got away". A statement that is often played over and over when you leave the worst team performance till the last game of the season. Saying that, it *was* the grand final so who's really complaining? 😊

Mmmm, you know how it is, you do the work, you have the plan, you do the training, you have the meetings and talk it out, but on the night, we just didn't string it together.

Overall a great season, the normal banter and stories at the local pubs after the game with some good polo in the mix.

Onto Tuesday nights next season, maybe this will be the one.

Thanks for the season gentlemen, looking forward for the same crew to go round again.

Mark Rogers
Manager

Manager: **Mark Rogers**
MVP: **Patrick Hahn**

M7 Red

TEAM: Kerry Sunderland, Fraser Foristal, David Henricks (Coach), Harry Steen, Lars Foged, Peter Johnston, Spencer Clifton, Ted Churchyard, Brad Parker, Peter Gainsford, Matt Ellis, Matt Henricks, Michael Young (Manager) and Lucas Gaha.

The team had another excellent season coming second in the rounds to the experienced SNB. This meant we have made and lost 3 consecutive grand finals – this time 8/7 to SNB.

We led everywhere except for the last minute.

We played SNB four times and spilt the results 2/2 outscoring them overall.

Drummoyne were the competition's best attacking and defensive unit, scoring 203 goals and conceding 68.

Matt Ellis was the competition's top goal scorer with 51. Matt is also the team's MVP.

Other major goal scorers were Brad Parker with 38 and Harry Steen with 30.

Thanks to M6 for providing players at the start of the season while the team was being sorted.

Mike Young
Manager

Manger: **Mike Young**
MVP: **Matt Ellis**

M7 Black

TEAM: Rod Wallwork, Tom Southern, Matt Pennycook, Ed Boyd, Steve Lewis, Phil Holst, Steve Simpson, Aidan Pennycook, Greg Cullen, Graham Purcell and Ian Van der Steege.

Another year again goes by with friend and foe playing the game we all love.

With only an 11-man side we certainly gave our best and at times with no reserves, won a few exceptional games.

Our usually line-up consisted of Rod Wallwork, Tom Southern, Matt Pennycook, Ed Boyd, Steve Lewis, Phil Holst, Steve Simpson, Aidan Pennycook, Greg Cullen, Graham Purcell and Ian Van der Steege.

Put your hand up if you have ever seen a goalie score a goal from their own goal mouth. And I'm not talking about an own goal but a shot the length of the field???

Well Rocking Rod our goalie scored 2 goals in two separate games whilst wearing the red hat. Both were shots from his goal mouth and they were awesome shots. Rock on Rod.

As usual we made it to finals rounds, however we were defeated by the other M7 Drummoyne team in the dying minute.

To say the least, our team was disappointed by the loss.

Our MVP was given to Ed Boyd. We all loved his enthusiasm and energy during the season.

Great team turn-out for the annual presentation.

Aidan Pennycook
Manager

Manager: **Aidan Pennycook**
MVP: **Ed Boyd**

Award Winners 2016/17

Michael Corry Clubman of the Year	Amanie Janes
Garry Nicholls Junior of the Year	Ben Scobie

TEAM	MVP	MIP
NL	Justin Trabinger	
M1	Sammy Avallone	
M2	James Kolenda	
M3	Ryan Marnell	
First Division MIP		Charlie Kospetas
M4	Harry Tunstall	
M5	Thomas Linfield-Kent	
M6	PJ Hahn	
M7 Red	Matt Ellis	
M7 Black	Ed Boyd	
Second Division MIP		Will Cornish
M18	James Kolenda	Alex Hooper
M16A	Nikita Strbac	Jackson Brown
M16B	Finn Barry	Max Manak
M14A	Jordan Lancaster	Jarrah Ronan
M14B	Alex Coombe-Swanson	Kellen Parker
NL	Bre Appel	
L1	Morgan Baxter	
L2 Red	Nicola Murphy	
L2 Black	Carla Traplin	
L3 Red	Georgie Gardner	
L3 Black	Julie Rohl	
First Division MIP		Georgia Southern
L4	Bronte Ryan	
L5	Holly Wright	
Second Division MIP		Maddie Tilyard
L18	Georgia Southern	Lillian Hunt
L16A	Macy Hansford	Lilli Harris
L16B	Maddi Jabbour	Cara Parker
L14A	Bronte Ryan	Stephanie Dunn
L14B	Chloe Judge & Bianca Walton	Maja Strbac

Representative Honour Roll 2016/17

Congratulations to our players selected in the following:

AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES

AJ Roach, Mitch Emery and Tyler Martin Australian Men's Team for 2016 Olympic Games in Rio.

Morgan Baxter - Aussie Stingers for the FINA World Championships, Hungary, in July 2017. Also part of the Aussie Stingers in the Kunshan Cup in Kunshan, followed by World SuperLeague Finals in Shanghai.

Emma Jones and Savannah Henshaw – Australian Women's Youth Team at FINA World Champs in NZ, December 2016.

Adam Hall – Australian Junior Men's Team at FINA World Champs in Belgrade, August 2017.
Alex Corbett – Australian Junior Women's Team at FINA World Champs in Belgrade, August 2017.

Savannah Henshaw, Justin Trabinger and Gianni Taranto – Australian teams for the 29th Summer Universiade in Taipei (to be held August 2017).

Daniel Lister and Matt Deloraine - Australian Men's representative team for the Princess Chulabhorn Water Polo Cup played in Thailand in November 2016.

Alex Corbett, Emma Workman, Gianni Taranto, Adam Hall and Rowan Farrell – AUS Born '97 training tours to Europe, July 2016.

Alex Corbett, Adam Hall, Mitchell Marsden, Rowan Farrell, Keenan Marsden and Gianni Taranto – AUS Born 97 Squad.

Emma Jones, Savannah Henshaw, Chris Artemi and Keenan Marsden – AUS Born 98 Squad.

Georgia Southern – AUS Born 99 Squad.

Phoebe Hall, Macy Hansford, Brooke Mather, Carla Traplin, Jolie Marsden, Charlotte Gates, Lily Hawthorn, Bronson Ronan, Jacob Taranto, James Kolenda and Connor Wicks - Born 2000 Squad.

Jolie Marsden and Nikita Strbac – AUS Born 02 squad.

Phoebe Hall, Carla Traplin and Brooke Mather in the AUS Born 00 Girls, Pan Pacs July 2016, and Carla and Brooke played in a Test Series against NZ. **Bronson Ronan** played in the AUS Born 00 Boys at Pan Pacs and Test Series v NZ, and **James Kolenda** played with the AUS Barbarians.

STATE / TERRITORY REPRESENTATIVES

Macy Hansford (captain of U14 Girls Blues), **Nikita Strbac** (U14 Boys Blues) and **Ben Tuite** (U14 Boys Waratahs) at ECC in Melbourne, July 2016.

Bronte Ryan and **Cara Murray** (U14 Girls Platypus), **Finn Barry** (U14 Boys Platypus), and **Alex Cornish**, **Brandon Wicks** and **Jarraah Ronan** (U14 Boys Opals) at U14 Pan Pac, July 2016.

Georgia Gray (U16 Girls Blues), **Tori Workman** (U16 Waratahs), **Lillian Hunt** and **Georgia Smith** (U16 Platypus), **Aidan Schmitt**, **Angus Davis**, **Jamie Samuel**, **Connor Wicks**, **Jacob Taranto** and **Sam Yip** (U16 Boys Blues), and **Jacob Gadiel** (U16 Boys Platypus) at U16 Pan Pacs, July 2016.

Georgia Southern and **Sarah Harnwell** (Junior Girls Blues), **Ruby Borozan** (Junior Girls Waratahs), **Harry Gilkes** (Junior Boys Blues), and **Jack Rector** (Junior Boys Waratahs) for Junior Pan Pacs.

Bronson Ronan, **Sam Yip**, **Joe Kospetas** and **Angus Davis** (NSW Blues team) and **Connor Wicks**, **Jamie Samuel** and **Jacob Taranto**, **Georgia Gray** and **Carla Traplin** (NSW Waratahs) in the Born '00 tournament against New Zealand.

Annabel Smith, **Jasmine Higgs**, **Rose Bouwman**, **Jemma Gilligan**, **Kara Simpson** and **Bronte Ryan** – U14 Born '02 Girls Squad.

Corey Brown, **Brandon Wicks**, **Adam Lukic**, **Jarraah Ronan** and **Jordan Lancaster** – U14 Born '02 Boys Squad.

Macy Hansford, **Charlotte Gates** and **Cara Murray** - U16 Born '02 Girls Squad.

Alex Cornish, **Ben Tuite**, **Nikita Strbac** - U16 Born '02 Boys Squad.

Nathaniel Griffiths and **Jackson Brown** - U16 Born '01 Boys.

Olivia Patrick, **Lilli Harris**, **Gabby Hooper**, **Tori Workman**, **Phoebe Hall**, **Georgia Smith** - U16 Born '01 Girls Squad.

Nathaniel Griffiths, **Jackson Brown**, **Ben Wood** and **Jack Pringle** - U16 Born '01 Boys Squad.

Sarah Kerrison, **Georgie Gardner**, **Kayla Rogers**, **Georgia Gray**, **Lillian Hunt** and **Georgia Webb** - U18 Women Squad.

Jack Rector, **Jamie Samuel**, **Aidan Schmitt** and **Joe Kospetas** - U18 Men's Squad.

Sarah Harnwell and **Emma Tuite** - U20 Women's Squad.

Ben Scobie, **Ben Cochrane**, **Charlie Kospetas** and **Alejandro Perez** – U20 Men's Squad.

Tori Workman and **Jackson Brown** - 2001 Blues.

Gabby Hooper, **Georgia Smith**, **Lilli Harris**, **Olivia Patrick**, **Ben Woods**, **Jack Pringle** and **Nathaniel Griffiths** - 2001 Waratahs.

Macy Hansford - 2002 Platypus.

Cara Murray - 2002 Opals.

Brandon Wicks and **Jarrah Ronan** – U14 Blues.

Bronte Ryan – U14 Waratahs.

Jordan Lancaster, Annabel Smith and **Kara Simpson** – U14 Platypus.

Adam Lukic, Corey Brown, Jasmine Higgs, Jemma Gilligan and **Rose Bouwman** – U14 Opals.

Lilian Hunt and **Sarah Harnwell** – Junior Women's Blues.

Pip Nash, Georgia Gardner, Siani Swarbrick and **Georgia Webb** – Junior Women's Waratahs.

Ben Scobie, Sam Yip and **Aiden Schmitt** - Junior Men's Blues.

Ben Tuite and **Nikita Strbac** - Born 02 Platypus.

Alex Cornish - Born 02 Opals.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

AUS School Girls/Boys - **Carla Traplin** and **Jack Rector** who played NZ and South Africa December 2016.

AUS School Girls/Boys named in 2017 team: **Jolie Marsden, Carla Traplin** and **Connor Wicks**.

Connor Wicks, Joe Kospetas, Bronson Ronan and **Sam Yip** - NSW Boys All Schools.

Carla Traplin, Brooke Mather, Jolie Marsden, Phoebe Hall and **Georgia Gray** - NSW Girls All Schools.

Sam Yip, Connor Wicks, Jacob Taranto, Joe Kospetas, Bronson Ronan, Jamie Samuels, Carla Traplin and **Brooke Mather** - NSW CIS.

Angus Davis and **Georgia Gray** - NSW CCC.

Jolie Marsden and **Phoebe Hall** - NSW CHS.

Acknowledgments

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Anne Farrell, Editor



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