



80th

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT
OF
ACCOUNTS**

2007-2008

To be presented at the Annual Meeting of Swimming Southland Inc, to be held in the Senior Citizens Rooms, Forth Street, Invercargill

Sunday, July 20th 2008 at 1.30pm.

**46th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of
SWIMMING SOUTHLAND COUNTRY CLUBS.
1962 - 2008**

AGENDA

Open – 11.30am

1. Roll Call of Delegates
2. Proxies
3. Apologies for Absence
4. Additions to General Business
5. Confirmation of Minutes - Annual Meeting – 22 July 2007
6. Election of Officers for 2008/2009 Season
 - a. Country Convenor of Selectors
 - b. Country Club Selectors.
 - c. Country – Resident Delegates (if not already nominated)
 - d. Country Examiner
7. General Business

The Chairman may vary the order, in which the business is taken, for any reason he/she deems necessary.

**80th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SWIMMING SOUTHLAND INC
1928 - 2008**

AGENDA

Open – 1.30pm

1. Roll Call of Delegates
2. Proxies
3. Apologies for Absence
4. Additions to General Business
5. Tabling of Club Annual Reports and Balance Sheets, and Names of Delegates appointed by Clubs for the ensuing year.
(Any Club that has failed to provide copies of its Annual Report and Balance Sheet shall not be permitted to participate in the meeting.)
6. Confirmation of Minutes - Annual Meeting – 22 July 2007
7. Presentation of Annual Report
8. Presentation of Financial Report – 2007.2008
9. Election of Officers for 2008/2009 Season
10. Consideration of recommendations of the Blazer and Life Membership Committee
11. Consideration of Remits and Recommendations of which notice has been given.
12. Presentation of Officials Credentials
13. General Business

The Chairman may vary the order, in which the business is taken, for any reason he/she deems necessary.

OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF SWIMMING SOUTHLAND

2007/2008 Season

Patron	Mr J Sutton
President	Mrs E. Price
Immediate Past President	Mr K. Sandri
Hon. Vice-Presidents	Mr J. Sutton Mrs E. Naylor
Executive Officer	Mr D Prattley
Head Coach	Mr J Duncan
Development Officer	Mr A Withington
Selectors	Mrs B Smith (Convenor) Mr O van Stekelenborg (resigned April 2008) Mrs F Dooley
Convenor of Country Clubs	Mr D. Frew (resigned Dec 2007)
Selectors – Country Club	Mrs. A. Flewelen (FIO), Mrs M. Anderson (CSL), Mrs B Morrison (HOK), Mrs R. Minty (WAI), Mrs G. Shanks (MTA), Mrs L Grove (RIV), Mrs S Johnston (BLF).
Examiner – Town	Mrs L. Sutherland and Mrs E, Price
Examiner – Country	Mrs. A. Flewelen
National Examiner	Mrs L. Sutherland
Chief Referee	Mrs L. Sutherland
Chief Starter	Mr. E. Barron
Chief Inspector of Turns	Mrs. J Wiegersma
Chief Timekeeper	Mr G Smith
Blazer and Life	
Membership Committee	Mr. J. Sutton, Mr. G. Mulligan and Mrs E. Naylor
Honorary Auditors	WHK Cook Adam Ward Wilson
Honorary Solicitors	Preston Russell Law Eagles, Eagles and Redpath
Honorary Medical Practitioner	Dr. R Bester
Management Committee	Mrs E Price(Chairperson), Mr N Soper (Deputy Chairperson), Mrs J. Wiegersma, Mrs F. Dooley, Mrs G. Sadlier (resigned April 2008), Mr Y. McDonald, Mrs J. Sanford, Mrs D. Chartres. Mrs S Tomlins.



A Tribute to

Moira Brigida Crowther nee McGrath

1/2/1917 - 10/6/2007

The McGrath family joined the Murihiku Swimming Club shortly after its inception in 1927 and first featured in the Clubs activities when Moira's brother Pat shattered the 66 2/3 yard record at a club carnival in 1931. The following year at the Club Championships, Moira had no difficulty in winning both the Intermediate Girls 100 and 200 yards Freestyle, swimming in splendid style. Moira went on to win 2 National silver medals in her teens. Moira must have been thrilled to start her career at the wonderful new Conon Street Pool – the best in the country.

In 1934 her father became the President of the Murihiku Swimming Club.

Later in 1937, 20 year old Moira, now Murihiku's Honorary Secretary, was chosen as a member of the Southland Swimming Centre's Team to compete in New Plymouth at the New Zealand Championships.

Moving into the 1940s (Second World War period) she was the Ladies Club Captain for several years.

Once Moira decided to spend less time in the water she became a very diligent timekeeper, very seldom missing a Club or Centre swimming meet. She was often allocated Lane 3, usually the fastest lane in a then 6 lane pool, as Chief Timekeeper. Look out if you were one of her assistants, no room for the slightest error!

As a timekeeper, chief timekeeper on lane 3, how many were in awe of her? How many has she encouraged and trained over her long career? If she was not asked to be an official she wanted to know why not?

Moira also officiated at National Meets held in Invercargill as well as help organise them. She must have officiated at hundreds of carnivals.

Moira also worked as Carnival Secretary where she had contact with the swimmers and had an understanding of them. This interest was lifelong- Moira could always tell you which swimmer was doing well, right up to the present time. Sitting on the side of the pool, presenting medals at club or centre she always knew the swimmers.

Life moved on for Miss McGrath and the Murihiku Amateur Swimming Club. Then in 1968 Wattie Crowther proposed to "our Moira". They were married for 21 years until Wattie's death in 1987, leaving Moira a widow for 20 years.

She has been the continuum, a bridge between the early Centre names and personalities, those unfamiliar names, largely forgotten, on the honours board. Names like Kirkland, Skow, McGrath, Davidson and the present day.

Moira's attendance at Centre, Delegates and AGM meetings was guaranteed – sitting at the back with Ted, Ray, Pat and Bill.

If you taking a meeting and had overlooked some point you would be gently reminded. Constant is a word not much used these days but Moira was constant in her support. Latterly her seat at meetings was at the front; these young people do not speak up as they should! After all we need to know what is going on.

In September 1973 the now Mrs Crowther donated a handsome cup to the Murihiku Swimming Club to be awarded to swimmers gaining the most points in Club and Centre carnivals during the past swimming year. The cup was to be known as the "M B McGrath Cup".

Moira also donated the "Moira Crowther Cup" for the "Official of the Year" to the Southland Swimming Centre. It is a very valuable trophy and is awarded to the person doing the work and not fronting the action. Moira was always on the awards panel, bringing her own ideas, carefully considered of all who had contributed. She often made us realise how easy it is to overlook quiet dedication. Last year she was involved in deciding this award, and probably came up with the winner – seventy six years on!

Murihiku was pleased when Moira agreed to be their Patron in 1991, continuing over the past 16 years until her death in June 2007.

Moira was bestowed a Swimming New Zealand Service Award in 1954 and a further Honours Award in 1964.

Moira received a Southland Swimming Honours Award in 1985 and also received Life Membership of the Southland Swimming Centre in 1971 and became our Patron at the 1994/95 AGM.

Three years ago we had the 75th anniversary celebrations for both Murihiku Swimming Club and Swimming Southland. Moira had much pleasure in cutting the cakes for both of these occasions. It was a treat to share her stories covering 70 plus years.

The Southland Swimming community would like to thank our life members for the support they gave to Moira in her latter years, especially John and Margaret Sutton who often bought Moira along to our swim meets. This was much appreciated by everyone especially our swimmers who valued Mrs Crowther's medal presentations. Many thanks to Life Members, Ethel Naylor and Graeme Mulligan for the information supplied for this tribute.

It is impossible to sum up her service, and we recognise and remember that. We also remember her as a lady, one who has been a big part of our swimming lives. She was a true Patron, she was committed and concerned. She will be missed. It is unlikely we will see another like her in this "modern age". Moira was something special. We give thanks for all the memories and warm friendships we have shared. As she said so many times when presenting medals, Well Done. Thank you, Moira.

Presidents Report

2007 – 2008 Season

It gives me great pleasure to present the 80th Annual Report of Swimming Southland Incorporated.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution our late Patron Mrs Moira Crowther made to our sport of swimming in Southland. Sadly Moira passed away on 10th June last year after 18 years service as our Patron and we appreciated her presence at our swim meets. She is very sadly missed.

Wow, another year has flown by. It has been great to have appointed Mr David Prattley to the position of Executive Officer after the departure of Lisa Harris. David does a great job in our administration tasks and brings a lot of experience gained in his prior role as Treasurer and

Management Member for Swimming Southland and I am sure he does a lot more than he is paid to do.

Congratulations to Jeremy Duncan and Natalie Wiegersma for being finalists in the Sports Southland Sports Awards.

I would like to thank Swimming Southland for my nomination for the SNZ Jackie Clarke Award, for SNZ Administrator of the Year 2007, which was a big surprise to win.

We are very appreciative of the continuing funding of the Invercargill Licensing Trust towards the Learn to Swim programme with the primary schools and bus transport to Splash Palace. I would like to thank Crosbie Grieve and his staff for the work they put into our pool environment and the cooperation that is being given between the Learn to Swim and the professional coach programme.

I would like to thank those parents who have assisted Swimming Southland with Team Management duties during the season. We really appreciate the time you give up to support our regional teams in this way.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all volunteer club and professional coaches who have done a tremendous job preparing our swimmers in the Learn to Swim environment and in the preparation for national and international competition. Thank you to Jeremy, Oscar and Aidan for your coaching skills. We look forward to the clubs participation in the coaching clinics that are run, it is important that the clubs support these clinics to upskill all club coaches so we are all working to the same standard.

I would like to thank all of the club administrators and committees for the hard work they undertake for their various clubs. We are a very small sporting community and are indebted to you for the time and energy you spend in your club. A huge thank you to you all.

Financially it has been a very difficult year. We have a deficit situation which is very disappointing but it is very hard now with the drop in revenue collected from registrations of only competitive swimmers. This presents a challenge to the incoming committee. We are reviewing our current budget and may not be in a position to fund everything we have been able to do so in the past. There may be more user pay components passed on and more fundraising ideas will have to be considered.

I would like to thank the Management Committee for their contribution to the running of swimming in Southland, I have really appreciated the time you have given up to attend meetings, especially the country members who travel a long way to attend these meetings and everyone's contribution to the revamp of the constitution. I would especially like to say a huge thank you to Nigel Soper for taking over the revamp of our constitution. This has been an enormous job to complete and I never thought we would get it completed in one year. Nigel has spent a huge amount of time to coordinate and complete this project.

It is important that all members of management contribute to the workload of the management team; it is very frustrating when no work is undertaken by some members from one meeting to the next. Just because we have an Executive Officer it does not mean there is no work to assist with. It is important that you take ownership and responsibility of the various portfolio areas and drive this area of swimming forward for the future.

It has been very disappointing to have to deal with another discipline issue this year. As always it is difficult to deal with a discipline issue when we are a very small sporting community. We had a very clearly set out discipline document to handle the discipline issue and this process was followed. A lot of people involved in the situation lose perspective of the issue and process, making for a difficult time for all. It is a very time consuming process when you are trying to deal with the day to day running of Swimming Southland as well and you have to put aside other work that you would rather be working through. At the conclusion of the current issue Swimming Southland has ordered another review of the discipline policy and Swimming Southland welcomes all comments on the policy and procedure.

Many thanks to Nigel for attending the recent Presidents Forum hosted by Swimming New Zealand in Wellington at the time this goes to print. We look forward to hearing about the future direction of Swimming New Zealand.

I would like to congratulate the Hokonui Swimming Club upon winning the Martin Cup for most club points at Southland Champs. They also cleaned up the relay competition and won the Murihiku Anniversary Cup. This is as a result of the excellent coaching being provided by David Prattley and the Hokonui Club coaches. The challenge is out now for the town clubs to regain this honour.

I would like to make a plea to the parents of our competitive swimmers; we need YOUR assistance to run swimming in Southland. We need new people to come on board to Swimming Southland and to assist us on poolside with our swim meets. It is a real crisis for us and we need to look to the people who are getting the benefit and in turn should be assisting with the running of our sport in Southland.

Swimming Southland is hosting the Southern Zone of New Zealand Juniors in February 2009 and I hope everyone supports the running of this meet.

Lyn Sutherland continues to serve on the Swimming New Zealand Technical Advisory Committee and is the National Examiner for the Southern Region.

I would like to thank the Community Trust of Southland, Invercargill Licensing Trust and the ILT Foundation for their ongoing in support of swimming in Southland in the way of sponsorship and grants. Our sport is considerably enhanced by their contribution and I hope that all of our members support them where possible.

Lastly I would like to thank the swimmers – the reason we are all involved. You have all worked so hard this season and have made Swimming Southland proud. I am impressed with your commitment, dedication and the endless hours of training you do in the pool. We are really proud of all your results, also regional and national achievements that are highlighted in the various club reports. Keep up the good work, hold onto those Olympic dreams. It can be done from Southland as some of our past swimmers can testify. Go for it!!!

For me the sport is about giving individuals the opportunities to reach their true potential. Swimming develops great life skills, discipline and self-esteem. It also gives people the opportunity to learn how to be safe and have fun in and around the water. It gives people who put their time and effort into learning to be officials, pathways to progress themselves through the sport. I appreciate very much the officials on pool deck giving up their time, when they don't even have any children in the sport any more. That shows the commitment from these individuals to our great sport.

I am stepping down from my 3rd term as President and 12th year working with the Swimming Southland Management Committee. I would like to thank Swimming Southland for the great opportunities I have had. I have worked with some excellent people and have learnt so much!!! I wish Swimming Southland all the best for the exciting future that lies ahead, it's a great sport!!!

Esther Price
President

Executive Officers Report

In our 80th year, Swimming Southland can look back over the past with pride.

The growth in swimming numbers has risen generally in clubs and with new initiatives these numbers will filter through to the competitive arena going forward. This is a good sign for Swimming Southland as we as a region must embrace and nurture swimming to ensure that over the next 80 years we are able to continue to produce national and international class swimmers.

Calendar

The bedding down of the new calendar was again a priority and this proved to be successful. Look out for a couple of minor changes for 2008/09 along with an exciting joint initiative with Foveaux Masters and Triathlon Southland promoting our Open Water swimming series. Open Water Swimming is now an exciting Olympic event and another pathway for our swimmers.

Records

We need to recognise in this report the fantastic effort of our swimmers in "raising the bar" again this season by setting 81 new Southland records.

Swimmers to break records were:

Natalie Wiegersma	28
Adam McDonald	26
Jared Sandri	17
Joyce Wiegersma	6
Emma Prattley	1
Rebecca Smith	1
Cameron Andrews	1
Molly Tomlins	1

We also need to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of Adam McDonald who broke 2 NZ Age Group records and Natalie Wiegersma who broke 1 Open and 10 Age Group NZ Records.

Travel and Accommodation

Once again my thanks to the excellent team managers we have had this season. Their cooperation and ability to work within tight time frames and budgets has been fantastic. I would however ask swimmers and families if wherever possible to make an early commitment to attending the National and South Island meets. It is extremely frustrating to be sending out email after email looking for the commitment one way or the other and the organisation hinging on 1 or 2 people not replying.

Website

I wish to publicly extend my thanks to Edward Barron who has continued to manage the Swimming southland website.

REGISTRAR –

Please find below details of affiliated members by club for the 2007.2008 season

CLUB	1998	1999	2000	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Delegates 2008
Murihiku	409	328	274	160	166	249	288	287	344	279	4
Waverley	273	283	275	155	76	230	235	197	238	230	3
Orca	379	310	318	193	170	175	168	185	119	176	3
Oreti	155	200	148	58	0	119	97	93	86	49	1
Collegiate	158	164	145	74	89	118	89	107	126	153	3
Unat									1	0	
Total Town	1374	1285	1160	640	501	891	877	869	914	887	13
Bluff	70	82	65	45	55	76	67	49	54	0	0
Hokonui	252	274	250	179	153	189	167	159	134	151	3
Mataura	84	56	52	27	36	66	58	53	52	64	2
Fiordland	107	113	108	61	43	25	80	76	90	62	2
Waiau	129	146	143	96	140	138	123	106	110	105	3
Central Str	236	198	224	113	133	206	146	171	159	163	3

Northern Stl	0	36	41	23	5	0	64	18	0	0	0
Riverton	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	68	51	83	2
Total Country	878	905	883	544	565	700	792	700	650	628	15
Spt of Sth				41	52	41	43	36	45	42	
Total	2252	2190	2043	1225	1118	1632	1712	1569	1564	1557	28

RULE 16 – REPRESENTATION

1. Each club or other body affiliated with Swimming NZ through Swimming Southland shall be entitled to representation on Swim Southland as follows:
 - a) Clubs with 20 to 50 members, one (1) delegate.
 - b) Clubs with 51 to 100 members, two (2) delegates.
 - c) Clubs with 101 to 200 members, three (3) delegates, with one additional delegate for each subsequent 100 members or part thereof, always providing that the part thereof be at least 50 members, but the absolute maximum representation for any one club be five (5) delegates.
 - d) From year to year, club financial membership figures as printed in the latest Swimming Southland annual report shall be used to ascertain club membership strength.

In closing I wish to extend my sincere thanks to:

The Swimming Southland Management Committee members who continue to be a guiding light and lead the way forward.

Esther Price for her leadership.

Jeremy Duncan, Oscar van Stekelenborg and Aidan Withington for their cooperation and help.

The Invercargill Licensing Trust and the Community Trust of Southland for their unwavering financial support for swimming in Southland.

My appreciation goes out to all the volunteers who have continuously come together to form a team of very valued and highly capable players. Where would our sport be without YOU!! THANK YOU.

David Prattley
Executive Officer