

WATER POLO
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT
2025/26

WATER POLO
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Water Polo Western Australia Clubs

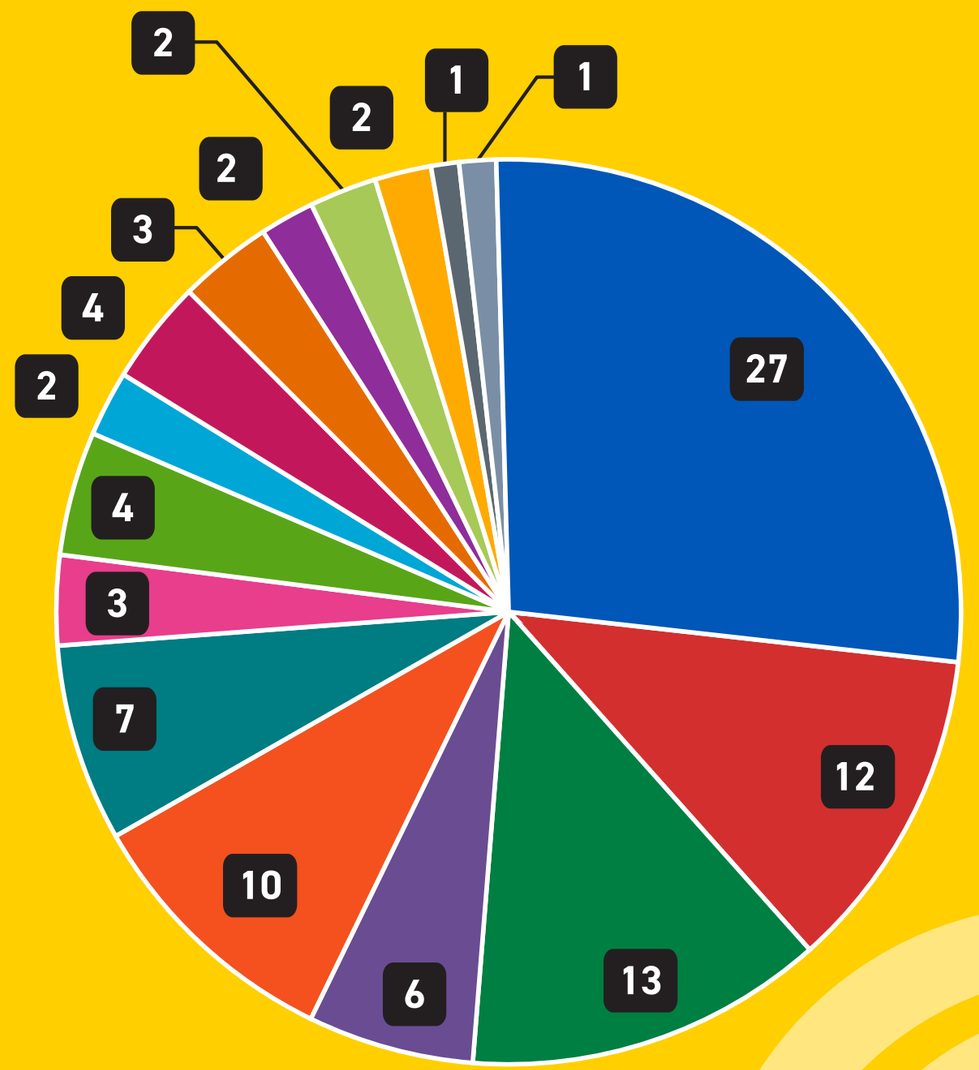
WATER POLO
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Club Association Stats

Club	%	Number of Members
UWA Water Polo Club (27%)	27	1100
Geraldton Water Polo Association	13	528
Melville Water Polo Club	12	478
Dolphins Water Polo Club	10	392
Phantoms Water Polo Club	7	290
Triton Water Polo Club	6	244
Karratha Water Polo Association	4	182
Hedland Water Polo Association	4	132
New Wave Water Polo Club	3	153
Mandurah Water Polo Association Inc	3	138
Newman Breakers Water Polo Club Inc	2	96
North Coast Water Polo Club	2	99
Bunbury Water Polo Association	2	83
Busselton Water Polo Association	2	80
Somerset Water Polo Club	1	54
Peel Water Polo Club	1	41
Guildford Grammar School	–	30
Albany Water Polo Association	–	18
		4138

Total Membership 2025-2026 = 4138 which represents a 4.6% drop in membership numbers from the 2024-2025 season.

WA Club Membership by Percentage (%)





Management

Management

Board of Directors
1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026

Chair
Sue Gliddon (Retired Chair AGM October 2025, Retired 30 March 2026)

Director
Justin McMillan (Appointed 15 April 2025)

Chair
Justin McMillan (Appointed October 2025)

Deputy Chair
Leanne Kelly (Elected October 2024)

Director
Alex Pirone (Retired AGM October 2025)

Director
Mark Waters (Elected October 2025)

Director
Danielle Woodhouse (Elected October 2024)

Director
Anouska Barnes (Retired September 2025)

Director
James Hull (Appointed AGM October 2025)

Director
Natasha O'Neill (Appointed September 2025)

Director
Gemma Tually (Appointed May 2026)

WPWA Staff

Chief Executive Officer
Lorraine Donachie (To October 2025)

Chief Executive Officer
Natalie Butler (From October 2025)

Competition Co-ordinator
Victoria Vykopal

Development Co-ordinator
Clare Barber

Competition Support & Schools Officer
Alan Hoffman (May 2025), James Crawford (September 2025) Mark Balenzuela (February 2026)

Communications & Marketing
Kate Colthart (October 2025)

Life Members

Water Polo Western Australia

Year Awarded	Life Member
1951	Mr W. Atherden*
1954	Mr A.J. Smith*
1957	Mr Jack Bradley*
1963	Mr J.P. Walsh*
1968	Mr Cliff C. Hill*
1969	Mrs D.M. Nordahl M.B.E.*
1972	Mr Allan Charleston*
1972	Mr O.D.T. De Ridder*
1972	Mr Tom H. Hoad
1973	Mr Frank J. Sturgeon*
1976	Mr Stan R. Hammond*
1985	Mr K.J. Christensen*
1986	Mr David C. Neesham O.A.
1986	Mr Edward J. Neesham O.A.
1993	Mr William Richardson*
2000	Mr Cornelius Regan*
2000	Mr Frank Widdicombe*
2001	Mr Harry Neesham
2002	Mrs Betty Anderson
2002	Mr Andy Halleen Δ
2003	Mr Gary Payne Δ
2004	Mr Scott Halleen Δ
2005	Mrs Tammy Read Δ
2006	Mr Craig Burrows Δ
2007	Mr Russell McKinnon
2008	Mr Bob Butson Δ
2011	Mr David O'Connor Δ
2012	Mr Phil Scales
2016	Mr Gary Payne
2017	Mrs Natasha O'Neil Δ

* Deceased
Δ Western Australia Country Water Polo Association



Instagram

Followers
2908 ▲458

Post Views
1,085,964

Facebook

Followers
3576 ▲273

Post Views
692,616
▲490,616





Our Chair's Report



The 2025–26 year has been one of reflection and strategic planning for Water Polo Western Australia (WPWA). As a Board, we have focused on ensuring the long-term sustainability and growth of our sport while creating a clear pathway toward renewed success both within Australia and across the Asia-Pacific region.

At the centre of this work has been the Whole of Sport Review, the most significant strategic initiative undertaken by Water Polo WA in recent years. This review provided an invaluable opportunity for our community to help shape the future of the sport. Through extensive consultation with clubs, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, members and key stakeholders, we gained a deeper understanding of the challenges facing water polo in Western Australia, as well as the opportunities that lie ahead.

The review's findings have provided a comprehensive blueprint for the future of our sport. Its recommendations will form the foundation of our next Strategic Plan and guide decision-making across governance, participation, high-performance pathways, club development, infrastructure advocacy and organisational capability. Most importantly, it has reinforced a shared vision for the future and highlighted the importance of working together to achieve it.

On behalf of the Board, I extend my sincere thanks to Sports Advisory Partners Australia for their expertise, professionalism and independent guidance throughout the review process. Their contribution ensured a robust and transparent approach that encouraged meaningful participation from across the water polo community.

I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the Whole of Sport Review Working Group, led by Dominique Mecoy, together with Matt Leonard, Frank Di Costa, Ashton Turner, Andrei Kovalenko and Rob Kennedy. Their dedication, insight and commitment were instrumental in ensuring the review was comprehensive, inclusive and representative of the diverse voices within our sport.

I would like to recognise the leadership of our CEO, Natalie Butler, whose commitment and professionalism continue to drive the organisation forward. Natalie, together with the Water Polo WA staff team, has worked tirelessly to support clubs, strengthen participation pathways, enhance member experiences and foster strong relationships with stakeholders across the sporting landscape. On behalf of the Board, I thank Natalie and the entire team for their passion, dedication and contribution throughout the year.

We have also continued to strengthen our relationships with government agencies, funding partners and key stakeholders. These partnerships remain critical to securing the resources, facilities and opportunities required to support the continued growth and success of water polo in Western Australia. As demand for aquatic facilities and participation opportunities continues to grow, our ability to advocate effectively for the sport has never been more important.

Thank you to our volunteers

Water polo is built on the commitment and generosity of volunteers.

Across every club, competition, representative program and event, volunteers give their time, expertise and energy to create opportunities for others. They coach our athletes, officiate matches, manage teams, serve on committees, support fundraising efforts and contribute in countless ways, often without recognition.

To every volunteer who has contributed throughout the year, thank you. Your efforts are the cornerstone of our sport and the reason our community continues to thrive.

I would also like to acknowledge the many individuals who supported the delivery of major events and representative programs during the season. While much of their work occurs behind the scenes, their contribution plays a vital role in delivering positive experiences for athletes, members and spectators alike.

To our club presidents, committee members and volunteer leaders, thank you for the time, effort and commitment you invest in growing and strengthening water polo across Western Australia.

I also extend my appreciation to my fellow Board Directors. Their commitment, expertise and willingness to contribute their time and leadership have been invaluable throughout the year. I especially would like to thank former Chair, Sue Gliddon for her dedication to sport over a number of years.

Looking forward

As we look ahead, Water Polo WA enters a new chapter with clarity and purpose.

The completion of the Whole of Sport Review has provided a clear framework for the future and a unique opportunity to strengthen our sport at every level. By embracing the review's recommendations we have the opportunity to build a more sustainable, inclusive and successful future for water polo in Western Australia.

While challenges remain, I am confident that our sport will be able to capitalise on emerging opportunities. With dedicated volunteers, strong clubs, talented athletes, committed staff and an engaged Board, the foundations are in place to achieve meaningful progress in the years ahead.

On behalf of the Board, thank you to every member, athlete, coach, official, volunteer, sponsor, partner and supporter who contributes to our sport. Your passion, commitment and belief in water polo continue to strengthen our community and inspire the next generation.

Together, we will continue to build a stronger future for Water Polo Western Australia.

JUSTIN MCMILLAN
Board Chair

Thank you to our partners

City of Stirling
City of Choice

ROAD SAFETY COMMISSION

accelerategroup
more than technology

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport

Fuel to Go & Play

healthway

KAP SEVEN WATER POLO

MITSUBISHI MOTORS
Drive your Ambition

SPORTSLINK TRAVEL

UNDER ARMOUR

VENUES WEST

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA



Chief Executive Officer Report

Our CEO's Report



The 2025/26 season was a season of significant changes and opportunity for water polo in Western Australia.

As the new Chief Executive Officer of Water Polo WA, I have had the privilege of joining the organisation during a period of important reflection and renewal, notwithstanding challenges but which has also paved the way for immense opportunities in the years to follow. I must acknowledge the work done by Lorraine Donachie as interim CEO prior to my appointment and it is now for me, an exciting opportunity to lead our small, dedicated team of staff and collaborate with our Members to embed a sustainable and thriving water polo environment.

Immediately upon stepping into the role, a key focus throughout the year was the commencement of Water Polo WA's Whole of Sport review, representing the most comprehensive assessment of our sport in recent years. The review was undertaken to better understand the opportunities, challenges and priorities facing water polo across Western Australia, focusing on six (6) key areas – Governance, Participation & Growth, Financial Sustainability, Operational Effectiveness, Stakeholder & Community Engagement and Culture. The Review, supported by the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport (CITS), saw the appointment of Sport Advisory Partners Australia (SAPA) as the independent consultant to undertake the review. Recognising that our sport is operating in an increasingly competitive and complex environment, the review provided an opportunity to step back, listen to our stakeholders and critically assess how we can best support the ongoing development of the sport. Through broad consultation with clubs, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, partners and the wider community, we gathered invaluable insights into the strengths that underpin our sport and the challenges that must be addressed to unlock future growth. The review has reinforced the importance of a united approach across participation, competitions, pathways and performance, while providing a framework to guide future priorities and investment and clarity on the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders across the ecosystem. Most importantly, it has created a platform for meaningful change, ensuring that decisions made today are focused on building a stronger, more connected and sustainable sport for future generations.

On the back of this Review, steps have already been undertaken to implement some of the recommendations including a governance review, led by Diane Smith-Gander, and ongoing engagement with SAPA to support implementation of some of the outlined recommendations.

An organisational restructure will also be implemented moving forward into the 2026/27 season. With support of CITS, the restructure and appointment of new staff will lay the foundations for a more agile, proactive and efficient organisation that can respond to the needs of our members and grow the footprint of water polo across the State. I thank Sue Thompson and Jacqui Jashari at CITS, as well as The Hon. Rita Saffioti MLA, Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Sport and Recreation, for their ongoing support of water polo in WA.

This year also marked another season of strong competitions across our PWL, SSL and JSL leagues, with close grand final matches held across all grades. It is these grand final events that showcase not only the talent here in WA, but the passion and sporting spectacle that water polo has to offer. The season was capped off with our WA Awards Night where we acknowledged the achievements and commitment of members of our community, highlighting the many positive moments across the 2025/26 season. It was also an opportunity to thank and acknowledge the ongoing support of our long-standing partners including CITS, Healthway and Lotterywest, VenuesWest, Kap7, Accelerate Group and SportsLink. In 2026, we also welcomed Mitsubishi as our vehicle partner providing benefits to our members across the State and ensuring that WPWA can continue to deliver the sport to the community. These partnerships within sport are so vitally important and we look forward to building on these existing partnerships and creating new ones.

The next 12-month period promises to be a time of significant change, stability and the creation of a clear path forward for all to follow as we actively work to implement a new strategic plan, designed to support the recommendations from the Whole of Sport review. This sport has in front of it so many opportunities and it is one that we, as a collective community, need to embrace together.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank the many people whose commitment and contribution continue to make our sport possible.

To our volunteers, thank you for the countless hours you dedicate behind the scenes and on pool deck. Your passion, generosity and willingness to support the athletes, clubs and events are fundamental to the success of water polo in Western Australia.

To our Club Presidents and committee members, thank you for your leadership, advocacy and unwavering commitment to your clubs and communities. Your efforts ensure opportunities exist for participants of all ages and abilities and your contribution remains critical to the ongoing strength and sustainability of our sport as we continue to work together on moving it forward in a positive direction.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the Water Polo WA Board for their governance, guidance and support throughout the year of significant change and strategic review. Their leadership has been instrumental in helping shape the future direction of the organisation and the sport. This thanks is also extended to those who sit on our various WPWA Committees and for providing insights and recommendations for the betterment of the sport and keeping its best interests at the forefront of decisions.

Water Polo WA is fortunate to be supported by so many individuals who care deeply about our community. That includes my staff whose commitment and passion to ensuring the sport thrives cannot be questioned. Thank you for the many thankless tasks you do, the hours put in each week and the dedication to delivering the sport to our members and community across the State.

Whilst much has been achieved this year, it is the collective efforts of our volunteers, club leaders, committee members and Board that provide the foundation for future success. On behalf of Water Polo WA, thank you for everything you do for our sport.

The next year ahead brings incredible opportunity for the sport, driven by the establishment of a new strategic plan and strengthened relationships, ensuring that water polo in WA thrives across all levels and into all areas of our community.



NATALIE BUTLER
Chief Executive Officer, Water Polo WA





Growing Water Polo in Western Australia



Growing Our Sport

Growing participation and increasing the visibility of water polo across Western Australia remained a key focus for Water Polo WA throughout the 2025/26 season. Through partnerships with schools, clubs, local governments and community organisations, WPWA continued to create new opportunities for people to experience the sport, with a strong focus on junior participation, school-based programs, regional communities and accessible pathways into water polo.

Royal Life Saving WA Splash Carnivals

Water Polo WA was invited to participate in the Royal Life Saving Western Australia (RLSWA) Carnivals in Port Hedland and Kalgoorlie. The Carnivals target primary school-aged children and are designed to improve water safety especially in remote First Nations communities. The events incorporate Water Polo WA, Canoeing and Artistic Swimming WA to run come and try sessions. Participants rotate through different stations offered. WPWA offers a modified version of Flippaball and Stroll O Polo using size 2 balls, inflatable goals and playing in the shallow end of the pool.

While the principal reason of the carnivals remains water safety, it is also designed to introduce young primary aged children to other things they can do in the water for fun for a holistic approach to water safety. Schools who attend are introduced to water polo as an option with the view of developing Flippaball into all primary schools throughout regional Western Australia.

Port Hedland's participation numbers were 200 children; Kalgoorlie's participation numbers were 260 children.

Sporting Schools

Sporting Schools is an Australian government initiative designed to help schools to increase children's participation in sport, and to connect them with community sporting opportunities. The program provides funding to schools from Australian Sports Commission (ASC) to run sports programs in schools. WPWA engages with primary schools assisting them to apply for the grants and provides equipment and experienced members from WPWA to run Flippaball or Stroll O Polo programs during school hours throughout the state. This year the program continued with Subiaco Primary School and a new school Blue Gum Montessori took up the opportunity.

WPWA contacted 80 primary schools in the metropolitan and regional areas of Western Australia including the Peel Region, Bunbury, Busselton, Albany, Esperance, Kalgoorlie Boulder, Karratha, Hedland and the Midwest Gascoyne. Schools have been provided with information on Stroll O Polo, Flippaball and programs offered by WPWA through the Sporting Schools initiative.

WPWA actively supported the development by WPA of a Secondary school program for delivery via the Sporting Schools Australia funding. This is being trialled in Victoria and it is hoped that the programs will become available for Term 4, 2026.

Schools Programs

Water Polo WA continued its support of water polo in schools through provision of referees, coaches and table officials as required in the Public Schools Association (PSA), Independent Girls Schools Sports Association of Western Australia (IGSSA) and Junior Independent Girls Schools Sports Association of Western Australia and School Sport WA competitions (SSWA). These competitions broaden exposure of our sport to students that are not already registered members and provide an avenue for introduction to clubs.

PSA involved 14 rounds of competition across Term 4, 2025 and Term 1, 2026. IGSA runs an upper school Carnival for students in Year 11 and 12 and a six week competition for students in Years 7-9 in Term 4. A Summer Sports Day is provided for JIGSSA primary school students in Term 1 where students participate in coaching skills sessions followed up by Flippaball round robin games.

Following the successful inclusion of Stroll O Polo at the Associated & Catholic Colleges of WA (ACC) Inclusive Carnival in 2025, WPWA once again delivered a Stroll O Polo option on 1 April 2026 at Claremont Aquatic. Over 200 participants moved between swimming events and Strollo Polo games. Meetings were held with ACC with a view to providing support for a competition for ACC schools.

SSWA coordinated four very successful 1 day Carnivals for Year 7-8 boys and girls and Year 9 –10 boys and girls at Perth High Performance Centre in November 2025. 45 School teams participated across the 4 days with WPWA providing referee, equipment and game management support.

National Water Polo Day

WPA co-ordinated a National Water Polo Day on 13 September 2025. Many clubs leveraged this national promotional day to combine with Come n Try events.

Fast Five Competitions

WPWA hosted its inaugural Fast Five Competition on 5–6 July 2025 at UWA Aquatic Centre. This modified version of water polo focused on fun, participation and friendship, bringing together mixed teams from different clubs and age groups. Eight teams and 53 participants took part, supported by coaches Andrew Barber, Gloria Giachi, Berk Gezek, Isabelle Sayer and Gabrielle Sayer. While the competition was spirited, the emphasis remained firmly on enjoyment and building connections across the water polo community.

A second Fast Five event for Under 12 and Under 14 players was held on 23–24 May 2026 at Inglewood Pools, with funding support from the Road Safety Commission. Seven teams and 47 participants enjoyed a festival-style weekend featuring round-robin matches and a Challenger Series, providing another enjoyable opportunity for young athletes to develop their skills while strengthening friendships within the sport.

Kids Sports Vouchers

The integration of Kids Sports Vouchers into the registration process in Revolutionise continued to create difficulties for club administrators. WPWA worked with WPA to provide discount codes to facilitate registration, however it remains unfortunately a cumbersome process. It is crucial to be able to make available these vouchers to support involvement in our sport.

We have two processes in place to activate Kids Sport Vouchers. This is a representation across both metropolitan and regional areas, with a total number of 15 vouchers utilised across water polo in WA.





High Performance Report



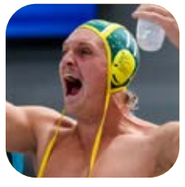
High Performance Report

Australian Representation

Ord Minnett Aussie Sharks

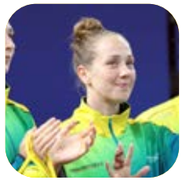


Sam Nangle



Tim Putt

Ord Minnett Aussie Stingers



Genevieve Longman



Pippa Pedley



Emma Putt

WAIS 2025-2026 Scholarship Period:
1 March 2025 – 28 February 2026

1. Sofie Pontre
2. Andrew Ford
3. George Ford
4. Pippa Pedley
5. Emma Putt

WAIS 2026-2027 Scholarship Period:
1 March 2026 – 28 February 2027

George Ford

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Referees

Fiona Haigh and Gabor Boros represented Australia on the World Aquatics Water Polo Referees list. Appointments to World Aquatics Championships are recorded in the Referee Report.

Kobi Toomath and Ryan Morris were the Western Australian representatives at National State Championships.

National State Championships

National State Championships were held in Canberra for 15&U and 17&U Girls and Boys teams in September 2025. Western Australia had four representative teams.

Team	Coach	Assistant Coach	Manager	Position
15&U Girls	Gloria Giachi	Raul Ricci	Fia Rigo	4th
17&U Girls	Ray Mayers	Jessica Craig	Jessica Craig	4th
15&U Boys	Adam Richardson	Drew Lilleyman	Naomi Quinlivan	4th
17&U Boys	Andrew Barber	Berk Gezerk	Lauren Massey	Bronze Medal
WPWA Staff Member: Victoria Vykopal		Team Photographer: Charlotte Gibbons		

NSC Coaching appointments were overseen by the High-Performance Committee (HPC) as an advisory group to the WPWA Board.

Categorised Athletes

Name	Club
Andrew Ford	UWA
Charlie Reynolds	UWA
Edward Handley	UWA
George Ford	UWA
Harry Tucker	UWA
Isabel Scott	Overseas USA
Isla Mulligan	Triton
Sofie Pontre	Melville

Under 18

Name	Club
Amie Glass	Melville
Arielle Vykopal	Melville
Callum Pugh	Melville
Callum Redelinghus	Melville
Christian McGlew	UWA
Essington Bailey	UWA
Ivan Zorotovic	Melville
Jake Taboni	Melville
Jake Tucker	Melville
Lara Lane	Melville
Molly Betteridge	Melville
Ryan Wallis	UWA
Sam Regan	UWA
Sienna Walker	Melville
Tommy Steer	UWA
Zoe Cannon	UWA

Under 16

Name	Club
Alexia Spatalis	UWA
Ben Regan	UWA
Daniel Massey	UWA
Deion Fernando	UWA
Elsa Engelbrecht	UWA
Jayde Veverka	Melville
Jesse Hopkinson	Melville
Jude Quinlivan	UWA
Lauren Nolan	Melville
Lille Walker	Melville
Noah Roper	Melville
Samuel Hosking	New Wave
Sebastion Calo	UWA
Stewart Bell	UWA
Thomas Gamble	UWA





Australian Water Polo League Results

Western Australia is represented by Fremantle Water Polo Club and UWA Water Polo Club in the Australian Water Polo League. At the end of season, UWA Torpedoes Men were second on the ladder, Fremantle Mariners 6th. The Fremantle Marlins Women finished 5th and UWA Torpedoes Women finished 9th.

After the March 2026 Final series, Fremantle Mariners finished 4th after a tough bronze medal playoff, UWA Torpedoes Men 6th, UWA Torpedoes Women 9th and Fremantle Marlins 5th.

Felipe Perrone Master Classes

In December 2025, Water Polo WA, in partnership with Kap7 Australia, hosted five-time Olympian and two-time World Champion Felipe Perrone to run masterclass training sessions for our WA Juniors. Five sessions were held at Bicton and the Perth High-Performance Centre with over 50 participants attending the sessions.

Perrone, now working with World Aquatics, also presented to our coaches and referees identifying the benefits of the Integrated Training plans which have seen both the Spanish Men's and Women's Water Polo teams reach number one in the World.





Recognising Our Water Polo Community



SportWest & WPWA Awards

The 2025 Sport West Awards honoured excellence across 14 categories spanning elite performance, community engagement and officiating for the period of December 2024 – 30 November 2025. In recognition of the significant contribution and achievements of individuals or programs within the Western Australian water polo community, Water Polo WA was delighted to submit nominations.

Below is a precis of the nomination of the May Campbell medal winner Tom Hoad AM.

Service to Sport (May Campbell Medal): Winner Tom Hoad AM

As a player and coach, Tom has represented Australia at eight Olympic Games. He was selected for four Olympics (Rome 1960, Tokyo 1964, Mexico City 1968 and Munich 1972) including three as captain, while he was coach of the Australian Olympics team at four Games (Montreal 1976, Moscow 1980, Los Angeles 1984 and Seoul 1988).

While Tom's contribution to water polo as a competitor and coach was considerable, his work as an administrator and advocate for athletes across numerous sports proved every bit as ground-breaking and influential. This included his role as chairman of five international events, including two highly successful World Swimming Championships held in Perth in 1991 and 1998, and his elevation as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to "sport, particularly water polo" in 1994.

Tom Hoad first represented Western Australia in water polo as a 19-year-old in 1959 before graduating to the national team. By the time he had retired as a player and captain of his country after the 1972 Olympics, he had helped to transform the sport in Australia. He was an extremely fit and strong competitor, playing mainly as a forward but sometimes as a defender. He was an inspiring captain and later a tactically shrewd national coach.

After retiring from the national coaching role, he continued to assist in the promotion of water polo while also seeking greater opportunities and facilities for athletes across many sports through his administrative roles. He was president and vice-president of the Australian Water Polo Association, chairman of the Western Australian Water Polo Association and served the Melville Water Polo Club in many capacities. His mentoring and coaching of young Australian athletes across decades is an ongoing legacy.

On a broader scale, Tom was a driving force behind Perth hosting the 1991 World Swimming Championships as the event's executive chairman. He sought funding from government and represented the bid on the world stage to secure what proved to be a highly successful event. He was also chairman of the organising committee for the 1998 World Swimming Championships in Perth, which was viewed by two billion people worldwide.

Tom helped organise and stage various international and national water polo events, was an Australian representative on the FINA Water Polo Committee, spent 10 years as president of the Western Australian Sports Federation (overseeing more than 100 sports), served as president of the WA Olympic Council and was also a board member of the WA Institute of Sport.

Tom Hoad returned to the development of junior players at the Melville Club when he finished his executive roles with Australian Water Polo and the Western Australian Water Polo Association. Over a period of 10 years he mentored boys in the Under 16 and Under 18 level and achieved exceptional results from his efforts. Without the leadership and dedication shown by Tom many young men would have missed out on the opportunity to achieve at elite levels of the sport.

His tireless contribution to sport and sports management was recognised when he was awarded the Order of Australia in 1994. He was inducted into the Western Australia Institute of Sport Hall of Fame in 1996 and was named Western Australian Citizen of the Year in 1989.

Water Polo WA Awards

Water Polo WA held its awards celebration for the 2025/26 Season at Raffles Hotel on 1 April 2026. Award nominations received from our Western Australian water polo community were reviewed by Committees and the winners decided across several categories were:

Award	Winner
Young Achiever of the Year	Bodhi Smith Geraldton Water Polo Association
Senior Player of the Year	Sam Nangle Melville Water Polo Club
Gary Payne Junior Referee Encouragement Award	Barton Minchim Melville Water Polo Club
Liz Burman Perpetual Trophy Referee of the Year	Kobi Toomath Bunbury Water Polo Club
Coach of the Year	Gloria Giachi UWA Water Polo Club
Integrity Tyres Volunteer of the Year	Colin Wedd Masters Water Polo
Team of the Year	17&U Western Australian State Boys Team
Association of the Year	Mandurah Water Polo Association
Club of the Year	Phantoms Water Polo Club

The Awards night was a wonderful celebration of our community's successes as a whole, recognising not only the achievements of our athletes and officials but the many volunteers that contribute to our sport and an opportunity to thank our key stakeholders, sponsors and partners.

Other WPWA Nominees

Community Sporting Event of the Year
Australian Youth Championships, Perth 2025 hosted by Water Polo WA

Camera House Leederville Sports Image of the Year
Mark Smith (mark_smith360) for photography at Perth Water Polo League and Tom Campbell, Total Sport Photography for photography at Junior State League Grand Finals

Other Acknowledgments

Western Australian Water Polo Life Member and long-time Masters player Gary Payne was inducted into the Masters International Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale, USA, on 13 September 2025, becoming the first Australian water polo player to receive this honour. Gary is a driving force behind Masters water polo in Australia for many years, while his extensive involvement in refereeing has earned him a strong reputation for fairness and knowledge of the game, which he has carried into his playing career.

Australian Olympic gold medallist Simone Fountain (née Hankin) was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale, USA, in May 2026. A member of Australia's gold medal-winning women's water polo team at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Simone became the third member of that team to be inducted. Simone was also the sole water polo inductee at the May induction ceremony, recognising her outstanding achievements and contribution to the sport.





Metropolitan Competition Report



Competition Report

Perth Water Polo League (PWL) Season

The Perth Water Polo League launched on Saturday 18 October 2025, with matches played at Bicton on Saturdays with additional rounds held on Thursday evenings. Following nine competitive rounds, the season concluded with Semi-finals on Thursday 4 December, and the season Grand Finals on Saturday 6 December 2025.

Season Summary

The men's competition was contested by Melville Sharks, Melville Saints, Melville Colts and UWA Rangers with a total of 67 members. Unfortunately, the initially nominated Triton men's team withdrew. The Women's Competition was contested by Melville Marlins, Triton and UWA Diamonds with 51 members. Games were professionally presented with support of the Melville Water Polo Club in set-up and pack-down and player line-ups and commentary, helping to create an outstanding experience for players and spectators alike.

Grand Final Results

In two very tightly contested games water polo was showcased in nail-biting grand final games.

Women: Triton 11 defeated Melville Marlins 10
Men: Melville Sharks 14 defeated UWA Rangers 13

PWL Season Fairest & Best

Women: Emma Putt (Triton)
Men: Elijah Neesham (Melville Sharks)

MVP of Grand Final Games:

Tom Hoad Medal presented by Tom Hoad AM:
Damien Williams (Melville Sharks)

Andrew Meloncelli Medal presented by Zoe Arancini:
Isla Mulligan (Triton)

Volunteer photographer Mark Smith (@mark_smith360) captured the season through a series of outstanding images that featured across Instagram during the competition. The Grand Final was live streamed by Spectrum TV Video Productions, allowing members and supporters to enjoy the showcase event.



The Senior League (SL)

The Senior League continued to provide a strong and competitive environment across both men's and women's competitions.

The women's competition featured four grades: Grade B-E, with 31 teams and 371 members, while the men's competition had six grades: Grade B-G with 47 teams and 581 members.

The competition was fixtured for 17 rounds with 597 games played on Wednesday nights at Perth High-Performance Centre, AquaLife Centre, Beatty Park, Bicton Baths, Claremont Pool, Inglewood Pools and Rockingham Aquatic Centre. The season concluded with semi-finals and grand finals across all grades. Continuing from the previous season, the Southwest Storm team competed in the C Grade Women competition.

With a large number of matches scheduled each week, the collaboration and support of members remained essential. Teams assisted with pool set-up and pack-down to protect water polo equipment and ensure the efficient delivery of fixtures. Teams also supported the timely entry of results and player statistics, helping to maintain the accuracy and integrity of the competition.

Grand Final Results

Grade	Grand Finalists	Winner / Score
B Grade Men	Melville Colts vs Melville Sharks	Melville Colts 9-7
B Grade Women	Melville Marlins vs Melville Mavericks	Melville Marlins 9-4
C Grade Men	Melville Old Salts vs UWA Hellfish	Melville Old Salts 9-5
C Grade Women	North Coast Phoenix vs Triton	Triton 9-6
D Grade Men	Phantoms Skulls vs UWA Oils	Phantoms Skulls 6-5
D Grade Women	Peel Piranhas vs Triton	Triton 9-4
E Grade Men	Melville Sharks vs UWA Horse	Melville Sharks 13-6
E Grade Women	Dolphins vs New Wave Surge	Dolphins 6-4
F Grade Men	UWA Titans vs Breakers Orcas	Breakers Orcas 7-6
G Grade Men	Phantoms Heroes vs Melville Sharks	Phantoms Heroes 12-4

Senior League – Fairest and Best

Grade	F&B Recipient	Team
B Grade Men	Callum Pugh	Melville Colts
B Grade Women	Amity Reid	Melville Mavericks
C Grade Men	Jeremy Carbone	Dolphins
C Grade Women	Glenda Morgan	UWA Baby Sharks
D Grade Men	Cody Smith	Phantoms Skulls
D Grade Women	Tamara Sweeny	Somerset Seals
E Grade Men	Mitchell Gerritzen	Melville Sharks
E Grade Women	Taylah Podmore	North Coast Phoenix
F Grade Men	William Massey	UWA Titans
G Grade Men	Joshua Clements	Dolphins



The Fuel to Go & Play® Junior Leagues (JL)

The Fuel to Go & Play® Junior Leagues were played at Perth High-Performance Centre on Sunday afternoons and Monday nights. The competition consisted of 14 rounds and with the season culminating with Semi-finals and then the Grand Finals played on Sunday 22 March 2026. The WA Junior League A Grade competition consisted of a total of 39 teams while the Development League also consisted of 39 teams. Across both grades there were 1693 members and 549 games and there was an increase of 11 teams from the previous season.

It was great to see the return of the 18&U A Girls competition from across 3 clubs. Unfortunately, the 18&U B Boys competition could not hold a viable competition due to insufficient teams, however players impacted were able to have game time in SL or JLA.



The Junior League and Referee Programs were delivered for the season under the Fuel to Go & Play® program, proudly sponsored by Healthway. The initiative encourages healthier food environments within community sporting venues. Throughout the season, Green Card Day, the Referee's Choice Award and Fuel to Go & Play® activations reinforced these important messages alongside the Water Polo Australia Think. Act. Play. Campaign. The 2025/26 Green Card winners were Chas Diletti from Triton and Vel Foss from Dolphins.

Grand Final Day provided a fitting conclusion to another successful junior season, with exciting and highly competitive matches across all age groups.

WAJL A League – Grand Final Results

	Grand Finalists	Winner / Score
U18 Boys	Melville Sharks vs UWA White	Melville Sharks 10-6
U18 Girls	Melville Marlins vs UWA Bears	Melville Marlins 6-4
U16 Boys	UWA White vs Melville Saints	UWA White 7-5
U16 Girls	Melville Marlins vs Melville Mermaids	Melville Mermaids 9-7
U14 Boys	UWA White vs Melville Sharks	UWA White 10-9
U14 Girls	UWA Grizzly Bears vs Melville Mermaids	Melville Mermaids 8-4
U12 Boys	Melville Saints vs Melville Sharks	Melville Saints 9-6
U12 Girls	Melville Minnows vs Melville Mermaids	Melville Minnows 6-4

WAJL Development League – Grand Final Results

	Grand Finalists	Winner / Score
U12 Boys	New Wave/Phantoms vs Dolphins	New Wave/Phantoms 11-5
U14 Girls	Melville Mantarays vs Triton/Dolphins	Melville Mantarays 5-2
U14 Boys	Triton Gold vs Melville Gold	Triton Gold 7-3
U16 Girls	Melville Mantarays vs New Wave	New Wave 4-2
U16 Boys	Melville Green vs Dolphins White	Dolphins White 7-5
U18 Girls	Phantoms Pirates vs Phantoms Devils	Phantoms Pirates 6-2

WAJL A League – Fairest and Best

	F&B Recipient	Club
U12 Girls	Farrah Parks	Melville Water Polo Club
U12 Boys	Rok Richardson	Melville Water Polo Club
U14 Girls	Aurora Zuvela	Melville Water Polo Club
U14 Boys	Cael Verveka	Melville Water Polo Club
U16 Girls	Alexia Spartalis	UWA Water Polo Club
U16 Boys	Thomas Gamble	UWA Water Polo Club
U18 Girls	Molly Betteridge	Melville Water Polo Club
U18 Boys	Jake Taboni	UWA Water Polo Club

WAJL A League – Fairest and Best

	F&B Recipient	Club
U12 Girls	Farrah Parks	Melville Water Polo Club
U12 Boys	Rok Richardson	Melville Water Polo Club
U14 Girls	Aurora Zuvela	Melville Water Polo Club
U14 Boys	Cael Verveka	Melville Water Polo Club
U16 Girls	Alexia Spartalis	UWA Water Polo Club
U16 Boys	Thomas Gamble	UWA Water Polo Club
U18 Girls	Molly Betteridge	Melville Water Polo Club
U18 Boys	Jake Taboni	UWA Water Polo Club

WAJL Development League – Fairest and Best

	F&B Recipient	Club
U12 Boys	Ollie Cleland	Melville Water Polo Club
U14 Girls	Farrah Parks	Melville Water Polo Club
U14 Boys	Thomas Larard	Melville Water Polo Club
U16 Girls	Dara Ledden	Melville Water Polo Club
U16 Boys	Jack Kroonstuiver Max Laycock Max Sambrailo	Dolphins Water Polo Club Melville Water Polo Club Melville Water Polo Club
U18 Girls	Paige Kyte	Phantoms Water Polo Club





Australian Water Polo Youth Championships (AWPYC)

AWPYC returned to Brisbane in April 2026 and 27 club teams from Western Australia competed. Teams from Melville, UWA, Busselton and Geraldton Clubs competed across both the Gold and Green Divisions while several athletes also participated as secondary club members to strengthen interstate team opportunities.

Congratulations to all players, coaches, officials and clubs who represented Western Australia throughout the championships.

Medal Winners
12&U Boys Gold Division: Melville Sharks, Gold
18&U Boys Green Division: UWA, Bronze
18&U Boys Gold Division: UWA, Bronze



Referees' Report



Referees' Report

Fuel to Go & Play Referees

Healthway, through their initiative Fuel to Go & Play Referee Program provided funding support for new referee shirts at season commencement. These were allocated to Advanced and Development referees and ensured a professional presence poolside.

World Aquatics Referee Appointments

Gabor Boros was appointed to the Under 20 Men's Water Polo Championships in Zagreb 2025. While travelling with the team for their pre-tournament competitions and training, Gabor was unfortunately, due to personal reasons unable to referee at the Tournament.

Fiona Haigh was appointed to the World Aquatics Championships held in Singapore from 11-24 July 2025 – This was the first time a Western Australian referee has been appointed to referee at a Senior World Championships. Fiona is to be congratulated on this achievement.

Liz Burman and Fiona Haigh refereed at the World Masters Championships in Singapore from 16-22 August 2025.

Gabor Boros was appointed to referee at the World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup Division 2 for Men in Malta between 6-14 April 2026 at which 23 countries were represented with each team providing a referee. After the round matches Gabor was appointed to the quarter final match between Montenegro and Romania and then classification position games Canada vs Slovakia and Portugal and China.

Water Polo Australia Championships

Australian Water Polo League

With a new format the Australian Water Polo League (AWL) commenced in mid-January 2026 and held games from Thursday through to Sunday every 2nd weekend across Australia. WA referees Fiona Haigh, Isabelle Walls, Gabor Boros and Ryan Morris refereed AWL and travelled interstate during the season to officiate games. This is beneficial in terms of our referees gaining valuable exposure to the other AWL teams, coaches and other interstate referees. The Finals series was held in Sydney at the end of March and both Fiona Haigh and Gabor Boros were appointed to the AWL Finals series with Fiona refereeing the Final for Women. Andrei Kovalenko, Adam Richardson and Peter Arachini acted as AWL delegates for games held in Perth.

National State Championships

Ryan Morris and Kobi Toomath were appointed as referees to represent Western Australia at the 17 and 15 & Under National State Championships in September 2025 in Canberra. Both were awarded finals games in recognition of their performance, Kobi refereed both the 17&U Girls bronze and gold medal matches and Ryan Morris refereed the 17&U Boys grand final match. Isabelle Walls represented Tasmania at the Championships and was appointed to the 15&U Girls gold and bronze matches.

Australian Youth Water Polo Championships Brisbane 2026

Australian Youth Water Polo Championships presents our referees with a great opportunity to gain experience and development receiving feedback and guidance from Olympic Referees, World Aquatic Referees and National Coaches throughout the Championships.

In 2026 Fiona Haigh, Mark Balenzuela, Ryan Morris, Isabelle Walls, Danielle Woodhouse and Xavier Harris attended. Further, Western Australian Delegates Peter Arancini, Andrei Kovalenko and Liz Burman supported the Championships. Medal Game appointments were awarded to Fiona Haigh, Ryan Morris, Isabelle Walls and Danielle Woodhouse.

Inter State Competitions

Kobi Toomath and Isabelle Walls attended the Water Polo Queensland State Championships in January 2026.

Water Polo WA Competitions

PWL

Perth Water Polo League started on 18 October 2025. Appointments were managed by Liz Burman and selected from the PWL panel of referees consisting of Fiona Haigh, Gabor Boros, Kobi Toomath, Ryan Morris, Liz Burman, Danielle Woodhouse, Isabelle Walls, Rosie Rotheram and James Hull. Delegates were Liz Burman, Andrei Kovalenko and Peter Arancini.

Western Australian Junior & Senior State League

Senior League started 15 Oct 2025 with 11 pools across the metropolitan area being played in each Wednesday night and 34 games played. WPWA trialled the appointment of two referees to all games so that Clubs no longer were required to find club referees. This ensured wherever possible two referees in attendance and removed the requirement for clubs to make club referee appointments.

The Junior Development League commenced on 19 Oct 2025 on Sunday afternoons with 20 scheduled games each week. These games provide an excellent development opportunity for our younger Community referees who are mentored by Delegates for these games.

Junior A Division League commenced on Monday 20 October at Perth High Performance and UWA Club Pool with 16 games played weekly.

We would like to thank all the referees who contributed to the successful season.

School Programs

Water Polo WA continued its relationship with the Public Schools Association (PSA) water polo providing referees for both the Middle School competition on Fridays and Senior School competition on Saturday. Table officials were also provided for Firsts team games

Referees were also coordinated for Independent Girls' Schools Association for their Junior weekly competition and one day Senior Carnival and also the State Schools WA four days of Interschool Secondary competitions.

Regional Competitions

The Australian Country Water Polo Championships were held in Ballarat from 6-9 May 2026 and Liz Burman attended as the Western Australian referee. Our referees also supported the regional competitions providing invaluable mentoring and development of regional club referees and is reported in the Regional Report.

Refbook

Water Polo WA ensured a focus on ensuring better use of Refbook for appointments this season and this resulted in better streamlining for payments. There remain some competitions outside Refbook and coordinator roles that require manual payments.

Officials' Education

With access being delayed to the Water Polo Learning Centre this season constraints applied to the administration of a Community Referee course. The focus was on ensuring members who had completed the online modules and Observation and Shadow tasks progressed. These metropolitan referees were mentored at WA Junior Development games by Kobi Toomath, Ryan Morris and Gary Payne. Referee is a difficult task and the development of upcoming referees requires support from all clubs. Regional referee development was undertaken through various initiatives as outlined in the Regional Report.

Water Polo Australia launched a new Officials Education Framework in 2025. Following a review Water Polo WA are continuing with the full assessment process for Community Referees rather than adopting accreditation based simply the completion of online modules. In relation to the Development referee accreditation WPWA will also continue to identify referees with an appropriate level of competence in the correct competition before undertaking evaluation.



Danielle Woodhouse gained her Advanced referee accreditation. This is assessed by Water Polo Australia and Dani received the accreditation at Australian Youth Championships.

A Table official workshop was held in January 2026 and then individual poolside training at Junior League games was conducted in preparation for Australian Youth Championships.

LIZ BURMAN
Chair WPWA Officials Advisory Group



Regional Water Polo



Regional Water Polo

Our regional water polo clubs continued to grow this season with the majority of clubs increasing membership and strengthening their competitions while retaining the community focus that regional sport is renowned for. As well as intraclub competitions, regional clubs competed in the Dave Outhwaite Cup, Pilbara Cup and Country Championships in Port Hedland. Western Australia was represented by a women's team at the Australian Country Championships in Ballarat and junior teams from both Busselton and Geraldton took up the challenge at the Australian Youth Championships. Regional Junior players Tessa O'Malley and Bodhi Smith represented WA at the National State Championships.

Albany Club with support from WPWA re-established their affiliation and enjoyed a social competition with Busselton. For many of the Albany players new to water polo this was the first experience of competition outside their own club.

Officials Development

To promote the Community referee accreditation and provide mentoring to regional referees workshops were held at the Pilbarra Cup in both Port Hedland and Karratha. These workshops provide an opportunity for the development and accreditation of regional referees by allowing observation, shadow tasks and practical assessments by Advanced level referees. The mentoring provided also enhances the knowledge, skills and the overall capability of regional officials.

WPWA were successful in their application for an Active Regional Community Grant from the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport to support the attendance of the Technical Director and two Advanced Referees at the Country Championships in Port Hedland. Throughout the Championships the Advanced referees, Rosie Rotheram and Kobi Toomath and Technical delegate, Liz Burman mentored club referees building stronger rule interpretation, decision-making confidence and consistency across games.

WPWA Advanced referees (Fiona Haigh, Gabor Boros, Ryan Morris) also supported regional semi-finals and finals in Geraldton and Karratha Water Polo Association finals (Liz Burman). This presence strengths regional officiating.

Bunbury Water Polo Club were also successful with an Active Regional Community Grant to support the delivery of the Regional Coaching workshop. With a quality line up of presenters including both National Australian Coaches, Bec Rippon and Tim Hamill, both theory and practical sessions were held at Perth High Performance Centre benefitting coaches from the knowledge and different approaches offered. Bunbury Water Polo club junior members enjoyed the practical training sessions and the opportunity to attend an Australian Water Polo League game.

Regional Travel Subsidies & Academies

WPWA continued support of regional athletes eligible for travel subsidies for State representation and also advocating for and endorsing applications for the SW Academy and Midwest Academy of Sport.

Country Championships

The West Australian Country Championships were successfully held in the Town of Port Hedland for the first time in several years. The yearly event, held on the March long weekend, is shared between the seven regional centres on a rotational basis. The last few attempts to hold the event in Port Hedland have needed to be relocated due to severe weather.

This year's tournament saw Port Hedland, Bunbury, Geraldton and Karratha compete in the men's draw. Bunbury defeated Karratha in the 2 v 3 playoff match in the morning to earn the right to play against Geraldton in the grand final. Lead by Grand Final MVP, Marko Draksimovich, Bunbury controlled the tempo of the game before taking out the grand final 9-7.

In the female's competition, teams from Port Hedland, Karratha, Geraldton, Peel and Busselton participated over the three days. At the end of the round matches, three teams, Peel, Geraldton and Karratha were on equal points and finalists were determined by the tie breaker rules. The final was between Peel and Geraldton and after Peel defeated Geraldton during the round match, Geraldton proved too strong and exacted revenge, taking out the grand final 8-5.



MVP
Marko Draksimovic
Marnie Koch

Highest Goal Scorers
Ben Vittino
Mackenzie Jones

Allstar 7's Mens	Allstar 7's Womens
Marko Draksimovic, Bunbury	Marnie Koch, Peel
Ben Vittino, Bunbury	Kylie English, Bunbury
Lachy Toomath, Bunbury	Tessa O'Malley, Geraldton
Charlie Regan, Karratha	Emma Smith, Geraldton
Zac Cross, Geraldton	Caitlin McCarthy, Karratha
Rhys Knight, Karratha	Mackenzie Jones, Peel
Jarrod English, Bunbury	Evie Prout, Geraldton

Australian Country Water Polo Championships

Water Polo Queensland hosted the Australian Country Championships in Ballarat from 6-9 May 2026. The team officials Mark Balenzuela (Coach), Chantal Latham (Manager) and Liz Burman (Referee) are thanked for their contribution to the WA State Country Team.

WA State Country Women's Team

Name	Club
Mikayla Cremin	Geraldton Water Polo Association
Maddy Marshall	Geraldton Water Polo Association
Paige Brady	Bunbury Water Polo Association
India Latham	Peel Water Polo Club
Sabine Angelatos	Geraldton Water Polo Association
Grace Johnson	Geraldton Water Polo Association
Esta Penberthy	Geraldton Water Polo Association
Marni Cloete	Triton Water Polo Club
Tia Nelson	Triton Water Polo Club
Marnie Koch	Peel Water Polo Club
Evie Prout	Geraldton Water Polo Association
Billie Marshall	Geraldton Water Polo Association
Mackenzie Jones	Peel Water Polo Club

The team utilised two Triton PWL Players, the Import Player rule which allows a metropolitan player from the local A Grade competition to be selected.

Despite the early appointment of coaches it was unfortunate that no Men's team could be nominated. Declan Rahman from Port Hedland participated in the Draft and played for Tasmania.

If the Australian Country Water Polo Championships are to remain a pathway for development of regional players, there needs to be earlier commitment and engagement from clubs and players to fully support the teams.

Australian Youth Championships April 2026 Brisbane

Three regional Junior teams competed at the Championships in the Green Division, Busselton Water Polo Association U16 Boys and U16 Girls and Geraldton Water Polo Association U16 Girls. Regional juniors also joined Metropolitan club teams to gain experience. Opportunities to train in preparation for this competition and travel as a team are invaluable and challenging development opportunities for regional clubs. However the experience motivates both players and officials to continue to develop their teams.

Regional Advisory Group

Regional Presidents met more regularly over the season to discuss priorities and collaborative efforts in funding to maximise benefits from available resources. Chaired by Board Member Natasha O'Neill it is hoped that this forum continues to be an effective conduit for ideas and regional development.

Active Regional Communities Grants

In 2025/26, our regional associations were able to capitalise on Active Regional Communities (ARC) Grants through the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport (Government of Western Australia). These grants, which were up to $5000 each, supported the delivery of key programs to support the development of our regional Associations.

In 2026, two ARC grants were used:

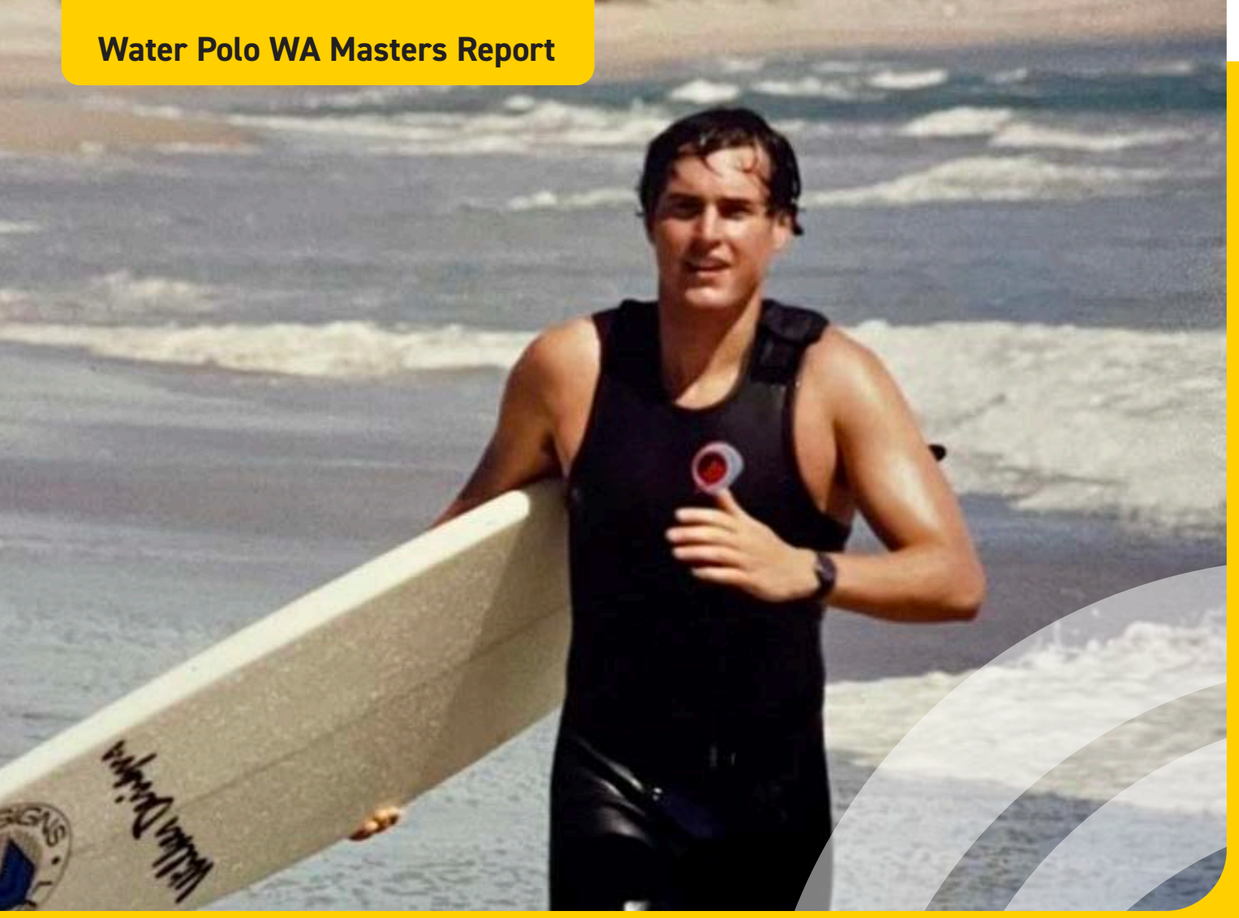
1. **WA Country Championships:** This saw development opportunities for regional referees, as well as supporting metro referees attend the Competition to enhance refereeing of matches across the weekend
2. **Coach Development:** This year, we welcomed Australia Stingers and Sharks Head Coaches, Bec Rippon and Tim Hamill to Perth, where they delivered coaching workshops to our regional coaches to support their development and providing incredible insights to go back to their respective Clubs/ Associations with.







Water Polo WA Masters



Water Polo WA Masters Report

Season 2025/26 was yet again enjoyed by over 100 Masters. An average of 55 players took to the pool each week over our 23-week competition, enjoying fierce rivalry, great friendship, and– most importantly at our stage in life – vital social connection. While this represents a slight decrease in participation from last season, it is still, to the best of our knowledge, the highest engagement of its kind anywhere.

Our thanks to everyone who organised, refereed, played, watched, and contributed to yet another highly successful year of Masters Water Polo here in Perth.

World Masters Championships: Singapore

In August 2025, six teams made the journey to Singapore to compete in the World Aquatics Water Polo World Masters Championships. Our contingent proudly represented WA across multiple age brackets:

- **Women:** 50+ (Dolphins)
- **Men:** 55+ (UWA), 60+ (UWA), 65+ (Perth Cockatoos), 70+ (Perth Cockatoos), and 75+ (Perth Cockatoos).

Our teams held their own exceptionally well on the world stage against elite international competition, returning home with an incredible haul of 2 Gold and 2 Bronze medals, alongside hard-fought 4th and 5th-place finishes.

Legends of the Tournament

Among our numbers were two true standouts: Billy Wallace (age 82) and Susan Skillen (age 68). They were officially recognised as the oldest male and female players at the entire tournament. Fittingly, both returned home with Gold Medals. Unfortunately, the games were not streamed live or recorded on the World Aquatics YouTube channel as they have been in the past, meaning our community at home missed watching the action unfold.

International Officiating

The presence of former Australian Olympic Referee Daniel Flahive (Head Delegate), former NZ Olympic Referee Liz Burman, and current International Referee Fiona Haigh was vital, particularly as global refereeing stocks seem to be waning. Liz and Fiona acquitted themselves tremendously.

In my opinion, the minimum standard for all future World Aquatics Masters tournaments should require at least one retired World Championship or Olympic-graded referee in every game. Controlling matches with less than adequately qualified referees is simply unacceptable for a tournament of this calibre.

In Memoriam: Tom “TK” Kelly

Sadly we lost one of our own during the tournament. Tom Kelly (TK) passed away after suffering a heart attack at his team’s hotel on the morning of their Bronze Medal game. In a deeply heartwarming tribute, when TK was presented in the team line up before the match, the entire stadium stood and applauded for two minutes out of respect. His UWA team went on to play the game against Stepp Prague 55+, winning resoundingly 16–3 in his honour.

TK has now had a team named after him at our seasonal Alan Charleston Shield. The AC Shield was once again played on the final night of the season, and fittingly, Team Tom Kelly took out the win on a great night of competition and camaraderie.

Hall of Fame & Major Accolades

Hall of Fame Induction: Gary Payne

Gary Payne was inducted into the Masters International Swimming Hall of Fame in September 2025 at a ceremony in Fort Lauderdale, USA. Gary was the sole water polo representative in the Class of 2025 and became the first water polo player from Australia to be inducted. This is a thoroughly well-deserved acknowledgement of Gary’s lifelong dedication to the sport as a top level referee, Technical Delegate and player and his invaluable contributions to Masters Water Polo.

Volunteer of the Year: Colin Wedd

Masters was honoured this year at the state level, with Colin Wedd being awarded The Frank Beaurepaire “Volunteer of the Year Award” at the Water Polo WA Awards Night. This award recognised Colin’s ongoing contribution and development of Masters water polo in Western Australia.

Special Thanks

A standard of excellence like ours doesn’t happen without tireless work behind the scenes. In particular, I would like to thank:

- **Kathryn, Mick, and Pearl:** For being at the pool every single week to handle finances and seamlessly manage both cash and electronic payments.
- **Susan Skillen and Janet Leo:** For their tireless efforts in managing registration of Masters players for the season.

Compliance & Insurance Safeguards

It is vitally important that ALL PLAYERS are fully registered with both their club and specifically for the “Masters Event.” Players must provide proof of registration prior to hitting the water.

This is a critical requirement for insurance purposes:

- **Unregistered = Uninsured:** If you are injured during a game and are not registered, you are not covered for your injury, nor are you covered for anyone you may accidentally injure.
- **Legible Scoresheets:** It is equally imperative that your name is written legibly on the scoresheet before every game. If your name is missing from the official sheet and you need to lodge an injury claim, it becomes incredibly difficult to prove.

The Strategic Future of WA Masters

The Senior State League (SSL) is growing, but predominantly at the lower end (E and F grades) rather than the top. There is an ongoing conversation to be had here: perhaps if the league divests itself of old-school players, younger athletes will have the space to play a higher level of polo.

We continue to actively collaborate with WPWA on several initiatives to future-proof our sport:

- **The 40+ Transition Competition:** Eight years ago, we suggested running a dedicated 40+ competition on Wednesday nights. This would serve as a highly competitive transition from the Men’s SSL into Masters, eventually feeding players into our Tuesday night 45+ competition and freeing up valuable pool space in the lower grades – an issue WPWA has wanted to solve for over 30 years.
- **The Regional Tri-Series:** Spurred by the outstanding success of the Geraldton Masters a few years ago and the creation of their local competition, we are inching closer to an Annual Tri-Series. The vision is a three-way tournament series held across Bunbury (June), Geraldton (May or August), and Perth (early July), designed to fit around World Masters or other international tours. The nuts and bolts are still being worked out, and we welcome any member input.

2026/27 and Beyond

Looking ahead, the calendar is packed with exciting opportunities:

- **Inaugural State Championships (January):** WPWA has invited us to participate, and we are hopeful to travel to Bunbury and/or Geraldton, with the potential for a warm-up tournament in Perth.
- **World Masters Championships (Budapest, Hungary):** Taking place July 11th–19th, 2027.
- **National Expansion:** There is promising chatter regarding the launch of an official Australian Masters Competition.

Finally, Water Polo WA has undergone leadership changes with the appointment of new CEO and former Aussie Diamonds netballer, Nat Butler (née Medhurst). I would like to take this opportunity to welcome her to the WA Water Polo community. After meeting her, I suspect she will be a driving force for our sport for a long time to come.

A Final Word from the Chair

The future of Masters Water Polo is primarily in your hands. It will either grow because of your positive attitude and actions, or it will wither and die for those same reasons. If you know anyone who might like to have a throw, please bring them down to a Tuesday night game or our Sunday morning Masters training session at Beatty Park from 7:30 am each week.

Finally, I would like to extend a massive thank you to your committee for the immense time and effort they pour into this association. Very well done, team– nothing happens unless someone steps up to do it.

Thank you all for a magnificent season. See you at the pool.

COLIN WEDD
Chairman, WPWA Masters



Financial Report

Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated

ABN: 22 322 829 344

Financial Report

For the year ended 30 June 2026

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WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

BOARDS' REPORT

The Board members present their report together with the financial report of Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated (the "Association") for the year ended 30 June 2026 and auditor's report thereon.

Board members names

The names of the Board members in office at any time during or since the end of the year:

Chairperson	Justin McMillan (Appointed as Chair October AGM 2025)
Chairperson	Sue Gliddon (Appointed 4 March 2024, Resigned 12 October 2025)
Deputy Chairperson	Leanne Kelly (Elected 12 October 2024)
Director	Alex Pirone (Elected 22 October 2023, Resigned 12 October 2025)
Director	Mark Waters (Re-Elected 12 October 2025)
Director	Danielle Woodhouse (Elected 12 October 2024)
Director	Justin McMillan (Appointed 15 April 2025)
Director	Sue Gliddon (Appointed 12 October 2025, Resigned 30 April 2026)
Director	James Hull (Elected 12 October 2025)
Director	Natasha O'Neill (Appointed 7 August 2025)
Director	Gemma Tually (Appointed 25 May 2026)

The Board members have been in office since the start of the year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Results

The deficit of the Association for the year amounted to $112,219 (2025: $41,409).

Review of operations

The Association continued to engage in its principal activity, the results of which are disclosed in the attached financial statements.

Significant changes

There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities occurred during the financial year.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Association during the year was to develop the participation of people in the sport of water polo as players, coaches, officials and club volunteers.

After balance date events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

BOARDS' REPORT

Indemnification of officers

During or since the end of the financial year, the Association has given indemnity or entered an agreement to indemnify, or paid or agreed to pay insurance premiums in order to indemnify the Board members of the Association against legal costs that may be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against the Board members in their capacity as Board members of the Association, and any other payments arising from liabilities incurred by the Board members in connection with such proceedings, other than where such liabilities arise out of conduct involving a wilful breach of duty by the Board members or the improper use by the Board members of their position or of information to gain advantage for themselves or someone else to cause detriment to the Association.

Further disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

Indemnification of auditors

To the extent permitted by law, the Association has agreed to indemnify its auditors, Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd (formerly Nexia Perth Audit Services Pty Ltd), as part of the terms of its audit engagement agreement against claims by third parties arising from the audit (for an unspecified amount). No payment has been made to indemnify Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd (formerly Nexia Perth Audit Services Pty Ltd) during and/or since the year ended 30 June 2026.

Environmental regulation

The Association's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

Proceedings on behalf of the Association

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Association or intervene in any proceedings to which the Association is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Association for all or any part of those proceedings.

Signed on behalf of the members of the Board.

Justin McMillan _____
Chairperson

Leanne Kelly _____
Director

Dated:__9 October 2026_____ Dated:_____9 October 2026_____

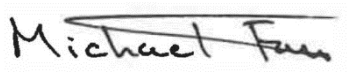
Horizon Nexus Partners
Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd (ACN 145 447 105)
Level 4, 88 William Street, Perth WA 6000 | GPO Box 2570, Perth WA 6001
horizonnp.com.au

Auditor's Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of the financial statements of Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2026 there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd

Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd



Michael Fay
Director
Perth, Western Australia
Date: 9 October 2026

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

STATEMEMT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	2026 $	2025 $
Income		
Grants	360,514	372,500
Competition	482,358	425,963
Interest income	7,322	10,065
Sundry income	9,685	7,547
Capitation	148,918	132,152
	1,008,797	948,227
Expenses		
Insurance	(5,230)	(5,234)
Competitions	(586,067)	(582,502)
Administration expense	(529,719)	(360,585)
Development expense	-	(41,315)
	(1,121,016)	(989,636)
(Deficit) for the year	(112,219)	(41,409)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive (deficit) for the year	(112,219)	(41,409)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3.1	361,199	25,226
Term deposits	3.2	93,470	187,733
Trade and other receivables	4	21,632	37,802
Inventories	5	-	1,176
Other assets	6	8,591	20,734
Total current assets		484,892	272,671
Non-current assets			
Plant and equipment	7	21,070	32,685
Total non-current assets		21,070	32,685
Total assets		505,962	305,356
Current liabilities			
Trade Payables	8	86,689	19,544
Funding received in advance	9	200,000	-
Provisions	10	16,493	9,575
Accruals	8	38,762	-
Total current liabilities		341,944	29,119
Total liabilities		341,944	29,119
Net assets		164,018	276,237
Members funds			
Retained surplus	11	164,018	276,237
Total members funds		164,018	276,237

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	Retained surplus	Total Members Funds
		$	$
Balance as at 1 July 2024		317,646	317,646
(Deficit) for the year		(41,409)	(41,409)
Total comprehensive (Deficit) for the year		(41,409)	(41,409)
Balance as at 1 July 2025	11	276,237	276,237
(Deficit) for the year		(112,219)	(112,219)
Total comprehensive (deficit) for the yea		(112,219)	(112,219)
Balance as at 30 June 2026	11	164,018	164,018

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

	Note	2026 $	2025 $
Cash flow from operating activities			
Receipts from services provided		722,844	586,768
Grant receipts		360,514	372,500
Payments to suppliers and employees		(846,266)	(1,089,857)
Interest received		7,322	10,065
Net cash from/ (used in) operating activities	12(b)	244,414	(120,524)
Cash flow from investing activities			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(2,707)	(29,997)
Transfer from / (to) term deposits		94,266	(8,521)
Net cash from / (used in) investing activities		91,559	(38,518)
Reconciliation of cash			
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of the financial year		25,226	184,268
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash held		335,973	(159,042)
Cash and cash equivalent at end of financial year	3.1	361,199	25,226

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity on the basis that, in the opinion of the Board, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy, specifically, all of their information needs. Accordingly, this financial report is a special purpose financial report, which has been prepared to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*.

The financial report covers Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated as an individual entity which has been formed, and is domiciled in Australia. The Association is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial report was approved by the Board as at the date of the Boards' report.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*, the recognition and measurement requirements specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of:

AASB 101	*Presentation of Financial Statements*
AASB 107	*Statement of Cash Flows*
AASB 108	*Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*
AASB 1048	*Interpretation and application of standards*
AASB 1054	*Australian Additional Disclosures*
AASB 124	*Related Party Disclosures*

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report:

(a) Basis of preparation of the financial report

Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern

The financial report has been prepared on the going concern basis. In arriving at the position the Board has had regard to the fact that, the Association has, or in the Board's opinion will have access to, sufficient cash to fund administrative and other committed expenditure for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing the financial report (the "Period").

In forming this view, the Board has taken into consideration the following:

- The Association receives a significant portion of its income from the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport ("DCITS") and other key funding and sponsorship providers (the "Significant Sources of Funding"). It is expected that the Significant Sources of Funding for the Period will be comparable to prior years which will enable the Association to pay all its liabilities and commitments as and when they fall due for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial report.

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(a) Basis of preparation of the financial report (continued)

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of the financial report requires the use of certain estimates and judgements in applying the Association's accounting policies. Those estimates and judgements significant to the financial report are disclosed in Note 2 to the financial statements.

New and revised accounting standards effective at 30 June 2026

The Association has applied all new and revised Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that apply to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2025. Application of the new and revised Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have a material impact on the financial report.

Accounting Standards issued but not yet effective

The Australian Accounting Standards Board ("AASB") has issued a number of new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods, some of which are relevant to the Association. The Association has decided not to early adopt any of these new and amended pronouncements. The Association is currently in the process of assessing any potential impact.

(b) Revenue

Grants and sponsorship revenue

Where grant and sponsorship revenue arises from an agreement which is for the transfer of goods or services, is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when those obligations have been met. Other grant and sponsorship revenue is recognised on an accrual basis when the Association has gained control of the asset.

Revenue from the provision of services

Revenue from the provision of services comprises revenue derived from membership fees, participation and events (such as competition and capitation). The Association recognises revenue when it satisfies the performance obligation associated with the service either over time or at a point in time, depending on the nature of the service provided.

Other revenue

Other revenue is recognised when it accrues.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(c) Financial instruments

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Association becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Association commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified as fair value through profit or loss, in which case transaction costs are immediately recognised as expenses in the income statement.

Classification of financial assets

Financial assets recognised by the Association are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, subject to their classification and whether the Association irrevocably designates the financial asset on initial recognition at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVtOC") in accordance with the relevant criteria in AASB 9 *Financial Instruments*.

Financial assets not irrevocably designated on initial recognition at FVtOCI are classified as subsequently measured at amortised cost, FVtOCI or fair value through profit or loss ("FVtPL") on the basis of both:

(a) the Association's business model for managing the financial assets; and

(b) the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset.

Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables arise from the Association's transactions with third parties and are normally settled within 30 days.

Consistent with both the Association's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the assets, trade and other receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities classified as held-for-trading, contingent consideration payable by the Association for the acquisition of a business, and financial liabilities designated at FVtPL, are subsequently measured at fair value.

All other financial liabilities recognised by the Association are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

Term deposits held not at call with financial institutions or with an original maturity of more than 3 months are classified as financial assets.

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(e) Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(f) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and purchased assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(g) Inventories

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

(h) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is measured at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all other plant and equipment is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held available for use, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the asset.

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation rates	Depreciation basis
Plant and equipment at cost	33%	Diminishing value
Office equipment at cost	33%	Diminishing value

(i) Impairment of non-financial assets

Goodwill, intangible assets not yet ready for use and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not subject to amortisation and are therefore tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired.

For impairment assessment purposes, assets are generally grouped at the lowest levels for which there are largely independent cash flows ("cash generating units"). Accordingly, most assets are tested for impairment at the cash-generating unit level. Because it does not generate cash flows independently of other assets or groups of assets, goodwill is allocated to the cash generating unit or units that are expected to benefit from the synergies arising from the business combination that gave rise to the goodwill

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Assets other than goodwill, intangible assets not yet ready for use and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are assessed for impairment whenever events or circumstances arise that indicate the asset may be impaired.

(i) Impairment of non-financial assets (continued)

An impairment loss is recognised when the carrying amount of an asset or cash generating unit exceeds the asset's or cash generating unit's recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset or cash generating unit is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use (where 'value in use' is determined as the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit).

Impairment losses in respect of individual assets are recognised immediately in the income statement unless the asset is measured at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease and is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent that it does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for the same class of asset. Impairment losses in respect of cash generating units are allocated first against the carrying amount of any goodwill attributed to the cash generating unit with any remaining impairment loss allocated on a pro rata basis to the other assets comprising the relevant cash generating unit.

A reversal of an impairment loss for an asset measured at cost is recognised in the income statement. A reversal of an impairment loss for an asset measured at a revalued amount is treated as a revaluation increase and is recognised in other comprehensive income, except to the extent that an impairment loss on the same class of asset was previously recognised in the income statement, in which case a reversal of that impairment loss is also recognised in the income statement.

(j) Employee benefits

(i) Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and other employee benefits (other than termination benefits) expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables in the statement of financial position.

(ii) Long-term employee benefit obligations

The provision for other long-term employee benefits, including obligations for long service leave and annual leave, which are not expected to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the reporting period, are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of the services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee turnover, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long-term employee benefits are recognised in the income statement in the periods in which the change occurs.

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(j) Employee benefits (Continued)

Other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the Association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur. All other long-term employee benefit obligations are presented as non-current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

(k) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period.

(l) Leases

At the commencement date of a lease (other than leases of 12-months or less and leases of low value assets), the Association recognises a lease asset representing its right to use the underlying asset and a lease liability representing its obligation to make lease payments.

Lease assets

Lease assets are initially recognised at cost, comprising the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date of the lease, less any lease incentives received, any initial direct costs incurred by the Association, and an estimate of costs to be incurred by the Association in dismantling and removing the underlying asset, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, unless those costs are incurred to produce inventories.

Subsequent to initial recognition, lease assets are measured at cost (adjusted for any remeasurement of the associated lease liability), less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment loss.

Lease assets are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful life of the underlying asset, consistent with the estimated consumption of the economic benefits embodied in the underlying asset.

Lease liabilities

Lease liabilities are initially recognised at the present value of the future lease payments (i.e., the lease payments that are unpaid at the commencement date of the lease). These lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate can be readily determined, or otherwise using the Association's incremental borrowing rate.

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(l) Leases (continued)

Subsequent to initial recognition, lease liabilities are measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments (i.e., the lease payments that are unpaid at the reporting date). Interest expense on lease liabilities is recognised in the income statement (presented as a component of finance costs). Lease liabilities are remeasured to reflect changes to lease terms, changes to lease payments and any lease modifications not accounted for as separate leases.

Variable lease payments not included in the measurement of lease liabilities are recognised as an expense when incurred.

Leases of 12-months or less and leases of low value assets

Lease payments made in relation to leases of 12-months or less and leases of low value assets (for which a lease asset and a lease liability has not been recognised) are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(m) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

NOTE 2: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

(a) Impairment of non-financial assets other than goodwill

All assets are assessed for impairment at each reporting date by evaluating whether indicators of impairment exist in relation to the continued use of the asset by the consolidated entity. Impairment triggers include declining product or manufacturing performance, technology changes, adverse changes in the economic or political environment and future product expectations. If an indicator of impairment exists the recoverable amount of the asset is determined.

The recoverable amount of a CGU is based on value in use calculations. These calculations are based on projected cash flows approved by management covering a minimum period of 1 year (maximum of five years). Management's determination of cash flow projections and gross margins are based on past performance and its expectation for the future.

(b) Revenue and other income

The Association derives revenue and other income from a range of activities, including revenue from the sale of goods, the provision of services and income from grants. In accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Association is required to determine whether it is appropriate to recognise revenue and other income in the financial year in which cash or non-cash assets are received or to defer the recognition of revenue and other income until associated obligations and/or conditions (if any) are satisfied. In making this judgement, the Association considers the guidance outlined in AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* and, in particular, whether the arrangement relates to the transfer of goods or services and contains enforceable and sufficiently specific performance obligations. Where the Association identifies the existence of transfer of goods or services, enforceable and sufficiently specific performance obligations, or the arrangement requires the Association to use the funds received to acquire or construct items of property, plant and equipment to identified specifications, the recognition of revenue and other income is deferred until the identified obligations are satisfied.

NOTE 2: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS (continued)

(c) Leases

The Association has applied a number of judgments in assessing its leases against the criteria in AASB 16 *Leases* and calculating the right-of-use asset and lease liability to be recognised. These judgments include the nature of the arrangement (existence of the right to control an asset), the defined lease term, the incremental borrowing rate, lease payments and likely lease payment increases over the lease term. The judgments applied may change year on year if facts or circumstances change and AASB 16 *Leases* requires the change to be reflected in the lease calculation.

	2026	2025
	$	$
NOTE 3.1: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at bank	361,199	25,226
	361,199	25,226
NOTE 3.2: TERM DEPOSITS		
Term Deposits[1]	93,470	187,733

[1]The term deposit is a 6-month deposit with an interest rate of 4.45% per annum (2025: 4.95% per annum).

NOTE 4: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	21,632	37,802

Receivables

Receivables are non-interest bearing with 30 day terms. Impairment losses are recognised in accordance with accounting policy (c) Financial Instruments as disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements. Receivables have been assessed by management based on payment history and have been deemed fully recoverable.

NOTE 5: INVENTORIES		
CURRENT		
At net realisable value		
Finished goods	-	1,176

	2026	2025
	$	$
NOTE 6: OTHER ASSETS		
Prepayments	8,591	20,734
NOTE 7: PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment at cost	76,931	74,224
Accumulated depreciation	(55,861)	(41,539)
	21,070	32,685
Total plant and equipment	21,070	32,685
NOTE 8: TRADE PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS		
CURRENT		
Unsecured liabilities		
Trade payables	86,689	19,544
Accruals	38,762	-
	125,451	19,544
NOTE 9: CONTRACT LIABILITY		
Funding received in advance	200,000	-

Contract liabilities represent amounts received that in accordance with accounting policy (b) Revenue in Note 1 to the financial statements, cannot be recognised as income as the associated performance obligations have not been met as at 30 June 2026.

NOTE 10: PROVISIONS		
CURRENT		
Employee benefits	16,493	9,575
NOTE 11: RETAINED SURPLUS		
Retained surplus at beginning of year	276,237	317,646
(Deficit) for the year	(112,219)	(41,409)
Retained surplus at end of year	164,018	276,237

	2026	2025
	$	$
NOTE 12: CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
(a) Reconciliation of cash		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash at bank	361,199	25,226
(b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus for the year		
(Deficit) from ordinary activities after income tax	(112,219)	(41,409)
Adjustments and non-cash items		
Depreciation	14,321	9,689
Changes in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/Decrease in Trade & Other Receivables	16,170	(32,237)
(Increase)/Decrease in Other Assets	13,318	(6,893)
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade & Other payables	305,906	(52,765)
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	6,918	3,092
Cash flows provided by / (used in) operating activities	244,414	(120,524)
NOTE 13: AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION		
Audit of the financial report	6,500	6,000
Assistance with preparation of the financial report	1,500	1,000
	8,000	7,000

NOTE 14: CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Association had no capital commitments as at 30 June 2026 (2025: Nil).

NOTE 15: CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Association had no contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2026 (2025: Nil).

NOTE 16: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Association related parties is its key management personnel and family members of key management personnel.

Transactions with Key Management Personnel

The key management of the Association consists of the Board Members of the Association and the Executive Officer. Key management personnel remuneration includes the following expenses:

	2026	2025
	$	$
Total key management personnel remuneration	178,187	132,386

The Board Members act in an honorary capacity and receive no compensation for their services other than reimbursement of expenses incurred in relation to their capacity as Directors.

NOTE 17: EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

NOTE 18: ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The registered office of the Association is:
Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated
12 McGillivray Road
Mount Claremont WA 6010

WATER POLO WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
ABN: 22 322 829 344

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

In the opinion of the Board of Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated:

a. The financial statements and notes of Water Polo Western Australian Incorporated (the "Association") are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*, including:

   1. Presenting fairly the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2026 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and

   2. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

b. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

Justin McMillan _____
Chairperson

Dated:___9 October 2026_____

Leanne Kelly _____
Director

Dated:_____9 October 2026_____

Horizon Nexus Partners
Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd (ACN 145 447 105)
Level 4, 88 William Street, Perth WA 6000 | GPO Box 2570, Perth WA 6001
horizonnp.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated

Opinion

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Water Polo Western Australia Incorporated (the "Association"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in members funds and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the declaration by those charged with governance.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2026, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent disclosed in Note 1 to the financial report and the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the "Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Association to comply with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Information

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Association's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2026 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider

whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When we do receive it, we will read it and if we conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, we are required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, we may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent disclosed in Note 1 to the financial report and the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA),* and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

• Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

• Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.

• Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

• Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.

• Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd

Horizon Nexus (WA) Audit Pty Ltd

Michael Fay

Michael Fay
Director
Perth, Western Australia
Date: 9 October 2026



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