



SYDNEY

UNIVERSITY

SPORT

ANNUAL REPORT  
2023



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# BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MANAGEMENT & COMMITTEES

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Chair: David Mortimer AO
- Deputy Chair: Simone Whetton
- Chair of FARC Committee: Warwick Lynch
- Deputy Chair of FARC Committee: Jane Spring AM
- Non-Executive Directors: Mike Wiseman, Todd Stevenson & Sarah Verne
- Student Non-Executive Directors: Andrew Sierakowski & Dyone Bettega
- Company Secretary: Natalie Brown

## MANAGEMENT

- Chief Executive Officer: Ed Smith
- Chief Financial Officer: Enda Carberry
- Legal Counsel: Natalie Brown
- Head of Marketing and Programs: Ian Riddick
- Head of People & Culture: Kylie Algie
- Head of Sport: Leonie Lum
- Head of Operations: Paul Reynolds

## CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEES

### The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee (FARC)

- Warwick Lynch (Chair), Jane Spring AM (Deputy Chair) and David Mortimer AO

### The Nominations Committee

- Club Representatives: Brendan Casey, Wil Honner and Andrew Wennerbom
- University Representatives: David Wright, Robyn Dowling and Stephen Phillips
- Independent Member: Sally Loane
- Facilitator: Jill Baker

### The Clubs Advisory Committee

- Representative(s) from each SUSF Club

### The Blues Committee

- Ed Smith, Jason McLennan, Leonie Lum, Talia Barnett-Hepplles, Wyatt Batt, Michael Higgins, James Palmer, Ella Mentzines, Larissa Pasternatsky

### The Awards Committee

- Ed Smith, Leonie Lum, Danielle Hodgson, Jason McLennan, Ella Mentzines and Matthew Powsy

### Past Chairs

- 2019 Rodney Tubbs
- 2020-2023 David Mortimer AM

## MEMBERSHIP

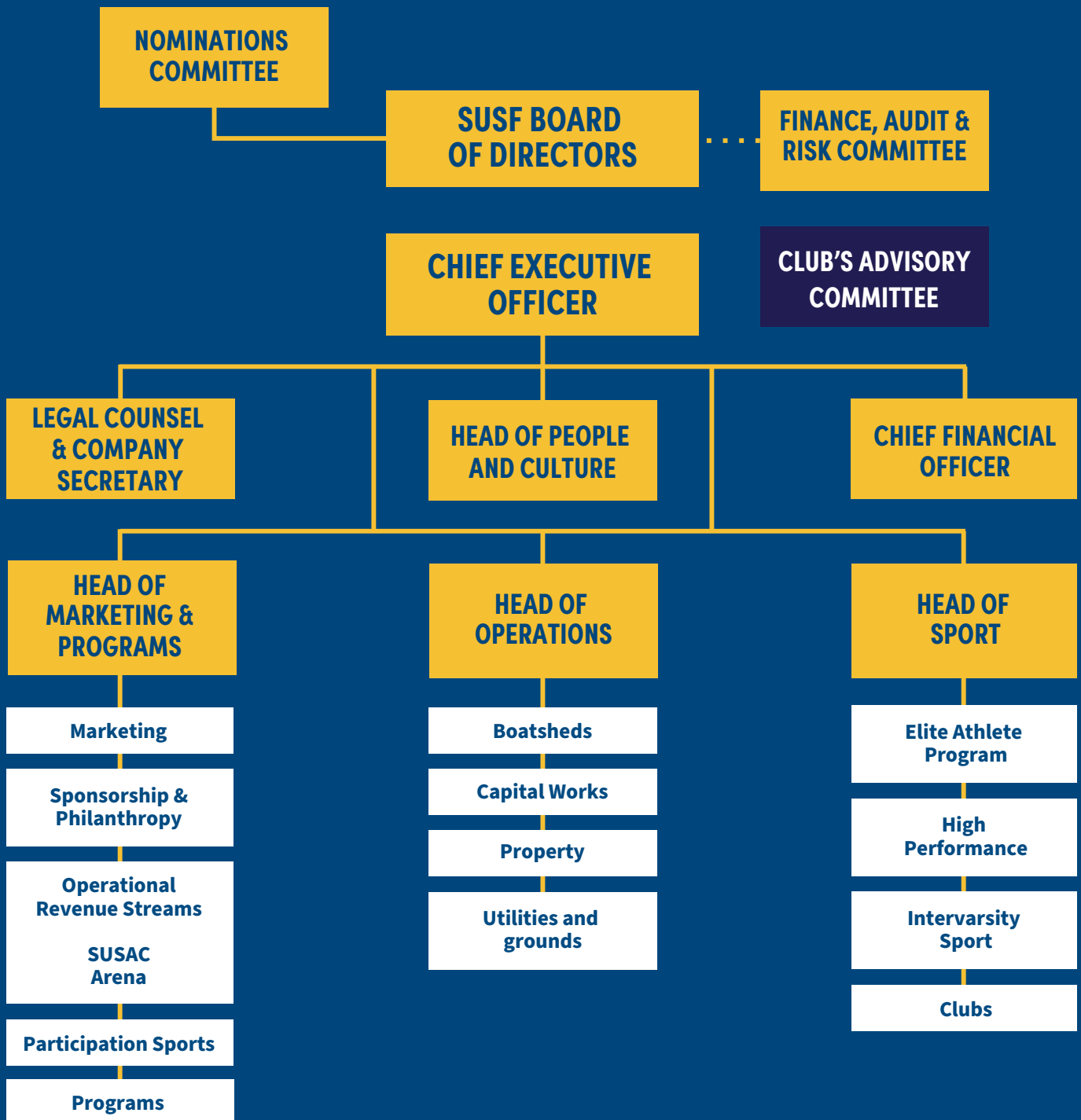
College	No. of Memberships Eligible	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
Club Member	41	31	30
University Member	3	3	0
Residential College Member	6	1	0
SUSF Management Member	1	1	1
SUSF Director	9-10	9	9
University Faculties	5	1	1
University Schools	3	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>

## MEMBER LIST

- Mattia Anesa
- Dyone Bettega
- Wing Si Kaw (Simone) Chan
- Miles Chen
- Theresa Choy
- John Cowling
- Patrick Cunningham
- Andrew Dodds
- Andrew Duggan
- Wayne Erickson
- Declan Everett-Morgan
- Jack Farrer
- James Gifford
- James Glister
- Antony Green
- Immanuel Green
- Andrew Heil
- Maddison Jones
- Hansung Kim
- Vanessa Leung
- Simon Lewis
- Georgia Lomis-Futeran
- Warwick Lynch
- Anthony McInnes
- David Mortimer
- Zoe Naylor
- Chris Noel
- Takumi Ohashi
- Simon Philips
- Sam Power
- Kyle Salkeld
- Jane Sanchez
- Susanna Scarparo
- Mark Scott
- Andrew Sierakowski
- Ed Smith
- Jane Spring AM
- Todd Stevenson
- Sarah Stewart
- Adam Theobald
- Sarah Verne
- Michael Walton
- Ben Warnock
- Simone Whetton
- Mike Wiseman
- Joanne Wright
- Rebecca Wu



# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



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SYDNEY UNI HOCKEY CLUB

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Sydney Uni Australia National Football Club



# CHAIR'S REPORT



**In 2023, Sydney University Sport & Fitness (SUSF) continued its strong recovery from the COVID pandemic that plagued its first two years of incorporation by recording its strongest ever revenue figures while maintaining its position as Australia's best overall University sports organisation.**

From a financial perspective, the organisation recorded a good operational surplus (after depreciation) of \$102,812. This compares favourably to our first three years of incorporation, and I am pleased to report that, across the first four years of incorporation including the three years of the pandemic, SUSF was able to maintain its financial health recording only a small operational deficit (\$99,000) for the period.

From a sports perspective, the University of Sydney won the 2023 UniSport Overall Champions, a title that we have held since 2019 and that we have now won 14 out of the 26 years that it has been run. Meanwhile, for their successful campaigns on the world stage, congratulations in particular must go to:

- the Men and Women's 3x3 Basketball Teams (Silver Medal)
- the Women's Water Polo team (Bronze Medal),
- the Women's Soccer team (Fourth),
- the Men's Rugby team,
- our Athletics Club, and
- our 3 Matilda's, Clare Hunt, Clare Wheeler and Courtnee Vine who competed in a home World Cup, and made the nation proud.

From an administrative perspective, 2023 marked the merger of our Men's and Women's Water Polo Clubs and Men's and Women's Cricket Clubs, thereby signifying the last of our single-gender clubs to merge and completing the planned merger of our men's and women's sports program (which formerly started in 2003), almost 20 years to the day.

On a personal note, 2023 was the last year of my second and final term as the Chair of SUSF. I am very proud of what SUSF has been able to achieve throughout its first four years of incorporation as a not-for-profit charity sports organisation including:

- developing and publishing the SUSF Strategic Plan 2021-2026;
- formalising SUSF's relationship with the University through the signing of the University Affiliation Agreement;
- signing back-to-back affiliation agreements with each of our clubs;
- delivering a club incorporation kit and template for those clubs wishing to incorporate;
- implementing new cloud-based finance and HR systems that have improved the finance and administrative capabilities of SUSF and our clubs;
- delivered over \$2 million worth of minor capital projects to improve the students' sporting facilities; and
- developed, with the University planning team, the SUSF Road Map and the Cumberland Campus Sports Precinct Master Plan for minor and major infrastructure projects designed to improve the overall student experience on campus – noting that, with the growing student population and unpredictable weather conditions, the need for more sports infrastructure, and in particular, synthetic grass fields, is an imperative to our ongoing success.

I have taken great satisfaction in steering this wonderful organisation throughout the first four years of its incorporation. Having first been involved with Sydney Uni Sport through the Rugby Club as a supporter and more significantly as a volunteer since the 1990s, the Sydney University Football Club, Sydney Uni Sport and the wonderful community that surrounds us, have all meant a great deal to me for over 30 years.

I'm very satisfied with the position that we are now heading in the very capable hands of our incoming Chair, Jane Spring AM, who I thank for her ongoing efforts through the first four years as the Chair of the Sports Foundation and as a fellow Finance Committee member.

Finally, I have been fortunate to have had a constructive and thoughtful board over my four years of tenure. Some have been called upon to commit extra time and effort beyond regular board meetings and they have responded with a willingness characteristic of the dedication we expect from exceptional people. Warwick Lynch, Chairman of our audit and risk committee, has led his committee with great professionalism and Simone Whetton as Deputy Chair has been a tower of strength.



My appreciation also goes to the SUSF Senior Management Team led by Ed Smith and to his staff for all of their efforts throughout this difficult time. Together we look forward to an exciting and rewarding future.

**DAVID MORTIMER AO**  
**CHAIRMAN**



# CHAIR OF THE FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE'S REPORT



## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND RESULTS

### 2023 Results

I am pleased to report Sydney University Sport & Fitness (SUSF) has returned a positive surplus of \$102,812 for the year ended 31 December 2023. All our key revenue streams recording strong growth when compared to the previous year, with overall revenues up just over 21%. Interest income also increased from \$57,962 in 2022 to \$227,510 for 2023 due to the higher interest rate environment. As we returned to a full year of normal operations post COVID, we saw an increase in our total overheads of 10.5% including a full complement of staff levels.

SUSF also reported its first real increase in capital expenditure since 2019 with investment in upgrading our gym equipment and grounds fleet totaling \$880,976.

The retained surplus at the end of 2023 now stands at \$3,999,493.

### Change in Accounting Policy and Impact on 2022 Results

With the introduction of AASB 1058 – “Income for Not-for-Profit Entities” in 2021 Sydney University Sport & Fitness needed to change its’ accounting policy for recognition of Student Services and Amenities Fee revenue (‘SSAF’), which we receive from the University of Sydney, from an accruals base to a cash receipts base in 2022. This resulted in an operational surplus for 2022 of \$36,537 being re-stated to a deficit of \$1,269,356.

## FINANCE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

The Finance Audit & Risk Committee continued to meet with the CEO and CFO on a regular basis to monitor both the ongoing cash and financial position and we are pleased to report that the Executive remain diligent and continue to work to maintain a strong company. I wish to thank my fellow members on the Finance Audit and Risk Committee for their support and commitment during the year. I also wish to take this opportunity to especially thank David Mortimer AO, who was an ex-officio member of the Finance Audit & Risk Committee, for his past support to this committee and to the CEO and CFO. David resigned as Chair of Sydney University Sport and Fitness and from the Finance Audit & Risk committee on 31 December 2023.

The Finance Audit & Risk Committee will continue to meet with our Executives on a regular basis and report on the ongoing performance to our board of directors.

## EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER REPORTING DATE

The Finance Audit & Risk Committee are not aware of any post balance sheet events that will negatively impact on the financial performance in 2023.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A word of thanks to Ed Smith our CEO and Enda Carberry our CFO for the tremendous effort they continue to put in to ensure the financial stability of SUSF and I look forward to working with them again in 2024. Finally, to the managers and staff of SUSF and our Clubs for the ongoing support and commitment they continue to show to the continued growth and success of the company – it is very much appreciated.

### WARWICK LYNCH

**FINANCE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE, CHAIR**



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



## 2023 marked the fourth year of SUSF's incorporation and, I am pleased to say, its first full year clear of the COVID pandemic.

Throughout these four years, under the guidance of our Chair, David Mortimer AO, SUSF not only survived the short and longer-term impacts of the global pandemic, but, as can be seen from our results in 2023, we ultimately thrived. Our memberships reached an all-time high of 16,000 while our surplus, after depreciation, exceeded \$100,000.

Our clubs' memberships also rallied to be higher across the board than the pre-COVID years while our participation programs also exceeded all previous offerings and attendances. All numbers aside, perhaps the most memorable moment for me was the last day of UniSport Nationals when the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education), Prof. Joanne Wright, and I travelled the length of the Gold Coast going from gold medal match to gold medal match.

In summary, at the end of a very exciting day, courtesy of an overtime win in the women's touch football gold medal match and a loss on penalties in the men's water polo, University of Sydney was tied with UTS at 12 pennants each, but well ahead on the silver medal count back 14-3. This meant that the Overall University Champion would be decided at the year's final event – the T20 cricket to be held in Adelaide in late November, with UTS needing to win the Cricket Grand Final to take away the Championship trophy that we had held since 2019. In the end, both teams were very strong and made it through to the T-20 Grand and the stage was set...

Regardless of the outcome of that cricket match, SUSF had a very strong 2023. As you can read from our Chair's report, there were so many high-performance and participation sports highlights throughout the year that it is hard to single out any one effort, except perhaps that of our outgoing Chair. Sadly, we said farewell to David Mortimer AO, who in the last of his four years as our Chair oversaw the merger of our men's and women's Cricket Clubs and our men's and women's Water Polo Clubs thereby signifying the last of our single-gender clubs to merge and thus completing the planned merger which formerly started in 2003, almost 20 years to the day. David also oversaw other highlights during the year such as:

- a wonderful ParaSports gala day,
- the 100 years celebration of international students on campus including the very popular Student Soccer World Cup, and

- a wheelchair rugby showpiece event featuring the famous Richie McCaw, who I'm convinced spent most of his time on the court lingering offside.

The year also included:

- our highest ever placed indigenous national team on their campaign in Victoria
- And perhaps the most extraordinary achievement, our Masters' Hockey player, Michael Irby, playing his 1,000th game in the Blue & Gold.

And now we welcome a new era of SUSF under Jane Spring AM, and I'm pleased to say we're already off to a record pace with increased registrations across our participation programs, our gym and swim memberships and of course our amazing sports clubs programs.

Jane will be leading us into an era concentrating heavily on increased participation and capital building as we look to develop a new sports precinct out at our Cumberland campus with the aspiration of helping the University to achieve its goals with regards to reaching out to students from lower socioeconomic areas.

Apart from pursuing further participation and diversity events on campus, Jane will also be concentrating heavily on ensuring that SUSF and the University of Sydney maintains its position of eminence with regard to elite sports, so that athletes like MacKenzie Little and our Matilda's Clare Hunt and Clare Wheeler can continue to achieve at the very highest level in the world, while also studying at a world class university.

So 'what did happen at that cricket Grand Final?' I hear you ask...well such are the nuances of the wonderful pastime that is cricket that, while it was a beautifully sunny day, the wicket was too wet to be played on, the game was declared abandoned, the T20 Pennant was declared shared and the UniSport Overall Championship trophy was awarded to the University of Sydney, a trophy we have now held for the last 5 years and been awarded 14 times out of its 26 year history.

This of course would not have been possible without the tremendous support that we receive every day from our beloved University and its Student Services Amenities Fees (SSAF) program. The University of Sydney continues to provide more support to participation sport, our clubs and our athletes than any other university in Australia – for which we are forever grateful.

**ED SMITH**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



JUBF



TEAMS

MAP

SCHEDULE



WORLD UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL

JAPAN

# OPERATIONS REPORT



**Throughout 2023, the Operations Department played an integral role in propelling the company's growth and operational efficiency, particularly within the facilities sector. Noteworthy achievements include successfully launching several new revenue streams, diversifying the company's income sources, and significantly enhancing our facilities for affiliated clubs.**

Numerous infrastructure projects were undertaken, with several completed and many more initiated for completion by Semester 2 in 2024. These initiatives include:

**Protective Sports Netting Installation:** Recognising the imperative for heightened safety measures, our in-house maintenance team installed state-of-the-art protective sports netting on the square. This not only ensured the safety of our patrons but also revitalised an area that was previously outdated.

**Greg Turner Scoreboard Installation:** In collaboration with Sydney Uni Water Polo Club, and Sydney Uni Swimming Club, a new large LED scoreboard was installed at the Sports and Aquatic Centre. This cutting-edge addition enhances the offerings of both Water Polo and Swim clubs on game days.

**Manning Tennis Court Drainage Works:** Understanding the significance of maintaining pristine playing surfaces, the Operations Grounds Department, alongside the University, implemented a comprehensive drainage system for the Manning Tennis Courts. This involved trenching and installing drainage along the Eastern and Northern ends to manage excess rainwater effectively.

**Service Expansion:** Leveraging our expertise along with the investment made into the grounds fleet during 2022, the grounds department identified lucrative opportunities to expand service offerings into new markets. Notably, we secured a tender for a maintenance program for Parramatta North Oval from the NSW Government, enhancing our portfolio of grounds for use by our affiliated clubs whilst generating additional revenue.

**Future Planning:** Recognising the potential for growth, plans were made to expand the Sports and Aquatic Centre gym and provide a new entranceway with direct access from the Boardwalk. This feature, aimed at improving accessibility, is set to debut in Semester 2, 2024 and provides much needed direct access for our wheelchair users onto the gym floor.

Funding has been secured for the installation of new **LED floodlights on University No.1 Oval**. This project will be warmly welcomed by our Cricket and AFL clubs and provides a much-needed replacement of the current metal halide lights whilst also dramatically assisting with energy savings across the campus with a reduction of 109.92kW per hour.

Additionally, **the Robyn Webster Sports Centre** underwent significant renovations in 2023, courtesy of Inner West Council. These renovations included the installation of a new reception area and a sprung timber floor, transforming the facility into a modern multi-sport venue.

Despite temporary closures during renovations, the facility saw a surge in bookings upon reopening in September, signalling promising opportunities for 2024. With a new hiring agreement with Inner West Council on the horizon and plans to introduce new sports, 2024 promises to be a landmark year for the Robyn Webster Sports Centre.

Our Group Fitness program continues to achieve remarkable growth and enhancement. This year, we welcomed the arrival of 37 cutting-edge Body Bikes, all top-of-the-line Les Mills Special Edition models, elevating our fitness offerings to new heights.

In addition, we facilitated multiple Les Mills initial module training weekends for both Sprint and RPM, empowering our instructors with the latest techniques and methodologies.

## **Gratitude to Our Dedicated Operations Team**

I would like to extend my gratitude to the remarkable individuals comprising our Operations team – whether they be full-time, part-time, or casual staff. Their unwavering commitment and tireless efforts are the cornerstone of our operational success. Day in and day out, they demonstrate unparalleled dedication to ensuring our facilities run seamlessly and efficiently.

**PAUL REYNOLDS**  
**HEAD OF OPERATIONS**



# SPORTS REPORT



**The rain finally stopped and online learning was largely switched off by the University in Semester 2, 2023; two huge barriers that adversely impacted performance and student engagement in sport in 2022 were less imposing in 2023.**

A brilliant 2022/2023 summer season for Sydney University in club sport was followed by a somewhat challenging 2023 winter season for the major codes. Our 2023 UniSport Nationals campaign was a thrilling ride to the final day of the last competition, and we were also very well-represented in international intervarsity events. There was an unusually high turnover of members in our Elite Athlete Program which saw many new, and mostly first year student members commence in 2023. Individual student athletes performed terrifically on the international sporting stage with highlights including: a World Athletics Championships bronze medal in the women's javelin for Doctor of Medicine student, Mackenzie Little; a World Rowing Championships bronze medal in the single scull for the second consecutive year for B. Commerce student, Tara Rigney; a fabulous FIFA Women's Football World Cup campaign by B. Science graduate and Matilda, Clare Hunt; and a Rugby World Cup run by B. Arts student, Angus Bell.

## CLUB SPORT

The 2022/2023 summer was particularly successful season for Sydney University in club sport. Eight Sydney University Athletic Club members claimed open national titles and three members earned junior national titles at the 2023 Australian Athletics Championships. Sydney University Boat Club finished the domestic season in style with an overall club point score win at the 2023 Australian Rowing Championships. Sydney University Cricket Club's 1st Grade men were grand finalists across all three competitions and secured the Minor Premiership. Sydney University Water Polo Club men's and women's teams both reached their grand finals of the Australian Water Polo League and the women took out the champion's title. Along with fine weather and a fabulous turnout of clubs and students for Welcome Week, 2023 opened on a high.

Although the top women's teams of Sydney University Football Club and Sydney University Hockey Club finished their seasons

as grand finalists, Sydney University's performance in club sport across the major codes over the 2023 winter yielded less success than in previous years as we missed 1st Grade titles in aussie rules, rugby, soccer, and hockey. There was plenty of success however for other clubs. For example, 2023 saw Sydney University Cheerleading Club's Lions Gold and Lions Blue teams win state and national titles, and their debut competitive dance team secure multiple state and national victories as well as the University Grand Champions state title. Additionally, 10 of 12 Sydney University Netball Club teams competing in the Inner West Netball Association's winter competition made finals berths, with six teams going on to claim titles.

The constituents of the 39 Sydney University sporting clubs shifted slightly with the rebirth of Sydney University Golf Club and the folding of University Women's Cricket Club after several years of the joint venture between Sydney University Women's Cricket Club and that of UNSW. Significantly, Sydney University Cricket Club and Sydney University Women's Cricket Club commenced a merger so that both men's and women's programs will come under the auspices of Sydney University Cricket Club as did the Sydney University Men's and Women's Water Polo Clubs. This marked the final merging of gender-exclusive clubs and now every Sydney University sporting club is gender-inclusive by name and charter. Member numbers rose for many clubs, including Squash, Baseball, Football, Aussie Rules, Netball and Taekwondo. The number of clubs needing to cap memberships due to facility constraints increased as well (Kendo, Badminton, Volleyball, and Canoe).

Dani Hodgson, SUSF's Junior Lawyer, joined the Sport department in February 2023 to take on an inaugural combined role of Junior Lawyer and Club Development Manager. Additionally, Matthew Hutchinson started in a revised combined role of Intersvarsity Sport and Club Development Coordinator in August 2023. This investment of support by SUSF to its affiliated clubs saw many achievements in 2023 including: a revision of club constitutions to reflect University affiliation requirements; the creation of a 'club health dashboard' to monitor each club's compliance with SUSF regulations; categorisation of clubs to enable appropriate care; the formation of a governance and personnel schedule to track club AGM timing and executive changes; improved use of club financial, membership and activity data to inform decision-making regarding 2024 club allotments; and the acquisition of SSAF funding for bespoke online training (from the Student Experience Network (SEN)) targeted at educating student executives of student-administered clubs,



as well as for the student volunteering program aimed at addressing the trend of declining volunteerism.

2024 will see the rollout of several education plans to student executives of student-administered clubs, including SEN online training and complimentary courses provided by the University (bystander training, First Aid and Mental Health First Aid). We will also provide a handful of networking and education opportunities for all clubs which focus on key areas of concern such as child safety and incident management. At the same time, we will be assisting many clubs with drafting strategic plans. At the conclusion of 2024, we hope to reflect on a two-year plan that has seen a dramatic shift from club development support that is reactive, to that which is proactive. Consequently, we look forward to less investigations, incidents, and accidents, as well as clubs with strong governance and strategic plans, and USYD students and volunteers who experience greater satisfaction and development through their involvement with Sydney University sporting clubs.

**Club staff departures:** Jack Farrer (General Manager, SUFC), Laryssa Biesenthal (SUBC), Dave Gely (SUBC), Dan Parks (Director of Colts, SUFC), Damien Hill (Grade Coach, SUFC), John Curran (Director of Soccer, SUSFC).

**Club staff commencements:** Nathan Charles (Executive General Manager, SUFC), Nick Larkin (Director of Cricket, SUCC), Peter Wawn (SUBC), Alan Bennett (SUBC), Todd Loudon (Head of Coaching, SUFC), Mike Stubbs (Elite Pathways Coordinator, SUFC), Tim Barrett (Junior Pathways Coordinator, SUANFC).

\*Interim support provided by Eleni Valos and Emily Chancellor

## INTERVARSITY SPORT

Over 500 students represented the University of Sydney at UniSport National events in 2023. The University of Sydney won a total of thirteen pennants: Men's and Women's 3x3 Basketball, Women's Athletics, Women's Hockey, Women's Kendo, Men's and Women's Rowing, Mixed Squash, Men's Cross Country Skiing, Men's Tennis, Women's Touch Football, Mixed Ultimate Frisbee,



and Men's T20 Cricket (tied with UTS). Both the University of Sydney and UTS finished the 2023 UniSport Nationals year with thirteen pennants each, though with many more 2nd place results than UTS (13-4), the University of Sydney was crowned the 2023 Overall Champion University once again.

Following 2022 UniSport Nationals titles in women's football and women's water polo, as well as 2023 UniSport Nationals titles in both men's and women's 3x3 basketball, the University of Sydney was provided with opportunities to represent Australian Universities in international intervarsity events. Our women's football team finished in 4th place at the 2023 FISU University World Cup Football tournament in Jinjiang, China, our men's 3x3 basketball team won silver while our women were 10th at the end of the competition in Doha, Qatar, and our women's water polo team competed at the FISU Summer World University Games and secured bronze.

At the conclusion of 2023, we are grateful that the University has provided SSAF funding to SUSF to support students in attending UniSport Nationals events in 2024. Additionally, to encourage both high participation and success in the UniSport Nationals for 2024, we have strategically incentivised clubs and sporting scholarship recipients.

**Intervarsity Sport staff departures:** Luci Monk (Elite Athlete Program & Intervarsity Sport Coordinator).

**Intervarsity Sport staff commencements:** Matthew Hutchinson (Intervarsity Sport & Club Development Coordinator).

\*Interim support provided by Nick Hensley

## HIGH PERFORMANCE & ELITE ATHLETE PROGRAM

It was a turbulent year for staffing with regards to supporting the high performance programs. We went without a full time High Performance Manager for the most part of 2023 until Anthony Eddy was appointed in October and a full time Senior/Lead Strength and Conditioning Coach until part time Strength and Conditioning Coach, Shane Ball, was appointed to the inaugural Athletic Performance Manager role late in the year. However, following Anthony's commencement, several major achievements ensued including: a multi-year lease agreement for GPS technology with Statsports (SUSF in partnership with SUFC, SUSFC, SUHC, and SUANFC); a revision of sports dietician and performance psychology provisions (from complimentary services to subsidies, and the engagement of new preferred practitioners – Clare Flower (dietician) and Alan Mantle (mental skills coach)); the recommencement of coach/director networking and development sessions for our high performance programs; and the acquisition of SSAF funding for internships in high performance sport.

The recruitment and retention of talent was a significant topic in 2023 and key decisions were made to revise our provisions from 2024 onwards, including the way in which we promote opportunities and support for student athletes, as well as sporting scholarship award priorities. Work commenced on a University Student Athlete Prospectus, an asset of which can be used by all clubs and programs to attract all student athletes, not just those who are elite and emerging.

Our Elite Athlete Program supported 316 student athletes in 2023 (2022=274, 2021=260) with 33 sports represented in the cohort (2022=29, 2021=34). The academic performance of the

311 members enrolled at the University of Sydney declined in 2023 in comparison to previous years with 89% and 81% of the group performing to a satisfactory academic standard\* in Semester 1 and Semester 2 respectively. Additionally, there was a sharp increase in the number of student athletes being awarded Absent Fail grades in 2022 in comparison to previous years and this trend continued in 2023 with 12 members receiving one or more of these grades in Semester 1 and 13 in Semester 2. \*Satisfactory academic standard – New Elite Athlete Program members must pass all subject OR achieve a SAM of 55, and returning members must pass all subjects AND achieve a SAM of 60.

We have for many years measured the performance of our Elite Athlete Program using two academic indicators: (1) at least 90% of USYD student members perform to a satisfactory academic level of achievement; and (2) less than 3 members receive Absent Fail grades each semester. The academic performance of student Elite Athlete Program members in 2023 may have been adversely impacted by the shift from online and hybrid learning in Semester 1, 2023 to pre-COVID teaching and learning arrangements (face-to-face). Nevertheless, the comparatively poor performance of our student athletes in 2023 signifies that much work must be done by our Program in 2024.

With Olympian and World Athletics Championships medallist javelin thrower and Doctor of Medicine graduate, Mackenzie Little, named as the Valedictorian of this year group, over 50 student athletes completed their studies in 2023 (over 30 more graduates than in 2022). This large and superb group included: Australia's fastest man, the "Flying Mullet", Bachelor of Laws graduate and Australian sprinter, Rohan Browning; Captain of the inaugural Central Coast Mariners A-League women's football team and Bachelor of Education (Primary) graduate, Taren King; and recently selected Paris Olympian in Canoe Sprint and Bachelor of Project Management graduate, Noah Havard. Our tremendous thanks to the University, the University of Sydney Business School, our wonderful community of scholarship donors, the residential college, and the many terrific people and organisations who have, and continue to, support our Elite Athlete Program members.

2024 brings much promise for high performance sport at the University of Sydney. The University has provided SSAF funding to SUSF to provide cost of living relief to student athletes studying full time. Like with club development, we are shifting from high performance support that is reactive, to that which is proactive, but also sensitive to the intricacies of each of the 11 high performance sporting programs. We look forward in 2024 to confirming each program's strategies and then better-shaping how SUSF helps accordingly.

**High Performance & Elite Athlete Program staff departures:** Miles Downie (High Performance Manager), Martin Harland (Senior Strength & Conditioning Coach), Nick Larkin (Elite Athlete Program Coordinator).

**High Performance & Elite Athlete Program staff commencements:** Luci Monk (Elite Athlete Program Coordinator [full time]), Shane Ball (Athletic Performance Manager [full time]), Adrian Filling (Strength and Conditioning Coach).

\*Interim support provided by Emily Chancellor and Edward Arnott

**LEONIE LUM**  
**HEAD OF SPORT**

Sydney Uni  
SPORT & FITNESS

# BLUES DINNER

Sydney Uni  
SPORT & FITNESS

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BLUES  
DINNER

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BLUES  
DINNER



Sydney Uni  
SPORT & FITNESS



Sydney Uni  
SPORT & FITNESS

*su*  
BLUES  
DINNER

BLUES  
DINNER



2005 Tom Yarranton  
2004 Kane Townsend  
2005 Nicholas Brown  
2001 Ryan Lovell  
1998 Chris Flinders  
1992 Ian Gavazzi  
1987 Michael Williams

# MARKETING & PROGRAMS REPORT



**In 2023, Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness embarked on a transformative journey aimed at better meeting the diverse needs of its community. This transformation involved a comprehensive overhaul of the structure within both the Marketing and Program teams. While this shift may have come as a surprise to our regular readers of the annual report, it was a necessary step to adapt to the ever-evolving landscape of our communities needs and expectations.**

By integrating the Marketing and Program departments, we were able to achieve significant improvements in coordinating efforts across various functions and programs. This integration facilitated better synergies, allowing for a more agile approach in delivering programs that were relevant and tailored to our customer base. By aligning marketing strategies with program development, we could better anticipate and respond to the evolving needs of our community.

Although this combined report may appear unconventional, it reflects our commitment to innovation and responsiveness in serving our community. Through these changes, we aimed to enhance the overall effectiveness and impact of our initiatives, ensuring that Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness remains a dynamic and adaptive institution.

The changes to the structure and team, along with a few tweaks along the way, helped deliver the desired results.

A heartfelt thank you to the dedicated team in marketing and programs who have gone above and beyond in delivering such wonderful experiences across the University of Sydney campus. Your hard work, creativity, and commitment have been instrumental in creating memorable and impactful events, programs, and initiatives that enrich the University and broader community.

Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and the positive impact of your work resonates throughout the campus. From promoting sports and fitness programs to organising inclusive and diverse events, you have played a vital role in enhancing the university experience for students, staff, and the wider community.

Your passion, enthusiasm, and dedication to excellence have been key drivers in fostering a vibrant and inclusive campus environment. Thank you for your tireless efforts, innovative ideas, and unwavering dedication to creating exceptional experiences for all members of the University of Sydney community.

Your contributions are truly valued and appreciated. Here's to continued success and many more memorable experiences in the future. Thank you for everything you do!

The report below highlights key achievements, broken down across the various programs run.

## SWIM PROGRAM

It's been a remarkable journey and achievements for the Sydney Uni Swimming program over the past year. Continued commitment to excellence, diversity, and water safety has been commendable and has clearly made a significant impact on the community.

Here's a summary highlighting the key accomplishments:

### Diverse Programs

The program offers a wide range of swimming initiatives including Learn-to-swim, Holiday Intensive Swim Programs, Recreational squad programs, and the SAAF Funded Watersafe Program, catering to different age groups and skill levels.

### Growth and Success

The program experienced its largest growth year in terms of enrolment numbers and revenue, surpassing a budget of \$1.35M, indicating both popularity and financial viability.

### Water Safety Initiatives

Collaborations with organisations like Surf Lifesaving NSW and Coogee Surf Lifesaving highlight a strong commitment to water safety and drowning prevention, with initiatives like interactive beach safety seminars.

### Adult Swim Program

The partnership with Allianz, Austswim, and Masters Swimming to create an exclusive adult swim program, particularly catering to the CALD community, demonstrates inclusivity and support for diverse demographics.



**Community Engagement**

The School Sports Swim Program & Carnival Management celebrates diversity and potential within local school communities, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to experience swimming and competition.

**Accessibility and Inclusivity**

Programs like the Unifit Squad program and commitment to fitness and wellness for students to showcase a dedication to accessibility and inclusivity.

**Competitive Achievements**

Age group swimmers have shown improvement, with many reaching National Qualifying standards. The EAP/Varsity swim team has also achieved success both locally and internationally, bringing home medals and representing the university with pride.

**International Exposure**

Funding raised by the Varsity Alumni Dinner enabled athletes to participate in international competitions, providing them with valuable experience and exposure on a global stage.

**Team Effort**

Acknowledgment is given to the SUSF Senior Management, swim administration, coaching, and marketing teams for their dedication and efforts in creating opportunities for individuals to thrive in the water.

**Future Commitment**

The program remains committed to its mission of championing swimmers in and out of the water, ensuring that everyone, regardless of age or standard, can reach their full potential.

Overall, the Sydney Uni Swimming program's dedication to excellence, diversity, and community engagement serves as a model for promoting aquatic literacy, water safety, and personal development.

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

The School Holiday Program has a strong reputation within the community, with continued collaboration with SUSF Clubs, which enhance program quality and provide opportunities for students. The program emphasises active participation and physical activity, promoting a screen-free environment to engage participants fully. The dedicated team of coaches, including school teachers and club affiliates, ensures a high standard of instruction and customer service.

Despite facing challenges in previous years, 2023 was a stellar year for the program, with attendance numbers rebounding strongly. This success reflects the resilience and adaptability of the program to overcome difficulties and maintain its status as the camp of choice for both Sydney Uni staff and the local community.

Moving forward, the program aims to continue its positive trajectory, further strengthening its connections with SUSF Clubs, maintaining its commitment to quality programming and customer service, and solidifying its position as a trusted provider of school holiday activities.

Here's a breakdown of the data:

Year	Summer	Autumn	Winter	Spring	Total
2018	1773	900	891	751	4315
2019	1218	499	716	886	3319
2020	1629	COVID	448	823	2900
2021	1505	998	90 (COVID affected)	COVID	2593
2022	500 (COVID affected)	857	975	874	3206
2023	2068	1336	1617	1518	6539

## SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL FENCING CAMP

The Sydney International Fencing Camp marked a significant milestone as the first event of its kind in New South Wales, drawing 80 participants from across Australasia. Hosted by Enrico Di Ciolo, the current men's Italian fencing coach, and in partnership with Bill Roland from the Sydney Uni Fencing Club, the camp proved to be an enormous success.

The collaboration between Enrico Di Ciolo and Bill Roland ensured a high-quality experience for participants and coaches. One of the key factors contributing to the success of the camp was the provision of top-notch facilities, coupled with the opportunity for participants to stay on campus, offering a comprehensive and immersive experience.

The strong relationship forged during the inaugural camp has paved the way for continued collaboration and planning for an even stronger event in 2024. This ongoing partnership reflects a commitment to excellence and innovation in the realm of fencing, further solidifying the reputation of the Sydney International Fencing Camp as a premier event in the region.

## SCHOOL SPORT PROGRAM

The School Sport Program at SUSF offers primary and secondary schools the chance to enhance their internal sports programs by utilising the university's sport facilities. These programs are led by experienced SUSF coaches and include all necessary equipment. Tailored to each school's needs, the programs provide a variety of opportunities for students to engage in sports and physical activities.

The program aims to uphold the success and reputation of the trusted brand associated with all SUSF community programs. Known for delivering high-quality services, the School Sport Program prioritises positive word-of-mouth marketing and ensures positive experiences for all participants.

In 2023, the program saw participation from over 700 students, highlighting its popularity and effectiveness in engaging schools and students in sports activities. This success underscores the program's commitment to promoting physical activity and fostering a positive sporting culture within the community. Moving forward, the School Sport Program will continue to strive for excellence in providing accessible and enriching sports experiences for schools and students alike.

## SHORT PROGRAMS

In 2023, the recreational short programs at SUSF were tailored to reflect the evolving interests and dynamics within the student and university landscape. Noteworthy additions included corporate archery sessions and gala team-building events tailored for university staff, offering unique opportunities for engagement and skill development.

The short programs offered during Semester 1 and 2 garnered significant engagement, with Kickboxing emerging as the standout activity, consistently attracting full classes of 20 participants. The diverse range of programs aimed to cater to varying interests and preferences, promoting both physical activity and holistic well-being among participants.

The line-up of programs for Semester 1 and 2 included:

### Kickboxing

A high-energy and dynamic martial arts-inspired workout that proved immensely popular, drawing full classes of enthusiastic participants eager to learn and engage in this empowering activity.

### Lunchtime Yoga

Providing an opportunity for relaxation, mindfulness, and physical rejuvenation, lunchtime yoga sessions offered participants a chance to unwind and de-stress amidst their busy schedules.

### Lunchtime Pilates

Focused on core strength, flexibility, and overall body conditioning, lunchtime Pilates sessions provided a balanced approach to fitness and well-being, attracting participants looking to improve their posture and overall fitness levels.

By offering a diverse range of recreational short programs catering to different interests and schedules, SUSF successfully provided opportunities for students and staff to engage in physical activity, promote wellness, and foster a sense of community within the university environment. These initiatives reflect the institution's commitment to supporting the holistic development and well-being of its community members.

## FIRST AID PROGRAM

In 2023, the First Aid program at SUSF continued its positive growth trajectory, experiencing an increase in participation numbers compared to the previous year. A total of 1,511 individuals opted to undertake their first aid training with SUSF, indicating a strong demand for these essential skills within the university community.

The partnership with Sydney Uni's Office of Student Life remained robust, with the delivery of 14 courses throughout the year. Additionally, SUSF conducted six private courses, catering to specific institutions such as St Andrew's College, St John's College, and Moore Park Golf Course.

Here's the participation breakdown for the First Aid program in 2023:

### First Aid

786 participants (84%)

### CPR

647 participants (72%)

### First Aid / Childcare Education

42 participants (42%)

### Total

1,511 participants

Among the participants, University of Sydney students accounted for 1,134 individuals, representing 75% of the total participation.

This data underscores the importance of first aid training within the university community and highlights SUSF's commitment to

providing accessible and comprehensive programs to equip individuals with life-saving skills. The continued growth and success of the First Aid program reflect its significance in promoting safety and well-being among students and staff at Sydney University.

### INTERFACULTY SPORT

In 2023, Interfaculty Sport saw remarkable success in terms of student engagement and participation. The program boasted impressive numbers:

- Over 1,600 students actively competed for their respective teams throughout the year, reflecting a high level of student involvement and enthusiasm.
- A total of 126 teams participated in Interfaculty Sport events, highlighting the broad reach and diverse representation across faculties.
- Each semester featured eight different sports, offering students a variety of options to engage in based on their interests and preferences.
- Competitions were held every Wednesday, providing a consistent and accessible platform for students to participate in sports activities, and these events were free for all students to join.

The 2023 Sports Calendar included:

- Basketball
- Euro Handball
- Futsal
- Goalball
- Netball
- Oztag
- Volleyball
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Touch Football
- Ultimate Frisbee

The Faculty of Health Sciences emerged as the winner of the Emily Small Shield in 2023, showcasing their dedication, skill, and teamwork throughout the competition. This achievement reflects the competitive spirit and camaraderie fostered through Interfaculty Sport, further enhancing the sense of community and pride within the university.

Overall, 2023 was a highly successful year for Interfaculty Sport, demonstrating its significance in promoting student engagement, physical activity, and campus camaraderie.

### INTRAMURAL SPORT

The teams showcased exceptional sportsmanship, teamwork, and competitive spirit throughout the competitions. Their dedication and commitment to representing their residences and colleges are commendable and contribute to the vibrant sports culture within the University community.

Congratulations to all the participating residences and colleges in the 2023 Intramural Sport competitions! Special recognition goes to Regiment for clinching the Liane Tooth Cup and Sydney Uni Village for securing the Thomas Whalan Cup.

The participating teams in the Intramural Sport competitions included:

- Darlo Bears
- Iglu
- Queen Mary Building
- Regiment
- Sancta Sophia College
- St John's College
- Sydney Uni Village
- UniLodge
- Women's College

### Winners of the 2023 Intramural Sports

Teams	Welcome Fest	Volleyball	Futsal Men's	Futsal Women's	Oz Tag	Basketball Men's	Basketball Women's
<b>Darlo Bears</b>							
<b>Sydney Uni Village</b>				Winners			Winners
<b>Queen Mary Building</b>							
<b>Iglu</b>			Winners				
<b>Regiment</b>		Winners				Winners	
<b>Urbanest</b>							
<b>Sancta Sophia College</b>							
<b>St John's College</b>					Winners		
<b>UniLodge</b>							
<b>Scape</b>	Winners						
<b>Women's College</b>							





## TENNIS PROGRAM

In 2023, the SUSF Tennis Program maintained its commitment to delivering high-quality tennis programs for both juniors and adults, catering to a diverse range of skill levels and interests.

For juniors, the program offered various opportunities including:

- Hot Shot Junior Tournaments
- Junior Term Programs, categorised into Blue, Green, Red, and Orange Ball Classes
- Junior Squads
- Classes held from Monday to Sunday

For adults, the program provided:

- Social Tennis sessions held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday
- Group Coaching sessions
- Semi Private Coaching sessions
- Private Coaching sessions
- Advanced Hitting Squads
- Classes held from Monday to Sunday

Key engagement numbers for the SUSF Tennis Program in 2023 included:

- Adult participants in group lessons and social tennis: 360
- Weekly private and semi-private coaching: 40
- Junior participants during the school term: 488

These numbers reflect a strong engagement across both adult and junior tennis programs, demonstrating the program's appeal to a wide demographic range and its effectiveness in catering to different skill levels and age groups.

## UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

### Intercollegiate Sport

The Intercollegiate Sports Program had an outstanding year in 2023, characterised by positive engagement, strong camaraderie among colleges, and a competitive sports calendar that showcased the talents of student athletes across various disciplines. The committee's dedication and the collective spirit of all colleges contributed to the success of the program.

In the Rosebowl competition:

- Eight sports were contested from March to October 2023, with highlights including Netball, Basketball, Soccer, Athletics, and Swimming.
- The Women's Rugby 7's Gala remained a successful and well-received event.
- St Andrew's College emerged as the overall winner of the 2023 Rosebowl Trophy, showcasing exceptional performance across multiple sports.

### The Rosebowl Overall Points for 2023

Sport/College	Netball	Rowing	Swimming	Hockey	Soccer	Basketball	Tennis	Athletics	Rank
St Andrew's	9	9	9	9	9	8	7	7	1st
Wesley	7	7	7	6	3	5	9	5	2nd
St John's	3	5	3	7	7	8	3	0	3rd
Women's	5	3	7	1	1.5	1	5	3	4th
Sancta	0	0	5	6	1.5	3	0	7	5th
St Paul's	1	1	1	0	3	0	1	1	6th

In the Rawson competition:

- Similarly, eight sports were contested from February to October 2023, with Basketball, Soccer, Athletics, and Swimming as standout events.
- Additionally, colleges organised an AFL Social event, enhancing the diversity of sports activities.
- St Andrew's College also claimed victory in the 2023 Rawson Trophy, displaying excellence across various sports disciplines.

### The Rawson Overall Points for 2023

College	Cricket	Rowing	Swimming	Rugby	Soccer	Basketball	Tennis	Athletics	Rank
St Andrew's	5	3	5	5	3	1	3	5	1st
St Paul's	3	5	1	3	5	3	1	3	2nd
Wesley	1	0	3	1	0	5	5	1	3rd
St John's	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4th

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

SUSF hosted a diverse range of inclusive events aimed at promoting participation and diversity within the sports community. These events were made possible through collaborations with various organisations and departments, including the University of Sydney Union (USU), faculties, University of Technology Sydney (UTS), Wheelchair Sports NSW, the Office of Student Life and the Student Services Amenity Funds.

Here are some highlights from the inclusive events held in 2023:

### Women in Sport

Events such as Introduction to Tennis, Self Defence, Gym, and Fitness were organised to encourage and empower women to participate in sports and fitness activities.

### Peer Mentor Programs

Collaborations with university faculties facilitated Peer Mentor Programs, providing opportunities for students to engage in sports gala days and mentorship activities.

### Learn to Play Programs

Collaborations with the Soccer and Volleyball Clubs offered Learn to Play Programs, allowing individuals to acquire basic skills and knowledge in these sports.

### Pride in Sport Collaboration

The University participated in Pride in Sport initiatives, promoting inclusion and diversity within the sports community, and creating

a welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ individuals.

### Paralympic Sports Gala Day

An event dedicated to showcasing and promoting Paralympic sports, providing opportunities for individuals with disabilities to engage in sports and physical activities.

### Goal Ball Gala with UTS

Collaborative efforts with UTS led to the organisation of a Goal Ball Gala Day, promoting awareness and participation in this adaptive sport for individuals with visual impairments.

### Reconciliation Week

The University commemorated Reconciliation Week by organising events that celebrated Indigenous culture and promoted reconciliation through sports and community engagement.

These events not only provided opportunities for inclusive participation but also fostered a sense of belonging and community within the University. By embracing diversity and promoting inclusion, which contributed to creating a more accessible and welcoming environment for all individuals regardless of background or ability.

## SUSF COMPETITIONS

### Lunch Time Social Sport

SUSF Lunchtime Social Sport program saw active participation and served as a platform for students and the community to engage in



recreational activities on campus. While the program had potential for growth, it was a year of reflection to better understand the interests and preferences of students and the community.

Here's a breakdown of participation in 2023:

#### Semester 1

- 79 lunchtime social teams participated.

#### Semester 2

- 42 lunchtime social teams participated.

Across both semesters, a total of 121 lunchtime social teams were engaged.

In total, close to 1,000 individuals participated in the lunchtime social sport program throughout the year.

The program's participation numbers indicate a significant level of interest and engagement among students and the community, highlighting the value of providing opportunities for recreational activities on campus. As the program continues to evolve and adapt to meet the needs and interests of its participants, there is great potential for further growth and expansion in the future.

#### Social Netball Competitions

The Social Netball competition held at Sydney University Sports & Aquatic Centre has remained a steadfast and popular fixture in the Participation Sports calendar for over 20 years. Here are some key details about the competition:

- The competition consists of four seasons per year, catering to both mixed and women's teams.
- It welcomes players of all skill levels, from beginners to advanced.
- The competition serves a diverse participant base, including students, community members, and the university community.

- Games are typically held on Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights.
- On average, approximately 725 participants engage in SUSF Social Netball each week.

Snapshot of a typical Social Netball competition:

- Participants range in age from 20 to 48 years.
- The participant demographic includes students, community members, and university affiliates.
- A typical competition involves over 700 participants each week across 10-to-12-week seasons.
- The gender breakdown is approximately 570 female participants and 140 male participants.

In 2023, the competition maintained a strong presence, with the following team numbers for each competition:

#### Competition 1

- 83 Teams

#### Competition 2

- 81 Teams

#### Competition 3

- 68 Teams

#### Competition 4

- 76 Teams

These statistics highlight the enduring popularity and inclusive nature of the Social Netball competition, which continues to attract a loyal and diverse participant base year after year.

**IAN RIDDICK**  
**HEAD OF MARKETING & PROGRAMS**



# CLUB REPORTS

**28****AMERICAN FOOTBALL****38****CHEERLEADING****29****ARCHERY****39****CRICKET - MEN****30****ATHLETICS****40****CRICKET - WOMEN****31****AUSSIE RULES****41****FENCING****32****BADMINTON****42****GOLF****33****BASEBALL****43****GYMNASTICS****34****BASKETBALL****44****HANDBALL****35****BOAT****45****HOCKEY****36****BOXING****46****JUDO****37****CANOE****47****KEMPO KARATE**

<b>48</b>	<b>KENDO</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>TABLE TENNIS</b>
<b>49</b>	<b>LAWN TENNIS</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>TAE KWON DO</b>
<b>50</b>	<b>MUAY THAI</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>TOUCH FOOTBALL</b>
<b>51</b>	<b>NETBALL</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>ULTIMATE FRISBEE</b>
<b>52</b>	<b>ROCK CLIMBING &amp; MOUNTAINEERING</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>VELO (CYCLING)</b>
<b>53</b>	<b>RUGBY LEAGUE</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>VOLLEYBALL</b>
<b>54</b>	<b>RUGBY UNION</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>WAKEBOARD</b>
<b>55</b>	<b>SOCCER</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>WATER POLO</b>
<b>56</b>	<b>SQUASH</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL</b>
<b>57</b>	<b>SWIMMING</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>WRESTLING &amp; GRAPPLING</b>

# AMERICAN FOOTBALL

**Sydney University American Football Club (SUAFC) had a moderate 2023. This past year, our club entered two teams into the 2023 GNSW competition. Unfortunately, due to lack of coaching interest and lack of numbers, our women's team was not able to form in 2023. Thus, we entered a men's team and a colts U19s team.**

Unfortunately, the SUAFC social flag competition was not able to be run this year, resulting in a lack of revenue from this area of the Club. We did however, make fundraising gains by selling raffle tickets at events throughout the year. We also were supported by a number of sponsors, who helped us with our fundraising efforts, including Disability Independence Made Easy, The Forest Lodge Hotel and Mountain Goat Newtown. Additionally, we were able to continue events established last year to great success, including a Trivia Night and our Annual Dinner.

This year we worked to establish a long-term goal of introducing an alumni and supporter membership. Lots of work went into researching the history of the Club and assigning numbers to each former member to establish a member number system. Members received a membership pack including a shirt and pin and exclusive access to events this year. Unfortunately, supplier issues harmed the rollout of the membership program, and we are looking to build on this in the future.

In the Colts, we had a lot of players age out of the team due to the change in age group, so our focus was once again rebuilding and recruiting. We were able to once again build on a strong core of young players who we hope will continue to lead the team into the future. Our Colts team retained the 2022 coaching staff and began a great initiative by incorporating graduating players into the next year's coaching staff. We are looking forward to seeing this continue. The Cubs saw great success, only losing 1 game in the regular season and playing to a draw with eventual champions Nepean Ducks. The Cubs played hard in extreme conditions in the playoffs, surviving 40 plus degree temperatures, unfortunately falling to the Rebels. We are still tremendously proud of our Cubs, and we are excited to continue to watch the future of this young team.

In the men's team, we were able to achieve a large player base at all positions, including returning and new players. Our men's team promoted Josh Lawton to Head Coach, and provided a number of coaches around him to support. The team had a successful regular season, but unfortunately lost in the final.

For 2024, SUAFC's goals for the new executive are to explore interest in reestablishing the women's team, increasing the volunteering capacity of the Club, building on successful 2023 programs and an increased focus on recruiting.

I would like to personally thank all of our players, coaches, executives and other volunteers for a successful 2023 season. I look forward to our club building on this success in all areas in 2024.

**HARRISON CROOK**  
**PRESIDENT**



# ARCHERY

**2023 was an exciting year for the Sydney University Archery Club (SUAC) as interest towards archery continued to grow. Following the resounding success of Welcome Week and subsequent social and competitive events the Club saw over 400 new members join the Club.**

We kicked off the year in April, with our annual beginner's tournament; the n00b cup, with 22 participants, with many proceeding to join the competitive team after the event.

In June, the Club hosted the largest USYD vs UNSW knockout competition to date, with 36 archers competing, showcasing the full capacity of the Club's facilities. The Club continued to successfully collaborate with UNSW throughout the year seeing our archers not only compete with one another but met and socialised with their peers from Kensington.

On the competitive side of things, SUAC has achieved impressive results on a state and national level, collecting many accolades as a team and on an individual basis. The team collected a total of 20 podium places throughout 2023; seven state medals, seven medals at Penrith Golden Arrow Tournament, three medals at South Coast Field, one medal at Farget, and two medals at Sydney Olympic Park Archers Women's Day Tournament, an impressive

feat for a young team. A special mention to Eric Hu, Megan Denier, Emma Blayney and Thomas Li on their achievements and all competitive members on their commitment to the team.

Beside the Club's competitive endeavors, SUAC remains committed to fostering a welcoming and vibrant environment, where all members are encouraged to constantly improve within a supportive environment with quality equipment and facilities. Our member-centric approach ultimately seeks to positively contribute to each member's University experience and become an invaluable club under SUSF's umbrella.

As is the case every year, SUAC was proud to contribute to the community through SUSF's programs department. Fencing & Archery and Archery & Rockclimbing programs during the School Holidays proved to be as popular as ever. With the enthusiasm of our coaches proving contagious to the kids, with several of them enquiring about and joining the Club as regular junior members after school.

Moving forward, SUAC looks to further develop an environment in the Club, which both continues to encourage recreational and fun archery, as well as develop an even more nurturing environment to allow archers to improve and become competitive while having fun and enjoying the sport.

**MEGAN DENIER**  
**PRESIDENT**



# ATHLETICS

**2023 was another phenomenal year for SUAC with success on the domestic, national and international stages and providing University of Sydney students with a second full year of our student participation program, RUNSYDUNI.**

A club record 70 athletes represented SUAC at National Championships held in Brisbane after great NSW Championships success. SUAC athletes left with eight National Open championship titles and three National Junior championship titles, by far the biggest haul of any club in Australia.

Our female student athletes excelled at UniSport National Track & Field championships taking the Pennant in a dominant fashion by 64 points with our men narrowly losing by five points to a strong University of Queensland team on home turf. A 55 strong team competed with University pride over the three days.

In a World Championships and Para Athletics World Championships year, 27 SUAC athletes travelled to Europe for the northern summer to achieve qualifiers demonstrating a huge commitment to the sport. SUACs wonderful alumni and friends were able to assist these athletes with funding assistance via our Target Paris program and we were thrilled to see club uniform on display at international meets.

Four University of Sydney current students and one University of Sydney graduate competed at World University Games in Chengdu China with Connor Murphy narrowly missing bronze in the Triple Jump.

Club stalwart and Australian team co-captain Angie Ballard and 19 year old Sarah Clifton-Bligh competed with distinction at World Para Athletics Championships in Paris. Sarah competed outside her classification achieving a T33 Championship record in her first World Championship team, Angie competing in an incredible 9th team.

World Athletics Championships were held in late August in Hungary. Some 20 plus SUAC friends and family travelled to Budapest to support our nine athletes selected and the Australian team. Club captain Michelle Jenneke had the honour of being Australian team co-captain assisting new University of Sydney students Allannah Pitcher and Erin Shaw in their debut World Championships. University graduate Nicola Olyslagers and Mackenzie Little both won Bronze medals in thrilling championships. Other SUAC athletes competing were Rohan Browning, Cameron McEntyre, Jacob McCorry and Nick Andrews.

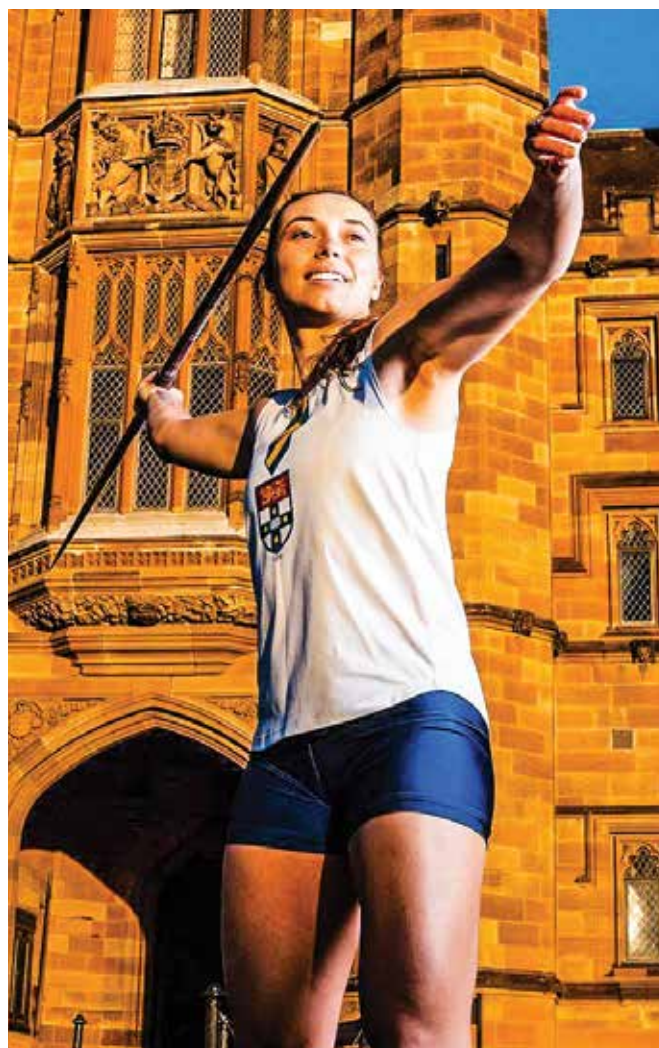
On the domestic winter cross country and roads season, our men won the Winter Premiership for the first time since 2019 and our women finished runners up. A huge number of new athletes stepped up to fill teams across winter for which we are truly thankful.

Younger and older athletes again joined forces prior to year end at NSW Relay Championships and NSW Treloar Shield, named after club alumni John Treloar AM OLY. Club captain Michelle Jenneke, Commonwealth Games representative Kailyn Joseph along with World Championships representatives Bec Bennett, Erin Shaw and Sarah Clifton-Bligh led the SUAC team to take out the Treloar Shield Grand Final. A massive thank you to all athletes who achieved our grand final qualification through rounds one to six.

SUAC continued its commitment to student participation across all levels of ability with its RUNSYDUNI program, a free 4km fun run on campus preceded by a free twice-weekly, nine week training block run by the club's student athletes. We look forward to making this a huge campus fun run in future years.

A massive thank you to all our club volunteers, supporters, Athletics NSW, Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness and University of Sydney for another great year.

**ANDREW HEIL**  
**REGISTRAR & TREASURER**





# AUSSIE RULES

**2023 was another successful year for Sydney University Aussie Rules Club (SUANFC), with 11 teams across the Men's, Women's, U19's and master's competitions and strong participation numbers across the board.**

## COACHING & SUPPORT STAFF

The Club began the 2023 season with some exciting new coaching appointments, as well as the retention of several key coaches and staff from the 2022 season. Matthew Vivic took up the role of Senior Men's Coach following the departure of Lindsay Scown, and Jon Dyster remained in the Women's Senior Coach role for following a successful 2022.

## 2023 SEASON

The 2023 season certainly provided some great highlights and wonderful achievements, and once again highlighted the fantastic work of all involved within the club from coaches, players, support staff, volunteers, family, friends and supporters!

In 2023, SUANFC was the only club in the AFL Sydney competition who saw all four Premier teams qualify for finals. Our Men's Premier Division team had a solid season, managing to score wins against the eventual Premiers during the home and away season. It was a tough fight between the top four teams going into finals, with the ladder eventually being decided by percentage as the teams finished with even points. Although the eventual result was not what the team had hoped for, under the leadership of Matt Vivic the team still put on an impressive season and made some very positive progress on and off the field. The Women's Premier

Division team had a shakier start to the season with a tough fixture, not managing to get a win on the board until Round 8. However, after finding their form in the second half of the season and putting on some impressive performances, the team made it into the final's series. A true highlight for 2023 was the U19s Division 1 team, who had an undefeated season, to come up against UNSW-ES in the Grand Final once again. After a nailbiter of a match, the U19s Division 1 team came away as Premiers once again!

## SPONSORS AND PARTNERS SUPPORT

As ever, the support SUANFC received from SUSF in 2023 was paramount to the success of the Club. 20 EAP scholarships were awarded to well deserving and hard-working student athletes, Tim Spehr received the SUSF Coach of the Year award, and Liz Hawtin was the recipient of a University Gold Award.

2023 saw the Club go into its sixth year of its partnership with naming rights sponsor, Growthbuilt. It was fantastic to welcome the Growthbuilt team to Oval No 1 for a fantastic family day. Thank you to the whole Growthbuilt team for their ongoing support.

Continued triumphs and development of the SUANFC are highly dependent on the support from our commercial partners, and I would particularly like to thank our remaining sponsors who continued to support the Club in 2023; ISC, SportsLab, Prudence Rehab, Scarlett Financial, SkinX and the Nag's Head Hotel.

## CONCLUSION

After seeing a fantastic season in 2023, the Club is excited to see what can be achieved by the incredible group of players, coaches, support staff and volunteers that make up SUANFC going into the future.

**DANI PASZKIEWICZ**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**



# BADMINTON

**Throughout 2023, the Sydney University Badminton Club (SUBC) was successful in hosting regular sessions throughout the year. The Club's committee members made sure that members could enjoy their time during the sessions by ensuring that new shuttles are always available, online registration system through Eventbrite is released regularly, and order during the session is maintained.**

As always, SUBC garnered a huge amount of interest at the beginning of the year, particularly when the new teaching semester started. The Club continued to face the ongoing challenge of providing facilities for all our members. Allocations have been offered to SUBC at the Robyn Webster Sports Centre, however, as a club we feel it is too far from campus and wouldn't appeal to our predominantly student audience. We are still unable to find a concrete solution to accommodate the huge interest in our club's social session other than providing adequate understanding to the Club members that our court allocations are limited and suggest other social sessions they could join instead. Having said that, we provide everyone with equal chances to join our sessions by implementing a first-come-first-serve system through Eventbrite online registration.

SUBC greatly appreciates the efforts of SUSF in refurbishing the floor of the SUSAC courts annually. This is highly important to our club as playing badminton requires a 'tacky' surface to prevent injuries.

In 2023, the club's tradition of hosting a team tournament during Easter time continued. On top of this, following last year's evaluation of needing a more competitive tournament, SUBC hosted an individual tournament where it was more competitive and attracted a wider audience compared to the usual session regulars. Another highlight of the year was a collaboration with Xiaoyu Wang, a Chinese badminton content creator with a following of more than 9 million in the Chinese social media platform 'Douyin'. She came to USYD to film a short TikTok video challenging players from the Club. SUBC had around 10 people play against her and more than 80 spectators. The Club aspires to be able to hold these kinds of events again in the future as the feedback was massively positive.

Last but not least, the Club improved its placing in the UniSports Nationals competition in the Gold Coast. After finishing 5th (women's team) and 6th (men's team) in the previous edition, with great determination, SUBC place 4th in both the women's and men's teams. The men's team made great effort to beat UNSW (last year's runners up), to reach the Semi Final. Both men's and women's team were knocked out in the semis by the eventual champion, Monash University. The Club is extremely proud of the efforts and achievements of the teams and all competitors, despite not claiming any medals.

In the coming year, the Club hopes to keep up the positive trend of having more engaging activities, placing better in UniSport Nationals as well as better management of the Club committee

**JUSTIN PRABOWO**  
**PRESIDENT**



# BASEBALL

**This year brought another successful year on and off the field for Sydney Uni Baseball Club (SUBC), which started off with long term members of the club executive moving on as they entered different stages of career and family life. SUBC would like to thank Wade Shipard, Matt Kelleher, and Hartley Anderson for fulfilling their respective roles of President, Secretary and Patron over many years, and their continued support of the Club this season.**

Our 2023 season hit its first hurdle when our 4th team, playing in the Pacific Coast Baseball League, had a late surge in the season but ultimately missed out on a finals spot from other results not going in their favour in the last round of competition. A strong core of players over the last several years, led by Anthony Carroll, combined with enthusiastic new players show promise for an expansion in 2024. With growing the Club in mind, SUBC also put together a social softball team in semester 2 to facilitate new student participation and encourage development of skills to then build the Club come 2024.

Playing in the Sydney Winter Baseball League, our 3rd Grade team continued the post-COVID rebuild by making it to the Grand Final, but ultimately falling short to Petersham. The highlight of the year for the team was club multi-decade veteran, Scott Moran, stating at the start of the year that the season would be his swansong. Taking the mound most games, he produced league leading results on his way to the league's 2023 Pitching Award.

2nd Grade went one better than 3rd Grade, being the team to beat during the season enroute to taking home the Ken Gulliver Trophy, defeating Quaker's Hill 9-6. The team came out of the gates hot with the bats in the Grand Final, and defensively held nerves late in the game. A significant factor to that was Lachlan Dean, who took home matches MVP for his dual performance on the mound and batter's box. The dominance of the team through the season showed in league awards, with Lachlan Dean winning the season MVP and Zac Horton winning the season pitching award. The awards sweep was narrowly missed, with Cooper Horton putting in a season for the ages with the stick, but unfortunately losing out in the hitting award.

The 1st Grade team young squad showed glimpses of excellence, however, it will be reflected on as a season of missing key pieces of the puzzle, with representative duties and injuries taking their tolls. With winter baseball having such a busy calendar in Australia, special mention must be made to Head Coach, Mitch Liddle. He has excelled in his ability to juggle roster challenges throughout the season, including several players on national

team duties and reporting to colleges in the US. It was the Club's pleasure to witness his awarding of a much-deserved University Gold in November from the Sydney Uni Blues Association for his services as a coach and leader of SUBC.

The Club continued the culture of keeping ties to past players and recognising the efforts of the Cynics supporters to get a team on the field each week. The recent tradition continued with the Past vs Present player game as a warm-up to the season, and then Alumni round to close out the home games for the year. SUBC also continued to raise money and awareness to causes close to the playing group, using Community Day to raise just over \$1,000 for the Phelan McDermid Syndrome Foundation.

Here's to 2023, celebrating club achievements, persevering through challenges, and looking forward to 2024.

**BEN WARNOCK**  
**PRESIDENT**



# BASKETBALL

**In 2023, with around a total of 400 members, the Sydney University Basketball Club (SUBC) continues to thrive. SUBC members were entitled to access three scrimmages per week, representing the Club at lunchtime social competitions, complimentary National Basketball League tickets and some additional club programs and events.**

With three weekly scrimmages every Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at SUSAC, both old and new club members of all abilities and experiences were able to hit the courts for pick-up games and shootarounds. These scrimmages also allowed club members to meet fellow students whilst sharing their common passion for the sport of basketball.

Additionally, the Club was able to sponsor members who were interested in participating in the SUSF Lunchtime Social Basketball competitions, which ran every Friday for both open and mixed competitions across both semesters. We were able to cover the costs for a total of 15 teams, allowing our club members to represent SUBC, while playing basketball at a slightly more competitive level against other university and institution teams.

To promote activity and participation for our club members, we were fortunate enough to be able to continue collaborating with both the Sydney Flames and Sydney Kings, by securing complimentary (courtside) tickets to their home games. This is thanks to Michael Johnstone for assisting in arranging these memberships and tickets.

At the Annual General Meeting in May, a new Club Committee was elected, consisting of Simone Chan, Rosette Seto, Chloe Gassoub, Claire Thom, Gloria Lim, Sunbin Choi, Tim Wong, Ethan Leung, Lorin Bektas, RJ Hu and Kio Lovric. Along with continued support from our Basketball Program Coordinator, Mitch Cassie, as well as other SUSF staff members including Ed Smith, Leonie Lum, Danielle Hodgson, Russell Miles, Thomas Garlepp, and Lucienne Monk, who provided their valuable insights and guidance, SUBC was in good hands.

Throughout 2023, the Club was able to provide a welcoming atmosphere to new club members and many opportunities to play basketball both socially and competitively on campus. In 2024, SUBC strives to improve the overall experience of club members, including designing new apparels, hosting more/ longer scrimmage sessions, social programs and activities for club members to enjoy. It's an exciting time for students and community members to join the Club and enjoy sport on campus to the fullest!

**SIMONE CHAN**  
**PRESIDENT**



# BOAT

**2023 was another big year for the Sydney University Boat Club (SUBC) with a number of regattas and tours. The year started off with the summer training camp in Taree which was a great chance for athletes to get to work without the distractions they face at home.**

The Club had another successful year at the NSW Rowing Championships winning the medal tally and coming second on the point score. Some special mentions to the Women's U21 Eight, the Men's Elite eight both winning Gold and the Women's Elite Eight winning bronze. In total the Club won 22 medals with 10 golds, four silver and eight bronze medals.

The Australian Rowing Championships proved even more successful for SUBC with the Club claiming the Centenary Oar for winning the point score. The Club finished on 270pts, 20 points clear of second place. SUBC won a total of 25 medals with 13 gold, five silver and seven bronze medals. The Club's senior athletes lead the way, winning a host of medals in the Open events with the U21 and U23 athletes following in quick succession with wins in the U21 Pair, U21 Double, U21 Single, U23 Eight and U23 Double.

Over the winter SUBC was invited to compete at a number of regattas in China, with other universities from around the world. This was the first time that the Club has been able to return to China for this tour and was a great development trip for our younger athletes.

Later in 2023, the Club competed at the UniSport Nationals in Queensland where SUBC won the Overall and the Men's and Women's Pennants with key wins in the Men's and Women's Eights. This provided great preparation for the Australian Boat Race where the Club went on to win both the Men's and Women's races again against Melbourne University.

The Club also saw a number of athletes selected in the Australian Rowing team. With 14 athletes from SUBC representing Australia at the World Rowing Championships, plus, SUBC Head Coach Don McLachlan who coached the Men's Single Scull and Men's Quad Scull. SUBC member, Jack O'Brien was part of the Australian Men's Eight that won gold at the Rowing World Cup 3, the first time in 36 years, a significant achievement 12 months out from the 2024 Paris Olympics. At the World Championships, Tara Rigney won bronze in the Women's single, Georgie Gleeson won bronze in the Women's Eight, and Jack O'Brien won bronze in the Men's Eight.

The Club had a further 12 athletes selected in the Australian U19, U21, and U23 teams. Three of those athletes, Emily Sheppard, Zara Collisson, and Sophie Houston, won the U23 Women's Coxed Four and were crowned U23 World Champions.

SUBC also enjoyed the arrival of two new coaching staff members in 2023, with Peter Wawn and Alan Bennett joining the Club. Both coaches boast a successful history within the sport and will be working to develop the Clubs' underage athletes. The success of SUBC could not be achieved without the hard work from all of our coaching staff each year (Don McLachlan, Alfie Young, Alan Bennet, Peter Wawn and Tom Laurich) and the support received from SUSF, members, donors and SUBC's other key stakeholders.

**DEVLIN WALSH**  
**PRESIDENT**



# BOXING

## **“If you work hard in training, the fight is easy.” - Manny Pacquiao**

In 2023, Sydney University Boxing Club (SUBxC) rose from the canvas after the almost knockout blows of COVID.

A notable return of new students to beginners, intermediate and unstructured classes kept the coaches at full peak. Acknowledging the future of any club are its new members and for SUBxC it is with beginners who have not experienced boxing training before.

Starter coaches Allen Zhou, Kosta Theodore and Will Egan undertook classes that concentrated on providing fitness while given basic self defence techniques. As Beginner’s coach, Will Egan, remarked:

“It’s always a pleasure seeing people with little to no experience join our club, and transform themselves through boxing. When students dedicate themselves to the sweet science, often in a matter of months, there’s something different about them. They develop a certain quiet confidence; their posture becomes more upright, their shoulders sit back, they’re more relaxed, yet more energized. This is the magic of this beautiful sport of ours.”

For those mastering the basics the structured intermediate class has been consistent in taking boxers to a higher level of boxing ready for competition. The dedicated support of the volunteer coaches, including Johnny Chan, Aram Derazkasla & Glenn Richards have boxers graduating ready for competition in 2024.

The college boxing began its resurgence under the guidance of Catherine Curry and Rufus Walsh with the hope that it will develop into a nucleus of competitors to underpin an intercollege and intervarsity tournament in October 2024.

Johnny Lewis and Peter Mitrevski undertook coaching and guidance of two Russian national competitors with training at the boxing gym. Johnny has continued training Ella Boot, a past Olympic representative into her professional career, with now five wins and no losses, with her next fight listed for March 2024

In the unstructured classes under George Plellis with his focus on competition has had a success rate of 70% of the events contested in 2023. Siraj Sabsabi and Kane showed consistency in achieving victory in locally contested events. We were not able to contest all of the planned programs as injury and work commitments interfered with competition opportunities in the later months of 2023.

In the past year the SUBxC has continued classes running for the whole year, during semesters and uni holidays, 12 months of the year. The Club has maintained its membership of Boxing Australia NSW and the NSW Combat Sports Authority. The Club has also benefited from the backing and guidance of SUSF, notably Club Development Manager, Danielle Hodgson, and we thank them for their continued support.

**PATRICK CUNNINGHAM**  
**PRESIDENT**



# CANOE

**The year began with a smooth transition of leadership as the previous committee passed the torch to the newly elected team. With gratitude for their service and a commitment to uphold the values and vision of the Sydney University Canoe Club (SUCC), the new committee embarked on a journey to further elevate the experiences of our members.**

**Blackwattle Bay Classic:** One of the highlights of the year was the eagerly anticipated Blackwattle Bay Classic, where club members came together for a day of friendly competition and camaraderie. From the thrilling race around Blackwattle loop to the hilarious air mattress race and intense tug of war battles, the event showcased the spirit of fun and sportsmanship that defines SUCC.

**Changing Weather Patterns:** Throughout the year, we faced the challenge of heavily changing weather patterns impacting kayak trips. Despite the unpredictable conditions, members displayed resilience and adaptability, ensuring the safety and enjoyment of every outing.

**Success at Myall Classic:** The Club takes great pride in the outstanding performance of members at the Myall Classic. Not only did SUCC participate in the event, but the Club clinched both the first and second spots by a significant margin, demonstrating the skill and determination of our paddlers, despite competition from a significantly larger group.

**Barbeque and Kayak Event:** While another barbeque and kayak event had eagerly been planned for November, unfortunately, it had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. Nevertheless, SUCC remain committed to organising such gatherings in the future, providing opportunities for members to bond and celebrate their shared passion for kayaking.

**Training New Trip Leaders:** In line with the commitment to safety and skill development, the Club focused on training

new members to become trip leaders. This included rigorous practice sessions on rescue techniques, equipping them with the knowledge and confidence to lead successful kayak trips.

**Boatshed Repairs:** The Club continues to advocate for the necessary improvements to ensure the longevity of facilities.

**Constitution Review:** As part of the ongoing governance efforts, SUCC conducted a thorough review of the Club's constitution, ensuring that it remains relevant and reflective of the Club's values and objectives. This process involved input from members and stakeholders, reinforcing the commitment to transparency and accountability.

**Reduced Trip Leaders:** SUCC faced challenges with a reduced number of trip leaders, leading to the unfortunate cancellation of the New Year's Eve trip. Addressing this issue remains a priority for the committee, and they are actively working to recruit and train new leaders to ensure the continuity of our activities.

**Participation and Community Engagement:** Despite the challenges encountered, SUCC are pleased to report healthy participation from both students and the wider community. The enthusiasm and passion of members continue to be the driving force behind the Club's success and are grateful for their unwavering support.

As we reflect on the events of the past year, we are filled with optimism and excitement for the future of SUCC. With a dedicated committee, passionate members, and a shared commitment to excellence, we are confident that we will overcome any challenges that come our way and continue to thrive as a vibrant kayaking community.

In closing, I extend my heartfelt thanks to every member, volunteer, sponsor, and supporter who has contributed to the success of the SUCC in 2023. Your dedication, passion, and resilience are truly inspiring, and I look forward to the adventures that await us in the year ahead.

**STEAVEN BACHINADANDA**  
**PRESIDENT**



# CHEERLEADING

## 2023 was an extraordinarily successful year for Sydney University Cheerleading.

We were led by President, Emily Skipper, Vice President, Emi Imaizumi Zhou, and Secretary, Freya Roynon. The Club had 61 athletes across four teams. These included two competition teams, Lions Blue (Level 2), and Lions Gold (Level 4); as well as Recreational Cubs, and the Sideline team.

Our coaches, Antonia Maher, Amy Upton and Michelle Ducquet led the Club to the first competition of the year in September, the AASCF State Championships. The competition was held in Sydney Olympic Park's Convention Centre. Lions Blue took home second place, and Lions Gold brought home Sydney Uni's first ever AASCF State Championship win!

A very successful first competition led the way for the second, the Spring Carnival in October. This was another highly successful competition at the Olympic Park for the teams, with Lions Gold taking home second place, and Lions Blue placing first in their respective divisions!

Coming off their triumphant wins, Lions Blue and Lions Gold made it to the DCE National Championship, held in Blacktown in early November. Although the weather soared through the 30s, the athletes battled through and both teams were able to bring home a first place victory!

The final competition of the year was the AASCF Nationals in Melbourne. The competitive athletes travelled down to Melbourne and organised accommodation together. The four-day competition took place in the Melbourne Convention Centre, where both teams triumphantly fought through the summer heat! The two teams represented USYD tremendously and adored the experience they were able to have whilst interstate – this being the majority of the team's first ever Nationals! Lions Blue were able to place fifth, with Lions Gold taking 8th.

The recreational team, coached by Antonia Maher, had a very successful year, with a team of athletes brand new to the sport of cheer – who are returning for the 2024 competitive tryouts. Their experience with the Lions Cubs, who train once a week (the lower-level commitment team) have ignited a strong passion for the sport and enthused them to continue in 2024 at higher levels!

The sideline team also had a good year – cheering beside the Sydney Uni Men's and Women's Soccer teams and the Sydney University Football Club on a couple of occasions, as well as performing exciting halftime shows. The Club also had the honour of cheering for The Kid's Cancer Project and appearing on the Today Show in September. We are excited to expand the sideline team to even more sports within SUSF in 2024.

**EMILY SKIPPER**  
**PRESIDENT**





# CRICKET - MEN

**The 2022/23 season marked a significant transition for the Sydney University Cricket Club (SUCC), as Mark Faraday assumed the Chairman's role, succeeding the esteemed Adam Theobald. Acknowledged for his exceptional contributions, Theobald's leadership, deep cricketing knowledge, and astute business acumen steered the club admirably through the challenges of the COVID-19 era until July 2022. The Club expressed heartfelt gratitude to Theobald for his invaluable guidance and expertise.**

Under Faraday's stewardship, SUCC witnessed continuity in its sponsorship landscape, ensuring financial stability with stalwart sponsors like FDC Construction and Fitout, Henry William Lawyers, and the Toxteth Hotel, alongside Surjit's Indian Restaurant, which generously provided catering for the Christmas Party at No.1 Oval. Notably, a benefactor supported the Green Shield Squad, facilitating a tour to Newcastle during the 2022 school holidays.

The season also saw significant infrastructure enhancements, notably the replacement of the No.1 Oval picket fence, a project made possible through support from the Sydney University Sports Foundation (SUSF). This enhancement not only bolstered

the ground's aesthetics but also garnered praise from visiting teams, further enhancing SUCC's reputation as a premier cricketing venue.

On the field, SUCC showcased remarkable prowess, particularly with its 1st Grade team, which reached three grand finals across various formats. Despite finishing as runners-up, the team's performance underscored its versatility and competitive edge, with notable leadership from Tim Cummins and standout performances from players like Devlin Malone, who emerged as the leading wicket-taker.

The club's lower grade teams also demonstrated promise and resilience. While challenges were encountered, particularly in batting consistency for the 3rd and 4th grade teams, there was a silver lining in the emergence of young talents, signalling a bright future for SUCC's cricketing program.

Off the field, the Club fostered a vibrant community spirit, with well-attended events such as the Presentation Evening and the annual Golf Day, which garnered positive feedback and reinforced the strong bond among players, supporters, and stakeholders.

Looking ahead, SUCC aims to build upon its successes, striving for additional lower grade teams to contend for finals berths in the upcoming season. The Club remains committed to its core values of leadership, determination, and a winning spirit, ensuring that cricket at Sydney University continues to thrive both on and off the field.

**COLIN ROBERTSON**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**



# CRICKET - WOMEN

**The Universities Women's Cricket Club (UWCC) would like to thank the University of Sydney and UNSW for their support of our continually evolving club. We have also fully appreciated the support of the Men's Clubs at both Universities throughout the season and congratulate them on their achievements in the 2022/23 season.**

This season we continued our post COVID rebuilding efforts backed by the consistency of our coaching team. Our Director of Cricket, Ben Preece continued to lead the coaching team with Daniel Nader stepping up to support both the 1st and 2nd Grade teams when needed and Jarrod Cable continued to help coach 2nd Grade. The support of Daniel and Jarrod in particular has been invaluable in helping to inspire some great individual performances on the field. A special shout out also goes to 1st Grade player, Erica James, who provided vital assistance to our 3rd Grade team, both in training and for matches when she was able. Erica and Daniel have also spearheaded our youth development program training, a vital program supporting players from our local junior female clubs while reinvigorating our junior ranks after not fielding a Brewer team this season.

Thank you of course goes to all our wonderful volunteers – the parents, guardians, siblings, partners, and friends. We have outstanding supporters whether on the boundary, scoring, setting up Frog Box, providing match day treats, being there to cheer us on, or even just giving up loved ones on Summer weekends so they could take to the field.

While continuing in a rebuilding phase this season, our teams delivered increasingly competitive performances which we will continue to build on into next season. With international borders opening up we were victim to some players taking the opportunity to travel, and with COVID not quite done there were some challenges with illness, impacting the overall strength of our teams. As always, our strong club culture and outstanding team spirit saw players stepping up to support each other no matter where players were needed. In the absence of a Brewer team this season we were also delighted to have some of our young up and coming players stepping into hone their craft in 3rd Grade and joining the 2nd Grade team for some invaluable match experiences.

There is still much to build on but there have been a lot of positives particularly from our burgeoning players. Congratulations to Frankie Nicklin on receiving her first NSW Breakers cap this season. We also had a number of UWCC players invited to play in this season's new Premier Plus competition, designed to bridge the gap between elite and premier cricket. Also a massive congratulations to Zoe Benjamin on achieving her 150th match for UWCC.

## REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS FOR 2022/23:

Frankie Nicklin, Ciara Gibson, Jess Davidson, Taylor Ling

Again, I am very thankful for all the hard work of the UWCC committee. It's the behind the scenes work that makes everything else seem so effortless and I'm very appreciative of the contributions of everyone involved. We've been very fortunate to have had our patron, Alex Blackwell, become increasingly hands on toward the end of the season advising the committee, and particularly for her support of our youth development program. Thank you of course to our amazing club captain, Erica James for everything she does for our club and Marrickville Cricket Club. The feedback I have received about Erica's contribution to Marrickville continues to be amazing and we are totally committed to keeping this connection with Marrickville going in coming seasons. 1st Grade Player and committee member, Chaye Hartwell, has also given up her Saturday's this season to help deliver coaching in the East, building great connections with a number of clubs. These connections have created a pathway to UWCC and seeing this in action is a predictor of a bright future for us all.

Our fantastic inclusive culture has again stood out throughout the 2022/2023 season, an unrivalled feature of our club which strengthens our resolve and positions us well as we look to the 2023/2024 season.

## GEORGIA LOMIS-FUTERAN PRESIDENT



# FENCING

**The Sydney University Fencing Club (SUFC) continues to offer members three training sessions per week and to hold Club Championships in all three weapon categories. This year the Club also ran two inter-club competitions in conjunction with Macquarie University. Both were well attended & ran smoothly, an initiative the Club will be looking run again in 2024. Importantly, the Club's junior program, which commenced at the end of 2016 continues to thrive, providing a strong basis for the Club's continued health and success.**

Coaching is also an area of strength: SUFC hosted the National Epee Coach, Vlad Sher, during the year who ran a squad session at the Club. In addition, special congratulations are due to Ted Elliott who has been selected as one of Australian Fencing's epee coaches.

## NATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The Club has had a very successful year overall, winning medals across Open, Veteran's & Junior divisions and can boast of having three out of the top ten ranked women epeeists in the country. In detail:

### Australian Fencing Circuit 1

- Harriet Jordan – Bronze (Veteran Women's Sabre)

### Australian Fencing Circuit 2

- Emily Principe – Silver (Women's Epee)
- Amelie Read – Bronze (Women's Epee)
- Harriet Jordan – Bronze (Veteran Women's Sabre)

### Australian Fencing Circuit 3

- Genevieve Gilarski – Gold (Women's Epee)
- Harriet Jordan – Bronze (Veteran Women's Sabre)

### Australian Fencing Circuit 4

- Emily Principe – Silver (Women's Epee)
- Genevieve Gilarski and Sara Scott – Bronze (Women's Epee)

### Australian Fencing Circuit 5

- Sara Scott – Bronze (Women's Epee)
- Harriet Jordan – Gold (Veteran Women's Sabre)
- Paul Kurtyka – Bronze (Veteran Men's Epee)

### Australian National Champions

- Emily Principe – Gold (Women's Epee) making her the National Champion for 2023
- Sara Scott – Silver (Women's Epee)
- Emily Principe and Genevieve Gilarski – Bronze (Women's Epee Teams event)

### UniSport Nationals

- Genevieve Gilarski – Gold (Women's Epee)
- Amelie Read – Bronze (Women's Epee)
- Genevieve Gilarski, Amelie Read, Emily Principe and Amelie Yee – Gold (Women's team Epee event), Silver (Women's Team Sabre event) and Bronze (Women's team Foil event)

In the U17 National Championship, junior fencers put in an outstanding performance with three of the top four fencers representing Sydney University: Noah Blender-Greene won Gold in the Boys Epee while Richard Windsor and Thomas Deller both took out Bronze medals. Noah and Richard Windsor were also members of the team winning Silver in the Boys Epee.

At the U15 National Championship, Thomas Deller won Silver in the Boys Epee and both he and Hudson Cai were members of the team to win Gold in the Boys Team Epee.

## STATE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the NSW State Open Championships, Emily Principe won Gold in the Women's Epee while Genevieve Gilarski and Sara Scott took out Bronze medals. Thomas Deller won Gold in the Men's Epee while Richard Windsor took out the Bronze medal. Both Thomas and Richard are junior fencers who achieved noteworthy success during the year: Thomas won the Open Championship at the age of just 15 years while Richard also won one of the State competitions earlier in the year. In further successes for the Club, Alexandros Tsath won Silver in the Men's Foil while Paul Kurtyka won Silver in the Veteran Men's Epee.

## CLOSING REMARKS

Overall, the Club has performed strongly throughout the year, and we are in a good position to build on this in 2024. As ever, my thanks go to all those fencers who continue to train and compete under the Sydney University banner. Similarly, thank you to all the board members and all coaches for the time and effort they put in to the Club throughout 2023.

**SARA SCOTT**  
**PRESIDENT**

# GOLF

**This was a very exciting year for the Sydney University Golf Club (SUGC) as the club officially reopened in May 2023. Three keen students came together to help rebuild the Club by attending executive meetings, assisting in organising events and representing the Club at university and national golf tournaments. Huge thanks to the following students for their contributions, commitment and dedication to the SUGC; Nadine Johnston Araujo, Timothy Collins and Archie Cornell.**

In August, the Club hosted the inaugural SUGC Club Championship tournament at Moore Park Golf Club. The event was immensely successful, with many student and community members, as well as students from UNSW, participate in the event. It was a great opportunity to meet new people and to play some fun golf with awesome prizes up for grabs. In September, we also hosted a “Spring Into Golf” driving range event at Moore Park Golf Club. In collaboration with the USYD Golf Society as well as Tanya Smith and Paul Sainsbury from Golf NSW, SUGC was able to successfully offer both an educational and social event.

The Club also had a successful campaign at UniSport Nationals which was held in September at Palmer Colonial Golf Course on the Gold Coast. With 11 athletes in total, SUGC had two men’s teams and one full women’s team attend the games; a number which significantly exceeded expectations. Although the athletes battled difficult course conditions across the individual and team events, USYD came away with two gold medals, two silver medals and two bronze medals. SUGC would like to congratulate all athletes who competed.

As the year closed, the Club welcomed Samuel Gale onto the executive board. The Club continued to have high morale during this rebuilding stage, and would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the journey so far. Here’s to an exciting 2024!

**NADINE JOHNSTON ARAUJO**  
**PRESIDENT**



# GYMNASTICS

**Following on from its 65th year of operation, the Sydney University Gymnastics Club (SUG) experienced an extraordinary level of development, growth and engagement in 2023. The Club has continued to provide high-quality gymnastics teaching and training opportunities to Sydney University students, staff and community members from wide-ranging experiences and backgrounds. In addition, brand new initiatives and fresh ideas have invigorated SUG to increase the accessibility of gymnastics for students, whether beginner or elite, and promote its lifelong benefits.**

The beginning of 2023 saw SUG's very first performance team, comprising 15 gymnasts at all levels of gymnastics skill. Combining acrobatics, dance, tumbling and trampolining, the performance team was a highly successful experiment in engaging members and the broader community. The Club is thankful to all participants and audience members, including SUSF CEO, Ed Smith, who came to share in the enjoyment of gymnastics.

With a concomitant boost in the Club's reputation and engagement, SUG had increased membership, and therefore funding to expand its coaching team to include Assistant Coach, Caitlin Hargraves, along with Head Coach, Immanuel Green. This allowed for newly adapted and larger gymnastics classes which ensured safe and effective skill development of all athletes. The introduction of a novel Workshop Program, organised by Caitlin, also allowed many experienced SUG gymnasts to share their expertise in a variety of disciplines.

For the first time in many years, the Club also engaged in a successful fundraising campaign to support the purchase of new equipment and more coached classes. This included a large gymnastics workshop in the Arena Activity Hall, which saw 40 participants from the Sydney University community learn and practice gymnastics together. This event could not have happened without the help from our volunteer coaching team. The Club is very thankful for their efforts and enthusiasm. The Club also wishes to extend its thanks to Shu Yeung, who ran a specialty coffee tour to raise funds, and also to club members who generously donated to SUG. From fundraising, and additional support from SUSF, SUG was able to procure a brand-new elite springboard and balance beam, also winning a brand-new landing mat, thanks to Gym Plus's giveaway competition.

SUG were also invited to contribute to Gymnastics Direct's Club Focus blog, to share what makes SUG a brilliant and unique gymnastics club.

Some other noteworthy achievements from SUG members included club gymnasts, Alice Lam and Immanuel representing Australia at the World Gymnaestrada gymnastics festival in Amsterdam, as part of the Bosco Gymnastics Performance Team. Caitlin, Immanuel and Nicole Green also represented SUG at the Annual Blues Dinner, where Immanuel received the prestigious Sydney University Gold award from the Blues Committee and SUSF Board for outstanding service to Gymnastics, the first ever to be awarded to a SUG member.

The SUG Executive Team, comprising Immanuel, Caitlin, Nicole and Alexandre Tremblay, would like to extend wholehearted gratitude to all who made 2023 a great year for SUG. Special thanks to Ed Smith, Danielle Hodgson, Kirsty Stevens, Mitch Cassie, Marcus Coombs, Russell Miles, Deborah Fox and Michael Culkoff from SUSF for all their support and assistance. SUG also wishes to extend thanks to Maria McQuilty, Anastasia Stravopodis and Steve Georgiakakis from the School of Education and Social Work for their ongoing collaboration in managing the gymnasium space. For their excellent graphic designing skills, creativity, and patience, we would also like to thank Southern for producing great pieces of promotional material for SUG.

SUG is certainly ready to vault to new heights and stick the landing once again in 2024.

## **IMMANUEL GREEN** **PRESIDENT AND HEAD COACH**



# HANDBALL

**Just like previous years, 2023 saw Sydney University Handball Club (SUHC) successfully demonstrate its maturity and sheer relentlessness in practice, affirming its ongoing spot at the forefront of handball excellence in Australia, and the Oceania region, as well as complementing the Club's overall mission to maintain and promote a vibrant, competitive and inclusive club culture amongst members for years to come.**

## WOMEN'S TEAM SUCCESS

SUHC's women's team notched up some amazing victories, putting them at the top of the national and state ranks.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the year has been the Women's Team victory at the Australian National Championships held at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) in Canberra In July.

Beating UTS in the final (25-20), the team brought home the national title for the second time in a row.

With grit and determination, the Women's Team have once again won the New South Wales State League Seasons 1 & 2. Their resilience and dedication not only consolidated the Club's position at the top of the state league but has become a benchmark for years to come.

## MEN'S TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS

The Men's Team faced some unprecedented challenges this year but they showed great courage throughout the year. Competing in the Australian National Championships held in Canberra in July, the men's team reached the Semi Final losing by one goal in extra time to University of Queensland. For the first time in more than a decade the team fell short of qualification for the IHF Super Globe, the Club World Championships, despite their commendable effort.

Despite a fairly consistent season and some hard-fought games, the Men's team did not manage to secure the state league title, narrowly conceding it to the UTS by a marginal points difference.

**STEVE PLUMMER**  
**PRESIDENT**



# HOCKEY

## 2023 saw another full season of hockey take place, with all restrictions lifted and COVID finally feeling very much like something of the past.

The season kicked off with an Indoor Premiership courtesy of the Sydney University Hockey Club (SUHC) Men's Premier team, another iteration of the SUHC summer comp, and the successful implementation of an off-season High Performance Program for elite athletes and identified development players within the Club run by Director of Hockey, Scott Barker, and SUSF Strength and Conditioning coach, Adriano Arguedas.

In 2023, SUHC fielded 9 Women's, 6 Men's, 4 Men's Masters and 1 Junior team across the Sydney Women's Hockey League (SWHL), Sydney North Women's Hockey Association (SNWHA), Sydney Hockey Association (SHA), Sydney Masters Hockey Association (SMHA) and Sydney East Hockey Association (SEHA) competitions.

2023 was a challenging year for all teams across both men's and women's, however there were some Finals successes to celebrate. On the men's side, Masters 2s triumphed, taking the Premiership with a shootout win over Manly-GNS, while 6th Grade finished runners up after a tight shootout loss to NWS-Baulkham Hills. On the women's side, the 1st and 2nd Grade made finals, finishing runners up and 4th respectively. In what was arguably the greatest comeback success story of the year, 1st Grade, placed 8th of 9 teams at the halfway point of the season, fought hard to scrape into the Semis in 4th, won both Semis on shootouts, only to narrowly lose the Grand Final 2-1 to Minor Premier's UNSW.

SUHC players continued to have huge success at the representative level in 2023, headlined by numerous players

receiving Australian representative honours. These include Alice Arnott, who made her long-awaited Hockeyroos debut against India in Adelaide, scoring a goal on debut, Greta Hayes, who represented the Hockeyroos in the FIH Pro League, Emma Scriven, who represented Australia at the FIH Indoor World Cup in South Africa, Kendelle Tait who earned Australian Junior National Squad (Jillaroos) selection, Sorita Pho who travelled to the USA with the Australian U21 Indoor Team, and Phil Price and Sue Thomas who represented Australia at the Trans-Tasman Masters Challenge. This is a testament to the strength of the Club, with all players returning to feature in the blue and gold throughout the year.

At the varsity representative level, the Sydney Uni Women's team competed in the UniSport Nationals held on the Gold Coast from the 23-29th September, as they looked to return to their former glory as National Champions. Final score was USYD 2 – UQ 1.

Late 2023 saw the creation of a Concept Plan as the first major step towards creating a sporting precinct on the Cumberland Campus. SUHC is working closely with SUSF and other stakeholders to begin to bring to life the vision of Bruce and Jenny Pryor and numerous other donors in having a second field, plus other facilities, available for club members and the broader public. Indoor will also be an area of growth as we move towards 2024, with the Club receiving approval to use the sports hall at Lidcombe as an indoor hockey venue.

The Club is very grateful for the support from On The Grounds Consulting, The Glebe Hotel and Just Hockey during 2023 as well as the ongoing support and expertise provided by SUSF. SUHC look forward to continuing these relationships in 2024.

**ANT MCINNES**  
**PRESIDENT**



# JUDO

**Over this last year the Sydney University Judo Club (SUJC) has gone from strength to strength. Maintaining a healthy flow of new members and sporting a dedicated group of Judoka who are continually advancing their understanding of the sport. As a result of this dedication, Club members and coaches, our Judoka have been able to excel in competitions and training alike.**

In September, SUJC sent a team to represent at the UniSport Nationals on the Gold Coast. While this provided a chance for the more advanced student members to test their mettle, it was also a great opportunity for some of the newer members to get competition experience, for some, it was their first one.

Though it wasn't entirely smooth sailing, with USYD players looking like the clear underdogs in many matches. Regardless,

they powered through and were able to come out with Ippons. When the dust had settled, they had managed to win the group stage, and place third overall.

Aside from the club's stellar performance at the Unigames, we had a lot of success at the various competitions organised by Judo NSW. Over the 6 events that we competed in, we were able to rack up an impressive total of 80 medals, including 29 golds. As a result of these successes, and many hours of training, we now have massive cohort of newly graded players.

As the year comes to a close, congratulations are in order for our 10 new green belts, and 4 new blue belts.

Moving into 2024, SUJC is set to continue its strong performance at competitions. All the while, maintaining a culture that reflects the core values of Judo. Being empathetic, supportive, and encouraging development.

**JEREMY FOX**  
**PRESIDENT**





# KEMPO KARATE

**In 2023, the Sydney University Kempo Karate Club trained on Monday, Thursday and Friday evenings at SUSAC. During public holidays or when these facilities were unavailable, we trained elsewhere.**

The Club practice Chinese remedial exercises, Shaolin Forms, and Shaolin fighting techniques. The emphasis on increasing ROM of the pectoral girdle and observing its effect on ROM of the thoracic spine and rib-cage proved exceptionally fruitful.

Thanks to the provision of training facilities by SUSF, the Club was able to fulfill its two main goals:

1. provide free tuition in Kempo-Karate (Shaolin) to undergraduates who attend regular training, and

2. attract participants from graduates and members of the general public.

The Club has always been a 'low maintenance' club with effectively no administrative expenses. The Club has an open-door policy whereby any student of the University of Sydney who wishes to train with the Club can do so irrespective of whatever other clubs they might belong to or whatever other sports they might choose to participate in.

The Club continues to communicate with and seek advice from SUSF to ensure all compliance measures are met.

**SERGE MARTICH-OSTERMAN**  
***PRESIDENT***



# KENDO

**In 2023, the Sydney University Kendo Club (SUKC) had a strong start to the year with a good turn out during the Welcome Fest recruitment period.**

Initially only planning to take 50 new members, on the final day of recruitment, this was increased to welcome 80 new members to the Club for 2023, who were all very keen and ready to learn the martial art, Kendo. Similarly, when we opened the Club in line with the University's start to Semester 2, roughly another 20 new members joined the Club, showcasing the Club's broad appeal to welcome new university students to complete extracurricular activities in between their studies.

The Club also had a strong competitive season in 2023. The following are the key results from the various competitions that were held.

## AUSTRALIAN KENDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1st place (Men Kyu Individuals) – Joe Pile
- 2nd place (Men Dan Individuals) – Alan Kishikawa
- Equal 3rd place (Women Dan Individuals) – Kelly Kishikawa
- Fighting spirit award – Gratia Nguyen
- 1st place (Men Kyu team) – Joe Pile
- 1st place (Men Dan team) – Kelvin Tran, Alan Kishikawa
- 1st place (Women Dan team) – Iris Somera, Samantha Zhong, Kelly Kishikawa



## UNISPORT NATIONALS

- 1st place (Women Kyu Individual) – Grace Yan
- 2nd place (Women Kyu Individual) – Agnes Lee
- 3rd place (Men Dan Individual) – James Oh
- 1st place (Kyu team) – USYD
- 2nd place (Open team) – USYD
- Fighting Spirit award – Luis Reyes

## NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

(This is the state competition in NSW. As NSW has been historically the strongest state at the Australian Kendo Championship, and there is not the limitation or travel expenses, this competition is always the most fierce in terms of competition).

### Individual

- Kyu Women's Division B:
  - Equal 3rd place – Zoe (Ziying) Zhao
- Kyu Women's Division A:
  - 2nd place – Yasaman Motazedi
  - 1st place – Minami Uemoto
- Kyu Men's Division B:
  - 2nd place – John Su
  - Equal 3rd place – Dmitry Akimov
- Kyu Men's Division A:
  - 1st place – Joe Pile
  - Equal 3rd place – Yasik Krepak and Wilson Chan
- Dan Women's Division B:
  - 1st place – Kelly Kishikawa
  - 2nd place – Samantha Zhong
- Dan Women's Division A:
  - 1st place – Ayaka Watanabe
- Dan Men's Division A:
  - Equal 3rd place – Alan Kishikawa

### Teams

- 1st Place – Kyu Men's Teams – USYD (Joe Pile, Kyte Gurner, Yasik Krepak, Wilson Chan, Andrew Yang, Jeff (Zaoyong) Ma, John Su)
- 1st place – Open Women's Teams – USYD (Ayaka Watanabe, Ioana Levins, Samantha Zhong, Iris Somera)
- 1st place – Dan Men's Teams – USYD (Kelvin Tran, Alan Kishikawa, Tomonori Hu, Walter Chung, Rocky (Yan) Gao, Ervin Peng, Makoto Tsai)

As can be seen, 2023 was an extremely successful year for the Club, and we look forward to 2024.

**JOE PILE**  
**PRESIDENT**

# LAWN TENNIS

**2023 ultimately, became a year of transition for Sydney University Lawn Tennis Club (SULTC) although valuable lessons were learnt about the structure and operation of the Program, the coach and continued development of governance structures and an effective Board. Success in the badge competition was scarce. Nonetheless, the year saw substantial gains in many areas which will create a very solid foundation for 2024.**

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

Head Coach, Adam Kennedy performed extremely well and may substantially take credit for our outstanding result in winning gold with the men's team at UniSport Nationals in September. Many thanks to our men's and women's teams and their captains, Paul Howe and Grace Bruce.

Thanks to work of James Palmer and Robin Pfister, great strides in the Program were achieved by year's end in recruitment, program structure and player contract development. I acknowledge the close working relationship with Ed Smith and Leonie Lum of SUSF in the Program's development. However, I particularly wish to recognise the contribution of Bec Jones for her painstaking work on the development of the program since its inception to the end of 2023 and her ongoing support for me in my role as President. I look forward to her stepping up as Vice President in 2024.

Our employment of a part-time employee, Kata Kara, proved enormously beneficial. Our administrative arrangements were restructured. This change, with the contribution of Grace Bruce, also resulted in a significant growth of midweek play for members including competitions.

The Club remain in debt to our Badge Delegates, Rouna Daley and Mark Curzon, who continue to strive for both performance and participation of members in competition through Badge. I also acknowledge that they are leading the way in introductory player development with bridge to badge and our entry into junior play with Hot Shots.

Our membership grew greatly in 2023 and thanks to Ella Fraser we have the resurrection of Club Championships and a foundation for the return of AMT's or the equivalent.

Notwithstanding some difficulties, the Club hosted its second Tennis Ball. I want to acknowledge the work of Kat O'Callaghan and Frank Veltro in that respect. The night was an entertainment success, even though the involvement of other tennis clubs may have been greater. Thank you also to Olivia Pitt for communications in that and all other respects and Martina Albrecht for her work on the Club's website.

We welcomed a new Treasurer, Ricky Nguyen (who replaced Dimitri Vidin who we will miss on the Board) and a Board Member, David Beaumont, during the year (who we hope will help fundraising efforts and our desire to engage with the Aboriginal community).

A foundation has been laid for an outstanding year for the Club in 2024.

**MICHAEL WALTON**  
**PRESIDENT**



# MUAY THAI

**2023 has been a remarkable year for the Sydney Uni Muay Thai Club (SUMTC), marked by vibrant social activities, a substantial increase in social media presence, and a notably improved club community culture. The Club would like to thank its members for their support in 2023 and look forward to an even more eventful year in 2024.**

The year's highlights are hallmarked by the Club partaking in a variety of events that not only honed our members' Muay Thai skills but also helped foster the community. Highlights include an end of year barbeque at Maroubra Beach. These events saw record attendance, illustrating the community's growing enthusiasm for the Club.

2023 was a year of cultural enrichment for the Club. With the help of members, SUMTC have managed to foster an inclusive and supportive environment.

The effort to enhance our online presence paid off significantly. Spearheaded by the now President Joseph Lam, Club social media postings have more than doubled, thanks to a consistent posting schedule and engaging content, including humour,

training tips, member spotlights, and event highlights. This digital expansion not only increased the Club's visibility but also attracted new members.

The growth and successes of 2023 reflect the strength and dedication of the community, and the Club is excited to build on this momentum in 2024, further enhancing the stature as a leading Muay Thai community.

Similarly, to the goals of previous years, new opportunities continued to be introduced in 2023 for both beginners and advanced athletes. In 2024, the plan is to expand the coaching team to accommodate larger classes and cater to diverse levels and goals, so each member can receive the specific attention they need during training. The existing coaching team will also continue to upskill to accommodate training athlete fighters so that SUMTC can achieve its ambitions of supporting an elite fight team, aiming to be active in local sparring events, amateur bouts, and the Olympics, when Muay Thai eventually joins their active roster of Summer Sports Events.

In summary, SUMTC has had a successful 2023. The Club has hosted successful events and grown the club's profile within Sydney's grassroots Muay Thai scene. Thank you to all the members for their support and look forward to an eventful 2024.

**ELDON FAN**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**



# NETBALL

**2023 was another fantastic year for Sydney University Netball Club (SUNC). The Club experienced significant growth in the Inner West Netball Association (IWNA) Saturday competition, doubling the number of competitors from the year before, and increasing from 5 to 12 teams.**

mpressively, the Club led the way across Australia with the inclusivity of men's and mixed teams for the first time ever at club level. Of the 12 teams, 10 made it to the finals, with six teams winning their respective divisions, including the inaugural Men's, Mixed 1 and Mixed 2 competitions. The season was a rousing success both on and off the court, with a very popular trivia event and many post training drinks taking place at The Royal, bolstering club culture.

At the conclusion of the season, the Club again held the annual Gala dinner to reflect on the season and its successes. We were privileged to host former Netball Blues, Lyn Marsh and Grace Bryant, returning to the Club after a 50 year gap. The two major trophies were awarded as follows; The Issie McCalman Clubperson of the Year, awarded to Billy Smith, and the Jemma Donoghue MVP of the Year, awarded to Eden Borrie.

The Club was also extremely successful in Varsity competitions during 2023. In Semester 1, SUNC finished minor premiers in the Teal Cup, and were robbed by UTS in the final. In July, the Club returned to Armidale to compete in the UNE Tri-series over a weekend, winning the competition undefeated. UniSport Nationals returned to the Gold Coast in September with Mixed falling short at the final hurdle to Monash. The silver medal is the highest ranking the Club has ever achieved in the mixed competition. The women's team lost to the eventual winners in the quarter finals and finished 6th out of 29 teams. Both teams will return to Div 1 next year, and with a considerable core playing group retained, will be looking for a dual higher podium finish across both the mixed and women's.

The strength of 'elite' players and EAP members across the Club continues to improve each year. Amongst a host of talent from Premier League Clubs across Sydney, SUNC had six current students and a further four alumni selected in NSW squads in 2023, across U19s women, and NSW men's and mixed teams. Highlights of the state season included Jason Welmer who was selected as Australian Mens U23s Training Partner and Mia Baggett's selection in the Australian U19 squad. On the back of their representative efforts, Mia and Jason joined Amelia Kirgan in being awarded University Blues for the 2023 calendar year following their outstanding achievements throughout the year.

SUNC would like to thank all outgoing executive members, but in particular Abbey Baker and Beatrix Thomson for their long-term service. The achievements of the past 24 months would not

have been possible without their efforts. The Club looks forward to bringing on a number of new executive members looking to prolong the momentum of 2023, however, will continue to be guided by long term President, Charlotte Gorman.

**JACK THOMAS**  
**SECRETARY**



# ROCK CLIMBING & MOUNTAINEERING

## 2023 started strong with an influx of new members who were excited to engage with the Sydney University Rockclimbing and Mountaineering Club (SURMC).

Older SURMC members were also keen to see the club becoming more active after the previous years' extreme weather conditions and the COVID-19 pandemic. A new system to approve the skillsets of trip leaders had to be developed this year to comply with SUSF's public liability insurance. This meant suspending regular outdoor trips. Now that this system is completed and new leaders are being approved, it is hoped that regular club trips can resume.

Prior to the development of the new system, the year began with a stream of regular trips. In February, an intermediate trip to Shipley was organised by David Wilson, Mariam Sheik, and Tom Harkness. A beginner's trip was also held in March at Medlow Bath after introductory skills sessions at The Ledge. This was organised by David and Brandon Harding. Due to the large number of sign-ups, the trip had to be divided such that it ran over two separate weekends. A bouldering trip to Frontlines was also held later that month.

Trips were then suspended while the new skills system was being developed. This was overseen by Tom and Mariam under the guidance of Pete Butcher at The Ledge. Currently, the only people who can approve these skills are Tom, David, and Pete. While waiting for the new system, potential trip leaders undertook a remote first-aid course during STUVAC of the first semester, which was run by First Aid Coach Sydney. Now that this system has been designed and approved, SURMC have begun approving new trip-leaders and it is hoped that 2024 will see regular outdoor trips again.

In the absence of outdoor trips, the Club found alternative ways to engage and connect. This was primarily during weekly club nights at The Ledge including regular skills sessions, followed by socialising at The Forest Lodge. A learn-to-lead course by Nick Fogarty was particularly popular. SURMC also held BBQs throughout the year, and participated in many inter- and intra-club events, such as Movie and Climbing nights with USYD's French Society, and the victory of the UTSOAC Pubgaine. SURMC also took first place in the annual Manky Cam—an amateur Inter-University club climbing competition held at The Ledge—with many club members placing within their division. SURMC members also competed in the annual Boulder Bash held at Nomad's climbing gym, while Tom and David oversaw broadcasting a livestream of the event.

This year, SURMC sadly said farewell to Phil Staples who retired from his route-setting duties at The Ledge and was a friend and mentor to many of the climbers in the Club.

The year ended with the annual end of the year event, which was organised by Izzy Hillman and held at The Lady Hampshire. This year really speaks to the dedication and initiative of the Club's older members. They volunteered much of their time to enable new members to get involved. It is hoped that the progress made

in 2023 will carry on into the new year, ushering in new members and getting new climbers outdoors.

**CHANELLE NOBLE**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**



# RUGBY LEAGUE

## 2023 proved itself to be one of the most challenging yet rewarding seasons to date for Sydney University Rugby League Football Club (SURLFC).

Taking on board feedback from the previous season and looking to increase the presence and participation of rugby league at Sydney University, the Club established two teams for the 2023 season, fielding a team in the Silver and Bronze division of the NSW Central Northern Combined Conference Competition. The Club has not fielded two teams in a competition for several years and with this came an increased responsibility, workload and expectation.

SURLFC had a dedicated and hard pre-season under the guidance of new coaching appointments with a goal of fielding two very competitive sides. From beach sessions, to training at various locations around Sydney, new and old players showed an eagerness to give it their all for season 2023. The Silver team had a promising pre-season with some victories in the trials however this could not transcend into the regular season with the side only amassing one win, however it came on the very special Old Boys Day. The Bronze side saw some successes throughout the first half of the season having multiple wins along the way. At the half way mark of the season, the newly appointed coach offered his resignation, having the different values that the Club aligns with. The SURLFC committee had the difficult decision to accept this resignation and also part ways with other staff members and new players who arrived with the coach. With this bump in the road, SURLFC will always stand up for their values and make necessary changes if it is for the betterment of the Club. The foundations of the Club and playing group will always be Mateship, Pride and Community.

With this change in coaching structure, Jake Vrahnos took on the Head Coaching role and navigated the two teams with more trials and tribulations to ensue as player availability, injuries and eligibility all deemed too big of hurdle to get over. Again, the Club made another difficult decision to forfeit the remainder of the Silver season as player welfare was being significantly impacted. Now with sole focus on the Bronze side, the players showed great resilience and commitment to the club bringing an optimistic and positive attitude to training and the games. The Bronze side managed to go on a winning run of five games to end the regular season but unfortunately bowed out to a strong Willoughby Roos side.

Off the field, the Old Boys Day was again extremely successful, with the many decades of SURLFC experience coming together to reminisce about the 'good ole days'. The Club continued it's involvement with 'HeadSpace', undertaking concussion study throughout the season and recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories with the annual NAIDOC Week jersey.

SURLFC would like to extend its gratitude to valuable members of the committee who will be parting the club – Harry Croker, Dac Croker, Angus Bowen and Carlos Romanos. The Club would not have run as efficiently without the tireless effort and hours sacrificed for the betterment of the Club.

In 2024, SURLFC look towards creating the foundations for a women's rugby league or league-tag team along with our push to increase the presence and resources available to rugby league at the University. Onwards and upwards!

Mateship. Pride. Community.

**JAKE VRAHNOS AND MILES FOWLER**  
**CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS**



# RUGBY UNION

**Season 2023 was one of mixed performances for Sydney University Football Club (SUFC), with the women's team claiming the Minor Premiership and all teams bar 1st Grade made the finals series, three teams went on to play in Grand Finals, however it was only 2nd Grade who managed to bring home a Premiership. As always, the players and support staff efforts cannot be faulted as we continue to embrace our club values.**

A special mention to the rugby department, led by Nick Ryan, with his management paramount in ensuring the club remains galvanized with a group of players that portrayed grit, determination and a never give up attitude.

## JUNIORS

SUFC, is committed to helping the game of rugby grow, Teki Tuipulotu continues to build on a strong foundation and with Sydney Uni Junior's President, Adam Dunn, Teki delivered some great programs to a wide range of children in both the community and schools.

Some of the successes achieved at the junior level this year included:

- U17 Girls 7s State Champions
- Winning the U16 girls XVs Sydney Cup in Port Macquarie
- Both U16s & U18s Girls were runners up in NSWJRU XVs State Championship
- Three successful rugby camps during the school holidays for ages 5 through to 15

As successful as it was, to have a range of age groups competing there is plenty of room for improvement and growth within the dynamic programming. We look forward to continuing to enhance this program.

## REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

SUFC continues to provide a pathway for ambitious men and women to go on to higher honours and 2023 was once again a significant year for the Club with several players representing themselves and SUFC with distinction at the elite level.

Highlights include:

- 22 International representatives, nine Wallaroos, 11 Wallabies/Australia A and two Aussie 7s
- Special mention to Brianna Hoy, Faitala Moleka and Josh Kemeny on making their international debut and to Will Skelton on being named the 87th Wallabies captain and Piper Duck the new Wallaroos captain.
- Six Players representing the Wallabies U20s squad

## WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

2023 saw the SUFC wheelchair rugby team finish fifth overall in the Wheelchair Rugby National League with Andrew Edmonson being named best mid-point player in the tournament. We would like to thank Wheelchair Sport NSW for its continued leadership and support.

## MATCH DAYS AND EVENTS

All the matchdays and events this year were successfully completed and within her first year a big congratulations must go to Chelsea Brennan for her leadership and professionalism. A personal highlight was our inaugural 'Birthplace in the City' event hosted in conjunction with Trilogy Funds, with former SUFC player and politician Hon. Joe Hockey giving insights and the importance sport players in business. The 2023 Finals Lunch was also an overwhelming success with Rod Kafer and Layne Beachley OAM sharing insights into 'what it takes to become a world champion'.

## IN CLOSING

2023 has been a year of change for SUFC, thank you to all staff, executive committee members, players, volunteers, sponsors and supporters for your hard work and commitment over the last 12 months.

## DAVID LYONS PRESIDENT





# SOCCER

## **2023 cemented Women's Football in the Australian vernacular – the FIFA Women's World Cup captured Australia's hearts and minds, and the legacy that was left in its wake, is one that will help the game, the Sydney University Soccer Football Club (SUSFC), and the Club's players thrive for many years to come.**

SUSFC are immensely proud of our 'Matildas', and the legacy they have enshrined as student athletes. Clare Hunt (7 years' service) whose tenacity and determination to overcome injury to solidify her place in the starting XI at the World Cup is unparalleled, Clare Wheeler (6 years' service) whose understated elegance on the pitch saw her claim her first goal for the Matildas in Perth in the Olympic Qualifiers, and former player Cortnee Vine (2 years' service) whose heroics at the penalty spot put Australia through to the semi-finals at the World Cup. These women are at the pinnacle of the sport, and the Club is so proud to be able to have called them SUSFC Players.

SUSFC is equally proud of Women's Head Coach, Emily Husband, and her appointment as Head Coach of the newly reformed Central Coast Mariners in the Women's A League. Emily started her SUSFC tenure in 2016, and her contribution to the Club has been nothing short of amazing. In her time at the Club, she has coached SAP, Girls SAP, Girls Youth League, Reserve Grade, First Grade and provided sessions for the Women's All Age – you can understand why she was named 2022 Football NSW NPL Coach of the Year, and 2022 SUSF Professional Coach of the Year.

One person, who has had a hand in many of the Clubs' achievements over the last fifteen years, is John Curran (JC) and this year, the Club bid farewell to him as the Director of Football. JC is a stalwart of the Club, and although not known for his timeliness, his passion, dedication, and drive to make the club the greatest university football program in the country is incomparable.

During his time at the helm, SUSFC have collected a lot of silverware – multiple University Nationals Championships, Kennard Cups, NPL Men's and Women's Premierships, Championships and Club Championships, and have represented Australia at the FISU World Cup twice. SUSFC wish to thank John for his unwavering support of the Blue and Gold.

Football requires a massive commitment, with most National Premier League (NPL) seasons spanning 30 weeks of competition plus pre-season, the Club simply couldn't operate without the dedicated coaches who provide their time and energy to develop the players, for that the Club is ever indebted.

Many of the teams this year experienced a huge learning curve, with the scoreboard often not providing a true reflection of the effort, skill and football played. Special congratulations to the

U14 youth girls, who took their respective Premiership in an undefeated season with star forward Olivia Vanderlaan breaking club records netting 59 goals this year alone!

The Dave Jordan Club Spirit Women's All Age (WAA3) program, who with Madhu Dubey and Gen Ancell at the helm exemplified club culture both on and off the pitch.

The ESFA Women's Premier League squad, coming off the back of their Championship winning season last year, just narrowly missed out on finals finishing fifth. The WAA3s might not have claimed the trophy on the pitch, but they certainly showed their knowledge off the pitch, taking home the coveted SUSFC Trivia Night trophy.

The Men's All Age (MAA) Program struggled in 2023 with a lack of numbers, and a turnover in the coordinator position. The MAA3s had a blinding run in the ESFA Trophy Competition, making the final, but cruelly denied a trophy on penalties after an epic 120-minute performance against Dunbar. The MAA4 Gold were the only team to make regular competition finals, sneaking through in fourth place on goal difference. On the whole, SUSFC's All Age programs (both Men's and Women's) are in the rebuilding phase, and the Club thanks all those who have shown loyalty through COVID and are supporting the Club and aiding in building back up, what is, the heart and soul of the Blue & Gold.

SUSFC could not exist without the continued support of our benefactors and sponsors; perhaps in 2023 more than any other year, the Club have worked more closely with SUSF on a range of grant applications and structural matters, in particular thank you Ed Smith and Leonie Lum for their unwavering support of the Club.

SUSFC also acknowledges and thanks Club sponsors, FDC, Elegancy Catering, Capital Brewing, Millon Wines, Scape and Forest Lodge. As well as sincere appreciation and gratitude to the members of the board during the 2023 season; Brendan Twining, Anthony Lechner, Chris Caspers, Madhu Dubey, Simon Philips, Jay Hirschowitz, Hannah Jones and Andy Harper, who have all selflessly given their time and energy to various portfolios, ensuring the Club is bringing in sponsorships and grants, fundraising events are running smoothly, and keeping the finances and governance on track. To the full-time office staff, John Curran and Amy Shepherd, for their countless hours keeping the Club operating and thriving.

As a Club, SUSFC's values are integrity and respect, developing toward excellence, welcoming and stronger together. Moving into the 2024 season, the Club will strive to embody those values and to maintain the legacy of the Blue & Gold quarters that has been built over its 77-year history.

**STEPHANIE CLARKE**  
**PRESIDENT**

# SQUASH

**2023 was a highly significant year for the Sydney University Squash Club (SUSC) with a number of factors driving increased membership, participation and competition success. We have an expanded club committee, rejuvenated courts and improving facilities. There has been a focus on providing more social, competition and coaching opportunities, with greater student and female participation achieved.**

The year commenced with the internal handicapped summer squash competition bringing together keen players from all levels in the Club, competing for the Alkhub Cup throughout summer in pool matches followed by elimination rounds, with Joep Levert ultimately victorious.

From this followed the Squash NSW pennant competitions, this year in the format of 3 x 10 round competitions. The Club fielded four, five then six teams respectively in the three east/south-east district pennants. The Sydney Uni 02 team won outright all three pennants for division 5, and the Sydney Uni 01 team were runners up in each pennant for division 4. Additionally, we had two Sydney Uni teams contesting the division 6 grand final in the spring pennant, with Sydney Uni 03 victorious. Overall, a very strong showing in the pennants, with most Sydney Uni teams making the finals.

The Club also had three teams (and other members) participating in the City Houses league, with two of them making their respective Grand Finals and the C2 team winning.

Another key highlight was the participation of five University of Sydney student competitors, Adele On Ying Fung, Joelle Sze Yu Lee, Robert Palmer, Sam Jenkin and Tom Bullock in the 2023 UniSport Nationals competition held on the Gold Coast, with our team winning the mixed squash championships. Once again, SUSC contributed to their participation costs.

Not stopping at that, the Club also held friendly one-day tournaments against Bondi-Waverly Squash and UTS.

This substantial level of success owes a lot to the emphasis on expanded social competitions and opportunities for formal and informal coaching. We ran three female beginners coaching programs and a number of other coaching & squad sessions. Tuesday afternoon social squash attracted a substantial increase in players, such that Friday afternoon sessions also started.

We now have both of our courts in good condition, with walls repaired and painted, internal roofing back in place, floors sanded and relined. A club working bee held in November also achieved substantial improvements. The Club has an expanded presence on social media and better communication with members, plus attractively designed club shirts.

It is a pleasure to see the enthusiasm, contribution and skills improvement of club members as they take advantage of the opportunities available. This has seen some social players step up into pennant teams and many more playing regularly. Some newer members have also been very active with supporting the club off court as well, which has been instrumental in the positive momentum we have.

**ANDREW TAURINS**  
**TREASURER**



# SWIMMING

**To the dedicated, determined and wonderful swimmers, the Club coaches, SUSF and the committee along with the wonderful staff. Your dedication to turn up before the sun rises and after the sunsets as you step up to the pool deck wanting to dive in is what makes Sydney University Swimming Club (SUSC) tick. Thank you.**

Swimming is a sport that is life long and incredibly rewarding and as SUSC grows with incredible speed it equally does so from your commitment. This goes hand in hand with the brilliant coaches who deserve so much gratitude. Paul Bruce, Jake Hodgetts, Anton Nikulin and Luke Parkes, thank you for guiding the way. As a new season starts SUSC are forever grateful for the coaches and their experience with the programmes they set and the attention they give to each of the swimmers.

It was great to see Varsity Students continue to excel in the pool during 2023, and embark on their international training camp in Spain followed by competing at the Spanish National

Championships. A special mention to Elizabeth Gan achieving her first National Medal and International final during the year, suitably recognised with the awarding of a Sydney University Sporting Blue in November at the annual Blues Dinner. Congratulations Liz.

The club has grown at a rapid pace and with it has come new faces, lots of races, dias places, fundraisers, friendships formed both in and out of the pool and a wonderful board of committee members. This is the true essence of a club – uniting and everyone rolling up their sleeves to say “I’m In”.

To the staff and all at SUSF thank you for your smiles and your willingness to listen when we need to be heard and the facilities we all have access to.

Finally, to the committee members, the regular faces, the parents that continue to sign up and volunteer again and again, the officials on pool deck, the leadership comes from you and your actions, showing how it’s done and the way to serve with nothing on an agenda in return but simply because you love your child and the sport of swimming.

This is the way forward. Here is to a brilliant future.

**ELKA WHALAN**  
**PRESIDENT**



# TABLE TENNIS

2023 saw great improvements for the Sydney University Table Tennis Club (SUTTC), with an increase in membership, as well as a successful UniSport Nationals campaign that saw USYD take medals in both the women's and men's categories.

Building on from 2022, this year saw memberships exceed 160 people, demonstrating the sports potential not just to grow at a university club level, but as a popular and emerging sport across Australia in the near future. From these memberships the Club experienced great financial growth, which will allow greater subsidies for UniSport Nationals in 2024, as well as helping to purchase new equipment for all members of the Club to use and enjoy.

The 2023 UniSport Nationals held in the Gold Coast, saw the women's team repeat the previous year's success as

they managed to make it to the Final and come home with a respectable 2nd place. The men's team also shared in this success, narrowly defeating Deakin University to secure a 3rd place overall finish and receive a medal for the first time in many years.

Building on this success, the Club hopes to continue learning, improving, and sharing the sport across the University and the greater community. The Club looks forward to hold competitions, going to the next UniSport Nationals in Canberra, and will continue to strive to be the best in all endeavours.

**JAMES WHEATE**  
**PRESIDENT**



# TAE KWON DO

With many new junior members and returning senior competitors, Sydney University Taekwondo Club reached new heights at a plethora of competitions throughout the year.

In April, the Club sent a team down to Nowra to compete at the South Coast Open. Clubs from all across New South Wales as well as Victoria and Queensland were in attendance. Across sparring and poomsae, the Club achieved two gold and two silver medals.

Later in the year in July, the Club participated in the Combined University Opens, an intervarsity competition between UNSW, UTS and USYD. This was a great opportunity to meet like-minded individuals and share knowledge and experiences between clubs as well as a great first competition for many beginners and junior belts.

In August, the Club also participated in the NSW State Championships, where both sparring and poomsae teams performed exceptionally. Participating members attained the following medals:

## Gold

- Men's u63kg division (Sparring)
- Women's 2nd Dan traditional division (Poomsae)
- Women's black belt WT teams division (Poomsae)

## Silver

- Men's u68kg division (Sparring)
- Women's red belt individual division (Poomsae)
- Women's black belt WT individual division (Poomsae)

The team competed extensively throughout the two days of Taekwondo competition at the UniSport Nationals (Division 1). Over that weekend, USYD achieved 13 gold, six silver and 18 bronze medals.

Two team members competed in the National Championships, with one achieving a gold medal in the women's red belt individual poomsae division.

## COMBINED UNIVERSITIES TRAINING

In May, the Club organised and participated in combined universities training between UNSW, UTS and USYD. It was a very

successful event with a total of over 60 participants. Club members were able to interact with fellow university level athletes, enriching their experiences through learning from different coaches alongside new training partners.

This year the Club was able to host some incredible individuals. WeiTing Low has been competing regularly in NSW competitions and she recently had the opportunity to train in Korea with an international level coaching team. She continues to aim for National level competitions.

Richard Lin has competed exceptionally throughout the whole year, achieving gold in most NSW competitions as well as competing in four international competitions (Australian Open, Oceania President's Cup, Oceania Championships and the Pacific Games). At each of these international events, he has progressed to at least the Quarter Finals, winning silver at the Pacific Games. Richard continues to train with the Club as well as with the international team, aiming to qualify for the upcoming Olympic Games.

## FUNDRAISERS

The Club ran a Bunnings fundraiser towards the start of the year raising roughly \$2,000. This money has been used to by new gear for the Club.

## MEMBER RETENTION

The Club successfully grew in size this year with many more consistent members as well as more experienced members remaining to lead the team for another year. The lion's share of credit for the growth must be attributed to the coaches. The quality of training sessions has seen incredible improvement in 2023, allowing the Club to achieve higher standards and retain more members.

In April, a social camp was held to welcome new members to the Club, by introducing them to the executive team and existing members. The camp helped foster a welcoming atmosphere, encouraging new members to continue attending training and to create valuable friendships.

**CLAUDIA CHOI**  
**PRESIDENT**



# TOUCH FOOTBALL

**2023 was a challenging year for the Sydney University Touch Football Club (SUTFC). The ongoing viability is a source of concern as the Club experience multiple challenges.**

## STUDENT LEAGUE

The Student League had limited numbers (7 teams) in Semester 1 and there was insufficient interest to run in Term 2. As is the case with all sports, participation numbers drive everything else and considering this, the lack of participation will have a flow on effect to all areas of the Club.

The allotted training time of 4pm to 6pm acts as a barrier to participation for many potential participants as they are either in class or (for alumni) are working. Consideration needs to be given as to whether the Club should request an allotted field use time of between 6pm to 8pm to cater for a greater number of participants.

## UNIVERSITY COMPETITIONS

USYD had three teams compete at the 2023 UniSport Nationals. The men's side finished 8th from 10 teams, the mixed side finished 15th from 16 teams, while the women's side had a hard-fought win against cross-town rivals UTS to take out the number 1 spot and claim the first pennant since 2015. A gratifying win. The title resulted in a first ever University Blue for Touch Football. Congratulations to Rachel Jeffs.

## REPRESENTATIVE COMPETITIONS

SUTFC were able to compile one representative Women's team to play in the NSW Touch Association (NSWTA) Vawdon Cup. The team trained at Waverton Oval and Cammeray Park on a Monday evening from June through to November. After a rocky start to the season, the team qualified for the Semi Finals where we were knocked out by Cronulla. There was insufficient interest to run teams for the NSW State Cup in November.

## REFEREE DEVELOPMENT

NSWTA have introduced a policy that requires each affiliate to supply referees to officiate at NSWTA tournaments. This is proving to be exceptionally challenging to adhere to. We ran a Level 1 Referee course in 2022 and over time some of these participants will graduate to full time referees, but this process is slow. It is slowed by a lack of Park level competition to develop these referees at.

The short-term solution will be to partner with another affiliate in the region to assist with developing referees. This process will not be cheap and is reflected in the budgeting for the 2024 season.

## CONCLUSION

SUTFC will continue to struggle in the absence of a viable park level competition to support it. The Park level of participation is what drives referee, player and coach development. The Club will continue to compile teams to send to UniSport Nationals but as it currently stands, other areas of the Club remain in jeopardy.

## MATT ROWAN

**CLUB PRESIDENT**



# ULTIMATE FRISBEE

**Following a successful year of Ultimate in 2022, Sydney University Ultimate Frisbee (SUUFA) saw fresh new faces in both members and in the executive team. Led by coach, Martin Forrest, they led the charge and initiatives towards hosting regular Tuesday and Thursday trainings in any capacity, whether it was using half the field, or even moving trainings to Jubilee Oval.**

Semester 1 continued a strong rebuilding phase for the Club, boasting the odd 30-40 students every training session despite these challenges.

SUUFA attended many tournaments throughout the year, ranging from social tournaments aimed to include all students of all skill levels, giving newer players their first taste of competitive frisbee, all the way to the most prestigious of them all, UniSport Nationals. Bathurst Stampede again saw four SUUFA teams being sent to the tournament, hosting over 60 students for a weekend of fun, bonding, and frisbee in excruciating cold weather.

SUUFA welcomed Wesley Honey as Coach for the UniSport Nationals team in Semester 2, while Martin coached the remainder of the Club. Wesley himself is currently in university

and a member of the Club and took on the responsibility to lead the team.

Vying to protect the title, SUUFA went into the competition as the reigning champions (2022). The team got off to a strong start finishing pool play in 1st place having not conceded a single game, before turning it on to reach the Grand Final. It must be mentioned, the series of events that occurred in the Grand Final game against Sydney rivals, UNSW. At half-time, SUUFA were down 4-8, spirits were low and the team felt defeated. Suddenly in the team huddle, one rookie player, Peter Wajzer, delivered an exceptional speech that uplifted each and every player, pushing and motivating us to score seven consecutive points to defeat UNSW 11-8, defending the title and winning the Gold Medal!

A successful year, capped off with a successful UniSport Nationals has the whole club excited for what's to come in 2024. SUUFA will strive to promote development and growth, building strong pathways for students to build close relationships with each other and become better Ultimate players.

The AGM was held and a new board elected for 2023-2024 who are excited to lead the way, they consist of Kayla Chan, Neon Wongruechu, Adelle Thomas, Hanlin Zhang, Sharisse Leong, Matilda Woo, Duncan Chen, Charlie Kairaitis, Tara Sweeney, Jess Daly, Herman Tu, Martin Xu, Nhu Le, Brio Dos Santos-Lee and Ryan Lu.

**KAYLA CHAN**  
**PRESIDENT**



# VELO (CYCLING)

**Sydney Uni Velo Club (SU Velo) has enjoyed another year as part of the cycling community with many highlights, including social events, most recently the Christmas party, coffee shouts, Club Champs, and afternoons at Heffron with snacks and an esky of post-race beverages and snacks.**

Towards the end of the year, new funding initiatives have aimed to ensure all members representing SU Velo at events could benefit from the Club's strong financial position with entry refunds for all races and fondos, and further assistance with travel and accommodation where needed.

The ongoing operation of the Club, administration of members' claims and putting on the events would not be possible without the volunteer efforts of the Committee. In October, the Committee held an Emergency General Meeting (EGM) to highlight the difficulty in recruiting new volunteers among a reduced membership base to assist with running the Club, and the challenges ahead when key office bearers step down in 2024.

This decline in participation is common among many community-

based clubs and can be attributed to various factors such as changing demographics, increased competition from other recreational activities, multi-club affiliation and changes in habits post the COVID period.

Over the past year, SU Velo experienced a drop in membership from 237 to 179 members, indicating a 25% decrease. Despite this, the Club's focus on performance remains with about half of members holding a race licence.

AusCycling now allows for a variety of memberships with the ability to elect affiliate clubs, with roughly 40% of members taking this opportunity to further their involvement in the cycling community.

The Committee continues to keep in contact with club members on TeamApp, email and a new WhatsApp group which was set up as a result of feedback from the EGM held in October.

In late November, SUSF initiated a discussion with the Committee regarding the low numbers of Sydney Uni student membership. SU Velo acknowledged the challenges associated with student membership growth, including limitations of volunteer time, barriers of entry to the sport and a lack of alignment to student interests.

**ALAN ROBINSON**  
**PRESIDENT**





# VOLLEYBALL

**2023 was a big year for the Sydney Uni Volleyball Club (SUVC) following a strong showing in 2022, the Club sought to keep the momentum going.**

## STATE LEAGUE

The Club once again had eight teams competing across several divisions in state league. After an undefeated year in 2022, the Women's Premier team suffered considerable changes and still pulled some great results across the year. Thanks to the Women's Program Head Coach, Con Savvidis for his leadership and efforts over the year. For avid followers, the Men's Premier team managed to avoid the dreaded silver medal this year, instead going down in the bronze medal match to finish in fourth place. Many of the teams across the board suffered a shaky start with several long-standing members retiring or moving on, later gaining traction towards the tail end of the season but unfortunately just missing out on finals.

## LUNCHTIME LEARN TO PLAY

After a stellar first year in 2022 for which the Club won the Vice Chancellor's Participation Program of the Year in 2023, the Club again took to The Square to offer free lunchtime learn to play sessions to members eager to get involved and learn some basics of the game in fun and safe environment. Thanks again to the University and SUSF for their funding and support in maintaining a program which highlights the importance of student and member engagement on campus.

## UNISPORT NATIONALS

With UniSport Nationals back in full swing, the Club was keen to support everyone getting involved in volleyball on the Gold Coast. The Men's indoor team managed to finish 2nd in their pool, unfortunately going down in a hard-fought elimination crossover eventually finishing 9th in Division 1. The Women's team suffered a similar fate where they managed to take the top spot in their respective pool and were unlucky to go down in their quarter final to finish the week out in 7th in Division 1.

## STATE AND NATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Special mention goes out to club members who were heavily featured across several State and National senior and junior teams. The Club was fortunate enough to have several members make the Senior NSW Phoenix team which competed in the Australia Volleyball Super League (AVSL). In its first year, AVSL offered a game format modified for specifically broadcast which was televised and streamed across SBS and other platforms. The NSW Phoenix teams featured several senior members including Ben Abbott, Emma Sargeant, Brian Cho, Sam Brewer, Jacky Zheng as well as several others making their respective Junior NSW Phoenix teams.

As always, the Club thanks all those who contributed throughout the year from volunteers and coaches and a further special mention to SUSF for all their support and guidance.

**ANTONY ROWDA**  
**TREASURER**



# WAKEBOARD

**In reflection, 2023 proved to be a significant year of recovery and progress for the Sydney University Wakeboard Club (USYDWake), marking a resilient resurgence following the challenging backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic and adverse weather events.**

Despite initial setbacks, the Club persevered, demonstrating remarkable adaptability and determination. Throughout the year, there was successful expansion on operational capacity, hosting ride days and orchestrating engaging weekend events. This concerted effort not only revitalised the Club's activities but also catalysed a renewed interest and enthusiasm among students and the community.

Welcome week was a success for the Club, with a total of 87 sign-ups over the course of two days. This remarkable turnout not only signifies a strong interest in USYDWake, but also reflects the dedication and hard work put forth by the committee members. Grace & Hector, both students at the University, have been a great help in supporting the Club president & Treasurer during the Welcome Fest period.

The annual New Member Camp was a total blast once again! Welcoming a full house, new members had a great time trying wakeboarding and wakesurfing for the first time. By the end of it all, everyone was wiped out, but everyone had a big smile on their face.

The Club trip to Burrinjuck Dam was an absolute hit, with tickets selling out in no time. Over three unforgettable days, members soaked up the sun and had a blast participating in various activities both on and off the water. From thrilling daytime adventures to lively evening gatherings, the trip was packed with non-stop fun and excitement. Whether it was cruising on the dam, trying out water sports, or simply enjoying the camaraderie of fellow members, everyone had a fantastic time.

The committee attended the Sydney International Boat Show with the dual purpose of maintaining a strong relationship with trusted boat partner, Nautique Central, and exploring potential options for acquiring a new boat. This outing served as a fantastic opportunity to not only reinforce the ongoing partnership but also to demonstrate the unwavering commitment to providing top-notch equipment for the Club. Additionally, the event brought the committee members together, fostering team bonding.

In July, the annual general meeting of USYDWake marked a transition as a partly new committee was elected into office. Together, the experienced and new committee members are working hand in hand, with the former providing invaluable guidance and the latter eagerly learning the ropes. This collaborative effort ensures the continued operation and success of USYDWake.

The Club is buzzing with excitement over the acquisition of a new boat. Huge shout out to Andrew Dodds, our former President and current Club Captain, for making this dream a reality. With immense gratitude, we bid farewell to our beloved Super Air Nautique 210 and warmly welcome the Supreme S220 to our fleet. Big thanks to Andrew, the generous donors, and all the committee members who helped to make this happen. Riding on the new Supreme S220 has been an absolute blast, equipped with all the essential tools to take the riding experience to the next level.

Tim Wakeling, former President and current senior boat Captain hosted a driver clinic in August with 11 new and existing boat drivers for the Club. Open to any member holding a valid boat driver's license, this full-day event provided invaluable insights into the intricacies of running the Club. Participants had the opportunity to learn about driver responsibilities, safety management protocols, club rules, and gain knowledge about navigating the Hawkesbury River. With Tim's wealth of experience, attendees received firsthand guidance and practical driving practice, ensuring they left with valuable lessons and newfound confidence to uphold safety standards and enhance the Club's operations on the water.

Chad and Justin are currently undergoing intensive training to become the next boat Captains for USYDWake. Recognising the importance of safety on the water, the experienced captains have made it their mission to upskill the next generation of leaders, ensuring that they are well-prepared and equipped to navigate the water safely. Through hands-on instruction and mentorship, Chad and Justin are acquiring the necessary knowledge and skills to confidently take on the responsibilities of boat captains. Their commitment to this training reflects not only their passion for the sport but also their dedication to upholding the highest standards of safety within USYDWake.

USYDWake is excited for what's in store and can't wait to see student & community members alike at one of our events.

Catch you on the water!

## THE USYDWAKE COMMITTEE

# WATER POLO

**Another season where the Club performed at a high level across senior and junior grades. Many thanks to all Club members and sponsors; SUSF, KAP7 WATER POLO and PROSOURCE.**

- Australian Water Polo League;
  - Club Champions
  - 1st Place – Women
  - 2nd Place – Men
- FISU World University Games (Chengdu, China) – 3rd Place – Women Syd Uni / UniRoos Team
- UniSport Nationals – Both Men and Women won silver
- Australian Youth Club Championships (Perth)
  - Strongest Club – six medal places out of 10 teams
  - Men – Top 3 in every age group we competed
  - Men – 1st Place at U18, 3rd place & 16th place at U16, 1st place at U14, 3rd place at U14B, 2nd place at U12
  - Women – 5th Place at U18, 6th Place at U16, 1st Place at U16B, 8th Place at U14
- NSW State Age Championships
  - Col Smee U22's – Men 1st Place / Women 2nd Place
  - Men: 1st Place at U18, 2nd place at U16 and U14
- Women: 2nd Place at U18
- WPNSW Sydney Metropolitan Competition
  - 1st Place (Champions) – M1, M2, W2, W6B, M16, M14
  - 2nd Place – W2, M3 (PSO), M7, W18
  - Winter: 1st Place in M6 & W7
  - Juniors: 10 teams in Grand Finals
- Australian team representatives
  - Australia Men: Tom McJannett, Chaz Poot, Jacob Mercep, Andrej Grgurevic, Luka Krstic
  - Australia Women: Tilly Kearns, Sienna Green, Keesja Gofers, Alexi Lambert
  - New Zealand Men: Keegan Wicken, Jo Schuler
  - Multiple selections in Junior representative teams including several who travelled internationally in Australia Junior teams competing in World Champs in various locations in Europe.

The legal merger of the Sydney Uni Men's Club (est. 1947) and Sydney University Women's Club (est. 1957) was finally confirmed, having been voted on and approved unanimously at the Special General Meeting held in October, meaning the two Club's will formally be operating under the single incorporated name 'Sydney University Water Polo Club Inc'. A proud and historic moment for the future of the Club.

**ANTHONY GREEN**  
**PRESIDENT**



# WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

## ON THE COURT

In 2023 the Sydney University Flames Wheelchair Basketball Club (Flames) were Minor Premiers in the National competition, and narrowly missed out on Gold at the Women's National Wheelchair Basketball League (WNWBL) finals, where they took home silver in a match that ended 46-40. The Final saw Annabelle Lindsay scoring a great double-double of 18 points and 20 rebounds, Brodie Palmer 8, Hannah Dodd 6, Issy Martin 4, Liesl Tesch 4 and 12 rebounds. Hannah Dodd then backed up for the RollerHawks in the NWBL gold medal game as well, where they also won silver.

The Flames competed as a team and/or had team members in the annual National Club tournaments – SLAM Down Under in NSW and Spinners Sunnycoast tournament in Queensland. The Club also entered teams and/or combined into teams in the State Club Championship, Club Challenges, and the Wheelchair Waratah League as well as having a number of players selected in representative teams for NSW and Australia.

Another highlight for 2023, was the Club running the HERSport Festivals with Wheelchair Sports NSW (WSNSW) at the Narrabeen Academy of Sport, with Flames athletes participating in the event, and the senior Flames players captaining and mentoring the teams.

Throughout the year, the Club continued with regular SSAF funded weekly training sessions through 2023 – at the Sydney University courts for all team members – with regional athletes joining in and training when they can too (usually at least once a month). The SSAF Funding supports our Access Sport Program to cover weekly training sessions on the University courts, coaches, competing in local and national competitions, etc.

## INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Hannah Dodd won silver at the Commonwealth Games with the Australian team.
- Up and coming Junior, Breanna played in the Osaka Cup.
- Hannah Dodd, Issy Martin, and Breanna Fisk, Brodie Palmer, Jess Cronje and Georgia Munro-Cook represented Australia against USA and Canada for the 2023 NWBA Rocky Mountain Showdown.
- Hannah has since been appointed Australian Captain.
- Hannah, Steph, Issy, Breanna, Aaliyah, Jess and Georgia again be selected for the Australian Gliders.
- Breanna and Aaliyah selected in the NSW Juniors squads and the Australian Women's Devils and Gliders Squads.
- Breanna, Aaliyah and Issy selected in the Australian Devils U25 team for the IWBFF Women's U25 World Championships.
- Brodie and Steph selected as NSW Coaches.
- Annabelle and Brodie selected for Australian Coaching camps at AIS.
- Brodie selected for U25 Devils and Australian Gliders coaching role.
- The incredible Liesl Tesch continued her excellent work in the NSW Parliament as the member for Gosford, and of course

being elevated to Legend Status in the Basketball NSW Hall of Fame.

- Hannah is playing the off-season in Europe with her Italian team, the team were Eurocup 3 group stage winners and Hannah was awarded the Allstar 5. She is planning to play professionally in Germany in 2024 around Australian and Flames commitments.

## OFF COURT

The Club is currently in negotiations with all the National League teams (men and women) and Basketball Australia for National level competitions planned for next year and are looking forward to an exciting year in 2024, with regular training sessions, local – Club Challenges, state – Waratah League, HERSport Festivals and Illawarra and Sunnycoast Festivals, and national competitions (WNWBL and NWBL), and with young players improving and being noticed for representative teams, along with the more experienced players training hard for Australian team selection for Asia-Oceania Paralympic Qualifiers, Osaka Cup & hopefully the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

The Club has an active social media presence on Facebook and Twitter with team and athlete accounts. Last year the Club used the SUSF livestream account for the first time for our home round of WNWBL – to great success, with brilliant stats both for live streaming, and then numbers of people coming back to watch later in the season. The aim is to do this again next year with National League home rounds.

SUSF and WSNSW/ACT have worked with the Flames to secure chairs and storage space at the courts where training takes place, this is a massive deal to the club as it allows the majority who do not have a basketball chair to come and join in for training and activities. It will allow the Club to publicise training sessions, encourage more students, staff and community members to join, and run more sessions for the university community. There is a planned “re-launch” of the training hub in early 2024.

## CONCLUSION

To summarise, the Club has adjusted to COVID-19 and socio-economic pressures on students and athletes – growing the base and finding different ways to reach the community and has had a very successful 2023. The aim is for an even stronger 2024, however, the Club is aware of the rising costs of participating in the WNWBL, and are looking at ways to address this with members making good in-roads with potential supporters, negotiating options with BA and the other teams, and the hope is to do more with the assistance of SUSF and Sydney Uni. The Flames hopes to again secure the regular training sessions at the university and run programs to involve more of the University community, as well as the broader community in 2024, especially with permanent access to chairs at the university courts.

**SARAH STEWART**  
**PRESIDENT**

# WRESTLING & GRAPPLING

**The Sydney University Wrestling and Grappling Club had a very successful year in 2023, in developing and promoting our sport. The Club has a healthy membership list of nearly 200 people, with many strong athletes from around Sydney, and indeed around the world.**



We aim for every training session to be accessible to absolute beginners while also offering value to competition-level athletes. This is a difficult balance, but by keeping the focus on the sport we love and trying to spread it to as many people as possible, it seems we are doing very well at achieving our aim. Our freestyle Head Coach, and Club Founder, Leonid Zaslavsky leads the way in this regard (and many other regards as well).

The year started with a very successful O-week, where we brought mats from SUSF and demonstrated various wrestling holds and manoeuvres for interested students. Everyone involved had a lot of fun, and I personally saw many faces from O-week turn up in the training room throughout the year.

While we are not a competition-focused club, we have athletes that compete, and they did well in 2023. One standout was Sheng Zhang who took a silver at the Oceania games in Greco and is training for the upcoming Olympic qualifiers. We also had a strong showing at the Super Series in freestyle and beach wrestling.

Our Tuesday night Greco training continues to be very popular, led entirely by the Head Coach Yassine, who is much loved amongst club members.

The MMA program, led by Ricardo Berandi, is doing very well with a lot of interest from dedicated athletes who train diligently in the various disciplines needed (striking, wrestling, grappling).

The Sunday morning jiu-jitsu program, whose Head Coach is Clayton, is also thriving and very popular.

Unfortunately, in December 2023, long standing member and former youth Coach, Martin Doyle moved to the UK with his family. Martin brought a lot of joy to the Club, and his presence will be missed. We currently do not have a youth coach, and so are not offering youth classes.

We plan to build on last year's success and make 2024 an even stronger year for the Club, with hopes of organising a tournament near the year's end to showcase our skills, test them against the best competition we can find, and inspire others!

**JESSE BURKE**  
**PRESIDENT**

# HONOURS & TRADITIONS

## SPORTS AWARDS FOR 2022

### Vice-Chancellor's Participation Program of the Year

Learn to Play Lunchtime Volleyball

### Pat Sharp Female Club Administrator of the Year

Allysa Lowe – Cheerleading

### Rosenblum Male Club Administrator of the Year

Harry Croker – Rugby League

### Professional Club Administrator of the Year

Kirsty Stevens – Football (Rugby Union)

### Couch of the Year

Tim Spehr – Aussie Rules

### Professionally Administered Club Coach of the Year

Emily Husband – Soccer

### Club of the Year

Netball

### Professionally Administered Club of the Year

Rugby Union

### Sportsman of the Year

Jackson Kench & Will O'Shannessey – Rowing

### Sportswoman of the Year

Tara Rigney – Rowing

## GOLD RECIPIENTS

The University Gold is awarded in recognition of outstanding services by an individual to a constituent club or to the Sydney University Sport over a minimum of 7 years. Gold for 2023 were presented to:

- Graeme Fowler – Rugby League
- Myles Fowler – Rugby League
- Immanuel Green – Gymnastics
- Liz Hawtin – Aussie Rules
- Troy Isidro – Football (Rugby Union)
- Mitchell Liddle – Baseball
- Leonie Lum – SUSF
- David Pacey – SUSF
- Gillian Ragus – Athletics
- Maisie Squadrino – Soccer

## BLUE RECIPIENTS

The Blue is the highest sporting honour awarded at the University of Sydney. It is awarded annually for outstanding performance in a sport. Blues for 2023 were awarded to:

- Ben Bishop – Athletics
- Mia Baggett – Netball
- Elizabeth Bolster – Rowing
- Zoe Bond – Rowing
- Daniel Botha – Football (Rugby Union)
- Tiffany Botha – Rowing
- Reyer Carpenter – Ultimate Frisbee
- Margaux Chauvet – Soccer
- Declan Ellis – Canoe Kayak
- Will Freyer – Athletics
- Elizabeth Gan – Swimming
- Thomas Garlepp – Basketball
- Alexandra Harrison – Athletics
- Evelyn Haseldine – Sailing
- Savannah Henshaw – Water Polo
- Jack Hildebrand – Sailing
- Meg Jefferson – Basketball
- Rachel Jeffs – Touch Football
- Alex Kayrouz – Basketball
- Amelia Kirgan Netball
- Tyler Krenkels – Water Polo
- Austin Little – Athletics
- Alyssa Lowe – Athletics
- Zoe McKellar – Rowing
- Stefanie Preller – Rowing
- Lachlan Reeve – Wrestling
- Loui Schuler – Water Polo
- Chandler Skelton – Basketball
- Mitch Smith – Basketball
- Sophia Varley – Soccer
- Isabellah Walker – Athletics
- Emily Watts – Cycling
- Jason Welmer – Netball
- Sophia Wightman – Rowing
- Holly Wills – Basketball
- Mikey Yoong – Basketball

# HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

J Bartlett

J D Brockhoff

B Campbell

J A V Castle

V J Chalwin

M P Cunningham

S Donald

Prof. A J Dunston

D Fanning

N Farr-Jones AM

G Fulton

P Geidans

P C Greenland

G M Harris

I Harrison

J Jacobs

J Kardoss

J P Kean

K A Leonard

H G McCreddie

P Mcgirr

D S Maclennan

Prof. N D Martin

F H Masters

R V Minnett

H A Mitchell

C G Noel

M O'Sullivan

I Parsons

S Pratt

M Rosenblum

B W Ross

Dr A W Bourke

P Sharp

R R Sharpe

R Smithies

J B Spence

J Spring AM

G P Stuckey

S H Suhan

J Thom

A Titterton

P Titterton OAM

I Trent

Prof B R Williams

C Wilson







# SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

**Sporting scholarships are synonymous with the remarkable achievements of Sydney University student athletes, teams, and clubs. They are an integral part of Sydney University's traditions and success in all of its sporting endeavours.**

Our sporting scholarships are primarily subsidised by Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness' commercial operations, but as insurance against

such funds not being available, we encourage individual and corporate benefactors to support perpetually named sporting scholarships. These scholarships are the first ones to be honoured if, for some reason, sufficient SUSF commercial revenue is not available to subsidise the Elite Athlete Program and the 300+ scholarships awarded annually by SUSF. At the end of 2023 there were 47 perpetually named sporting scholarships. New scholarships for 2023 included the the Dick Barnard Scholarship, the Ian White Scholarship, the Richard W Quinn Scholarship, the Tommy Woudwyk Scholarship and the Vance Borland Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP	DONOR
Adam Spencer Scholarship	Mr Adam Spencer
Aleksandra Pozder Scholarship	Ms Aleksandra Pozder
Allan Kendall Scholarship	The Late Mr Allan Kendall
Blue & Gold Club Scholarship 1	'Blue & Gold' Club
Blue & Gold Club Scholarship 2	'Blue & Gold' Club
Blues Association Scholarship 1	Sydney University Blues Association
Blues Association Scholarship 2	Sydney University Blues Association
Blues Association Scholarship 3	Sydney University Blues Association
Brian Fitzpatrick Scholarship	Brian Fitzpatrick
Bruce Ross Scholarship 1	Family and friends of Bruce Ross
Bruce Ross Scholarship 2	Family and friends of Bruce Ross
Buildcorp Scholarship	Mr Tony and Mrs Josephine Sukkar AM
BUPA Scholarship 1	BUPA
BUPA Scholarship 2	BUPA
BUPA Scholarship 3	BUPA
Collins / Peasley Scholarship	Mr David and Mrs Cheryl Collins (nee Peasley)
CommBank Scholarship	CommBank
Corlett Family Scholarship	Mrs A Corlett AM & Mr RB Corlett AM
David Chadwick Scholarship	Family and friends of Dave Chadwick
David Hynes Scholarship	Family and friends of David Hynes
Dick Barnard Scholarship	Richard Barnard
Elsie Harris Scholarship	Dr Margaret Tyrrell
Enrizen Scholarship	Enrizen
Gavin Brown AO Scholarship	Friends of Gavin Brown

SCHOLARSHIP	DONOR
Harvey Gordon Scholarship	Family and friends of Harvey Gordon
Ian White Scholarship	Brian and Christopher White
Jack Pross OAM Scholarship	Mr Gordon and Mrs Christine Windeyer
Jane Spring Scholarship	Sydney University Boat Club
Jenny Lawler Scholarship	The Late Jenny Lawler and Friends of
Kaye Denning AM Scholarship	The Late Ms Kaye Denning AM
Michael Luciano Scholarship	Michael Luciano
Mick O' Sullivan Scholarship	Family and friends of Mick O'Sullivan
Mollie Dive OAM Scholarship	Dr Margaret Tyrrell
Mollie Dive OAM Scholarship	Dr Margaret Tyrrell
Philip Rundle Scholarship	Family of The Late Dr Philip Rundle
Ralph's Café / Panebianco Scholarship	Mr Ralph (The Late) and Mrs Rose Panebianco
Ray Hyslop OAM Scholarship	Dr Ray Hyslop (The Late)
RC Mesley Scholarship	Family and friends of RC Mesley
Richard W Quinn Scholarship	Friends of Richard W Quinn
Robert Smithies Scholarship	Family and friends of Mr Robert Smithies
Rodney Tubbs Scholarship	Mr Rod and Mrs Margie Tubbs
Ron & Jennie Finlay Scholarship	Family and friends of Ron & Jennie Finlay
Ron Rushbrooke Scholarship	Family and friends of The Late Ron Rushbrooke
Ross Brown AM Scholarship	Mr Ross Brown AM
Tommy Woudwyk Scholarship	Thomas Woudwyk
Warrick Segal Scholarship	Mr John and Mrs Joan Segal
Vance Borland Scholarship	Mr Vance Borland

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## NAMED SCHOLARSHIP

### Adam Spencer

Hannah Jones Soccer

### Aleksandra Pozder

Mackenzie Little Athletics

### Allan Kendall

Alexandra Bozovic Tennis

### Blue & Gold Club

William Martin Rugby

Emily Watts Cycling

### Blues Association

Thomas Hay Swimming

Emily Sheppard Rowing

Matthew Wachter Basketball

### Brian Fitzpatrick

Sorita Pho Hockey

### Bruce Ross

Hugh McAdam Snow Sports

Erin Shaw Athletics

### Buildcorp

Alex O'Reilly Rugby

### BUPA

Hamish Danks Rowing

Connor Murphy Athletics

Layla Riley Hockey

### Collins/Peasley

Rohan Browning Athletics

### CommBank

Rae Anderson Soccer

### Corlett Family

Matilda Offord Triathlon

### David Chadwick

Dominic Wesbury Rugby League

### Elsie Harris

Belinda Ji Golf

### Enrizen

Loui Schuler Water Polo

### Gavin Brown AO

Daniel Botha Rugby

### Harvey Gordon

Matthew Dyster Aussie Rules

### Ian White

Ben Bishop Athletics

### Jack Pross OAM

Lachlan Townsend Athletics

### Jane Spring

Zoe Bond Rowing

### Jenny Lawler

Sofia Hurley Aussie Rules

### Kaye Denning AM

Alexandra Bozovic Tennis

### Michael Luciano

Jackson Fredericks Soccer

### Mick O'Sullivan

Ryan McElduff Cricket

### Mollie Dive OAM (Cricket)

Isabelle Afaras Cricket

### Mollie Dive OAM (Hockey)

Kendelle Tait Hockey

### Philip Rundle

Kailyn Joseph Athletics

### Ralph's Cafe/Panebianco

Carla Pitman Basketball

### Ray Hyslop OAM

Anna Hunt Soccer

### RC Mesley

Jordan Gauci Cricket

### Richard W Quinn

Daisy George Aussie Rules

### Robert Smithies

Christopher Ius Athletics

### Rodney Tubbs

Oscar Davis Aussie Rules

### Ron Rushbrooke

Jeffrey Siemms Baseball

### Tommy Woudwyk

Toby Goldschmidt Water Polo

### Vance Borland

Yixin Mao Baseball

### Warrick Segal Memorial

Poppy Tay Soccer

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY ACADEMIC AWARDS

### Vice Chancellor's Award for Academic & Sporting Excellence

Angus Clark	Athletics
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Mackenzie Little	Athletics
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### Senate Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement (School Leavers)

Georgia Fichardt	Athletics
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Jack Greaves	Athletics
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### Senate Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

Elouise Bacon	Equestrian
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Nathan Battaglia	Aussie Rules
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Alexandra Bozovic	Tennis
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Darcy Creagh	Rugby
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Lucinda Gillis	Water Polo
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Dominique Goddard	Aussie Rules
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Hannah Jones	Soccer
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Annabel Martin	Soccer
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Lucy Mauviel	Athletics
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Georgia Stewart	Snowsports
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## JOINT SCHOLARSHIPS BUSINESS SCHOOL

### Undergraduate

Sophie Boden	Swimming
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Izac Carracher	Beach Volleyball
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Genevieve Gilarski	Fencing
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Belinda Ji	Golf
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Yanni Plataniotis	Soccer
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Tara Rigney	Rowing
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Timothy Sanki	Athletics
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Henry Snyman	Cricket
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Nathan Tang	Aussie Rules
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### Postgraduate

Michaela Haet	Tennis
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Luke Ratcliff	Rugby
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Andrew Sierakowski	Aussie Rules
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## JOINT SCHOLARSHIPS RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES

### St. Andrew's College

Oscar Beregi	Rowing
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Jude Blair	Rugby
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Darcy Creagh	Rugby
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Georgia Fichardt	Athletics
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Jackson Fredericks	Soccer
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Thomas Grimmond	Water Polo
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Sofia Hurley	Aussie Rules
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Angus Jones	Aussie Rules
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Tyler Krenkels	Water Polo
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Felix Leahy	Rowing
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Jack Lynch	Athletics
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Tom Morrison	Rugby
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Connor Murphy	Athletics
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Sorita Pho	Hockey
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Harrison Podmore Taylor	Aussie Rules
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Laura Roderick	Athletics
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Isaac Rumble	Rugby
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Timothy Sekel	Rugby
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Henry Snyman	Cricket
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Jackson Stiel	Rugby
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### St. John's College

Jullien Caillol	Rugby
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Bryn Edwards	Rugby
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Roko Knott	Rugby
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William Martin	Rugby
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Arnold Tancred	Rugby
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### The Womens College

Emily Gubbins	Equestrian
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Sally Guthrie	Athletics
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Lauren Thomas	Netball
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### Wesley College

Phoebe Cox	Hockey
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Thomas Hay	Swimming
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Imogen Hicks	Water Polo
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Cole Johns	Water Polo
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Loui Schuler	Water Polo
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Jason Welmer	Netball
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# SCHOLARSHIPS

## GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Lucinda Alder	Athletics
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Joseph Ayoade	Athletics
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Julia Baxter	Athletics
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Emma Blanch	Athletics
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Elysha Cramer	Athletics
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Mia Economou	Athletics
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Hayden Fleming	Athletics
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William Freyer	Athletics
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Sebastian Ghisso	Athletics
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Sophie Gocher	Athletics
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Alexandra Harrison	Athletics
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Emma Klasen	Athletics
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James Kotis	Athletics
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Austin Little	Athletics
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Alyssa Lowe	Athletics
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Charlotte McGill	Athletics
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Damien Mizzi	Athletics
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Allanah Pitcher	Athletics
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Helen Pretorius	Athletics
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Ethan Quintana	Athletics
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Caitlin Shepperson	Athletics
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Kane Shields	Athletics
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Jonathan Titmarsh	Athletics
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Thomas Tucker	Athletics
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Isabellah Walker	Athletics
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Nicola Barr	Aussie Rules
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Max Bylsma	Aussie Rules
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William Clark	Aussie Rules
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Sahara Elfar	Aussie Rules
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William Gibbs	Aussie Rules
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Zara Hamilton	Aussie Rules
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Cameron McLean	Aussie Rules
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Keiley Mead	Aussie Rules
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Jay Tang	Aussie Rules
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Harry Whitaker	Aussie Rules
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Rio Agustino	Badminton
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Steven Lin	Badminton
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Campbell Green	Basketball
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Meg Jefferson	Basketball
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Alexandra Kayrouz	Basketball
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Robert Moore	Basketball
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Joshua Pain	Basketball
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Chandler Skelton	Basketball
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Mitch Smith	Basketball
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Inez Tanoi	Basketball
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Sarah Wacher	Basketball
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Lauryn Walker	Basketball
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Holly Wills	Basketball
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Michael Yoong	Basketball
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Ali Bajwa	Cricket
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Thomas Lynch	Cricket
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Darcy Manners	Cricket
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Ravi Wikramanayake	Cricket
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Andre Dubier	Cycling
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Colin Chen	Fencing
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Violet Hull	Fencing
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Emily Principe	Fencing
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Yoshiki Imamura	Golf
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Yerin Kim	Golf
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Max Brookes	Handball
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Lon Ji Justin Lee	Handball
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Alejandro Pena Gonzalez	Handball
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Stella Sevilla Chinchilla	Handball
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Darcey Babbage	Hockey
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Rashil Jetley	Hockey
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Claudia Johnston	Hockey
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Taeke Tensen	Hockey
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Richard Basckin	Karate
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# SCHOLARSHIPS

Eric Bessiris	Karate
Jonathan Freund	Karate
Charles Amos	Netball
Mia Baggett	Netball
Abbey Baker	Netball
Ella Daniel	Netball
Jemma Donoghue	Netball
Ella Johnson	Netball
Amelia Kirgan	Netball
Taylah Kiss	Netball
Jamie Podmore Taylor	Netball
Natalie Sligar	Netball
Thomas Anderson	Rowing
Elizabeth Bolster	Rowing
Tiffany Botha	Rowing
Sam Bristow	Rowing
Lucy Coleman	Rowing
Jaime Ford	Rowing
Nicola Greenland	Rowing
Jackson Kench	Rowing
Zoe McKellar	Rowing
Ella Mentzines	Rowing
Hayden Mounter	Rowing
Olivia Nattey	Rowing
Edward Nutt	Rowing
William O'Shannessy	Rowing
Stefanie Preller	Rowing
Grace Turner	Rowing
Madeline Vagg	Rowing
Sophia Wightman	Rowing
Samuel Allsopp	Rugby
Angus Bell	Rugby
Hugh Bell	Rugby
Darcy Breen	Rugby
Bo Burton	Rugby

Tamsyn Cairns	Rugby
Archie Campbell	Rugby
Jamie Clark	Rugby
George Coates	Rugby
Felipe Cordoba	Rugby
Hamish Cressey	Rugby
Harry Davis	Rugby
Piper Duck	Rugby
Jonathon Feilen	Rugby
Darcy Fogarty	Rugby
Sean Hasegawa	Rugby
Niraaya Jayasinghe	Rugby
Tupou Veiongo Lamipeti	Rugby
Kepueli Malipolo Tuakifalelei Manukia	Rugby
Jemima Mccalman	Rugby
Charles Murray	Rugby
Henry Murray	Rugby
Daniel Nelson	Rugby
Claudia Nielsen	Rugby
Oscar Ortolani	Rugby
Ted Pearson	Rugby
Kalani Pilcher	Rugby
George Poolman	Rugby
Liam Postlethwaite	Rugby
Jacob Ratcliff	Rugby
Kai Roberts	Rugby
Tasman Smith	Rugby
Jack Sproats	Rugby
Theo Strang	Rugby
Jaimie Studdy	Rugby
Lachlan Thorpe	Rugby
Aidan Wearne	Rugby
Bridget Conrad	Sailing
Hugo Darin	Sailing
Dervla Duggan	Sailing

# SCHOLARSHIPS

Evelyn Haseldine	Sailing
Otto Henry	Sailing
Jack Hildebrand	Sailing
Madeleine McLeay	Sailing
Virginia Biella	Snowsports
Phoebe Cridland	Snowsports
Jacqueline Davis	Snowsports
Vincent de Souza	Snowsports
Nico Anstee	Soccer
Margaux Chauvet	Soccer
Torah Christie	Soccer
Aiden Daneshzand	Soccer
Amelia Feeney	Soccer
Isaac Folkes	Soccer
Bianca Galic	Soccer
Charlotte Hampshire	Soccer
Jay Hirschowitz	Soccer
Chelsea Hromek	Soccer
Emma Ilijoski	Soccer
Taren King	Soccer
Jung Woo Lee	Soccer
Rachel Lowe	Soccer
Olivia Lysiak	Soccer
Rory Magee-Billson	Soccer
Thomas McCoubrie	Soccer
Lawson Moore	Soccer
Jordan Polyzos	Soccer
William Prescott	Soccer
Cushla Rue	Soccer
Liam Skender	Soccer
Katherine Stanbridge	Soccer
Katherine Tyo	Soccer
Sophia Varley	Soccer
Lucia White	Soccer
Lachlan Whitehead	Soccer

Lucas Woods	Soccer
Robert Palmer	Squash
Aidan Dow	Swimming
Elizabeth Gan	Swimming
Yousief Hassan	Swimming
Andrew Lei	Swimming
Poppy Richards	Swimming
Finley Roddis	Swimming
Frances Smith	Swimming
Grace Bruce	Tennis
Ella Fraser	Tennis
Paul Howe	Tennis
James Ibrahim	Tennis
Charlie Pade	Tennis
Rachel Jeffs	Touch Football
Chloe Bateup	Triathlon
Aaron Kiss	Triathlon
Panagiotis Fountotos	Volleyball
Cheng Hou Ho	Volleyball
Ian Palmer	Volleyball
Henry Sindel	Volleyball
Cassandra Clark	Water Polo
Phoebe Cummins	Water Polo
Emily Fitzgerald	Water Polo
Mia Glasel	Water Polo
Hamish Hegarty	Water Polo
Savannah Henshaw	Water Polo
Belle Humby	Water Polo
Thomas Oates	Water Polo
George Pal	Water Polo
Victoria Ridhalgh	Water Polo
William Smith	Water Polo
Jessica Xu	Water Polo
Ricky Huang	Weightlifting

MIRAGE





**Sydney Uni**  
SPORT & FITNESS

# CONCISE ANNUAL REPORT DECEMBER 2023

ABN 45 634 542 644

The concise annual report is an extract from the full annual report of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited. The annual report and specific disclosures included in the concise annual report have been derived from the full annual report of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited and cannot be expected to provide a comprehensive understanding of the financial performance, financial position

and financing and investing activities of the company compared to the full annual report.

Further financial information can be obtained from Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited full annual report, a copy of which, including the independent audit report, is available on our website [www.susf.com.au](http://www.susf.com.au).



**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your directors present this report on the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

## DIRECTORS

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

- Jane Spring AM, (Appointed Chair 1 January 2024)
- David Mortimer AO, Chair (resigned 31 December 2023)
- Simone Whetton, Deputy Chair
- Kirsten Thomson (resigned 27 March 2023)
- Warwick Lynch
- Mike Wiseman
- Sarah Verne (appointed 26 May 2023)
- Todd Stevenson (resigned 31 December 2023)
- Andrew Sierakowski
- Dyone Bettega (resigned 31 December 2023)
- Andrew Purchas OAM (appointed 1 January 2024)
- Milton Samios (appointed 1 January 2024)
- Lucy Mauviel (appointed 1 January 2024)

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the company during the financial year were to promote the health and wellbeing of members of The University of Sydney, members of Sydney University Clubs and the wider community.

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

## REVIEW AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The net surplus / (deficit) of the company for the financial year amounted to \$102,812, 2022 (\$1,269,356).

## OBJECTIVE

Both the short term and long-term objectives of the company are to promote the health and wellbeing of members of the University, and members of the Clubs and general communities through the provision of sport and recreational activities and facilities and through supporting activities and the Clubs.

## STRATEGY FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVE

To achieve this objective, the company aims to provide high quality sports and fitness programs and facilities to the University's students, alumni, staff and clubs as well as its local, national and (ever increasing) global communities. Achieving our goal, from the participation level through to the high-performance level, will help our members, whatever their social or cultural backgrounds, become the best possible versions of themselves both on and off the fields of play.

The company's strategy to reach its goal is to focus on three key roles as an Incubator, Aggregator and Promoter of sports programs for the University and wider Community across the four key areas of sport, infrastructure and sustainability, advancement, and finance.

## KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The company measures its own performance through the use of both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks. The benchmarks are used by the directors to assess the financial sustainability of the company and whether the company's short-term and long-term objectives are being achieved.

## DIVIDENDS

The company is limited by guarantee and is therefore precluded from distributing profits by way of dividend.

## EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO THE REPORTING DATE

The Directors are not aware of any matters or circumstances not otherwise dealt with in the Directors' Report or Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 that has significantly or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

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

## SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED

ABN 45 634 542 644

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

## THE DIRECTORS OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED AT ANY TIME DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR ARE:

Name and Qualifications	Experience and Special Responsibilities
<p><b>JANE SPRING AM</b>  <i>B Ed (Hons), LLB, MPA (USyd), FAICD, FGIA</i></p>	<p>Jane Spring was appointed Chair of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited on 1 January 2024.</p> <p>Jane completed a Bachelor of Economics degree graduating with Honours and a Law degree at The University of Sydney. Jane subsequently completed a Master of Public Administration and graduated with Merit. Ms Spring represented the University in both skiing and rowing, was Sportswoman of the Year for the University in 1990 and was also awarded both Blue and Gold Awards for Rowing. Jane was President of the Women's Rowing Club from 1986 to 2010 and was Vice President of the Women's Sport Association while a student. Ms Spring is an Honorary Life Member of the Boat Club, Sydney University Sports and Fitness and of the University of Sydney Union. Jane has also represented NSW in Wheelchair Basketball.</p> <p>Jane is Chair of Australia's Disability Advisory Council; Chair of Disability Council NSW; Chair of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited; and a board member of Venues NSW and of Royal Rehab. Jane is Vice President of the NSW Institute of Public Administration and a member of Chief Executive Women. Jane is also Co-Chapter Lead NSW of Minerva Network; responsible for the Maybanke Fund which is a charity within the Sydney Community Foundation; and a member of the NSW Office of Sport Audit &amp; Risk Committee.</p> <p>Previous non-executive roles include University of Sydney Senate, Western Sydney Local Health District, Paraplegic Benefit Fund, Combat Sport Authority and Wheelchair Sports Australia.</p> <p>Recent executive roles include Assistant Commissioner NSW Public Service Commission, Deputy CEO of Jobs for NSW and Acting CEO, NSW Institute of Sport. Jane has degrees in Economics (Honours), Law and a Master's in Public Administration; is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors; Fellow of the Governance Institute, an Honorary Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration; and an Honorary Fellow of The University of Sydney.</p>
<p><b>DAVID MORTIMER AO</b>  <i>B Ec (Hon) FCPA, FAICD</i></p>	<p>David Mortimer was Chair of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited until he resigned as a director on 31 December 2023. David Mortimer completed a Bachelor of Economics degree at The University of Sydney graduating with First Class Honours. David Mortimer has had a career spanning 45 years in the banking, finance and transport industry, both in Australia and the United States. He joined TNT Limited in 1973 becoming Chief Financial Officer and a Director of the company in 1985. In September 1992, Mr Mortimer was appointed Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the TNT Limited worldwide group. David resigned in September 1997 following the sale of the TNT group.</p> <p>In November 1996, Mr Mortimer was appointed by the Federal Government to conduct a review of Business Programs that resulted in "The Mortimer Report".</p> <p>In 2005 Mr Mortimer was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia.</p> <p>In 2010 Mr. Mortimer was appointed a Fellow of The University of Sydney and was Chair of the University of Sydney Senate Investment and Commercialisation Committee until 2019. Mr. Mortimer is presently Chair of Mirage Land and Water Group.</p> <p>He was Chairman of Crescent Capital Partners for 17 years until his retirement at the end of 2017.</p> <p>Mr. Mortimer is Chairman of the Australian Schoolboys Rugby Foundation and the Sydney University Football Club Foundation. He was President of the Sydney University Football Club for 16 years until his retirement in 2016.</p> <p>In 2021, Mr Mortimer was awarded a Doctor of Business (honoris causa) and was a Pro Chancellor of the University until 2023.</p> <p>At Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited, Mr Mortimer was Chair of the Board, a member of the CEO Recruitment Committee, and the Finance Audit and Risk Committee.</p>

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**

ABN 45 634 542 644

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

**SIMONE WHETTON**

*B Ec LLB (University of Sydney), Diploma of Finance, corporate M&A partner, Colin Biggers & Paisley, Previous was at Clayton Utz. Associate Federal Court*

Simone completed a Bachelor of Economics/Law at The University of Sydney.

Simone is a partner at national law firm Colin Biggers & Paisley. She is a corporate lawyer and has practiced for over 20 years in corporate, commercial, M&A advising Australian and foreign companies on a range of corporate issues, across border transactions, as well as risk and governance issues for boards and management.

Simone holds a range of board positions, including Chair and Deputy Chair, across the arts and not for profit sector. Simone is currently the Chair of Sydney based physical theatre company Leg on the Wall. She is Deputy Chair of Griffin Theatre Company. Simone is a director of the German Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce where she heads the Policy Advisory Committee and is also a member of the Finance Committee.

Simone is Deputy Chair of the Sydney Eisteddfod and also a Director of Grata Fund.

Simone is a former Senate elected Director of the University of Sydney Union (2011 - 2016) and former Chair of Sydney's largest community radio station Radio 2RPH Limited.

Simone broadcasts every weekend on ABC local radio in Sydney and throughout New South Wales, interviewing guests in the arts sector.

At Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited, Simone is Chair of the Affiliation Agreement Subcommittee and is involved in other committees of the Board.

**WARWICK LYNCH**

*B Bus (Acct), Member Institute of Chartered Accountants*

Warwick Lynch has 35 years finance experience in professional accounting and commercial media companies with 15 years as a Chief Financial Officer of listed and Private Equity held businesses.

Warwick is a Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and has a Bachelor of Business degree, majoring in accounting. His work experience has been with Ernst & Young, Chrysalis PLC (a London based media company), Seven Network, Seven West Media and he is currently based in London as Group Chief Financial Officer of EMG / Gravity Media, an Outside Broadcast and Production business headquartered in France.

At Sydney University Sport & Fitness Limited Warwick is Chairman of the Finance Audit and Risk Committee.

**KIRSTEN THOMSON OLY**

*(resigned 27 March 2023)*

*Graduate Diploma in Sport Law, Melbourne University Law School  
Master of Marketing, Charles Sturt University  
Bachelor of Arts, University of Sydney*

Kirsten has extensive experience operating within the Australian sporting system across all spectrums of sport and recreation as an Olympic athlete and senior executive. Kirsten brings a unique perspective of understanding the needs and challenges of being an elite athlete, but also the experience necessary to drive strategy and organisational performance in highly regulated and complex stakeholder environments.

As a senior executive responsible for leading a corporate services division, Kirsten has a broad range of corporate knowledge and governance experience. Her current position as Director, Corporate and Communications at the NSW Institute of Sport oversees all corporate functions including People & Culture, Information Technology, Operations, Data Science, Marketing and Communications, and Financial Services. She has completed the Australian Institute of Company's Directors Course and has relevant experience on Boards and as the Chair of Sub Committees.

At Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited Kirsten was a member of the CEO Recruitment Committee.

**MIKE WISEMAN**

*Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Honours University of Sydney*

As an alumnus of The University of Sydney, 2x Sportsman of the Year, Blue of the Year and Sydney University Boat Club Life Member, Mike has over 20 years' experience in real-estate and has performed a number of roles at board level including Chair for real estate development joint ventures with major institutional partners and mixed-use Stratum/Strata Committees. Mike has experience with a range of different commercial structures, revenue structures and balancing the interests of multiple stakeholders. At Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited Mike is a member of the Affiliation Agreement Subcommittee and has provided assistance in the preparation of the Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited Strategy.

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

## **TODD STEVENSON**

*MBA, Diploma of Superannuation  
 (resigned 31 December 2023)*

24 years of financial services experience. Todd was most recently the Chief Customer Officer at CFS reporting directly to the CEO. He sat on the Senior Executive Leadership team where CFS manages \$150b for 1.1m Australians. As the CCO, he was responsible for customer growth, engagement and retention. This includes the design and execution of the end-to-end experience delivered to the 1.1 million individual customers of CFS. He was responsible for a team of 130 across the following teams: Marketing & Communications, Brand, Events, Corporate Affairs, Digital, Digital Advice, Design, Customer Experience, Data & Analytics, Complaints, Customer Advocacy & Vulnerable Customers. Assistance to the marketing side of the Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited 2021-2026 Strategy.

## **DYONE BETTEGA**

*Cert. Comm. (ASCA),  
 Prosecutor (2020),  
 AICD Foundations of Directorship Course  
 (resigned 31 December 2023)*

Dyone Bettega is a University of Sydney student currently completing her Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) majoring in anatomy & histology and Honours in pathology. In 2020, Dyone was a Sydney University subject tutor for Pathogenesis of Human Disease 2 (CPAT3202).

Dyone is a member of Sydney University Boat Club (SUBC) and was elected as SUBC Women's Captain in 2016 and, in 2018, she was appointed as Chair of the Events & Communications Subcommittee within SUBC. Both positions were held until 2021.

Dyone has represented the university at University Nationals from 2016-2019, captained the Sydney University Boat Race crew to its maiden victory in 2017 and again captained the crew to victory in 2018 and 2019. Dyone has also represented SUBC at the Trans Tasman regatta (New Zealand) and Royal Canadian Henley (Canada) and has competed at World Rowing Cup III (Lucerne, Switzerland, 2018), U23 World Rowing Championships (Poznan, Poland, 2018) and U23 World Rowing Championships (Sarasota, Florida, 2019). In 2017, Dyone was awarded a Sydney University Blue.

Dyone is also a current resident at St Andrew's College within The University of Sydney and was elected as Pastoral Care Leader in 2020 and 2021. She enjoys kick-starting new initiatives within the college and surrounding communities.

## **ANDREW SIERAKOWSKI**

*Bachelor of Commerce,  
 University of Sydney  
 MBA\*, University of Sydney  
 AICD Foundations of Directorship Course*

Andrew completed a Bachelor of Commerce and is currently completing his Master of Business Administration, both at The University of Sydney.

Outside of studies, Andrew has represented the University's AFL club for the past seven years as an active member of SUANFC since the U19's and the Sydney University elite athlete program.

Andrew has worked at Stan, Australia's local streaming service since 2016 rising to the role of Business Planning & Strategy Manager. Andrew has experience working on some of the financial business cases of some of Australia's largest sports rights deals and worked extensively on business planning, forecasting and strategy. At Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited Andrew currently acts as the male student director on the Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited board.

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**

ABN 45 634 542 644

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

**SARAH VERNE***BA (Hons) M Bus (Inter Mktg)**(appointed 26 May 2023)*

Sarah completed Bachelor of Arts, graduating with Honours in Psychology, at The University of Sydney, and holds a Master of Business in International Marketing from UTS. Before moving to the not-for-profit sector, Sarah had almost 20 years of consumer marketing experience with multinational companies Procter & Gamble, Coca-Cola and Weight Watchers across a variety of functions including Market Research, Brand Marketing, Sponsorship, New Product Development and Strategy.

Over the last decade Sarah has worked in both a volunteer and paid capacity with Lifeline.

Whilst a student she represented the university in Rowing and was a foundation member of the SU Social Skiers Society management committee (now SUBSKI) serving as President in its second year. She was also, uniquely at the time, the Secretary of the Men's Ski Club.

Sarah was a member of the SUWSA Management Committee, Executive Committee and was Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee for 5 years. She was also a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and Blues Committee. Sarah was awarded a dual Gold Award for service to the SUWSA and Rowing.

After a period of time living in Toronto, Canada, Sarah has returned to Sydney and is looking forward to reconnecting with the The University of Sydney community and bringing her marketing and strategic skills to the Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited Board.

**MILTON SAMIOS***BEC (University of Sydney)**(appointed 1 January 2024)*

Milton Samios completed a Bachelor of Economics at The University of Sydney.

Milton recently completed a 30 year career in Investment Banking. He started his journey at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, spent 7 years at Macquarie Bank, and then joined Investec Bank where he stayed for more than 20 years. His last role at Investec was CEO of Investec Australia Limited and Country Head for Investec Bank Plc (Australia Branch). Almost half of his career was spent overseas – principally in Malaysia, Hong Kong, the UK, and South Africa. Whilst a large part of his career was spent in derivative trading, for the last 10 years he has managed teams in Advisory, Corporate Lending, Property Funds, Resource Finance, Treasury, and Venture Capital. Milton was a director of Investec Australia Holdings and many of its subsidiaries. He was also chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee and was a member of its Credit, Investment, and Risk committees. He is now retired from banking and is focusing on NFPs and community initiatives.

**ANDREW PURCHAS OAM***BEC, LLB (USyd), Grad Dip PLT (UTS) GAICD**(appointed 1 January 2024)*

Andrew Purchas OAM completed a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Economics at The University of Sydney and was awarded a University of Sydney Blue for rowing.

Andrew has almost three decades of experience as a senior executive in technology, legal and financial services. Including Chief Security Officer – Westpac Banking Corporation, Commercial Director at HIVERY and Senior Associate with Corrs Chambers Westgarth. He has a number of board roles including, Vice President of ACON Health and chair of its finance and audit committee.

Andrew is founder of the Sydney Convicts Rugby Club, co-founder of the Pride in Sports Index and was President of the Bingham Cup Sydney 2014 and Chairman of International Gay Rugby.

**LUCY MAUVIEL***BSc (University of Sydney)**(appointed 1 January 2024)*

Lucy Mauviel completed a Bachelor of Science (Physiology) and is currently studying a Doctor of Medicine, both at The University of Sydney.

Lucy has been a member of the Sydney University Sport and Fitness Elite Athlete Program since 2020 and was awarded a Sydney Blues for Athletics in 2022, having competed in Athletics for over 10 years, four of which have been at the Sydney University Athletics Club. She is also involved in Sydney University Sport and Fitness social sports including Netball and Touch.

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Natalie Brown (BSc (Hons), LLB, GAICD) completed a Bachelor of Science in Applied Sports Science, graduating with Honours, from the University of Edinburgh, and a Law degree at The University of Sydney. She has held the role of Company Secretary of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited since the inception of the company in July 2019. Natalie has over 13 years' experience in the legal profession, specialising in-house at various sporting organisations.

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

## DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

The number of meetings of the company's Board of Directors ('the Board') and of each Board committee held during the year ended 31 December 2023, and the number of meetings attended by each director were:

Director	Board Meetings		Other Formal Meetings (Finance, Audit and Risk Committee)	
	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings held	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings held
David Mortimer AO	4	4	4	4
Simone Whetton	2	4	0	0
Warwick Lynch	3	4	4	4
Jane Spring AM	4	4	4	4
Sarah Verne	2	2	0	0
Mike Wiseman	4	4	0	0
Todd Stevenson	3	4	0	0
Dyone Bettega	4	4	0	0
Andrew Sierakowski	4	4	0	0
Kirsten Thomson	1	1	0	0

## CONTRIBUTIONS ON WINDING UP

The entity is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the company being wound up, ordinary members are required to contribute a maximum of \$2 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity.

At 31 December 2023, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up is \$84, (2022: \$84), based on 42 current ordinary members.

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out immediately after this directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors, pursuant to section 298(2)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the directors

### JANE SPRING AM



**DIRECTOR**

16 May 2024

Sydney

### WARWICK LYNCH



**DIRECTOR**

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED  
ABN 45 634 542 644

# AUDITORS INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION REPORT

**WilliamBuck**  
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

## Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001


### To the directors of Sydney University Sport and Fitness

As lead auditor for the audit of Sydney University Sport and Fitness for the year ended 31 December 2023, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of Sydney University Sport and Fitness and the entities it controlled during the year.

  
**William Buck**  
Accountants & Advisors  
ABN 16 021 300 521

  
**L. E. Tutt**  
Partner  
Sydney, 16 May 2024

Level 29, 66 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Level 7, 3 Horwood Place, Parramatta NSW 2150

+61 2 8263 4000

nsw.info@williambuck.com  
williambuck.com.au

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**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

The financial statements cover Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited functional and presentation currency.

Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited is a not-for-profit unlisted public company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business are:

### Registered office

Building G09  
Sydney University  
Darlington Road  
Sydney NSW 2006

### Principal place of business

Building G09  
Sydney University  
Darlington Road  
Sydney NSW 2006

A description of the nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are included in the directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 16 May 2024. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.



**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	NOTES	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	3	16,037,183	13,296,184
Other income	3	227,510	57,962
		<b>16,264,693</b>	<b>13,354,146</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits		8,876,509	8,034,330
Contractors		217,301	161,168
Club allotments		1,542,047	1,461,360
Student support services		617,198	567,298
University nationals competitions		430,394	463,148
Administration		476,802	400,383
Utilities		661,145	556,652
Professional services		90,347	181,057
Consumables & services		805,467	686,319
Maintenance		688,920	534,539
Marketing & publications		334,802	269,334
Venue hire & function costs		368,919	253,272
ICT costs		360,213	433,342
Finance costs		21,594	4,485
Bank charges		119,982	93,691
Bad debt expense		5,100	-45,835
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets		-7,574	-14,467
Depreciation		552,715	583,426
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>16,161,881</b>	<b>14,623,502</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) before income tax</b>		<b>102,812</b>	<b>(1,269,356)</b>
Income Tax expense		-	-
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) after income tax for the year attributable to the members of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited</b>		<b>102,812</b>	<b>(1,269,356)</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax:		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the year attributable to the members of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited</b>		<b>102,812</b>	<b>(1,269,356)</b>

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2023

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	6,372,092	5,400,217
Bruce Pryor Trust – deposits	6,676,763	6,348,505
Trade and other receivables	1,019,488	381,876
Other current assets	109,522	84,295
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>14,177,865</b>	<b>12,214,893</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	4,362,657	4,056,213
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>4,362,657</b>	<b>4,056,213</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>18,540,522</b>	<b>16,271,106</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	5,935,947	3,886,694
Bruce Pryor Trust liability	6,676,763	6,348,505
Employee benefits	762,774	752,905
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>13,375,484</b>	<b>10,988,104</b>
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>1,165,545</b>	<b>1,386,321</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>14,541,029</b>	<b>12,374,425</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>3,999,493</b>	<b>3,896,681</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained surpluses	3,999,493	3,896,681
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>3,999,493</b>	<b>3,896,681</b>

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	<b>RETAINED SURPLUSES \$</b>	<b>TOTAL EQUITY \$</b>
Balance 1 January 2022	5,166,037	5,166,037
Surplus prior to restatement under AASB 1058	36,537	36,537
(Deficit) / Surplus after income tax	(1,305,893)	(1,305,893)
<b>Balance 31 December 2022</b>	<b>3,896,681</b>	<b>3,896,681</b>

	<b>RETAINED SURPLUSES \$</b>	<b>TOTAL EQUITY \$</b>
Balance 1 January 2023	3,896,681	3,896,681
Surplus / (Deficit) after income tax for the year	102,812	102,812
<b>Balance 31 December 2023</b>	<b>3,999,493</b>	<b>3,999,493</b>

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Cash from operating activities</b>		
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)	15,456,575	13,246,186
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)	(13,610,494)	(14,150,878)
	1,846,081	(904,692)
Interest and distributions received	227,510	57,962
Interest paid	0	0
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>2,073,591</b>	<b>(846,730)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(880,976)	(521,565)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	29,391	22,623
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from external borrowings	(250,131)	0
	(1,101,716)	(503,413)
Net (Decrease)/Increase in cash held	971,875	(1,350,143)
Cash on hand at the beginning of the financial year	5,400,217	6,750,360
<b>Cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>6,372,092</b>	<b>5,400,217</b>



**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The company has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period. Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

### Basis of Preparation

The concise annual report has been prepared in accordance with the Company's constitution and Accounting Standards AASB 1039

"Concise Financial Reports". The concise annual report, including the financial statements and specific disclosures included in the concise annual report, has been derived from the full annual report of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited.

## NOTE 2. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY AND IMPACT ON 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited adopts AASB 1058 – "Income for Not-for Profit Entities". Prior to 2022 the company adopted AASB 15 – "Revenue from Contracts with Customers" when accounting for Student Services and Amenities Funds (SSAF). Management have stated below the impact the change in accounting policy had on the 2022 results.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Surplus / (Deficit) prior to restatement	102,812	36,537
Restatement under AASB 1058	0	(1,305,893)
<b>(Deficit) / Surplus after restatement</b>	<b>102,812</b>	<b>(1,269,356)</b>

## NOTE 3 - REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

### Revenue from contracts with customers

Student & community services income	6,617,773	5,091,280
Venue & equipment hire	1,812,484	1,695,951
Other operational income	1,651,071	1,047,696
Student services & amenities fee	5,955,856	5,461,257
	<b>16,037,184</b>	<b>13,296,184</b>

### Other revenue

Interest and distribution income	204,698	57,962
	<b>16,241,882</b>	<b>13,354,146</b>

### Disaggregation of revenue

The disaggregation of revenue for contracts with customers as follows:

### Geographical Regions

<b>Australia</b>	<b>16,037,184</b>	<b>13,296,184</b>
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**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

## **NOTE 4. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2023 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.



**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION

**31 DECEMBER 2023**

**In the directors' opinion:**

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made to section 295(5)(a) of the corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the directors

**JANE SPRING AM**



**DIRECTOR**

16 May 2024  
Sydney

**WARWICK LYNCH**



**DIRECTOR**



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED  
ABN 45 634 542 644

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**WilliamBuck**

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

## Independent auditor's report to the members of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited on the Concise Financial Report

### Opinion

We have audited the concise financial report of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and related notes, derived from the financial report of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023 and the discussion and analysis.

In our opinion, the accompanying concise financial report, including the discussion and analysis of Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited, complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports.

### 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 section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the concise 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.

### Concise Financial Report

The concise financial report does not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards in the preparation of the financial report. Reading the concise financial report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

### The Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the financial report in our report dated 16 May 2024.

### Directors' Responsibility for the Concise Financial Report

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the concise financial report in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act), and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the concise financial report.

Level 29, 66 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
Level 7, 3 Horwood Place, Parramatta NSW 2150

+61 2 8263 4000

nsw.info@williambuck.com  
williambuck.com.au

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**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**WilliamBuck**  
ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

## Auditor's Responsibilities

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the concise financial report, in all material respects, complies with AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports and whether the discussion and analysis complies with AASB 1039 Concise Financial Reports based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

*William Buck*

**William Buck**  
Accountants & Advisors  
ABN 16 021 300 521

*L. E. Tutt*

**L. E. Tutt**  
Partner  
Sydney, 16 May 2024

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED**  
**ABN 45 634 542 644**

# USSF ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

## NATURE OF THE ENTITY

The University of Sydney Sport Foundation is a part of the University of Sydney ABN 152 115 134 64 and not separately incorporated under a State or Commonwealth Act. The Foundation is required to gain prior approval for its fundraising activities from the appropriate University delegate. The Foundation's activities are not-for-profit and covered by the DGR status of the University of Sydney. The University is exempted from the requirement to hold an Authority to Fundraise and obligations upon holders of such an authority, but is still required to comply with the balance of provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act.

## ROLES OF BOARD / COUNCIL AND MANAGEMENT

The Foundation operates under the authority of the Senate of the University of Sydney, as approved on 4 August 2009 and has no powers of delegation. The Foundation conducts its affairs pursuant to the Foundation Rules and the relevant policies of the University.

Council members have been provided with the University of Sydney Foundation Rules, Code of Conduct, Work Health & Safety policy and the External Interests policy. All these policies are available on the University's Policy Register, as are other relevant University policies regarding harassment, grievance procedures and the Delegations of Authority.

The annual accounts of the Foundation are prepared by the financial staff of the University, signed off by the University Officer Professor Joanne Wright and included in this Annual Report to the Senate. The Foundation is part of the University and therefore does not have its own audit sub-committee. While the Annual Financial Report of the University is audited by the Audit Office of NSW, the Annual Report of the Foundation has not itself been audited.

The Foundation undertook no new major fundraising appeals during 2023 with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to impact fundraising by the Clubs' in 2023.

In conducting any fundraising, no commissions were paid or payable to any person as part of a fundraising appeal.<sup>2</sup>

The Foundation complied with the reporting and disclosure requirements of the Senate.

Members and Council have been made aware of the processes for disclosure pursuant to the Code of Conduct and External Interests policy, which include protected disclosure to the ICAC, to the Ombudsman or the Auditor General.

The Foundation Council consists of members of the community and the University. Their input is invited via the Annual General Meeting and Council meetings of the Foundation.

Under the Charitable Fundraising Act, the University may be questioned about any appeal on details of the purpose of the appeal such as the appeal target, objectives, distribution of proceeds, and the process to provide answers.

During the year, the Foundation published information on the Sydney University Sport and Fitness Limited website and communicated with donors and potential donors via direct mail and email. Its income and distribution were noted in the Annual Report. There were no specific requests for information received from outside the University community.

To date no member of Council has received any remuneration for acting in that capacity.

To date no member of Council has been reimbursed for any expenses incurred.

## DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE FOUNDATION

Pursuant to rule 4(1)(c) of the University of Sydney Sport Foundation Rules, the University Delegate in the capacity as University Officer of the University of Sydney Sport Foundation (Foundation), recommended the disestablishment of the Foundation. The Vice Chancellor signed this documentation on 15 January 2024, and fundraising for sport at the University will now be through a centralised model aligned with the operations of the Advancement Portfolio.

Following disestablishment of the Foundation, the funds will be retained by the University under the delegation of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education under a new Sport [Responsibility Centre] and administered and applied in accordance with the terms of the applicable gifts for the benefit of the applicable sporting code or purpose.

Any gifts or bequests received for the benefit of or referencing the University of Sydney Sport Foundation following its disestablishment will be accepted and applied for purposes that reflect the Foundation's Objects.

## SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPORT AND FITNESS LIMITED ABN 45 634 542 644

Noting that these Objects were, and always have been, to:

1. increase the resources of the University, by fundraising or otherwise securing gifts, grants, the provision of services or other non-financial contributions; and
2. assist the Senate and Vice-Chancellor in promoting the object of the University in relation to the sporting clubs and associations associated services endorsed by Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness through the University.

### WITH THANKS

Sydney Uni Sport and Fitness Limited would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to every single person who has been involved in the USSF over its many years of successful fundraising. If we had to single one person out, it would without a doubt be Rodney Tubbs. From as far back as 2005, he pitched and sold the idea of the University of Sydney Sports Foundation to the University Vice

Chancellor, Gavin Brown, and Rod become the first and only Chair of the USSF from its establishment up until earlier last year.

Over the last 20-plus years, he managed both the USSF and the Corporate & Alumni Relations for SUSF, staging annual 'Blue & Gold' Luncheons for many of the University's bigger sporting clubs which helped to reunite past players, and raised substantial funds for the clubs while building a stronger sense of belonging to the University as a whole.

In that capacity, and as SUSF Corporate and Alumni Manager, 'Tubbsy' (as he is affectionately known to all) has raised in excess of \$15million for SUSF capital projects and scholarship funds working with almost all of our clubs and has been instrumental and influential in organising and supporting all three major capital expenditure projects.

Quite simply, Tubbsy has been the driving force, the face of, and the 'MC-in-Residence' of all Club, USSF and SUSF fundraising events.

<sup>1</sup> See s5 Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)

<sup>2</sup> Reg 9(6) Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2008





# USSF CERTIFICATE OF OPERATIONS



Annexure 1

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**TO:** Financial Control and Treasury  
**FROM:** University Officer (Foundation)  
**DATE:** 14 March 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Certificate of Operations - 2023

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## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the activities reflected in the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 of the University of Sydney Sports Foundation fully complies with the Foundation Rules.

Any areas of non-compliance or departure from such governing rules have been advised in writing to the Provost / Deputy Vice-Chancellor responsible for the overall governance of the Foundation's operations.

Signature  
University Officer (Foundation)

Professor Joanne Wright

Name (Please Print)

Date: 14 March 2024

# USSF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The University of Sydney

Uni of Sydney Sport Foundation (47300\_DRED\_FND\_USSF)

## INCOME STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	31 DECEMBER CY 2023	31 DECEMBER CY 2022
<b>Income</b>		
Scholarships, donations and bequests	1,028,373	856,610
Business and investment income	82,435	25,147
Realised gain/(loss) on investments	-	-
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments	235,146	73,074
Investment administration fee	-	-
Internal and other income	-	27,000
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,345,954</b>	<b>981,831</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Equipment and repairs/maintenance		
Contributions to external organisations	1,246,888	56,273
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1,246,888</b>	<b>56,273</b>
Surplus/(deficit)	99,066	925,558
Accumulated funds	5,458,206	4,532,648
Accumulated funds adjustments	-	-
<b>Total accumulated funds</b>	<b>5,557,272</b>	<b>5,458,206</b>

# USSF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The University of Sydney

Uni of Sydney Sport Foundation (47300\_DRED\_FND\_USSF)

## BALANCE SHEET

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	31 DECEMBER CY 2023	31 DECEMBER CY 2022
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets		
Short term funds	2,055,737	2,112,040
Total current assets	2,055,737	2,112,040
Non current assets		
Medium/long term investments	3,501,534	3,346,164
Total non current assets	3,501,534	3,346,164
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>5,557,272</b>	<b>5,458,206</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current liabilities		
	-	-
Non current liabilities		
	-	-
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>5,557,272</b>	<b>5,458,206</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated funds	5,557,272	5,458,206
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>5,557,272</b>	<b>5,458,206</b>

I certify that the Income Statement and Balance Sheet of the Foundation have been prepared in accordance with the University's accounting practices and procedures. These Foundation accounts form part of the University of Sydney's financial reports.





# CREDITS

## PRODUCED BY SYDNEY UNI SPORT & FITNESS LTD

- Natalie Brown
- Enda Carberry
- Kirsty Stevens

## DESIGNED BY SOUTHERN

## PHOTOGRAPHY BY

- Karen Watson
- SUSF Clubs
- SUSF

## ADDRESS

Cnr of Codrington Street & Darlington Road,  
Darlington NSW 2006

## POSTAL ADDRESS

University Sports & Aquatic Centre  
Building G09, University of Sydney NSW 2008

## TELEPHONE

+61 2 9351 4960

## EMAIL

[admin@sport.usyd.edu.au](mailto:admin@sport.usyd.edu.au)

## WEB

[susf.com.au](http://susf.com.au)

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**SYDNEY UNI SPORT & FITNESS WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
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