

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



John Bertrand AO



The Road to Tokyo

It is now less than two years to the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. We are on the road to Tokyo.

We have learnt plenty from the 2016 Rio Games, the Commonwealth Games and more recently the Pan Pacific Championships. Our aim is to achieve continual improvement in everything we do, from our planning to our execution.

Olympic medals aren't achieved overnight, they are a result of systems and processes. They don't happen in isolation.

In this modern era, athletes perform on the world stage because of sophisticated planning, resources and expertise, as well as their own ultimate push and drive to succeed.

When an athlete performs, 'when it really counts'; all the work has been done, they have no fear, they each enter their own 'flow zone'; that state of calmness and readiness. That feeling that anything is possible. If we had wings, yes, we would fly.

What we do know is the world is moving quickly, continual improvement is the norm. What was world standard yesterday is not necessarily applicable today.

We also know world and Olympic records will continue to be broken. Improvements in planning, biomedical and psychological understandings and coaching techniques all contribute to the dream of 'faster, higher, stronger'.

The race is on!



Our results at the Pan Pacs and Para Pan Pacs were encouraging. Our Pan Pacific team competed in Tokyo against a full-strength U.S. team plus Japan and Canadian teams. Our athletes amassed 27 medals overall, including eight gold. In comparison to the Trials, 68% of the swims were faster in Tokyo. This 'conversion rate' compares very favourably to the

30% conversion rate achieved at the Rio Olympics. Conversion rates are a key performance indicator for our team.

Highlights included Ariarne Titmus recording an Australian and Commonwealth Record in the 400 freestyle and Cate Campbell in the 100m Freestyle. Equally impressive was the Australian Record by Mitch Larkin in the 200 Individual Medley.

In the tropics of Cairns, the Australian Para Pan Pacific team took on nine competing countries. The team went on to claim 94 medals, including an incredible 43 gold.

Highlights included 18-year-old debutant Ben Popham dropping a two second personal best to claim the S8 100m Freestyle gold and the Women's 34-point relay, holding on to take the gold in one of the races of the meet. The team generated an equally impressive 61% conversion rate.



Our CEO Leigh Russell is now fully integrated into Swimming Australia. She brings with her a wide-ranging experience base, both in high performance sport through her previous roles within the AFL and community engagement through netball, the country's largest female participation sport.

Leigh is a change manager and we are in the business of continual improvement. That is our mantra.

In August we launched our partnership with Belgravia Leisure which has seen the roll out of a new activity-based learn to swim program at over 50 Belgravia Leisure centres across the country, with Optus Junior Dolphins the final levels of this fun, engaging swimming journey. The program is powered by Optus Splash, our digital platform and app, and through this partnership we have already created meaningful connections with over 30,000 swimmers, their 21,000 parents and the 50+ facilities in which they swim.



This is a step-change for Swimming Australia. It is our ability to connect with market scale, through which we will build our 'tribe' and enhance the pipeline of swimmers for Swimming Australia, States and affiliated swimming clubs. It is based on the shared goal of ensuring

that throughout anybody's swimming journey, wherever and however they swim, we instil a life-long love of swimming. Together we're exploring a number of additional opportunities that will see the two organisations working together with industry.

Melbourne will play host to the 2018 Hancock Prospecting Australian Short Course Championships at the end of next month, where athletes will be looking to qualify for the World Short Course Championships in China in December. This will be the first time a national swimming event has been held in Melbourne for over 10 years. It is wonderful to see swimming back in a city synonymous with sport in Australia.

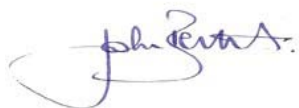
Mrs Gina Rinehart, Patron Swimming Australia.

The sport of swimming has been supported by Mrs Rinehart and Hancock Prospecting since 1992. An amazing contribution to the sport and the country.

More recently, Mrs Rinehart became Patron of Swimming Australia. While she continues to build her very successful business activities, she also plays an active and passionate role in the future of swimming.

Her contribution over such a long period of time is unprecedented. We can never thank her enough.

Go Australia!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Bertrand AO', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Bertrand AO

President

Swimming Australia

**SEE YOUR SUPERHEROES,
DO SUPERHUMAN THINGS.**



25-27 OCTOBER

MELBOURNE SPORTS & AQUATIC CENTRE



ARIARNE TITMUS



MACK HORTON



ELLIE COLE

BUY TICKETS NOW



PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



MAJOR PARTNERS



MELBOURNE
SPORTS & AQUATIC
CENTRE



EVENT PARTNERS