



ROYAL LIFE SAVING
AUSTRALIA

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ACADEMY

Newsletter Info – Feb 2025: 2025 Australian Open Water Championships:

At the end of January, a team of our swimmers competed in the Australian Open Water Championships in Busselton, Western Australia. Our team, consisting of August Cyreszko, Klarissa Goodwin, Ben O'Donnell, Daniel O'Donnell, James Reid, Taylor Serafin, and Zoe Woolfson, all swam well, with all swimmers achieving their best individual results at a National Open Water Championships!

Day 1 had our guys racing in the 10km and 7.5km events, with conditions being perfect for some fast racing. Daniel led the charge, picking up Bronze in the Boys 19 Years 10km – his 1st National medal! Not to be outdone, both August and Taylor swam amazing races to finish 7th and 11th respectively in the Boys 16 Years 7.5km. Coming off the back of the Australian Lifesaving Championships, and competing in his 1st National Open Water Championships, Ben swam well finishing 25th in the Boys 17 Years 7.5km.

The girls races were equally exciting, pushing hard to stay at the front of the field. Klarissa was rewarded for some tough swimming through the middle of the race to bring it home for a top 10 finish, coming 9th in the Girls 16 Years 7.5km. In the same race, Zoe pushed hard with a great back end to come home 12th. Well done Girls!

We arrived at the beach for Day 2, with entirely different conditions for the younger athletes races. The swell was up, as well as the wind, to provide tricky conditions for the competitors. We had James up in his 1st National Open Water event, swimming well to finish 19th in the Boys 15 Years 5km. With some directional practice, he will be one to watch for next year!

After a well-deserved recovery day, with some of the parents swimming in the Community races (and doing a fantastic job!), we arrived for Day 3 of racing. All the events were 5km racing, with our guys backing up from longer races. It was a day where we were missing some luck, with small moments in races leading to chances to sit higher up the pack not being taken. That being said, all of the swimmers put in massive efforts, and did a stellar job, with results as follows:

Daniel - Boys 19 Years 5km - 6th
August - Boys 16 Years 5km - 11th
Klarissa - Girls 16 Years 5km - 12th
Taylor - Boys 16 Years 5km - 13th
Zoe - Girls 16 Years 5km - 18th
Ben - Boys 17 Years 5km - 31st

The Championships were a great success, but with opportunities for learning to make future swims even better. Well done to all of our swimmers!

Report: Gavin Stewart

