



# 2026 AUSTRALIAN OPEN WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS

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At the end of January, a team of our swimmers competed in the Australian Open Water Championships in Bunbury, Western Australia. Our team, consisting of August Cyreszko, Mia Lawrence, Daniel O'Donnell, James Reid, Marissa Small, and Simon Wooden, all swam well, with all swimmers achieving great results across the Championships!

Day 1 had our guys racing in the 10km and 7.5km events, with conditions being increasingly choppy across the back of the course as the day progressed. Daniel led the charge, swimming in his first Open 10km National event. He did a great job coming home in 16th place.

Not to be outdone, both August and James were next up in the Boys 17 years and 16 years 7.5km event respectively. August had a great swim after a great start, finishing in 9th place. James also had great start, and swim consistently well through the race coming 8th in his event, finishing with a strong PB.

We arrived at the beach for Day 2, with perfect conditions greeting us for the younger age groups.

Both Marissa and Mia had amazing races at their first National Championships! Both girls had great starts, and swam strongly through the race, with both gaining massive PB's.

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Marissa ended up 19th in the 15 years 5km, and Mia was 18th in the 14 years 5km. Well done Girls!



Soon after the girls, Simon jumped in for his first National Open Water swim, competing in the first MC stand alone Open Water event at a National Championships – the 3km MC event. Simon had a great swim, swimming strongly throughout the event, coming home in 5th place. Making it event better was the fact that he was the youngest in the field by 3 years!

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After a well-deserved recovery day, with our parents putting together some great swimming and supporting in the Community races, we arrived for our last day of racing. All of the events for today were 5km racing, with all of our guys backing up from other races. It was a day where we were missing some luck – we had some amazing starts to the race, but the race was stopped after the first lap and started again. At the re-start, all of our guys struggled to get in good positions and had to fight for every place. That being said, all of the swimmers put in massive efforts, and did a stellar job, with results as follows:

Daniel – Men’s Open 5km – 15th  
August - Boys 17 Years 5km – 7th  
James – Boys 16 Years 5km – 12th  
Simon – Men’s Open 5KM MC – DNF

The Championships were a great success, with some amazing swims across the Championships. The Club ended up 25th on the National Pointscore. Well done to all of our swimmers!

