

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

As we wrap up another momentous year at the Aquatic and Recreation Institute it is my pleasure to present to you the Annual Chairpersons report for 2022-23. We commenced 2022-23 with a focus on emerging as a stable and sustainable organisation. I believe we have been successful in achieving this goal due to the unwavering efforts of our Board of Directors, the vibrant energy of our Young Leaders, and the active participation of our members, all joining forces to usher in a new era for the ARI.

Awards of Excellence

One of the year's crowning achievements was the successful hosting of the 2022 Awards of Excellence at the Waterview in Bicentennial Park. This new format brought together 200 attendees from across our sector, uniting us in celebration of the remarkable achievements of individuals and organisations. We were thrilled with the enthusiastic reception of the new event format and are looking forward to returning to the Waterview in Bicentennial Park on 19 October 2023 once again.

Financial Sustainability

Turning to our financial performance, we are proud to report continued improvement in our organization's fiscal position this year. This progress was made possible through our keen focus on the organization's core activity, which ensured that our resources were directed towards areas that would generate high-quality experiences and the greatest value both for our members.



Matt Griffiths
ARI Chairperson

The commitment and hard work of our Board of Directors and the support of numerous volunteers across the organisation have proven essential in delivering this positive outcome. Most importantly, this positive result means that ARI is capable of expanding it's offerings over the next 12 months to bring even more benefits to it's members.

Executive Officer Appointment

In our ongoing efforts to improve our services and expand our outreach, we are excited to have recently welcomed Natalie Brownstein to the team in the role of Executive Officer. Natalie's addition to our team will serve as a critical touch point, providing stronger connections between ARI and our members. The appointment of the Executive Officer is a key strategic move that will empower us to broaden our scope of activities in 2023 and beyond.

Looking Forward

As we look ahead to 2023, the ARI is energized by the opportunities that lie before us. With the continued support of our members, partners, and dedicated team, I am confident that the ARI will build on the successes of this past year to reach new heights.

It was a privilege to serve as Chair of the Board of Directors in 2022-23 and it is with mixed feelings that I announce my retirement from the role of Chair and from the Board of Directors.

I am delighted to congratulate Marco Blanco on his appointment as the new Chair of the Board. Their passion, commitment, and vision for the future of ARI makes them the ideal candidate to lead our organisation forward. I have full confidence that under their stewardship, ARI will continue to thrive and reach new heights.

I want to take a moment to extend my sincerest gratitude to our Platinum Sponsors - International Quadratics & Pierce Pool Supplies and Para Mobility for their support over the past year. I'd like to also thank AUSTSWIM and Life Fitness for their support as our Gold Sponsor.

To all our Award Sponsors, Conference sponsors, and industry partners we appreciate your contribution and support.

This year, we bid farewell to two dedicated members of our Board of Directors – Brooke Atkins and Sally Farrow - who are retiring at this year's Annual General Meeting. Their commitment and insight have positively impacted ARI, and their influence will continue to be felt. We express our sincere thanks for their service and wish them all the best in their next endeavours.

I'd also like to thank my colleagues on the ARI Board – Marco Blanco, Stan Wall and Scott Vanderheyden who have "rolled up their sleeves" and have worked tirelessly this past year. I also must extend my sincerest thanks to Erin McMullan and Brad Vella who have been an enormous support to both myself and the ARI Board over the past year.

In closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all members of ARI for your continued support. I am confident that the years ahead will bring continued success and I look forward to witnessing the many achievements that lie in store for ARI.

Best regards

MATT GRIFFITHS

Watt Griffiths

Chairperson

FINANCIAL REPORT

I am pleased to present the Financial Report of the Aquatic and Recreation Institute (ARI) for the financial year ended 31 April 2023.

Income and Expenditure

The ARI reported a net deficit of funds for the 2022-23 financial year. The following provides a summary of income and expenditure for the year.

Income	
ARI Membership	31,129.08
Event Income - Conference	47,243.45
Event Income - Other	27,767.06
Interest Income	46.02
Other Revenue	38,160.00
Total Trading Income	144,345.61
Less Operating Expenses	
Admin Services - General	0.00
ARI Board Expenses	52.00
Bank Fees	547.68
Conference	68,076.01
Consulting & Accounting	1,605.00
Events	72,838.64
Filing Fees	249.00
Freight & Courier	73.64
General Expenses	150.35
Insurance	4,418.34
Marketing	0.00
Office Expenses	674.09
Printing & Stationery	810.68
Subscriptions	4,041.21
Telephone & Internet	762.72
Total Operating Expenses	154,299.36

Grants Received

In 2022-23 the ARI was successful in receiving a Regional Business Event Development Fund Grant of \$20,000 from Destinations NSW which contributed to costs in hosting the 2022 Annual Conference and Trade Show.

2022 Annual Conference and Awards

The Annual Conference and Awards of Excellence are significant activities for ARI each year. It represents the majority of annual income and expenditure. I am pleased to report that these events generated net surplus for the ARI of \$18,406.79. This is particularly pleasing given the disruption to these activities over the preceding years and the re-launching of these events in a revised format in 2022.

Financial Position

The ARI is well placed at the end of the year with accumulated funds of \$23,427.02.

	General Account \$	Conference Account \$	Holding Account \$
Balance at 1 May 2022	9,665.97	20,006.03	718.49
Surplus (deficit) for the year	44.34	(16,457.08)	9,443.80
Balance at 30 April 2023	9,710.31	3,548.95	10,162.29

The ARI has seen strong growth in attendance at events, in particular its Annual Conference reflective of the significant investment the ARI has made to improve the quality and appeal of these events. The ARI faces an important year ahead with the need to further strengthen its financial performance by diversifying the range of opportunities available to its members increasing the value proposition of membership and continuing to grow attendance at events.

MATT GRIFFITHS

Watt Griffiths

Chairperson



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Aquatic and Recreation Institute