

Australian Surf Life Saving Club of the Year 2015

From the President: At the Australian Surf Life Saving Awards of Excellence in Sydney on Saturday 24 October, our Club was awarded the highest recognition that any surf club can receive, the Australian Surf Club of the Year. We were selected from a field of five from clubs that had received their respective state Club of the Year awards. Club Captain Pete Degnian and I attended the interview last Friday and presented to the selection panel the great story about Mermaid's growth and development over the past five years. Total Membership and Patrolling Members from our presentation gave an idea of this growth. The panel was particularly impressed with our long term planning for sustainability and growth, our support to life saving efforts on the Gold Coast outside our own flags, and our positive connections with the community.

Achieving this award now provides a great opportunity to take stock of what we have achieved and where we go from here. As such we will be reviewing our strategic plan later in the season and considering our plan for the next five years. I would encourage members to get involved in this to have your say about what we can continue to improve. In the meantime our focus remains on providing excellent life saving services to Mermaid Beach and to enhancing the experience for all our members.

We have been recognised as the best in what we do from the best in Australia and we should all be very proud of this achievement. I would like to thank all members and particularly the Club Management Committee, Officers, coaches and staff for their significant contribution to this award over a sustained period.

