

2009 AIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET

Background

Based on the success of the AIS Paralympic Swimming camps-based program the APC, SAL and AIS agreed to expand the program to include a residential component from 2009 to 2012. It is anticipated that up to 6 residential and 6 camps-based scholarships will be offered on an annual basis. The newly established residential component of the program, which is being primarily funded by the APC, will be delivered within the world class AIS training environment under the technical direction of SAL. This AIS will also act as the central hub or national training centre for the National Paralympic program for the London cycle.

National Vision

'To be the most successful international Paralympic swimming program in the world'

National Objectives

To achieve the vision, the objectives of Swimming Australia's National High Performance Plan for the years 2009-2012 are to:

- Talent identification and development of athletes in the S1 – S5 & S11 – S13 classes.
- Increase the number of athletes with elite medal winning performance characteristics across multiple events.
- Establish a world class coach education and development program.
- Full integration of Paralympic Program athletes into the AIS and SIS/SAS network to further enhance the daily training environment

AIS Scholarship Program Objective

To provide a world class daily training and camps environment for nationally identified athletes with multi-medal potential at the London Paralympic Games and World Championships.

The ultimate aim of the AIS Paralympic Swimming program is to develop and progress each athlete to a world top 3 ranking within a four year period on scholarship

AIS Scholarship Program Structure

The AIS Paralympic Swimming Program will be led by Senior Coach, Graeme Carroll, and coordinated by AIS/National Paralympic Coordinator Meredith Evans. These staff will also have integrated roles within the national program.

Residential scholarships

Applications will be sought from the Paralympic Swimming community and an initial selection camp will be conducted in June 2009. All applications will be evaluated on merit against the following criteria, as well as a comparative assessment of all applications received, and current scholarship holders.

- In 2009 and 2010 the primary athlete selection focus for the program will be on the recruitment of athletes within the suitable age groups targeted towards the 2012 Paralympic Games. Any athlete considered for selection will be required to demonstrate the capability to achieve a minimum level of performance which attracts a 930 DIPS within the first two years of scholarship.
- As a general guideline, any 'senior' athlete wishing to be considered for an AIS scholarship should have already achieved a minimum performance standard of world top 5.

Camps-based scholarships

AIS camps-based Paralympic Swimming scholarship may be offered to athletes who win an individual medal in an individual event at a Paralympic Games or IPC Swimming World Championships (long course). It is likely the AIS Paralympic Swimming Senior Coach and/or Swimming Australia National Paralympic Coach will target specific athletes for these scholarships.

These scholarships will be valid until the next major International long course event and will target athletes with the proven performance, or potential performance, of multi-medals at the Paralympic Games level. Some camps-based scholarship offers may target potential multi-medal athletes with a view to progression into the residential program in the future years. Camps-based athletes will receive a case managed program based on their individual needs in consultation with their respective home coaches and National Paralympic Head Coach. For those athletes within a SIS/SAS program will be dual badged in accordance with NESC guidelines.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: Wednesday 13 May 2009.

Applications should be addressed to Meredith Evans via email at Meredith.Evans@swimming.org.au or PO Box 3286 Belconnen ACT 2616.

For further enquiries please contact:

Graeme Carroll:	AIS Senior Coach	Ph: 0401 970 589
Brendan Keogh:	SAL Paralympic Head Coach	Ph: 0419 636 924
Mike McGovern:	AIS Senior Group Sport Manager	Ph: 0409 653 923