



Team Saltmarsh, daughter April and Glenn. Glenn was formally elected the first STAS Life Member in March for his services to STAS as a Board member and WCC Event Director for 34 years

## ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## **SURFING TASMANIA BOARD MEMBERS**

President- Governance – Micheal Lawrence

Director – Mike van der Woude (resigned Jan. '21)

Director - Jill Britton

Director - Mel Sharman

Director - Glenn Saltmarsh

Director -Stacey van Dongen

Director – Stella Gibson

## **SURFING TASMANIA REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE**

NWBR Rep. Toby Ray

NEBR Rep. Mario Agius

PBBR Rep. Tomas Najman

SABR Rep. Ange Nordstrom /Eddie Lawrence

Storm Bay SUP Rep. Dave Smith

TSSBRC Rep, Jo Goldfinch

Technical Manager. Vacant

Ratings Manager. Sally Hayes

Women's Rep. vacant

Junior Rep. Lou Gibson

Advisors. Jo Goldfinch/Luke Johannesen

MPIO Officers. Lou Gibson, Jo Goldfinch, Frances Stringer, Gill Pugh.

Head Judge. Michael Schmidt.

Head Coach: Martin Dunn - Senior Coaches: Kelly Nordstrom, Jo Goldfinch, Luke Bugg, Matt Kennedy, Jy Johannesen, Mel Sansom Gartrell.

## **BOARDRIDER CLUBS**



## President's Report

In my previous annual report, I spoke of the challenges posed by the outbreak of the COVID pandemic. Those challenges continue, with no signs of things changing in the immediate future. The key has been to remain flexible and adaptive. To that end the board decided to undertake a thorough appraisal of our governance protocols and strategies. This has been an extensive exercise also resulting in a review of code of conduct, social media and grievance procedures. In the next few months, a new 'best practice' constitution will be submitted for adoption by our members.

Our current constitution was established in 2012 and has not been reviewed since. During the year a series of events demonstrated that it failed to give clear guidelines and in some cases was quite ambiguous, potentially leaving STAS exposed. The groundwork for the new constitution was collectively undertaken by the board and involved countless hours of research and debate. The final draft of the document is being vetted by Ashleigh Wall, partner in Mast Lawyers, Geelong and president SVIC and the board extends their appreciation for her considered advice and personal guidance.

At a board rider club level, both NWBR and NEBR have undertaken major board changes resulting in both clubs gaining members and undertaking an increase in coaching, participation, competitions and social events. This augers well for the state competition scene and may well result in SABR's recent domination being challenged. Christian Surfers and Storm Bay SUP BRC continue to grow, providing coaching and regular events for their members. Steps are under way to help restructure PBBR for the coming season.

In an effort to increase our involvement in mental health, the board has undertaken a collaboration with Stay Chatty who are availing board rider clubs with the tools required to recognise mental health issues and how to inform and involve club members.

The board has also become more involved in environmental issues, using our social media as a conduit for members to access facts and action options, particularly on expansion of salmon farms and oil exploration.

Despite being a sell-out, this year's Women in Waves event at Penguin, featuring Layne Beachley was cancelled due to a COVID lockdown. Layne has kindly made herself available again with the event rescheduled once again at Ulverstone, for early in the new year.

This year's award for female contribution to surfing was made to Brooke Mason who took a public stand for female equality at the WCC in 2018 with the result that not only do women now receive equal prize money in STAS events, but SAUS and WSL events as well.

The SAUS/STAS Martin Dunn Development Program is now heading into it's second block involving some 13 of our most promising juniors. As a lead up to the National Junior titles the squad will attend a training camp at Urban Surf 'Tulla Tub' in October.

Funds from the Thwaites Legacy are flowing through to club level with several coaches in the program heading for level 2 qualification, putting us on target for qualified coaches statewide.

Many thanks to the Tasmanian Government's Communities Sport and Recreation Dept which again provided invaluable funding of about \$18,000 for a range of coaching, education and participation activities and International Women's Day activity. The funding also assisted in the purchase of a computerised judging system and some replacement Smoothstar trainer boards.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the ongoing contribution of CEO Shayne Clark and the dedication and solidarity of the board during a most challenging year. Our success as a small sporting organisation is highly dependent upon having people who want to give something back. A big thanks to those parents and friends who volunteer their time and effort in assisting the running of events and coaching programs. Without your input, these pathways would not be available.

Mick Lawrence  
President  
Surfing Tasmania Inc.

## ACCREDITED SURF SCHOOLS – 2020/21



Surfing Tasmania's affiliated surf and stand up paddle boarding - SUP schools operate around Tasmania in the warmer months providing terrific service to the wider community, schools and business groups. They offer a range of introductory programs such as the award winning Nudie Surf Groms, Learn to Surf and Sporting Schools and more advanced programs as required. Give them a call/check their websites today to book your place or purchase a gift voucher.

### **Clifton Beach/Lauderdale.**

Coastrider Surf Academy - <https://www.coastrider.com.au>

Precision Paddle Boarding - <https://www.precisionsup.com.au>

South Coast Surf School - <https://www.surfgroms.com/school/south-coast-surf-school>

### **Park Beach.**

Blue Lagoon SUP and Surf - <https://bluelagoonsupandsurf.com>

### **Scamander.**

42 South Surf School - <https://42southsurf.com.au>

### **NW Coast.**

42 South Surf School - <https://42southsurf.com.au>

### **SE Coast – Dodges Ferry**

Ability Progression Surf School – 0439382389.

## JO GOLDFINCH - Clarence City Council Award

Congratulations to Jo Goldfinch on her Clarence City Council Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award for her services to sport/surfing. Jo is Surfing Tasmania's longest serving official, Level 2 Surf Coach and Judge. Husband Dave, Daughter Iona and son Hamish have all been parts of Jo's journey over the past decades; travelling to and competing at National Titles as state representatives, team managers etc. Jo continues to work as a judge, official, coach and state junior team manager. Last year Jo also received the Dara Penfold Award for her services to surfing as part of the International Women in Sport Awards.



Hamish, Jo, Dave and Iona at the CCC Australia Day Awards 2021

## BROOKE MASON - Dara Penfold Award

DARA PENFOLD AWARD NOMINEE 2021 - BROOKE MASON Brooke Mason, recipient of the Surfing Tasmania Dara Penfold Award for inspiration and achievement for 2021. The award has been presented as part of International Women's Day. Around 2018, Brooke was the individual who successfully challenged the system by promoting the case of Equity and Equality for women in surfing. Her actions ultimately resulted in a major change of direction for Surfing Tasmania, with Surfing Australia and the world body of surfing, the World Surf League, following suit shortly after. Included in the changes effected were the guarantee of equal prizemoney for women in Tasmania, as well as the implementation of systematic changes to Surfing events and administration in order to ensure that they are more inclusive of women. Congratulations, Brooke!



## SAUS/STAS Martin Dunn Coaching Development Program.

Our new development program involves Tasmanian junior surfers committing to regular developmental training with a local L2 and/or Progression Surf Coaches and overseen by experienced surf coach, Martin Dunn and Surfing Australia's HPC Talent Pathway coaches Clancy Dawson and Kate Wilcomes. The program follows the developmental program created by Martin Dunn - "Developing Surfers – An Outline Of The Process", slowly building a surfer's performance over time with regular video and coaching sessions.

Each surfer was assessed via an individual performance process in order to determine their current performance level. The main aim of any developmental program and performance plan for athletes is to achieve improvement in the following key areas:

1. Overall surfing ability with skill acquisition,
2. Wave selection,
3. Competition Savvy

These three focus areas must be strengthened in order to increase the scoring ability of Tasmanian Surfers.

To support this, fitness expert Courtney McGowan and SAUS HPC coaches have again developed individual fitness programs for our surfers.

The Tasmanian Program is being run through South Arm Boardriders Club using State Coaches Luke Bugg, Matt Kennedy, Kelly Nordstrom, Jo Goldfinch, Melaleuca Sansom Gartrell and Jy Johannesen.

The program is jointly funded by SAUS, STAS (through the annual Sport and Recreation Grant) and the surfers/families. The Bill Thwaites Coaches Development Fund is assisting with covering the costs of our state coaches to gain their Progression Surf Coach accreditation.

The current 15 squad members are: Ava Frey, Cowan Duncan, Jo Pugh, Marvin Freeman, Poppy and Tully Woodberry, Charlie Gibson, Ruby Stokely, Sienna and Toby Lawrence, George Vanderkelen, Noah Hassett, Lily Mereszka, Milo Langford and Nellie Strickland. The squad will added to and reduced as necessary.



## STAS State Champions 2020/21

LIZZIE STOKELY AND RUDY DAVIS OPEN CHAMPS FOR 2020/21!

### 2020/21 RED HERRING SURF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES-FINAL RESULTS

Surfing Tasmania members have enjoyed another great season, despite COVID19, competing in state rounds and national events such as the ABB and Woolie's Surfer Groms and Woolworth's State Junior Series.

After 11 events in various locations ranging from Marrawah to Scamander, Clifton Beach, Eaglehawk Neck and Bruny Island, the season again enjoyed good surf and weather. Unlike Surfing Victoria and SNSW, we were largely unaffected by COVID so were able to complete our full calendar of events. Congratulations to Lizzie Stokely and Rudy Davis for winning the Open Women's and Open Men's Titles. Also hats off to Cowan Duncan and Toby Lawrence for taking doubles in the U14/16 and U18/21 Boy's Titles respectively.

### FINAL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS- CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

OPEN WOMEN: 1. Lizzie Stokely 2. Luca Brodribb 3. Jemima Hutchins.

OPEN MEN: 1. Rudy Davis 2. Matt Kennedy 3. Jy Johannesen.

O30 MEN: 1. Jy Johannesen 2. Finn Whitla 3. Gus Bryant.

O40 MEN: 1. Zeb Critchlow 2. Luke Johannesen 3. Damon Hodge.

O50 MEN: 1. Damon Hodge 2. Glenn Saltmarsh 3. Al Thomas/John Gregory.

O50 WOMEN: 1. Jo Goldfinch.

O40 WOMEN: Sarah Prior.

U12 BOYS: 1. Marvin Freeman 2. Tully Woodberry 3. Khawai Benson. (non championship)

U14 BOYS: 1. Cowan Duncan 2. Marvin Freeman 3. Charlie Gibson.

U16 BOYS: 1. Cowan Duncan 2. Noah Hassett 3. Charlie Gibson.

U18 BOYS: 1. Toby Lawrence 2. George Vanderkelen 3. Jo Pugh.

U21 BOYS: 1. Toby Lawrence 2. George Vanderkelen 3. Milo Langford.

U12 GIRLS: 1. Jess Gardner 2. Hayden Brown 3. Maggie Mereszka. (non championship)

U14 GIRLS: 1. Poppy Woodberry 2. Grace Hassett 3. Jess Gardner.

U16 GIRLS: 1. Ava Frey 2. Poppy Woodberry 3. Ruby Stokely.

U18 GIRLS: 1. Lily Mereszka 2. Ruby Stokely 3. Nellie Strickland.

U21 GIRLS: 1. Stella Gibson 2. Nellie Strickland 3. Lily Mereszka.

OPEN WOMENS LONGBOARD: 1. Jo Goldfinch.

OPEN MENS LONGBOARD: 1. Tom Kelly 2. Keiren Thomas 3. Michael Paxton.

U18 LONGBOARD George Vanderkelen 2. Brody Paxton 3. Noah Hassett.

Perpetual and individual trophies will be presented at the Annual Presentation Function tba.



## **STAS Executive Officer's Report.**

The COVID 19 season 20/21 was memorable in many ways for STAS, our interstate colleagues and Surfing Australia with programs, state and national events postponed and cancelled, all creating many challenges.

Many thanks to our loyal STAS sponsors, in particular the Tasmanian Government, Woolworths, Nudie, Red Herring Surf, Goodstone Group, Rip Curl, SAUS, event sponsors and supporter members who continued to provide sponsorship and support for our state wide State Championship Series and programs.

Financially, STAS enjoyed another strong year with the business turning over about \$93,000 with a small profit thanks to income from our state wide events, memberships, programs, national and state sponsors.

We were, however, forced to reduce hours for the Executive Officer due to a projected drop in revenue. The Federal Government's Job keeper Program was vital support in retaining the EO on three days per week to keep the business side of Surfing Tasmania Inc running and maintaining a revenue flow. There remain financial risks ahead with COVID19 still a considerable threat, bringing with it the potential for major disruption to our calendar of events and thus revenue losses. While the Board managed season 2020/21 well, they are both closely and cautiously monitoring progress into season 2021/22.

In terms of our events, Surfing Tasmania was fortunate to escape most of the COVID 19 fallout with limited impact to our normal season. The most significant disruption was the cancellation of the SOLD OUT Layne Beachley event at Penguin in January due to the Sydney lockdowns with Layne being unable to travel. In Tasmania the COVID 19 state lockdowns that came from the Burnie outbreak caused community frustrations, with some beach closures while others remained open. STAS provided advice to the State Government to assist in future closures.

The national "Surf Groms" and "Sporting Schools" programs continue to prove very popular through Coastrider Surf Academy, Blue Lagoon Surf/SUP and 42 South Surf schools.

STAS accredited a new surf school operation with James McKean's Ability Progression operation which focusses on a unique program for schools and community groups.

Our new Christian Surfers Boardrider Club got off to a great start with a range of community programs that continue to prove very popular across local communities.

The Martin Dunn Coaching Development Program was a major achievement, pulling together SAUS, STAS and Sport and Recreation to create a weekly training development program for 15 young surfers with state coaches. It continues to operate based out of Clifton Beach with SABR providing administration support to STAS. The coach's development is a key component of the program with five working to gain their Level 2 / Progression Surf Coach accreditation.

Congratulations to SABR for representing the state at the Nudie Australian Boardrider Battle final in Newcastle where the event was streamed live, providing great promotion for surfing nationally.

Congratulations to Lily Mereszka and Toby Lawrence for being chosen to represent Tasmania in the SAUS Layne Beachley and Mark Richards national development camps. Unfortunately COVID19 meant they could not travel and were instead put through an online course with HPC coaches.

Congratulations also to Woollies' Surfer Groms winners Marvin Freeman and Sienna Lawrence. Both won trips to the Woollies' HPC Camps at Casuarina, NSW..

Unfortunately no state teams were able to attend national championships in 2020 due to COVID cancellations.

Congratulation to Glenn 'Saltie' Saltmarsh for his Life Membership after about 34 years as Event Director of the Rip Curl West Coast Classic. 'Saltie' was awarded Life Membership several decades ago but no record/files exist so STAS put together a presentation at a packed Marrawah Hotel to celebrate his milestone.

Many thanks to our President Mick Lawrence for his leadership and guidance. Our regular coffee meetings have enabled us to have time to consume and manage weekly business and consider ideas and dreams.

Special thanks to our talented Board members who have worked so hard across a range of major challenges this year. Without them STAS would have struggled!

Shayne Clark

Executive Officer

Surfing Tasmania.



SABR TEAM at the 2020/21 Nudie Australian Boardrider Battle Final in Newcastle.



Woolies Surfer Groms Winners Marvin Freeman and Sienna Lawrence. Both won trips to the Woolies HPC Coaching Camps.

WOOLWORTHS

# BRUNY ISLAND

CLASSIC

PRESENTED BY RED HERRING

## NOVEMBER 7/8

Welcome to the Woolworths Junior Surf Series at Bruny Island. Surf entries open for under 12/14/16/18/21 shortboard longboard ~ male & female.

+  
Supergroms Boardriders Club Members.  
Sponsor prizes up for grabs!

Logos at the bottom include: SIN, WEBSTERBSC, HUTCHINSON, uXe, woolworths, BRUNY ISLAND, RED HERRING, SURFING TASMANIA, and others.

RIP CURL

# WEST COAST CLASSIC

9TH - 11TH MARCH 2021 --- HARBORVIEW, TASMANIA

Logos at the bottom include: REEF, SIN, and various other sponsors.

Women in Waves  
with Layne Beachley

Saturday 9th January 2021  
Preservation Bay  
Penguin | TASMANIA

To register go to [surfingtas.com](https://surfingtas.com)

woolworths

# SURFER GROMS

## COMPETITION BEACH

SATURDAY  
FEB 23RD

GIRLS/BOYS UB (PARENT ASSIST), U10, U12, U14 DIVISIONS  
PRIZES, FUN, GAMES, SURFING  
TOP TASMANIAN U14S WIN A 3 DAY ALL EXPENSES PAID COACHING CAMP AT SURFING AUSTRALIA'S NPC.

ENTRIES:  
<https://surfingaustralia.com/surfingtasmania>

## SURFING TASMANIA State/Club Active Memberships 2020/21

Group	Female	Male	Total
STAS	27	105	133
SABR	29	44	73
Storm Bay SUP	20	34	54
Christian Surfers	48	50	98
PBBR	tba	tba	tba
NWBR	3	23	26
NEBR	53	56	109
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>493</b>



# 2020/21 State Championship Events.



SOME PICS from the year.

