

## President Report for 2021/2022

Triathlon NT is the governing body for clubs, coaches, training squads, school programs, coach accreditation, working with local stakeholders including the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities, within the NT Government.

Coming out of the past few Covid affected years, Triathlon NT has had many shifts away from what was previously considered the norm. Through the leadership of Natasha Freeman as President and Lucy Berk as State Services Manager, and the board, Triathlon NT is moving forward as sport re-establishes itself in a post covid world.

On 1 July, Natasha Freeman resigned from her board role, and I took over Acting in the role until the upcoming AGM voting. Triathlon NT would like to thank Natasha for all her hard work and dedication over the past few years, especially with the delivery of the Future Operating Model (FOM). Her advocacy for the NT at a national level will be remembered as the sport moves forward.

Funding for a dedicated Pathways Manager role, which was held by Tim Ellison, ceased on 30 June 2022. Although it was initially disappointing to lose such a valued long term resource, this provided an opportunity for the development of new coaches to come forward and take on these roles in our junior Mov3 program. Thanks to the professional coaches Leslee Reif, Petah Sloane, and Rob Portelli for all their work. They are an asset to Territory kids growing up learning about physical literacy and sports science, giving them tools for life to participate in sport. Likewise, we need to thank Trevor and Tori Krikke, in Alice Springs, who are doing a stellar job developing the juniors in Alice Springs, bringing in new membership

Our clubs are the lifeblood of our sport, entirely run by volunteers, and we would like to thank and acknowledge everyone who contributes to putting on local events. This gives everyone a pathway from their daily training to come together and race in a safe environment and belong to a community of like-minded people. The costs associated with running events is increasing; council permits, road closures, traffic management, water safety, fruit, ice and soft drinks, St Johns, medals, and engraving, yet the entry fees haven't been passed on to members. This is thanks to the work of all members contributing to the clubs, along with sport funding to clubs. A big thank you to the committees of Alice Springs Triathlon Club, Darwin Triathlon club, Katherine Multisport Club, for their hard work throughout the year running events. Along with national clubs ADF and Tri Mob with NT based members.

As per audited financials we ran a deficit budget to return to sport after the pandemic. This decision was made in order to stimulate participation in sport post pandemic. It was our responsibility to encourage good physical and mental health after the lock downs.

The Go membership database was introduced in May 2021. Requiring all members to sign up into a new platform. This has helped the clubs significantly instead of using 2 different platforms; Active for member database, and Register Now for entry links, that didn't link member information and created manual workload. The new system also saves the clubs money paying for register now fees per event.

So, what does the future of Triathlon in the NT look like?

- The board and committees are working hard for the sports future alongside Triathlon Australia's strategic Plan – "A sport for everyone". State Services Manager, Lucy Berk works with engaged coaches to grow squads, introducing new people to the sport, and continue our successful Mov3 program training sessions.
- As a not-for-profit sport, all membership funds stay in the Territory and are put back into the community for juniors and programs, growing the sport. This makes us very different to our commercial event operators making profits.
- Working in the new aligned structure as a national team with Triathlon Australia, local boards remain and are crucial in order to develop our sport within the NT.

We would also like to set a challenge to our current members to engage with their local clubs in order to grow our sport. Are you able to introduce a friend to the sport? Can you help out and volunteer in any role big or small? Our clubs would love to hear from you.

Lucas Hayden

Acting President

Triathlon NT