

Queensland Academy of Sport Bill 2025

Submission No:	7
Submitted by:	Wilma Shakespear AM, Peter Conde, Alex Baumann OC OO PhD, Tracy Stockwell
Publication:	OAM OLY, Andrew Trim OLY MBA, Bruce Hatcher, Renita Garard AM OLY
Attachments:	
Submitter Comments:	

Submission to: State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee

Date: 10 March 2025

Subject: Queensland Academy of Sport Bill 2025 (the Bill)

We write to the Committee in support of the abovementioned Bill which is currently under consideration on behalf of the Minister.

It is our strong view, based on our collective and deep sports industry experience, that the Bill should proceed in its current form. The following points are noted:

- The structure of the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) must be one that allows it to be primed and fully enabled to be a truly world-class high performance sports agency.
- A fit-for-purpose organisation that is provided with the full responsibility and accountability to do its job will unleash even more talented Queensland athletes onto the world stage. Flexibility, agility, purposeful urgency and attracting the very best team to be the support behind our Queensland athletes and coaches is paramount.
- The transition to a fit-for-purpose organisation is critical for the QAS and our Queensland athletes and coaches in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Games and beyond.

QAS and Qld Athletes – Historical Achievements

In supporting this Bill, it is important in our view, to acknowledge the historical achievements of the QAS and Queensland athletes across the more than 3 decades since the QAS was established.

Queensland Athletes have traditionally outperformed those from all other Australian States and Territories on the world stage. We acknowledge this whole heartedly and given the undersigned are all either former QAS Chairs, QAS Board Members, QAS CEO's, AIS CEO, National Sporting Organisation Board Members and CEO's, QAS Athletes and/or Olympic Medallists, we are very much aware that these historical outcomes are the result of significant investment, talent and tenacity. However, we are also acutely aware that there has been significant waste of talent and tenacity that has resulted from the QAS structure not being fit-for-purpose.

What holds back the search for excellence are slow and cumbersome processes which deter talent and high performance in its purest form, and lack of inspirational high performance leadership that can only be attracted and retained with appropriate governance arrangements.

It is this drive for “high performance in its purest form”, that makes the passing of this Bill a watershed moment in the Australian sporting landscape.

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of the undersigned that the Committee support the Government's initiative to pass this Bill and establish the QAS as a Statutory Body, as soon as is possible.

Confirming my support for the attached submission to the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee of the Queensland Parliament, dated 10 March 2025.



(Signature)

Wilma Shakespear AM

Founding Director – Queensland Academy of Sport (1991 to 2000)

Deputy Director - Australian Institute of Sport (1990 to 1991)

Founding Director - English Institute of Sport (2001 to 2008)

Consultant to Sport Canada (2013 to 2017)

First Head Coach AIS Netball (1981 to 1990)

Australian Netball Representative (3 World Championships)

Legend of the Game – Netball Australia

Hall of Fame Member – Victorian Netball

Former Netball Australia Board Member

Former Netball Queensland Board Member

Author – Steps to Success

Confirming my support for the attached submission to the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee of the Queensland Parliament, dated 10 March 2025.

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(Signature)

Peter Conde

*Former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Australian Institute of Sport
Former Performance Director, Australian Sailing*

Confirming my support for the attached submission to the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee of the Queensland Parliament, dated 10 March 2025.

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(Signature)

Alex Baumann

OC (Order of Canada), OO (Order of Ontario), PHD Hons

Double Olympic Gold Medallist 1984

World Male Swimmer of the Year 1981, 1984

Former Chief Executive Officer – Queensland Swimming

Former Executive Director – Queensland Academy of Sport

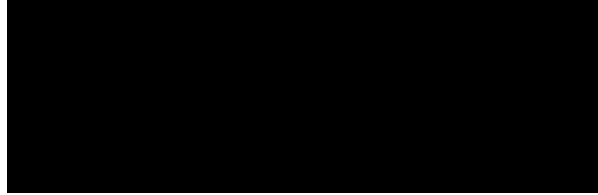
Former Chief Executive Officer – Own the Podium (Canada)

Former chief Executive Officer – High Performance Sport New Zealand

Former Chief Executive Officer – Swimming Australia

Head of Performance – Australian Olympic Committee

Confirming my support for the attached submission to the State Development,
Infrastructure and Works Committee of the Queensland Parliament, dated 10 March 2025.

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of Tracy Stockwell.

(Signature)

Tracy Stockwell OAM OLY
1984 Olympic Gold Medallist - Swimming
Former QAS Board Member and Chair
Former Swimming Australia President
Current Member of Brisbane 2032 Organising Committee

Confirming my support for the attached submission to the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee of the Queensland Parliament, dated 10 March 2025.

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(Signature)

Andrew Trim. OLY MBA

Triple Olympian and Dual Medallist

President Paddle Australia

Immediate Past President QLD Olympians Club

Former QLD Olympic Council Board Member

QAS Top Ten Athletes Decade 1990-2000

**Confirming my support for the attached submission to the State Development,
Infrastructure and Works Committee of the Queensland Parliament, dated 10 March 2025.**

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Bruce Hatcher.

(Signature)

Bruce Hatcher

*Former Deputy Chairman Queensland Academy of Sport
Former Queensland Rugby League (QRL) Board Chairman
Former Chairman of Lang Park Trust*

Confirming my support for the attached submission to the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee of the Queensland Parliament, dated 10 March 2025.

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(Signature)

Renita Garard AM OLY

Olympic Gold Medallist 1996 and 2000 (Women's Hockey)

Former QAS Board Member and Chair

Former Hockey Australia Board Member

Former Board Member of the International Hockey Federation

Current Board Member – Queensland Rugby League