



## 2013 Participation & Improvement Program

The Masters Swimming Queensland Board has reviewed the effectiveness of the Participation and Improvement program that was run from June 2011 to June 2012. They decided that the programs did not meet all of their goals of greater participation within the activities on offer from Masters Swimming Queensland and have therefore proposed a new program for the 2013 swimming year. The focus of the new program is to encourage all Masters Swimming Clubs in Queensland to promote participation in activities available to our members. The two programs have now been combined and will be referred to as the Participation and Improvement Program.

The program will now run from January to December 2013. Points can be earned by individuals and by the actions of their Masters Swimming Club. The award will be given to the Club that has the highest average participation rate for the period. The winning Club will be determined by dividing the total number of points earned over the year by the Club's total number of registered Masters Swimming members. Points can only be earned for the club by fully registered Masters Swimming members. The winning club will be announced at the 2014 State Titles. A spreadsheet to record the Club's points has been provided to each club.

The following areas demonstrate how the participation of each Club will be assessed and the rationale behind the allocation of points.

Program or Activity	Points	Rationale
<b>Endurance 1000 Swims</b>	2 points will go to the Clubs participation total for each swim that a member completes and registers towards the Endurance 1000 program.	To encourage more swimmers to complete Endurance 1000 swims, and encourage clubs to promote the Endurance 1000 program.
<b>MSX Swim</b>	Points will be awarded to the Club's participation total for a swimmer obtaining an MSX Award. 5 points for each member who achieves a Bronze, 10 points for Silver, 20 points for Gold, 40 for Platinum.	As with all MSX participation, it is hoped that clubs will encourage their participants to improve their performances and achieve the highest award they are capable of.
<b>Lane Warriors</b>	2 points scored for each 1000m that they record for the Lane Warriors program.  A further 100 points will be awarded to the Club for every 50,000m that their club swims.	By rewarding both the club and the individual there will be a greater incentive for Clubs to ensure that Lane Warrior records are being kept.

<p><b>Hosting a Swim Meet, Open Water Swim or Postal Swim</b></p>	<p>1000 points will be awarded to a club for organising a swim meet.</p>	<p>Swim Meets are a vital part of Masters Swimming and require a major commitment from clubs to ensure that they run smoothly. By allocating the highest points for any activity we will hopefully encourage clubs to provide more Swim Meet opportunities for our swimmers.</p>
<p><b>Attending Swim Meets either as a competitor or supporter</b></p>	<p>10 points for each member who attends a Swim Meet.</p>	<p>Swim Meets are vital, but without sufficient swimmers and supporters they are not very appealing. We have allocated reasonably high points for each individual who attends a Swim Meet.</p>
<p><b>Officiating at Swim Meets</b></p>	<p>20 points for each Qualified Official that a Club provides for a Swim Meet. (Qualified Timekeepers, Chief Timekeeper, Starter, Judge of Turns, or Referee).</p>	<p>Officials are an important part of any Swim Meet and we are hoping to encourage Clubs to provide as many Officials as possible throughout the year.</p>
<p><b>Providing Coaching Sessions</b></p>	<p>5 points will be allocated for each training session that a Club provides for its members.</p>	<p>Coaching sessions are one of the main opportunities that a Club has to promote the activities of Masters Swimming Queensland to the general public. We have allocated points for each session that a Club runs to try and encourage more swim sessions for our members.</p>
<p><b>Attending Squad Training Sessions</b></p>	<p>2 points will be awarded for each Club member who attends a training session provided by the Club.</p>	<p>We see attending training sessions as one of the main reasons people will join a Masters Swimming program and we wish to reward everyone who takes part in the session.</p>
<p><b>Obtaining Masters Swimming Qualifications</b></p>	<p>100 points for each member of the club that obtains an official qualification. (time keeper, chief time keeper, starter, referee, coach etc.)</p>	<p>We aim to encourage clubs to increase the numbers of officials who are trained in the technical roles associated with Masters Swimming. Without trained personnel we will not be able to hold our Swim Meets or coach our swimmers to improve their performances.</p>

<b>Membership Renewal</b>	20 points will be allocated to each member of a club who renews his/her membership.	The retention of members is important to the viability of Masters Swimming Queensland.
<b>New Memberships</b>	100 points will be awarded for each new member who joins a club throughout the period.	High points have been allocated to new memberships to encourage clubs to actively recruit new swimmers to their clubs. For Masters Swimming Queensland to survive and thrive, we need new members.
<b>Video Swim Competition</b>	10 points will be awarded to the Club for every entry that they make in the video competition.	Several video competitions are likely to be held over the duration of the Participation Program. We would like to encourage as many entries as possible in each one and have allocated points to ensure that participants are well rewarded for the effort to get their swimming style recorded.
<b>Forum Participation</b>	5 points will be awarded for each participation within the MSQ online forum.	The Masters Swimming Queensland Forum is a new initiative and we would like to encourage as much member uptake as possible.
<b>Branch Board Membership</b>	500 points will be allocated to the club for every member that they have elected to the Branch Board.	We are aiming to encourage clubs to get their members involved in the Masters Swimming Queensland Branch Management Board. Participation in the many roles of the Board provides the governance and guidance required to keep Masters Swimming Queensland a great organisation for their members.