Dear members and patrons of Macquarie University Sport,

The thoughts of Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre are with all those affected by the bushfire crisis both here in NSW and around the country. What Australia is experiencing right now is both extremely sad and equally terrifying.

Firstly, we pay the ultimate tribute to our brave firefighters and emergency services personnel battling these conditions around the clock, day after day, sacrificing their own safety for the health and safety of others in our community. They are the real heroes behind this effort. We also offer our deepest sympathy to those that have lost their homes, livelihoods and loved ones through this awful tragedy.

The kindness and generosity of the Australian people who are raising money, providing food, offering their homes and caring for our wildlife is not only comforting, but inspiring. We encourage members and patrons to consider making a donation to an established charity, if they have not already done so. Linked below are a number of established charities currently involved in fire recovery efforts:

- NSW Rural Fire Service
- The Salvation Army
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Australian Red Cross
- Wires Wildlife Rescue

**WELCOME BACK**

Let me take the opportunity to welcome you all back to Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre for 2020.

As a new year commences we encourage you to connect with our friendly staff, to not only support you with your health, fitness and well-being goals for 2020, but to provide assistance and share feedback of your experiences within the centre.

There are many exciting things on the horizon, and I look forward to sharing information with you in coming editions of our Members email.
2-HOUR FREE PARKING RE-INTRODUCED ON WEEKENDS FOR 2020
For some time now Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre management have been mindful of the impact to members created by the introduction of paid parking to the campus.

Following consultation with stakeholders across the university, we are pleased to announce that throughout 2020 the Sport and Aquatic Centre will be subsidising parking costs for centre members and visitors who use the West 5 and West 6 car parks on weekends. This means that all members and visitors will benefit from free parking for the first two hours on Saturday and Sunday.

To receive this benefit, you need to register your vehicle/s via one of the following options:

1. The CellOPark app (once completed the [parking registration form](#) and download the [app](#))
2. The parking machines behind the reception area in the Sport and Aquatic Centre

Following the two-hour free period, the rate will revert to the discounted rate $1.50 per hour. We hope that you make use of and enjoy this new change.

 Whilst this initiative is currently limited to weekends, we are cognisant of the challenges associated with parking during weekdays and are committed to trying to find a solution to ease the burden on our members in 2020.

These changes came into effect on 2 January 2020.

AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
The Australia Day Public Holiday is fast approaching and there will be a change in operation hours on this day.

On Sunday 26th and Monday 27th January 2020, the centre will operate between the hours of 8:00am – 1:00pm, with the pools closing at 12:45pm.

This will mean changes to classes and programs schedules. Please click through to the relative program and centre areas to view the applicable information to you, your children and families.

ACCESS TO AQUATIC FACILITIES OUTSIDE OF SWIM CLASS TIMES
Subject to lane availability, as of 2020, any Swim School member will be able to access either the 25m or 50m pools outside of their swim class times to practice their swimming.

This means ONE child and ONE accompanying parent/guardian will be allowed into the centre for free, outside scheduled classes. Any additional parent/guardian or spectator will be charged an entry fee.

We encourage any member looking to refine their swimming skills to take advantage of their increased access to hone their skills!

CHANGES TO THE COURT HIRE POLICY
There have been some amendments made to our Court Hire Policy, which will come into effect as of January 1 2020.

To view our new Court Hire Policy, please click through to the following link.
2020 SWIMMING CARNIVAL SCHEDULE
Each year Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre plays host several school swimming carnivals. Listed below is the 2020 school swimming carnival schedule, highlighting the dates and times that the pools will be unavailable for member use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>Finish Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 31st January</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4th February</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 5th February</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 6th February</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7th February</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10th February</td>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 13th February</td>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>2:30pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 14th February</td>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>2:45pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17th February</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18th February</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>2:15pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19th February</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 20th February</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21st February</td>
<td>7:45am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26th February</td>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26th February</td>
<td>12:15pm</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>25m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 2nd March</td>
<td>7:30am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>50m</td>
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</tbody>
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We must emphasize that the pools will remain open and available for member use outside of these times and dates, but remind members to please check the availability outside of these times via the [online pool availability schedule](#), as well as to follow the lap signage displayed in both the 50m and 25m pools. We apologise for any inconvenience this may temporarily cause.

NEW ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ON THE HORIZON
Keep your eyes peeled for more information on a brand-new assessment program that provides parents with greater interactivity with their child’s classes and progression.

Our new system will allow you to easily track your child’s progress and level history, while also receiving clear communication for when it’s time for your child to graduate to the next level.

The new program will allow our Supervisors to provide you more information on each skill, as we move into a four-tiered system:

1) Introduced
2) Progressing
3) Refining
4) Competent

More information will come to light during week one of the programs.
NEW YEAR, NEW EQUIPMENT
We are excited to announce that the Gymnastics Hall will soon be sporting brand new equipment, including State of the Art Bars from AMCO – the supplier of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games – as well as replacing the foam pit.

These changes and upgrades have been undertaken as a planned and staged approach to refreshing the amenities within the centre, as a part of our on-going commitment and investment into our Members’ experience.

With our Gymnastics Program due to return Monday 20th January 2020, your child will soon have the opportunity to make use of the new equipment.

MEMBERS MONTHLY EMAIL AND GENERAL NEWS AND EVENTS
I continue to encourage every member and patron to familiarize themselves with the News and Events page of our website. As a dynamic business with a multitude of offerings, there’s always plenty happening within the Macquarie University Sporting world. Whether it’s the Health Club and Gym programs, Learn to Swim and Squads, Group Fitness Classes, Gymnastics and Martial Arts, Social Sport and Competitions, competitive sport within the University or general venue information, there is something for everyone.

As always, if you have any feedback for us, we would love to receive it – the good, the bad and the ugly. There are feedback machines located at both the entrance to the centre, adjacent the downstairs changerooms and online via the online enquiry form.

Yours in health and fitness,

Christian Renford
Venue Manager – Sport and Aquatics