



## Service Award – Paul Sansby

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Paul Sansby first became involved in swimming as a competitor in the early 1970s when he emigrated from the United Kingdom and joined the Fairymead Swimming Club in Bundaberg. He later moved to Brisbane in the mid-1970s and trained under coaching legends Bill Sweetenham and Ken Wood, where he learned and finessed the art of coaching.

Paul started coaching in the early 1980s at Lawnton and Jindalee Swimming Clubs, progressing to an appointment as Head Coach at St Peters Western Club in the late 1980s, where he successfully coached for over a decade. In approximately 2000, he built the Waterworx Aquatic & Fitness Centre with his business partner, Greg Fasala, and established the Waterworx Swimming Club at this time.

Paul has been on various National Development Teams, which have involved travel to Japan, New Caledonia, New Zealand and China. Some of his most notable swimmers are: Shane Fielding, Robert McDonald, Megan Gianatti, Montana Sansby, Kristie Ward, Barbara Hirsche, Michael Hardie, Leith Lynons and Brooke Stockham. Brooke notably won the Sydney 2000 Paralympics Bronze Medal under Paul's expert coaching.

Paul, more affectionately known as 'Cowboy', is one of the more colourful characters of our sport. Underneath his gruff exterior, he is a warm, caring, generous and dedicated man. His input into our sport in Brisbane has been enormous, both time-wise and financially.

Paul, through his expertise as a coach, has enhanced the Brisbane Association's standing. This well-deserved Service Award is fitting recognition of his outstanding achievements.

