

National Youth  
Programme  
&  
Coach Development  
Initiative

April 2026





Introducing David & Wayne

I won't have my laptop or power point or anything, I just want to sit and talk about the programme, about why it's different to previous incarnations: why there are so many spaces available, why we are casting our net wide and a little bit about the process of development rather than talent id.

It's about giving people a chance, getting them involved in something and trying to make a difference to clubs, coaches and families.

(Sounds a bit soft and hippy-ish for me but it's really what I believe in, especially after Tri-Series)

# Aquablacks Project B32

- The Brisbane 2032 Olympic & Paralympic Games represent the closest in a generation New Zealanders will come to a “home Games”, and therefore a massive motivational drive.
- Our Olympic and Paralympic swimming finalists have averaged 21 years old (15-27 yo), making our B32 finalists currently around 13-20 yo.
- The National Youth Programme is therefore framed as Aquablacks Project B32 – and there is no time to waste to catch the buzz!



# Selection (Olympic Pathway)

## Age Squad

- Girls 13-16
- Boys 14-16
- Top 2 in each single age in fly, back, breast, sprint free, distance free & IM based on WA points
- Plus 2 wildcards based on standout range, skills and/or attributes
- Max 15 places per age (year), ranked WA points

## Development Squad

- Girls 17-18
- Boys 17-18 & 19-20
- Boys 17-18 @ 700 WA points
- Girls 17-18 and boys 19-20 @ 750 WA points

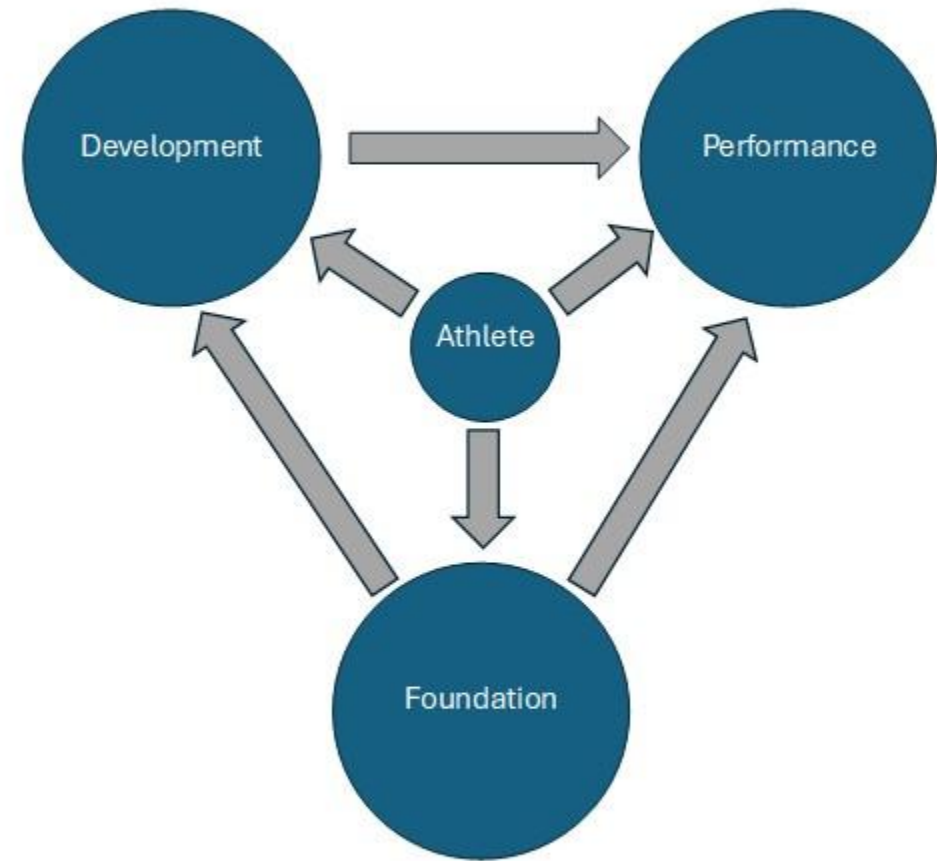
## Emerging Aquablacks

- Aged 17-23 @ 800 WA points
- World Junior finalists or equivalent nominated for HP Confirmation

# Selection (Paralympic Pathway)

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- Foundation swimmers are within 20% of MQS
- Development swimmers are within 10% of MQS and positively tracking towards Performance
- Performance swimmers are Emerging Aquablocks, within 5% of MQS and positively tracking towards HP Potential



# Expectations

## Recognition:

- Announcement
- Insignia – caps, certificates, T-shirts (on attendance), club/coach certificates

## Camps:

- Age Squad – NZ Camp (3-5 days with regional meet)
- Development Squads – 1-day NZ muster plus Australia Camp & Competition
- Performance/Emerging – 1-day NZ muster + International Camp & Competition (e.g. HK, JPN)
- Camps will be user pays, with support for coach attendance

## Performance Support:

- S&C curriculum
- Nutrition education (Fuel My Potential)
- Performance planning (Raise My Game)
- Coach & parent workshops

## Tracking:

- Biographical – sport participation, training history, fascination, grit
- Periodic testing – national & international benchmarks



### A Sport Specific Card Deck

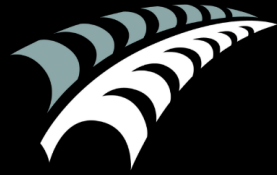
Card decks are sport-specific. [View card deck samples.](#)



Athletes talk, coaches listen.

### Online Video Tutorials

Learn the process and facilitation skills in your own time and at your own pace.



# 2026 LONG COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS PERFORMANCE PATHWAY (OLYMPIC)



## **COMMONWEALTH GAMES AQUABLACKS**

e.g. 48.15 / 53.12 seconds @ 100m freestyle

## **PAN PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIPS EMERGING AQUABLACKS**

e.g. 49.07 / 55.06 seconds @ 100m freestyle

## **JUNIOR PAN PACS JUNIOR AQUABLACKS**

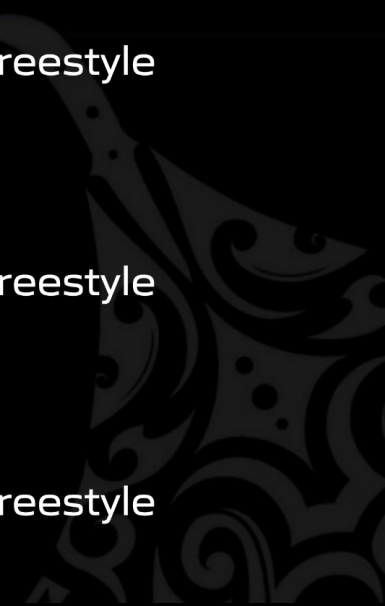
e.g. 50.76 / 56.42 seconds @ 100m freestyle

## **TRI SERIES NATIONAL YOUTH SELECT**

e.g. 52.00 / 58.50 seconds @ 100m freestyle

## **OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS NATIONAL YOUTH SQUADS**

e.g. 53.56 / 59.69 seconds @ 100m freestyle



Update the Swimming NZ statement of strategic direction to increase the importance and prioritisation of coaching	
Develop a Coaching Strategy to deliver upon the Swimming NZ statement of strategic direction	
<b>System</b>	<b>Craft (“Coaches”)</b>
Establish a formalised Memorandum of Understanding that clearly outlines the roles and responsibilities of Swimming NZ and Swim Coaches & Teachers NZ	Develop an annual education and development plan for coaches
Clearly define a New Zealand Coaching Framework	Provide a platform for coaches to access useful resources
Implement a mandatory New Zealand Swim Coaching License	Ensure regular and targeted communications are shared with coaches at all levels
Ensure that recognition of coaches at all levels is prioritised (including an Aquablack Numbered Coach list)	

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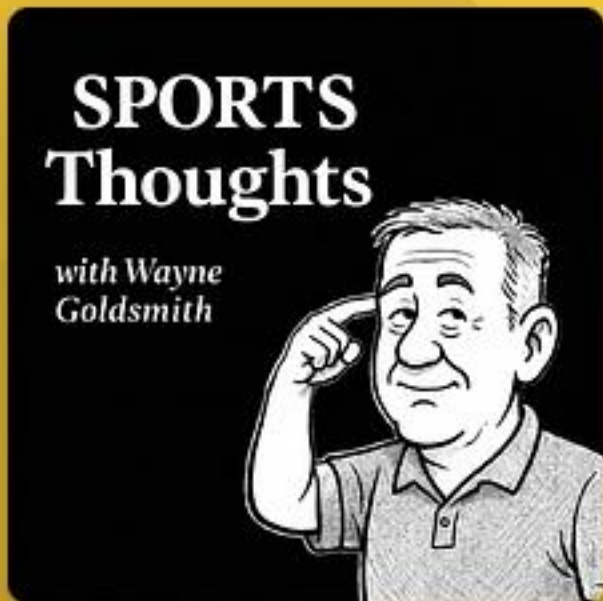
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# Sports Thoughts

Wayne Goldsmith delivers exceptional coaching, mentoring, and development...

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# SWIMCONZ26



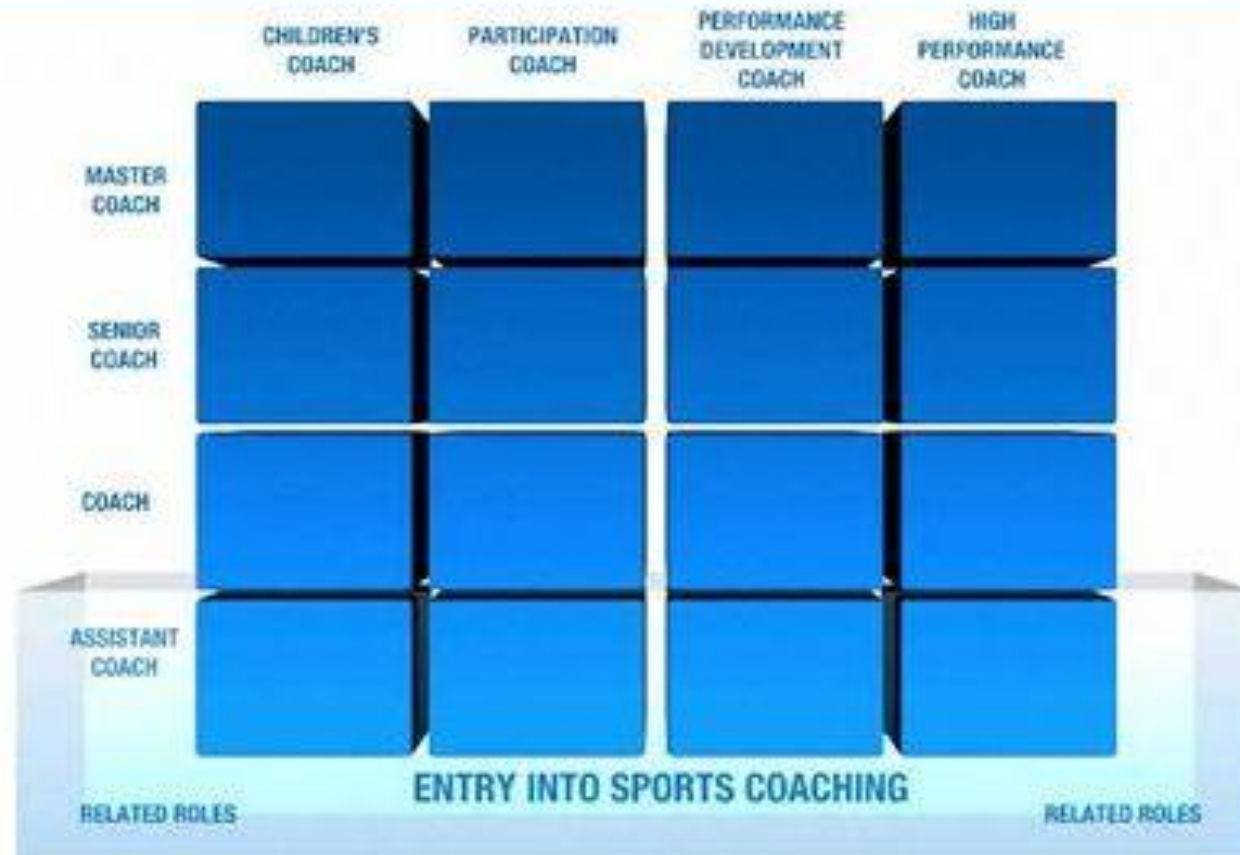
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**6-8 NOVEMBER 2026**

[swimconz.org](http://swimconz.org)

 **Vorgee**

**Swim**<sup>TM</sup>  
COACHES & TEACHERS  
NEW ZEALAND

## LONG TERM COACH DEVELOPMENT



Ensure that recognition of coaches at all levels is prioritised

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