

JOHN WHITEHOUSE

GLENORCHY (TAS)



John Whitehouse was a national swimming finalist in both freestyle and butterfly during the 1960's and a multiple Tasmanian champion. At the same time, he was also a Tasmanian surf and belt champion and as one of Tasmania's best ever players, he was a member of the Tasmanian water polo team from 1968 to 1975, which he captained on six occasions. Since retiring as an athlete, he has made an extraordinary contribution to Australian water polo as the Secretary, first of the Australian Water Polo Committee under the Australian Swimming Union, and subsequently as the Secretary of the Australian Amateur Water Polo Association and then Australian Water Polo Inc. after it separated from the Australian Swimming Union in 1982. His outstanding contribution in this demanding role to water polo in Australia has spanned over 30 years. He has also been a member of the FINA Technical Water Polo Committee since 1992 and its Honorary Secretary since 1996. This important position has been integral in terms of the global development of water polo, but also in securing Australia's position and recognition therein. John was also one of the world's best water polo referee's which led to his refereeing the Olympic final in Seoul (1988), and the World Championship final in Perth (1991). Photo - AWPI Archives.