

## Wheelchair Sports WA

29 October 2010

**Purpose and size of organisation:** The purpose of Wheelchair Sports WA (WSWA) is to provide sport and recreational opportunities for people living with physical disabilities in WA. We currently have over 600 current financial members, with 6 full-time, 1 part-time and 30 casual staff members, and over 80 volunteers.

### Key areas of focus at the present time:

- Further development of a variety of sport for people with disabilities.
- Advocate for inclusion and accessibility into sporting clubs, venues and the general community.
- Provide disability education in schools.
- Further develop school and recreation programs.

### Highlights in the last 12 months:

- Perth Wheelcats winning 5 consecutive National Championships, 2<sup>nd</sup> place at World Club Championships, and the winner of the Channel Seven Perth Team of the Year for 2009.
- Swimmer Madeleine Scott breaking the World Record for the 50m Butterfly in the S9 classification.
- Wheelchair Racer Madison De Rozario winning 6 gold medals at the Underage World Championships, including underage world records in the 100m, 200m and 800m.
- The Men's Australian Wheelchair Basketball team won the 2010 World Championships in Birmingham with WSWA athletes Justin Eveson, Shaun Norris and Michael Hartnett in the starting 5. Justin Eveson and Shaun Norris were named in the World Allstar 5 during the tournament. Justin was also selected as a finalist in the prestigious Laureus World Athlete of the Year Awards for 2009.

### When and why did you become a Member of WA Sports Federation:

Joined in 2008 for a number of reasons:

- WASF's industry voice
- Industry training and support programs
- Ability to nominate our athletes for the ANZ Sports Star Awards

### Other information about your organisation:

WSWA is a small not-for-profit Association born out of the spinal rehabilitation unit at Shenton Park, rich in history with members including the great Louise Sauvage, Priya Cooper and Frank Ponta. Named the Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Charity of the Year for 2010, WSWA is more than just an SSA with a recreation program as well as disability education and schools programs which attracted in excess of 4,000 participants during the 2009/10 financial year.

To be a member of WSWA you don't need to be in a wheelchair or even have to have a disability. Our Wheelchair Basketball and Wheelchair Rugby competitions include able bodied members playing in club supplied wheelchairs. Members involved with WSWA have access to 11 different disability sports as well as an ever developing Recreation Program, scholarships and social functions.

### How to get further info:

Website: [www.wheelchairsportswa.org.au](http://www.wheelchairsportswa.org.au)  
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