

Hi to all Ski Racing members.

My name is **Tania Teelow** (nee Williams).

I have nominated as a wildcard for election on the SRA Board of Directors effective from AGM on 26th November 2013.

I would like to introduce myself and provide you with a brief background of myself, my experience in Ski Racing, and how my experience can be imparted and benefit the future of Ski Racing.

I am 48 years of age, married to Chris with two children (Sarah & Jarrod). For those who do not know me personally, our family's race boat is called "Prime Time". We race as a family in age classes, and Open women's, consisting of all river classics, grand prix and regional races in both speed and marathon disciplines. My children are third generation ski racers.

My dad (Bob Williams) taught me to ski at around 6 years of age and I commenced racing at 9 years of age. Since 1978, I have been selected as a team member on both NSW and ACT Ski Racing Teams on at least 20 occasions, and went on to win each of those 20 State Championship Titles. Since 1978, I have won 21 Australian Titles; have been selected in the Australian Team at World Championships on 6 occasions, and won 2 world Titles. I have also been on the Australian Team for Group III (Australia V New Zealand challenge) and Region 5 many times between 1978 and 1988. I have seen firsthand, what works in our sport and what does not. An example of this is how well our "traditional" National Championships were represented back when we had state teams, and how they are no longer supported as our pinnacle event. I believe there are real reasons for this swing, which I would like to have addressed.

In 1988, following my first World Championship Title, I retired from Ski Racing, to start the next phase of my life with Chris, which included marriage (1990), children (1993) and business venture(s) (1989). We continued to social ski throughout, and taught our kids to ski when they were around 3 years of age. It wasn't until 2006 that I returned to Ski Racing, and won my second world title in 2007.

Apart from my experience in our great sport as a skier, I have also been Secretary of Ski Racing ACT in the 1980's.

Chris and I commenced our own pool building business in 1989 in which I successfully manage. In 1999, we expanded into the pool maintenance & repairs division, where we employed an additional seven staff. As manager, I was responsible for the complete overseeing of all facets & functions of the business, including budgets & financial aspects; staffing and related responsibilities; stock control; payroll; bookkeeping; taxation reporting requirements; Building contracts, to name a few. In 2004, we sold a division of our business, so we could spend more time skiing with our kids and family.

Upon my return to ski racing in 2006, I had noticed a very big change in various aspects of our sport; including such things as a demise of: Zones and their ski clubs; State Teams at National level; a change in Ski Racing's structure from being under the AWSA umbrella to standing alone as SRA. I have also noticed a swing, in how we perceive the eliteness or lack of, in our State Championships; Australian Championships and World Championships.

I can see room for improvement in the administration of our sport. Areas in particular being:

- Greater transparency and accountability of administration and expenditure;
- Improved consultation with members by elected delegates on key issues;

- Better communication with members utilising modern technology by way of interfaces such as email and official social media site(s) managed by SRA.

Areas of interest in which I would also like to focus on are:

- Addressing of ongoing safety issues; assessing workarounds and/or alternatives; taking into account their overall effectiveness and cost effectiveness and the impact on our association and its members.
- Promotion of and return of State Representative elected ski teams at National level
- Discussions on where our sport is currently at and the direction it is heading and whether our members are happy with this direction or not?

I am now nearing retirement as an elite ski Racer, and have a hell of a lot of energy to put back into our sport, with no hidden agenda(s).

Furthermore, with my history in our sport and in my profession, I am confident I can contribute in a positive way to the future of Ski Racing in Australia.

In closing, as a wild card nomination, I am asking for your vote as elected delegate, and in return, should I be successful, I intend to focus on the above points. I will also voice the concerns of the owners of our association - "THE MEMBERS", at a national level and proactively steer our governing body in the direction that our members wish.

Yours sincerely



Tania Teelow

Mobile: 0407 918 100

Email: tania@teelowpools.com