

# Nomination for Life Membership of Wanda S.L.S.C

## Tait Michael Brannock

### Life Membership Criteria

*Wanda SLSC constitution 5.9.1 LIFE MEMBERSHIP*

- a) A member may be nominated for Life Membership if the member:*
- i) Has displayed exceptional bravery in attempting to save life, provided that such bravery has been recognised by the Meritorious Awards Committee of the S.L.S.A; or*
  - ii) Has performed ten years distinguished service as a Club Officer, or*
  - iii) Has performed exceptional and exemplary service with the Club.*
- b) A nominee must hold the S.L.S.A of Australia Bronze Medallion or its equivalent from time to time.*

Tait Brannock meets the requirements for Life Membership of Wanda S.L.S.C under the following sections;

5.9.1 a) ii) and,  
5.9.1 a) iii)

Tait Brannock holds a proficient SLSA bronze medallion.

### Nominee's Personal Details

|                                |                              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Name:</b>                   | <b>Tait Michael Brannock</b> |
| <b>Date of Birth:</b>          | <b>18 December 1975</b>      |
| <b>Year joined Wanda SLSC:</b> | <b>1989</b>                  |

### Surf Life Saving Awards – (Major Awards)

|                                            |                         |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Surf Life Saving Certificate</b>        | <b>22 January 1989</b>  |
| <b>Bronze Medallion:</b>                   | <b>13 January 1991</b>  |
| <b>Advanced Resuscitation Certificate:</b> | <b>1 December 1992</b>  |
| <b>Senior First Aid Certificate:</b>       | <b>16 May 1994</b>      |
| <b>Training Officer Bronze Medallion:</b>  | <b>12 December 1993</b> |

|                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Assessor Bronze Medallion:</b>  | <b>16 February 1997</b> |
| <b>25 Year Long Service Award:</b> | <b>28 May 2014</b>      |
| <b>Membership Status:</b>          | <b>Long Service</b>     |

## **Record of Service**

### **Senior Club Executive, Board and Committee Positions**

1994/95 Swimming Captain  
1995/96 Swimming Captain  
1996/97 Swimming Captain  
1997/98 Swimming Captain  
2000/01 Competition Organiser (Director of Surf Sports)  
2001/02 Club Captain  
2001/02 Competition Organiser (Director of Surf Sports)  
2002/03 Club Captain  
2004/05 Competition Organiser (Director of Surf Sports)  
2005/06 Publicity Officer  
2006/07 Publicity Officer  
2007/08 Deputy President  
2008/09 Deputy President  
2012/13 Deputy Director Member Services  
2013/14 Masters Captain  
2013/14 Deputy Director of Member Services  
2015/16 Director of Surf Sports

### **Sub Committee Roles**

1994/95 Management Committee  
1995/96 Management Committee  
1996/97 Management Committee  
1997/98 Management Committee  
2000/2001 Wanda Carnival Committee  
2000/01 Finance and Sponsorship Committee  
2000/01 Chairman of Competition Committee  
2001/02 Wanda Carnival Committee  
2001/02 Finance and Sponsorship Committee  
2003/04 Finance and Sponsorship Committee  
2004/05 Chairman of Competition Committee  
2004/05 Finance and Sponsorship Committee  
2005/06 Administration Committee  
2006/07 Administration Committee  
2007/08 Finance and Sponsorship Committee  
2007/08 Building Committee  
2008/09 Wanda Carnival Committee

2008/09 Finance and Sponsorship Committee  
2009/10 Life Members Criteria Committee  
2010/11 Life Members Criteria Committee  
2011/12 Life Members Criteria Committee  
2012/13 Rules and Bylaws Committee  
2012/13 Life Members Criteria Committee  
2013/14 Surf Sports Committee  
2013/14 Life Members Criteria Committee  
2013/14 Rules and by Laws Committee  
2014/15 Rules and by Laws Committee  
2015/15 Constitution Committee  
2015/16 Chairman Surf Sports Committee

### **Other Senior Club roles**

2003/04 World Team Manager  
2004/05 World Team Manager  
2005/06 World Team Manager  
2015/16 Spring Beach Classic Race Director  
2014/15 Surf Coach  
2015/16 World Masters Team Manager  
2015/16 Water Coach  
2016/17 Water Coach  
2017/18 World Masters Team Manager

### **Life Saving Contribution to Wanda SLSC**

1993/94 Patrol Captain  
1994/95 Patrol Captain  
1995/96 Patrol Captain  
1996/97 Patrol Captain  
2005/06 Patrol Captain – Active Reserve Patrol

### **Surf Life Saving Sydney Roles**

2001/02 Branch Delegate  
2002/03 Branch Delegate  
2007/08 Branch Delegate  
2008/09 Branch Delegate

## **Key Competition Results**

### **Australian Championships**

1989/90 U15 Surf Teams - Bronze  
1990/91 U15 Surf Teams - Gold  
1990/91 U15 Surf Race - Bronze  
1992/93 U18 Surf Teams - Silver  
1993/94 U18 Surf Teams – Gold  
2007/08 Open Rescue Tube Rescue – 5<sup>th</sup>

### **Australian Championships – Masters**

2008/09 30-34 Board Rescue - Silver  
2008/09 30-34 Surf Race – Bronze  
2008/09 110 years Taplin Relay – Bronze  
2009/10 30-34 Board Rescue – Bronze  
2011/12 30-34 Tube Rescue – Silver  
2011/12 30-34 2km beach Run – Silver  
2013/14 35-39 Tube Rescue – Bronze  
2014/15 35-39 Tube Rescue – Silver  
2014/15 110 years Surf Team – Bronze  
2015/16 35-39 Tube Rescue – Gold  
2015/16 35-39 Surf Race – Gold  
2016/17 40-44 50m Pool Manikin Carry - Gold  
2016/17 40-44 100m Manikin Tow with Fins – Gold  
2016/17 40-44 Tube Rescue – Gold  
2018/19 110 years Surf Team – Gold  
2018/19 40-44 years 2km Beach Run – Gold  
2018/19 40-44 years Board Rescue – Silver  
2018/19 40-44 years Surf Race - Silver

### **World Championships**

1996 (South Africa) Open Run Swim Run - Silver  
2016 (Italy) 40-44 2km Beach Run  
2016 (Italy) 40-44 50m Manikin Rescue - Bronze  
2016 (Italy) 40-44 200m Pool Obstacle Race - Bronze  
2018 (Adelaide) 40-44 Men Board Rescue - Gold  
2018 (Adelaide) 40-44 110 years Surf Teams - Gold  
2018 (Adelaide) 110 years Taplin Relay - Silver  
2018 (Adelaide) 40-44 Surf Race - Silver  
2018 (Adelaide) 40-44 2km Beach Run - Silver

## **Supporting Commentary**

Tait is an outstanding member of Wanda Surf Life Saving Club. His enthusiasm and unwavering dedication to the club can only be matched by few. His life long association to Wanda is well deserving of this Life Membership nomination.

Tait joined the Wanda (JAG) Nippers in the 1986/87 season. How ever we all know Tait spent many years prior to this down at Wanda with his parents Michael and Barbara. Members remember a young Tait under the Wanda tent at surf carnivals in the late 70's and early 80's, or playing around the club on Sundays with his sister Mikala.

In the 1988/89 season Tait gained his Life Saving Certificate. This is when his association officially started with the senior club. Tait excelled in the age group divisions. He was an integral part of a core group of young members competing for Wanda at the time. At this young age Tait was labelled by his peers as a "fantastic team competitor" - thus being the ultimate Wanda accolade.

Tait excelled in team events. From 1990 to 1994, Tait won the following medals in the Australian u15/ and u18 Surf Team Championship.

- 1990 u15 Surf Teams - Bronze
- 1991 u15 Surf Teams - Gold
- 1993 u18 Surf Teams - Silver.
- 1994 u18 Surf Teams – Gold.

He also managed a Bronze in the individual u15 Surf Race at the 1991 Nationals. Col Jones then Club Board coach said, "Tait was going into the Championships a little under done due to a mid season injury. With the conditions involving a long wade that suited Tait he just went for broke". Leading around the cans Tait held on for a remarkable bronze medal considering his fitness.

Considering the limited team events that were held at the time compared to todays format this is an outstanding achievement as an age group competitor.

The 1994/95 season saw Tait transition from age group competitor to the open men division whilst also holding his first committee position. In his first year as Swim Captain Tait managed Wanda's most successful Swim Team. Headed by high profile member Stacey Gartrell the team under Tait won six Gold medals at the 1995 Nationals. A feat yet to be repeated.

Tait ran the Swim Team for the following three seasons. Success continued while Tait held the position. The 1996 season saw the World Titles held in Durban, South Africa. This is where Tait won his last Open individual medal. Silver in the Open Men's World

Run Swim Run Championship. Tait was pipped by Cronulla's Daniel McLellan who at the time was regarded as one of the greatest surf swimmers of all time. One small fact that demonstrates Tait's longevity competing is that some 22 years later in 2018, Tait was still winning World Championship medals.

Tait's record away from the competition arena speaks for itself. Summarised in his record of Service, and contribution to Wanda he has been an active member of the Executive and Management positions for two decades.

He has held the roles of Deputy President, Club Captain, Director of Surf Sports and Publicity Officer all for multiple seasons. I will highlight some other facts that aren't as easily represented in his membership summary.

- Committee contribution - As other older members remember. Before social media and the internet, holding a committee position meant many hours spent down the club. On the phone and writing letters in the old Wanda office sometimes wasn't a pleasant place to be, especially during winter in the late evenings. Whilst holding these positions Tait was instrumental in Wanda winning the Interclub, Branch, State and multiple Australian top 10 club point scores.
- Swim Team Captain - Tait obtained sponsorship through Jeff Glenn and Keith Masters for the building of Wanda's first R&R trailer.
- Competition Organiser – Tait re instated the lifesaving division to compete at numerous State Championships. He led a strong team competing in Champion Lifesaver and First Aid. During these years Tait would hire and drive the mini bus to and from the carnival.
- Publicity Officer – pre social media Tait wrote many colourful editions of the Wanda Chatter.
- Club Maintenance - for many years Tait used his trade as an electrician around the club. Tait spent many years repairing the competition trailers for their annual inspection along with general electrical works around the club. Tait led the mini works/ Solly Bar renovation in 2002/03, and also the Founders Room renovation in 2008/09. The 2008/09 renovation involved the complete re wiring and data setup of the Founders room. He set up the large TV screens including the 'famous' Foxtel connection. These multiple renovations were the catalyst for Wanda and the Founders room to realise their potential and become the success they are today.
- General - Sutherland to Surf volunteer since 1985. Tait was a member of the IT committee that launched the original website. MC the Wanda presentation night.

Has lead the fund raising efforts for many World Title campaigns. Over the years this has included Golf days and wine tasting nights.

- Surf Coach/ Club Member – There hasn't been a more enthusiastic member in Wanda over the past 30 years. During this period Tait has been at the forefront of competition. Either competing himself, coaching or mentoring other members. Multiple era's have thrived off his knowledge and enthusiasm. His influence is immeasurable.

### **Summary**

Tait has been an outstanding member of Wanda Surf Life Saving Club for over thirty years. He is very proud of his membership, competition record and dedicated service to Wanda and the community. His nomination represents a membership of distinguished service. As a member he has always performed exceptional and exemplary service with the club worthy of a Life Membership.

Kurt Melville (Nominator)

Jock Campbell (Seconder)

