

Age Australian Pointscore (AAP) – at 10th Feb 2009

© Tony Woodhouse 2003 - All rights reserved

This pointscore gives an excellent comparison of times for age group swimmers of different ages and events.

For each age and each stroke, boys and girls, the AAP has a score of 50 points – set at the 10th Australian Alltime best time (at 31st Dec 2008) for each event..

40 points equals the 2009 Australian Age qualifying time for all events swum at the Australian Age Championships.

This sets every event for every age (17/18, 16, 15, 14, 13/under) at the same starting pointscore. (The FINA pointscore can vary by up to 140 points when comparing the quality of swims eg between 13/u boys and 13/u girls 50m freestyle, the 10th alltime Australian times have points of about 580 and about 720 respectively).

The AAP goes up from 50 by 1 point for each 1% faster than the 10th alltime time for each event. Below 50 points, each point increment is 1/10 of the time difference between 50 and 40 point times. (ie between 10th alltime and 2009 QT).

It is considered that 1% increments are significant. Anything less than about 0.5% would not be a significant difference when comparing different strokes and different ages (FINA uses less than 0.1%).

The “swimmer of the meet” could be easily identified for age swimming.

Most winners at the Australian Age Championships are between 48 and 51 points.

Australian Age records range between 52 and 54 points except 12 of Ian Thorpe’s records, 7 of Leisel Jones’ records, and the records of several other swimmers, which are between 55 and 57 points. Several of these times have been World records.

Much of the pointscores have been put into Team Manager standards, so that they can be incorporated into any TM report. The TM standards only allow 12 standards within the one set, so this has meant two sets have been produced for AAP. If more than one set is required, they can be merged using “excel”.

Any states, districts or clubs that wish to try them out, may email twoodhouse2@bigpond.com for the TM standards. And/or they can be emailed as an “excel” document -1 page each age – from 55 points to 28 points.

The present standards available for TM are:

A51x40 - 51 to 40 points– 2009 (13/under to 17/18yr in all Australian Age Championship events)

A39x28 - 39 to 28 points– 2009 (13/under to 17/18yr in all Australian Age Championship events)

(Also A55x44 - 55 to 44 points– 2009 is available if only the very top times are wanted. Very few swims are above 51 points)

Email twoodhouse2@bigpond.com for any further information or queries.