

gea

Under
40



GYMNASTICS CLUBS AUSTRALIA

EDUCATION | ADVOCACY | COMMUNITY

KEY INFORMATION

PROGRAM PURPOSE

- Recognise people under 40 at GCA Member Clubs making a highly significant contribution to their workplace –possibly also an impact for positive change and development in our Industry.
- Share their worthy stories to educate and inspire others in their cohort –whilst revealing career potential.
- Further develop Leadership capabilities and capacities in Clubs and the Industry.
- Expand and deepen the GCA community.

ELIGIBILITY

- Be a part of a GCA Member Club.
- Be under 40 years of age at 01/01/2024
- Have some management/leadership role.
- From a 'Co-Ordinator' through to an Owner, eg.
- Can be more than one nominee per Club.
- Be nominated by a senior person at a GCA Member Club

For further information, including any queries, please do not hesitate to contact

Ross Gage, GCA CEO:
ross.gage@gymnasticsclubsaustralia.org.au

OUR 40UNDER40 INDUSTRY LEADERS

Nyssa Barros-Smith
Andrew Bassett
Lars Becker
Mark Beddoe
Siobhan Cash
Shae Christian
Ashleigh Dale
James Devlin
Anthony Dorrington
Olivia Dunell
Charlotte Edgley
Vaughn Edmonds
Jenny Evans
Chloe Gilliland
Jessica Goodrope
Jes Larsen
Katerina Lashina
Rosie Lewis
Larissa Lum
Sara McSweeney

Keira Meyers
Rylee Morton
Elizabeth Napoli
Lauren Norton
Georgina Parker
Joshua Parker Sloan
Zara Purvis
Rebecca Robertson
Adam Sabransky
Katie Schoutens
Caylie Smith
Penny Smith
Amber Steward
Brenton Treacher
Toby Thomas
Caileigh Thornton
Aley Toll
Chloe Toll
Rebecca Van Gils
Peita Vincent

NYSSA BARROS-SMITH

Program Coordinator at BK's Gymnastics



Nyssa began working for BKs Gymnastics Craigieburn as a Casual Coach in 2019 soon progressing into a Head Coach position.

Nyssa was then promoted to Centre Manager as of 2021 and has been a huge contributor to the success of the business since its opening to now having over 750 members.

ANDREW BASSETT

Owner at Focus Gymnastics



Andy owns a fitness gym and has recently moved to the sunshine state while continuing to run his businesses in NSW. He has been an incredible support for NSW clubs looking for alternative competitions and insurance options. He has worked hard to connect clubs together and assist them with their needs in this changing climate. Andy will happily give up his time, documentation and ideas to help other clubs. He is passionate about creating strong small businesses and clubs that can provide gymnastics classes to thriving happy kids.

LARS BECKER

Coach at Gymsports Management



Lars has achieved significant milestones in his gymnastics coaching career, having completed the FIG Level 2 and 3 courses. He currently coaches two boys involved in the National Junior Squads and has successfully developed a boys club badges program. This program allows recreational level boys to progress through a 12-badge system, enabling continuous improvement over three years before transitioning to the boys team program. His commitment extends beyond coaching; he is a course presenter for Gymnastics Tasmania and is a key member of the Gymsports Management Leadership Team, serving as the Gymnastics Tasmania MAG Technical Director.

LARS BECKER

Coach at Gymsports Management

Under Lars's leadership, a strong team of 12 male coaches has been established. He frequently participates in Junior National Squad training sessions at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and volunteers his time as the Gymnastics Tasmania MAG Technical Director and State team coach. Lars maintains high ethical standards for himself and his athletes, fostering a respectful environment in his gym. His contributions to the Gymsports Management leadership team have been instrumental in shaping the strategic direction and success of the organization. Lars's programs are inclusive, welcoming girls and athletes with special needs. With 17 years of experience in the gymnastics industry, primarily in men's gymnastics, his expertise spans both recreational and competitive gymnastics. He has developed and implemented two recreational programs for boys tailored to the needs of the community and local centers. In the competitive arena, Lars oversees a Boys Team Program that caters to athletes from Level 1 through Level 10. He has proudly represented Tasmania as the State Team coach from 2014 to 2023 and established a State Development Squad during 2014–2017.

Within the Boys Team, Lars is dedicated to empowering young athletes to set and achieve goals, overcome challenges, and support their teammates. The primary objective of the Boys Team is to foster a healthy and supportive community for men's gymnastics in Tasmania, enhancing participation and ensuring longevity in the sport. Additionally, Lars has been involved in the MAG Sports Committee from 2014 to 2023 and serves as a Men's State presenter and assessor. Overall, Lars's contributions to gymnastics extend beyond coaching to include program development, strategic leadership, and fostering an inclusive and ethical sports environment. His dedication and expertise have significantly impacted the growth and success of men's gymnastics in Tasmania.

MARK BEDDOE

Head Coach at Kids in Motion



Mark is the Head Coach, Integrator of the leadership team, and Head of Development for Team Development at Kids in Motion (KIM). Starting with no gymnastics teaching experience, Mark quickly rose to prominence, becoming a leading coach capable of teaching all ages from 2 to 18. Within two years, he was promoted to the leadership team. This program has received high praise from team engagement surveys. At KIM, the focus is on developing leaders, not athletes.

Mark emphasizes key values like resilience in his classes, taking pride in young children praising their peers for embodying these values. Mark's background in management and team leading has honed his leadership skills. His philosophy centers on leading by example, consistently modeling the behaviour he expects from others.

MARK BEDDOE

Head Coach at Kids in Motion

He mentors younger coaches, providing them with resources and guidance to develop their leadership skills, and shares his team-building approach with the entire KIM team. Dedicated to personal development, Mark has completed courses like the 12-week Insane Productivity course and the 52-week Hero's Journey growth and development course. He continually reads and listens to podcasts on leadership, bringing new insights to help the team grow. Mark exemplifies integrity, honesty, and respect in his work, setting a high standard for others to follow.

Working with children with special needs has become a highlight of Mark's week. He has made significant progress with two children in particular: Chloe, a 9-year-old non-verbal, deaf, and autistic girl, and Parina, an 11-year-old girl with Down syndrome. Over three years with Chloe, Mark has seen improvements in her physical skills, anxiety levels, and training consistency. His personal experience with childhood hearing impairment allows him to connect deeply with her, and he has learned sign language to enhance their communication.

Mark began working with Parina a year ago, taking on a challenge others were hesitant to face. He approached her sessions with a positive mindset and high expectations, leading to rewarding experiences for both Parina and her family. His dedication to promoting diversity and inclusion is evident in his leadership. Originally from the UK, Mark came to Australia on a working holiday and started coaching at KIM. When COVID-19 hit, he faced financial difficulties but demonstrated his commitment by waiting patiently for the club to reopen. His dedication and passion for his work have been evident since the club resumed operations, highlighting his unwavering commitment to KIM's mission and his life in Australia.

SIOBHAN CASH

Head Coach at Kids in Motion



Siobhan is the Head Coach, member of the Leadership Team, and Head of Customer Experience and Scheduling Development at Kids in Motion (KIM). She was the British Junior FIG Acrobatics Champion in 2013 and has competed in county, regional, and national competitions. Siobhan founded a gymnastics club at Birmingham University, where none previously existed. Starting as a coach at age 14, Siobhan has been with KIM for nine years and a head coach for eight.

Starting as a coach at age 14, Siobhan has been with KIM for nine years and a head coach for eight. Coaching at KIM involves unique programs and skills, many of which were new to her, but she embraced the challenge and excelled.

SIOBHAN CASH

Head Coach at Kids in Motion

Within a year, she progressed from the newest coach to the most senior coach by adhering strictly to the desired coaching style and approach. Siobhan is the longest-serving member of the Leadership Team, growing significantly in organizational skills, productivity, delegation, time management, and complaint handling. She continues to improve in managing difficult internal conversations.

During COVID-19, Siobhan was the only team member to proactively create new programs, which helped maintain community stability. As a leader, she embodies a problem-solving attitude, consistently finding solutions and maintaining a positive approach. This proactive leadership and problem-solving mindset have been key to her rapid promotions. Siobhan's natural strengths may not align with traditional managerial roles, but her growth has been impressive. As the only female member of the leadership team for years and at times the only female coach, she has thrived in a male-dominated environment, outshining her colleagues.

In program development, Siobhan created a successful Zoom program for kids during lockdown and was instrumental in organizing a significant celebratory event for VIP clients. She also developed extensive lesson plans, reflecting her deep understanding of the desired class structure.

Siobhan has undertaken multiple personal development courses, such as the 12-week Insane Productivity course (completed three times), the 52-week Hero's Journey Leadership course (completed twice), a 6-week Jumpstart goal-setting program, and a 4-week social media course. Siobhan's commitment to learning and growth is unparalleled. She steps up to teach adult classes, creating a specialized program for mothers, known as Mums in Motion, which has profoundly impacted the participants.

Her involvement extends beyond the gym, often being asked to babysit, socialize, and even handle school drop-offs and pickups during family separations. She advocates for employees who feel unable to speak up and supports her teammates. Her impact is felt locally, with former participants fondly recalling her influence.

Siobhan spearheaded special needs sessions during limited operational days post-COVID, prioritizing community support over profit. A testament to her dedication is a card from the parents of a young autistic girl, Emily, which reads, "Not many people understand the assignment with Emily but you did. Thank you!" Despite family in the UK and past negative experiences with gymnastics, Siobhan remains committed to KIM, and her dedication, resilience, and leadership make her an invaluable asset to KIM and the community it serves.

SHAE CHRISTIAN

Coach at Waverley Gymnastics



Shae, an Advanced Module 1 coach at Waverley Gymnastics (WGC), exemplifies exceptional leadership and mentorship. Her ability to inspire and guide a team of 50+ coaches, as well as her peers, creates a supportive environment where gymnasts and families feel comfortable seeking advice. At the heart of Shae's leadership is her strong emphasis on teamwork. She unites team members through open communication, cooperation, and mutual respect, contributing to WGC's success and positive atmosphere.

Shae's friendly and enthusiastic demeanor fosters a sense of belonging and unity among gymnasts and their families, which has led to a record increase in membership within WGC's Educational program. Under Shae's leadership, staff numbers have increased, reflecting her ability to attract and retain talent. She has implemented strategies to enhance staff engagement, resulting in a more cohesive and motivated team. Her inclusive approach and recognition of staff contributions have created a positive work environment.

Shae meticulously refines the curriculum, crafts comprehensive lessons, and facilitates level testing twice annually for the WGC Educational Program. In 2023, she led the annual WGC Gym For All Event, with over 700 participants, providing a friendly competition-like atmosphere and high satisfaction levels. Shae played a crucial role in WGC receiving a \$50,000 Vic Health Jump Start grant to provide children with disabilities access to WGC programs. She dedicated time beyond her managerial responsibilities to facilitate weekly classes for Vermont South Special School. Additionally, Shae has been instrumental in developing and maintaining the club's inclusion programming. Despite staffing challenges, she consistently coached classes to ensure athletes with additional needs did not miss out, significantly enriching the WGC community.

Shae consistently demonstrates WGC's core values of integrity, acting responsibly, and with transparency to deliver on promises and hold herself accountable. Her remarkable maturity is evident in her ability to handle challenges with composure and resilience. She seeks constructive solutions and learns from each experience, showcasing a depth of understanding and emotional intelligence uncommon for her age. Shae's empathy fosters positive and meaningful connections, contributing to a supportive and harmonious environment. She approaches staff performance with professionalism and fairness, addressing concerns promptly and reinforcing a culture of accountability and respect for policies and procedures. Shae has effectively promoted Waverley within the gymnastics industry and the community through social media, attracting new participants and generating record membership numbers. Driven by a vision of leadership in gymnastics, Shae is committed to providing opportunities for everyone to engage in gymnastics and reach their full potential.

SHAE CHRISTIAN

Coach at Waverley Gymnastics

This vision emphasizes inclusivity, comprehensive skill development, and community engagement. Shae advocates for breaking down barriers in gymnastics, ensuring that individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities can experience its transformative power. She fosters an environment that promotes mental and emotional development alongside physical prowess, setting WGC apart as a leader in the field. Shae's commitment to professional development ensures that coaches are well-versed in traditional techniques and the latest advancements in sports science and safety standards.

ASHLEIGH DALE

Regional Manager at Delta Gymnastics



Ash is the Regional Manager for Delta Gymnastics and charged with building the capability of our Club Managers across the network. Coming from Learn to Swim, Ash became a gymnastics coach six years ago and has moved through the ranks at Delta from Coach, to Senior Coach, to Tribe Leader, Club Manager and now as Regional Manager. Ash has a strong focus on systems that enhance the delivery of gymnastics that help kids grow up.

JAMES DEVLIN

Managing Director and Owner of Jet's Gymnastics



James is the Managing Director and Owner of Jets Gymnastics, as well as the Co-Founder of AGC. James is leading the way for a positive gymnastics movement and is involved with the GCA Board and many GA voluntary positions across 25+ Years.

Key Professional Achievements:

- Leadership in innovative thinking and business
- Author of "A positive coaching movement"
- Educating and training other clubs and staff
- Creating and advocating for positive change in gymnastics
- Provides membership assistance to support families to stay in gymnastics
- Sponsorship program to assist high level athletes in our sport
- Co-Founder of Australian Gymnastics Competitions with first ever paid gymnasts in our sport and 1000+ gymnasts in the first year.
- Employs 35+ full time staff to have careers in gymnastics

ANTHONY DORRINGTON

Director of PIT Gymnastics



Anthony is the Director of PIT Gymnastics, a National GfA commission member, as well as a GfA Technical Committee Member with the Performance Gymnastics project Victoria. Anthony employs over 30 staff members from 16 years to 60 and works with a collaborative approach between MAG and WAG Programs. Since taking over as Director, Anthony has driven new branding, club philosophies, integration of new administrative technology, facility upgrades and pushes for innovation.

Anthony focuses on staff retention by offering casual training and social opportunities for coaches and members over 18, fostering continued involvement in the sport. He provides full-time opportunities to young university graduates and remains a key driver in the GfA space within PIT, Victoria, and nationally through state events, National Clubs Carnival, and World Gymnaestrada. He introduced the Ollerup International Gymnastics Academy Exchange Program, hosting Danish gymnastic students and sending PIT coaches to train in Denmark. Anthony also creates opportunities for coaches to stay engaged with the sport through adult classes and competition/performance opportunities at various levels.

Key Professional Achievements:

- MAG FIG II and WAG/Acro Advanced certifications
- Gymnastics Australia Presenter and Assessor
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Physical Education
- Graduate of Ollerup Gymnastikhøjskolen, Denmark
- Transitioned PIT Gymnastics into second-generation family ownership, nearing 50 years of operation
- Successfully navigated through Covid-19 lockdowns
- Developed new gym sports: FreeG, TeamGym, and Performance Gymnastics
- Continued growth of existing gym sports: MAG, WAG, and GfA
- Maintained PIT's participation in seven consecutive World Gymnaestrada events

Anthony has integrated online scoring software at competitions and recreational programs, using tablets to streamline operations and enhance lesson efficiency and standards. He regularly attends Gymnastics Australia (GA) conferences, workshops, and events, and is a qualified GA Presenter and Assessor. He runs in-house training workshops for staff and at national events like the National Clubs Carnival in the GfA space. Recently, he graduated from MAG FIG II and will attend an upcoming FIG GfA fundamentals course. Anthony contributes to the community by servicing approximately 20 schools per year through in-house or at-school programs, ranging from one-off sessions to 10-week programs. He is heavily involved in delivering these programs, including inclusive ones for schools with all abilities. PIT's core focus is to 'Enrich lives through physical activity,' aiming to help kids grow, have fun, and make lifelong friends while providing adults opportunities to stay active and involved in the sport.

ANTHONY DORRINGTON

Director of PIT Gymnastics

Anthony regularly attends local, state, national, and international events in various gym sports. He actively contributes to community grassroots programs at the club level and maintains a strong presence at state and national events. He has developed excellent relationships with State/National Association officers and other gym club owners. Anthony adheres to ethical standards, sportsmanship, and fair play through his roles as a club owner, gymsport committee member, coach, and competitor.

OLIVIA DUNELL

AGC Manager, Events and Projects at Jet's Gymnastics



Olivia has revolutionised the way Jets run events including having the ability to contribute financially to athlete sponsorship programs. Olivia also runs a whole company in AGC leading the entire industry in a positive way to run gymnastics competitions.

Key Professional Achievements:

- Running a start up company in her first year of management
- Running Australia's first ever paid professional gymnastics event
- Leading the most profitable events at Jets Gymnastics in clubs history
- Brining new and different inspiration to the way we look at events across Jets and in the competitive gymnastics industry

CHARLOTTE EDGLEY

Member Experience Manager at Jet's Gymnastics



Charlotte brings a unique blend of skills to our industry team. She leads and designs the member experiences using a consistent and centralised approach, helping revolutionise the standards of customer experience in the industry.

VAUGHN EDMONDS

CEO at Invert Sports Centre



Vaughn transitioned from a background in Martial Arts and Rock Climbing coaching to gymnastics coaching at Goulburn PCYC, initially as a volunteer before becoming a paid coach. This role led to a full-time position at Cheer Fusion. Since 2013, Vaughn has taught gymnastics programs in schools, and in 2017, he founded his own gym, Invert Gymnastics. He also served as the Southern Region Supervisor for Gymnastics NSW from 2017 to 2021. His club, among the top five fastest-growing in NSW in 2018, earned him the Distinguished Service to Gymnastics award from Gymnastics NSW.

Now a non-profit, Invert Gymnastics employs Vaughn and five staff members. Although no longer affiliated with Gymnastics NSW, Vaughn continues to advise other NSW clubs. Invert Sports Centre, the largest gymnastics club in Goulburn, competed in New Zealand under his leadership in 2022. As Regional Supervisor, Vaughn assisted clubs with competition management, relocations, and equipment installation, and continues to provide voluntary support and guidance.

Vaughn has trained and mentored his coaching team, consisting of former and current students, to be confident and qualified coaches. These young coaches enjoy working for him and often volunteer at club events. As Regional Supervisor, Vaughn increased club participation in competitions, reinstated scholarships for young gymnasts, and created an athlete wellbeing role for the regional committee. He continues to advocate for athlete wellbeing across all sports.

Vaughn collaborates with other clubs to organize supportive competitions and training camps for young gymnasts. Following his attendance at the GCA Level Up seminar, he improved Invert Sports Centre's enrolment and remuneration processes for smoother year-round operation. Vaughn is a course presenter for RGA and conducts workshops and training days to maintain high coaching standards.

Invert Sports Centre has participated in the local Relay for Life initiative for ten years, earning recognition for their commitment. Vaughn promotes gymnastics and children's involvement in sports on the local radio station and provides gymnastics programs to local and remote schools, offering opportunities that might not otherwise be available. He also volunteers in regional areas to introduce gymnastics to children without access to such programs. Invert Sports Centre supports local school and community programs through attendance and donations, fostering a safe and friendly environment for staff and students. Vaughn emphasizes fair play, personal goal achievement, and a zero-tolerance policy for bullying. The club holds recreational showcases to engage non-competitive students and promote good sportsmanship.

VAUGHN EDMONDS

CEO at Invert Sports Centre

Vaughn has facilitated gymnastics classes for children and adults with disabilities and participated in the House with No Steps disability program. He envisions a comprehensive approach to gymnastics, making it accessible at any life stage. His five-year plan includes a Youth Sports Training Facility integrating various sports, health services, childcare, and educational programs, aiming to nurture well-rounded athletes into successful adults. Vaughn's contributions have been recognized by Gymnastics NSW and local schools, and he is frequently sought by the Goulburn radio station for commentary on children's sports.

JENNY EVANS

Club Manager – Barron at Delta Gymnastics



Jenny took over her own location after 2 years of development with the club and now manages a remote location with online correspondence from the rest of the leadership team. She deals with unique situations arising in her location with patience and consistency and has worked incredibly hard over the last 2 years to develop new skills in the areas of coach education, hiring, onboarding, scheduling and committee management that are need for her remote location. She has supported her staff and members through several natural disasters such as severe flooding and cyclones with a calm, collected and strong resolve.

CHLOE GILLILAND

Head of Competitive Gymnastics at Allstar Gymnastics



Chloe is the Head of Competitive Gymnastics & Club Gym Program Co-ordinator at Allstar Gymnastics. Since retiring from Elite Gymnastics and starting a family of her own, Chloe has dedicated her time and energy to becoming the biggest asset to the Gymnastics Community I have seen in a long time. Before returning home to Toowoomba to take on her current leadership role within our Organisation Chloe spent years learning and developing her skills at various locations including YMCA Sunshine Coast Caloundra and Premier Gymnastics, all whilst undergoing her formal training as a recreational and competitive coach.

CHLOE GILLILAND

Head of Competitive Gymnastics at Allstar Gymnastics

On top of this, Chloe has allocated ample time to do additional extensive study and learning through Nick Ruddick Online and has a strong desire to improve the experience of competitive gymnastics for young people to ensure they have a more nurtured experience that she and her fellow colleagues did when they were younger. When Chloe returned to Toowoomba she spent time in the gym coaching, as she still does, and has developed into a key leader within our organisation across all areas, not just competitive Gymnastics. Chloe stepped right into her role with us and has taken on every challenge with a brilliant attitude, along side developing her skills to manage a young, ever growing team.

Chloe is constantly looking for ways to improve the experience for both gymnasts and the coaching team. One of the many examples of this was her initiative to create and roll out a team coaching regime across the competitive areas. This has not only improved the experience for our gymnasts but also allowed our young coaches to level up faster and inspire our recreational coaches to develop their skills to this level also.

Chloe is extremely passionate about the wellbeing, mental, emotional and physical of young people and this shows through in her programming, mentoring and contribution to the Club. Over the years Chloe has maintained studying a Bachelor of Education whilst working fulltime, raising a young family and has also attended two GCA professional development opportunities alongside many other industry events online and in person to broaden her network and skills. Chloe constantly continues to learn and develop as a coach and industry professional, and is a huge asset to the entire industry well beyond the benefits our club receives from her commitment. For these reasons, I believe Chloe is beyond worthy of being on the GCA 40 under 40 Industry Leaders List. Our industry needs strong minded people willing to drive change inside and outside of their home Club for the betterment of our sport, Chloe is one of those people.

JESSICA GOODROPE

Centre Manager at Jet's Gymnastics



Jessica runs the High Performance Centre at Jets and sets the standard across the industry for positive coaching movement. Jessica leads with fun, kindness, teamwork and empowerment and coaches an Australian Team Gymnast while running a Jet's centre. Jessica also coaches a Level 10 National Champion on bars and supports the industry through attending interclub training sessions and mentorship across coaching teams. Jessica has a FIG Level 3 coach in her program and is a leader of High Performance Coaching Program.

JES LARSEN

General Manager at BTYC Gymnastics



Jes is a highly esteemed figure in Victoria's gymnastics community, having nurtured her passion for the sport from participant to professional. Beginning with coaching roles at Niddrie and Moonee Valley YMCA, she transitioned to a pivotal full-time position at Footscray City Gymnastics Club, where she served as a key member of the management team for over a decade. In 2021, Jes assumed the role of General Manager at BTYC Gymnastics, renowned as one of Victoria and Australia's largest and most successful clubs.

Throughout her career, Jes has remained dedicated to inclusivity and empowering gymnasts of all levels. Her commitment to keeping young individuals engaged in gymnastics has inspired many to pursue lasting careers within the sport, ensuring its enduring growth and vitality.

Jes is distinguished by her leadership style, characterized by integrity, inspiration, and inclusivity. She uplifts her colleagues, creating a culture where everyone's voice is valued and respected. Her willingness to listen and incorporate feedback into decision-making processes underscores her genuine concern for her team and the sport's greater welfare. Recognized for her innovation, Jes has actively cultivated the next generation of gymnastics leaders at BTYC. By providing numerous opportunities for leadership and professional growth, she has cultivated a dynamic team of young coaches poised to drive both their club and the broader gymnastics industry forward. Jes's dedication to ongoing learning is exemplary. She actively seeks advice and mentorship from peers, engaging in dialogue with local club managers and participating in GCA events to stay abreast of industry advancements and best practices.

A significant highlight of Jes's career was the introduction of the Baby Gym program at Footscray City Gymnastics. This initiative allowed non-walking infants to participate in gymnastics for free, providing a valuable social hub for young families and laying the foundation for their continued involvement in the sport. Integrity is a cornerstone of Jes's leadership philosophy. She consistently advocates for the welfare of her team and the sport as a whole, promoting transparency and respectful collaboration among clubs and coaches. Her proactive approach to fostering positive relationships within the community underscores her commitment to building a cohesive and supportive gymnastics network.

Under Jes's guidance, BTYC has achieved remarkable milestones, with athletes regularly earning spots on Victorian state teams in multiple disciplines. This success has elevated BTYC's profile nationally, culminating in the club's first Australian team representatives in Tumbling at the 2023 World Age Group Championships.

JES LARSEN

General Manager at BTYC Gymnastics

Jes is a passionate advocate for inclusivity in gymnastics, spearheading initiatives like the gender-neutral club uniform at Footscray City Gymnastics. This forward-thinking approach sparked important conversations about diversity and inclusion within the broader community, inspiring other clubs to adopt similar practices.

Jes's unwavering dedication, integrity, and advocacy for gymnastics make her an exceptional leader who continues to shape the future of the sport at local, state, national, and international levels. Her efforts not only enhance the athletic development of gymnasts but also enrich the overall gymnastics experience for participants and their families.

KATERINA LASHINA

Manager at Delta Gymnastics, Burleigh Heads



Kat started with Delta Five years ago as the manager at Delta Kedron. After 18 months in this role Kat moved to our Delta Gold Coast venue and has driven growth and profitability by supporting the staff on the Gold Coast. Delta Gold Coast grew from 300 children to 550 and has since opened a second venue managed by Kat and is now approaching 1000 gymnasts across the coast. Kat is very focussed on achieving goals for the team in an efficient manner and is challenging herself and her team to drive the New Delta Burleigh Heads to be the most family focussed club building to a community of 1000 children at Burleigh in 2024.

ROSIE LEWIS

Director at Icon Gymsports



Involved with the sport for 30 years. Passionate about creating a positive environment for all students that nurtures their development in all aspects of life. Driving change in the industry to deliver the best outcomes for gymnasts across the country.

LARISSA LUM

Acting Club Manager at Delta Gymnastics



Larissa is the Acting Club Manager at Senior Team Leader at Delta Clayfield. Larissa has gone from gymnast, coach, Team Leader to Club Manager as she has grown up through the club. She bravely struck out and moved to our remote cairns location for a year as a development opportunity for her leadership skills. Larissa was able to step into the role of Club Manager at the last minute and take the role completely in stride at only 25 years old.

She is a true Chameleon in her role as a leader and is able to switch from coach to friend to leader and back, whichever the situation calls for. Larissa is the epitome of a team player for her coaches and members, nothing is out of her wheelhouse and she will get in there and get things done every time.

SARA MCSWEENEY

Owner at Diamond Gymnastics



Sara founded her gymnastics centre, Diamond Gymnastics, in 2016 with a singular goal: to share her lifelong passion for gymnastics with her community. Sara's approach to leadership revolves around cultivating a supportive and empowered team environment, where every member is encouraged to reach their goals. Since establishing Diamond Gymnastics she has stayed committed to share her deep-rooted passion for the sport, Sara has consistently demonstrated her ability to inspire and empower others. At the heart of Sara's ethos is a commitment to continuous improvement and innovation.

She actively participates in networking and professional development events, ensuring that she and her team are always at the forefront of industry advancements. By creating a culture of learning and adaptation, Sara ensures that her staff and gym community benefit from the latest practices and opportunities for growth. Sara focuses on fostering a team environment where every individual feels valued and supported. She encourages creativity and initiative, empowering her team members to forge their own paths within the gymnastics community. By prioritising mentorship and professional development, Sara ensures that her staff not only excel in their roles but also grow personally and professionally. Sara's entrepreneurial spirit, combined with her strategic vision and commitment to professional development, positions her as a leader who is shaping the future of gymnastics. Through her leadership, Sara not only inspires her team to achieve new heights of excellence but also leaves a lasting imprint on the sport, influencing its evolution and fostering a community of passionate gymnasts and professionals.

KIERA MEYERS

Club Manager at Delta Gymnastics



Kiera has worked hard on her development over several years as a Senior Team Leader before taking over her own location. She has excellent organisation, problem solving and forward thinking skills and is truly committed to her own personal development and never shy's away from learning opportunities. Kiera is the most consistent person I have worked with, she won't let up until the result is achieved by doing every step along the way every single time. Her knowledge and support is

highly respected in her club, even by team members twice her age and experience. Keira is great at mentoring in a way that is calm, approachable and never judgemental.

RYLEE MORTON

Co Owner & Director at Kids Sports on the Beaches



Rylee has worked within the industry since 2009 under Northern Beaches Gymnastics. NBG closed their doors and my ex employer started the North Narrabeen Academy of Gymnastics in 2015 to which I transitioned into and became the program manager for kindygyms Australia under gai forest in 2018 for north Narrabeen academy of gymnastics. Rylee has remained in the industry to maintain a customer base throughout the covid 2020 lockdown when my employing company had closed and the landlord

had stepped in for financial support ran outdoor private and family group sessions for kids throughout the lockdown when physical activity could only be outdoors. We bought the indoors outdoors, our home was a marquee with a tumble track, mini trampolines, matting and soft play. Our vacation care is also registered as a child care program so we were able to run morning sessions for 3 – 5 year olds and afterschool sessions for school ages kids where we played games, arts and crafts, fed them and so on.

This kept us a float (just) and got myself and my business partners to a point where we were able to create the new company of Kids Sports On The Beaches in 2021. We operated for a few months, with 0 knowledge and education on how to run a business to then be hit by another lock down. We continued 2020 covid plan of private lessons and childcare with no certainty of coming out the other end. Long story short, we (my business partners and I) are now here fully operating with 100% ownership as the directors of Kids Sports On The Beaches. Our startup was extremely challenging with both external and internal battles of the company's running and a very challenging legal battle of purchase of business/ lease agreement mixed with covid lockdowns. We had staffing issues within the change (staff member leaving and starting a gym less the 10min away, poaching customers and staff) and challenges with GYMNSW.

RYLEE MORTON

Co Owner & Director at Kids Sports on the Beaches

But even with the challenges above, the wins make it all worth it. We celebrated our first national champion in 2023, our pre-schoolers and toddlers pointing to the building when driving past yelling 'Kindygyim!!!!', our recreational program BOOMING, as well as a new baby program created internally and new connections through GCA which I never thought would happen and finally being selected to be apart of the SIG Young Guns .

ELIZABETH NAPOLI

Development Co-ordinator at PCYC NSW.



Elizabeth is currently the Gymnastics Development Co-ordinator at PCYC, along with running Cessnock Gymnastics Program, Event Co-ordinator for the PCYC Events series. Also the TeamGym Co-ordinator with Gymnastics NSW. Liz has worked with PCYC for years and started as a gymnastics co-ordinator. Her ability to grow the program and develop a coaching team has been excellent, and has seen her working in multiple locations as well as mentoring and supporting new co-ordinators and clubs. Liz has developed a series of gymnastics events

hosted by PCYC clubs which are focused on positive customer experience, as a retention strategy for our clubs. Many of these events are now being attended by non PCYC gymnastics clubs. In addition to this Liz also contributes to the professional development of PCYC gymnastics coaches, through workshops and training courses. In her spare time, Liz also volunteers to support TeamGym and other GFA programs with Gymnastics NSW, co-ordinating events, running workshops and courses etc.

LAUREN NORTON

Product Manager, Delta's Aspire Competitive Program



Lauren is the Product Manager for Delta's Aspire Competitive program and has established a network of support for competitive coaches at Delta. Lauren is one of Australia's most successful Level 4-10 coaches and has been using her experience to assist coaches to enable children to feel confident in competitive gymnastics. From fortnightly catch ups, daily video's in the group chat, bi monthly training opportunities and being available always by phone to support coaches. Lauren has demonstrated an ability to influence the growth of our support by providing tools, resources and support to coaches and leaders.

GEORGINA PARKER

Manager at Delta Gymnastics, Clayfield



Georgina is one of Delta's most experienced Club Managers charged with delivering great classes at Delta Clayfield. Delta Clayfield is always a leading club in the Delta Network with high Staff Engagement and a Net Promoter Score always over 70. Georgina leads with kindness and sincere care for her team and families. She engages her team towards the goals of the club and has made Delta Clayfield home to 800 families.

JOSHUA PARKER SLOAN

Regional Performance Manager at Delta Gymnastics



Josh is Delta's Regional Performance Manager. In this role he is responsible for providing support, guidance and strategy to the leadership team of competitive coaches at Delta. Always thinking about systems, Josh has implemented a meeting rhythm to engage with the regional team leaders and discuss the issues relating to competitive gymnastics at the highest level. Josh has also been the State Team Head Coach for the past two years, helping coaches outside of Delta to maximise performances at National Titles. Josh has a mission to deliver competitive gymnastics the right way. With a strong child focussed coaching philosophy that drives deep at Delta, he is well on the way to creating a legacy in competitive gymnastics.

ZARA PURVIS

Centre Manager at Jet's Gymnastics



Zara has been involved in the industry for 11 years and her coaching has now turned into a career. Zara shows leadership in running the biggest and most profitable Jets centre with a history of 30 years and achieving the highest ever enrolments in one location and manages 40+ staff. Zara show innovation in creating the programming at Jets Gymnastics that is used across 6 locations. She is the co-founder of AGC with Australia's first ever paid pro gymnasts and 1000+ gymnasts in the first year, 3 states and almost 2000 gymnasts in second year.

REBECCA ROBERTSON

Owner at Peninsula Gymnastics



Rebecca has grown Peninsula Gymnastics to one of Victoria's top clubs. Has purchased land and built their current building. Installed solar panels and air conditioning. The community she has built is exceptional, including several ninja warrior participants and champions. Bec's leadership skills are exceptional. Not only does she lead her own organisation with integrity and kindness, she also works diligently in the Victorian and Australian gymnastics communities to make positive change for all clubs. Rebecca holds a constant

attendance at conferences, workshops and other educational events including GCA events, GV/GA events, National Congress in the US and the Summit. She has also developed an internal training program for her club, and works on a GA KinderGym advisory board. Peninsula gymnastics are leaders in the foundation movement space, and have a truly inclusive program. Some examples include athletes with multi limb deficiencies, athletes with brain cancer and associated surgeries and more. She has also run Good Friday Appeal community events to raise money for the children's hospital.

ADAM SABRANSKY

Centre Manager at Jet's Gymnastics, Bendigo



Adam has an MBA and is constantly innovating ways to make Jets Bendigo run more professionally while maintaining a focus on amazing gymnastics programs. Coming from a diverse background including the sports management and was even once a Private Investigator.

KATIE SCHOUTENS

Club Manager at Delta Gymnastics



Katie took over leadership of her own location at 22 and worked tirelessly on her development to move from coach to team leader to club manager in just 2 years. She is known for her excellent relationships with staff members and her commitment to building good peer relationships in her gym. Katie sees hurdles as learning opportunities and has high expectations for her team, but is determined to achieve them with support, empathy and positivity. She has a strong commitment to the development of future leaders and demonstrates this each day.

CAYLIE SMITH

Education Manager at Twisters Gymnastics



Caylie joined Twisters Gymnastics in 2019, bringing a wealth of experience from her upbringing in Canada where her family owned a gym. Starting as a coach, she swiftly progressed through various roles, including managing the Badge & Stars recreational programs and overseeing the Club Badge Program. Her initiative in revamping testing systems streamlined operations across three venues, enhancing efficiency and quality control. During the challenging COVID-19 lockdowns, Caylie played a pivotal role in developing an online training program for Twisters' recreational kids.

This initiative not only kept members engaged but also proved invaluable when the Torquay venue faced flooding and subsequent shutdowns. The resilience displayed during these periods contributed significantly to Twisters' recovery and continued growth. In 2023, Caylie transitioned to Education Manager while maintaining a coaching workload, showcasing her dedication to both staff development and program excellence. She spearheaded Twisters' new coach education and retention system, ensuring that all coaches receive comprehensive training in-house. Reducing her coaching hours in 2024 allowed her to focus intensively on this educational initiative, crucial for enhancing membership retention strategies.

As Education Manager, Caylie oversees a sizable team, mentoring Floor Leaders and Mentors to maintain consistent coaching standards. Her leadership extends to Twisters' executive team, actively participating in strategic planning through EOS framework meetings and goal setting. Collaborating with Sarah, Caylie crafted comprehensive coaching education frameworks, including innovative online training modules for Floor Leaders, Mentor coaches, and Buddy coaches. An advocate for continuous learning, Caylie attends Gymnastics Victoria Coaching Conferences annually, leveraging her Advanced coaching credentials to uphold Gymnastics Australia's regulatory standards at Twisters. Her visible presence across two locations and proactive engagement with members in the Member Experience team reflect her commitment to community and operational excellence. Caylie's proactive approach extends beyond formal education. She initiated a video-based weekly coaches' newsletter, catering to diverse learning preferences within her team, including those with ADHD. Additionally, she fosters a supportive team culture through informal social gatherings outside the gym, nurturing camaraderie among staff members.

Reflecting on her journey, Caylie values her roots in gymnastics and finds newfound passion in coach education and creating supportive learning environments. Her recent focus includes developing an online platform with comprehensive skill videos and spotting techniques, ensuring all coaches receive standardized, high-quality education. Caylie's vision for Twisters encompasses bridging educational gaps, empowering coaches to self-reflect, innovate, and nurture curiosity within a supportive framework. Her dedication to advancing gymnastics education and fostering a positive community impact underscores her pivotal role in Twisters' ongoing success and reputation.

PENNY SMITH

Head Coach at Gravity Gym



Penny is a dynamic professional with a stellar track record in the gymnastics industry, renowned for her multifaceted skills and relentless dedication. Starting her career as a coach, Penny has excelled in guiding gymnasts across all age groups, from kindergym to competitive levels, achieving notable success at both state and national competitions. Her coaching prowess has led athletes to represent New South Wales in prestigious events like the Border Challenge and Australian Championships, underscoring her reputation as a top-tier coach.

Penny's creativity and expertise in choreography were highlighted when one of her athletes received the esteemed Carol Sussman Artistry Award for Choreography, a testament to the captivating routines Penny meticulously crafted. Committed to staying at the forefront of coaching standards, Penny is currently pursuing the FIG coaching certification, ensuring her methods remain cutting-edge and effective. Beyond coaching, Penny leverages her nutrition background to promote holistic health among her athletes, developing comprehensive nutrition booklets and fostering a culture of wellness within her program. Her leadership extends to staff development, where she utilizes qualifications in fitness, gymnastics, and nutrition to inspire and educate her colleagues, creating a cohesive and motivated team environment. Penny's impact stretches beyond her role as a coach; she is also a trailblazer in competitive gymnastics as the first paid professional gymnast from New South Wales in the AGC league. This dual role showcases her commitment to pushing boundaries and inspiring others within the sport.

In her current role as Education Manager, Penny oversees a diverse team of coaches, mentors, and floor leaders. She has implemented robust coaching education frameworks and organized annual coach education days, ensuring continuous professional development across the organization. Penny's proactive approach to learning extends to podcasts, webinars, and specialized training sessions, enriching her coaching repertoire with innovative strategies and insights.

Penny's influence reaches far beyond her club through her active engagement on social media platforms like TikTok, where she shares gymnastics tutorials and insights. Her inclusive coaching philosophy and dedication to diversity empower athletes of all backgrounds to excel in gymnastics, fostering a supportive community both online and offline. Penny's commitment to excellence, ethical leadership, and continuous learning exemplifies her role as a visionary leader in the gymnastics community. Her passion for the sport and unwavering dedication to athlete development have solidified her reputation as an inspirational figure and advocate for gymnastics' transformative power. In summary, Penny's journey in gymnastics is defined by her outstanding achievements, innovative approach to coaching, and unwavering commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for athletes and colleagues alike.

AMBER STEWARD

Operations Manager at Twisters Gymnastics Club



Amber embarked on her journey at Twisters at the age of 18, joining during its infancy as a single venue operation in Northcote. Starting as a Customer Service Officer, Amber swiftly impressed with her exceptional interpersonal skills and efficiency, earning her a promotion to Office Manager within just three months. Her knack for streamlining processes and delivering high-quality results propelled Twisters forward as it expanded to three venues. Amber's pivotal achievements included implementing a superior class management software and establishing a comprehensive administration playbook for seamless

operations. In 2021, Amber briefly departed Twisters to explore other career opportunities but returned in 2023 in a transformative role. Now serving as Twisters' Integrator within the EOS framework alongside Visionary Sarah, Amber plays a pivotal role in translating vision into reality. Her responsibilities extend to overseeing Product and Programs, where she leads Location Managers to ensure top-notch program quality and operational excellence across all venues, solidifying her integral role in Twisters' management team.

As a mentor to young Location Managers, Amber imparts valuable insights into Twisters' operations and fosters their leadership skills. In 2024, under the EOS system, Amber has sharpened her focus on fostering accountability and guiding her team through challenging conversations, demonstrating maturity and leadership beyond her years. Amber's commitment to Twisters' success is unparalleled, often stepping in as a coach during staffing shortages to lead by example. Recognizing the need for streamlined communication, she introduced the Thryve program, enhancing team efficiency and customer service by centralizing member interactions. Amber's dedication extends beyond operational excellence; she invests in her professional growth through annual conference attendance and a recent digital marketing course, enriching her skill set to better serve Twisters. Her collaborative leadership style, coupled with a passion for continuous improvement, sets a benchmark for excellence within the gymnastics community.

Kim Orr, a fellow manager, emphasises Amber's profound impact, noting her unique blend of gymnastics expertise and strategic business acumen. Erica Esten, one of Amber's Location Managers, lauds her as a mentor who empowers and guides, fostering independence and personal growth among her team. Amber's approachability and supportive leadership style create's an environment where staff feel valued and motivated to excel under her guidance. Her leadership not only drives operational success but also inspires a shared commitment to enhancing the gymnastics community's quality and accessibility. In conclusion, Amber's journey at Twisters is a testament to her unwavering dedication, leadership prowess, and commitment to continuous improvement. Her impact extends far beyond her roles, shaping a future where gymnastics thrives as a sport of inclusivity, innovation, and excellence.

BRENTON TREACHER

General Manager at Northern Districts Gymnastics



Brenton Treacher has been a pillar of the gymnastics community in Western Australia for decades. Coming through the ranks as a competitive MAG gymnast, Brenton made a successful transition to coaching when he retired as a gymnast and has taken his gymnasts to State and National Level. In 2018 Brenton won a tender to take over the management of the Northern Districts Gymnastics Club. Under his leadership Brenton has grown the club from strength to strength based on a focus on strong values, the implementation of the EOS system, strong leadership and building a great leadership team at the club.

TOBY THOMAS

General Manager at Trident Gymnastics



Toby is an FIG II/Advanced Silver accredited Women's Artistic Gymnastics coach and the Operations Manager for the Trident Gymnastics Trust; operating two venues in Melbourne's Eastern Suburbs. Having started in KinderGym at the age of three, it's safe to say that Toby found his calling in life early! Like many people in the industry, gymnastics was love at first sight and has been all encompassing since. Following a successful career as an athlete, culminating in representing Victoria at the Australian Gymnastics Championships, Toby soon shifted his focus to coaching and a career in gymnastics.

Having honed his skills in various leadership roles at a range of leading clubs across Victoria, Toby was instrumental to the inception of a new club, Trident Gymnastics, in 2022. In an area of Melbourne where many clubs compete for a share of the market, Toby was integral with establishing Trident and implementing sustainable business practices. This groundwork enabled the club to grow to over 200 members in the first year and being named 2022 New Club of the Year by Gymnastics Victoria.

The stability and success of year one inspired Toby and the club to venture into a second venue for 2023. Toby took the reins as Operations Manager for both Trident (Ringwood) and Balance (Research), leading a team of 50+ enthusiastic staff and 1000 gymnasts. In a huge year for the business, both clubs continued to go from strength to strength, with steady retention and improved processes; ensuring the longevity of both venues. The year culminated in Trident once again being named as Small Club of the Year by Gymnastics Victoria for 2023. Currently in just his third year as Operations Manager and with two venues running sustainably, 2024 has seen Toby empower his enthusiastic team with a renewed focus on improving customer success, class curriculums and retention.

TOBY THOMAS

General Manager at Trident Gymnastics

The results speak for themselves, with both clubs currently benefiting from a retention rate above 98%. Outside of his normal role, Toby is often seen and heard across the country running events at a State and National level. A dedicated member of the Gymnastics Victoria, Gymnastics South Australia and Gymnastics Australia event teams, Toby is at an event most weekends of the year as the announcer or floor manager. As a first time Operations Manager, Toby is passionate about growing with our industry and is eager to keep pace with trends in the field. Believing there is always an opportunity to learn and improve, he is a regular at GCA events and networking with other club owners and managers. His dedication and passion for gymnastics will ensure that the Trident Gymnastics Trust stays at the forefront of the Australian gymnastics industry for many years to come.

CAILEIGH THORNTON

Competitive Program Manager at Reach Gymnastics



Caileigh was our Emerald/Recreational/Education Manager last year. Despite it just being such a big role, she did an amazing job and grew our Emerald membership. She took the lead on us implementing RGA and put together a fantastic Bronze coach workbook. Caileigh always acts with integrity, is very safety focused and is a great mentor to the rest of our team.

ALEY TOLL

General Manager at Jet's Gymnastics



Aley's leadership as our General Manager overseeing six (nearly seven) centres is truly exceptional. She leads our Centre Managers with grace and enthusiasm, setting a positive tone that radiates throughout every gym and room she enters. Aley has a remarkable ability to make every staff member and gymnast feel valued and important, whether through her presence, coaching, or conversations.

ALEY TOLL

General Manager at Jet's Gymnastics

Under her guidance and knowledge, policies, safety, and standards at Jets have reached new heights, all while she remains committed to our mission of fostering a positive gymnastics movement. Last year, her specific expertise in tightening our brand and marketing strategy contributed to a record enrolment of 4600 gymnasts across our Jets Gyms. Additionally, as a co-founder of AGC, Aley lead the team ensuring the first full successful competition season played out, providing 1800 gymnasts with a positive competitive experience. Keeping in mind many of these gymnasts would have not had the opportunity to compete otherwise. Her impact on the gymnastics community as a whole is truly remarkable, and we consider ourselves incredibly fortunate to have her on our team. Aley is not only an amazing General Manager she is a role model for anyone who wants to have a successful career in gymnastics. She manages a large company while still taking the time to care about every single individual she interacts with.

CHLOE TOLL

Marketing and Brand Manager at Jet's Gymnastics



Chloe is an amazing contributor to gymnastics. While she produces amazing marketing and brand content, her real value is in her ability to care about each athlete and work with the entire Jets team and the broader industry in any way that she can.

REBECCA VAN GILS

Co-Owner/ Director at Kids Sports on the Beaches



Rebecca is an valued member of the Kids Sports on the Beaches Team. Her dedication, enthusiasm and passion for the business doesn't go unnoticed by anyone. She is continuously educating herself to benefit not just herself but the company. She highly organised with all aspects of the business / coaching and as an exceptional leader for all staff member.

PEITA VINCENT

National Operations Manager at BK's Gymnastics



Peita began working for BKs Gymnastics as a sporting schools coordinator & casual customer service officer in early 2019. In late 2019, Peita was promoted to Centre Manager of BKs Gymnastics Hoppers Crossing. In 2021, Peita then moved to Centre Manager of both Hoppers Crossing and new BKs site in Caroline Springs. In 2023, Peita was promoted to National Operations Manager.



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