

RYDE AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE

Client
Olympic Coordination
Authority

Location
Ryde, Sydney

Value
Construction \$24m
Overlay \$8.2m

Completion
2000



APP Corporation Pty Ltd
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As the last permanent venue to be completed for the 2000 Olympic Games, the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre was always subject to extreme pressures and expectations. The facility, which hosted the water polo preliminaries during the Sydney Olympics incorporates:

- 50 metre 'wet deck' FINA standard competition pool
- Leisure pool incorporating wave generating equipment, active water features and 25m lap swimming pool
- 48 metre waterslide
- Sauna, spa, steam room, kiosk, hydrotherapy pool and toddlers pool.

APP actively managed the changing needs of approximately 30 project stakeholders by maintaining their focus on the task whilst dealing with their specific needs. APP regularly staged and encouraged inspection of other similar venues to test design buildability and operational issues.

Our role continued in the lead up to the Olympic Games with APP being engaged to manage the Olympic overlay and site management.

Temporary works include spectator stands, toilets, facilities for ticketing, catering, broadcasters, press, competitors change areas and doping control. The majority of these works were required to be done whilst the pool was open for public use. The construction of the 1200 seat stadium was complex as cranes could not be used to erect the 20 tonnes of steel required for the structure.

APP provided the buildability know how that resulted in one portion of the stand being erected with the legacy works and the remainder being carried into the centre by hand and being erected in 6 days.

After the games, the stand was removed without the use of major equipment or damage to the pool tiles or surrounding areas.



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RYDE AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE



20 July 2000

Mr John Taylor
Managing Director
Australian Pacific Projects Corporation Pty Ltd
PO Box 1573
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2060

Dear Mr Taylor,

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre – Project Management

OCA would like to thank you for the services provided by your company in successfully delivering the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, venue for the Waterpolo heats for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

As the last permanent venue for the 2000 Games to commence design and construction, the project was always subject to extreme pressures, in technical, budgetary and programming terms. Despite a very short time line, and significant community concern about the loss of the old pool complex, APP have been pivotal in delivering a new building which not only meets the rigorous standards of an Olympic venue, but also the quite different but equally demanding needs of a state of the art municipal swimming complex. Already the community response to the new centre has been overwhelming, and APP does deserve its fair share of the credit for that. The APP team successfully managed a complex project with, at times, conflicting stakeholder requirements.

The actual building works were ultimately completed in less than 12 months, something of a record for the construction of aquatic/leisure in Sydney. APP successfully managed a large consultant team, which was required to continue to refine the design through much of the building process, while not delaying a very tight construction program. It is a credit to the APP team that this was in fact achieved with a minimum of delay. Through good planning and administration lead by the APP team, the venue has since been commissioned and opened to the public with a minimum of fuss, a process which has been fraught with difficulty on past swimming pool projects of this complexity.

I would particularly like to thank your team of Ron Aquilina, Tim Bain and Stephen Sanlorenzo for their professionalism, dedicated to the project, their wise counsel, and their hard work. I would happily recommend their services for any complex construction project such as this in future.

Yours faithfully

A blue ink signature of John Barraclough, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke.

John Barraclough
Executive Director Development

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