

## Meet the Sport Science Team!

### Who are the *Sport Science Team* and what are we doing to help you!

Looking to take Ozttag to brand new heights, *Queensland Ozttag* have teamed up with the *University of the Sunshine Coast* to take a scientific approach to understand what makes a great ozttag player! *Queensland Ozttag* has funded a three year PhD research project titled "**Understanding and enhancing the performance of Ozttag players and referees**" which aims to identify and understand factors that influence Ozttag match performance and ultimately provide you with training programs and tools that you can use to improve your own personal performance! This issue of **Sport Science Update** is the first and introduces the *Sport Science Team* that will be doing their best to help you succeed as an Ozttag player or referee.



#### Luke Hogarth

Luke is the lucky recipient of the Queensland Ozttag PhD Scholarship and the editor-in-chief of the *Sport Science Update* and will be leading the research looking to understand and enhance Ozttag performance. From North Queensland, Luke graduated with Honours in Sport and Exercise Science while working with the NQ Toyota Cowboys to investigate ways to improve strength training for muscular power development. Luke has played his first game of Ozttag since relocating to the Sunshine Coast and there has been much public disturbance among the elderly residents of Coolum Beach with rumours of a sun burnt pasty male seen awkwardly spinning and twisting as he runs down the beach screaming "Car'n the Cowboys!"

#### Professor Brendan Burkett

Brendan is a Professor at the University of the Sunshine Coast and a well-respected Sport Scientist worldwide. Brendan's own sporting achievements are beyond impressive with 13 years representing Australia as a swimmer and was the Paralympic Champion, World Champion, World Record Holder, Commonwealth Games and Australian multiple medallist. Brendan has also been fortunate to lead the Australian team on several occasions including the Opening Ceremony flag bearer in the Sydney 2000 Olympics and still plays an active role today as the national sport science coordinator for the Australian Paralympic Swim team.



#### Dr Mark McKean

Mark is a Research Fellow at the University of the Sunshine Coast and is currently an Accredited Exercise Physiologist, a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, and a level 3 Exercise Professional with Fitness Australia. Mark's impressive background in fitness and strength and conditioning has seen him coach athletes in a range of sports to international level success including Olympic, Paralympic and World Championship medals. Mark has received awards for the Australian Fitness Network Author of the Year, Contribution to the Australian Fitness Industry, Australian Personal Trainer of the Year, and the SRQ Outstanding Contribution to the Fitness Industry Award.

#### Dr Ross Pinder

Ross is an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of the Sunshine Coast and has recently taken on a new and exciting role as a Skill Acquisition Specialist for the Australian Paralympic Committee. Although recently relocating to Adelaide, Ross will be playing an active role as part of the Sport Science Team specialising in skill development. Originally from the UK, Ross completed his PhD investigating how process of perception and action emerge under changing informational constraints during performance of multi-articular interceptive actions. If anyone has any idea what that means please let me know, but all I can tell you is that it had something to do with the Australian Cricket team and may or may not explain their dismal batting performance during the recent Ashes Tests!



#### In the next Issue:

The movement demands of Ozttag State Cup using GPS technology – what it means and why it is important!

**Do you have a question** for the sport science team? Email: [luke.hogarth@research.usc.edu.au](mailto:luke.hogarth@research.usc.edu.au)

**Do you have a Question?  
Ask the Sport Science Team!**