

Farewell from Catherine Clark



Thursday, 20 September 2012

It is time for Catherine to say goodbye. Join us as Catherine provides her final thoughts and shares a few of her favourite photos from her time at Gymnastics Australia.

Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends,

Sadly it is time for me to say farewell to my colleagues and friends at Gymnastics Australia. It has been an incredibly busy and exciting two and a half years. I joined the organisation at a time of significant change. It has been my privilege to lead GA through the renewal process and establish a solid foundation for our future success.

I would like to pay tribute to my hardworking and dedicated team at the national office. I am extremely proud of their achievements, courage and dedication. Right across participation, high performance, events and industry training we have pursued delivering better experiences, results, products and services for our diverse community. New targeted investment into participation programs, coach education and a new national database to make life easier at all levels, are strategic projects which will have long-term benefits for our sport. We have put GA in a strong financial position, with fantastic programs to be rolled out and an excellent staff behind the wheel.

It has also been tremendous to see much stronger relationships form between our national and state bodies. I extend my thanks and appreciation to my colleagues in our State Associations for their support and partnership. The strength of our relationships and our cohesion to a central strategy for 'gymnastics in Australia' will enable us to better service our members.

I will treasure the memories of our amazing athletes winning a 21-medal haul at the Delhi Commonwealth Games, Lauren Mitchell becoming our first ever Women's Artistic Gymnastics World Champion and of course, the London Olympic Games. Our athletes were not only world class from an athletic perspective; our Australian gymnasts are magnificent ambassadors for sport and for Australia. The World Gymnaestrada was an unbelievable experience and demonstrated not only the magic of movement in all its forms but that there really is a place for *everyone* in our sport.

I will always have a grand vision for gymnastics; a sport which I believe has so much more potential to realise. The impact of some of our big projects and new investment will be realised over the next 12-24 months and I hope these developments join forces with the immense passion of our community to awaken the giant!

Thank you to all our members and staff for your enduring support, passion and love for gymnastics. I know gymnastics has a bright future in your hands.

All the very best,
Catherine



Thomas Pichler,
Catherine Clark and
Lauren Mitchell meet
Senator Lundy



Photos from Catherine
Clark's Time at GA



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