



QUEENSLAND ALPINE SPORTS MEDICINE

2026 Conference Programme

Smiggins Hotel • 9–15 August 2026

SUNDAY

9 August 2026

16:30	WELCOME Registration and welcome reception	Smiggins Hotel
	Conference Room	

	Opening Address QASM President - Sharyn Van Alphen	
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17:00	Acknowledgement of Country	
	Welcome, Meet & Greet	
	Safety on the slopes Injury Prevention strategies The Alpine Code	

	SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair Lynne Reid	
18:15	The Third Great Schism	David Merefield
	Ancient History	Carol Cox

Summary & question time

NB	EOI & sign on for 'Can't intubate, Can't Oxygenate' workshop	Jason Chaffer
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MONDAY

10 August 2026

Australia's first Winter Olympian travelled solo. Speed skater Kenneth Kennedy was our entire team at the 1936 Games—and competed in three events.

07:30	MORNING PLENARY SESSION The Ageing Athlete	Lynne Reid
<i>How can we support lifelong participation while managing osteoarthritis, cardiovascular risk, frailty and changing performance goals?</i>		

16:30	SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair Michael Donovan	
	A brief update on non-operative treatment of ACL injuries	Peter Myers
	Orthopaedics in Sport: Current Perspectives and Emerging Directions	Mike Reid
	From the Ground Up: Podiatry Perspectives	Greg Dower
	Neck stiffness and headaches, differentiation from migraine & practical tips on management.	Joanne Bullock-Saxton
	Sensorineural Deafness	Claire Donovan

Summary & question time





TUESDAY

11 August 2026

Australia's first Winter Olympic medal came on ice, not snow. Our short-track speed-skating relay team won bronze at Lillehammer in 1994.

07:30	MORNING PLENARY SESSION Altitude, Cold and the Human Body	Peter Myers
	<i>Translating environmental physiology into practical advice for athletes, recreational</i>	

16:30	SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair James Mckeen	
	Exercise: Is It Good for You?	Bill Collyer
	Exercise Prescriptions	Lynne Reid
	Life Coaching Beyond General Practice	Carol Cox
	Crewing for Ultra Marathons	Rhonda Donovan
	Ultra Marathon Running – More than a Marathon	Michael Donovan

Summary & question time





WEDNESDAY		12 August 2026
07:30	MORNING PLENARY SESSION The Injured Athlete: When Is “Ready” Truly Ready?	Perce Tucker
	<i>A practical discussion about return-to-sport decisions, risk tolerance and shared responsibility.</i>	

Zali Steggall won Australia’s first individual Winter Olympic medal. Her slalom bronze at Nagano 1998 remains Australia’s only Olympic medal in alpine skiing.

16:30	SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair Mike Reid	
	Dive Medicals	Clara Cameron
	Functional Neurological Disorders in Sport	Luke & John Fitzgerald
	Don't Hold Your Breath - Cerebral Arterial Gas Embolism from rapid uncontrolled ascent during diving	Martin Graves
	Lower GI Pathology	Jason Chaffer

Summary & question time





THURSDAY		13 August 2026
07:30	MORNING PLENARY SESSION Innovation on the Mountain	John Cox
	<i>Advances in equipment, wearable technology, imaging, rehabilitation and performance</i>	

16:30	SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair David Merefield	
17:00	Volunteering at the Olympics & IGB 2027	Tania Peccedi

The 2026 Dr June Canavan Memorial Lecture
Winning at the Olympics – The Preparation, The Win, The Feeling
Cooper Woods

19:00	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair Immediate Past President David Merefield	
	President's Report	Sharyn Van Alphen
	Treasurer's Report	Lynne Reid
	Other Business	Sharyn Van Alphen
	Election of office bearers for 2026–2027	Chair
20:00	CLOSE AGM concludes	

Summary & question time





FRIDAY

14 August 2026

07:30	MORNING PLENARY SESSION Managing Emergencies on the Mountain	Jason Chaffer
	<i>Managing emergencies, concussion, trauma and complex decision-making in remote and resource-limited alpine environments.</i>	

“Doing a Bradbury” began at Salt Lake City in 2002. Steven Bradbury stayed upright as all four rivals crashed, gliding through to Australia’s first Winter Olympic gold.

16:30	SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair Sarah Merefield	
	Are my bones too brittle to ski?	Noel Marginson
	Report on the Better Outcomes Conference	James McKeon
	How to Create the Illusion of Progress. A review of Brain Injury in Sport	Perce Tucker
	Manganese Physiology	Christopher Collins
	Aspects of Jet Lag	John Cameron

Summary & question time

Steven Bradbury is now primarily a **motivational speaker, conference host and MC**. He also co-founded **Last Man Standing Brewing**, which makes Last Man Standing Aussie Lager.





SATURDAY		15 August 2026
07:30	MORNING PLENARY SESSION The Future of Alpine Sports in Australia	Michael Pitt
	<i>What are the emerging threats to alpine sports in Australia and what are the clinical, technological and performance innovations that will shape the next decade?</i>	

Alisa Camplin barely skied until adulthood. She bought her first skis at 22—and five years later won Australia’s first Olympic gold medal on snow. A rather efficient learning curve.

Alisa Camplin won:

- **Gold in aerial skiing at Salt Lake City in 2002**
- **Bronze in aerial skiing at Turin in 2006**

She also served as Australia’s **Chef de Mission for the 2026 Winter Olympics.**

16:30	SCIENTIFIC SESSION Chair Peter Myers	
	The Shape of the Future	Janeane McKeon
	Point-of-Care Gastric Ultrasound	Sharyn Van Alphen
	It’s Nuts	Michael Pitt
	Bisoprolol Allergy	Sarah Merefield
	Are Grandparents the Answer to Australia’s Great Tragedy?	John Cox

Summary & question time

Final wrap and farewell address
QASM President Sharyn Van Alphen

