

Friday, 9 December 2011

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SPORT INSTITUTE AWARDS 2011

South Australia's reputation for producing world class cyclists and rowers has been further enhanced with the two sporting programs dominating this year's South Australian Sports Institute Awards (SASI) announced today.

Headlining the array of award winners were World champion and Olympic cyclists, Anna Meares and Jack Bobridge, who capped off brilliant years by taking out the Male and Female Athlete of the Year awards.

Recreation and Sport Minister, Tom Kenyon says the Institute plays a pivotal role in identifying and developing talented athletes across the State, many of whom go onto to win world championships and represent Australia at the Olympics.

"SASI conducts elite sport programs that provide a daily training environment for world class athletes in some of Australia's most successful sports," Mr Kenyon said.

"We've seen many outstanding performances this year as our athletes and coaches prepare for next year's London Olympics.

"I congratulate all award winners and wish all of our SASI athletes and coaches the best of luck in achieving their goals," Mr Kenyon said.

Full list of winners:

SASI Female Athlete of the Year **Anna Meares OAM** **28, Mile End**
(Cycling)

Anna dominated world track cycling in 2011, with a stand-out three gold medals at the UCI Track World Championships in the Netherlands. She claimed gold in the Keirin, Sprint and Team Sprint events.

SASI Male Athlete of the Year **Jack Bobridge (Cycling)** **22, Evanston**
Gardens

Jack broke the 'unbeatable' World Record in the Individual Pursuit at the Australian Track Championships in Sydney. Jack eclipsed the previous world record set by Briton Chris Boardman, in a now banned aerodynamic position known as the superman, at the 1996 world championships. Jack also claimed two gold medals at the UCI Track World Championships in the Netherlands in the Individual Pursuit and Team Pursuit events.

SASI Junior Female Athlete of the Year **Renee Chatterton** **22, Blackwood**
(Rowing)

Renee came fourth in the Women's Pair at the U23 World Championships in Slovenia and was elevated to the senior national team. She won a silver medal in the Women's Coxless Four at the Senior World Championships in Slovenia and was also selected as a member of the Olympic shadow squad.

SASI Junior Male Athlete of the Year **Alex Edmondson** **17, Stirling**
(Cycling)

Alex dominated the track at the UCI Junior Track World Championships in Russia, claiming the World Record and the gold medal in the Team Pursuit, another gold in the Madison and placing fourth in the Individual Pursuit. Alex capped off a stellar year by stepping up to the Senior National Team where his dominance continued at the UCI Track World Cup in Kazakhstan with another gold in the Madison and a silver in the Team Pursuit.

SASI Athlete with a Disability of the Year **Kieran Modra and Pilot** **39, Hallett Cove**
Scott McPhee (Cycling) **19, Wayville**

Kieran and pilot Scott, broke the World Record in the Tandem Pursuit at the Para-Cycling Track World Championships in Italy. The pair won a gold medal in the Tandem Pursuit and silver medal in the Time Trial at the Para-Cycling Oceania Track Championships in New Zealand. They capped the year off with more impressive performances at the Para-Cycling Road World Cups - a silver in the Road Race in Sydney and a bronze for the Time Trial in Spain.

Amy Gillet-Safe Memorial Award **Chris Morgan (Rowing)** **29, Greenhill**

The Amy Gillet-Safe Memorial Award is presented annually to an athlete who displays some of the characteristics that Amy possessed and lived by. The award is presented by Amy's parents Mary and Dennis Safe.

- Persistence, sacrifice and commitment to achieve prominence in their chosen sport, even in the face of adversity
- Passion and commitment in the pursuit of excellence in their sport
- Actively promote their sport and demonstrate leadership and be an active role model
- Possess and display the qualities of fair play and sportsmanship.

Chris has pursued excellence in his rowing since taking up the sport at University in 2003. He is now an Olympian, twice world champion (Pair 2010 and Quad 2011), and holder of a world's fastest time (2008 Quad). He returned to the priority Quad boat this season after missing selection in 2010, where he was selected to row sweep instead (not his preferred mode). Chris has also overcome a number of back and rib injuries. Throughout most of his career Chris has maintained either full time work or study. He has demonstrated characteristics of passion for the sport through active promotion and or volunteer roles.

SASI Program of the Year **Rowing**

The SASI Rowing athletes and coaches played a key role in assisting Australia to qualify 10 boats for the London Olympics at the recent World Rowing Championships in Bled, Slovenia. Led by head coach Jason Lane and supported by Assistant coach Zoltan Shepherd and a team of network coaches and performance service staff.

SASI Coach of the Year **Jason Lane**

Jason was coach of the Australian Women's Quad Scull at the World Championships in Slovenia. Following an intensive preparation based out of the AIS in Canberra and at SASI in Adelaide, Jason and the crew qualified the boat for the London Olympics, finishing just out of the medals in fourth place. The crew are now focusing on a podium finish in London. Jason is also the primary coach of SASI 2011 World Champions James McRae and Chris Morgan and Senior World Champion medallists Renee Chatterton and Peta White.

SASI Athlete Career and Education (ACE) Award Matthew Glaetzer 19, Paradise (Cycling_

Matthew left his original high school, Torrens Valley Christian School, to attend Marden Senior College so he could better integrate study and training. He extended his SACE by a year at Marden to ensure he could continue to train and compete and still achieve a high TER. Matthew recently completed a year 12 maths exam at 11pm after racing a world cup event in Kazakhstan, demonstrating his commitment to sport and study.

SASI Program Athletes of the Year

Hockey	Holly Evans	24,	Clearview
Basketball	Sam Daly	16,	Hawthorn
Rowing	James McRae	24,	Pennington
Women's Football	Emma Checker	15,	Warradale
Men's Football	Dion Kirk	17,	Golden Grove
Water Polo	Isobel Bishop	20,	St Peters
Diving	Sarah Hopkins	15,	Seaton
Volleyball	Sam Halliday	18,	Stirling
Baseball	Jarryd Klemm	18,	Salisbury Heights
Canoe Sprint	Hannah Davis	26,	Glenelg
Trampoline	Blake Gaudry	20,	Port Adelaide
Men's Gymnastics	Sam Offord	25,	Eden Hills
Cycling	Rohan Dennis	21,	Vale Park
Swimming	Ben Edmonds	20,	Pasadena
Netball	Amehlia Schmidt	18,	Lewiston

For more details or to contact the award winners, contact the Communications Officer, Fontella Koleff, on 08 7424 7720, mobile 0423 848 432 or email fontella.koleff@sa.gov.au.