

Deena Theobald

IOT (Inspector of Turns)



My journey with swimming started when I was a wee one, I was a competitive swimmer and loved it, but gave it up at the age of 12 as I played so many sports. When my oldest son Shaun started to swim it was easy to see he was talented but never wanted to become a competitive swimmer.

My next two children, Max and Milla were at the age where they needed lessons and although Max was a content paddler. Milla was talented and flew through Swimsation and then joined Swim Rotorua becoming competitive at 8.

It was an easy progression for me as everyone has, to step up and do their share of work at a swim meet. I started time keeping then went onto IOT. I really love being with the kids and seeing them progress it is such a neat thing to be part of.

I enjoy home swim meets the best as it is so nice to be able to come home and dry off between sessions. The Bay wide meets are interesting just seeing how our Swim Rotorua athletes step up and push hard against the other Bay swimmers. The best thing about swim meets is comradery and friendships that are made; seeing the highs, and lows, but watching the kids rally each other and pick each other up.

Milla, along with her swim coaching for the club, also has been ministock racing but aged out when she turned 17 so she will be in a stockcar, racing mixed adults We are all involved with speedway, enjoying the thrills on the track. Max is now running half Marathons and has found his passion with that.

All these activities keep our household very busy helping and supporting.

I work fulltime as well as study. I am a nanna to 5 nearly 6 beautiful grandchildren so have a very busy life.