



**Press Release 16 April 2007**

### **Sydney Rowing Club welcomes new Head Coach**

Sydney Rowing Club today announced the appointment of Gary Robertson to the position of Head Coach.

Gary hails from New Zealand where he was most recently Head Coach at New Zealand's top Rowing school – Hamilton Boys High School. Gary's crew last month won the Blue Riband Under 18 eight at the prestigious New Zealand Secondary Schools' Maadi Cup.

Gary won Gold at the 1972 Munich Olympics as a member of the New Zealand eight and his other rowing accomplishments include Gold at the European Championships in Copenhagen in 1971, Gold for the New Zealand Colts in Penrith and Bronze at World Championships in St Catherines, Canada in 1970 and was a member of the New Zealand Four at the World Championships in Moscow in 1973.

Gary has been a professional coach since 1988 and up to 2002 was a New Zealand national coach.

Gary has coached Men's and Women's club crews from novice through to championship class including Lightweight, Junior and Masters Categories and has achieved top points at rowing championships three times.

Gary's crews have won in excess of 50 national Secondary School titles and 30 national Club titles and include an impressive list of athletes who have progressed to New Zealand Olympic Rowing teams including three times World Champions Georgina and Caroline Evers-Swindell.

In addition to these significant achievements, Gary was awarded New Zealand Coach of the year in 1998 and New Zealand Junior Coach of the year in 2000.

Mr Robertson said "I am looking forward to the challenge that Sydney Rowing Club has extended and am keen to get out on the water with my new charges"

Sydney Rowing Club's President Keith Jameson said "Gary's appointment is a major achievement for the Club. The athletes will go into off-season training over the next month and are looking forward to Gary's involvement in all aspects of the rowing programme".

#### **SYDNEY ROWING CLUB LTD**

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