

Emma Robinson

In Pursuit of the Dream



My Story



Emma Robinson was born in Wellington in 1994, into a loving family, with parents Martin and Jan and older brother Phillip. Many of her earlier years were spent around water due to her parent's involvement in Surf Life Saving and her brother being into Water Polo. It really was inevitable she would choose a water sport.



Primary school years were spent at Hataitai School and it is here that Emma found a passion for swimming. Starting off with just 1 swimming lesson per week at TSW, progressing to the Capital Swim Club with three sessions and then naturally into swimming competitively at 12 years of age.

At Capital Emma started in the bottom squad but rapidly progressed to eventually move into the senior squad under Gary Hurring's tutelage at Freyberg Pool. Ex-Olympian Gary coached Emma into her first New Zealand team in 2011 which was the Junior Commonwealth Games held on the Isle of Man. Since then Emma has competed in the 2012 Junior Pan Pacs, 2013 Open Water World Championships, 2014 Commonwealth Games and Pan Pacific Championships, 2015 World Championships.



In 2014 Swimming NZ's High Performance Unit based in Wellington's Aquatic Centre, under Gary Hurring, was disbanded due to funding issues and Emma decided the best option was to move to Australia. This was a massive decision as not only was Emma moving out of home and the comforts provided by family but had the stress of relocating to another country.

Training since March 2014, has been on the Gold Coast under David Proud and Chris Nesbit of the TSS club based in Southport. In late March 2016 Emma flew home to compete at the New Zealand Olympic trials. This is where Emma achieved a massive step by achieving the 800m Freestyle qualification to swim at the Rio Olympic Games.

When Emma isn't following the black line or pumping weights in the gym she is completing a Management Degree through Massey via correspondence and is also working part time at a Speedo outlet store. Any other spare time is spent enjoying crafts, friends and cooking!



Emma loves giving back to the swimming community. She does this by going around to schools, swimming clubs and helping out at junior camps. While Emma wants to achieve many goals in the water, a major personal goal is to have swimming on a platform where children can aspire to be confident swimmers. She hopes this will result in more children swimming more confidently and reducing high fatalities rates in years to come.

Achievements

- Wellington Colleges Sports Awards Female Swimmer of the Year 2012.
- Wellington East Girls Sports Person of the Year 2011 and 2012.
- Swam at the 2013 Fina Open Water Swimming Championships, Barcelona in the 5k and 10k placing 24th and 34th.
- 4 Wellington Records (18 year old and open 800 and 1500m freestyle).
- 2 New Zealand Records (18 year olds 800 and 1500m free).
- Swam at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in the 4 x 200m freestyle, 200m Freestyle and 800m Freestyle placing 5th, 16th, and 10th.
- Swam at the 2014 Pan Pacific Champs in the 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 4x200m and the 4x100m Freestyle relay.
- Countless Age group and National Medals.
- Swam at the 2015 World champs in Kazan in the 400 and 800m Freestyle placing 28th and 27th.
- Qualified for the 2016 Rio Olympics for the 800m Freestyle.

Goals

- Final at the 2016 Rio Olympics, in the 800m Freestyle.
- Top 8 at the 2017 Swimming World championships.
- Medal at the 2018 Commonwealth Games and the Pan Pacific Championships.
- Top 4 at the 2019 Swimming World championships.
- Medal at the 2020 Olympics.

