



**October 2020**

**Mentoring Journey – Steve Moneghetti**

I have been mentoring Lily Eldridge this year as part of the Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund. Lily is a breaststroke swimmer from Warracknabeal with aspirations to represent Australia in international competitions in the future.

One of the reasons I wanted Lily as a mentee was that she is from regional Victoria and I am aware of the hurdles that are often faced by living in a remote area.

Whilst it has been a challenging year due to COVID19 we have kept in contact via video calls regularly and have developed a strong relationship where I feel I am providing positive strategies for Lily's ongoing development. It has also been a good learning experience for me personally to see how Lily has coped through adversity & shown excellent resilience in difficult circumstances.

The fact that I am from a different sporting background to Lily has also been good as it has allowed me to provide support in general areas rather than directly to her particular sport of swimming. The strength of our mentor/mentee relationship is in the respect and trust we have developed over the journey and I would like to think that this has provided a strong basis for our information sharing and learning to occur.

To use a catchphrase, it is a marathon not a sprint but I certainly feel that the program has been beneficial to both Lily and myself so far and I look forward to continue to value add to her sporting ambitions.