

ATHLETICS

2025 was a world-class year for the Sydney University Athletics Club (SUAC), with athletes delivering outstanding performances on both national and international stages. It was a season of groundbreaking achievements, with 19 club records shattered across track, field, and road events. The year also saw 10 athletes crowned national champions, including three new U20 titleholders, and 7 student athletes earning a Blue.

SUAC continued its domestic dominance, successfully defending the Treloar Shield and securing the title for a third consecutive year. During the winter season, the men's team extended their legacy, winning the Winter Premiership for an incredible 12th straight year. Our student athletes claimed both the men's and women's overall titles at the 2025 UniSport Nationals Athletics Championship. This was the fourth title won in a row for the women, whilst the men retained their 2024 on the track but also at the Distance Running Championships. Both divisions scored the highest ever points score, with the women earning a magnificent 192 points and men 163 points on total.

2025 marked the revival of the Target LA program, launching the first edition of this new Olympic cycle initiative. A key strategic goal of SUAC is to deliver a world-class pathway for identifying and developing emerging athletes through the Target LA initiative, proudly supported by the generosity of the SUAC donors and family. This year's campaign enabled seven athletes to travel to Belgium to train, compete, and gain invaluable international experience—fast-tracking their development and preparing them to perform on the global stage.

In a sport where medals are the true currency, SUAC's strategic investment through Target Tokyo and Paris proved that its commitment delivers dividends on the world stage—ushering in a year of global medals for SUAC athletes and alumni. Liam Adcock made his mark on the international stage with a bronze medal in the men's long jump at the World Indoor Championships, while Nicola Olyslagers reinforced her dominance by defending her World Indoor title in the women's high jump. She carried that exceptional form outdoors, capturing the World Championship title, breaking the Oceania Record, and claiming the Diamond League crown, firmly establishing herself as one of the most accomplished high jumpers of her generation.

The club had a whopping 9 athletes representing Australia at the World Outdoor Championships in Tokyo. Dr Mackenzie Little continued her remarkable consistency, securing a second consecutive World Championship bronze in the javelin. At the World University Games, 6 SUAC athletes contested their individual events, but Connor Murphy struck gold in the men's triple jump, and Allannah Pitcher contributed to a silver medal in the women's race walk team event—rounding out a truly extraordinary year for SUAC.

Youngster Coco Espie continued the club's proud para-

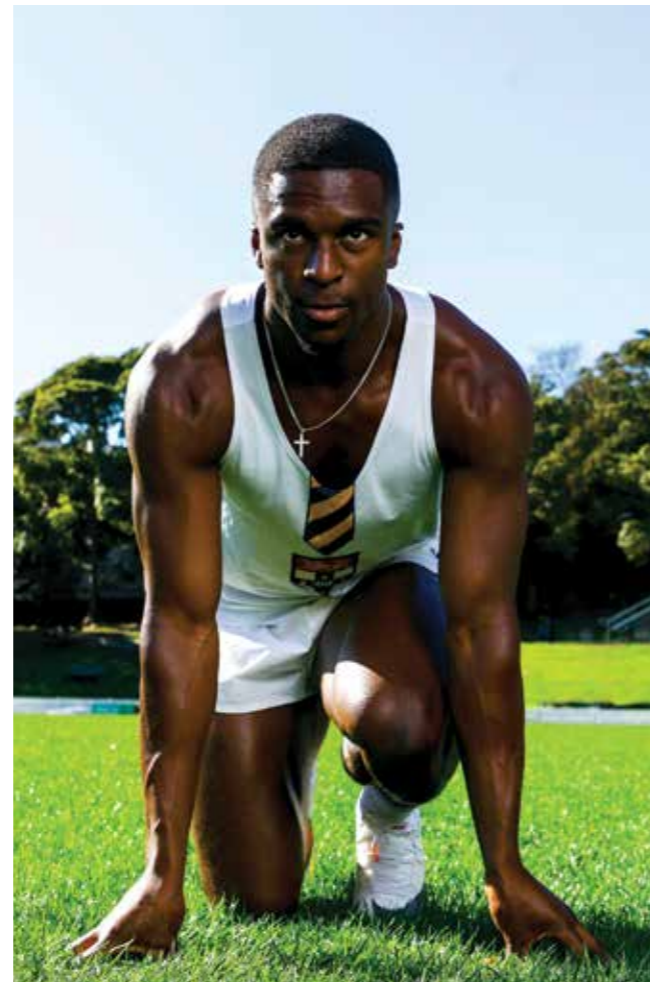
representation on the world stage. She competed in the 100m, 400m, and 800m T34 at her first World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi, where she shattered 8 club records throughout the year.

SUAC also delivered the largest-ever RUNSYDUNI event across the grounds of University of Sydney in October, cementing its place as one of the campus's premier annual events. Hosted on Halloween, the run attracted nearly 800 registered participants, with hundreds crossing the finish line in spooktacular style!

Off the track, the SUAC community reconnected at our Annual Dinner and Vice Presidents' & Alumni Evening, celebrating our largest ever membership. All whilst being named Professionally Administered Club of the Year by Sydney Uni Sport and Championship Club of the Year by Athletics NSW for 2025.

2025 was a season defined by historic performances, global success, and incredible depth—setting a new benchmark for SUAC and laying the foundation for even greater achievements ahead.

Lilly-Ann O'Hora
DIRECTOR



AUSSIE RULES

2025 marked another strong season for Sydney University Australian National Football Club (SUANFC), built on depth, and continued growth across all programs with five teams reaching grand final day, and a further three reaching the finals.

The club fielded 12 teams spanning men's, women's, and youth. This scale reflects sustained participation, retention, and development across the whole program. Both the men's and women's premier division sides qualified for finals with the women's side making the Grand Final, reinforcing SUANFC's standing as a consistently competitive club across both senior competitions.

The men's premier division campaign was shaped by the strength of the competition. The side finished fourth after a demanding home-and-away season, with minimal separation across the top teams. A notably young squad saw multiple debutants throughout the year, gaining meaningful exposure at our highest level. The finals ended in a first-round loss. The season delivered clear progress in player development and depth for the young squad.

The men's youth pathway delivered standout outcomes, building on the unprecedented success since 2022, with our U19.5 Division 2 team crowned premiers and U19.5 Division 1 team finishing the season as grand finalists - the fourth year in a row. These results underline the young talent at the club as well as the effectiveness of the player transition into senior football fostered by the alignment of our junior pathway clubs, the Glebe Greyhounds and Newtown Swans, as well as the strength of the coaching and volunteer team led by Ken Johnston.

The women's premier division program continued to set the benchmark for growth and performance. The team finished third overall after the home and away season and

advanced to the grand final with a young, resilient group. Across the women's pathway, results reflected a strong system built on depth. Our women's Division 1 team reached the Grand Final and our women's Division 3 qualified for finals. The women's U20s side made the Grand Final in a highly competitive age-grade competition. Under the leadership of Premier Division Head Coach Jon Dyster, the women's program continues to produce results and build long-term capacity that fosters player development.

Off the field, representative and academic outcomes strongly reflected the quality of the University sport environment that underpins the club. Sam Barkley was awarded a University Blue following his selection in the AFL Sydney versus AFL Canberra representative fixture, recognising performance at the highest level alongside academic commitment. Across the year, 37 Elite Athlete Program scholarships were awarded to SUANFC players, marking a significant increase and reinforcing the university's leadership in supporting high-performing student-athletes. This level of support continues to allow the club to set the standard for how elite sport and academic excellence coexist, providing athletes with the structure, flexibility, and resources required to succeed in both domains.

The club proudly celebrated its eighth year with naming rights partner Growthbuilt, welcoming partners and supporters to the annual Growthbuilt Supporters Day in May. On behalf of the entire club I'd like to thank Growthbuilt for their continued support of the club that fosters the growth we've experienced. Furthermore, continued commercial support remains central to the club's operations and development. Sincere thanks are in order to our new and returning partners: Akasha Brewing, Bayside Capital, Scarlett Financial, Grid Management Group, Gravity Seltzer, SportsLab, ISC, Garlos Pies, El Jannah, and Clarke Buyers Agents.

Vasili Malempre
OPERATIONS COORDINATOR