

28 September 2023

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### NEW CEO FOR WA INSTITUTE OF SPORT

The Western Australian Institute of Sport (WAIS) is to have a new CEO.

This follows the departure of Steve Lawrence who has worked at WAIS for almost 40 years and held the position of Executive Director and CEO since September 2001.

New WAIS Chair, Dr Neale Fong, said Mr Lawrence had given significant service to sport in Western Australia but it was the right time for the Institute to move forward under new leadership.

“The focus of the new Board and executive leadership at WAIS will be on implementing the WAIS 2032+ strategic plan *“Nurturing High Performance”* as we head into the Green and Gold Runway to the Brisbane Olympics and Paralympics in 2032 and ensuring good governance and a culture within which both athletes and staff can continue to thrive,” said Dr Fong.

Mr Lawrence said his decision to step down was taken after discussions with the new Board, and he was leaving confident that he had served WAIS with loyalty, integrity and commitment.

“I am immensely proud of WAIS’ record of success and the large number of athletes who have realised their sporting dreams and achieved their potential,” said Mr Lawrence. “Those athletes, and all the WAIS staff who have worked, and continue to work with them have been inspirational for the next generation and deserve recognition and the pride of the Western Australian community.

“The opportunity to represent WAIS in the national sports system and ensure the Institute and WA are appropriately recognised and valued for their ability to contribute to Australia’s national sporting teams has been one of the most enjoyable aspects of my role as CEO.”

Mr Lawrence’s departure from WAIS is effective 30 September 2023.

The Board will then commence a national search for a new Chief Executive for the Institute.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Neale Fong

Chair of the WAIS Board