

Michael Morgan OAM (ON 1964) Rowing Centre

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Michael attended Newington College from 1957 to 1964. He served as a Prefect, Cadet CUO and House Captain and rowed in the 1st VIII in 1963 (winners of the Head of the River) and 1964. He rowed in the Australian Men’s Eight at the 1968 and 1972 Olympics, winning Silver in 1968. He served as Senior/Head Coach of Rowing at Newington from 1974 to 2000. Under his tutelage, the 1st VIII took first place at the GPS Regatta on ten occasions, along with second place another ten times and third place twice. His crews won seven National Schoolboy titles, while five of his crew members have subsequently become Olympic medallists. Michael served as a member of College Council from 2007 to 2015.

Newington College Rowing Program

The Winning Edge

The Winning Edge is not actually a program, it’s a philosophy.

This philosophy was coined in John Bertrand’s book “Born to Win” published in September 1985 outlining the successful Australia II campaign at the 1983 America’s Cup. The question John Bertrand asked was “What is our winning edge?” Australia II was up against the might of the US who had unlimited funding, great facilities, home town advantage and some of the best sailors in the world. Australia could match the talent but couldn’t match the location, funding or facilities. The Winning Edge ended up being brain power and innovation resulting in the winged keel that was designed within the rules and provided a technological and psychological advantage.

Michael Morgan read this book and the Winning Edge philosophy resonated. “What is our Winning Edge at Newington Rowing?” There were a number of factors that contributed to the program, many of which were drawn from local and international programs, benchmarks and past successful local schoolboy programs. Each piece of the jigsaw played an important part and each was carefully integrated into the “Winning Edge Program”. From planting the seed in young boys’ minds to talent ID; from technical direction to dry swinging; from holiday programs to selection policies; from strength programs to sculling - the benchmarks, targets, races and prognostics were all clear - no stone was left unturned.

The program was first implemented in 1986 with immediate results - a victory in both VIII’s at the Head of the River in 1987 and the program proved itself over the next decade with eight 1st VIII wins and six 2nd VIII wins. The unique elements to this program over other GPS schoolboy programs were the strength program (introduced at Year 9) and sculling off for selection so that the athletes selected themselves. Today all schools have a strength and sculling program in place so we need to determine what our Winning Edge is in today’s environment.

Schooling today is very different. There are numerous competing pressures on boys which makes time the most valuable commodity. The Michael Morgan OAM (ON 1964) Rowing Centre provides an onsite Rowing specific facility including 8 Row Perfect’s, 16 Concept II Ergs with sliders, immediate feedback video technology and a Rowing specific Strength and Conditioning room with the foundation machines of bench pull, bench press and leg press as well as equipment to improve core strength and flexibility. This facility will maximise quality training and time that can be negatively impacted by competing users (other sports), poor weather or water and Sydney traffic to name a few.

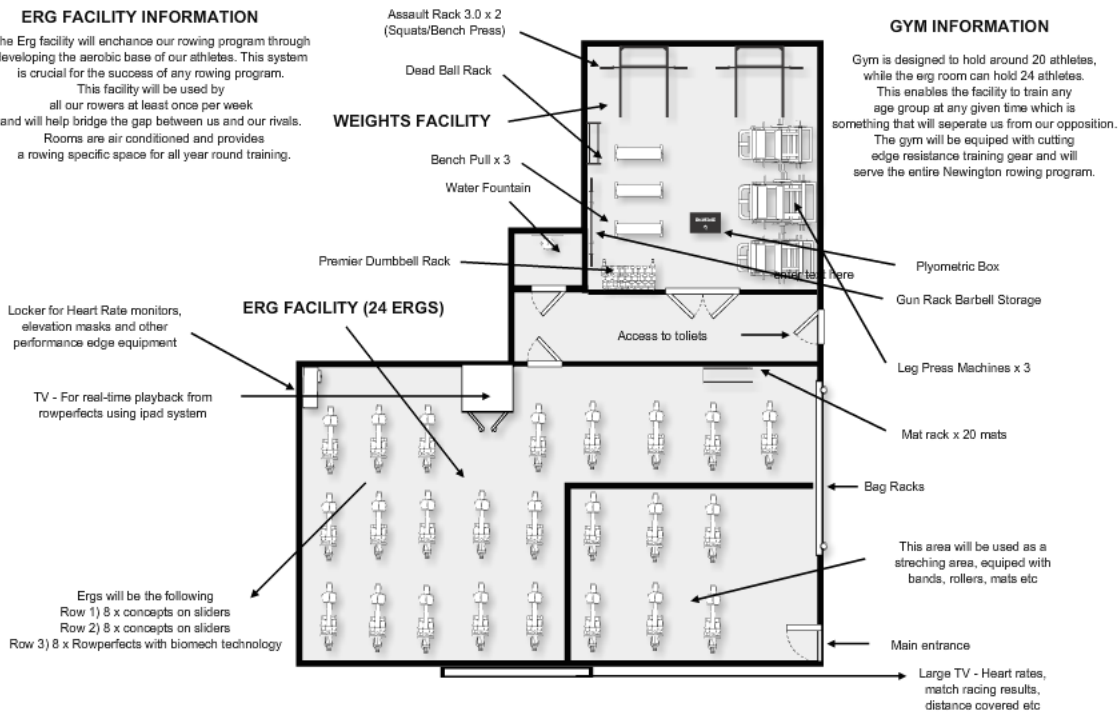
The Winning Edge Program in 2015 includes all the pieces of the jigsaw above. The biggest obstacle in today’s environment is time and our Winning Edge will be similar to that of the successful planning team for Australia II – brain power, innovation and technology. Over the last two years several Old Boys who were in successful 1st VIII winning crews have committed to coaching and mentoring. Michael Morgan is also back in a Coach Development and Crew fine tuning role. With the help of these individuals, we have to integrate the proven core elements of the successful 1987 – 1998 Winning Edge Programs and implement these in a time poor environment where boys are distracted by numerous competing issues (the majority being out of the school’s control).

The Michael Morgan OAM (ON 1964) Rowing Centre is part of a long term vision to reinstate Newington College as a major force in Australian and International Schoolboy Rowing. **The seed is planted, you can help water it!**

Facilities and Equipment

Design

The Michael Morgan OAM (ON 1964) Rowing Centre includes both a technical training facility as well as a Rowing specific Strength and Conditioning room. The technical rowing facility will be used by boys of all ages across the Newington College Rowing program. The Strength and Conditioning facility will predominantly be used by Year 9 and 10 students in both off season and in season for their strength programs.



Establishing a ‘Winning Edge’

You can support this appeal via

- Individual Donation
- Crew Donation
- Era/Year/Group Donation

What item(s) would you like to support? (please tick)

<input type="checkbox"/> MMRC RowPerfect Ergs & Screens (16 Required) - \$4,875 each. Donation_____ x \$4,875 = \$_____	Base Case \$156,000
<input type="checkbox"/> MMRC Conditioning Equipment (Various) - \$28,000	
<input type="checkbox"/> MMRC Strength Equipment (Various) - \$50,000	
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Sculling Blades (10 Required) - \$1,000 each. Donation_____ x \$1,000 = \$_____	Mid Case \$205,500
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Sculls (10 Required) - \$3,000 each. Donation_____ x \$3,000 = \$_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st VIII Coaching Boat & Trailer - \$9,500	
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Quads (4 Required) - \$23,000 each. Donation_____ x \$23,000 = \$_____	Best Case \$337,500
<input type="checkbox"/> Boat Trailer (1 Required) - \$40,000	

Donations to the Michael Morgan OAM (ON 1964) Rowing Centre are 100% tax deductible.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE DONATION FORM ON THE REVERSE SIDE

DONATION FORM

I/we would like to support the Michael Morgan OAM (ON 1964) Rowing Centre.

What type of donation would you like to make? (please tick)

- ☐ Individual Donation
- ☐ Crew Donation Crew Year: _____

Who is co-ordinating your crew?

Name: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Other contributors? _____
(Each contributor to complete donation form)

- ☐ Era/Year/Group Donation Group Name: _____

Who is co-ordinating your Era/Year/Group?

Name: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Other contributors? _____
(Each contributor to complete donation form)

How would you/your group liked to be acknowledged? (please tick)

- ☐ Anonymous
- ☐ On the equipment (& on the MMRC Honour Boards)
Name to appear as _____

Total Gift Amount _____

CREDIT CARD DETAILS ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card Holder's Name: _____

Card

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Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please hand the completed form to any staff member or forward to:

Community and Development Office
200 Stanmore Road, Stanmore NSW 2048 Ph: 02 9568 9374
Fax: 02 9568 9521 Email: community@newington.nsw.edu.au

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

