

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 14

June 2008

*Points to note:*

- Renewals
- Recency of Practice
- PI Insurance
- Criminal Screenings
- Board Prizes
- Section 46
- Complaints and Conciliation
- The Register

## TRANS-TASMAN AGREEMENT

The Department of Health has advised the Trans-Tasman Agreement has now been signed which facilitates easy registration via the Mutual Recognition Act for practitioners registered in New Zealand.

## Renewals

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the Act -renewal payments will be due and payable by 30 June 2008. This payment will be for a year, with future payments due annually by 30 June.

Importantly, and in accordance with Section 35(1) of the Act, there will be no flexibility with payments, and any practitioner non-financial as at 30 June 2008 will be removed from the Register.

Re-registration will then be necessary, requiring the practitioner to apply IN PERSON at the office of the Registration Board in South Perth, and provide the Board with the necessary documentation for re-registration. Penalty payments may also be incurred.

### HOW TO MAKE PAYMENT

Payments may be effected via cheque, money order or BPay (see note below).

Cash and EFTPOS facilities are available at our offices.

Please DO NOT include cash if forwarding your payment through the post.

Credit card payments CANNOT be made over the phone.

All payments to be in Australian dollars.



### IMPORTANT:

If the customer number allocated on your form contains only four (4) digits, please include a zero (0) before this number to facilitate the BPay option.

## Fees and charges

The following fees are stipulated in the Regulations:

### Registration Fees (GST Exempt)

Application Fee	\$50.00
Registration Fee – Full Year	\$75.00
Registration Fee - Jan-June	\$37.50
Restoration Fee following removal from Register for non-payment of fees	\$80.00

### Administrative Fees (GST Exempt)

Change of Particulars	\$15
Certificate of Good Standing	\$15
Additional Qualifications	\$15
Duplicate Receipt	\$15
Extract of entry in the Register	\$15

## Professional Indemnity Insurance

### REGISTRATION NUMBERS

In April 2008 there were 2292 registered physiotherapists in Western Australia.

Of these, 25.96 per cent were males.

Whilst it is not yet a requirement under the Act for practitioners to have professional indemnity insurance, it is a recommendation, in today's litigious society, for practitioners to arrange professional indemnity insurance to a minimum value of \$5 million.

### Complaints Procedure and Conciliation Process

Please refer to the attached documents for details relating to these two topics.

## Recency of Practice – what it means for you

In accordance with Section 41 of the Act, a physiotherapist who has not practised physiotherapy in the preceding period of five (5) years, and has not maintained current knowledge and skills in physiotherapy at an approved level (the obligation to prove this status remains with the physiotherapist) will be removed from the Register.

To maintain the integrity of the profession, the Board will assess each application for re-registration individually, but in broad terms the process may involve the procedures below:

- Conditional registration will apply until Board approval for full registration is granted.
- During the period of conditional registration, which may be up to one year's duration, the practitioner may be required to provide the Board with the following:
  - Details of the intended place of practice.
  - Confirmation in writing from a registered physiotherapist willing to supervise/mentor the practitioner's progress.
  - Provide a practice plan, detailing goals to be attained.
  - The practitioner and supervisor to provide a report at the conclusion of the period stipulated by the Board.
  - The practitioner to provide details of continuing professional development undertaken.

## NOTIFICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Sections 43 to 46 of the Act require registered physiotherapists to notify the Board when a number of events occur. They are:

- Change of Address within thirty (30) days of the change (Penalty \$1,000);
- Loss of Qualification within ninety (90) days of the withdrawal or cancellation of a qualification (Penalty \$1,000);
- Insolvency within seven (7) days of becoming insolvent (Penalty \$5,000), and
- Civil or Criminal Proceedings within fourteen (14) days (Penalty \$5,000).

## Criminal Screenings

It is a requirement of the Board for practitioners to provide updated criminal screenings every four years. This may be in the form of a:

- National Police Check;
- Working with Children Check;
- Department of Health screening;
- Department of Education screening.

As a courtesy, a reminder sticker will be placed on the renewal form to indicate a new clearance is required. A criminal clearance may be obtained by:

- Completing the form on our website and forwarding it to the Department of Health at the address indicated.
- Applying through any post office. This method requires you to fulfill the 100-point check requirement, and a police clearance will be forwarded to you.

To assist you with updating these records on the Register, please furnish us with a certified, legible copy of the document. Alternatively, forward the original with your payment and it will be returned with your official receipt. If the original is forwarded under separate cover, please include a stamped addressed envelope to effect its return.

## Board Prizes–2007

The Registration Board of WA has pleasure in awarding the Board prize to the following outstanding students for 2007:

For the most outstanding graduating student in the Master of Physiotherapy degree at Curtin University of Technology:

Robert John Woofenden

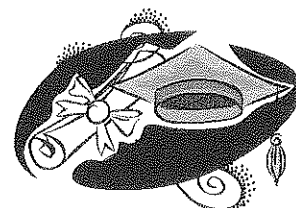
For the most outstanding graduating student in the Bachelor of Science (Physiotherapy) degree at Curtin University of Technology:

Alison Jane Cargeeg

or the most outstanding graduating student in the Bachelor of Physiotherapy degree at Notre Dame University:

Rebecca Hunter

*No matter what you do, there will be critics.*



## SECTION 46 of the Physiotherapists Act 2005

Section 46 of the Act (in part) states:

- (1) *Any physiotherapist must give the registrar written advice of any of the following matters within 14 days -*
- (a) *any civil proceedings claiming damages or other compensation arising out of the practice of physiotherapy.*



At this stage, the term “civil proceedings” refers to any proceedings initiated in a Court. The Board will be seeking to amend the Act to broaden the application of this section to incorporate any claim for damages or compensation.

# Physiotherapists' Registration Board of Western Australia

## Contacting the Board:

Registrar:  
Kim Bradbury

Assistant Registrar:  
Julia Fenton

Phone: (08) 9368 2644  
Fax: (08) 9368 2677

E-mail:  
enquiries@prbwa.com.au

Website:  
www.prbwa.com.au

Postal Address:  
PO Box 959  
SOUTH PERTH  
WA 6951

Street Address:  
Suite 7, Level 2  
23 Richardson Street  
SOUTH PERTH  
WA 6151

Office hours:  
Monday to Friday  
8.30am to 5.00pm

## The Board

The Members of the Board hold office for a period up to three (3) years and have been appointed pursuant to Section 6(1) of the Act.

*Adjunct Associate Professor Kim Gibson (Presiding Member)*  
*Physiotherapist appointed by the Minister for Health.*

*Professor Tony Wright (Deputy Presiding Member)*  
*Physiotherapist appointed by the Minister for Health.*

*Mr Tim Benson*  
*A consumer's representative appointed by the Minister for Health.*

*Ms Anna Ciffolilli*  
*A legal practitioner appointed by the Minister for Health.*

*Ms Gwen Parry*  
*Physiotherapist appointed by the Minister for Health.*

*Dr Shane Patman*  
*Physiotherapist appointed by the Minister for Health.*

*Dr Margaret Potter*  
*Physiotherapist appointed by the Minister for Health.*

*Mr Glenn Ruscoe*  
*Physiotherapist appointed by the Minister for Health.*

[www.prbwa.com.au](http://www.prbwa.com.au)

## ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON REGISTER

The Register is a public document and as such is accessible to any person or entity. Information available to the public consists of the physiotherapist's name, address, registration number, registration date, qualifications and details of any conditions placed on the physiotherapist's registration. Phone numbers and email addresses are not made available to the public.

Physiotherapists are required to have an address on the Register however, it is the physiotherapist's choice as to which address is used. If any physiotherapist is uncomfortable with the address on the Register, they can request to change it by emailing, faxing or writing to the office of the Board