



Queensland Branch ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING Scientific Program

7-9 August 2026 | Peppers Resort, Noosa

aoa.org.au/events



Welcome

The Australian Orthopaedic Association (AOA) is the peak professional body for orthopaedic surgeons in Australia.

AOA provides high-quality specialist education, training and continuing professional development.

AOA is committed to ensuring the highest possible standard of orthopaedic care and is the leading authority in the provision of orthopaedic information to the community.

AOA actively supports scientific research and orthopaedic humanitarian initiatives, in Australia and overseas.



AOA
AUSTRALIAN
ORTHOPAEDIC
ASSOCIATION



CELEBRATING 90 YEARS
OF CLINICAL EXCELLENCE
AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Welcome to the 2026 AOA Queensland Annual Scientific Meeting.

This year's theme, **Our Love of Learning**, celebrates one of the defining characteristics of our profession: a commitment to continuous growth, curiosity and improvement. From the earliest days of training through to the most experienced stages of practice, learning remains at the heart of what we do as orthopaedic surgeons.

What makes this year's meeting particularly special is the calibre of our faculty. Every speaker is drawn from within Queensland, showcasing the depth of talent, experience and expertise that exists within our own community. We are fortunate to be surrounded by colleagues whose interests extend far beyond the operating theatre. They are innovators, educators, leaders, adventurers, business owners, mentors and lifelong learners.

Alongside a stimulating scientific program, we invite you to enjoy the social events throughout the meeting, a chance to reconnect with colleagues, share experiences and celebrate the strong orthopaedic community we are privileged to be part of.

Thank you for joining once again in Noosa. We look forward to an engaging, thought-provoking and enjoyable meeting.

Chair: Arvind Puri
Convener: Michael Lutz



Venue



Set in the peaceful surrounds of Noosa National Park, Peppers Noosa Resort & Villas is the ideal base for your conference experience. Just minutes from Hastings Street and Noosa Main Beach, the resort offers stylish accommodation, a lagoon pool, day spa, and eco-conscious design. With boutique shopping, great dining, and scenic walks nearby, it's the perfect getaway for the family. Combine professional development with a relaxing escape in one of Queensland's most beautiful locations.



Friday 7 August

9.45am	Registration and morning tea	
10.00am - 2.05pm	Bone School Moderators: Michael Lutz, Leo Zeller, Rohan Brunello, Ruth Varrall, Phil Rowell, Arvind Puri, Martin Lowe, Jon Anderson, James Cox and Zhenya Welyczko.	
10.00am	Paediatric Sarcoma	John Maunder
10.20am	Complex Primary THR	David Zbrojkiewicz
10.40am	Revision TKR	Andrew Witherow
11.00am	Prosthetic Joint Infection	Nicholas Noye
11.20am	Refreshment break	
11.30am	Multilig Knee	James Powell
11.40am	Osteotomies about the Knee	Ahmed Mahmoud
12.00pm	Cavovarus and Planovalgus foot	William Fairbairn
12.20pm	PFJ instability	Kwai-Ho Cheung
12.40pm	Lunch	
1.05pm	Preparation for the FRACS exam	Leo Zeller
2.05pm	Refreshment break	
2.15pm - 5.15pm	Sponsored Workshop (Bone School continued)	
2.15pm	Workshop Cementing Principles: Building a Solid Foundation	Zhenya Welyczko & Rohan Brunello with Heraeus Medical
3.30pm	Afternoon tea	
4.00pm	Workshop continues	Heraeus
4.45pm - 5.45pm	Lessons in Wellbeing	
5.15pm	Wealth Wellbeing: Should the Federal Budget Change Your Financial Strategy?	Daniel James, Walshs
5.45pm	END DAY ONE	WALSHS



Friday 7 August

Friday Social Events

6pm - OWL Soiree
7pm - 9pm Cocktail function
Peppers Noosa



OWL Soiree Guest Speaker - Dr Tania Morris

The Courage to Learn: Women Leading in Orthopaedics

Tania is a Specialist Anaesthetist and Pain Medicine Physician with almost 20 years' experience in persistent pain management. She is Co-Director of the Sunshine Coast Persistent Pain Management Service in Queensland and has been recognised nationally for establishing and leading the region's public pain service. Dr Morris serves on the Faculty of Pain Medicine Board and holds several leadership roles in education, training and accreditation through ANZCA. She is also an experienced leadership coach and emotional intelligence trainer, with a strong focus on clinician wellbeing, mentoring and person-centred care.



Invited Speaker



Andre Casson, Brisbane Boys College Headmaster

Mr Andre Casson, our College’s tenth Headmaster since 2022, has been unwavering in his commitment to the BBC community. He has made it a priority to connect with every part of our College family – students, staff, parents, and Old Collegians – recognising each member’s unique contribution to BBC’s success.

Prior to his appointment at Brisbane Boys’ College, Mr Casson was the Head of the Australian International School in Singapore, where he oversaw the strategic direction and growth of this high-performing institution. He also has extensive previous experience in the Brisbane GPS school environment, having served as Deputy Head of Senior School at Anglican Church Grammar School before relocating to Singapore.



Saturday 8 August

7.30am	Registration and exhibition open	
8.00am	Welcome address	Michael Lutz
8.10am - 10.10am	Session 1: Diverse and Shared Learning Pathways	Moderator: Michael Lutz
8.10am	Lessons in leadership	Catherine McDougall
8.25am	Sleeping on the job - what I have learned about translational research collaborations	Rob Labrom
8.35am	What is there to learn about orthopaedic device development	Greg Couzens
8.45am	Cultural competence: Lessons beyond the textbook	Arvind Puri
8.55am	Discussion	
9.15am	What is to be learnt in a law degree that we should all know	Leo Zeller
9.25am	Learning by osmosis - a lifetime of orthopaedic exposure	Tim McMeniman
9.35am	Transitioning from surgery to fulltime medico legal practice	Simon Journeaux
9.45am	Discussion	
10.00am	Morning tea	
10.30am	What I have learnt through Board Involvement	David Gill
10.40am	Lifestyle series: It's no B..S..! I love orthopaedic surgery so I bought a farm - lessons for us all	Rohan Brunello
10.50am	Discussion	
11.00am - 12.05pm	Session 2: Free Paper Finalists Judges: Ross Crawford, David Gill and Catherine McDougall	Moderator: Greg Couzens
11.00am	Persistent opioid usage post total knee replacement	Punkaja Amarasekera
11.10am	Predictors of Blood Transfusion in Primary Total Hip and Knee Arthroplasty: An Australian Arthroplasty Single-Centre Study	Fraser Labrom
11.20am	Single versus double hamstring tendon graft in anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction in the paediatric patient: preliminary results from a single-blind randomised controlled trial	Garrett Malayko
11.30am	Risk factors for graft failure in paediatric anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction: Queensland Children’s Hospital Registry results at two year follow up	Alexander Seeto



Saturday 8 August



11.40am - 12.10pm	Invited Speaker: Learning That Shapes Us	Moderator: Michael Lutz
11.40am	The changing learning landscape: What educators can teach us about learning	Andre Casson, Brisbane Boys College
12.10pm	Lunch	
1.10pm - 3.25pm	Session 3: A Lifetime of Learning	Moderator: Sheanna Maine
1.10pm	Instaorthopaedics - non traditional modes of orthopaedic learning	Zhenya Welyczko
1.25pm	Virtual reality learning for the operating theatre	Zhenya Welyczko
1.40pm	Beyond the Scalpel: Advancing Surgical Education Through Postgraduate Study	Fionnuala Kelly
1.50pm	QE2 arthroplasty education program	Jon Quinn
2.00pm	Discussion	
2.20pm	What I learnt on fellowship	Lisa Major
2.30pm	What I have learnt about retirement - our learning never stops	Gary Nielsen
2.45pm	Too Sure, Too Scared, Too Late: The Anatomy of Surgical Judgement	Grace Pulling
2.55pm	Lifestyle series: What I have learnt training for and completing a marathon - tips for the inquisitive and curious: recommendations for orthopaedic surgeons	Ruth Varrall
3.05pm	Discussion	
3.25pm	Afternoon tea	
3.50pm - 4.50pm	Session 4: Interactive Forum - Elective Case Discussions	Moderator: Mark Moroney
4.50pm - 6.20pm	The Noosa Open II - who will take ownership of the trivia trophy?	Moderator: Christopher Conyard
6.20pm	END DAY TWO	

7.00pm Executive Dinner | Peppers Noosa

The Queensland Branch and Scientific Secretary Michael Lutz invite all members to attend the Executive Dinner, an evening of appreciation and celebration! Join us as we thank the ASM Faculty and QLD Executive Committee members, welcome the incoming 2027 trainees and bid farewell to the 2026 exiting trainees. We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you.



Sunday 9 August

8.00am - 10.05am	Session 5: AGM and AOA Updates	
8.00am	AOA QLD Branch AGM (members only)	Michael Thomas
9.00am	CPD update + Q&A	David Gill
9.25am	President's update	Mark Moroney
9.40am	Award presentations	Mark Moroney
9.50am	Training update	Bryan Ashman
10.05am	Morning tea	
10.35am - 12.45pm	Session 6: Progress Through Practice	Moderator: Arvind Puri
10.35am	Appplying the learning curve to robotic knee arthroplasty	Tim McMeniman
10.45am	Tackling the Learning Curve - a transition from open to minimally invasive bunion correction surgery	Greg Sterling
10.55am	Learning curves - when is the right time to embark on a Learning Curve	Scott Sommerville
11.05am	What is old, isn't new - why we need to keep learning	Ross Crawford
11.15am	Discussion	
11.35am	Children's Registry - what we can learn	David Bade
11.50am	AOANJRR - update	Chris Wall
12.05pm	Philosophical Learnings - Equity and Power through the ages	John McNicholl
12.15pm	Lifestyle series: What I have learnt: how golf can be applied to the lives of orthopaedic surgeons	Kelly Macgroarty
12.25pm	Discussion	
12.45pm - 1.45pm	Session 7: Debate - Orthopaedic Learning Chaired by Michael Lutz Debaters: Ruth Varrall, Zhenya Welyczko, Rohan Brunello, Chris Conyard, Sheanna Maine	
1.45pm	Lunch	
2.30pm	END OF CONFERENCE	



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Australian Orthopaedic Association Limited
Suite 1, Level 26, 201 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Tel: 61 2 8071 8000
Website: aoa.org.au



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