A stroke of luck brings coach to St Augustine's

Andrew Premice

WHEN Matt Ungemach enrolled his son Eamon into St Augustine’s College three years ago, the school stumbled across a sporting gem.

The former world champion German rower moved to Curl Curl 15 years ago and fell in love with the sport at the elite level soon after.

After offering his expertise, the school revamped its program and began to work towards its long-term goals.

Taking on the established order at the prestigious Grammar Public Schools was the ultimate challenge, and results from the recently completed schoolboy season speak for themselves.

Winning the Riverina Gold Cup and Head of the River surprised everyone, so steering past the state titles felt like a dream.

"We looked on with bated breath, but our boys are very capable. They are hard workers and willing to learn."

"I was surprised at the quality of the sport at the school. I saw immediately that everyone bought into what we were trying to achieve, which made the process so good."

Ungemach said.

"Racing is open to students from Year 5."

Long term, focus will be placed on sprinting, with a "very positive" outlook for the future.

"The college has a fantastic rugby program in place. If we can echo their success, then the future for rowing will be very positive."

FATHER OF COLLEGE STUDENT IS FORMER WORLD CHAMPION

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