

Muswellbrook superfish Joseph Hamson claims bronze medals at 2017 Georgina Hope Foundation Australian Age Swimming Championships

Rod Thompson
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MUSWELLBROOK superfish Joseph Hamson is hoping to follow in the footsteps of his idols Cameron McEvoy and Michael Phelps.

And, it would be a brave man to bet against the 13-year-old from fulfilling his dream.

The talented teenager, who represents the Singleton Amateur Swimming Club in the competitive arena, turned in an outstanding performance at the 2017 Georgina Hope Foundation Australian Age Swimming Championships.

Hamson left the Brisbane Aquatic Centre with two bronze medals and narrowly missed out on a third.

He recorded 25.35 to finish third in the 50m freestyle and backed up with 55.74 to claim a similar result in the 100m.

For good measure, he also registered a sizzling 2:03.42, securing fourth in the 200m freestyle.

“Winning two bronze medals was great,” Hamson said.

“But, an added bonus was swimming PBs (personal best times) in those three events.

“At the moment, I’m first in NSW because the top two placegetters (in the 50m and 100m double) were from Queensland.

“I only qualified for the 200m through a ‘last chance’ meeting, so my coaches were amazed by how well I went.

“I’ve recently moved to Knox Grammar School – and I had limited opportunities to prepare.

“I was only training three times a week, so the hard work paid off.

“I’m now hoping to settle into a routine [in Sydney].”

Hamson, however, won’t get a chance to enjoy a break just yet.

He’ll tackle the 50m, 100m and 200m freestyle treble, 50m butterfly and four relays at the Catholic Independent Schools Swimming Championships at the Sydney Aquatic Centre next week.

“It’s a full-on program,” Hamson admitted.

“But, I’d love to swim professionally.

“A future goal [of mine] is the Olympic Games.

“In the meantime, I’m hoping to win gold at the nationals and compete at the Australian All Schools Championships, both of which take place next year.

“I’d like to thank my Singleton coach Melisa Geale and my family for their support, as well as all the well-wishes from Muswellbrook and Singleton.”

Hamson also contested the 100m butterfly and 100m backstroke, locking down 16th and 31st positions respectively.