

**ATHLETICS WAIKATO-BAY of PLENTY Inc ~ MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Cambridge on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 7:30pm

**PRESENT:** M.Green (chair), A.McDonald, M.Petley, B.Clarke, M.Taylor, D.Taylor, M.Holcroft, S.Rees-Jones, plus 14 representatives from clubs (Bellevue, Cambridge, Frankton, Hamilton Hawks, Lake City, Putaruru, Taupo)

**APOLOGIES:** H. O'Hagan, M. Oman, E.A. Taylor, B.Fleming, G.Sexton, G.McCabe, R.Porter

**MINUTES of PREVIOUS MEETING:** were approved

**FINANCE – taken as read by members**

Accounts for payment March 2014:

Emblems NZ Ltd	\$9936.00	(Championship medals – grant already received for these)
Emblems NZ Ltd	\$45.54	(repair to Davies Memorial Cup)
ACC	\$356.75	(employer workplace cover)
Sport BOP	\$1022.22	(coach force Barrie Jennings)
Tony Hunt	\$90.00	(website maintenance)
Athletics Tauranga	\$590.89	(for purchase of meet manager domain licence for Tauranga Domain)

**SPECIAL ITEM**

Discussions took place by committee members and club representatives regarding the Centre structure and operations.

- The Chair made an introduction to the meeting.
- It was asked why the masters run separate events with separate fees. A committee member replied that the masters have nothing to do with Athletics New Zealand and are part of a world wide body. It was explained that Masters do not have to join AWBOP or ANZ and can still compete in competitions.
- A club member raised that open and master track events are short of officials and are poorly attended. As such, it was suggested that it would make sense to combine the events.
- Discussions ensued between club representatives and committee members with the benefits of combining events stated. This was countered by some committee members who stated that there are 100 registered masters and that they would not be keen to compete with non-masters athletes.
- The current centre structure was presented to the meeting and meeting attendees were asked to consider aspects of the centre that were liked, disliked and could be changed or improved. Written feedback was collected at the end of the meeting. It was explained that this to be collated and presented at a later date.
- A committee member informed the meeting that the centre was consistently producing good athletic results. Membership was still holding constant and it remains a popular sport.

- Some concern was expressed that some areas have no support for athletes at their schools. A committee member confirmed that Sports Force has targeted and helped some of those schools and that funding can be used to get them such further assistance.
- A committee member stated that the Centre provides benefit to clubs by providing and maintaining equipment for their use
- A club representative provided some positive feedback on the new Centre website providing results quickly.
- A committee member then stated that the Centre functions and how it fits into the National body should be explained to club representatives. Such information was then presented by committee members to the meeting.
- A committee member suggested that there will be less financial and communication requirements for the centre in future due to the new registration database.
- It was suggested by a committee member that centrally located management meeting would be a good idea so that all clubs were accommodated equally.
- A club representative stated that club only membership is a good starting point for athletes and was concerned that any fee increases could alter that. A committee member countered by questioning whether any other sport was cheaper than athletics. Another committee member continued that the average person pays very little and that the more successful athletes pay more, but that overall costs were low.
- A club representative raised a concern over whether ANZ plan to impose anything else other than the new registration system. A committee member replied that ANZ may wish to have more control over national events and to have standardised coaching and officials pathways.
- A club representative suggested that it would be better to wait to find out the plans of ANZ before making any changes to the centre structure.
- A club representative stated that at club level there has been a distinct change to people enjoying the sport, but not wishing to be competitive. These people are not interested in track and field, except for juniors, and are mainly older people who just want to participate in club events.
- There was some disagreement between a club representative and committee member regarding club events running on the same day as centre sanctioned events. The club representative stated that as part of their contract to use facilities the local council dictates that they must run local events.
- There was some clarification given to the meeting regarding the method of collection of fees under the new registration system. It was confirmed that ANZ will dictate their fee (from 2015), with club and centre determining their portions.
- There were a number of attendees who stated that the centre still has an important role to play and should be retained.
- A committee member stated that the sport will need to become better at running events to generate income in the future.

- A committee member introduced the idea that a competitions committee that could meet three times a year in a central area was a possibility. A structure with a board consisting of key representatives from the sport and other outside people was also suggested. In this proposal, under the board something similar to the current structure would exist.
- A club representative highlighted their large number of members and that their volunteers are busy people. They reiterated that management meeting locations should be convenient for all. A committee member suggested that Skype based meetings were a possibility, but that this had inherent logistical difficulties. Another committee member then confirmed that at earlier meetings it had been suggested that committee meetings should rotate their locations and that clubs should be invited to attend alternate ones.
- A club representative was concerned that visits were not made to clubs in the more remote parts of the centre to explain the new registration system. It was acknowledged that there are difficulties with the centre covering a large geographical area.
- A club representative was concerned that substantial fee increases could occur for athletes due to centre and ANZ increases. A committee member confirmed that there is no collection of the ANZ fee this year through the new registration system, such a fee collection will start in 2015. It was stated that the fee will be based on the type of athlete. The committee member also informed the meeting that the Centre has previously contacted ANZ to protest the unreasonable increase in the ANZ levy to the Centre. A club member was concerned that they needed to know what the ANZ and centre fees will be in 2015 with plenty of notice so they can set their membership fees.
- It was confirmed that a likely date for further deliberations would be directly after the mid-winter forum on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014, at the Cambridge clubrooms.

The meeting was closed by the chair.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014, at Cambridge Clubrooms 7:30 pm.**

## **REPORTS**

### **Children's Report for Management, 24 March 2014**

#### **Ribbon Days**

Clubs who have hosted Ribbon Days recently were: Te Aroha, Paeroa and Greerton/Bellevue (who also hosted the Triple Jump Champs). All were successful days, uniform compliance remains an issue. Paeroa's Ribbon Day allowed Thames athletes (a non-affiliated club) to have a taste of Children's competition, some were initially overwhelmed with the event, but I understand all had a great day. AWBoP Children's Committee hope to see the club re-affiliate next year.

#### **Children's Champs 23 March**

Due to the adverse weather conditions from the effects of Tropical Storm, Lusi, the Children's Champs original date for Saturday 15 March, was deferred to Sunday 23 March.

Despite the change in date, most officials and athletes were available. This was particularly of importance as many of the officials, and some of the older athletes, had participated in the WBoP Secondary School Champs in Hamilton the day before.

Tauranga put on a great day, not too hot and a nice sea breeze made it comfortable for the afternoon.

The track got off to a late start due to a computer not performing itself. We had made the time up by the lunch break. We had a number of DQ's for line running in the 800m and the 200m races, but no false starts which is exceptional. An area that will need further education, is being placed as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reserve in the final of a race, and the need to report to marshalling as well. A couple of the 100m finals did not have full fields as finalists had left the grounds and the reserves also were not available.

There were large fields in the some of the field events, particularly the Long Jump, thanks to the officials who managed these events.

Uniforms are still a big issue, even at the Champs, despite tirelessly telling all clubs about the correct uniform to be worn.

Thanks to all the Officials and helpers who helped make the day a very successful one.

This concludes the summer competition events for the Children's section at WBoP level.

#### **Inter-provincial Team Grade 12, 13**

The Inter-provincial Grade 12, 13, team going to Hastings at Easter, was named at the conclusion of the Children's Champs.

Rolf Porter

Margaret Holcroft