

Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty – Children’s Section

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14th June, 2020. Cambridge Clubrooms

Proxy votes:

Meeting opened at:10.08

PRESENT: Sandra Murray, Louise Young, Debbie Burge, Dave O’Keeffe, Nellie Engels, Donna Howitt, Richard Hallan, Murray Green, Catherine Came, Peter Blackwood, Berny Koppens, Kelly Albrecht, Sandra Hawker, Christine Wallis.

CLUBS PRESENT: Fairfield, Waihi, Bellevue, Greerton, Putararu, Te Awamutu, Te Aroha, Whakatane, Lake City, Tokoroa Track, WAIBOP Chairperson.

APOLOGIES: Clare McVeigh (Matamata), Rene Otto (Whakatane), Andrew Langman, (Cambridge), Sarah Watson (Te Awamutu), Malcolm Taylor (Tauranga Ramblers), Jimmy and Jenny Heta (Hinemoa).

“move that the apologies be accepted”

Sandra Murray/Nellie Engels

MINUTES OF THE 2019 AGM: deemed a true and accurate record

Sandra Murray/Catherine Came

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2019 AGM:

Election of Gr 12/13 managers to be brought forward to October meeting

Percentage of costs for IP managers

Event for tiny tots 3-6 or 3-9. Would be hosted by Frankton and Hinemoa (nothing has happened as yet – probably won’t go ahead.)

Gr 12/13 IP team practice sessions – possibly but not absolutely sure.

Separate account for 14-18IP – requested by Rene Otto.

Funding Applications

Setting of Relay/Children’s champs fees

Signatures required for accounts

Budget proposal’s from Colgate Games Funds – Otorohanga still haven’t claimed their funds, Louise to follow up.

Review the Children’s radio situation to see if need to replace those that aren’t working affectively. Sandra to do.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

Email from Fairfield – re remit regarding hats as part of uniforms

Gr 14/18 IP report from Rene Otto

Email from Peter Blackwood with manager nominations

Ribbon day requests from Tokoroa, Te Aroha, Lake City, Cambridge, Taupo

Feedback on logo on shorts from Tokoroa, Lake City, Hinemoa

Suggestions on ribbon day dates for Lake City

Comment on Pentathlon and relay champs from Lake City

Nominations from Cambridge

Apologies

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

AGM agenda

Previous AGM minutes

Responses to ribbon day request

Communication with Taupo Athletics regarding ribbon day

“Move to accept the inward correspondence and approve the outward correspondence”

Louise Young/Berny Koppens

REPORTS:

Gr 14/18 IP's

Compiled by Reno Otto

WAIKATO BAY OF PLENTY INTER-PROVINCIAL U14-17 REPORT

The 2020 WBOP IP team was in total 40 athletes 20 more than the 2019 season. Our goal was to select a strong team that can compete against the strong Counties and Auckland teams and so we did. We had very big numbers in the under 14 & 15 boys and girls age groups and were able to cover all events. In the senior age groups 16 & 17 we had limited numbers but the athletes we had were of a high quality and ability. To achieve even better WBOP need more senior athletes in the future to compete at the IP's.

Managers were Rene Otto (selector and administration), Robin Knowles, Peter Blackwood, Annette Blackwood and Samantha Burr. These people need to be thanked for the excellent effort with the large team. This has been the best behaved team since I have been involved in the WBOP IP team since 2014. The managers just managed the team in a very professional way and looked well after the athletes. A big thank you from me as selector to all the managers.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Peter Blackwood for his effort in selecting the relay teams. We did well in the different relay age groups and won the under 15 girls relay trophy.

I also want to take the opportunity to thank Robin Knowles and Ashley Sando for the hard work they have put in to organising the IP's this year. I know what it takes to organise an event like this and the hours that they spend to make this a great event. We are proud of you two. Thanks on behalf of everyone.

WBOP team captains were: Under 15 Ellie Milina and Etienne Otto. Under 17 captains Mykahla Watson and Connor McKnight.

North Island IP individual medal winners were under 14 Andre Gunderson 3rd and Hinewai Knowles under 17 girls 3rd.

Overall team competition Under 14, 15, 16 and 17 boys and girls teams finished 3rd in the different age groups. Many athletes achieved personal best during the event and many finished in the top 3 in their age groups.

If WBOP can keep this group of athletes together for future IP's the results will even be better than 2020.

I just want to take this opportunity to thank WBOP children committee, WBOP centre and the managers of the WBOP IP team and athletes all the best for the future. This was my last IP's. I am stepping back from all team athletics to focus on my sons and my own athletics in the future.

I wish WBOP children and the Centre and all the clubs all the best for the future.

You guys are the BEST!!!

Rene Otto

03/06/2020

Moved - Peter Blackwood/Seconded - Donna Howitt

Response to GR 14/U18 IP's: Peter Blackwood has proposed the centre offers a letter of thanks for all of Rene's hard work throughout his many years of service to athletics. Secretary will compose a letter to express the centre's gratitude.

Chairman's Report:

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2019-2020

Registrations for the 2019-2020 season show there were 3974 athletes registered from 30 clubs; this is an increase of 231 from last season. As I look at the registration numbers provided by Management, I see that most clubs have seen slight changes, with around 6 clubs having gained a resurgent of members which is wonderful to see. The numbers for the under 5's group continues to grow with an increase in this group of 122. I know that Fairfield and Lake City Clubs had a large increase in their club with this age group. This in turn meant that changes were required on club nights to accommodate these numbers so that all children had the opportunity to grow and develop in athletics. It is wonderful to see the interest from this age group which hopefully will continue and feed into our 7 and up ages.

Ribbon Days were held by Whakatane, Bellevue, Fairfield, Te Awamutu, Te Aroha, Paeroa and Lake City, along with Cambridge holding a Pentathlon. This year Fairfield celebrated 50 years as a club, so congratulations to them for this achievement. We continue to thank these clubs for providing this inter-club competition for our children, the officials and volunteers who assist on the day along with the many hours of preparation that goes into planning these days. In the reports that were provided after these Ribbon Days there continues to be a positive culture around our Ribbon Days, which is greatly appreciated by all those who provide us with their time to officiate. I have noticed that we are continuing to use the signage we have that reminds parents and everyone attending the event that we are volunteers. Thank you again to all the officials and volunteers that stepped forward to ensure these days run as smoothly as they do.

In December we held our **Relay Championships** at Hamilton which saw 15 clubs attend. This year Fairfield organised the day and will do the same for the coming season. I would personally like to thank Teresa Mumby and her Fairfield Team for taking on this role to support me as Competition Secretary, it certainly made my job easier this year. The Walks were held alongside the Relay Championships with the Triple Jump Competition being held at the Cambridge Pentathlon. Unfortunately, as a sport we are having issues finding starters, so this could be an area we may need to look at encouraging people to begin learning at club level, moving onto Ribbon Days, then learning alongside others at Championship events.

Waikato/BOP Children's Championships was held at Tauranga Domain 14th March which saw 425 competitors this year from 23 clubs throughout the Waikato/Bay of Plenty area. As

this day approached so did the uncertainty of the worldwide pandemic, Covid-19. This did see a few children not participate which I believe was due to the uncertainty around the virus. Overall though it was a wonderful day and well run by the Bay Clubs. Again, the organisation for the day fell back onto my shoulders (Sandra Murray), however I was able to organise the Officials ahead of time which certainly assisted with the day, along with the clubs advising where they could assist in a timely manner. I would like to remind clubs that there are always opportunities for people to up skill or learn new skills that will support us to ensure that Relay and Children's championship events continue.

Waikato-Bay of Plenty G14 – U18 Inter-Provincial Competition report was also presented at this meeting, so won't repeat it in this report.

Waikato-Bay of Plenty G12/13 Inter-Provincial team was meant to travel to Auckland at Easter, but unfortunately the country was in Lockdown due to Covid-19. There has been discussion around holding this event possibly in September but at the time of writing this report I haven't heard if this is happening.

Administration: As delegates for the Children's Committee, Andrew Langman and Sandra Murray attended AWBoP Management Meetings on a regular basis. Meetings were held at Cambridge and should other members from the Children's section wish to attend they are most welcome to. Athletics New Zealand will be holding their Club Connect and AGM in Auckland, however I'm unsure of the date as due to Covid-19 many events have been altered. As this AGM is being held in Auckland I would encourage as many clubs to attend so that Children's can be seen and heard if necessary. The AGM for Management will hopefully be held on the 16th August, but again this still needs to be confirmed.

I continue to enjoy the opportunity of being Chairperson for the Children's Committee this year and would like to thank Louise Young, the Waikato Athletics Development Advisor, who continues to be the Minute Secretary. She has worked alongside Stephen Rees-Jones and me, to ensure information is going out to the clubs. I also thank Stephen Rees-Jones who took on the responsibility of organising the financial aspects for WBOP Children's account. I continued to be the Competitions Secretary, with the weeks leading up to our two big Competition events being always busy periods entering all the names into all the events and getting the programmes ready. I would like to thank Alison Bussey who assists me in this role. I again ask that if there is anyone else who would like to stand as Chairperson or learn the role of Competition Secretary for the coming or next season please consider it, as I can't guarantee how much longer I will continue with these roles.

As we come through an unprecedented time with a virus that stopped a country and world, it is important for clubs to have plans in place for the coming season. This could be looking at how you may be able to support families financially or the possibility that your number of athletes may drop, causing a financial situation. So it may be time for you to consider how your clubs will work through these situations, should they occur. It is important to keep the lines of communication open with Louise, Steve or myself if your club needs assistance in any way to ensure your club survives a period, that at this stage is unknown.

A big thank you goes out to all those who continue to support children's athletics, especially at club level. The future of children's Athletics in the Waikato-Bay of Plenty region relies on people stepping forward as volunteers, learning to coach children at club level, to officiate and to take up the reins at Committee level. There is still plans in place for the Centre to

form a Board, which I believe may occur during the Centre AGM. It continues to be important too, that we encourage our families to take up these opportunities as the future of children's athletics hangs in the balance and their involvement is necessary to ensure we continue to provide a strong front for Children's Athletics.

Sandra Murray
Chairperson

"move that the Report be adopted"

Sandra Murray/Peter Blackwood

Financial Report: Secretary will liaise with Steve Rees-Jones from AWBOP for a report to be prepared for the October 2020 meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1) ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman: Sandra Murray (Nomination from Lake City, Whakatane & Fairfield)

Minute Secretary: Louise Young (Nomination from Lake City, Whakatane & Fairfield)

Competition Secretary: Sandra Murray (Nomination from Lake City, Whakatane & Fairfield)

"all positions were voted in unanimously"

Selectors - Grade 12-13:

1. Ruth Kaiwhata (Nomination from Whakatane & Fairfield)
2. Katrina Anderson (Nomination from Whakatane & Fairfield)
3. Berny Koppens (Nomination from Whakatane and Bellevue)
- 4.

It was decided that a fourth selector is required. Donna Howitt will speak with Julz Mariner from Greerton, to see if there may be anyone suitable.

Update – 15 June – Wayne Fausett is to be confirmed.

Selectors to get together, share contact details and discuss roles

Managers - Grade 12-13:

1. Ruth Kaiwhata (Nomination from Whakatane & Fairfield)
2. Katrina Anderson (Nomination from Whakatane & Fairfield)

(Note: expressions of interest from parents to be received in writing before the October meeting, where four candidates will be elected, remainder to be co-opted onto the team by the Chief Manager)

Inter-provincial Co-ordinator:

Selectors - Grade 14, U16, U18:

1. Peter Blackwood (Nomination from Whakatane & Bellevue)
2. Robin Knowles (Nomination from Whakatane & Fairfield)
3. Kylie Hala (Nomination from Whakatane & Torokoa)
4. Ashleigh Sando (Nomination from Whakatane & Putararu)

Managers - Grade 14, U16, U18:

1. Robin Knowles (Nomination from Whakatane & Fairfield)

2. Peter Blackwood (Nomination from Whakatane & Lake City)
3. Hinewai Knowles (Nomination from Whakatane & Te Awamutu)
4. Ashleigh Sando (Nomination from Whakatane & Te Awamutu)
5. Sarah Watson (Nomination from Whakatane & Te Awamutu)
6. Charles Annals (Nomination from Fairfield & Te Awamutu)

Delegates to WaiBOP Management

1. Andrew Langman (Fairfield & Te Aroha)
 2. Sandra Murray (Waihi & Putararu)
- Reserve: Berny Koppens (Whakatane & Te Awamutu)

Delegates to ANZ AGM/ClubNet

1. Andrew Langman (Fairfield & Te Awamutu)
2. Louise Young (Fairfield & Te Awamutu)

2). It was noted that the 2021 Gr 14/18 IP's will be held in Auckland but the track location is yet to be confirmed.

3). Discussion was held regarding the opportunity to apply for the resilience fund from Sport New Zealand and which clubs may be eligible. All clubs are encouraged to apply if eligible.

4). Peter Blackwood from Whakatane commented on the fact that a lot of the cross-country athletes were in great shape coming out of the COVID-19 lockdown. (no other sports to contend with, athletes excited to come back to do events).

5). Question was raised by Te Aroha if ANZ is able to reduce the memberships fees. Discussion was raised if that was plausible. Murray Green informed those present that the question has been asked, however ANZ isn't in a position to be able to reduce fees.

6). Discussion was held on the financial implications post COVID-19 –

- how the centre could potentially support any clubs, families or athletes that may not be able to afford to re-join clubs or attend Colgate Games post COVID-19.
- Clubs are encouraged to request support from local business where possible, participate in local fundraising/raffles etc.
- Clubs are encouraged to support athletes or families where possible, and to have conversations with any families or athletes who have not returned when the season commences.
- Clubs are encouraged to be vigilant on enabling support to athletes where possible and to have a conversation with any families who may need support.
- Each club is encouraged to fundraise to support any athletes that would like to attend the 2021 Colgate Games in Inglewood. Clubs are encouraged to volunteer at local events or races etc to raise any necessary funds.
- It is noted that Te Aroha club stated that they have had huge success with supermarket raffles etc
- Discussion will be held at future date as to if any athletes or families may need support.

7). A robust discussion was held as to the rule of what is considered appropriate uniform attire, with regards to short tights and coloured logos on the waistband. After presenting all inwards correspondence related to the topic, and discussion from all present it was decided to maintain the current rules and strongly encourage all athletes to wear registered club uniform.

- Band colour/logo on shorts as part of a uniform. Below are comments forwarded to the secretary:
- Tokoroa Track Club: The club committee have no problem with the shorts waist bands being different colour to the actual shorts or showing the brand of the shorts on them.
- Lake City: In regards to the black shorts with writing, if I'm honest, I think it should stay plain black. We will come into too much controversy if we allow some writing and not others. I disagree that it's too hard to find plain black, as I can find it.
- Jimmy and I (as co-presidents of Hinemoa AAC) have been back to our committee members for their input into the discussion on Uniforms and Hats. With regards to uniform, we are unanimous in our viewpoint. We believe that a club singlet, with an age flash secured (sewn or pinned) on is sufficient and what they wear on the bottom should not matter. What is wrong with shorts having a brand name on the waistband (regardless of the size of the font), as well as colour? We don't believe it gives one athlete any advantage over another so why should that be an issue? In support of our viewpoint, We think The Teenage Tumble article (<https://newsportfuture.com/the-teenage-tumble/>) needs to be read to maybe help officials refocus on why we are all here. Part of the article reads " we became centered on rules and policies and procedures and lost sight of the fact that sport is about learning, about experiencing, about enjoyment." We want to encourage our young athletes to stay in the sport, not give them reasons to leave. With regards to Hats, we think that athletes should be allowed hats in the arena while waiting to compete (Sunsmart) but we support hats off while actually competing. Thank you for allowing us to share our viewpoint.

8) REMIT:

Remit from Fairfield regarding hats:

15th May 2019

To Whom it May Concern,

Fairfield Amateur Athletic Club would like to submit a remit to allow athletes to be able to wear a hat during Waikato Bay of Plenty athletic events.

The reasoning behind this rule is the development of research into burn times of children, long term damage from exposure to sun and the enlightenment in the strength of the sun on different skin types and ages.

We believe that the health and safety of children should take precedent and that the rules need to be evaluated to see if they meet the advice from experts in sun care such as the Cancer Society.

Many children are left to manage themselves and are often out in the middle of the field with no access to sunblock or hats. Girls in particular, can have partings which with exposure to the sun on a hot day can result in extreme sunburn. Many children also have designs shaved on the side of their heads, these also expose the scalp and can be affected by extreme sun exposure.

There is no longer public sunblock available at most events and with children being encouraged to wear hats throughout the summer period and to be sun smart, should we consider moving with the times and removing this rule. As we do not wish to add to the expense of parents and clubs by expecting all clubs to create their own uniform

cap/hat, can we just have the ruling, wear a cap as part of the uniform. There may need to be stipulation on what is on the cap.

If the ruling is not able to be over turned, Fairfield would like it brought to the Managers Meeting at the start of each event. We would like the rule to be decided on by the Chef Referee, on the day. This is so everyone on events, clubs and officials can inform the children, then there is a full understanding of what is expected in regards to health and safety and uniform.

We look forward to your response.

Fairfield Amateur Athletic Club President/Committee

Response to Fairfield: Discussion was held by all present and ideas presented. It was decided to amend the rules to the following:

Hats are permitted and encouraged to be worn in the competition area, however the hat is to be removed before competing in any event on the track or field.

This rule is to be added to the WBOP children's committee rules – Under rule 3.

It is to be added that any hat can be worn. It is strongly recommended that the following is to be discussed and advised during the Managers Meeting at each event; all athletes are encouraged to remove their hat at the beginning of any track event and for each throw during field events.

Comments from Lake City – Nominations and feedback on date.

One comment I will make on Ribbon days is that I noticed a big drop off from our club numbers at ribbon days after Colgate. After speaking to our members, they said it was more so because there are two that are far away (Te Aroha and Paeroa) as well as the Cambridge pentathlon, which isn't a normal ribbon day so the only one for them was the lake City one. I wondered if it was possible to split the Tauranga and Porritt ones up into beginning half of season and then second half, so there's one at each end of season? I guess not having Toks ribbon day in the second half was another reason why too.

A lot of feedback was also given that relay champs happen too fast in the season? You only just get started and then you are having to put together teams etc and you aren't really sure of the kids that are keen to compete by then? I wondered if Cambridge pentathlon could go back to December and relay champs in Feb?? Just a bit of feedback anyhow :)

Relay champs: I wondered if this is when we can discuss an idea. 7 year old 4x100m relay teams. These children are brand new to relays, and as much as this event is all about participation, it is a huge heart breaking moment when you watch these young kids, clueless in the relays and nervous, get DQ'd for stepping on or over their lane. Yes, I know it's a rule, but if the child doesn't interfere with another team, I'm wondering if they could maybe receive a time penalty instead of a straight DQ. Two years in a row now our 7 year old relay teams have been DQ'd and it is a massive blow to their confidence, and they were all really upset about it. The recent relay champs our boys actually broke a record (so they were told) but got DQ'd as a runner stepped out of their lane when changing the baton. I had to really

talk it up for them to enter at Colgate because they were so gutted about the WIN that didn't happen, it's just a suggestion to encourage participation rather than knock them so hard.

With regards to the black shorts with writing, if I'm honest, I think it should stay plain black. We will come into too much controversy if we allow some writing and not others. I disagree that it's too hard to find plain black, as I can find it.

Response to Lake City: After discussions from those present it was decided that and leniency on rules would be complicated. Clubs are encouraged to support young athletes with what may be experienced during ribbon days.

9) RIBBON DAY REQUESTS

Final dates for the Ribbon Day calendar to be confirmed after Australia, Athletics NZ and WBoP Seniors have set the Track and Field Calendar

2020

31st October - Fairfield
7th November - Whakatane
14th November - Bellevue
21st November - Te Awamutu
28th November - Lake City

5th December - Relay Champs and Walks Champs (hosted in Hamilton)
11th/12th/13th - NZ Second Schools Competition (Tauranga)
19th December - Combined ribbon day (Papamoa, GAAC, Te Puke – hosted in Papamoa)

2021

January -
8th/9th/10th Colgate Games in Taranaki - Englewood
15th/16th/17th South Island Colgate Games - Nelson
30th January - GR14-U18 IP' (in Auckland – Track TBC)

February -
5th/6th Masters
6th February - Taupo
13th February - Tokoroa
21st February - Te Aroha (Sunday)
27th February - Cambridge Pentathlon – Triple Jump (TBC)

6th March - Fairfield
13th March - Paeroa
20th March - WAIBOP Children's Champ's

2nd/3rd/4th April - GR12/13 IP's (Easter Weekend) Whanganui/Manawatu

10) Children's Committee Meeting dates:

11th Oct - Cambridge at 10am (as well as zoom capabilities)- beginning of season, to nominate referees for the Ribbon Days

21st Nov – After Te Awamutu ribbon day- to sort the Relay Champs Roster

27th Feb – After Cambridge Pentathlon - to sort the Children's Champs Roster

5th May 7.30pm Zoom Only meeting - Mid Winter Forum

13th June AGM in Cambridge

11) Setting of Fees for Relay Championship, Children's Championship:

Relays (to cover cost of medals) per team entry

Fees set at 2019 AGM:

\$20.00 4 x 100m

\$25.00 medley team

\$15.00 field relay team

(With \$1.00 per athlete per event going to the IP Travel Fund)

Children's Championship

\$5.00 per entry, (\$1.00 from each entry fee to go to the IP Travel Fund)

Programmes:

Children's Championship \$5.00

It was moved "to keep the fees remain the same"

Sandra Murray/Dave O'Keeffe

Response to setting of fees regarding programmes: It was discussed that due to the situation in the 2020 season for the Relay Championships, the program will be emailed to the team managers prior to event. The Children's Champs programme – clubs are to pre-order and pay with their entry fees. There will be an extra 20 programs for officials and an extra 50 at the gate to sell. This will reduce wastage.

12) Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty Centre AGM:

Nominations for Arbitration Panel – Andrew Langman and Joan Rawnsley

Donna Howitt/Nellie Engels

13) Signatories for the Children's Travel Account

Current signatories are: Steve Rees Jones, Sandra Murray and Joan Rawnsley

Signatories changed to Steve Rees Jones, Sandra Murray and Joan Rawnsley, being any two of the three.

It was decided to add Louise Young as a signatory to all accounts.

Murray Green/Peter Blackwood

14) Signatories for the Waikato-Bay of Plenty Children's Athletics Account

Current signatories are: Jo Davidson, Margaret Holcroft, Sandra Murray.

Jo Davidson, Margaret Holcroft and Sandra Murray

Signatories to remain the same with NI Colgate Games 2019 being held in Hamilton, to review at the 2019 AGM.

It was decided to add Louise Young and Steve Rees-Jones as signatories to all accounts

Murray Green/Peter Blackwood

15) Gr 12, 13 Inter-provincials

"It was moved to apply for funding from the funding agencies for travel and accommodation assistance when applications are due for the Gr 12, 13 Interprovincial team"

Sandra Murray/Murray Green

Meeting closed: 12.50pm

Secretary