

**MINUTES for the 76th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of ATHLETICS WAIKATO-BAY of PLENTY
held in Cambridge on Sunday, 15th August 2021 at 12:00pm**

PRESENT:

Murray Green (Chair), Sally Kerr, Thomas Refoy-Butler, Ashleigh Sando, Louise Young, Kerry Hill, Glenn Sexton, Steve Rees-Jones, Nellie Engels, Charles Annals, Debbie Strange, Criss Strange, Myhre Oman, Malcolm Taylor, Sandra Murray, Andrew Langman, Brett Addison, Dianne Rodger, Heather O'Hagan, Jeannette Vedder-Price, Kevin Bradley, Craig Wilson, George Chambers, Murray Clarkson, Fay Riley, Camella Melrose, Debbie Burge, John Tylden (online)

APOLOGIES:

Marcia Petley, Marion Clarke, Douglas Taylor, Ashley Taylor, Peter Blackwood, Robin Knowles, Kelly Diprose, Tony Rogers, Veronica Maree, Shona Dewson, Aynslee Rodger, John Tylden

MINUTES of the 75th AGM, 16th August 2020 ~ were approved.

REPORTS

The following reports were presented in the Annual Report

- **Board Chair**
 - Sally Kerr spoke to the meeting, introduced the board members. She noted that it has been a tough year with challenges and a financial loss has been incurred. Membership has been steady. The change of direction of Sport Waikato and the challenges that provides were noted, Sally thanked the staff members for their work.
- **Cross Country and Road**
 - The following was added to the report, Sjors Corporaal and Sally Gibbs being overall masters NZ champions in the NZ Road Race from November 2020. Also, Renee Carey winning the U16 Girls NZ Cross Country Championships in August 2020.
- **Track & Field**
 - The Olympic medal of Hayden Wilde in the triathlon was noted as has been a regular competitor at our events
- **Children**
 - Nil to add
- **Officials**
 - Heather updated that she will be attending an official's training update meeting in 6 weeks and that there may be changes to how officials training is delivered in future. She noted the retirement of Ray Young which leaves a gap at Tauranga.
- **Coachforce**

- The Challenges of hosting school's meetings with Sport Bay of Plenty's change of direction were noted
- **Waikato Athletics Development**
 - Louise updated on the planned Tu Manawa projects and it was noted that coaches used will need to be police vetted accredited coaches, so if people want to assist with these events they will need to become vetted via Athletics NZ.
 - A project is being worked on for youth officials. This would lead to an "official in training" designation and mentoring of those taking part.
- **Masters**
 - Nil to add
- **Finance**
 - It was questioned why there are separate children's bank accounts. It was confirmed that this was for specific reasons – the Colgate Games and the Children's travel fund.
- Criss Strange stated that there should have also been a coaching report to be added to the annual report. It was also noted that it may be beneficial for a combined report as there are two employees who work in the coaching space and submit reports already.

AWARDS

- Official of the year was awarded to John Tylden
- A Waikato-Bay of Plenty service award was presented to Debbie Strange

ELECTION of OFFICERS – NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – the following were appointed:

- Kevin Bradley (Track and Field)
- Criss Strange (Coaching)
- Glenn Sexton (Road and Cross Country)
- Sandra Murray (Children)
- Andrew Langman (Children)
- Masters – Murray Clarkson
- Officials – Heather O'Hagan

There was some question about how operational the current committee is and some discussion about having separate committees.

PRESIDENT

- Murray Green continues on his two-year term

FINANCIAL REVIEWER

- Johnston Associates (second year of a three-year term)

ARBITRATION PANEL

The following were appointed as members of the arbitration panel:

- Brett Addison
- Dianne Rodger
- John Tylden (convenor)
- Murray Clarkson
- Andrew Langman
- Murray Green
- Joan Rawnsley

OFFICIALS COORDINATORS – Heather O’Hagan (Porritt).

There were no nominations for Tauranga, though it was noted that it would be desirable for someone from Athletics Tauranga to step forward and assist with the Tauranga official’s coordinator position.

SELECTORS – the following were appointed:

- Brett Addison, John Tylden and Murray Green (Track and Field)
- Glenn Sexton, Malcolm Taylor, Steve Rees-Jones (Road and XC)

REMITTS

Remit Submitted by Children’s Committee

Rationale

The Children’s committee would like to submit a remit to change the wording of constitution section 15.1 to ensure there is not confusion moving forward.

The suggested change was as follows:

Section 15.1C:

15. CHILDREN’S COMMITTEE

15.1 The Children’s Committee shall consist of the following personnel and be appointed as follows:

- a) Chairperson elected by the Annual Meeting of Children’s delegates;
- b) Secretary, appointed by Children’s committee;
- c) **Two representatives from each member Club whose members participate in children's events.**

Suggested change to point 15.1 c: *Two representatives from each member club as per Constitution clause 6.1, whose members participate in children's events as sanctioned by the Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty Children's Committee.*

This remit was approved

Remit submitted by Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty Board

Remit – Athletics Waikato/Bay of Plenty AGM

Remit – To increase the Centre Levy across all age groups to:-

Ages 3 & 4 - \$5

Ages 5 & 6 - \$10

Ages 7 and up - \$15

Rationale – currently we charge no fee for those under 7 and only \$7 for ages 7 and up. This is far lower than the other major regions in the country, with some fees being up to \$40 and most charging around \$25 for over 7's and \$10 to \$20 for under 7's. These changes will likely still leave Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty with the lowest fees of any major region in New Zealand.

We have been able to operate in the past with a lower fee due to our overall revenue streams, prudent management of expenditure, Government funding through Kiwi Sport and little or no increase to staff remuneration. All of these are under pressure. In addition, general costs, but in particular those related compliance and regulatory changes (e.g. financial reviews) have led to increases in expenses that need to be met.

Kiwi Sport funding has ended, and we have recorded a substantial deficit for the 2020/21 financial year. In addition, our employees are coming under increased pressure as their capacity to carry out their expanding roles is becoming stretched. The Board have noted this and are giving consideration to role expansions due to the increased demands on our people in meeting requirements of operating in a modern sports organisation. We require organisational financial security so that we can be confident we can provide an appropriate level of service to our members in the future.

Sport Waikato have changed their direction and as such they no longer are involved with school's athletics or the energizer programme. This will only add to the financial burden for us with Secondary School athletics events being taken over by the Centre to ensure those events such as Zone Champs, Regional Champs and North Island Champs can continue.

The proposed increases would not take effect until 1st April 2022, covering the 2022/2023 season which does mean that we will have to operate another season under difficult financial conditions.

- There was some concern expressed by Nellie Engels of Putaruru that this would be a financial burden for some clubs members and that such a fee increase may become a barrier for them to join.

After discussion, this remit was approved

REGISTRATION FEES

As above, registration fees for 2022-2023 were agreed at \$5 (3-4 years), \$10 (5-6 years) and \$15 (age 7 plus)

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **Code of conduct**
 - This has been worked on by the board and will be presented to members. It will be available to clubs for display as part of the registration process.
- **Board Resignation**
 - Renee Norman has stood down from the AWBOP board. Any interested person should contact Steve in the first instance.
- **Police Vetting**
 - There has been a drive from Athletics NZ for police vetting to protect youth members. As such, AWBOP is encouraging people to become vetted. There is no cost for this. ID requirements can be circulated to clubs.
- **Operations Committee Future**
 - When the operations committee next meets on 31st August the focus will be the future of the committee. Two board members are to attend to facilitate the conversations.
- **Secondary Schools**
 - It was confirmed that Andrew Langman will assist again this summer with the coordination of Secondary Schools Athletics.