

Agenda Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty – Children’s Section

Minutes for Zoom Meeting held on 5th March 2023

Meeting opened at: 7.35pm

PRESENT: Sandra Murray (Chair and Secretary), Teresa Mumby, Debbie Burge, Amy McLean, Robyn, Joan Rawnsley, Donna Howitt (via phone), Cam Lucas-Melrose, Jonny McKee, Julz Mariner, Richard Hallam, Paulette Oldeman.

CLUBS PRESENT: Fairfield, Bellevue, Hinemoa, Paeroa, Greerton, Cambridge, Te Aroha, Te Puke

APOLOGIES: Veronica Maree (Putaruru)

“move that the apologies be accepted” Sandra Murray/Cam Lucas-Melrose

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

“moved as accurate by Cam Lucas-Melrose/Teresa Mumby

MATTERS ARISING;

- Money banked from Relays Champs for Programme was \$94.00 and BBQ was \$300.50
- Age flashes have been fully used now. Can clubs please take to their committees to discuss if age flashes are something you want to continue for 2023/2024 season. If it is unanimous by most clubs not to continue in the WBOP centre, then it will need to be discussed at the Mid-Winter Forum in May, followed by remits for the AGM in June.
- Registrations through Gameday – any further discussion required here?
- Has Paeroa had any more communication from Ngatea? **Joan has had contact with Ngatea today (6/3) and they will be coming to Paeroa’s ribbon Day. Joan also knows the person in charge and has confidence in the fact the club is in good hands.**
- I asked at the last meeting if clubs receiving emails from WBOP which those on the zoom said yes to. I wonder if information is being effectively shared to club members around ribbon days, championship events. Thoughts? **Clubs share information they are given via their websites and Facebook. Whether parents actually read it is debatably, but the information is certainly given to them.**
- Air Fare Credits? **This situation was taken out of our hands as Air New Zealand put a stop on our credits. This has meant that we have forfeited \$1900.00 and will receive a credit of around \$1000.00. Joan and Dianne looked at many option to utilise this credit but it just didn’t happen. The \$1900.00 has come out of the Colgate Account. Sandra will speak to Dianne to see if we can invoice Athletics New Zealand as it was due to the cancellation of the G12/13 IP’s in Dunedin at short notice that this situation arose initially.**
- G12/13 will be discussed in General Business.
- Children’s Trailer – Lock and where is it? **Will follow up with Dianne, but believe it is still sitting at her place.**
- WILLS course for Officials? Berny Koppens wasn’t at the last meeting so this was carried forward. **Again this wasn’t discussed so I remove from matters arising.**
- Changing of Bank Signatories for the G14/U18 account? Carried forward from last meeting. **Joan has hear nothing relating to this, but believes that a meeting will need to be held where the new signatories are named, within these minutes. Sandra will discuss with Dianne if this is something to add to the Operations agenda or even possibly the board.**

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

- Age flash orders
- Relay Entries

- Information regarding G12/13 from Terry at Counties.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

- Emails advising age flashes have been posted.
- WBOP Children's Championship Triple Jump entries.
- WBOP Children's Championship entries 18th March
- Minutes November meeting and Agenda March meeting.
- Zoom link for 5th March meeting
- Posting out of age flashes

REPORTS;

Te Awamutu Ribbon Day 19/11/22

Great to get the First Ribbon Day for the season

There was a fairly large turnout with 13 clubs and approximately 237 children participating. Lots of new people which was really great to see. The downside was, there were a lot of lost people not understanding what happens.

Slightly damp day with intermittent showers. Because of the slippery ground it was decided early to have no High Jump event. With the threat of showers turning to rain it was also decided to only attempt 2 throws/jumps for the larger groups. This kept the program moving well.

Lack of Officials was taken up with volunteer parents stepping in. This was especially seen at the Discus, Shot Put B and Long Jump. Most of the time, it was just giving the parent present at the event the confidence that they did actually know what to do, then they were away.

With it being the first Ribbon day. It was decided to be a bit lenient on the athletes, with a small amount of coaching. It was also decided to allow it to be optional to crouch start in the 7 to 9 year old group. This is in line with the new Colgate rules. It was stressed at the Managers meeting that at the Relay Champs a crouch start would be required under AWAIBOP Children's rules.

There were a few athletes without Age Flashes or correct uniform. Leniency was shown to these athletes with a reminder that uniform will need to be correct at the championship events.

All 3 long distance events were held on the track 1,500m, 800m and 400m. We were not sure if the 800m at the end of the day would go ahead if the weather closed in.

I do question the worth of the Team Managers meeting, we only had 7 people present. When we left the meeting there were a lot of questions that would have been cleared up if they or someone from their club were actually at the meeting.

Andrew Langman

Fairfield Ribbon Day 26/11/22

Held on 26th November 2022 at Porritt Stadium Hamilton

17 clubs were represented with 205 athletes.

After weeks of rain the day was fine and sunny although a cool breeze if out of the sun. In places on the infield, and in the vicinity of the 200m marshalling there were some soft spots, this did not affect the running of the day. The toilets at the front of the stadium were blocked off but once again very secure and did not cause any issues.

Fairfield committee had done a good job on recruiting helpers from within their club mainly to officiate at the events well done. We were fortunate enough to be able to release Tamsin from an event and she was able to follow me for the morning to learn the referee job. Once upskilled more in track and jumps I believe she will fill this role with ease.

With relay champs next week it was concerning to see the number of age flashes pinned on, and non regulation shorts.

Starts: Grade 7 up did crouch starts all day with no starting issues.

All field events ran smoothly.

The relays concluded the day on what was a great day had by all Thanks Fairfield for being well organised and the great turnout of your club. Joan Rawnsley

WBOP Relays Championship/Walks 3/12/22

Track – Joan Rawnsley gave a verbal report at this meeting. The morning on the track went well with a few disqualifications. The afternoon saw a few more than the morning for disqualifications. The officials at the changes did extremely well.

Jumps/Track - It was great to see that there were very few issues with behaviour of athletes or parents/managers at this event. All Team managers I spoke to were understanding of the decisions being made and why.

We had a delay to the start of the day due to few changes in teams. This flowed on throughout the day as there were a couple of times that children and managers were confused on who was jumping/throwing in which age group.

In the Long Jump we had a steady stream of older athletes jump in and give us a hand. It meant we were teaching them what to do as well as officiating the event. This slowed the long jump down a bit. But, it was still great to see these helpers learn how to officiate. Hopefully this may lead to more Officials in the future.

On the track there seemed to be a lot of children that did not seem to know the rules. A few did not know what the yellow tick marks were for. Andrew

Throws – I was chief judge for field at relay champs. Set up was good nothing missing or out of place. The field events went with out any hitches. No issues were brought to my attention during the day. A successful field event had. Tamsin Larsen

Lake City Ribbon Day Cancelled due to track not being available after a concert was held in this area.

Te Aroha Ribbon Day Cancelled due to the weather (Cyclone Gabrielle)

Bellevue Ribbon Day 18/2/23

Held 18th February 2023. Day dawned fine and with roads open so off to a good start.

186 athletes attended from 19 Wai BOP clubs with an additional athlete from Mana and 2 from Sweden.

Congratulations to Bellevue and Greerton for putting on an excellent day and particular thanks to Donna for her efforts. The number and quality of officials was great with 2 of each of the throws and 3 Long Jumps going. There was some pressure on the day as we had to be finished by 3.00pm for the Senior Centre Championships. This was achieved with 3 minutes spare, thanks to the efficiency of the officials.

The relay cup was competed for after lunch the children's won by Bellevue and the Parents by Fairfield, happy to report no injuries Bellevue also has cups for points won by club members, this year the Track cup was won by Bellevue and the Field by Lake City, congratulations to those clubs. Issues from the Day: Uniforms Lots and lots of pinned on age flashes and incorrect shorts. We seem to be getting further away from the uniform short and any pair will do. I spoke to as many of these as possible, reminding them that at the Championships they would not be able to compete. Parents/Caregivers they believe it is their right to stand and watch their child where they wish and wander around the inside of the track. Most were happy to move when asked but some want to argue the point.

On the whole a well run day, we did change the track order of events a couple of times to allow athletes to complete their field event before going to the track,

Well done to all on an enjoyable day. Joan Rawnsley

Cambridge Penthalon 25/2/23 – still to come.

There were 139 athletes on the day. Weather was great. Due to the small number of senior athletes we combined the Boys and Girls 11, 12, 13 and 14 age groups .

Change of Mini Club location due to fallen trees on 80m track. This did cause a small noise issue with the starter at the 200m. However it was manageable.

Injuries on the day: 1 fainting child + 2 bee stings

1 near miss. At the 11 boys Discus. The discus went sideways out of the front of the cage and almost hit a Shot Put volunteer. Look at using Shot Put B behind the equipment shed in the future.

There were a few questions from people around how the competition works and were surprised at the false start rule. Combined events like Pentathlon are allowed to have 1 false start.

I question the relevance of the Team Managers meeting at the beginning of the day/session. Only 2 team managers arrived to the meeting in the morning late. No managers arrived for the afternoon meeting. A lot of the questions I got during the day were discussed at this meeting.

Note1 - Discus - A reminder regarding the rule where you can't step out of the circle until the Discus lands.

Note2 - Crouch starts - A reminder that at the Children championships crouch starts are required.

Thanks Andrew

Whakatane Ribbon Day 4/3/23

The Whakatane Ribbon day was held at Rex Morpeth Park on the 4th March.

Roughly 130 athletes from 12 affiliated Waikato Bay of Plenty clubs were in attendance,

Also welcomed were athletes from Kawerau and a group from Wairoa, their argument was they couldn't go south so came west to give their athletes some competition.

The arena was well presented with all traces of the earlier ground issues gone.

Two of each field event were offered except High Jump, one discus landing area did encroach on the track but this was managed with track programming. The throws were well coned off for safety, however the cones needed to be placed further back from the zone, for safety of bystanders and to allow officials an easy escape path

Long Jump towards the end of the day the sand became too dry and with the closest water tap too far away have suggested a water can would suffice.

Radios, the lack of these did not really cause any issues but would have made life a little easier. The sound system only had one speaker working, but we all got by.

Uniforms the same old problems with no uniform, incorrect shorts and pinned on age flashes. Please let parents know that in childrens shorts are part of the uniform, I had one mother tell me although she had been a member for a number of years did not know, I might add her son was in correct uniform.

The Officials did a great job, the day concluded with the relays 2 heats with the final heat including 2 Whakatane adult teams, unfortunately this resulted in the only injury of the day.

Well done to a well run enjoyable day and giving athletes from the Eastern Bay of Plenty the opportunity to participate in a ribbon day

Joan Rawnsley

Operations Meeting 31/1/22

- **Officials training** -The throws official's session for 13 th November was cancelled- only 1 masters official indicated they would be attending. The Jumps session on 27th November took place with Robin Knowles bringing 3 of his family to me in Paeroa – all three passed jumps C. I am unable to access the ANZ official's database to add the qualifications gained after the database changed early October. I also am not able to check on visiting officials gradings. This seems unsolvable at the present time. In summary, qualifications earned between July and December 2022 were 3 Jumps C, 4 Track C, one Track A, one Throws A and 2 throws B. Only 3 of those C grades had no previous gradings. We are losing officials faster than we are gaining them. Competitions - The low number of officials present at our regular meets is a concern. Thank you to those parents etc who have assisted with field events in particular- they would not happen without you.
- **U16/U18 IP Event** - Robin Knowles has a team list sitting at 41 at the moment, and would like to see it get above 50 . The event has started, 1 st Jan and will finish early April with a points grid kept by Robin. The competition costs are \$40 per athlete – athletes receive a T shirt as part of the team. Teams are comprised of: All Grade athletes and can select any three events of their choosing, any combination, plus a relay.
 - EVENTS TRACK 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, Hurdles, Walk

- EVENTS FIELD High Jump, Long Jump, Shot Put, Discus, Javelin, Triple Jump, Hammer
- Para-athletes, each athlete will also compete in three events of their choice.
- Bonus points will be awarded to the athletes for mixing track and field. Plus additional bonus points will be awarded to those that chose to compete in run/jump/throw combination events, keeping in spirit of the original theme of the event, as a multi event.
- Athletics NZ looking at AWBOP Centre to hold Colgate Games in 2026. This needs to be discussed further and with Board.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. **Ribbon Days** for the rest of the season
 - i. **Whakatane 4th March**
 - ii. **Paeroa 11th March**
 - iii. **Children's Champs 18th March Porritt Stadium, Hamilton**
 - iv. **Te Aroha propose a Ribbon Club Night, Friday 24th March. They will send out details once everything is confirmed.**

2. **Officials for Children's Championships (DRAFT)**

Meeting Manager;	Steve Cornes (FF)	
Meeting Referees	Track;	Joan Rawnsley (Paeroa)
	Throws;	Tamsin Larsen (FF)
	Jumps;	Ruth Kaiwhata (FF)
Jury of Appeal	Joan Rawnsley, Ruth Kaiwhata, Tasmin Larsen	
Meeting Secretary	Sandra Murray	Assistant: Alison Bussey
Runners for Secretary	Bellevue x 1 I more	
Announcer	Sandra Murray	
Track Marshals	Teresa Mumby and 1 other Claire Burrough in the am	
Starters	Cam Mumby & Chris Melrose	
Starters Assistant	x 1	
Starters Referee	Joan Rawnsley	
Track Umpires (3)	Te Aroha	
Photo Finish	Charles Annals	
Finish Line (6-8)	x 6	
Recording	Luana Ruka (Paeroa) x 1	
Field Events		
Long Jump A	chief: Sarah Watson (Te Awamutu)	club: x 4 Hinemoa
Long Jump B	chief: Tania Benge (Bell)	club: x 2 Taupo x 2 others
Discus B (boys)	chief: Sally Kerr	club: Bellevue x 2 +2 more
Discus A (girls)	chief: Berny Koppens till 3pm (CBridge)	club: x 4
Shot put B (boys)	chief: Peter Blackwood (Whak)	club: x 4
Shotput A (girls)	chief: Robin Knowles (CBridge)	club: x 4
High Jump A	chief: Fa'oa Finau/Martin De Jager (FF)	club: x 3
Set Up	Fairfield	
Gear away & Clean Up	Fairfield	
Officials Morning	Bellevue will do M/T for officials	
Officials Lunches	All clubs to provide 2 plates of food, two savoury, or one savoury, one sweet or fruit, the savoury to be substantial ie filled rolls, sandwiches.	
Programme selling	Won't have a programme	
BBQ	This will be run privately by Sativa	
Shop	Fairfield	
Floats	Fairfield for Shop	
Ceremonial/Podium	Demi Thorne (Bell) and 1 x Bellevue + 2 others runners	
Collecting Medals	Fairfield??	

First Aid Bellevue providing and Ice at the finish line
Ice cream Cart Fairfield Organised
Coffee Cart Sandra Organised

- a) Do we run a BBQ? **Sandra was approached by someone as a fundraiser. This was meant to be decided after we spoke about the G12/13 Ip's. Unfortunately this was forgotten about so an email was sent to those who attended the meeting and a majority agreed to go with Sativa. Sandra has emailed her and informed her she will need to provide everything and leave the area clear at the end of the day. She has asked if there is a fee for having the BBQ and I suggested if she wanted to give something at the end of the day it would be appreciated but not necessary, so we will see.**
 - b) Programmes – don't know any one who can print these, as very different to relays. What I plan is that once I have seeded all athletes I will email the Team Managers that come in on the entry forms the starting lists and field lists and they can share them as they wish. Any questions? **Donna suggested there was a charge for this, but I said unless clubs want to print out for their families then they could charge for the paper. I feel that by emailing the information they will have access through their phones.**
 - c) Money from the shop, icecream and coffee cart will be banked for the G12/13 and held until we establish what is happening there.
 - d) Team Managers need to ensure ALL their athletes are in correct uniform and the age flashes are SEWN onto the uniform. If neither of these happens then the child won't be able to compete. We don't want this to happen so please ensure ALL athletes and their families know these rules.
 - e) Age 7 and up will use crouch starts.
 - f) Any other discussion regarding Children's Champs? **There were no further questions.**
3. **Colgate Games 2023** – any discussion or feedback that needs to be sent to ANZ? In 2024 Auckland and Dunedin will be holding these.
- i. **Bellevue** – Donna was Team Manager alongside Jayson, after a break from this role. She enjoyed the whole set up and running of the games by Whanganui. She wonders if there has been a cut back in the programme as the index of event times didn't match the content within the programme. There was no where to write down the semi-finals and finals within the place of the programme that these event would fall. This meant you needed to listen for the call, and it appears they may not have been calling these events, which sadly meant a child missed their semi-final. There didn't appear to be any announcements if races were straight finals.
 - ii. **Matamata** – one of their children also missed a race which was unfortunate as it was their first Colgate's and Robyn is unsure they will attend another one after this negative experience.
 - iii. **Fairfield** – found it rather interesting around non-calls in th relays, it was like they chose to let things go. If this is how they intend to run events then it needs to be explained at the Team Managers Meeting so that everyone has clarification.
 - iv. **General** – the rules in years back were quite slack and over time with a group within the NZCCA saw them tighten up and everyone understood the expectations of these games. Since Athletics New Zealand have taken over the rules have slackened off again. It is hard to understand the rules if there is no consistency within these games. It is like the checks and balances aren't happening like they had previously been prior to ANZ.
 - v. **Bellevue** – the number or 9 and on some occasions 8 year olds running in 10 year olds relays was a concern and Donna wondered if this was something you could protest about. She wonders if these clubs using the younger age groups had actually received clearance for the Competition

Director, as stated in the rules, or were just marshalled with the team. With this occurring within relays how are they checking that they haven't already run a relay in their own age group? How is this fair to other 9 year olds who don't get a medal?

- vi. **General** – within athletics it has been heard that Whanganui were frustrated with ANZ arriving at the venue and telling them what to do, when they are volunteers and ANZ are paid to be there.
- vii. **Crouch Starts** – with the introduction of the standing starts for the 7-9 this year appeared to have caused confusion amongst the athletes. If the line was unsteady and they called for a reset, those doing the crouch start didn't always have time to reset themselves. We wonder if other centres have given their feedback for this rule change?
- viii. **Sandra will place the above information into a separate document to send to ANZ with our feedback.**

4. **G12/13 Competition**

Kia ora koutou,

We are emailing today to update on the status of Inter Regional Grade 12-13 competitions. Our emails sent in late 2022 and early 2023 resulted in some very good feedback that we have taken on board.

We acknowledge that the feedback varied, from those who were very supportive and positive, through to some who advised us to slow down and take more time to develop a long term solution that will fit within the existing calendar of opportunities for young athletes.

Based on this feedback we've made the decision to not formalise an Athletics NZ led grade 12-13 competition for 2023. We are aware that some centres are working on locally led solutions for this season, and we endorse this approach, and encourage these groups to keep in contact with us and provide feedback on what works for them locally.

The primary priority of the Athletics NZ Community Team is the retention of more teenagers in our sport, so we will continue to revisit what inter-regional and national competition opportunities will best support this work. Aligned with this, Athletics NZ is piloting a new team athletics product for teenagers – Launch Athletics – which we are very excited about. Additionally, 2023 sees the introduction of the U16 grade at the National Track and Field Championships, and entries for this new age group are tracking well.

We would appreciate if you could ensure those in your regions who have been looking after previous Interprovincial events are notified of this decision. We look forward to bedding in a sustainable, well thought out event for this age group in 2024.

As always we are happy to take any questions or additional feedback to help formulate best practise events for rangatahi.

Nga mihi, Fiona Maisey, Young People's Lead

Also attached to the email sent is a flyer from Counties. Discussion if required.

Comment relating to the G12/13 Group;

- We found this very concerning that another year is passing and there is no competition for this age group. If they have no competition, then we may lose children to other sports who provide opportunities through academy type training places. Athletics doesn't appear to be offering anything like this for our children. ANZ is focusing on 'balance is better' but we aren't sure this is how athletes, or their whanau see it. The WBOP region have a strong athletic base, which was seen at the Track and Field Competition over the past weekend. Currently our children are also strong so we need to look at how we can keep them interested in athletics.

- **I have since had a phone conversation with Ruth Kaiwhata with regards to the Counties meeting on the 25th March. I suggested she contact Dianne to see if there is any way we can arrange children from this area to attend. Unfortunately, my schedule is too busy to even considering looking at this. If anyone is interested then contact Ruth on 022 643 1326.**
 - Joan did mention on previous occasions when the IP's were held in Auckland they would billet children from outside Hamilton the night before leaving for Hamilton, in a hostel, then go to Auckland as a group. Whether there is an option for this is possibly too late if we do send children to the Counties event on the 25th March.
 - If going to Counties wasn't an option is there time to look at something similar to last year with coaching at Porritt or Tauranga. This could be something Ruth and Dianne could look at also.
 - If we were looking at an event for the G12/13 then it needs to start at least a year out so that it is worked through calmly rather than a rush over a few month.
 - It was suggested that we might look at an event this includes Taranaki, Hawkes Bay, WBOP and maybe Whanganui/Manawatu, with Taupo as a possible venue as it would be close to all areas and accommodation might be easier for 2024. Teresa asked if she and Joan could meet to start planning, though Joan has advised she isn't interested in being involved again with organising it. If anyone else is interested in supporting this idea, then email Teresa teresacarroll@hotmail.com
 - We have also heard that ANZ are looking for a new CEO. With staff turnover we feel they just get things going and then they have to start all over again, there is no rhythm and clubs are the ones who potentially suffer as the support comes and goes in waves.
5. **Standing down** after a considerable amount of reflection, I have decided that I will be standing down as WBOP Children's President and the temporary Minutes Secretary. I will continue to be the Competition Secretary for the next few years, when hopefully someone else will look at learning this role. It is important that you ask your committee's and club member's if there is anyone interested in these roles. If no one comes forward, I'm not sure what Children's will look like in the future.
 6. **Concerns regarding Tauranga Domain** – Julz from Greerton voiced her concerns regarding the situation at the Domain and how the council are looking at moving it. This has been discussed at Operations level and Malcom Taylor has voiced his concerns on several occasions. The concern Julz has, along with other clubs using this venue is there is no future planning so therefore the clubs can't plan either. She has asked if those using this venue could send their concerns to the Millennium Trust. Sandra will follow up with Operations or the Board for WBOP to see if they have sent their concerns through to anyone. Peter Blackwood may also be able to document something along the suitability of the area in which they are looking to move the Domain to.
 7. **Matamata** – Robyn advised us that the club will be 100 years next season. They aren't too sure what this will look like at this stage. Debbie for Te Aroha has offered assistance through her job if Matamata require it.
 8. **Paeroa** – Joan advised that there will be NO BBQ or shop at their Ribbon Day, so Sandra will ask Dianne to put this out on the facebook and webpages for the families.
 9. **Bellevue** – Donna advised that there were around 190 children at their Ribbon Day and 20 of them were from Thames, the 3 highest club. So she asked if we could say well done to Thames for this strong turnout.
 10. **Matamata** – They have found this year that there has been a misunderstanding of what athletics is, it isn't just running. They are going to look at how they inform the parents and this could involve the way in which they present information to families of the club.
 11. **General** – There has been disappoint with the numbers attending the events this season. We wonder of some of the reasons are they that with Covid for the past few season's families are out of habit to go to events? The lack of Ribbon Days the first side of the season may have contributed to the drop this side of the season as children have found other sports to involve

themselves in. The price of petrol could also be another contributor to the low numbers. We will see how many attend Children's Champs on the 18th.

Next meeting is Mid-Winter Forum 7th May 2023. This meeting is to discuss the season, what went well, issues that occurred and look at rules that may need altering, deleting etc. This meeting is generally held in Cambridge in a face-to-face style discussion. What are your thoughts for this year's meeting? **It was decided that we will offer both options and Jonny will book the Cambridge Clubrooms and check if there is any lag time with a zoom meeting. It will be held at 10am 7th May 2023 with a shared lunch.**

Meeting closed 9.15.