

**Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty – Children's Section**  
**AGM Minutes | Sunday 23 June 2024**

Minutes for the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 at 7.00pm, via MS Teams.

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Proxy votes: None declared

Meeting opened at: 7.05pm

**PRESENT:** Sarah Watson (Secretary); Teresa Mumby (Chairperson); Murray Green (Te Awamutu); Robyn McRae-Aoake (Matamata); Sarah Van Marrewijk (Te Aroha); Joan Rawnsley (Paeroa); David Rawnsley (Paeroa); Leah White (Taupo); Angela Bolstad (Te Aroha); Delyse Murphy (Kawerau); Veronica Maree (Cambridge); Scott Murray (Fairfield); Amy McLean (Hinemoa); Berny Koppens (AWBOP IP); Barrie Jennings (AWBOP); Jayson Benge (Bellevue); Donna Howitt (Bellevue (via phone); Jonny McKee (Cambridge); Matthew Strange; Malcolm Taylor (Bellevue); Karen Lucas (Te Awamutu); Shelley Hoebe (Greeton); Tia Rakei (Taupo).

**CLUBS PRESENT:** Cambridge Athletic & Harrier Club, Te Awamutu Athletic Club, Kawerau Athletic Club, Bellevue Athletic Club, Taupo Athletic Club, Te Aroha Athletic Club, Paeroa Athletic Club, Greeton Athletic Club, Hinemoa Athletic Club, Fairfield Athletic Club, Matamata Athletic Club

**APOLOGIES:**

Sandra Murray (Competition's Secretary), Tamsyn Larsen (Fairfield), Sally Kerr (AWBOP Centre Chairperson), Dianne Rodgers (AWBOP).

“move that apologies be accepted” Sarah Watson/Joan Rawnsley

**MINUTES OF THE 2023 AGM:**

‘Deemed to be a true and accurate record’  
Jayson Benge/Johnny McKee

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2023 AGM:**

(10) Adjustment of the rules around team entry for the Relay Champs for smaller clubs combining.  
The following changes were made

- i. Remove the word ‘two’ from clause 8, 4x100m Relay
- ii. Remove the word ‘two’ from clause 8i, 4x100m Relay
- iii. Remove ALL the words in clause 8ii, 4x100m Relay
- iv. This change won't deny a slower or younger athlete from the club- being included in any of their teams. This isn't part of the rule but the intention behind the change.

The intention was to make it less restrictive for any clubs that needed to combine teams to put a team together for relay champs. In particular, to make it easier for the smaller clubs to put in combined teams. I don't know if we saw much of it at Relay Champs this year in any of our smaller clubs. Did that make it any easier for you? Feedback from Te Aroha Club was that they had a probably a reasonable number more than what we were expecting this year and we didn't really need to combine. But it did give us the opportunity to join in with another club. Heading towards the 10 plus age groups where our numbers are depleting will be beneficial to us for sure.

The rule changes were moved for the 4x100m Relay and the Field Relay, not the Medley Relay. Revisit of this rule change to be made at the 2024/2025 AGM to see how these are progressing.

Triple Jump – this will continue to be removed from the competition.

Walks – are to remain in the Competition,

Changes to be reviewed and revisited over the coming season also.

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#### **CORRESPONDENCE IN:**

Calendar of events for 2024-2025 Summer Season from ANZ

IP Report

Remits | Cambridge Athletic & Harrier Club

Remit | 400m | Kevin Bradley & Barrie Jennings

Shield Challenge Shield (shared event), Sally Kerr

Bank Accounts | Sally position of Board regarding bank accounts

#### **CORRESPONDENCE OUT:**

Agenda for AGM 2024

Minutes from AGM 2023

Invitations for Zoom Meeting

Apology and postponement notice

Revised documents and dates for this AGM

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

Sarah Van Marrewijk/Scott Murray

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#### **REPORTS**

##### **Chairman's Report:**

CHILDREN'S CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2023-2024

Teresa Mumby

Chairperson

General reports from the clubs have suggested that our numbers remain good in the younger age groups - mini club and the 7-9 year olds but that there does feel like there's a drop off in Grades 10 to 14.

Ribbon Days | the Fairfield/Hinemoa Ribbon Day which was held at Cambridge and the Whakatane Ribbon days were in the first half of the season. Te Awamutu had to cancel theirs due to bad weather. Lake City were unable to hold a full Ribbon Day but did organise a pre-Colgate's competition/coaching day for competing athletes, this was highly appreciated by those who could attend. Te Awamutu previously cancelled), Te Aroha (with their Friday evening event), the Cambridge Pentathlon, Bellevue and Paeroa Ribbon days were held in the second-half of the season, reports from these events all had

similar themes. That was the behaviour of the children and the parents was positive and they ran largely without issue.

As usual, we are seriously short of officials and at times even volunteers to run the events. Notably, we only have two officials sharing the role of referee for our Ribbon Days. We're hugely grateful to Andrew and Joan for their time in making sure we can run those.

Relay Champs were held in Tauranga on the 2nd of December. While entries were down for the event, it ran smoothly with only five infringements resulting in two disqualifications over the day. The introduction of discretion in the 7 to 9 year olds in relation to infringements is seen as a positive move. It allowed a lot of races to not have disqualifications because those infringements weren't impacting on results and were minor generally. Lane infringements and again unfortunately there are simply not enough officials.

Andrew reported lots of coaching on the rules as the track referee and that it was great to see our young athletes enjoying the team environment of relays.

The children's champs were held at Porritt Stadium on the 23rd of March. It was a very wet day but the children particularly seemed unperturbed by this, delivering some outstanding performances. All events were able to go ahead despite the weather. Continuing the theme, we struggled to get officials and had to make to use and informally trained parents with appropriate experience on some of the events.

For the grade 12/13 IP's there was nothing again in this space this season and the early suggestion of a combined event with Auckland for the season just been didn't get off the ground. The dates that they chose to go ahead with just couldn't work for our region. There is planning underway to create something for next season.

In terms of the Under 16 in under 18 IP. Berny has done a comprehensive report and I'll get her to talk to that shortly.

Overall, a huge positive has been the number of clubs we have had attending the Children's Committee meetings this season and again tonight. I think our meetings via Zoom have achieved that accessibility across the region. It does come at the cost of impersonal connection and inclusive discussion. We are at a point where we need to consider how we deliver children's athletics from the decline in numbers in our 10 to 14 age group, seriously low number officials and through to the increased cost of living impacting on Ribbon Day numbers, and how can we best support our smaller clubs and more isolated areas.

We discussed this at the Midwinter Forum and we have some ideas on moving forward and next season. The coming season could be quite exciting in terms of us implementing some innovative ideas and moving athletics forward. Thank you all for your commitment and time over the season. We look forward to another year working with you all.

"Move that the Report be adopted"  
Teresa Mumby/Veronica Maree

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## **Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty U16/U18 Inter-Provincial Report 2023/24**

Berny Koppens  
U16/U18 Team Manager

### **Athletes for 23/24 season**

Number of athletes: 38

Male: 22

Female: 15

Para athlete: 1

This season there was a decrease of 2 athletes from last year. A decrease of 4 females from last year.

The 2023/2024 season started with the WaiBoP team management being more organised prior to the start of the season. This was helped by the IP's communication booklet that had been written and completed at the end of 2023 based on feedback from parent/athlete/club/school feedback. Also, thanks to Dianne Rogers for getting information to us on athletes so that information could get emailed out.

The committee this year for WaiBoP U18/U16 IP's was Robin Knowles, Berny Koppens, Debbie Burge, Katrina Anderson and Charles Anals. Meetings were held and minutes taken to discuss pricing options, shirt design and agreed upon cost per athlete. The booklet was discussed, team culture and outcomes that could be met in 2023/2024.

Shirts were sourced from Trio after discussions around pricing structure and best options with companies in America, Whakatane and Hamilton. Trio was able to provide the product with the style, design and extra run off options needed to best suit the team and within the time frame of being ready for the Youth Event at Porritt Classic. Thanks to Da Silva Builders for \$700 for sponsorship of the team which went towards team shirts.

Feedback from the end of 2022/2023 season was for a Youth Event. Robin and Berny had meetings with Chris and Debbie Strange regarding this, prior to the start of the 2023/2024 season. This idea was positively received and agreed that it could be set up prior to Porritt Classic. This event ran with approximately 150 youth athletes competing on the day which started at 11am and ran till 1pm. Thank you to Martin and Lola de Jagger, who supported the event with a stand the Youth Event and Porritt Classic with links to IP's and all the IP information.

Athletes' voices were collected prior to the season. Any athlete that wanted support in connecting with a coach, was sent to Dianne and she sent these to Barry and Kerry and then they made contact with coaches and athletes.

The Team Reach App was one of our main sources of communication. All information and sponsorship information went through there. 4 Communication newsletters updating whanau were sent out after the original Team Booklet was emailed.

A thank you to our many sponsors this year; Da Silva Builders, Fiord de Latte, Mc Donalds's Taupiri and Sweet As Popcorn.

We had the normal drop off of older youth, in the 16 and 17 year old group. This is the age group that we feel is needed to help encourage the younger athletes coming through. There seemed to be similar comments or either coaches or parents discouraging them. It would be good to have these coaches and parents understand that these athletes have moved from participants, to mentors. The more they keep competing and being visible, the chances of the younger athletes staying in the sport increase.

**From our suggestions at the end of 2022/2023 season we have met the following in 2023/2024.**

- Team Reach was set up for all communications
- Athletes were asked to design the shirt, however none came forward to do so. The design was a combination of Christopher Goodwin, Robin Knowles and Berny Koppens. Shirt design was approved by all the IP committee members.
- We felt we were able to help people connect slightly better through the app, communication newsletters, more information went out on the WaiBoP facebook page and having an information stand at the Youth and Porritt Classic events.
- A Code of Conduct was developed and implemented. This is for the U18/U16 WaiBoP team use only.

- Athlete's voice was collected upon signing up and at the end of the season an increase on last year.
- Information was e-mailed to some schools prior to the end of the 2023 school year. Berny had visited 2 highschoools to gather information on what they needed and Robin and Berny put this into the IP's booklet that was then emailed to all schools and clubs, thanks to Dianne, a week prior to at the start of the school year.
- Thanks to Dianne, all athletes born within the years 2007 and 2010 Contact details were sent to the IP team and they were
- Team shirts handed out earlier in the competition
- Charles connected athlete profiles using Athlete.net to help track team achievements

**From our suggestions at the end of 2022/2023 season we have not been able to meet the following in 2023/2024.**

- An away event
- A team pin
- A tik tok challenge
- Interview an athlete for the facebook page
- Prize Giving

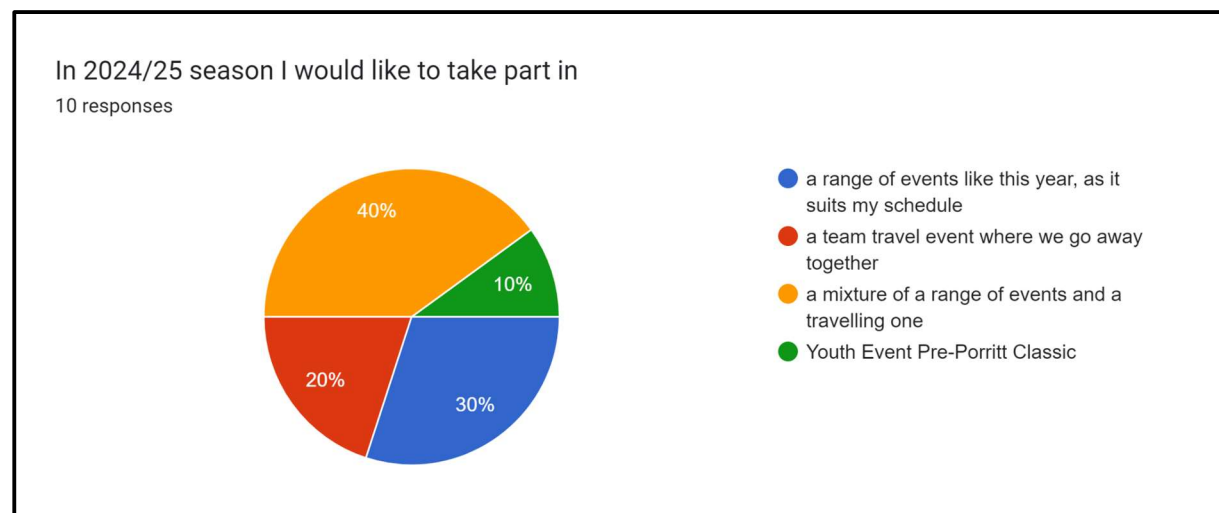
Restrictions to undertaking these were due to limited volunteers coming forward and the committee's commitment to getting the local event up and running (pun intended).

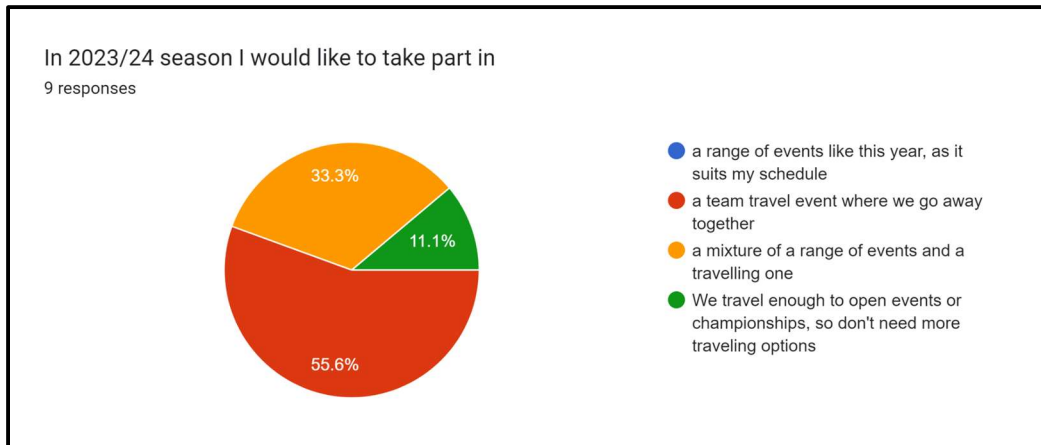
### **Competition awards**

Kotahitanga - stronger together (Survey Feedback)

The end of season feedback from athletes was positive with 10 of the 38 giving feedback and 7 whanau members. 4 males and 6 females. Approximately 26% of athletes.

The survey only allowed athletes to select one option. From feedback on and after the Youth Event, we feel, if given the option to select more than one option, this would have had a slightly higher percentage, however is covered under - a range of events like this year, as it suits my schedule and a mixture of a range of events and a travelling one.





- There is a shift in 2023/2024 from a majority wanting just the team travel event to the majority wanting what we had this year along with a travelling event.
- 2020 was the last time we had a trip, Massey University held over the 29th January weekend. As mentioned in last years report, we feel a return to a team event does not have to be an overnight trip.
- Talks with Auckland and Counties Manakau for a tri-series had continued prior to Christmas. We advertised the Youth Event to all regions, schools within the WaiBoP area and some athletes attended our event from these regions. However, we were unable to get in contact, through numerous attempts with Manakau and Auckland for more information on their events. They are still struggling to get momentum for these age groups as a fall out from Covid. As they have lost a high portion of there older youth, this has created a barrier for the younger athletes to be mentored through the IPs groups.

#### Stats from the athletes highlighted that the majority feel IP's helps them to

- 100% of athletes felt the IP's team helped them to have whanaungatanga/connectedness, in some way (**an increase of 20% from 2023/24**)
- 80% of athletes felt part of a team
- 90% of athletes felt that IP's helped them to work on their own goals.
- 80% felt it helped them do a range of events ( the majority were in the sometimes category - a team event would make this more a definite yes)
- 90% felt i helped them to compete against a range of athletes (**an increase of 20% from 2023/24**)
- 90% felt the IP's team helped them share in other athletes successes (**an increase of 10% from 2023/24**)

#### New information gathered for 2023/2024 season

- 90% felt the IP's team helped them to compete at a senior level with 60% a definite yes
- 80% felt the IP's team supported them at interschool events.
- 80% of athletes responding felt the Team App supported them in some way.
- 66.7% of athletes responding felt the Team Booklet was helpful.

#### Parent Feedback

- All whanau used a mixture of forms of communication to gather information on IP's
- 42.9% of whanau wanted the youth event again
- 42.9% of whanau wanted a non compulsory away event
- 57.1% of whanau wanted it run the same way as this year (without an away event)
- 42.9% of whanau wanted the same as this year, with a non compulsory team away event.

100% of whanau found the team booklet useful. This is a success to the time and energy put into communicating with stakeholders; athletes, whanau, schools, clubs and officials around what information was needed and would be helpful to parents of this age group.

1 parent found IP's allowed their child to play other sports as well as competing at this level. They found the IP's booklet very good and referred to it often.

1 parent did not think the IP's team was a success this year however did feel communication was particularly good.

#### **To assist us to move forward - with support from WaiBoP**

- 80% of athletes responding wanted training opportunities within the IP Team.
  - Suggestions of a training and nutrition event potentially held between Tauranga and Hamilton or one on either side (however this may not bring the whole team together)
  - Continuing to work on the team culture of Kotahitanga
    - Is this something that Debbie and Chris Strange can do if their development project continues into 2024/2025 season, 2 x one day workshops over the season or one?
- 20% of athletes responding wanted to do the WILSS Smart Coach course
- 10% of athletes responding wanted to do Officials Training.
- 50% of athletes responding thought they may like to be part of an athletes WaiBoP online or in person discussion team..
- A travelling event - recommendations a day event - athletes are transported, in a van, leaving from both sides of the region to an Auckland event
- The Youth Event to continue to Porritt Classic
- Two Open Meets advertised as Youth Events to allow students from High Schools to attend and to prepare for Zones, North Islands
- Keep things fun, encourage friendships, promote lifestyle
- Continue to work with Charles to see how the Athlete.Net app can further improve the team feel and tracking of results

#### **To note**

- 100% of athletes responding would support junior athletes through tuakana/teina if there was a junior event, in their discipline
  - This would build tuakana/teina
  - Increase mentoring between athletes
  - Collaboration
  - Kotahitanga/Unity
  - Increase athlete participation
  - Increase whanaungatanga/connectedness amongst athletes and coaches
  - Increase manakitanga/feeling like they belong - in the sport, at venues
- 70% of athletes responding felt they may have friends who would be interested in joining in 2024/2025 season
- As Robin is now living in the South Island, he will be in less of a position to support the region in the future. Additional volunteers will be required for next season. Robin has been part of IPs for seven years and thoroughly enjoyed supporting his and other athletes through this opportunity.

#### **Team Managers**

Communication and data works: Berny Koppens and Robin Knowles

Team Statistics: Charles Anals and Berny Koppens

IP Survey: Berny Koppens

Reporting: Berny Koppens and Robin Knowles

T-Shirts Design: Christopher Goodwin, Robin Knowles and Berny Koppens

T-Shirt and Team Bag distribution: Berny Koppens, Katrina Anderson and Debbie Burge

**Financial Report:**

This is an approximate amount in each account for Athletics Waikato/Bay of Plenty Athletics

Westpac Op Acct. (as at 31-05-2024)	\$27,974.00
Westpac Term Deposit 2024	\$10,000.00
BNZ   Children's Account	\$19,227.58
BNZ   IP 14/18	\$ 4,774.75

What we've received from the AWBOP is a directive to bring our accounts under the umbrella of Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty.

What they have said is that holding the Children's Committee funds and asset in separate bank accounts is a reasonable way to provide transparency on what funds are available for the children's athletics activities. However, the management and operations of the accounts is inadequate for 2024 and does not line up with the Constitution. The Constitution states the 'Children's Committee shall be responsible for the daily administration and competition of children's athletics.' The Children's Committee shall commit Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty for expenditure or operate a bank account only as determined from time to time by the Board. The committee may appoint subcommittees to undertake specific tasks as required from time to time.' In essence they are saying that they have the authority to direct us to run our accounts and bring our accounts in line with the overall Centre bank accounts.

The Westpac account is named 'Waikato Bay of Plenty Children's Athletics', no such legal entity exists. With today's tightened security and anti-money laundering legislation, it is unlikely such bank accounts would be able to be opened. Cheques are no longer able to be written against the funds held in bank accounts. All transactions must be done online. It is prudent to tidy up this matter in advance of the bank requiring this and in addition, the Board moved to assure itself that the funds held in its name are adequately protected, appropriately used and earning a good return.

All other bank accounts operated by Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty are held with BNZ through the Zero Finance package and Internet Banking. The Centre manager has complete visibility over these accounts. The Governance group The Board has control over expenditure via dual signatory sign off on all payments.

I said that Section 15iib, which was what I read out before about the Children's Committee shall be responsible for, clearly states the Board has the authority to determine whether Children's Committee operates its own bank account. Currently the signatories are not clear in the bank statements are difficult to obtain. The management of the accounts are brought back in house to athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty. The Children's Committee could still commit their separately held funds for their expenditure by dual signoff for bills for payment, the Centre Manager, but then complete the transaction online for payment and the usual manner.

The recommendation is to continue to hold the Children's Committee funds separately but bring management of the accounts back in house to Athletics. Waikato Bay of Plenty. Transfer all Westpac funds to BNZ to simplify administration and close the Westpac accounts. Change the signatories of the existing Children's accounts there so that's the existing Westpac and BNZ Children's to mirror those used by Waikato Bay of Plenty Athletics. For all other accounts, ensure all bank accounts have online access and link to Zero finance system. The Board and the Children's Committee can develop a simple process for signing off on use of these funds for children's activities.

This is a directive from the Board not a can we. Floor opened for discussion on this matter.

Question from Jayson, what does this change mean for our how we run the committee? In response from Teresa however the concerns will be around this protection of our funds.



Joan: We have been very protective of our funds historically because from time-to-time efforts by capability gets into some financial stress and the children's funds seem very attractive. I can't actually recall which is which, but one of the accounts was a travel account for IP's. That was for both sets of IP groups. The other one was Colgate Funds, which has been collected from where we have held Colgate Games. It's been the profits from that without having the IP's for the last couple of years that some is looking rather healthy because we haven't been spending it. At the moment, I think it's Sandra, myself and Diane Rodger who are the signatories. If it was to go under the umbrella of Waikato Bay of Plenty Centre, I think we need to be very proactive and make sure that those funds are directed for children only. That is a requirement from the Colgate committees is that that is mandatory that any profits from Colgate must be returned to children, not going to general funds.

Teresa: What I suggested to Sally, Joan, was that in terms of signatories, if it requires two people to sign off any spending, one will be Diane because of her role in the Centre with the other being myself and Sarah or whoever sits in our roles. This will mean the Chairperson and Secretary of this committee be the other signatory. So one someone from our committee has to be a sign off.

Joan: We've left the signatories as they have been for the last few years just because of the difficulty of changing over to the system that we are now operating under.

Murray: I'm not sure it's quite as simple as you think there. The bank account will only be able to be operated by the same three signatories that they normally have. I think the way the Boards worded it to you is that they will only pay money or whatever out of the Children's Accounts on your say so. The actual working off the bank account itself will be done by whoever the signatories are for the Centre, currently I'm one of them.

Teresa: I thought when I talked to Sally she thought we could be signatories on that account.

Murray: I would be surprised, when the bank takes an operating authority on an account, it's usually for everything under that entity. They don't usually have separate ones for just separate suffixes. I could be wrong. I've just been looking at it now to get the signatories changed to what they are there and that's why I'm still a signatory because it took so long to get it in place. I've just stayed on and Diane and I do almost all the payments. Sally is the other signatory. Sally and I could set up and authorise payments but we don't. We just leave Dianne to set them all up and then one or the other, usually me authorises them. But I think the way they if you reread the way they worded that they they're looking for approval to come from children's to make payments and being the centre will facilitate the payments. That is Dianne will make the payments. Yeah, sign off might change the bank again. Yep,

Teresa: When I talked to Sally, she did think that they would be able to add one or both of us as signatories for that. I know within the Westpac system you can allocate which accounts people have. You can have your people on there who can access the accounts and then you can decide which of the accounts that they can do stuff with. So you don't have to give them access to all accounts, you can give them access to partial. So I'm not sure if that's the same within the BNZ system.

Murray: That may be able to be done. They would have to add additional signatories to the system in that case and only allow certain people to have access to suit the accounts.

Amy: I'm can I just come in off of the back of what John said? Have they given any assurances that the funds that children's have right now will be ring fenced?

Confirmation from Teresa and Murray that these funds have been ring fenced.

Joan: The other thing to be aware of is that we are about to have Colgate games again at Tauranga. They may need some money and that's what some of that money is there for, for putting deposits down, leading up to the Colgates.

I can't see there being any issue with that. If we're looking at both IP age groups or all IP age groups having out of town or you know into regional competitions and we could incur some costs there too. It's not, we don't get to say no essentially because I've pointed out that they can direct us to it. I'll have further conversations with Sally and see where that ends up.

Murray: I think if I can just add you to reassure people, the centre is not in any financial difficulty at all and hasn't been in any for any other time I've been involved. So I don't think we should be in great fearfulness of that. They were pretty careful with employing and not employing people to make sure we don't get a risk of that. But even when we had a period there where we had funding dried up with the COVID thing and everything, we're still able to maintain the employment of Louise without dipping into reserves. But we when we made that position, we knew that we may need to, in some years, use the reserves in order to maintain the position. They didn't need to in the end. And now we're out the other side of that. Of course, Louise left and then Barry is effectively taking up that role since then. And they do have sufficient income to maintain that role. That's why they reappointed a person. If they didn't, they wouldn't have appointed and would have had to go back to the strategy and said we need to revise this and perhaps not have that role. So I don't think clubs need to be consumed that there's any great risk there that Children's money is just going to vanish.

Teresa: No, I think they have made that reassurance in what they've said. The bigger risk probably is that we are not able to access it within the Westpac system because we don't have the right levels of, you know, structures in place for it. That's probably the bigger risk, that we can't access the accounts/funds. So we do need to pull it out before it gets lost to Westpac.

So that's it with the financials. For us as clubs to know that there is a reasonable amount of money sitting there. If we do want to create some competitions for the children, we should. We shouldn't be scared to use some of that money here because that's what it's for. So that's kind of the take-away from that. There is money to do things with.

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#### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

##### **1) ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Chairman:	Teresa Mumby	Nomination from Bellevue/Te Awamutu
Minute Secretary:	Sarah Watson	Nomination from Te Aroha/Fairfield
Competition Secretary:	Sandra Murray	Nomination from Cambridge/Taupo

All three positions voted on unanimously.

##### **2) Inter-provincial Co-ordinator:**

###### ***Selectors - Grade 14, U16, U18:***

In terms of selectors for the IP, we no longer require selectors because there's it's a self-promoting competition now. So the children enter themselves.

###### ***Managers - Grade 14, U16, U18:***

Discussion on the changing nature of the roles of Inter-provincials. Charles and Berny are happy to continue into the 2024/2025 season. Representation from the Bay Plenty and from Te Aroha/Paeroa area (in the middle) would promote a balance within the management group. Our whole philosophy for this groups is around culture and connectedness and knowing who we are. For this to happen it is important that and we have representation from the middle of the Region for their voice to be heard and to maintain that feeling of connectedness.

Discussion on name change to Coordinators from Team Managers.

Managers are to be appointed when the make up of the groups are known.

The rationale is to keep this group within the Children's Section, this is seen as the best fit for the development needs of the athletes.

Information booklets will again be sent out to all clubs at the start of the season for this group of athletes.

Move that we change the Interprovincial Selectors and Managers to Inter-provincial Coordinators for the grades. Grade 14, Under 16 and Under 18.

Nominate Bernice Koppens and Charles Annals as Coordinators of the Grade 14, U16/18 Youth Squad  
Murray Green/Johny McKee

***Delegates to WaiBOP Operations***

1. Teresa Mumby (WBOP Children's Chairperson)
  2. Sarah Watson (WBOP Children's Secretary)
- Reserve: Sandra Murray (to support the above two for the coming season) TBC.  
All three positions were voted unanimously, Sandra is to be confirmed for this.

***Delegates to ANZ AGM/ClubNet*** – These positions were relevant when NZ Childrens was operating, so no longer relevant. The Centre will send representatives and all Children's Clubs can send delegates to this if they are affiliated to Athletics New Zealand.

3) **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

**2024 - Draft**

2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2024	
9 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	
16 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Bellevue/Greerton Athletic Club Ribbon Day
23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2024	Te Awamutu Athletic Club
30 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Taupo Ribbon Day, Owen Delany Park
6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> December 24	NZSSAA Track, Field & Road Race Championships, Timaru
14 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Children's Relay Champs, Porritt Stadium
21 <sup>st</sup> December 2024	
10-12 January 2025	NI Colgate Games, Napier
17-19 January 2025	SI Colgate Games, Christchurch
1 <sup>st</sup> February 2025	
8 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	
14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Te Aroha Short and Sweet Meet, evening meet (TBC)
15 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Porritt Classic, Hamilton
22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2025	Cambridge Pentathlon (TBC)
1 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Fairfield Athletic Club (TBC bookings)
6-9 March 2025	NZ Track & Field Championships, Dunedin
8 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Paeroa Athletic Club Ribbon Day
15 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Children's Champs, Tauranga
23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2025	
5-6 April 2025	NISS Athletics, Porritt Stadium, Hamilton (Awaiting sanctioning)

4) **Children's Committee Meeting dates:** (TBC)

6 <sup>th</sup> October 2024	For Ribbon Day Referee's (Zoom)
17 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Relay confirmation of officials etc. (Zoom)
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Confirmation of Officials Children's Champs (Zoom)
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Mid-Winter Forum, Matamata
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Children's AGM (Zoom)

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

Relays (to cover the cost of medals) per team entry.

Fees set at the 2023 AGM:

4 x 100m \$21.00

Medley Team \$26.00

Field Relay Team \$16.00

(with \$2.00 per athlete per event going to the IP Travel Fund)

Children's Champs \$6.00 per entry

(with \$2.00 per entry going to the IP Travel Fund)

All in favour that the prices remain the same. Motion carried.

6) **Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty Centre AGM:**

Nominations for Arbitration Panel – (Sandra Murray and Joan Rawnsley did this last season)

Joan Rawnsley and Sandra Murray

All in favour

Motion carried

7) **Signatories for the Children's Travel Account**

Signatories have already been discussed and this is going through a change process.

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

Signatories have already been discussed and this is going through a change process.

9) **Gr 12, 13 Inter-provincials (Do we need to continue to include this?)**

Shield Challenge with Auckland.

Grade 12 and 13 Inter Provincials, we no longer need selectors but there is this planned event and it will need someone to coordinate the organisation of it. Thank you, Barrie Jennings.

Barrie Jennings is to be the main contact person for this a committee to support the organisation will be set up in due course.

10) 400m

**Remit from Barrie Jennings – Kevin Bradley 400m**

**Proposal: Remove the 400m event from all children's competitions from grade/age 13 and under.**

***Rationale: As provided in Kevin Bradley's presentation to Mid-Winter Forum, please see attached document.***

Governance Issues

The current competitive structure in Children's Athletics needs to be better aligned with ANZ's published Athlete Development Pathway and the recommendations of World Athletics.

Sports Science

The 400m is an anaerobic event. Pre-pubescent children have lower lactate concentrations in both blood and muscle during maximal rates of work, are less able to generate ATP in muscle fibres, and therefore have a lower anaerobic capacity. Even with training, insignificant improvements in anaerobic endurance take place before 12-13 years.

Further Justification

1. Children's events should align with the maturational level of the participants and also provide a progressive pathway into secondary school athletics. At secondary school they will be able to run a 300m.
2. World Athletics recommends introducing the 400m at age 15-16 for boys and 16+ for girls. In the England Schools Championships Junior Girls (13-14) and Intermediate Girls (15-16) run 300m. Senior Girls (17-18) run 400m.
3. We often have girls in New Zealand aged 14-16 who can run mid-50 seconds for 400m but few of these ever progress to a significantly higher level. There are many cases of successful international female 400m runners who did not take up the event until their late teens when they were physically mature enough to cope with the requisite training that this event requires.

### Discussion

- i. It was felt that the remit needed to come from Athletics NZ for it to be passed rather than have the changed passed at a Regional level. This make it clear whether the 400m was to be part of our Children's programme across NZ.
- ii. The implications for our athletes if the 400m remained on the Colgate Games programme.
- iii. The implications for the medley relays at the Relay Championships. If the 400m disappears, the medley relay would be a 'no go'.
- iv. There would be a need for something further than the 200m, you would need a 300m at least to match up with Secondary Schools requirements if the 400m is removed from the programme. At this point there is no clear alternative to the removal of the 400m.
- v. The 400m at Children's level has been around for several years and it is frustrating for Kevin Bradely who has specific knowledge in this area.
- vi. The possible lack of knowledge on what is being voted on back at clubs where there a number of Mum's and Dad's that don't have the specific knowledge required to make judgements on issues of child development and exercise physiology.
- vii. The remit was put forward to host a meeting with Athletics New Zealand with himself, Kerry Hill and Fiona Massey of Athletics NZ. It was recommended that this process took place and that it was on the agenda. In recent weeks after a restructure at ANZ Fiona is no longer in her role and new positions are being advertised.
- viii. An amendment to the remit to do away with the 400m but replace it with 300m, where Grades 11, 12 would run into the same anaerobic issues anyway. This discussion is following global changes with the 400m. Further discussion on who the 300m would be available for and matching this with Secondary School events.

Murray Green moved that the Remit be amended to read

"That we remove the 400m from Grades 10 and 11, we change the 400m to a 300m for Grades 12 and 13 and we the leave the 400m in place for Grade 14 with changes to take effect next season."

Murray Green/Barrie Jennings

### **Voting**

In favour 8; Opposed 11; Abstained 0

Motion did not carry the 400m event will remain as is.

## **11) Remits**

### **Remits from Cambridge for AGM June 2024**

**1. Proposal to move the 1500m event from the Children's Champs day to another event/ribbon day for a period of 2 years.**

Rationale:

This will assist in reducing the duration of the main Children's Champs day.

Currently the 1500 has reduced numbers participating compared to the 800m though all age groups. Some athletes are competing in both. 2 middle distance events in 1 day could be considered as excessive for 14 and under.

Athlete's 14 and under with goals for middle distance running may gain more benefit running an 800m and then being able to take part in a longer sprint race or field event.

1500m does not seem to take place on too many of the ribbon days.

Having this event at another event/ribbon day may enhance the numbers attending and participating at that event.

Can review the effect in 2 years.

Discussion

- i. The removal of Triple Jump and Walks from Championship events has seen a reduction in numbers. Walks competed for at a Ribbon Day could reduce the understanding that this is a Championship event.
- ii. 1500m is run at a majority of Ribbon Days with the Pentathlon being the only one not to hold it as part of their event.

*Vote to move the 1500m event from the Children's Champs day to another event/ribbon day for a period of 2 years.*

*In favour 6; Opposed 12*

*Motion not carried forward.*

**2. Proposal to move the sprint hurdles event from the Children's Champs day to another event/ribbon day for a period of 2 years.**

Rationale:

This will assist in reducing the duration of the main children's champs day particularly due to time taken to set up, adjust and remove the hurdles.

Currently have low numbers taking part which may be due to a lack of availability at other events with athletes choosing to focus on the sprints which they are more familiar with.

Adding the WBOP sprint hurdles champs to an existing event may enhance the participation numbers in that event.

Can review the effect in 2 years.

Discussion

- i. Low numbers in the hurdles event in the past. This was due to hurdles not being available at Porritt last season due to the resurfacing/drainage work on the track so there was not the facility to train and have ribbon day events during the season in the lead up to Children's Champs.
- ii. It should stay with the Children's Champs for the next couple of seasons so it peaks at the same time, otherwise the only other day for Children to practise on the track is when the Ribbon Day is in Tauranga/Hamilton.
- iii. The event would need to be set up properly and timed.
- iv. A Championship event such as the hurdles needs to be at the end of the season so children can prepare and develop their hurdling technique.
- v. The remit was put forward as a way of logistically making the Children's Champs easier to run. Not losing the event but enhancing the overall event taking into consideration the number of officials that we have.

*Vote to move the sprint hurdles event from the Children's Champs day to another event/ribbon day for a period of 2 years.*

*In favour 5; Opposed 12*

*Motion not carried forward.*

### **3. Proposal to make all events at the Relay Champs a 4 person event for a period of 2 years.**

Rationale:

Make it easier for clubs to select 4 athletes per age group/team without some athletes attending to compete in 1 event only.

Clubs/teams could enter a 2nd athlete into 1 of the current field events or add the high jump (with limited attempts to save time if needed) to the field relay.

Review effect in 2 years.

Discussion

- i. This was discussed at the mid-winter forum.
- ii. It is difficult to get four children to turn up to a 4x100m then a three person field team.
- iii. Perspective from a smaller club is the majority of 4x100m teams are mixed gender, but there is no mixed gender option for the field relay teams.
- iv. Consideration on ways to manipulate how children can be entered to make composite teams when your club already has a full team entered in the event for further participation opportunities on the day.
- v. Barbarians team as a possibility to include those that may have only one event to compete in.

*Vote to make all events at the Relay Champs a 4 person event for a period of 2 years.*

*In favour 0 Opposing 17*

*Motion not carried forward.*

Thank you Jonny for the time and effort you have put into the remits for these events. Review of our procedures and events needs to be ongoing.

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12) Reminder for clubs to pay their Affiliation Fees to ANZ, clubs should have received an email.

13) Centre AGM, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

14) Any other business

Colgate Games 2026 – Co-Chairs of the LOC for this event to be Jason Benge and Donna Howitt. Waiting form confirmation from Athletics NZ. So if any of you are keen to be part of the LC, I think get in touch with them sooner rather than later a so you guys can start working on it. Still waiting to hear back form Athletics New Zealand, with current staffing changes there is a hold up. Our region was originally on the schedule we were down for 2027 and they have asked us to come forward cause Northland won't be ready.

Accommodation for 2025 Colgate Games – Hawkes Bay could be an issue due to a Cricket event that is on at the same time.

An observation made by Murray Green and a challenge was offered. The meeting started the with the Chairperson's report talking about the loss of athletes in Grades 10 to 14. The numbers 7 to 9 were still strong. We had three rebuts put up tonight that affected that Grade 10-14 age group and the 4th one did to some extent as well. Two of those first three addressed

time limitations with a two year trial. We defeated all those remits, so we've made no changes to address these. So that's the observation.

The challenge for the group is to come back next year with things that can make changes on particularly in the Grade 10-14 space. Just something to reflect on, not a criticism. We all had our chance to have our say and have a vote, but we didn't achieve any change in that space. You've got the 12 to 13 IP's coming back in this year, this may help as a new thing that has been added.

Teresa thanked all delegates for their involvement this evening. It was one of the more challenging ones we've had for a little while with a little bit to discuss. So, thank you everyone for putting your time into it and considering the issue brought forward.

Meeting closed: 9.24pm

Secretary