

Athletics Waikato-Bay of Plenty – Children's Section

Agenda for Children's Mid-Winter Forum held on Sunday 5th May 2024, 10.00am at Matamata

Meeting opened at: 10.15

PRESENT: Karen Lucas (TeAwamutu), Scott Murray (Fairfield), Robyn McRae-Aoke (Matamata), Leah White (Taupo), Joan Rawnsley, David Rawnsley, (Paeroa), Jonny McKee, Veronica Maree (Cambridge), Donna Howitt (Bellevue) Barrie Jennings (AWBOP) Teresa Mumby (Chair) Sandra Murray (Comp. Secretary)

CLUBS PRESENT: Fairfield, Taupo, Te Awamutu, Matamata, Bellevue, Cambridge, Paeroa,

APOLOGIES:

Sarah Watson; Dave O'keefe (Te Awamutu), Delyse Candy (Kawerau), Papamoa Athletics Club, Maree Hill (Matamata), Malcolm Taylor, Jason Benge (Bellevue) Tamson Larsen (Fairfield)

"move that the apologies be accepted" Donna Howitt/Veronica Maree

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: "deemed a true and accurate record" Teresa Mumby/Sandra Murray

MATTERS ARISING:

U18/U16 IP's -opportunity to enrol went out early, but nothing after that. Not sure if anything happened at Open Meets. No report at operation meeting. Not sure if anyone is running it at centre level. Training, by invitation Criss and Debbie running it, performance based older Te Manawa funding. Where do U16 and U18 sit? Was run by Children's Committee, North Island U 18 IP has money \$14000.00 approx, spoke to Craig Counties Manukau regarding this, signatures not updated in the system. Needs minutes from something that no longer exists, Can we convene a special meeting for this? Centre based, Northland, Counties, Auckland. WBOP, Manawatu/Whanganui, Taranaki. ? Wellington was included in this also

Signatures– Joan Rawnsley, Rosemary Mackay (Manawatu) Counties Manukau. BNZ account. This hasn't been changed for a large number of years.

Money was there to use for accommodation or other areas that may have required deposits, surplus went to athletes if large or centres, paying for trophies if not being used by centres. Hasn't been used for 10 years.

Joan will contact some of the centres at children's level to hold a zoom to sort this issue. We will get this information for Joan.

When there were IPs, children used to turn up, pay their money and ask where they were going that year. They weren't the top competitors, but they were training buddies for those who were, with it no longer happening then they aren't joining and we have now lost that group of children.

Barrie asked - Is there the manpower to run this. If not, then the money could be sent back to centres. We still need to address the signatures on this account first.

G12/13 IPs - the benefit of this competition was friendship formed, maturity over the weekend was very noticeable and social aspect. The cost for running the event wasn't the main reason for this event, but this wasn't looked at when consideration to stop it happened.

When Covid arrived this stopped it for the G12/13 IPs and it was the same time we lost NZ Children's who organised this event. There was discussion with the Youth Advisory of running it at different

events, we couldn't see how that would work, then run at own centre then amalgamate the results. Didn't happen and there hasn't really been anything else come through.

There is a suggestion of a competition with Auckland – to be discussed further at the AGM as today's meeting ran out of time.

Triple Jump – first season not held, H & S re development, is at secondary school. Te Awamutu had some question around this, but no other clubs, so it wasn't missed. When asked which clubs run Triple Jump on club nights, Paeora when they have athletes, and Te Awamutu were the only ones.

Officials on line training, which educates our members, this being a good thing to do, Trevor Spittle is involved. ANZ separating themselves, but want to run their own one, but don't want to recognise it yet. Everything is in limbo now. Barries feels the system is good, some new ones coming out in Sept, then looking at practical ones. Some done the online, getting the recognition from ANZ re grading, that isn't there yet. Upper tier of officials, what does this look like currently? There is no list or grades and it's hard to contact these officials. Trevor has a list but can't send the list due to confidentiality. Register on Gameday, but still can't access that list. The online courses give parents knowledge they can apply. As a centre we are running short of officials, if they have used this online course, can we use this as graded? We need to have confidence in the officials to do this role, even though they have the qualifications doesn't necessarily mean they have the skills to run an event. Paul in Auckland is the closest official to run courses.

What do we need as a centre? Competent people to run the event, people to step up as referees, to call our events championships event, requires a graded official to run the event. Seniors are where you need A grade officials at events so if any records are broken can't be recognized if there aren't those officials. Can't tap shoulders until we have the online course sorted. List of who and what grade they must have before they can advance. Bellevue has a list, to maintain your grading you must officiate at senior and official events. No children events used to be counted for grading advancement.

From operations level, talking more about blending children and senior's events. Look at combining Open meets over summer, with the morning for children, so there is some cross over with officials. Start senior meets earlier so there are more officials for both events, save on travel. Helps the 13/14 as well.

For now, Barrie will send every club a survey and information form this will help build a club health check. Have a document that is updated all the time, officials get sent through to Trevor and he knows who needs what and can create upskilling days. Do face to face.

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

Operations Committee Minutes

? Auckland Shield suggestion – from Sally Kerr

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

Notice of Mid Winter Forum

Sarah to add any other correspondence missed –still to be updated

"Move to accept the inward correspondence and approve the outward correspondence"
Teresa/Sandra

REPORTS:

Chairman's Report: tabled over the summer the feedback is mini club to 9 running strong, losing numbers above, ribbon days ran well, track affected but still went ahead, more ribbon days in the early part of the season, Colgate entry is very early in the season, this won't change so as a centre we

need to look how to work with this. Behaviour has improved significantly with children, parents and secondary events, lack of officials struggling especially relay champs, Andrew did a lot of coaching. Full report will be available at the AGM

Operations Report – will send out the minutes to be read.

Children's Championships Report

Joan Rawnsley Track – attached

Tamsin Larsen Throws – I was the throws referee for Children's Champs despite the weather being on the yuck side we got through all the age groups without any issues. Only concern I had was the children turning up without something to keep them warm while waiting in between their throws. Overall a successful champs.

Andrew Langman – attached

General Business

1. Innovative ideas for Children's Athletics competitions and club nights Barrie Jennings

- a. Where Barrie is coming from- do you feel like there needs to be a change with children's athletics?
 - i. Overall, how do you want clubs to run?
- b. Is the sport declining?
 - i. Was a few years ago, -10-14 struggling, Bellevue numbers good over the years building a structured programme, in place with team leaders and numbers still the same, athletes enjoy the structure, need to understand that officials are needed at higher events.
 - ii. Paeora – athletics don't promote the sports at ANZ level, get out into schools and sports and promote, spoke to Thames Rugby get their children into athletics so they have knowledge on how to move on the rugby field, that they learn through athletics. The club has put out a challenge to bring one person to join them in athletics from their winter sport. Secondary Schools have no competition before nationals, offer them to come to a club to learn skills, as a number don't belong to a club.
 - iii. More on offer these days, teammates doing it, do it together so do we want to change the structure of our sport. The relays Paeroa runs changes it up a bit.
 - iv. Matamata – most aren't interested in the competition side of the sport. Changed it up as each week is the same.
 - v. Taupo run jump throw anyone else doing this. Bellevue, is, helps with the engagement and they have loved it.
 - vi. Bigger clubs with the support can run a good ribbon day with the venue. Consider something different for the other clubs.
 1. Time and cost factor for parents for ribbon days.
 2. Clubs versus clubs, points based or team versus team, all done in 60 minutes. 8 people can run 120 pax through 5 events. First past the post, no measuring, events ran were 100m, 3-minute run, which involves running until they blow the hooter and stop, vortex throw down 100m track, where it lands, long jump, use a marker to mark the landing, relay with 6 runners and 2 laps. Live scoring after events,

calling out the results. This could be run at club nights with clubs, cluster of 5 so you aren't travelling far.

3. Lying down to start a 30m race, hoop throwing for discus, high jump with elastic, learn the scissor jump. All designed as a skill to learn for a competitive event. Some of this information is available at the back of the run, jump throw. Auckland have an event 4 in 45.
4. Do we think ribbon day numbers dropping, clubs running well, all day commitment. Do we want to look at this? Pentathlon still to continue gives families the opportunity to leave after 7-9 done, 10-14 come later.
5. 3 types of children, ones who really enjoy socialising, helping with winter code, top athletes who want to do the competitive side. Grow the sport needs to be fun and social.
6. Still need a competition side for Colgate, structure of clubs can change.
7. Age flashes to know who is registered, how to spell their name and where they need to go.
8. This new concept could support parents to step up and help as there isn't a concern they aren't going it right (Matamata)
9. Run competitive events on night and then the new structure on another night. Teaching techniques on the way and grading them, even though the event has changed. Split the groups for basics then move up the grades, building the technique. Achieving success, less officials, teaching the events and recruiting coaches as they work through the different stages.
10. Joans concern is less ribbon days isn't supporting growth in officials for championship events. This could still be taught with the different parents as they work through the different techniques. Could use senior events for officials. The ribbons are a huge cost, Cambridge have medals so cheaper.
11. There were 3 ribbon day programmes that could be used, could be in some of the information that Sarah now has.
12. Barrie will put something together, some of our summer events could incorporate this. Barrie would run the first event, club verses club, how many athletes would you need. Could put out to clubs to have an age group competition and still do it at your own club.
13. Barrie has given option to analyse your needs through a separate meeting to work through this.
14. After you have had meetings with Barrie in June, then have a zoom meeting August to discuss what this will look like for the coming season as a centre.

Veronica left the meeting 12.15

2. 400m Event- Kevin Bradley report attached

- a. Proposal is do we remove this event 400 and add 300?
- b. Medley Relay has a 400m

- c. Under which umbrella has this proposal been done. Kerry Hill and Fiona Maisey, Youth Advisory,
- d. If this is offered at Colgate, how will it affect children who have been doing 300m for season.
- e. A remit will be needed for AGM to change this for 2024/2025 season. To drop the 400m completely and then what the Medley will look like, removing the 400m and wording boy or girl needs to run a 400 or 800. Kevin Bradley will put in the remit with the rationale.
- f. Get an idea on what is this going to look like to discuss at AGM.
- g. Triple Jump has been removed, will walks be next, question is where will this end?
- h. Could we remove from grade 10/11 to keep it for 12-14 group?
- i. Children no longer have basic fitness they did several years ago.

3. GameDay Use

Request to utilise GameDay event management for regional events - children champs & relays. Much less admin pressure on everyone involved.

Sandra has been speaking to Charles and there may be another option for using for events, which will allow clubs to do the inputting of events. Not all clubs have internet, but it would be the secretary doing the entering. Sandra will have this information for AGM

4. Relay Champs/Children's Champs

I think it could be adjusted so that all 4 members of a relay team have a chance to take part on at least 1 more event. Compared to a ribbon day they don't really get to do as many events. Especially hard when we need a team of 4 for track & only 3 for field...causes a lot of distress. (Cambridge)

Perhaps some other events could be taken out of Children's Champs and take place at another events maybe hurdles ~ 1500m. Would make Children's Champs a little easier to organise. (Cambridge)

- Take out hurdles and run at a ribbon day.
- Take out 1500m and run at Porritt classic, this would need to be taken to operations.
- Could scrape relays championships completely and just run the 4 x 100m after Children's Championships?
- Running both events in March over 2 days? Biggest geographical area of all centres so travel was why it changed. Could look at funding to cover accommodation/travel.
- Create a barbarian team for those who don't have a relay team.
- Bellevue like how the relay champs is inclusive and wouldn't like this go by the way. Lake City and Tokoroa have throwers and not at this meeting to voice their thoughts.
- Team event with points for field.
- Put these into remits and rationale.
- Relays – Bellevue/Tauranga quite like having the relays champs and would like to host it every year. Travel was the reason behind alternating the relays and champs.

5. Colgate Games feedback from survey – Sarah has collated the feedback, will attach to this.

- a. Consultation on rule changes, when are they going to do that and how can they without consultations. ANZ

- b. Hurdle changes was this done at ANZ AGM, if not then why have the changes changed?
 - c. Donna reminded us that we should be attending the AGM, Joan advised there is money for this so 2 delegates can attend.
 - d. Entries already closed when the rule came out, "can only run up 1 age group." This relates to Relays.
 - e. Joan was unaware of having to put in a time for the 1500m when doing entries. How do you even have times at the start of the season? The draw from this information saw a fast heat, slow heat, everyone in the fast heat got a finalist ribbon, second heat only got medals. This is a tactile race, so the child in the second heat knew time to beat, so had to go out and run. Not all clubs knew about this. Didn't know the consequences if didn't put in times.
 - f. Lack of knowledge at Competition Secretary is a concern.
 - g. Colgate 2026 in Tauranga Jason Benghe has said he will Co -Chair with Donna Howitt and will go to Tauranga council to book the venue 9/10/11 Jan 2026. Been in touch with Denise Powell and has the information from 2012, Sandra suggested they contact Whanganui to see how the event runs now under ANZ. Anyone from clubs can join the committee.
6. Dates for remits – these need to be to Sarah by the 24th May, she will get these back out to clubs by 28th May and then the AGM will be 9th June via zoom at 7pm. Will also need nominations for President, Secretary and Competition Secretary. Teresa and Sandra are happy to continue - Sarah are you happy to remain in your role for this season? – to be confirmed.
7. Bellevue may need to change uniform. So will contact Sarah to see what other clubs looks like as she has the uniform list. Tokoroa may clash with what they are looking at, so will contact them.

Meeting closed: 1.55pm
Secretary

Next Meeting

WBOP Children's Committee AGM | two delegates from each club please

Online Teams meeting, link to be sent on confirmation of date.