

NZ Masters Athletics Incorporated Board Meeting



Minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 25 February 2016

Board Room, Sport Otago, in Dunedin commencing at 12.35am.

Present: Andrew Stark (AS) (President), Chris Thompson (CT) (Vice-President), Stewart Foster (SF) (Secretary/Treasurer), John Campbell (JC), Murray Clarkson (MC), Karen Gillum-Green (KGG), Derek Shaw (DS), Mike Weddell (MW) and Jim Blair (JB) (Patron).

Apologies: none

Welcome:

The President welcomed members to the meeting.

1. Minutes of the previous Board meeting held on 7 November 2015.

That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 7 November 2015 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

S Foster/M Clarkson

Carried

2. Matters arising from the previous minutes

➤ The funding application to NZ Community Trust for the website was unsuccessful.

➤ CT reported that the remit definition paper is still under preparation.

3. President's Report:

AS tabled copies of his written report which had been circulated the previous day and indicated that he had prepared it for both the AGM and Board meeting. He went through his report and spoke to a number of issues including highlighting the update on our membership which stood at 525 and that 635 members had been 'lost' over the past 5 years as they had not rejoined.

He commented that the language used to describe the proposed MoU with ANZ had evolved from 'merger' to 'partnership' and now to the 'sharing of membership'. He acknowledged that the use of the term 'non-club' athletes is confusing and indicated that there would be two categories – NZMA Competitive and NZMA Social for master's athletes who did not want/need to join a club.

He drew Boards attention to the summary of feedback from the survey of Centres requesting feedback on how the MoU would affect how they operate at a centre level. AS indicated that all Centres had responded except Waikato-Bay of Plenty. KGG indicated the relationship that Taranaki Masters have with their ANZ Centre is 'excellent' as oppose to 'good'. For all centres with a good relationship with the local ANZ centre, the changes are seen as positive. AS commented that he had received a lot of email correspondence since the last Board meeting, with much of it requiring a response.

That the President's report be received. A Stark/M Weddell

Carried

4. Secretary's Report:

SF spoke to his circulated report which was also his report for the AGM. He indicated that there were 144 entries for NZMA members participating overseas last year. He commented that Centre

database addresses can vary from those on entry forms and stressed that it is very important that Centre databases are kept up to date. SF indicated that the entry process for the WMA champs in Perth is ready and that NZ citizens living in Australia can represent NZ if they have a NZ passport.

He mentioned that it had been a busy year for records with 52 record applications. He commented that there is an increased awareness over the information required and thus less need to seek additional information. SF indicated that the OMA AGM is on 30 October and that with respect to the 4th World Games Trust it is the year for reappointment.

In terms of the list of correspondence, AS to J Blair has been withdrawn and any digital copies destroyed. SF indicated that he had slimmed down the list of correspondence.

That the Secretary's report be received. S Foster/K Gillum-Green Carried

5. Treasurer's Report:

SF spoke to his financial report to 23 February 2016 and in response to a question indicated that the figures on the camera sale line should be up a line for the Lyon levy. He stated that we are looking good financially with a surplus of nearly \$15k for the current year, although this would reduce with upcoming *Vetline*, Board meeting and possible website expenses but there were the NZMA champs entry fees to come in.

That the Treasurer's report be received. S Foster/K Gillum-Green Carried

6. Membership Report:

AS indicated that the report is contained in his President's Report on pages 4-5. At 525, membership is down on 541 for 2014-5. He thought that Otago might have been up a little more since they were hosting the champs this year but noted that they did get 14 new members. He thought that most of the increase in Canterbury membership was due to the Canterbury Masters executive deciding that new members only needed to pay \$10 with CMA paying the rest.

That the Membership report be received. A Stark/D Shaw Carried

7. NZMA – ANZ MoU Update:

AS spoke to his circulated report on the survey he had undertaken of Masters Centres which contained the results he had received, as well the summary on page 3 of his President's Report. The full report can be viewed on the NZMA website.

Seven centres had a local fee \$5 or less, so the financial impact on them would be minimal as a result of collecting less fees at a local level. Canterbury had fee of \$10, but does not need to charge a fee as they have significant funds in the bank. Northland (\$20), Auckland (\$25) and Waikato BOP (\$15?) will have to consider alternative ways to generating income to cover running costs. He thought that these centres could be assisted if need be by NZMA re: learning how to apply for funds, apply for assistance from the 4thWGT or could raise a bit more income on a user pays basis for events. He indicated that most centres had an excellent relationship with their local ANZ centre and masters had the opportunity to participate in an integrated programme of events. MC pointed out

that WBoP masters only members were specifically excluded from taking part which was apparently a financial issue.

In terms of the current draft of the NZMA – ANZ MoU, MC raised concerns regarding clause 2 which implies that members of ANZ are members of NZMA and vice versa and therefore ALL masters could compete in ANZ Masters Championships including winter events. However, AS pointed out that this was a generic statement implying that we will ‘work together’ as one group and that his view was that MC’s interpretation is incorrect. What you can compete in depends on your membership option selected, which is clearly stated further on in the MoU. However, AS will discuss the wording of clause 2 with Linda Hamersley.

MW felt that the best arrangement is what is easiest for athletics rather than what is in it for me. SF stated that there was a need to look at some definitions and terms used and also Alan Galbraith’s comments regarding the timing. JB commented that the constitution needs a review. MC raised that the intention section states that changes have to be agreed by both parties but later states that each organisation sets their fees and felt that the first part needs to exclude the latter. AS indicated that there was a need to check with ANZ that our fees won’t be linked to ANZ fees and that we retain control over setting our own fees. JB suggested that perhaps NZMA should seek a NZMA representative on the ANZ Board as had occurred in Australia.

It had been pointed out to AS just prior to the meeting that the Board is not able to put forward remits to the AGM as we had done. He hoped that it would be possible to get support in principle at the AGM for the proposed ‘sharing of membership’ MoU and then to refine some of the wording and to also address the constitutional issues as a consequence. AS indicated that a SGM could be held at the time of the NZ X/C champs in Auckland in August to enable members to consider the options. If Centres so wished he was prepared to travel and discuss the draft MoU with them.

8. Vetline Report:

DS spoke to his written report. In terms of the obituary for Bruce Clarke in the January issue, MC indicated that the family were happy with the reproduction of the Murray McKinnon’s obituary in the ANZ weekly roundup.

AS has developed a costing for producing a small hard copy print run and raised the possibility of distributing an electronic version at a reduced cost to members, or even no cost, and also putting an electronic version on the website. Questions were raised as to how this electronic copy could be promoted to attract new subscribers and also how subscriptions could be managed.

That the Vetline report be received. D Shaw/M Weddell Carried

9. Website:

AS reported that the funding application to NZCT was declined. He indicated that a revamped website needed to be accessible by multiple people so that it can be kept up-to-date and centres can tag on pages. He would also like it to have on-line entry options for those LOCs organising Island, NZ and Oceania champs. AS indicated that he has three competitive quotes for upgrading the website including one from Gemni Design which is the cheapest (\$4800 + GST).

In response to a question about the ongoing hosting costs, JC indicated that it was approximately \$350 per year. SF indicated that we have money in hand and should get on with spending some to upgrade the website.

That the Board approve Gemni Design as the preferred provider for the website upgrade at the original revised quote of \$4800 + GST. M Clarkson/K Gillum-Green Carried

10. Health and Safety:

AS outlined that ANZ was working on what the requirements were arising from the new legislation. Incident reporting is required and ANZ has prepared a sheet. One of the requirements is consideration of the risks and what can be done to manage and mitigate the identified risks, such as cones and taped sectors for throwing events. As a minimum for each facility, a Health & Safety Plan and a H/S officer will be needed.

It was noted that a school's H/S plan will trump that for the facility. AS indicated that we need to be clear on who is responsible and in some cases it will be shared. He also indicated that public liability issues need to be clarified, including of an event run by Masters Centres.

That the Health and Safety report be received. A Stark/S Foster Carried

11. Constitution:

CT indicated in his written report that the amendments to the current constitution are on hold pending the outcome of the MoU with ANZ, which may require additional amendments eg with regards to membership classes of competitive and social members. He will attend the free roadshow seminars in March on the new Incorporated Societies Bill which when passed into legislation could result in the need for further amendments to the constitution eg on disciplinary matters.

SF understood that we may have until 2020 to make any such amendments and indicated that he understood the new bill is similar to the Australian legislation which required a "Public Officer" who is responsible for filing returns. He also suggested that it is worth looking at the Law Commission report on incorporated societies.

It could be possible to consider changes to the constitution at the same SGM being contemplated for August to consider the proposed MoU with ANZ. CT undertook to prepare material for the July Board meeting. We could consider a two stage approach with minor tweaks at SGM and more substantial changes at AGM. Suggested changes included: provision for a reviewer of our financial accounts (as opposed to an auditor); provision for electronic communications (as opposed to post); remits from Board to AGM; bylaws and proxies.

That the Constitution report be received. C Thompson/J Campbell Carried

12. 4th World Games Trust:

AS reported that both Auckland & Canterbury had received \$1k for host the Island Championships. Otago Masters were to receive \$2k for hosting the NZMA, but he thought the Trust had received a further application from Otago Masters for the NZMA Championships (towards cost of hiring the stadium for NZ champs of \$2600). The Trust will clarify the situation once they have their meeting.

There were also applications from Auckland Masters for \$500 (towards the cost of indoor equipment) and NZMA for \$3k (operational grant).

That the applications from Otago Masters, Auckland Masters and NZMA are approved for consideration by the 4th World Games Trust. D Shaw/K Gillum-Green Carried

13. NZMA Strategic Plan:

A copy of the Australian Masters Athletics strategic plan 2015 – 2020 had been circulated to Board members by AS at last Board meeting. There was general support for the concept of preparing one for NZMA. It was agreed that a subcommittee be formed, which could include non-Board members, to work on a draft strategic plan.

14. Island and NZ Championships:

AS commented that the island championships were difficult for small centres. He indicated that Manawatu-Wanganui will be holding the next NI champs in Wanganui as a combined event with local seniors and secondary schools. AS indicated that the 2016 SI champs would again be held in Timaru, 2 weeks prior to the NZ Secondary School champs on the last weekend in November and would be similar in format to the last champs.

CT spoke to his report of the NI champs and indicated that there had been generous sponsorship from Barfoot and Thompson, which could potentially be tapped into for nationals. They had 147 entries and lots of records were broken. Bruce Clarke's death was still under investigation.

It was noted that Taranaki will be hosting the 2017 NI champs and the subsequent hosts are on the NZMA website. Tasman will be hosting the NZMA champs in 2017. It was noted that the 2018 NZMA champs were not allocated and that there was a need to go back and look at the hosting cycle.

That the reports be received. C Thompson/ M Weddell Carried

15. Records:

SF had circulated the last list of record applications and they had been approved by email. He indicated that there were 4 more applications that ticked all the boxes. Two from Bev Savage (W70) for Weight Throw 11.46m and Hammer Throw 29.27m and two from Laurie Malcolmson (M65) for 100m hurdles 19.03 and 300m hurdles 50.01.

That the two record applications from both B Savage and L Malcolmson be approved.
S Foster/M Weddell Carried

16. Merchandise and Uniforms:

KG-G reported that the merchandise account had a balance of \$3845.16. There were comments about the cut of the current singlet and that it was not good for male throwers. There was discussion about the old NZ uniforms and how long they should continue to be regarded as an acceptable NZ uniform. Comments had been made that the Australian uniform looked smart but it was pointed that they have 5 different uniforms. Following further discussion the following motion was put.

That the current uniform will be the official NZMA uniform from now on.

K Gillum-Green/S Foster Carried

17. Non-Stadia Matters:

MC spoke to his written report which focused on the proposed changes by ANZ to the cross country and road championship regulations for which ANZ is seeking submissions by 25 March 2016. The proposed change of most interest to NZMA was the proposed reduction in the distance for M65+ in NZ X/C champs from 8km to 6km. There was considerable discussion on the distances for the various age groups and the master's men team races.

That NZMA supports:

- *the change of distance for M65+ to be reduced from 8km to 6km, although would consider that change starting at M60;*
- *the concept of three age grades for ANZ Centre Masters Men teams in the NZ Cross Country & Road Championships and that these be M35-49 and M50-64 with 4 members to a team and a M65+ grade with 3 members to a team;*
- *that for both NZ Cross Country and NZ Road championships the medals for first across the line placings in these 15 year age grades be discontinued in favour of 5 year age group medals of the same status and type as those for senior and junior grades.*

D Shaw/M Weddell

Carried

18. International/OMA:

Nothing discussed.

19. Stadia/Technical:

No report.

20. Personnel Report:

It was felt that it was best left for Centres to follow up. A generic sympathy card was suggested and Centres could send it out on behalf of NZMA Board.

21. General Business:

➤ Preparation for the AGM.

In terms of the remits, it had been pointed out that the Board cannot submit a remit to the AGM and that remits from Centre's should be seconded by another Centre. It was anticipated that the remits which all related to the proposed MoU with ANZ would be withdrawn. MC outlined the reasons behind the Waikato Bay of Plenty remit and suggested that a committee should look at the MoU. AS suggested that it would be useful to get a general indication of whether the draft MoU is supported by the delegates at the AGM. SF raised issue of NZMA members entering the WMA champs in Perth. There was general agreement that the subs should stay as they are. After further discussion it was agreed:

That since the Board cannot present a remit to the AGM that the Board's remits be withdrawn, but the Board would seek an indication at the AGM of whether the proposed MoU is supported in principle and if so then further points would be investigated and AS would offer to meet with Centres if requested with a view to refining the current draft MoU and then look to holding a SGM before the end of August to formally consider the amended proposed MoU.

A Stark/ D Shaw

Carried

➤ Indoor Meet.

CT spoke to his written report and indicated that additional events are being considered and requested that the Board consider increasing the status of the meet to an official NZMA Championship. Therefore, National indoor records (including 50m) should be officially recognised for sprints and hurdles. JC expressed concern that we were considering keeping records for 50m indoor, yet in previous years the 60m 'records' were not recorded. AS pointed out that while 60m was an event run at master's meetings, National & Championship records were only kept once it became a NZMA Championship event. Therefore, if the status of this meeting is that of an NZMA Indoor Championship, records should be kept for all events offered.

CT indicated that two Wellington masters who are surveyors have offered to certify the 50m distance at no charge.

The request from Auckland (CT) to apply to the 4th WVGT re: funding to assist with the purchase of some indoor equipment was approved by the board.

22. Next meeting: 9 July 2016 [venue and time to be confirmed]

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5pm.

Confirmed this day of 2016

Andrew Stark, President NZMA