

NZ Masters Athletics Incorporated Board Meeting



Minutes of the Board meeting held on Saturday 8 October 2016

Cabana Room, Conference Centre, Domestic Terminal Auckland Airport commencing at 8.30am.

Present: Andrew Stark (AS) (President), Chris Thompson (CT) (Vice-President), Stewart Foster (SF) (Secretary/Treasurer), Murray Clarkson (MC), Karen Gillum-Green (KGG), and Derek Shaw (DS)

Apologies: John Campbell (JC) and Michael Wray (MW)

1. Welcome:

The President welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous Board meeting held on 9 July 2016.

That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 9 July 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

A Stark/S Foster

Carried

3. Matters arising from the previous minutes not on the agenda for the meeting.

➤ Seeding for sprints at NZMA champs had been suggested including possibly across age groups. This would require current performance times with entries which was not always supplied and would require ability for seeding in the software used for results. Possible seeding could be looked at after entries have closed.

4. President's Report:

AS tabled a written report which summarised the 12 main areas he has been dealing with since July Board meeting. These were:

- ANZ / NZMA sharing of membership MoU – finalising wording & documentation.
- NZMA SGM – emailed centres prior to the meeting to brief delegates. Follow up email to centres and posted information on website re registration fees.
- ANZ Strategic Planning meeting 26 August – attended this meeting – no feedback yet.
- Generic Registration Form – prepared this for use by centres if they wished to use it.
- New Centre databases – sent out early September – included ANZ club masters.
- NZMA Members list – supplied ANZ with list of non-club members which has been loaded into IMG system – AS has access to this group but still to decide whether this is better than the Access database system.
- Promotion of MoU – working with ANZ on an info flyer that they will send to all masters in their system – planning to email all on NZMA database (2011+) about MoU and competing at NZMA events – page on website to outline membership options.
- Vetline – still need someone to be responsible for promotion.
- Website – continued working with JC re design and content – has access to website and created an e-news page – still learning Wordpress.
- Oceania Throws Pentathlon Challenge – organised – still waiting on results to complete.
- WMA Champs – has emailed all NZ entrants with email addresses to inform them about new uniform requirements and to get their accommodation details – will work with Malcolm Clark to generate 'team spirit'.
- Certificates – for NZMA records and indoor – still to do.

AS indicated that NZMA is now a 'club' in the ANZ database and he has the ability to log into it. We could consider allowing members to register. He has been talking with ANZ staff and they will send out anything we want sent to ANZ masters members. He is also seeking links in Athletics in Action to

NZMA – which would be good for promoting our events. He could also ask for regional distribution of NZMA/Centres material to ANZ members. We should offer an unsubscribe option in local newsletters. When an ANZ member enters a NZMA event we will need to check that they are a current member.

In terms of the WMA champs, AS will follow up with those going who may not yet know about the new uniform being needed to take part. KGG suggested AS take some spare uniforms with him.

That the President's report be received. A Stark / S Foster Carried

5. Secretary's Report:

SF spoke to his written report and indicated that his main activity has been the processing of entries for the WMA champs in Perth. Some have involved chasing up details, particularly ex pats living in Australia. The entry process for the indoor champs in Daegu became live on 1 October. He indicated that the system only takes a 4 figure number but he has worked out a system for ANZ members.

He has forwarded the two NZMA delegates (CT and MW) all the information that has come to hand so far. He has also supplied the NZ Team Manager Malcolm Clark with details of the NZMA members attending. SF also indicated that he and Loloma have been accepted as WMA International walk judges.

That the Secretary's report be received. S Foster / C Thompson Carried

6. Treasurer's Report:

SF tabled copies of the statement of financial performance for the year ended 31 August 2016 and noted that there was an operating surplus of \$3626.85 and that member's funds now totalled \$74,063.35. Both total income and expenditure were up on the previous year. He noted that there could be a cash flow issue and that it was important for centres to get subscriptions in for 2016/17 as soon as possible. SF indicated that he would look for a cheaper supplier for the award plaques.

That the Treasurer's report and the draft statement of financial performance for the year ended 31 August 2016 be received. S Foster / C Thompson Carried

That S Foster be thanked for his on-going work as secretary and treasurer.

A Stark / D Shaw Carried

7. AGM arrangements and Awards:

DS indicated in his written report that the Saxton Pavilion adjacent to the track is available for the AGM on Friday 3 March 2017 as it has been booked for 4 days (2-5 March) for the NZMA Track & Field Championships. Board members have been booked into the Saxton Lodge on the north side of the Saxton Field complex.

It was pointed out that the order of business for the AGM is set down in the constitution s.12.5. Copies of the revised handbook and amendments to the constitution need to go out to centres in December in order for them to be considered for adoption at the AGM. The AGM would be preceded by the next Board meeting on Thursday 2 March beginning at midday.

CT noted in his written report that new forms for the 2016 Athlete of the Year Awards are now on the new NZMA website. All Centres to be advised of their responsibility to forward nominations.

That the positions of Secretary and Treasurer continue to be combined for the 12 month period following the AGM. A Stark / D Shaw Carried

8. ANZ and NZMA MoU update and liaison:

AS indicated that he had covered this item in his written President's report and verbal comments.

9. Constitutional Matters and Handbook:

There was a page by page discussion on the suggested changes by CT and MC to the handbook and any other suggestions from Board members. There was general agreement on the wording of most of the suggested changes and various other changes were also agreed, including consistency with the wording of eligibility criteria on pages 6 & 7. CT noted the agreed changes and indicated that he would circulate a revised version to Board members by email so that an updated version can be circulated to centres in December and discussed at the AGM.

CT indicated in his written report that the draft changes to the NZMA Constitution include new membership classes (7.1) to reflect the MoU with ANZ, along with changes to remits (12.7) and proxy votes (12.12). The Board discussed these changes along with several others, including subscriptions (8.1), officers (9.1) – dropping Immediate Past President position, limiting board to 8-9 members, and an additional function of the board (11.6) to communicate with our members via various means. A further, revised version of the Constitution will be circulated to the board for approval prior to being circulated to centres in December and consideration at the AGM. CT noted that the new Societies Bill will require further changes to the constitution in the future.

10. NZMA Membership & Database:

AS tabled a report on NZMA membership as at 7 October 2016 which indicated 31 NZMA members 5 weeks into the new financial year and 230 ANZ masters members. The current database for the October *Vetline* mailing list totalled 586 members (NZMA & ANZ).

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

11. Vetline:

JC's written report noted that the October issue is about to go to the printers and again contained some excellent articles from MW and photos from Sharon Wray. He indicated that we are still struggling to get new articles/reports, which are needed if *Vetline* is to be sustained especially now that we are offering it as a separate subscription. AS indicated that we needed to get *Vetline* subscriptions in from ANZ members. He also indicated that we could make an application to OMA for a grant to help keep *Vetline* viable and could move to three issues per year.

That the Vetline report be received. M Clarkson / K Gillum-Green Carried

12. Website / Development & Promotion of NZMA:

JC's written report indicated that the new website went 'live' in July and feedback has been positive and there have been ongoing improvements and additions that he has been working with AS on. These additions have included:

- A dedicated Facebook page;
- An e-news update area;
- Board meeting and AGM minutes;
- President's reports;
- Postal entry forms for NI & SI champs along with an on-line entry;
- Link to the ANZ / NZMA MoU;

AS indicated that further pages were being developed on explaining the membership options, membership forms and merchandise. He also indicated that centres can get material posted on the website.

DS's written report on development and promotion of NZMA contained some thoughts on how we can try to attract ANZ members and others 'to give track and field a go' and also the need to explain how the new membership system works and try to clarify the confusion that exists with masters athletics and the various masters games organisations. Obtaining the contacts details of ANZ masters and non-affiliated masters, especially email addresses, could be useful at the regional level to build up regional databases to try and attract increased participation and memberships. We should also try to supply material to ANZ and local ANZ clubs for use in their various communications such as newsletters, weekly updates, website and social media.

That the reports on the website and development and promotion of NZMA be received.

A Stark / C Thompson

Carried

13. Merchandise report:

KGG reported a large increase in sales due to the WMA champs in Perth and the large number of NZ athletes entered. She indicated that the current balance in the merchandise account was \$4,384.19.

That the merchandise report be received. M Clarkson / S Foster

Carried

14. Island and NZMA Championships:

CT's written report indicated the NI entry form and schedule has been forwarded from LOC for Vetline and the website. AS indicated that the LOC for the SI champs has applied to the NZ Community Trust for a grant to assist with the costs of the running the champs.

DS indicated in his written report on the NZMA champs in Nelson 3-5 March 2017 that preparations are well underway, with entry form to be posted on website in November and in the January Vetline. Once the budget is finalised an application to the 4th World Games Trust will be submitted. Work is underway on the new hammer cage. A funding application by NZMA to the Lion Foundation was discussed to help cover the accommodation costs of officials, hiring of the pavilion and provision of first aid services.

That NZMA apply to the Lion Foundation for \$xx,xxx towards the costs of accommodation for officials, hire of the pavilion and provision of first aid. A Stark / C Thompson Carried

15. Records for approval:

The NZMA records for approval August 2016 circulated by SF were discussed and it was acknowledged that there had been an email discussion amongst Board members regarding the proposed records arising from the indoor meeting held at the AUT Millennium Stadium on 24 July 2016. CT noted in his written report that new events included indoor shot put, 50m hurdles and two outdoor track distances. He noted that about 47 records/best performances were set in the 50m, shot put and the three jumps. Unfortunately problems with the photo finish equipment meant that no times were recorded for any 50m hurdle events.

It was noted that JC had circulated some comments and views that he wished to have considered, which included his previously circulated email correspondence regarding the indoor records. His main concern was that the records or best performances were not officially agreed to by the Board. He felt that the same process as required for the 60m outdoor event several years ago had not been followed. He indicated that he supported AS's comments that if the proposed records are adopted that they be kept as 'best performances' and not given championship status. JC also commented that he didn't see how we can hold an official NZMA indoor champs when there is not a full programme of events as would occur at national indoor champs held in Europe, North America or elsewhere as per the WMA rules. As we can't hold such a meeting he couldn't see how it could be given full championship status. He stated that in his opinion the 50m and 50m hurdles are not and should not be recognised as championship events as they are not universally contested worldwide. He further stated that he believed the full 60m track in Auckland could be utilised with some modifications after the finish line and was happy to discuss this in more detail. He reiterated that he was happy to adopt all of the other indoor events as best performances and would prefer that we stick with the existing indoor 60m records and not add 'odd' distances or events into the mix, and therefore opposed the adoption of the 50m and 50m hurdles as NZ records/best performances.

CT stated that the Board did discuss 50m and 50m hurdles two meetings ago and had officially sanctioned the meet as the NZMA Indoor Championships. He indicated that the 50m was used as the facility can't safely accommodate 60m. He questioned why we would penalise our members as probably will never be able to offer a full range of indoor events. He indicated that we may get to be able to offer 60m in time. He felt that we were offering opportunities for our athletes.

That the record applications as presented by the Secretary be approved.

That the existing indoor records revert to best performances for 3 years and then championship records.

The Board recognises the NZMA Indoor Championships to be conducted in July each year.

C Thompson / K Gillum-Green

Carried

It was suggested that a note be made in the records that new events will be best performances for 3 years then championship records and that NZ and championship records be split. [Not sure whether this was intended for the minutes, and where it would be noted and why splitting NZ and

championship records would be added – as I thought was already done. Your thoughts/recollections on this are welcome as my notes are unclear and memory is hazy??]

16. International / OMA /WMA:

SF reported that the delegates to WMA Congress, CT and MW, have copies of all the information.

AS indicated that he has talked to both Fiona Harvey and Robert Homan regarding the OMA Champs in Dunedin in January 2018 and planning is underway for these.

17. Non-Stadia report:

In his written report MC indicated that medals for the master's age groups at the NZ Cross Country Champs in Auckland were presented by the NZMA President and Vice President and that next year these medals will be the same as those for junior and senior athletes. He expressed disappointment that the numbering system was not sorted out so that age groups are included in the number. ANZ maintain that it is the responsibility of the LOC to sort this out. There were also considerable delays in the prize giving for the masters.

In terms of the NZ Road Champs in Masterton he was disappointed that NZMA was not consulted. He felt that the 1km laps did not work well as lap scoring was difficult and the sharp turnoff to the finish line caused confusion and favoured those with the 'inside running' in some close finishes. The same deficiencies in the numbering system contributed to a delay in the medal presentations.

18. Stadia / Technical report:

AS reported on the Oceania Throws Pentathlon which had so far involved 26 NZ entrants and 19 in Australia (in ACT and Tasmania). Auckland Masters were planning to hold their postponed competition the following day weather permitting. Numbers currently down on last year. At \$10/athlete it will make money as the only cost remaining was the printing and distribution of certificates.

19. General Business:

It was noted that a draft Strategic Plan has not yet been progressed due to other commitments. It was noted that Alan Dougal's suggestion of sponsorship and promotion strategies could be included in such a strategic plan.

The Coroners hearing on the death of Bruce Clarke is scheduled for 14 November 2016.

SF raised the issue of needing to appoint a safety manager at meets to ensure the protection of athletes. He undertook to look into the wording of the Declaration on entries forms.

KGG offered to circulate health & safety plans that have been developed for the NI champs and NZ Secondary School champs.

20. Next Board Meeting:

Thursday 2 March 2017, in the Saxton Pavilion, Nelson beginning at 12 noon.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.50pm.

Confirmed this day of 2017.

Andrew Stark

President NZMA