

## NZ Masters Athletics Incorporated Board Meeting



### Minutes of the Board meeting held on Thursday 2 March 2017

Saxton Pavilion, Saxton Field, Nelson commencing at 2.25 pm.

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) and Michael Wray (MW).

Apologies: None

#### 1. Welcome:

The President welcomed members to the meeting.

#### 2. Minutes of the previous Board meeting held on 8 October 2016.

*That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 8 October 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.*

C Thompson / S Foster

Carried

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

➤ It was noted that some informal seeding for sprints at 2017 NZMA champs had been undertaken by JC while preparing the programme based on knowledge of the entrants. He indicated that it could be further considered in the future with the on-line entry process.

➤ Numbering systems. The use of multiple numbering systems by NZMA, ANZ, ANZ centres and clubs had resulted in problems for some athletes using the on-line entry process. JC had modified the system to allow entries. It was noted that ANZ is changing its system and will have a new system from 1 April 2017. Otago are looking at a different system. MW and AS can access ANZ database and validate that ANZ members are current. SF indicated that NZMA 7000 series numbers are given for entries into overseas events.

➤ Still waiting for the Coroner's report on the death of Bruce Clarke.

➤ SF indicated that the disclaimer on the paper entry form for the NZMA champs was out of date and he has a new version that should be used in the future. He also indicated that a Safety Officer needs to be appointed for the champs.

#### 4. President's Report:

AS tabled his report which will also be his report to the NZMA AGM the following day. It indicated that it had been a very busy year, with some new initiatives. The key areas of the report included:

i). NZMA website rebuilt and been operating since early July, with many new features such as ability to email all NZMA members, an e-news section, on-line entry for SI, NI and NZMA champs, NZMA documents, new Facebook page. A work in progress, with feedback welcomed for further improvements.

ii). MoU between NZMA and ANZ was approved at the SGM on 6 August 2016.

iii). NZMA membership numbers at 27 February 2017 were 210 members plus 152 *Vetline* subs from ANZ members. The drop was not unexpected but has been partially offset by the number of ANZ members entering the NI, SI and NZMA champs, with the 222 entries at the latter the highest for several years.

iv). *Vetline* and its future. Assistance still needed in marketing to increase subscriptions and advertising, and to broaden the contributors.

v). The revised constitution and by-laws which after discussion later in the meeting should be ready for adoption at the AGM the following day.

vi) NZMA members enjoyed considerable success at the WMA T&F champs in Perth winning a total of 71 medals.

vii). NZMA going forward. AS indicated that there are other important issues that need to be considered. These include: reviewing how Board operates, especially taking account of reduction in income; strategic plan; job descriptions and succession planning; *Vetline*; promotion of NZMA to masters aged athletes; and how our membership database is managed.

*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 it was the busiest 5 months that he can recall. Had 896 inward and outward emails and processed 21 entries for the WMA indoor champs in Korea. He indicated that he had developed a new design for the awards that were cheaper than previous awards. He also suggested that we order a stock of colours badges since a new die is needed.

*That the Board approve the purchase of a stock of colours badges and that the Secretary negotiate a bulk purchase rate.*                      S Foster / C Thompson                      Carried

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

#### 6. Treasurer's Report:

SF spoke to his financial report to 27 February 2017 and noted the drop in income from subscriptions but commented that there were still the levies to come in from the NZMA champs. He felt that we were in a reasonably strong position financially and still likely to be okay at the end of the financial year.

*That the Treasurer's report be received.*                      S Foster / M Wray                      Carried

#### 7. Constitutional Matters / Handbook:

AS noted that only one response had been received on the handbook after both these draft documents had been circulated to Centres. It was pointed out that the apostrophe in Centre's in section 5 heading, 5.1, 5.2 and Appendix A needed to be removed.

AS raised a potential technical point with respect to the remit to the AGM that there was no Centre name or signed signature on the remit – only that it resulted from a meeting at Porritt Stadium. He pointed out that last year a technicality with respect to the Board's remit to the AGM regarding the proposed MoU between NZMA and ANZ meant that there had to be a special general meeting to consider the matter. After raising the matter he indicated that he was happy for the remit to proceed to the AGM.

SF indicated that he thought there was a contradiction in 7.1.2 of the constitution as members don't have to complete an application form. After discussion it was agreed that the clause was okay.

It was agreed that CT would speak at the AGM on the major changes to the Constitution and he would indicate that there will need to be a further review by 2020. CT indicated that the by-laws in the handbook need to also be presented to the AGM for approval by the majority of delegates.

After considerable discussion on the wording of the by-law with respect to hammer and weight throws (p15) it was decided to keep it as it is currently worded, which was based on the WMA rule.

#### 8. AGM and Awards Dinner arrangements:

SF indicated that arrangements were in hand for the AGM which would take place in same venue the following day. DS indicated that the awards dinner was now taking place at the Ocean Lodge in Tahunanui with a limit of 100 and several spare tickets were still available. There was a PA and small stage for the awards presentations which would take place after the mains and before desert.

#### 9. NZMA membership and database / Liaison with ANZ:

AS indicated that we need to do more to recruit additional members and to align our database with that of ANZ.

SF raised the point that NZMA and Island track and field meets are not recognised for officials grading purposes and that we should ask what we need to do to get NZMA and Island champs recognised for the purposes of counting towards the grading of officials. It was also felt that we should endeavour to get the NZMA, NI and SI Masters T&F champs on the list of meets where the officials green shirts can be worn without the need to get prior approval from the ANZOA.

#### 10. Vetline report:

JC spoke to his report and indicated that since there were less than 500 copies of the January 2017 issue mailed out (440) we had to pay a higher postage rate of 74c per copy. If this continues he suggested that we may need to review the subscription rate. He also indicated that we could try and hold the costs by limiting the number of pages. The January issue had been large with 56 pages whereas the October 2016 issue was 40 pages. It was agreed that we would endeavour to cap the number of pages at 40 unless there was good reason to exceed this number.

*That the Vetline report be received.*      J Campbell / M Wray      Carried

#### 11. Website report:

JC spoke to his report and indicated that the website is working well and has some recent additions, including: Vetline subscription; e-news; Waikato/BoP and Tasman master's pages; athletics news feed courtesy of the *NZ Herald* website. Can also include a calendar on the home page. MW indicated that Wellington Masters use a gmail calendar.

SF mentioned that the Porritt Classic has a company that handles entry fees for a 4% fee that provides good service. He offered to obtain details on them.

*That the website report be received.*      J Campbell / D Shaw      Carried

#### 12. 4<sup>th</sup> World Veteran Games Trust:

The Board discussed requests for funding, including an administration grant for NZMA. AS asked whether the Board would consider supporting a \$1 for \$1 contribution from the Trust to match a contribution from Canterbury Masters towards the rebuild of the athletics track and associated infrastructure in Christchurch. The QE II track was under insured and the Christchurch City Council is scaling back the provision of facilities associated with the new track such as a control room.

*The Board supports an administration of \$3000 for NZMA.* S Foster / M Wray Carried

*That the Board support the 4<sup>th</sup> World Veteran Games Trust investigating support for Canterbury's new track and associated facilities.* K Gillum-Green / C Thompson Carried

### 13. Merchandise report:

KGG reported that the merchandise was continuing to go well and that there had been support from those who wanted track suits. SF complemented KGG on the merchandise accounts.

### 14. Personal report:

KGG reported that she had sent cards on behalf of NZMA to the families of Audrey Williams, Brendon McGill and Bernie Portenski.

### 15. Review of Island Champs and NZMA champs:

AS reported that the SI champs in Timaru went well with 67 entries. He indicated that Terry Lomax wanted to hold a combined event on Canterbury Show weekend – a week earlier this year. The NI champs in Palmerston North had attracted 125 entries and despite the often heavy rain had produced a lot of championship records. DS reported that there were 222 entries for the NZMA champs in Nelson, including 32 from Tasman. There was a need to review the generic programme in light of some clashes, eg M65+ LJ and HJ, and large fields for some of the popular throws events.

### 16. Records for Approval:

Board was happy with the interim approvals of record applications by email. SF supplied some more details on some of the applications. He also tabled a sheet with six more applications. The applications from Jim Blair and Trevor Walker were complete and those from Paula Cotter and Claire Giles were also now complete and all were supported by the Board. The application from Murray Andersen lacked supporting details and those from Brayden Grant were from the NZ Masters Games in Wanganui which was not a sanctioned event.

There was considerable discussion on whether any record applications that came out of the World Masters Games in Auckland in April would be acceptable. It was pointed out the WMG were not sanctioned by the WMA because of a lack of drug testing policy, while others noted that the athletics events at the WMG were going to be conducted by NZ's top officials and that we were potentially penalising our own members.

*That since the World Masters Games in Auckland 17-30 April is not a WMA sanctioned event NZMA records broken at the event will not be considered.*

S Foster / M Clarkson

Carried

17. International / OMA / WMA:

SF reported that he is involved in the review of the OMA constitution and that the review will be completed in time for the OMA meeting in Dunedin next January. Current thinking was that the OMA Board would consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and a representative from Australia, NZ and the Islands, with the President being the delegate to the WMA.

It was noted that MW had supplied a comprehensive report on the WMA General Assembly in Perth that was published in the January 2017 *Vetline*.

*That the reports be received.*

J Campbell / D Shaw

Carried

18. Non-Stadia / Technical / Stadia:

MC spoke to his written report and indicated that he believed a master's representative should be on the LOC for non-stadia events run by ANZ such as the road and cross country championships. He noted that there was a need to sort out the athlete numbering systems between NZMA and ANZ and improve the prize giving for the master's grades.

*That the report be received.*

M Clarkson / K Gillum-Green

Carried

19. NZMA Going Forward:

AS led a discussion on some key issues that he raised in his President's report. These included:

- Review of MoU between NZMA and ANZ at June 2017 meeting;
- Improved access to ANZ members to promote NZMA events;
- Preference that ANZ members are not given an NZMA number, unless competing overseas;
- Succession planning and job descriptions – re-circulate those drafted earlier by SF for review at June meeting;
- Strategic plan – consideration of a draft at June meeting;
- Review our financial situation at the November meeting;

20. General Business:

➤ Subscriptions

*That the Board recommends to the AGM that the subscriptions remain the same for the 2017/18 financial year ie \$60 full member (including Vetline), \$45 social member, \$25 Vetline, and \$0 for ANZ members and that it is up to regional master's centres if they wish to charge an additional fee.*

M Wray / M Clarkson

Carried

➤ Next meeting – 24 June 2017 at Auckland Airport 8.30am [subsequently changed to Wellington Airport following the AGM]

Meeting closed at 5.30pm.