



NZ Masters Athletics Incorporated Board Meeting

Minutes of the Board meeting held on Saturday 15 November 2019

12 Highcrest Heights, Westmorland, Christchurch commencing at 12 noon.

Present: Andrew Stark (AS) (President), Michael Wray (MW) (Vice-President), Stewart Foster (SF) (Secretary/Treasurer), Ian Carter (IC), Claire Giles (CG) and Derek Shaw (DS).

Apologies: John Campbell (JC) and Chris Thompson (CT).

1. Welcome:

The President welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous Board meeting held on 15 June 2019.

That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 15 June 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

A Stark / D Shaw

Carried

3. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising that weren't on the agenda.

4. President's Report:

AS reported that he had attended the OMA AGM in Mackay on 31 August 2019 and that the election of the Council had resulted in considerable changes with David Lobb now President and Joan Merrilees being the only New Zealander on the Council, with Jim Blair continuing to be the Patron. It appears that after the next OMA champs in Norfolk Island that there maybe changes in the format, duration and timing of future OMA championships.

He indicated that he was still processing the results of the OMA throws pentathlon and that there were still some fees to be collected.

With respect to the MoU with Athletics NZ, he believed that there may be a need to try and make a small amendment to enable for example Auckland masters members to compete at Athletics Auckland interclub events. He indicated that he would speak with the president of Auckland Masters regarding the situation in Auckland.

New uniform items had been coordinated in time for the OMA champs in Mackay. These involved a short sleeved polio top, long sleeved top and light weight shower-proof jacket, all branded with the new logo. Samples would be available before the NZMA champs in Hastings and will continue to be available through the shop on the NZMA website.

AS also indicated that he had been liaising with various members of the Hawkes Bay / Gisborne Masters LOC over various issues relating to the forthcoming NZMA champs in Hastings.

4. Secretary's Report:

SF reported that the process for entering the WMA champs in Toronto in July/August 2020 was set up and ready to go, and the STG system is working well. Processing of records were up to date, with a world 10,000m record pending for Sally Gibbs.

That the Secretary's Report be received. S Foster / I Carter Carried

5. Treasurer's Report:

SF indicated that the end of year accounts had been signed off by Rob McGregor. There was a small deficit of \$5,875 of for the year ending 31 August 2019 which was due to NZMA spending \$8769 on a stock of medals to assist regional centres with organising the NZMA champs. Accumulated funds are still in a good position with a total of \$76,452.

He reported that the Companies Office is now more actively checking on returns and he had completed the NZMA return in April. SF also reported that he had finally received the entry levy money due to NZMA with respect to the WMA champs in Malaga, Spain.

That the Treasurer's Report be received. S Foster / A Stark Carried

6. AGM matters:

With respect to possible changes to the NZMA Constitution, it was noted that there had been verbal support at the last AGM for the proposed changes that the Board has been discussing. SF indicated that we need to give three months notice of the motion of proposed changes. DS agreed to tidy up the paper prepared for the last AGM and supply it to SF in time for regional masters secretary's to be notified before the end of November. It was noted that if the changes proceed then they would be implemented at the 2021 AGM.

SF signalled that he would be available to do one more year on the Board and then finish up at the AGM in 2021. He indicated that he was giving advance notice so that the Board can give consideration as to how it goes about replacing him. Board members indicated that there were several options including looking for people with appropriate skills and experience, separating the roles of Secretary and Treasurer, and reallocating some of the secretarial duties. MW indicated that he might be the best person to take over checking of NZ entries for World Masters champs as he has access to the ANZ database to enable checking as to who are members of clubs affiliated with ANZ.

MW, IC and CG are working on finalists for the Athlete of the Year Awards. An invitation to make nominations for Athlete of the Year and Long Service Awards is to be sent out with the notification of the AGM.

Following discussion it was agreed:

That the Board recommend to the AGM that the membership fee be kept at \$60.

S Foster / I Carter Carried

In order to assist with the NZMA champs it was agreed that:

That a funding application be made to NZCT for up to \$3,000 for accommodation and transportation of key officials to Hawke's Bay for the NZMA champs.

A Stark / M Wray Carried

7. NZMA Memberships and Database:

MW reported that full access to ANZ database now makes checking entrants quick and easy and can also clean up member discrepancies.

It was indicated by SF that not all centres had returned databases for the first part of the 2019/2020 financial year. MW has set up subscription types for ANZ members and included in the receipt template whether the NZMA centre for that ANZ member's area charges ANZ members an additional fee to "join" local master's centre. He also indicated that he had activated all ANZ members who are financial in our database, with each member to receive a "receipt" informing them they are eligible to enter our champs. He now has the information to do the same for the NZMA-only members.

It was agreed to complete the set-up process for on-line memberships via the website with payment by either by credit card at time of registration or later via internet banking. MW would let centres know about the change and those at the AGM would also be notified about the change to on-line membership via the NZMA website for the financial year beginning 1 September 2020. There was discussion regarding the STG fee of 4% and who would cover this and it was agreed that NZMA would cover this.

8. Vetline:

DS spoke to his written report and highlighted that the October issue was bumper one with 54 pages due to the extensive coverage of the OMA champs with three articles and lots of photos supplied by Sharon Wray. There were also articles relating to the NZMA Indoor champs and the NZ champs for cross country, road, and half marathon as well as the NI cross country champs. In addition, there were reports from all centres, regular contributions from George White and Mike Weddell as well as John's article on his two records. The two pages of advertising helped to offset the additional printing costs.

DS noted that 2020 marks the 50th anniversary of the newsletter / magazine which provides a good opportunity for a historical review and asked for suggestions as to who could be approached. MW noted that the first national cross country championships were held in Wellington in 1970 and first master's road champs were held in Nelson in 1972.

It was agreed to promote *Vetline* subscriptions by the end of December. As NZMA President, AS to send out a bulk email to promote *Vetline* and the NZMA champs in Hastings.

9. Merchandise Report:

CT had conveyed that there was no new activity since 1 September and OMA champs in Mackay. It was noted that CT has effectively retired from the Board. The Board acknowledged Chris's many contributions to the work of the Board and the wider NZ Masters Athletics over many years.

Sharon Wray has indicated a willingness to take over merchandise from Chris.

MW reported that merchandise sales through the shop since June had included:

- 1 Crop top
- 10 Singlets
- 1 T Shirt
- 27 Long sleeve tops
- 19 Polo shirts

- 6 Showerproof jackets

10. Website:

MW has continued to develop and add new features to the website. The Events facility had taken 61 entries for the NZMA Indoor champs, 74 for SI Champs and 112 for NI champs. He reported that the draft entry site set-up for the 2020 NZMA champs just needed the LOC to confirm a few details before it could be made live.

Facebook followers were at 466 which was up from 422 at June 2019. The biggest post reach ever of 2003 was Sally Gibb's 10,000m world record performance, which also produced "engagement" ie shares, likes & comments of 503. He also reported that we're received page responsiveness ranking for the first time of "typically replies within a few hours". The NZ and island championship records on the website are updated regularly.

11. Island and NZMA Championships:

AS reported that there were plenty of challenges with organising the SI T&F champs (with 86 entrants) in Christchurch in conjunction with the SI Combined Events Champs (20 entrants) and an Athletics Canterbury interclub meet (120 entrants), including the need to have 2 throwing groups with officials. The combined children's meet (with 500 entrants) had ended up being moved to Timaru. He commented that as it turned out Southland could have hosted the SI champs as the track is now not scheduled to be replaced until next year. The next 2 years will be in Dunedin hosted by Otago Masters. Over 50 people had indicated interest in the track side bbq on Saturday afternoon.

MW reported that when entries closed there were 112 entrants for the NI T&F champs in Whakatane and 53 dinner tickets which he felt was good given the location and the grass track. There was discussion on attendance by a Board representative and assistance with respect to costs. It was agreed:

That financial assistance not exceeding \$500 be paid towards Michael Wray's travel and accommodation expenses to attend the NI Champs in Whakatane on behalf of the NZMA Board.

A Stark / C Giles Carried

In terms of the next Board meeting and NZMA champs in Hastings it was agreed:

That NZMA will pay for daily rental car costs of those used for conveying Board members to the next Board meeting in Hawke's Bay.

S Foster / D Shaw Carried

12. Records:

Records subcommittee has continued to regularly consider record applications and update the records on the website. MW indicated that he was working through Sally's world record application information requirements and getting it signed. After the world record was approved then it would be okay for the NZ record. He indicated that a mixed race of male and female runners was okay for World Masters. Sally broke the world record by seven seconds and NZ record by over 30s and had received huge encouragement from the excited and supportive crowd. A total of 116 entered the three heats.

13. International / OMA:

There was discussion about the recently elected OMA Council and concerns were expressed about the lack of experience on the new council. It seems that there could be changes to the OMA champs in the future after 2021 champs in Norfolk Island. In the meantime it felt that we should continue to build the relationship between NZMA and the Australian Masters Athletics (AMA), including the promotion of each other's national championships.

14. Non Stadia and Stadia:

MW indicated that the venues for the following 2020 ANZ NZ champs had been decided:

- 8-9 February – NZ Combined Events – Christchurch - Nga Puna Wai
- 21 March – NZ 10,000m – Auckland - Mt Smart Stadium
- 5 April – NZ Half Marathon – Auckland waterfront
- 2 May – NZ Marathon – Rotorua
- 1 August – NZ Cross country – Dunedin – Chisholm Park
- 13 September – NZ Road – Auckland – same course as 2019
- 3 October – NZ Road Relay – Feilding (tbc)
- 18 October – NZ Trail Running – Christchurch

He had not been able to find out the date and venue for the NZ Mountain Running champs.

15. 4th World Veteran Games Trust:

Recent grants have been given for a throwing cage net in Whakatane (\$10k) and new throwing gear in Southland (\$3k) plus the *Vetline* advertising grants for SI, NI and NZMA champs.

16. Handbook:

MW indicated that he has some suggested amendments to update the handbook. He undertook to incorporate them into a marked up version and will circulate it to Board members for feedback.

He passed on news that the age-graded tables will go back to individual year tables in 2020. It was agreed that when these are available that the 95% or more colours will change to using the individual aged graded tables.

17. Strategic Plan:

Several members suggested that we should endeavour to do more promotion of master's athletics and events. DS offered to do a quick review of the current strategic plan for discussion at the next meeting. It was suggested that succession planning and job descriptions should be more actively pursued.

Next meeting – Thursday 27 February 2020 beginning early afternoon.

Meeting closed at 3.45pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record. AW Stark (President)

Date: