



## NZ Masters Athletics Annual General Meeting

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 2 December 2022

**Held in the Function Room, Newtown Park, Wellington commencing at 12 noon.**

#### 1. Welcome:

Andrew Stark (NZMA President) welcomed Patron and Life Member Jim Blair, Board member Derek Shaw (Minute Secretary), Centre delegates, Anna Lynch (Preparer of Financial Statement) and other members to the AGM and thanked them for attending.

#### 2. Present:

Centre Delegates:

Northland	Judith Stewart
Auckland	Phillipa Green (via Zoom)
Waikato Bay of Plenty	Murray Clarkson
Taranaki	Karen Gillum-Green and Des Field
Manawatu Whanganui	Jen Fee and Francis Bayler
Wellington	Albert van Veen and Sean Lake
Tasman	Derek Shaw and Tim Cross
Canterbury	Lois Anderson and Ian McNab
Otago	Dalise Sanderson
Southland	Lester Laughton and Warre Green

Plus Hayden Robinson, Clive McGovern, Daphne Jones, Jonathon Harper, Dawn Melrose, Jacqueline Wilson, Kelly Thurston and Daphne Jones.

Since there were delegates from ten Masters Centres, there was a quorum and the meeting could proceed.

#### 3. Apologies:

Apologies were received from: Stewart Foster (Life member), Ian Carter (Board member), Brayden Grant (Board member), Michael Wray (Vice President), Michael O'Leary, Caroline Smith, Dennis O'Leary, Fay Riley, Noeline Burden and Lyn McKay.

*That the apologies be received.* A Stark / D Shaw carried

#### 4. Acknowledgements:

The meeting noted the passing of Marcia Pettley, Trevor Guptill and Pat Drayton.

#### 5. Minutes of the Special Annual General Meeting held on 22 May 2022 via Zoom:

*That the minutes of the Special AGM held on 22 May 2022 be confirmed.*

A Stark / D Shaw carried

#### 6. Notice of matters not on the agenda:

Jim Blair raised the Fourth World Veteran Games Trust and Judith Stewart raised the possibility of a travel agent who could organise overseas travel for members.

#### 7. President's Report:

Andrew Stark spoke to his President's Report, which was available on the NZMA website along with other information for the AGM. Among the points he emphasised were:

- Preferred method of communication is via bulk email or creating a website information page and emailing a link to the database of 650 people who are members of NZMA or ANZ clubs who have an interest in track and field.
- Registrations for NZMA T&F champs in Wellington are in line for numbers over last 5 years.
- OMA champs are scheduled for 22-26 June 2023 in Saipan, Northern Marinas, Micronesia. He understands that they will be over 3 days, which given the high cost of getting there and short duration are unlikely to be very attractive to NZ, Australian and even other Island masters and thus probably not viable. He has had discussions with Chair of Australian Masters about supporting each others champs.
- The way forward for NZMA lies with securing the support of Athletics NZ (ANZ) to help ensure we can get our NZMA T&F champs scheduled in what is becoming an increasingly busy schedule in January to March, plus getting people to step up for the Board and centre committees. He indicated that his recent survey of the masters database has provided some good feedback to help establish a pathway forward. Forthcoming Zoom meetings of the Board and Centres will discuss this further and possible changes to our constitution.

*That the President's Report be received.* A Stark / J Blair carried

#### 8. Secretary's Report:

Andrew Stark indicated that the main tasks, outside Board and AGM minutes, were responding to on-line queries, dealing with providing numbers for online entries for events overseas, communications with our database of masters and preparation for AGM.

#### 9. Financial Statement:

Anna Lynch spoke to the Financial Statement available on the website and in the delegates papers, indicating that the accounts system has been transferred into Xero. She reported a reduction in income as no NZMA or NI Champs had been held in the last financial year but the SI Champs had generated some income. She noted that the \$8474 spent on medals will be used over the next three years and that there had been significant savings in Vetline expenses (due to moving to digital format) and in Board expenses (only Zoom meetings). She noted that the usual \$3000 from the 4<sup>th</sup> World Veteran Games Trust had not been obtained and if it had then the deficit of \$6,733 would have been reduced to \$3,733. She felt that the society was still in a strong financial situation with \$71,944 in retained earnings / accumulated funds.

*That the financial statement for the 2021-2022 financial year be received.*

A Lynch / A Stark carried

## 10. Subscriptions:

The Board recommended that the annual subscription for competitive members continued at \$50 as agreed at the SGM in May 2022.

*That the subscription for competitive members remain at \$50 for 2023-2024.*

A Stark / K Gillum-Green                      carried

## 11. Centre Reports:

Masters Centres presented brief written or verbal reports. Highlights and lowlights included:

- Northland: Work on replacement track is underway. Corrine Smith won 3 golds at WMA champs in walks events. Judith Bradshaw winning W70 age group in marathons and half marathons plus set new National record in marathon.
- Waikato Bay of Plenty: Tauranga track closed for repair and Porritt Stadium will be out next summer. Both tracks under threat for possible multipurpose sports facilities.
- Taranaki: Taranaki Masters regarded as a 'club'. Taranaki Masters Games will hopefully again take place in March 2023. Noted that the demise of hard copy Vetline was unfortunate as it was used to encourage new members.
- Manawatu Whanganui: Their major event, the Colleena Blair Memorial, will be held over the weekend of the Cooks Classic 28-29 January 2023 to avoid clash with Potts Classic.
- Wellington: Stepping down of Michael and Sharon Wray from key roles. LOC for NZMA T&F Champs thanked the officials and helpers who are assisting with the champs.
- Tasman: New pole vault facility at Saxton Field. Joeline Jones won all four of her sprints at Pan Pacific Masters Games on Gold Coast in November.
- Canterbury: Helena Dinnissen had success at WMA Champs. Richard Davison won four throws events at Pan Pacific Masters Games. Anne Davison organisers regular sessions for up to 20 throwers.
- Otago: Quiet period with no new people. Jim Blair had considerable success at WMA champs. Noni Callander did a very good as NZ Team manager.
- Southland: Gail Kirkman broke W70 400m NZ record. Runners take part in Invercargill meets. Likely to soon have a new president which will hopefully result in better integration with Southland Athletics. Lester Laughton went to Pan Pacific Masters Games and had several podium finishes. Fun event again in Te Anau early January.

## 12. Election of Board members, Patron, Legal Advisor and Reviewer:

Current Board members Andrew Stark, Ian Carter, Brayden Grant and Derek Shaw along with potential new members Hayden Robinson and Carolyn Smith had been nominated. At the meeting Kelly Thurston expressed interest in being involved in the Board.

That Andrew Stark, Ian Carter, Brayden Grant, Derek Shaw, Hayden Robinson and Carolyn Smith be elected to the NZMA Board.

A Stark / J Blair                                      carried

That Jim Blair be reappointed NZMA Patron.                      A Stark / D Shaw                      carried

That Richard Sprott be appointed Legal Advisor (TBC). A Stark / J Blair carried

Anna Lynch undertook to suggested a reviewer for the Board to consider.

### 13. Remits and Points of Discussion:

Three had been received for discussion at the AGM.

Remit 1: Waikato Bay of Plenty

*That Constitution 9.1 revert to its original wording to comply with the requirements of the Charitable Entities rules i.e. Offices of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.*

Murray Clarkson spoke to the remit and pointed out that there was no record in Board minutes of the office holders. Board members acknowledged that this should have been undertaken and would sort this out at next Board meeting. Derek Shaw indicated that with the passing of the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 by Parliament on 5 April 2022 and the consultation on the proposed regulations that will accompany the new Act has just closed, there will be a transition period from October 2023 to April 2026 for societies to review and amend their constitutions to ensure they comply with the new Act. He suggested that considering changes such as those in the remit would be best undertaken as part of this comprehensive review rather than on an ad hoc basis. The Board is proposing that the review be undertaken in conjunction with the Masters Centres via the zoom meetings with centres. Hopefully a reviewed Constitution can be considered at the next AGM. Murray Clarkson that he would be happy if the Board in the interim sorted out the office holders. The President indicated that he would put the remit to the meeting and if delegates were happy for the Board to sort out office holders at the next Board meeting they should vote No and if they wanted the change proposed in the remit then they should Yes. The remit was put to the meeting and was lost.

Remit 2: Egmont Athletics

*ANZ and NZMA adopt the option of B grade walks for master men and women 65 years and over for all New Zealand race walking championships.*

Karen Gillum-Green indicated that the introduction of a B grade walk would offer older walkers an incentive to stay in the sport which in turn would benefit NZMA, Centres and clubs. The B category would require athletes to have one foot in contact with the ground at all times and must make a bonafide attempt to have their leg as straight as physically possible. If both of these requirements are met, it would be accepted that the athlete is deemed to be walking. A B grade would be judged in the same manner as the current rules except for the bent knee ruling. A B grade walker would not be judged in this. A disqualification would occur if the athlete is blatantly running. It was clarified that it was on a 'no advantage basis' of not having a straight leg / locked knee.

*The meeting agreed in principle with the introduction of a B grade walk category for athletes 65 years and older and to look at it in more detail.*

K Gillum-Green / D Shaw carried

## **Point of Discussion: Auckland Masters**

It was proposed that there be no heats for the sprint events, i.e. 60m, 100m, 200m and 400m, and that if there is more than eight athletes in any of the age groups that the event would be run as 'timed final' with athletes being seeded on their times supplied at the time entry. It was noted that timed finals are conducted in other countries with no problems. There were also suggestions that 60m and 400m be held on Saturday's and 100m and 200m be held on Sunday.

Andrew Stark indicated that he had already adopted the 'no heats' approach and would consider the scheduling of the sprint finals or timed finals when next reviewing the programme of events.

### **14. Future Direction of NZMA:**

The President went over the key results of the survey he undertook prior to the AGM. He indicated that there were 104 completed responses. In terms of :

- whether NZMA T&F champs should remain a stand alone event, 48.5% said yes, 19.8% were happy for them to be combined with another Athletics NZ event such as Combined Events or Age Groups Championship event and 31.7% didn't mind.
- when the NZMA champs are held 2.7% indicated early December, 42.3% end of February, 36% late March (just prior to Australian champs) and 19% didn't mind when.
- If ANZ assists NZMA in organising our champs, do you support an MoU between ANZ and host masters centre which defines roles and responsibilities of each party and how any surplus is shared between ANZ and host centre, 81.4% said yes, 2% no and 16.6% were not sure and needed further information.
- funding NZMA operational expenses (currently one face to face Board meeting / AGM, Vetline production, uniform and medal purchases) what is your preferred method or combination of methods. Of the 54 that responded 37% favoured continuing to collect NZMA subs from non-club members and a registration fee from all participants at our champs, 55.6% supported working out an agreed funding model involving ANZ and receive a dollar value from all registered masters (non-club and club) and 7.4% supported using our funds and the assets of the 4<sup>th</sup> World Veteran Games Trust.
- collection of non-club members NZMA registration fees, 67.3% said it was a good idea to centralise our process and register via ANZ's system and make NZMA members a 'club', 4.1% said stay as we are and 28.6% said it was definitely worth considering but needed more information.
- if we agree to work more closely with ANZ, what would be the role of the NZMA Board, 22% said stay as we are, 51% favoured becoming an advisory group to ANZ to ensure they deliver what we require, and 27% were not really sure yet and needed more information.
- many respondents also took the opportunity to provide comments on the way forward for NZMA.

15. Matters raised under item 6:

\* 4<sup>th</sup> World Veteran Games Trust

Jim Blair indicated that lots of centres were not aware of the trust and he suggested that information on the trust, including its purpose and how to apply for funding, be sent to Centres. Andrew Stark raised the need for succession planning for the trustees.

\* Travel agent

Judith Stewart asked if it was possible to find a travel agent who may be prepared to organise travel and accommodation to overseas events along the lines of what Roy Skuse used to do. Kelly Thurston offered to try and find somebody. Australian masters apparently have somebody in Sydney they use.

16. Venues for Championships:

Depending on when the NZMA Championships are to held, currently the South Island Masters T&F Championships are in Christchurch 20-22 January 2023 and also November 2023, followed by Nelson November 2024 and 2025.

North Island Masters T&F Championships in Masterton 14 & 15 January 2023. Palmerston North November 2023 – TBC by Manawatu – Whanganui Masters. Northland 2024?

The President thanked everybody for their attendance and participation and since there was no further business declared the meeting closed at 2.00pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

President

Date