

NZ Masters Athletics Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 16 February 2024

Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub Building, Christchurch, commencing at 12 noon.

1. Welcome:

Andrew Stark (NZMA President) welcomed everybody including Patron and Life Member Jim Blair, NZMA Board members Brayden Grant, Hayden Robinson and Derek Shaw (Minute Secretary), Centre delegates, and all other members, including those attending via Teams (Life Member Stewart Foster, Graham Gould, Liz Bentley and Albert van Veen) to the AGM and thanked them for attending. He indicated that it had been a challenging week with final preparations, especially with getting officials.

2. Centre Delegates Present:

Northland	Judith Stewart (via Teams)
Auckland	Phillipa Green
Waikato Bay of Plenty	Murray and Faye Clarkson
Taranaki	Karen Gillum-Green and Des Field
Manawatu Whanganui	Frances Bayler and Dale McMillan
Wellington	Liz Bentley and Albert van Veen (both via Teams)
Tasman	Derek Shaw and John Rawcliffe
Canterbury	Lois Anderson and Bernie Jago
Otago	Robert Homan and Noni Callander
Southland	Lester Laughton and Warren Green

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

3. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Ian Carter (Board member) and Carolyn Smith (Board member).

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

4. Acknowledgements:

The meeting noted the passing during the last year of Dave Couper, Beverley Church, Judy and John Hammond, Bryan Mayall, Daniel Reece, Roy Skuse and Ken Smith.

5. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2 December 2022:

It was drawn to the attention of the meeting that: on page 1 'Francis' Bayler should be spelt 'Frances' and Warren was missing 'n'; and on page 3 that the venue for the fun event early January in Southland was Manapouri and not Te Anau.

That the amended minutes of the previous AGM held on 2 December 2022 be confirmed.

A Stark / H Robinson carried

6. Matters Arising:

Following a query about the B grade walk category agreed in principle at the previous AGM, Andrew Stark indicated that race walking judges will be encouraged to be lenient on walkers 65 years and over. In response to a question on trustees for the 4th World Veteran Games Trust, Andrew indicated that it was still a work in progress. He also indicated that no report had been received on finding a travel agent who may be prepared to organise travel and accommodation for events overseas.

7. Notice of matters not on the agenda:

Otago masters had raised the issue of notification when issues of *Vetline* are available on the website and access to masters athletes registered with Athletics NZ and Wellington masters raised the issue of events calendar.

8. President's Report:

Andrew Stark highlighted some of the points in his 6 page report.

- The principle reason for updating the MoU with Athletics NZ was to try and ensure that our NZMA and Island T&F championships get into the calendar of events over the very busy summer season and high profile meets including the various Classic meets, NZ and regional championship plus Colgate Games, Secondary Schools.
- The changes with respect to how Oceania Masters Athletes will be conducted in the islands mean that the next OMA Champs will for this year be combined with the Oceania Athletics Association regional meet in Suva, Fiji 4-8 June 2024 with a full programme extending from 1-8 June 2024, including non-stadia events.
- This year's Athlete of the Year awards covers 2022 and 2023 and involved scanning a huge number of results to compile a large database of potential nominees from which long lists were prepared then reduced down to 4-6 finalists. In future NI, SI, NZMA and Athletics NZ championships results will be checked for potential nominees, however there is a need for masters centres and individuals to assist with nominations of athletes from regional and local events. The changes in age factors was an additional complication in checking that the same age factors had been used.
- He indicated that in terms of NZMA T&F Championships that Auckland has agreed to host the 2025 NZMA champs sometime in February or March 2024 with final date to be confirmed. North Island Champs were to be held in Northland probably at end of

November 2024 and South Island Champs back in Christchurch in January 2025 (followed by Nelson and then Southland).

- In response to a question about the Oceania Throws Pentathlon, he indicated that only Waikato – Bay of Plenty and Otago put in results last time. He would survey NZ Masters Centres and Australian States Masters on the future of the event.

That the President's Report be received. A Stark / D Shaw carried

9. Secretary's Report:

Andrew Stark explained that tasks are divided up amongst Board members. He has responded to enquiries via the website with most referred on to Centres. He has created various pages on website to help potential enquirers eg on the NZMA AGM. Brayden Grant has been responding to queries via Facebook and updating records and Hayden Robinson and himself have been posting material on the website. Derek Shaw has continued as meeting minute secretary.

10. Financial Statement:

Andrew Stark indicated that the reviewed Financial Performance Report for the year ended 31 August 2023 prepared by Anna Lynch had been posted on the NZMA website. The statement of receipts and payments indicated a \$6 deficit for the year and a healthy balance of \$69,611. It was noted that the largest expense was for purchase of uniforms. In response to a question Andrew indicated that the purchase of medals last financial year should cover three years. Stewart Foster noted that there was no contribution from Oceania Masters Athletics. It was also noted that the moves to a digital format for *Vetline* and Board Zoom meetings had again achieved considerable savings.

That the financial statement for the year ending 31 August 2023 be received.

A Stark / B Grant carried

11. Subscriptions:

The Board recommended that the annual subscription for competitive members continued at \$50 for next year.

That the subscription for competitive members remain at \$50 for 2024-2025.

A Stark / H Robinson carried

12. Centre Reports:

Copies of the Centre reports received by 13 February 2024 had been circulated and representatives spoke to them briefly. Highlights included:

- Southland: Southland Masters Athletics have combined with Athletics Southland. SMA can nominate a person who may be voted onto AS Board. Annual Manapouri Classic Throws Pentathlon was held 5-6 January 2024. Next year on 8-9 Jan 2025.

- Otago: Otago Masters have signed a MoU with Otago Athletics which has been positive for both parties. Have recruited several new members, including via distributing flyers at NZ Masters Games and a permanent banner at the track.
- Canterbury: Concerned at declining numbers of masters taking part in T&F and non-stadia events. Believe that the large numbers taking part the 3 free Parkruns are having an impact. Canterbury Masters and Athletics Canterbury continue to have a great working relationship.
- Tasman: Hosted the SI Masters T&F champs in Nelson 19-21 Jan 25, with 56 entries. Half of the 22 Tasman athletes were under 50 with many taking part in their first season of track. Masters continue to take part in the Athletics Tasman T&F meets.
- Wellington: Currently organise three annual events but would like to have more. To help remedy shortage on masters committee they requested that local clubs supply reps which resulted in two new committee members from two clubs.
- Manawatu-Wanganui: Hosted the NI Masters T&F champs in Palmerston North 1-3 Jan 24. Great team of officials, including Eddie Soria as head official and Mark Harris and his team on timing and results.
- Waikato-Bay of Plenty: Currently have 79 members, up 25 on last year - enough to sustain their own six meets per year that are held on Sundays. Now have good tracks in Tauranga and a brand new one in Hamilton. Produce 4-5 newsletters per year. Looking to host NI Masters champs in Dec 2025.
- Auckland: Most masters belong to clubs, so it is challenging to get a Masters centre committee. A LOC organising will work with Athletics Auckland to host the NZMA T&F champs in 2025.
- Northland: Have a small number of active masters taking part in their events that are combined with juniors. Hosting next season's NI Masters T&F champs in Whangarei November 2024. All welcome to take part.

13. Election of Board Members and other officials:

Current Board members Andrew Stark, Derek Shaw, Ian Carter, Brayden Grant, Hayden Robinson and Carolyn Smith had all been nominated along with Dale McMillan from Palmerston North whose CV had been circulated.

That Andrew Stark, Derek Shaw, Ian Carter, Brayden Grant, Hayden Robinson, Carolyn Smith and Dale McMillan 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

A Stark / D Shaw

carried

That HM Consultants Ltd be appointed reviewer

A Stark / B Grant

carried

14. Points of discussion:

In response to matter raised by Otago Masters regarding notification of when new issues of *Vetline* were available on the website, the Board will endeavour to notify masters on our database of when this happens and would also notify Athletics NZ who have indicated that they would include a link in the regular newsletter (not the weekly roundup).

There was a wide-ranging discussion on access to masters contacts in the ANZ database raised by Otago and Bay of Plenty-Waikato masters. Andrew will follow up with ANZ regarding access to masters aged members contacts in ANZ centres and clubs. One suggestion raised was a tick box with ANZ memberships form that would allow data to be shared with masters organisations. It was acknowledged that there may be a further need to amend the revised MoU with ANZ in order to sort this out and help ensure a closer link and visibility of masters within the ANZ and one-family concept desired by World Athletics. Stewart Foster indicated that under the new incorporated societies requirements they will be required to keep members contacts for seven years and there is a further two years to sort this out.

15. Host Venues for championships next season (final dates to be confirmed):

- North Island Masters T&F Championships – Northland – Whangarei in Nov/Dec 2024
- South Island Masters T&F Championships – Canterbury – Christchurch in Jan 2025
- NZ Masters T&F Championships – Auckland – Feb/March 2025

Andrew Stark thanked everybody for their attendance, including those via Teams, and their contributions to masters athletics throughout the country and declared the meeting closed.

Meeting closed at 1.50pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

President

Date