



## Minutes of the NZMA Board Meeting held via Teams on Tuesday 13 May 2025 commencing at 7.00pm.

1. Present:

Andrew Stark (AS) President, Brayden Grant (BG), Dale McMillan (DM), Hayden Robinson (HR), Carolyn Smith (CS) and Derek Shaw (DS) Acting Secretary.

2. Apologies:

None

3. Welcome:

**AS** welcomed all Board members to the meeting.

4. Minutes of Board meeting held on Thursday 27 March 2025:

*That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 27 March 2025 be accepted as a true and correct record.* D Shaw / H Robinson Carried

5. Matters arising not on the agenda:

None

6. 2025 NZMA AGM – 22 June 2025:

**DS** reported that Centre secretaries and life members were advised on 6 March 2025 that the 2025 AGM will be on Sunday 22 June 2025 at 2pm via Teams.

- Remits have been received from Otago, Waikato Bay of Plenty (WBOP) and Life Member Stewart Foster. **AS** expressed concern about the two remits from WBOP and undertook to seek further information on the intent and explanations from the WBOP centre committee.
- No items for discussion had been received
- Nominations for Board – Otago Masters have nominated Liz Mitchell. All current Board members, except for Carolyn, have indicated they are happy to continue until the 2026 AGM.
- Patron – there was discussion on whether it was possible to have more than one patron and it was noted that clause 9.2.3 of the constitution includes 'Patron(s)'.  
• President's report. **AS** reported that his report is in preparation.
- Financial Accounts. **AS** reported that the 2024/25 financial accounts are close to being completed.
- Centres to be requested to supply a written report up to one page in length to be emailed to the acting Secretary Derek Shaw by Sunday 15 June 2025. It should include the number of members and some highlights during the year.

7. New Constitution:

The Board again discussed the requirement to review the NZMA Constitution. There was no indication of a generic draft for a charitable trust option from Sport NZ / Athletics NZ and only for the Incorporated Society option. It was agreed that it would be simpler to stay with incorporated society status and abandon pursuing the setting up of a charitable trust to replace the present incorporated society.

*That the Board rescind the earlier motion to change from an incorporated society to a charitable trust and thus remain as an incorporated society.*

A Stark / D Shaw

Carried

**AS** reported that Sport NZ / Athletics NZ sub-committee, including two Centre Leaders, and lawyers have come up with a generic draft constitution for ANZ Centres that could also assist NZMA. They also have a club template that could assist Masters centres. Given this was a 'draft' Centre template, **AS** also used the Incorporated Societies website online constitution builder, to better understand the mandatory clauses all new constitutions must have. **AS** reported that the aim was to present a draft constitution at the NZMA AGM. However, **AS** attended a Centre Leaders meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May in Rotorua where the constitution was discussed. The advice he received from Cameron Taylor (ANZ Board Chair / Convenor Constitution Sub-committee / lawyer) was to delay presenting the constitution, as there were still legal issues and wording to be finalised.

Once the additional legal advice is received and considered, **AS** and **DS** will finalise the new draft NZMA constitution. We have the option to use ANZ to have our constitution checked by their lawyers as well. Given all the work and expertise that has gone into creating the new constitution, our expectation is that it will be 'fit for purpose'.

Once finalised it will be posted on the NZMA website, with a timeline requesting feedback. Following Board discussions on the feedback received (if any), the final draft constitution will be posted on the website. The new Constitution will be put up for consideration / adoption at a SGM or the next AGM. We have until April 2026 to upload the new constitution onto the Incorporated Societies website for approval.

8. Review of the 2025 NZMA T&F Champs:

There was agreement that the feedback had been very positive with participants enjoying themselves. The Auckland LOC had done a great job in promoting the event locally, with 105 Aucklanders attending. Total attendance was 282, up by 60 from recent seasons. There were 21 athletes from overseas, plus the Police / FENZ held their championships within our event. All of their participants were already or became members of NZMA.

There was also positive feedback on the new format for the Awards function and an increase in attendance, including by those who received awards.

The increased numbers of throwers had presented some scheduling challenges, but the use of a practice circle assisted with this. Athletes and officials accepted some later finishes to throwing events and athletes happily helped out with officiating when required, along with non-competing and injured Board members.

9. NZMA T&F Champs for 2025/26 season:

- NI – Tauranga (WBoP) 28-30 November 2025
- SI – Nelson (Tasman) 23-25 January 2026
- NZMA – Inglewood (Taranaki) 13-15 March 2026

**DS** noted that these dates clash with the large WOMAD event in New Plymouth which attracts 10s of thousands and suggested that masters athletes and officials need to be advised to book their accommodation early. **AS** will talk to Athletics Taranaki Board President Jason Cressingham about this matter.

**AS** reported he had ordered generic ribbons for the NZMA Indoor / winter champs and separate track champs held outside the NZMA T&F Champs, such as 10,000m and 1mile.

10. NZMA Handbook:

**HR** had prepared a clean copy following the Board's considerations of the suggested changes from various Board members at the previous meeting and circulated it for checking before the meeting. Board members were happy with the final version and for it to be posted on the website, and thanked **HR** for taking the lead on updating it.

*That the updated version of the NZMA Handbook be approved.*

H Robinson / B Grant

Carried

11. Working closer with Athletics NZ:

Following the last meeting **AS** had discussions with several Athletics NZ personal on working closer with them. He indicated that they are under staffed and not likely to be in a position to assist with our 2026 NZMA Champs as their 2026 T&F champs are a week before ours. He also indicated that we should stick with using AthleticsNET and AthleticLIVE and recommend these to masters centre hosting NI and SI champs in the future.

12. Athlete of the Year Awards:

**DM** indicated that she and fellow co-convenor of the awards Ian Carter had reviewed the guidelines and the most substantive amendment was to add discretion for the judges "to make any adjustments during the final judging, such as combining or subdividing categories, if they feel that doing so would deliver more equitable outcomes."

*That the Board adopt the revised guidelines for the Athlete of the Year Awards and they be posted on the website.* D McMillan / D Shaw Carried

13. Records:

**BG** indicated that he has updated the NZMA National and Championship records following the 2025 NZMA T&F champs.

14. Vetline:

**DS** indicated he is close to sending all the articles and reports to **AS** for laying out the next issue. It had taken longer than usual as he had retyped the results for the SI and NZMA champs as in AthleticNet they are not currently available in 5-year age groups and he had been reduced to typing with his left hand due to a fractured shoulder.

15. 4thWVG Trust:

**AS** and **HR** to organise a meeting of the Trust soon. The Trust's shares are now held with Forsyth Barr.

16. Other business:

Carolyn has indicated she is not seeking re-election to the Board as she wishes to put more time into strengthening athletics in Northland. **AS** thanked her on behalf of the Board for her various contributions towards the work of the Board and wished her well in her athletics endeavours, both personally and in Northland.

It was reported that there were 350 entries, including 47 from NZ, for the OMA Champs in Brisbane in September 2025. So far very few have entered the Oceania Masters Cup to be held in Tonga in November.

17. Next meeting:

This will be the NZMA AGM on Sunday 22 June 2025 commencing at 2pm via Teams. It was noted that this clashes with a Manawatu Whanganui winter T&F meet.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.