

**PO Box** 12-123, Penrose  
Auckland, New Zealand  
**Tel.** 64 + 9 + 525 6903  
**Fax.** 64 + 9 + 525 6943  
**Email:** [athleticsaucklandinc@xtra.co.nz](mailto:athleticsaucklandinc@xtra.co.nz)  
**Website:** [www.athleticsauckland.co.nz](http://www.athleticsauckland.co.nz)



## **Presidents/Chairmans Report 2022/23**

Talking to the mother of a young athlete at one of our championship events, I asked her what she enjoyed about the event. She indicated that it was the real sense of community that she felt a part of and that her son enjoyed being part of. The sense of community was something that she didn't experience at the various other sports that her son participated in over the winter or summer months. Whether we are celebrating the latest international achievements of Zoe Hobbs, Jacko Gill, Eliza McCartney or one of the many other athletes competing overseas and locally or assisting with the raking of the long jump pit at a club night, we are all part of the athletics community.

The 2022-2023 season saw a long-awaited return to a relatively normal delivery of the sport to our athletics community, aside from the unavailability of our Mt Smart home for the summer season. Delivering our first full season in three years was a real boost for our athletes, clubs, and officials. From juniors to seniors, being able to complete a full year of athletics after the Covid-19 disruption was a relief and reward for all. We saw numbers bounce back to essentially pre-pandemic levels across the junior and senior levels, while there is always more work to do to ensure our rangatahi/youth stay in the sport.

We congratulate everyone who took part over the 2022-2023 year from those who took home national honours at the Athletics New Zealand Championships, those who competed at the Auckland Championships at various levels, to those who were happy doing their thing on a club night or cross-country course. Congratulations one and all!

With Mt Smart unavailable, we leaned heavily on the club volunteers at the Pakuranga Athletic Club hosting many junior and senior events over the summer. Events were also held at North Harbour Bays, Papakura, and Waitakere. Without the tireless dedication, enthusiasm and good humour of the clubs and their volunteers, the summer season would not have been able to be delivered to the high standard that was achieved. We thank the respective clubs and their volunteers for ensuring that athletes were able to compete and participate in the sport over the course of the summer.

Looking to the immediate future, we host the Colgate Games in January 2024 at our newly upgraded Go Media Stadium Mt Smart home. The call will go out from the LOC for clubs to volunteer to assist with running events or activities at the Games and we ask that clubs and individuals consider where they can help to ensure that we as a centre can deliver a quality event for all athletes, supporters and officials who attend.

At the Board level, there are two significant pieces of work that we will be progressing over the 2023-2024 period.

The first is one that we will be working on with Athletics New Zealand to deliver a programme focussed on enhancing the environment in our sport where all our community are treated with dignity, respect and courtesy so their enjoyment of our sport is maintained and improved. An environment where we can agree to disagree agreeably without diminishing the enjoyment that we all gain from being part of this sport. This will be a bold initiative for our community and one that



Herb Towers Track, Mount Smart Stadium  
51 O'Rorke Road, Penrose, Auckland, New Zealand

Athletics New Zealand will look to roll out nationally based on what we achieve in Auckland. The second will be an update to our strategic plan to provide direction for the ongoing development and improving attractiveness of the sport over the life of the strategic plan. The future of athletics in the Auckland region will be guided by the vision we have for the sport, by the needs of our community, and what we are all collectively prepared to work towards over this period. To quote something I read recently “successful organisations don’t just prepare for the future, they make it happen.” The future success of the sport will be what we choose it to be. In the immortal words of Bob, the Builder “Can We Build It? Yes, We Can!”

Back to the mother and her young athlete. I asked her son what he enjoyed. He said he liked the 100 metres because he beat one of his friends, and the long jump although his friend beat him in that, so all even between the two at the end of the day.

However, the best thing about the day in this young athlete’s mind was “the muffins from the shop.” So, a combination of community, camaraderie, competition, and comestibles are perhaps the secrets to our on-going success and growth as a sport.

On that note, I have pleasure in presenting our annual report for the 2022-2023 year.

*Bryce Hall*

Chairperson

### *Auckland athletes who won a New Zealand title:*

Senior men: Dhruv Rodrigues Chico (ACA) 200m. Lex Revell-Lewis (Waitakere) 400m. Joshua Hawkins (ACA) 110m hurdles. James Steyn (NHB) pole vault. Ebuka Okpala (Pakuranga) triple jump. Jacko Gill (Takapuna) shot put. Connor Bell (NHB) discus throw. Anthony Nobilo (NHB) hammer throw. Douw Botes (Pakuranga) javelin throw. Matthew Taylor (NHB) cross country. Keith Burrows (Owairaka) 24 Hour.

Men under 20: James Ford (Takapuna) 400m and 800m. Alfie Steedman (NHB) 1 mile. Benjamin Rickerby (ACA) mountain title. Christian De Vaal 3000m, 5000m and cross country. Joseph Dunn (Papakura) 110m hurdles. Toby Tasker (Pakuranga) 3000m steeplechase. Blessing Sefo shot put. Percy Maka (WETA) discus throw. Levi Pupualii (Papakura) hammer throw. Ruben Vogel (NHB) pole vault. 4 x 400m relay (Kahurangi Cotterill, Thomas Cowan, Kadin Taylor, James Ford). Pakuranga (Jamie Mora, Toby Tasker, Christian De Vaal, Ronan Codyre, Jahko Tohia, Angus Monro) road relay.

Men under 18: Kahurangi Cotterill (Waitakere) 400m. James Trathen (Pakuranga) 800m. Alfie Steedman (NHB) 1500m and 3000m. Rhys Evans (ACA) 110m hurdles. Noah Retford (Pakuranga) 300m hurdles. Jirah Esekia (ACA) discus throw. Antonie Smal (Pakuranga) javelin throw. Tai Rhodes (NHB) pole vault.

Men under 16: Owen Lamb (NHB) 100m. Noa King (Takapuna) 200m and 400m. Ben Oxford (Pakuranga) 1500m and 3000m. Troy Maka (WETA) discus throw. Connor Brady (Takapuna) javelin throw. 4 x 100m relay (Benaiah Su, Tane Keereweer-Taia, Noa King, Owen Lamb). 4 x 400m relay (Noa King, Oliver Mayers, Ty Gonzales, Aidan Platts). Alfie Steedman (NHB) cross country. Jack Erikson (ACA) road. Richie Trathen road RW.

Senior women: Zoe Hobbs 100m. Laura Nagel (NHB) 1500m, 3000m, 5000m. Anneke Grogan (NHB) 3000m steeplechase. Portia Bing (Waitakere) 400m hurdles. Eliza McCartney (NHB)

pole vault. Maddison-Lee Wesche (Waitakere) shot put. 4 x 100m relay (Sophie Adams, Symone Tafunai, Georgia Whiteman, Elena Edgar-Nemec). 4 x 400m relay (Mia Powell, Stella Pearless, Lucy Shennan, Jennifer Hauke). Lisa Cross (TTT) cross country. North Harbour Bays (Mackenzie Morgan, Olivia Whitney, Brigid Dennehy, Niamh De Hora, Lauren Nagel, Maddie Dillon, Charlotte Floodsmith Ryan, Jessie Speedy) road relay.

Women under 20: Mia Powell (Waitakere) 400m. Bella Earl (Owairaka) mountain title. Alana Mathews 3000m and 10,000m RW. Natalia Rankin-Chitar (Papatoetoe) shot put and discus. 4 x 400m relay (Maddie Kelso-Heap, Marielle Venida, Samantha Korck, Amelie Fairclough).

Women under 18: Talia Van Rooyen 100m and 100m hurdles. Suzie Kennelly (Papatoetoe) shot put. Charlotte Goldsmith (Eastern) long jump. Sophie Robb (ACA) road. Alana Mathews road RW.

Women under 16: Emilia Goldsmith (Eastern) 100m. Imogen Barlow (Pakuranga) 800m, 1500m and 3000m. Fernanda Tirado (NHB) 80m hurdles. Karmen Maritz (NHB) shot put and discus throw. Paige Fletcher (Papakura) hammer throw. Jacqui Nasrabadi (Eastern) long jump. Talaya Vorster (NHB) pole vault. 4 x 100m relay (Maia Masters, Sienna Moyle, Jacqui Nasrabadi, Emilia Goldsmith). 4 x 400m relay (Madison Earley, Chilli Jamieson, Scarlett Gwin, Nina Chalmers). Yandri Fourie 3000m RW. Scarlett Robb (ACA) road.

### *Para Athletes:*

Kate Danaher U/17 100m. Charli Gardiner-Hall U/17 SP and DT, U/20 1500m. Gabrielle Wright U/20 400m. Paddy Walsh U/20 LJ. Sionann Murphy U/20 DT. Mitch Joynt Open 100m.

### **Auckland athletes who set New Zealand records:**

Eddie Osei-Nketia (North Harbour Bays) national 100m 10.08 15.07.22 Eugene OR

Connor Bell (North Harbour Bays) resident discus throw 64.31m 01.01.23 Tauranga, resident and national discus throw 66.14m 18.01.23 Hastings, national discus throws 66.23m 22.02.23 Geelong Aus.

Weiré Olivier (Pakuranga) national triple jump 16.48m 07.02.23 South Africa, 16.59m 31.03.23 South Africa.

Zoe Hobbs (North Harbour Bays) All-comers and resident 100m 11.07 03.03.23 Wellington, 11.02 16.03.23 Waitakere. National 100m 11.09 07.06.22 Mackay Aust, 11.08 16.07.22 Eugene OR, 11.07 03.03.23 Wellington, 10.97 11.03.23 Sydney Aus.

Ethan Olivier (Pakuranga) Under 17 triple jump 15.98m 21.04.22 South Africa, 16.04m 04.08.22 Colombia. Under 18, 19 and 20 triple jump 15.98m 21.04.22 South Africa, 16.04m 04.08.22 Colombia, 16.22m 07.02.23 South Africa, 16.26m 24.03.23 South Africa, 16.41m 19.04.23 South Africa.

Kimberley May (Auckland City Athletics) Under 20 1000m 2:45.18 04.03.23 and 2:42.78 05.03.23 Boston MA.

Lucy Shennan, Kate Borton, Maddie Kelso-Heap, Amelie Fairclough Under 18 and 19 4 x 400m relay 3:46.52 30.10.22 Tauranga.

Maddie Kelso-Heap, Lucy Shennan and Amelie Fairclough in the team that set an Under 19 record of 3:46.21 02.04.23 Brisbane Aus.

### *Para Athletes:*

Sionann Murphy F37 Under 20; DT 22.16m 10.06.22 Mackay Aust, SP 8.02m 11.06.22 Mackay Aust, SP 8.41m 24.06.22 Takapuna, DT 23.64m 12.11.22 Pakuranga, SP 8.45m 03.12.22 North Shore, DT 24.51m 03.12.22 North Shore, SP 8.54m 03.02.23 Wellington, SP 8.72m 04.02.22 Wellington.

Sasha Al Dahzani T38 Open 200m 35.77 09.12.22 Inglewood.

Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Under 17 DT 18.81m 27.01.23 Canberra, SP 6.52m 28.01.23 Canberra, JT

14.74m 18.02.23 Auckland, 1500m 7:57.04 05.03.23 Wellington, DT 23.60m 11.03.23 North Shore, 800m 4:06.12 25.02.23 Pakuranga.

Paddy Walsh T64 Open and U/20 LJ 3.99m 28.01.23 Canberra, LJ 4.17m 04.03.23 Wellington.

Jaden Movold T54 Under 20 10km road 28:08 10.04.22 Auckland.

Mitch Joynt T64 200m 23.56 17.12.22 Tauranga.

Zac Orbell T35 Under 17 200m 31.75 17.12.22 Tauranga, LJ 3.66m 28.01.23 Canberra.

Elijah McKee T35 Under 17 400m 75.15 17.12.22 Tauranga.

## Auckland athletes selected:

### *World Championships in Hungary in August:*

Zoe Hobbs 100m, Eliza McCartney pole vault, Olivia McTaggart pole vault, Maddison Wesche shot put, Connor Bell discus throw, Jacko Gill shot put. Also named Imogen Ayris pole vault, Portia Bing 400m hurdles.

### *World Para Athletics Championships in France in July:*

Mitch Joynt T64 200m, Joe Smith T37 100m.

## World Mountain and Trail Running Championships in Austria in June:

Toby Batchelor SM, Stella Hammond JW, Benjamin Rickerby JM. Trail; Wayne Botha SM.

*Murray McKinnon*

President