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Athletics Auckland Incorporated.
Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

Held in The Officials Lounge, Mt Smart 20th July 2023 at 7.00pm

Present:

Life Members: Murray McKinnon (President), Jim Hogg (Treasurer), Rodger Brickland (Eastern), Dianne Craddock (XCR Convenor), Paul Craddock (Acting T&F Convenor).

Board Members: Bryce Hall (AAI Board Chairman), David Sim, Judy Revell (Appointed Director/Waitakere)

Delegates & Invited Guests: Raewyn Rodger (Secretary to the Board), Neil Bartlett (AAI Coaching Development), Grant Pepper (RWA), Sue Potter (ACA), Tania Boyer (Pakuranga), Mike Trathen (Pakuranga), Chris Day (Pakuranga), Jacques Gouws (Pakuranga), Errol Flynn (Pakuranga), Dan Brady (Takapuna), Fiona Maisey (Roskill South Life Member/ANZ Staff), Hamish Meacheam (NHB/ANZ Staff), Keith Procter (University), Isla Nixon (Auck YMCA Marathon), Nick Moore (Owairaka), Robert Ward (Papakura),

Welcome by AGM President:

- Murray McKinnon called the meeting to order and welcomed all Honorary Life Members, Honorary Officers, and attendees to the AAI AGM. He acknowledged the Pakuranga Club for hosting Centre events at the Yvette Williams track with Mt Smart #2 Arena track under construction. He also made mention of the results for the Auckland Athletes competing at the 2023 Para Athletics World Championships currently taking place in Paris. Mitch Joynt's bronze medal in the men's 200m T64 final and Joe Smith finishing 8th in the final of his 100m. He congratulated Roger Brickland on his 2023 New Year's Honour's List QSM for Services to Athletics. He read from his Presidents Report which covered results/records and athletes selected for World Championship events from Auckland.

Apologies:

- Bryan Bates (University), Natalie Seay (Pakuranga), Fiona Herbert (Hillsborough),
Apologies received: Moved Murray McKinnon, Sec David Sim, Carried

Obituaries:

- Murray McKinnon read the 2022-23 Obituaries and asked that we remember those in our sport who died during the year and the contributions they have made to athletics. He acknowledged the following Merv Hellier (Lynndale/Onehunga Clubs), Sir Murray Halberg (Owairaka), John Beckett (Auckland University), Philip Bitcheno



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

(Glen Eden Club), Russ Hoggard QSM (Western Suburbs Club), Gary Regtien (Takapuna Club), Peter Booker (AAI Past Board Member/Official) Lloyd Walker (Auckland University/Manurewa Clubs). He also mentioned Elaine Dark (Howick) and George Gibson (Lynndale) who died after the reporting period. Murray asked the Meeting to stand and observe a moments silence.

- He then appointed Bryce Hall as Chairman for the meeting.
- Chris Day (Pakuranga Club) queried why the AAI Annual Report had two people from the Obituaries on the front cover. This comment was ruled out of order by the President and Chairman.

Minutes of the 2022 AGM:

- The minutes of the AAI AGM 28th July 2022 previously circulated.
- Mike Trathen (Pakuranga Club) asked that under 2022/23 Board Budget Point 5 the comments in Brackets be removed as they were not part of the discussion at the 2022 AGM. Bryce Hall concurred on this point and the minutes will be updated.
- The minutes of the AAI AGM 28th July 2022 were then approved as a true and accurate record.

Moved Mike Trathen, Sec Grant Pepper, Carried

Matters Arising: Nil

Appointment of Scrutineers: None required.

Chairman's Report:

- Bryce Hall spoke to his report which had been previously distributed with AAI AGM information and incorporated into the AAI Annual Report. He congratulated all clubs with registration numbers bouncing back to essentially pre-pandemic levels across junior and senior levels but reiterated there is always more work to do to ensure our youth stay in the sport. AAI will host the North Island Colgate games 5th – 7th January 2024 at Go Media Mt Smart #2 Arena with the LOC asking for Auckland club Volunteers/Officials to put their names forward in September so AAI can deliver a quality event for all athletes attending.
- The Board will be working on updating the AAI Strategic Plan 2019 – 2024 which comes up for review in 2024. Chris Day (Pakuranga Club) stated that the current AAI Strategic Plan under Guiding Principles and Values “The Athlete is at the Centre of all that we do”. He then queried why Start Equipment provided for all Auckland Athletes was removed on the same weekend as Children's Auckland Track & Field Championships to go to Wellington for NZ Track & Field Championships in March 2023. Paul Craddock (Acting T&F Convenor) answered that prior to taking the equipment to Wellington he asked several Children's Officials if this would be acceptable and suggested an alternative system from one of the Auckland Clubs. Paul Craddock also confirmed that the equipment was used at the NZ Track & Field Championships. Chris Day did not find this acceptable as the equipment should be made available to all Auckland Athletes first and foremost and the Board was not placing the athlete at the centre of everything we do. Grant Pepper stated that as Chris has now been nominated onto the AAI Board he can have this conversation during the updating of the Strategic Plan.

- The Board will also be working with Athletics NZ on a programme focused on enhancing the environment in our sport where all our community are treated with dignity, respect and courtesy.
- A copy of President/Chairman's Report is attached to the Minutes.

Moved Bryce Hall, Sec Grant Pepper, Carried.

Financial Report:

- Jim Hogg presented the AAI 2022/23 Financial Accounts – Performance Report which has been audited by JSA Audit Ltd. Audit Report attached to Financial Accounts. The accounts are now produced in line with the change in legislation as part of the Tier 3 category requirement.

Comments to the Financials

- Jim advised that the overall surplus of \$42,297 was from Grant Income received which has created the acquisition of assets, namely the new Thor Hammer Cage with the depreciation expense happening over a number of years.
- Cash flow was constant throughout the season, and he congratulated all clubs, staff and volunteers on the turnaround in registration numbers post covid restrictions. This included the advertising done by ANZ which was of great benefit.
- He also acknowledged the Trusts who provided Grant Funding throughout the year which benefits the whole region through Asset Purchases of equipment and Wages.
 1. Grass Roots Trust Limited
 2. NZ Community Trust
 3. Four Winds Foundation Limited
 4. Trillian Trust Limited
 5. Foundation North
- Tania Boyer (Pakuranga Club) also acknowledged the work done by the clubs, but asked why AAI have raised their fees for the 2023/24 season in the middle of a Cost of Living crisis, and how does she sell this increase to 2-6 year olds, whom she views as receiving nothing from AAI and have been hit with the highest percentage increase, while AAI sits on Bank Funds of \$572,945.82. Jim reiterated from previous AGM's that Athletics Auckland is collectively one entity, with the 3 sub-sections Childrens/Track & Field/Cross Country & Road running and organising events within their sections. The Board itself has Bank Funds of \$286,185.52 The remaining Bank funds stated in the Financial Accounts sit within the three Sections. He advised the Board runs on Registration fee income with any extra being made up from Grant Funding. He also advised that The Board acting on previous years advice from Auditors are maintaining a reserve of two years operating costs to preserve the going concern of AAI for a minimum of one financial year. Neil Bartlett (AAI Coaching Manager) advised that he and Tanya (AAI SDO) have put on development programmes for this age group including at Pakuranga Club and have also been visiting clubs to assist them with age groups up to 14. Judy Revell (Waitakere Club) advised CNW included the 5/6 year olds into their CNW champs last year and looking to add younger grades this year. Bryce Hall advised that all age groups contribute to the sport as a whole.
- Chris Day (Pakuranga Club) asked about the origins of the AAI Centennial Trust and if it was set up to hide funds from ANZ. Murray McKinnon replied yes that when it was set up in 2002 it was set up to protect funds. Only two sections of AAI put funds into the Trust: Senior Track & Field and Cross Country & Road. Children's Section

and AAI Board did not put any funds into the Trust. It is a private independent Trust with separate Trustees. Current Trustees are Keith MacKinlay (Chairman), Paul Craddock, Jim Hogg, Murray McKinnon (a Trustee as President of AAI), Bevan Smith. Murray McKinnon can email out to whomever Financial Statements. Dianne Craddock (XCR Convenor) advised neither XCR or T&F now have any control over this money and that if either XCR or T&F wish to apply for any funds a motion has to go through the AAI Board prior to an application being sent to the Trust. Hamish Meacheam (ANZ) asked that due to the closeness of the entities should the financials not be reported on as a whole and that an independent opinion be sort. Murray McKinnon replied – No the Trust is a separate entity and as such is reported on separate from AAI.

**The accounts were moved for Approval: Moved Jim Hogg, Sec David Sim,
Carried**

2023/24 Board Budget:

- Jim Hogg presented the Board Budget previously approved by the AAI Board. The budget forecasts a \$318 loss if registrations increase from \$83,772 to \$95,000 and the Board is successful with Grant Funding of \$65,000. With minimal staff the Board has increased wages expense to cover for cost of living. The Children's Section in conjunction with ANZ paid out \$13,000 (\$1,000 per club to 13 clubs who put in applications as part of a Club Engagement (Covid Recovery) Plan. The Board have budgeted \$8,500 in further Marketing to work with ANZ for the upcoming Summer Season.

Merit Awards:

- No Nominations

Honorary Life Membership:

- No Nominations

Election of Officers:

- **President:** One nomination received Murray McKinnon. Elected unopposed.
- **Patron:** No Nominations, position not filled
- **Board of Directors: 2 Vacancies, 2 Nominations.**
- Judy Revell, Chris Day

Elected Unopposed

- **Auditor:** No Nomination Received
Board recommended JSA Audit Ltd.

Moved Jim Hogg, Sec Murray McKinnon, Carried

- **Treasurer:** One Nomination received Jim Hogg. Elected unopposed.
- **Legal Adviser:** No nominations, Position not filled.
Seconded, as necessary.

General Business:

- Addressing alleged bullying in AAI. Bryce Hall read Board bullying plan moving forward. Attached to Minutes.
- Mike Trathen (Pakuranga Club) asked about Board communication around an instance of bullying by an AAI Official at a McKinnon Shield Meet during the 2023/24 season and if due process has been followed in this instance and when a Board apology will be forthcoming. Bryce Hall advised it is not up to the Board to apologise in this matter but he did apologise that this has yet to be finalised, and will be within the next month.
- Fiona Maisey (ANZ Staff) asked if it was the Board's intention to include in their upcoming Strategic Plan update to include more diversity onto the Board. Bryce Hall advised the Board will take this into account.
- Chris Day (Pakuranga Club) asked if the Board Self-Review mentioned in the Board Minutes will be shared. Bryce Hall advised this is a Board Member Self Review only for reflection by Board Members. He also asked when the Members next survey would be. Dianne Craddock (XCR Convenor) advised these are the responsibility of the three sections who also have a representative at the Board table

Meeting Closed 7.55pm

Signed as True and Correct:



Murray McKinnon
AAI President

29/7/23

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Bryce Hall
AAI Chairman

29/7/23

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During the year, the board was asked to investigate an instance of alleged bullying. The board takes such allegations seriously and the complaint was referred to an independent investigator appointed through the Sports and Recreation Complaints and Mediation Service.

The investigation was carried out respecting the confidentiality of the participants and those spoken to as part of the investigation. The investigation found that while bullying did not occur in this case, certain behaviour was unreasonable in the circumstances. The board considered the report of the independent investigator and provided feedback to the affected parties.

The board wishes to express, in no uncertain terms, that it considers bullying to be inconsistent with our expectations of those involved in our sport. To address this, we are formulating an anti-bullying policy that will be available shortly.

The board has also been asked to consider how members might raise concerns relating to possible irregular conduct in the management of the sport. We consider that any members who are concerned about the way in which a committee or event is being run, are entitled to and encouraged to request information to address the concern.

The Board has formulated a policy to provide a consistent way to raise any concerns to safeguard those involved in the sport. In essence matters may be raised directly with the Board Chairperson who will take the matter to the Board for consideration as appropriate. As with the anti-bullying policy, this will be available in the near future.

Unrelated to the matters raised above, the Board has had other concerns reported to it over time of sub-optimal behaviour and these have been considered by the Board on a case by case basis.

Volunteers and members of our clubs are entitled to be treated with respect and courtesy at all times, even and especially when there are things that we disagree about.

Bullying and poor behaviour manifests itself in many different ways and the board recognises that all of our members, volunteers and supporters must not have their enjoyment, endeavours and achievements undermined by the behaviour of others.

To address matters of bullying and less than desirable behaviour the policies I mentioned earlier have been developed. The Board is also working with Athletics New Zealand to implement a series of programmes over the 2023/2024 season. These will focus on education and recognising how our behaviour can undermine the enjoyment that people get from being involved in our sport.

This will remain an on-going Board initiative and one that we hope will ensure that all participants in our sport continue to enjoy their involvement to the greatest degree possible.