

**Minutes of the 19th Annual General Meeting of Athletics Australia,
at the Mercure Hotel 13 Spring Street, Melbourne
held on Tuesday, 25 November 2003 at 9.30am**

1. Welcome

2. Roll call

Directors

Chairman	Andrew Forrest
Deputy Chairman	Ken Roche
Director	Paul Kennedy
Director	Elaine Canty
Director	Herb Elliott AC,OBE

Chief Executive Officer	Simon Allatson
-------------------------	----------------

Delegates

Australian Capitol Territory	Owen Heness
New South Wales	Ralph Doubell
South Australia	Tony Keynes
Tasmania	Brian Roe
Victoria	Max Binnington
Western Australia	Chilla Porter
Northern Territory	Elaine Holmes
Queensland	Doug Carlson

Observers

Australian Capitol Territory	Greg Gilbert
New South Wales	Greg Doyle
South Australia	Stan Miller
Victoria	Nick Honey
Western Australia	Wayne Loxley
Queensland	Stephen Pitt

AA Staff

Marketing Services Director	Helen Soulsby
Competition Manager	David Gynther
National Development Manager	Stan Perkins
High Performance Manager	Tudor Bidder
Media Manager	Katie Hodge
PA to CEO	Janet Chitts

Also present

Tony Pititto (Ernst & Young)
Michael Langhammer (Pitcher Partners)

Andrew Gray (Pitcher Partners)
 Paul Jenès (Life Member)
 Anne Lord (AV Vice President)
 Peter Anderson (AV Vice President)
 Harry Summers (President - Australian Federation of Race Walking Clubs)
 Len Johnson (Journalist, The Age)
 Chris Line (Journalist, AAP)

3. Apologies: Bill Bailey (Director), Margaret Mahony OAM (Life Member), Brenda Pearl OAM (Life Member), Denis Wilson AM (Life Member), Justice AW McDonald QC (Life Member) & Ian Fullarton (Athletics Northern Territory).

4. Obituaries

The meeting observed one minute's silence as a mark of respect for:

Gwen Chester (Life Member)
 Maurice (Bill) Bowden
 Lena Caskey
 Ray Durie OAM
 Ron Garlett
 Les Hudson OAM
 Richard W. Metherall
 Betty Miles
 Stan Nicholls OAM
 Betty Patching
 Lionel Saunders
 Margaret Scammel
 John Tutton
 Peter Waddell
 Cynthia Webster

5. Confirmation of the Minutes

Minutes of the 18th Athletics Australia Annual General Meeting held on 28 November 2002 as tabled were taken as true and correct. Moved Ralph Doubell (NSW) seconded Owen Heness (ACT).

6. Chairman's address

The Chairman made a number of remarks as an introduction to the presentation of the Annual Report and the Audited Accounts.

7. Presentation of the Athletics Australia Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2003, including:

7.1 The audited accounts comprising Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to Financial Statements;

7.2 Reports of the Member Associations;

7.3 Reports of the Institutes and Academies of Sport; and

7.4 Reports of Athletics Australia's Officers, Standing Committees and Commissions.

Brian Roe (Tas) addressed the meeting in relation to the events of the past year and presented that the sport should not be afraid to make further changes, as were necessary. The sport had made many changes over the past 20 years. He had been heartened by the high performance presentation and the changes proposed for 2005-09. In this regard, the Board and the Members should not be fearful, as the changes were necessary and reasonable. Some coaches, however, may well be nervous and this too was realistic.

Mr Roe reinforced the need for a radically changed approach to domestic competition structures within the member Associations. This was a significant priority to enable the re-establishment of the base of the sport and it was the responsibility of the Members to ensure this became a reality.

The Annual Report, audited accounts and associated reports were accepted by the Meeting. Moved Doug Carlson (Qld) seconded Brian Roe (Tas).

8. Election of Board Members

In accordance with Clause 30.2 of the Athletics Australia Constitution, Elaine Canty, Ken Roche and Paul Kennedy were to hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting of Athletics Australia in 2003. In accordance with Clause 30.3 the non-retiring Directors nominated Messrs Roche and Kennedy to the positions of Director. These appointments were approved – moved Chilla Porter (WA) seconded Doug Carlson (QLD).

The meeting was advised that Elaine Canty had determined to retire from the Board due to her ongoing commitments. Her departure would be treated as a casual vacancy and the Members would be advised when a suitable candidate had been appointed.

8.1 Ratification of Board Member

Herb Elliott AC, OBE filled a vacancy on the Board in May 2003. Under the terms of the Athletics Australia Constitution, this appointment required the confirmation of the Members. The appointment was confirmed. Moved Max Binnington (VIC) seconded Brian Roe (TAS).

9. Life Membership & Merit Awards

Jill Huxley was nominated for Honorary Life Membership of Athletics Australia by Fred Napier, Life Member. Ms Huxley's nomination was supported by Athletics NSW. The Board and the Members endorsed Ms Huxley's nomination and the Members conferred Honorary Life Membership of Athletics Australia.

Three nominations for the Athletics Australia Merit Award were received in time for the nominations to be reviewed by the Board prior to the annual general meeting. The Board advised it had determined to withhold one nomination pending receipt of further information. A further two nominations were received by Athletics NSW which, as yet, had not been reviewed by the Board.

Greg Gilbert (ACT) nominated by Athletics ACT was awarded the Athletics Australia Merit Award for his contribution to athletics as a Technical official. Moved Brian Roe (TAS) seconded Ralph Doubell (NSW).

Geoffrey Martin (NSW) nominated by Athletics NSW was awarded the Athletics Australia Merit Award for his contribution to athletics as a competitor, Administrator and Official. Moved Max Binnington (Vic) seconded Ralph Doubell (NSW).

10. General Business

Wayne Loxley (WA) wished to record that, as a consequence of Athletics Australia's ongoing sponsorship and financial support to the Member Associations, particularly in the areas of insurance, telephone subsidies and capitation reimbursement, the MA's were more viable organisations, and this needed to be recognized. The Members now had the ability to employ Development Officers, which should have a marked impact on participation rates within each MA.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 11.00am.

Taken as a true and correct record

Chairman

Date