

Athletics Australia



A N N U A L R E P O R T

1990/1991

(The Amateur Athletic Union of Australia & New Zealand)
 Founded 1897 - Disbanded 1928
 (The Amateur Athletic Union of Australia)
 Founded 1928 - Disbanded 1979
 (Australian Women's Amateur Athletic Union)
 Founded 1932 - Disbanded 1979
 Australian Athletic Union - Founded 1979
 Re-named Athletics Australia 1989

MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

Affiliated with:

Australian Olympic Federation
 Australian Commonwealth Games Association
 Confederation of Australian Sport

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

A.A.A. of New South Wales	(Founded 1887 - Disbanded 1982)
Victorian A.A.A.	(Founded 1891 - Disbanded 1982)
Queensland A.A.A.	(Founded 1895 - Disbanded 1983) - Reformed 1983)
A.A.A. of Tasmania	(Founded 1902 - Disbanded 1980)
A.A. of South Australia	(Founded 1905 - Disbanded 1980)
Western Australian A.A.A.	(Founded 1905 - Disbanded 1908) - Reformed 1928) - Disbanded 1979) - Reformed 1979)
New South Wales Women's A.A.A.	(Founded 1932 - Disbanded 1982)
Queensland Women's A.A.A.	(Founded 1929 - Disbanded 1940) - Reformed 1948) - Disbanded 1983)
South Australian Women's A.A.A.	(Founded 1937 - Disbanded 1980)
Tasmanian Women's A.A.A.	(Founded 1937 - Disbanded 1940) - Reformed 1951) - Disbanded 1980)
Victorian Women's A.A.A.	(Founded 1929 - Disbanded 1982)
Western Australian Women's A.A.A.	(Founded 1936 - Disbanded 1942) - Reformed 1946) - Disbanded 1979)
Australian Capital Territory A.A.	(Founded 1980)
Northern Territory A.A.	(Founded

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

(Elected by A.A.U. of A.)		(Elected by A.W.A.A.U.)	
*Hugh R. Weir CBE	(1957)	Gwen Bull OAM	(1962)
C. Ronald Aitken CBE	(1965)	Nell Gould BEM	(1962)
*Arthur J. Hodsdon MBE	(1965)	Doris Magee MBE	(1962)
*Norman G. Hutton	(1965)	Lillian Neville OAM	(1962)
*Leonard B. Curnow OBE	(1968)	Mavis Ebzery OAM	(1967)
*Robert E. Graham OBE	(1968)	Maisie McQuiston BEM	(1971)
*George Soper	(1969)	*Margaret Cahill OAM	(1972)
*F. Theo Treacy OBE	(1969)	Mabel Robinson MBE	(1973)
C Herbert Gardiner	(1974)	Joyce Bonwick OAM	(1978)
*Deceased		H. George Curruthers	(1977)
(Elected by A.A.U)			
*Thomas C. Blue AM BEM	(1980)	Noel J. Ruddock AM	(1989)
Clive D. Lee AM	(1986)	Flo Wrighter, OAM BEM	(1987)
Graeme T. Briggs AM JP	(1990)		

DIRECTORY

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RECIPIENTS OF THE MERIT AWARD OF THE UNION

(Elected by the A.A.U. of A.) 1968-1978

J.D. Bailey AM	Q(1976)	T.F. Hantke	W(1968)
J.B. Barlow	Q(1968)	*W.W. Huxley	Q(1973)
E.W. Barwick	T(1968)	*H.J. Lowe	S(1970)
*F.J.W. Budge	S(1977)	*P.S. McCavanagh	S(1969)
H.G. Carruthers MBE	N(1970)	*A.H. McIvor	S(1976)
*R. Clemson	V(1968)	E. Moore	V(1974)
*J.W. Cook	Q(1973)	*C.H.F. Morgan	S(1968)
R.C. Corish BEM	N(1970)	F.W. Napier	W(1977)
*T.B. Dodds	S(1968)	J.L. Patching AO OBE	V(1968)
*J.C. Draper	V(1971)	*A.E. Robinson	V(1968)
*H. Eastaughffe	Q(1968)	*F.A. Rose	T(1968)
E.D. Eastham	V(1978)	N.J. Ruddock AM	T(1975)
*J.K. Faulkner	S(1968)	V.G. Sharp MBE	S(1968)
R.C. Frith OAM	N(1975)	G.B. Stringer	V(1970)
C.H. Gardiner	V(1968)	W.L. Thompson	Q(1968)
E. Goodwin	Q(1974)	*F.T. Treacy OBE	W(1968)
E.R. Graham	S(1978)	*P.D. Walsh	N(1971)
*J.H. Hanman	N(1972)	R.B.P. White	N(1970)

(Elected by the A.W.A.A.U.) 1971-1978

Mrs. P. Andersson	V(1971)	Mrs. N. Greenham	S(1973)
*Mrs. E. Armstrong	V(1971)	Mrs. J. Harmey	N(1971)
Mrs. D.I. Barnes	S(1976)	*Mrs. A. Kennedy, BEM	V(1971)
Mrs. I. Bennett	V(1974)	*Mrs. N. Kelly	V(1974)
Mrs. G. Bergman	N(1978)	*Mrs. Y. Lanyon-Owen	Q(1971)
Mrs. L. Berzinski	V(1974)	Mrs. E. McBeth	V(1971)
Mrs. J. Bonwick OAM	Q(1971)	Mrs. S. McMinn AM	Q(1971)
Mrs. A. Burow	V(1974)	*Mrs. P. McWillie	W(1973)
*Mrs. M. Cahill OAM	S(1972)	Mrs. M. McQuiston BEM	V(1974)
*Mrs. L. Cavanagh	S(1971)	Mrs. D. Magee AM MBE	N(1971)
Mrs. G. Chester	W(1973)	*Mrs. E. Morris	V(1974)
Mrs. D. Clarke	N(1971)	Miss L. Neville OAM	V(1971)
Mrs. E. Clay	W(1975)	*Mrs. Y. Neasbey	N(1977)
Mrs. M. Cuthbert	N(1978)	Mrs. B.J. Pearl	S(1976)
Mrs. D. Davis	V(1974)	Mrs. P. Peters AM	S(1973)
Mrs. J. Davis MBE	V(1975)	Mrs. M. Robinson MBE	V(1971)
Mrs. N. Davey	N(1977)	Mrs. G. Rose	V(1971)
Mrs. M. Ebzery OAM	T(1972)	Mrs. J. Saunders	V(1974)
Mrs. N. Edwards	N(1973)	Mrs. E. Schulz	Q(1978)
Mrs. Z. Fibbins AM	N(1971)	Mrs. G. Sheldon	N(1971)
Mrs. M. Fitzgibbons	N(1975)	Mrs. D. Spittles	Q(1971)
Mrs. M. Fraser	N(1973)	Mrs. D. Stanton	V(1971)
Mrs. G. Gell	V(1974)	Mrs. F. Venn	V(1974)
Mrs. E. Godfrey	N(1971)	Mrs. F. Wrighter OAM BEM	N(1971)
Miss N. Gould BEM	N(1971)		

(Elected by Amalgamated Union)

E. Bartholomeusz	Q(1986)	P. Lucas	N(1989)
D. Bell OAM	V(1985)	Ms. M. Mathews AM	N(1988)
G. Briggs AM JP	T(1981)	Mrs. E. Murphy	Q(1990)
Mrs. J. Cross OAM	Q(1985)	Miss M. Patterson	V(1986)
D.G. Ferrier	V(1984)	Mrs. J. Petfield	Q(1987)
*J.D. Forrest	Q(1984)	H.L. Ralph OAM	N(1979)
Mrs. M. Heffernen	S(1980)	H.J. Schubert MBE	V(1987)
R. Hood	T(1989)	G.W. Tempest	W(1990)
		*C.A. Wise	T(1979)

* Deceased

TROPHY AWARDS 1990/91

MEN

Track and Field - Open	Richard Coombes Shield	Victoria
" - U20	C. Ronald Aitken Cup	Western Australia
" - U16	Arthur J. Hodsdon Shield	Western Australia
	Shell-Charles Hansen Cup	New South Wales
Schools T. & F. - U19	Coca-Cola/Adidas Cup	New South Wales
" - U17	"	New South Wales
" - U15	"	New South Wales
Cross Country - Open	E.S. Marks Shield	Victoria
Schools C.C. - U19	Commonwealth Bank Cup	New South Wales
" - U17	"	New South Wales
" - U15	"	New South Wales

WOMEN

Track and Field - Open	Doris Mulcahy Shield	Queensland
" - U20	Doris Magee Shield	New South Wales
" - U16	Louise C. Mills Shield	Western Australia
Schools T. & F. - U19	Coca-Cola/Adidas Cup	New South Wales
" - U17	"	New South Wales
" - U15	"	New South Wales
Cross Country - Open	Mirror Newspaper Shield	Victoria
" - U20	Nell Gould Shield	New South Wales
" - U18	Stella McMinn Shield	New South Wales
Schools C.C. - U19	Commonwealth Bank Cup	New South Wales
" - U17	"	New South Wales
" - U15	"	New South Wales
Road Walk - Open 20km	Lillian Neville Shield	Victoria
" - U20 10km	Mabel Robinson Shield	New South Wales
Schools Road Walk - U19	Stella McMinn Shield	New South Wales
" - U17	Spittles Shield	New South Wales
" - U15	Mary Chambers Memorial Shield	New South Wales
Road Running - Marathon	AWAAU Cross Country Shield	South Australia
" - 15km	Joan Beretta Shield	Krishna Wood (ACT)

ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA

ANALYSIS OF REGISTRATIONS 1990-91

STATE	SENIOR		U20		U18		U12		OFFICIALS & LIFE MEMBERS		COACHES	TOTAL	
	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W		M	W
SA	343	74	59	20	66	42	1	1	46	43	104	507	207
WA	205	74	55	34	184	193	-	-	76	50	-	520	350
QLD	499	154	132	52	712	642	539	444	113	121	494	2440	1462
NSW	1227	385	224	109	1193	834	540	455	287	226	469	3871	2069
NT	48	23	12	4	26	18	9	5	2	3	20	90	53
TAS	206	48	49	19	266	204	4	10	73	60	63	648	324
VIC	1710	339	700	411	773	460	-	-	199	173	228	3382	1383

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The recent positive attitude developed across Australia, within our sport, is a great credit to the many people associated with athletics at all levels. We have deliberately set about changing the image of athletics at the elite level, strategically placing emphasis on our strengths, "the nation's best athletes". It is pleasing to report that Athletics Australia Inc., during the past twelve months, has accomplished all of its goals. There will be another series of targets for year 1992 which will be more difficult to achieve. However, I am confident we are well positioned to succeed further as athletics moves forward and upwards.

Our administration has been reviewed, and emphasis placed on better management thus achieving successful, well planned projects which benefit the athletes. The Board of Athletics Australia Inc. endorsed management operations and initiatives resulting in a record financial result for the organisation; a surplus of \$94,000 against a budget of \$286. This is best measured against the Accumulated Funds of \$80,670 and the Operating Budget of \$428,586. Every State Association benefits when the national organisation is financially viable, and similarly they suffer when it is not.

The Board has injected \$50,000 (54%) of this year's surplus back into the sport, a strategy never before delivered. I urge every State, lead by Victoria and New South Wales, to support Athletics Australia's strategies and capitalise on the opportunities being presented nationally. A further injection of funds to the State Associations was delivered by the success of the Mobil Grand Prix Series; this by way of Administration Fees and Gate Receipts, totalling over \$50,000. I believe this is part of Athletic Australia's function, but one which has not been evident in the past. We forecast that further returns should continue of this nature, providing Athletics Australia's drive to achieve better results receives every State's support, and our athletes continue to succeed therefore attracting Government and corporate funding, and positive media coverage. It would appear to me that State Associations will not attract the level of success Athletics Australia commands in this field.

Our Australian Mobil Grand Prix Series achieved new heights last summer for which we are indebted to all those athletes who contributed to the Series. There were numerous highlights throughout the Meets, but none better than the marvellous results achieved at the 1991 "Sugar" Australian Championships in Sydney. Athletics really came of age on the occasion of the 1991 Mobil Grand Prix Dinner held in Sydney when Renee Poetschka (WA) and Tim Forsyth (Victoria) won the Mobil Athletes of the Year Awards. I would like to record Athletics Australia's appreciation to the athletes and coaches who attended the Gala Night, as well as to thank our Federal Minister for Sport, The Hon. Ros Kelly, along with Mr. Dick Leonard, Managing Director of Mobil and the special dignitaries who joined the celebrations.

Whilst our senior athletes performed globally with distinction, the Junior Squad continued to produce world class results. Athletics Australia will inject further funds into the Junior Development area to ensure our talent identification and coaching programmes are even more successful. It is gratifying to recall those extra 15 athletes we fought so hard to send to Auckland, and the support given to the well balanced and large junior team in Plovdiv at the Junior World Championships is now receiving a return on the investment.

Whilst our emphasis has targeted the elite segment of our sport, Athletics Australia is concerned that so many problems exist at the club level. The participation numbers in this segment have stagnated generally, although four States (WA, Qld, NSW and NT) can boast marginal increases. Our attention must now be directed towards restructuring the Secondary Schools and "Club model" of our sport, to feed talent to the National Squads, while simultaneously we develop a new system which attracts mass participation domestically, for the family and the social athlete. Greater emphasis will be placed on a Junior Scheme (Ages 12 to 16).

The Winter Programmes across Australia covering Cross Country, Road Running and Walking are not receiving enough attention although high profile events (City to Surf, Gold Coast Marathon, etc.) continue to attract large fields.

Our efforts to establish sponsorship packages have not been successful, despite the fact that no country of our size can boast so many world ranked athletes, ie. Kerry Saxby, Simon Baker, Lisa Ondeki, Steve Moneghetti and Rob de Castella.

Under the leadership of Marlene Matthews (President) and Tony Rice (National Coaching Convenor), the Australian Track & Field Coaches Association (AT & FCA) has continued its great contribution to athletics. Support from the Australian Institute of Sport has seen further development of the Coaching Programmes extending into all States with financial and management support emanating from the AIS with backing by the State Institutes of Sport. Peter Bowman performs an outstanding role at the AIS with his management skills co-ordinating the National Coaching operation. Rothmans Foundation are to be congratulated for their continuing support to the AT & FCA. Although athletics has a group of world recognised coaches, we need to spread the coaching base far wider if the sport is to progress at all levels, eg. Elite, Senior, Junior, School, Club, Social, etc.

Sponsorship support injected into Athletics Australia since the last Annual Report has been carefully planned and successful. Total Sports, the General Manager and the President have negotiated major sponsorship agreements with Mobil, Sugar Industry, NEC, Australian Airlines, Mars and Comet. The total support amounts to approximately \$540,000. We are fortunate that the working relationship between each major sponsor has been courteous, respectful and harmonious ensuring the successful return on their investment and an excellent working environment. I especially thank our sponsors and also Total Sports for injecting a record amount of funds and time into athletics.

Athletics largest sponsor is the 'Australian Sports Commission' which channels its funding into the sport in several ways: ie. AIS, Australian Olympic Committee, Coaching, Administration, Special Projects, STEP Scholarships, etc.

The Australian Olympic Committee is to be congratulated on its vision and planning for all of the Olympic sports. We express our appreciation to the AOC for their support of our International AOC Squad Programme, which is geared towards a thorough preparation for Barcelona. Added to this is the generous support given athletes by the various State Institutes of Sport or the State Governments Sport & Recreational Department Grants.

The combined total of the Commonwealth and State Government investments is approximately \$2.5 million. It is, therefore, my pleasant responsibility to thank the Governments on behalf of all sections of athletics across Australia for their financial assistance, whilst at the same time insisting that each area/athlete who is a recipient of any Government funding not only performs, but is accountable for their performance. I believe we can justify the investment, and I totally believe in the ability and character of our athletes and coaches to produce the results.

This report acknowledges the media for their contribution to our successes in year 1991. Both the electronic and print media did a marvellous job with their coverage of the Mobil Grand Prix Series, whilst the numerous weekly athletics articles which appear in every State of Australia confirms the interest in our sport and the calibre of our athletes and coaches. The inaugural "Sugar Media Awards" were won by Nicole Jeffries (The Australian), Mike Hurst (Telegraph Mirror) and Nick Bideau (Sun Herald). Special thanks are extended to Channel 7 Sportsworld for their coverage of the Mobil Grand Prix Series and to Gary Fenton and Bruce McAvaney.

How will athletics cope in the future? This question has been addressed by Athletics Australia with a long term strategy which was adopted two years ago. Poor registrations, unsatisfactory athletic results, financial losses and bad image were considered serious enough to require a self critical appraisal of our sport. This project has been the Board's main objective together with Neil King's and my personal challenge since September, 1989. Today the "Task Force" has been revamped and injected with funds to ensure the vision and objectives can be achieved. John Landy will direct the "Task Force" through to its conclusions and recommendations with a clear mandate to prepare our sport for a restructure mechanism by August, 1992. Our "Athletic Family" has enormous commitment nationally, and covers many different and important athletic groups, all of whom should corporately accept the challenge to improve and co-ordinate their activities. I look forward to all levels of athletics receiving a positive injection from the "Landy Task Force" recommendations.

Finally, on behalf of all States, affiliated Clubs, athletes and coaches I wish to thank Neil King and the staff at Athletics Australia for their great contribution to our sport. My personal appreciation is extended to the Board of Directors, and all the members of the Committees/Commissions for their extraordinary which that has enabled us to enjoy athletics' most successful year since the Men's and Women's Unions amalgamated.

The Australian Track & Field Team will shortly compete at the 1991 World Track & Field Championships in Tokyo and we extend our best wishes to all members for a highly successful Championships.

1992 is an Olympic Year and every aspect of our sport will need to aspire to great heights as we prepare for Barcelona.

DAVID PRINCE,
PRESIDENT

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

The 1990/91 year for Athletics Australia has seen continued change within our sport both nationally and internationally.

There has continued to be new faces emerging amongst the ranks in State Associations as we all strive to lift the profile and performance of the sport in the 1990's.

It is up to others to judge the performance of Athletics Australia but I believe that success in the areas of promotion, competition and financial viability are key indicators of an upward trend.

ADMINISTRATION: Following a review made by Reg Brandis in 1990, the administration has become more streamlined. Along with the appointment of Tina Folmer as receptionist/typist we have gained the part-time services of Andrew Wilcox in the area of computer finance. Finally our organisation will be able to boast of a fully computerised financial system. We will continue to overview and review our current administration and will appoint a Competitions Manager within the next few months.

Once again I would like to make a personal commendation to Jeanette Brown for her dedication and application beyond the call of normal employment duties. Also special thanks to Mabel Robinson for her tireless help and love of the sport of Athletics. The long tram ride from Malvern to Moonee Ponds never dulls her sense of duty.

NEW OFFICE FACILITIES: We are still investigating the viability of purchasing or leasing new premises. With the help of Peter Burke of Athletics Victoria we are looking at properties within the inner suburban area around Carlton, Brunswick, Moonee Ponds, Ascot Vale and North Melbourne.

With the current downturn in property prices we hope to purchase a more than suitable headquarters for Athletics Australia for \$200,000 to \$300,000.

SPONSORSHIP: At a time of a serious economic downturn most sports are suffering the loss of major and minor sponsorships. It is understandable that the corporate sector, under siege from the recession, has trimmed the discretionary end of their advertising budgets where sponsorship lies.

Fortunately Athletics Australia is well supported by some of Australia's most stable corporations and although we have lost some of our previous sponsors our promotional performance has guaranteed renewal.

Sugar: It is appropriate that our major corporate sponsor is the Australian Sugar Industry.

After six years of sponsoring Athletics Australia's Junior Development Programme the Sugar Industry deserves to bask in the glow of an outstanding performance by our juniors in the World Junior Championships in Plovdiv in 1990.

During the 1990/91 domestic season Sugar had tremendous promotional success with the Sugar All Schools, Sugar Games in Brisbane, Sydney and Adelaide and Sugar National Championships in Sydney.

I express my personal appreciation for the support of David Prince and myself from David Rutledge, Chief Executive of the Sugar Board and his promotional experts Susan Kelly and Anne Richardson.

Mobil Grand Prix Series: Who could have imagined the success of this Series? The Mobil Grand Prix has become the platform for promotional and competition reward.

We finally have a competition programme which has brought about reliable head to head competition between our elite athletes.

There is no doubt that a great part of that success has been caused by the personal efforts of Hassa Mann at Mobil. His communication skills and ability to gain respect and support from the athletes is second to none.

Australian Institute of Sport: Peter Bowman and his coaching staff at the AIS once again provided the sport of athletics with tremendous support. The AIS Seiko Meet and other AIS Meets and Small Group Tours have been highly motivated by the AIS and without their support the level of competitive performance would not be as high as it is currently.

Australian Sports Commission: Athletics Australia has received more in financial support from the Australian Sports Commission that ever before. Although they are our major sponsor, by their very nature they will never receive the kudos or same high profile as the corporate sector but their support is invaluable and provides our administration with stability and strength. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Jim Ferguson, Chief Executive of the Australian Sports Commission, Perry Crosswhite, Ken Norris, Neil Richardson and other dedicated personnel and the Board of the Australian Sports Commission.

THE ATHLETIC TASK FORCE: In 1989 Athletics Australia commissioned a major research into the sport. The research document was widely published and then followed up by The Athletic Colloquium in Melbourne in March 1990.

The Colloquium appointed a Taskforce to receive written submissions and recommendations and then to collate, review and disseminate all the information received and to set a Development Plan based on achievable goals.

We are now entering the conclusive phase of the Taskforce with two major objectives:

- (1) To produce a Development Plan carrying us through to the year 2000 and, in particular, emphasizing the next Olympiad 1992-1996.
- (2) To recommend to the 1992 Annual General Meeting of Athletics Australia a restructure of the government of the sport.

In view of the enormity of the task and with the support of the Australian Sports Commission, we have appointed John Landy as Chairman of the Taskforce with Barry Stanton as Secretary.

In heading the Taskforce, John Landy will bring the necessary independence and credibility to make strong recommendations for the future of athletics in Australia.

Barry Stanton brings to the Taskforce a wealth of experience in both competitive and administrative service along with those unique communication skills required to reach out to all areas of our sport.

The other members of the Taskforce are:

John Acraman	Organisation
John Atterton	Marketing and Promotion
Peter Bowman	Development and Facilities
Kath Edwards	Junior Competition
Tony Lethbridge	Senior (Club) Competition

During the next 6 months the Taskforce will be meeting with members of the State Associations to discuss the necessary recommendations for the implementation of the new Development Plan.

In closing I would like to express my thanks to David Prince and Members of the Board and all of my staff for their help and support during the year.

NEIL KING

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REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COACH

COACH DEVELOPMENT

See Coaching Coordinating Committee Report.

In addition a special word of thanks should be accorded to Tony Rice and to the Rothmans Foundation- National Sports Division.

COMPETITION

i) Domestic

The combination of meets such as the AIS/Coca-Cola meet, the Grand Prix Series and the Nationals made the 1990/91 season a huge success from the marketing and promotional viewpoint. The season had a sense of focus similar to 1989-90 which was boosted by the southern hemisphere Commonwealth Games.

ii) International Competition

The following competitions all took place and reports of these are have been circulated:

The World Cross Country Championships, World Women's 15Km and the World Junior Championships.

In addition a tour of Europe, based on the small groups tour concept, was initiated. Although the report has been circulated it is worth noting that both this office and the office of the AIS T&F Coordinator felt that many athletes (and their coaches) failed to appreciate the differences between preparing for an "out of season" European tour and peaking in the Australian season.

In fairness however it must be noted that only about 50% of our elite group went to Europe as the rest decided, sensibly in my opinion to remain in Australia to recovery from the Commonwealth Games and to prepare for the World Championships.

The concept of the 1988 Olympic Performance trial has thus been extended to all athletes departing Australia. Each athlete must trial at 97% of the World Championship "A" standard. This has the support of, and is being implemented through, the various National and State Institute of Sport coaches.

PERFORMANCE

In general terms Australia's athletes performed significantly worse in 1990-91 than in 1989-90.

1. Within disciplines performances varied with some events making great improvements ie the men's and women's HJ at Olympic squad level and the men's 800m at National squad level while other events such as the men's TJ and DT and the women's LJ and 800m declined while most others stagnated.

2. Performances at all squad levels showed a consistent 15% "across the board" decline.

While it can be noted that many top athletes remained in Australia instead of going to Europe and a number who missed the 1990-91 season through injury it is still a concern when the big majority of those who did compete failed to repeat their 1989-90 form.

Unfortunately the same figure was reflected in IAAF/AIS and National Squad levels and the progression mentioned in 1989-90 appears to have (hopefully temporarily) stalled.

On the other hand the excitement generated by the brilliance of Tim Forsyth, Ian Garrett, Rohan Robinson, Simon Doyle, Werner Reiterer, Alison Inverarity, Gai Kapernick, Renee Poetschka etc should not be overlooked.

3. As conditions are clearly a factor in performance it is worth looking at the conditions that prevailed throughout the GP Series. Excessive or illegal wind conditions were a feature of virtually every day/twilight meet

Two things, which have implications for the States in their capacities as Meet Promoters, clearly emerge.

- i) Melbourne and Canberra are the major "performance centres".
- ii) The 74 "elite" performances were confined to a small number of actual events if the appearance of an event on more than two occasions is used as a guide.

The implications are:

- i) that the Selectors cannot designate meets as important for selection if the athletes cannot achieve the type of performances needed to gain selection. While the head to head contests may have some relevance (though difficult conditions will favour certain athletes more than others) an athlete can only program so many competitions and they want those competitions to be at venues where they achieve optimum results.
- ii) that AA can only market and promote the meets. The States have the responsibility to ensure optimum conditions exist.
- iii) a decrease in performances means less elite squad athletes therefore less athletes receiving Institute of Sport assistance for the following year- which will in turn mean the States will have more difficulty getting athletes the following year.

THE SQUADS

1. The squads continue to be based on the criteria outlined in the 1989-90 Annual Report a major review of the squads will occur after the 1991 World Championships in preparation for the 1992 Olympic year.

These are:

- i) A performance level which is superior to the level of performance that would allow entry to the final 16 at the Olympics- the AOF Squad.
- ii) A performance superior to the 1988 IAAF Olympic standard- the AIS/AA Squad.
- iii) A performance approximately midway between the Commonwealth Games standard and the 1988 OG Standard- the National Squad.

2. It is very encouraging to see that the various Institutes of Sport are following evaluating their potential scholarship holders according to National criteria at the elite end of their programs.

NOTE: The Developmental Squad has been dropped as a program run from this office because time no longer permits an involvement and it is more logically a function of the JDC, the National Group Directors and the State Sports Institutes.

FORWARD PLANNING

a. World Championships

A tour of Europe has just been completed and the World Championship team has been finalized. On August 21st the team will depart for Tokyo.

b. Olympic Games

Similar procedures to the 1991 World Championships are being planned for 1992 by the Team Manager in consultation with other appropriate people. Obviously with the Games being in Barcelona the concept of returning to Australia may not be as relevant although there will be athletes who choose this option.

CONCLUSION

This office wishes to record its thanks to the Australian Olympic Commission, the Australian Institute of Sport, the Australian Sports Commission, the Rothman's Foundation- National Sports Division, the State Sports Institutes/Academies and the State Associations for their support to the overall development and elite programs as well as to Mobil for providing the stimulus of the Grand Prix Series.

TONY BENSON

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION/JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The 1990/91 year has had its fair share of highs and lows as far as the Junior Development Programme is concerned.

The highlight of the year was the performance of the junior athletes at the 3rd World Junior Championships in Bulgaria. Australia finished with its best ever ranking of 5th, achieving 2 gold, 2 silver, 2 bronze medals and a total of 18 finalists. It was a magnificent achievement by all athletes and management staff. Significantly it also gave clear indications of the value of our domestic Junior Development Programme.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of the year was the news, on return from Bulgaria, that the Australian Sugar Industry was to cease support of the Junior Development Programme and direct their funds towards the elite Grand Prix Circuit. While it was pleasing that the Australian Sugar Industry was to remain a major sponsor of our sport, it certainly left a hole in the Junior Programme that had no immediate replacement. The latter half of 1990 saw a number of Junior Programme initiatives cancelled, including the Junior Squad September Camp and a majority of the Coaching Clinics.

Fortunately, some additional support from the Athletics Australia Board, a guarantee of funds from the ASC, and negotiations with some new sponsors have allowed us to pick up the momentum again. A number of previously successful programmes have been continued and some new programmes initiated that have added a new perspective to the Junior Development Programme.

SPONSORSHIPS

The Junior Development Programme is presently unsupported by a major sponsor. With the difficult economic times it seems more logical to divide the JDP into "saleable" packages for sponsors. This seems to have had some success as Athletics Australia is currently negotiating with five potential sponsors for parts of the JDP. With the continued commitment from the ASC towards Junior Development it looks promising that the continued support of our junior athletes will continue.

NATIONAL JUNIOR SQUADS

Having set a standard criteria for selection in the National Junior Squad it became clear that to be in this squad was an honour that had to be achieved. Many athletes have expressed how competitive it now is to be selected in this squad.

The 1990/91 National Junior Squad was again selected after the National Titles in March, 1990 and recognised with a specially printed windcheater. Although the 1990 September Camp was cancelled, a number of the squad attended a variety of the Event Group Camps held during the season. The success of identifying a squad of talented athletes has again proved valuable with 44 of the 70 athletes selected in the 1991 Junior Team coming from the 1990/91 Junior Squad.

NATIONAL JUNIOR EVENT COACHES

These coaches again served a valuable purpose in support of the junior athletes and recommendations towards Junior Development policy. From the allocation of excess funds from the Board we were again able to fly the Junior Coaches to the Australian All Schools and National Track & Field Championships. The coaches also served an on-hands role in the conduct of the Event Group Camps.

NSP EVENT GROUP CAMPS

The ASC had allocated \$100,000 to athletics through NSP to run training camps. \$30,000 was automatically allocated to the Australian Junior Team Preparation Camp held in April, 1991. The remaining \$70,000 was divided into running specific Event Group Camps (3 Relays, Jumps, Walks & Hurdles). Each of these camps were attended by senior and junior athletes and proved to be very successful. A number of them were held around the Grand Prix Events, that proved to be advantageous in obtaining competition for the junior athletes.

These camps were held as a replacement to the September Junior Squad Camp as a result of a number of reasons. The biggest problem with dividing the event groups and funding was that some athletes missed out on a training camp due to being in the wrong event. In future years we must consider allocating funding to all eight event groups.

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR TEAMS

The success of the 1990 World Junior Team has been well documented and mentioned at the start of this report. It is important to note some aspects of this tour that helped make it a great success.

Firstly, the travel and competition schedule was compact and simple. The team did not travel to a great number of destinations chasing competition. As a result the team was fresh and well prepared when they arrived in Bulgaria. Management also correctly insisted on travelling to Europe via Asia rather than USA so as to go with the time zones and reduce jetlag effects.

The JDC and the Coaches strongly recommended that a full team be sent to travel, even if some athletes had not qualified, a stance supported by the selectors. As a result, 2 extra athletes qualified for the World Juniors and as a team went very close to beating the strong British team in a Match Competition.

Finally, all athletes were subject to a performance test before departure to ensure that they were prepared and fit. This meant that most athletes were not carrying debilitating injuries and that they were able to compete when required.

All management, coaches, medics and athletes of this team are to be congratulated on an excellent effort.

The 1991 Australian Junior Team was selected after the Junior Nationals in March. This strong team was set for an international competition against Japan, China and South Korea as part of the APOSA Festival of Sport to be held in Brisbane in September, 1991. The subsequent nonacceptance of the three countries and the cancellation of the entire festival left us with a huge problem. Being determined that the whole team will travel and compete together, we are currently looking into a match against the NZ U23 team.

MARS 5 STAR

A recent development has seen negotiations with Mars for Athletics Australia to take over the administration of the Mars 5 Star Award Scheme. Lesser overheads have also allowed us to offer Mars greater involvement in other parts of the Junior Development Programme. With renewed drive from Athletics Australia it is hoped that the Mars 5 Star will be regenerated as a major athletic programme in schools.

SCHOOLS KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

This programme provides a School Team based knockout competition. It was primarily developed and piloted in 1990 by Athletics S.A. and proved to be very popular with teachers and students. The attraction is that it allows for a variety of events to be held over a short time frame and generates a team vs team competition. After the pilot study more than 60 SA schools expressed interest in an expanded competition in 1991.

Currently a majority of State Associations have expressed interest in piloting the Schools Knockout Competition in their State in 1991. In addition, we are also in the process of negotiating a long term sponsorship of this competition. This programme will hopefully give us a better footing into the school system to develop athletics.

CAPS - A YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

CAPS, which stands for Challenge, Achievement and Pathways in Sport, is an ASC initiative aimed at getting the non-competitive youth involved in sport in support areas.

Athletics is perhaps the only sport to have piloted this programme, again done by Athletics SA. Athletics SA took 4-5 school children through an Officials Course, using the Schools Knockout Competition as a "training" arena for the course. It also proved to be very successful.

We now have completed all the reference and advertising material to operate the CAPS programme which has been circulated to State Associations. Athletics Australia recommended that the State Associations begin with running Coaching and Officiating Courses for interested students to begin with and then develop into Administration, Team Management and Sport Health.

AUSTRALIAN RUNNER PROFILES

We now have an arrangement with the Australian Runner Magazine to print an athletic profile of a junior athlete in each issue. This serves to put the successes of junior athletes more in the public eye and recognised The Australian Runner's support of junior development. The profiles are collected and written by myself for editing by the Australian Runner staff.

REVIEW

Despite the obvious problems of the lack of finances, the Junior Development Programme is continuing and slowly growing. If the new programmes get off the ground and financial support is found for successful previous programmes, things will look quite healthy. Athletics Australia and the JDC are continually looking to review, modify and adapt the JDP when appropriate to create a workable and successful programme for all of Australian athletics.

My thanks to the members of the Junior Development Commission, the A.T.&F.C.A. and Kathy Edwards (Board representative for Junior Development) for their support and help throughout the year.

KEVIN OAKLEY

DISTANCE RUNNING COMMISSION

Membership: The Board added Susan Hobson to the Commission during the year. We welcomed Susan's input both as an elite athlete and our sole female member.

Course Measuring: Member Dave Cundy has taken the responsibility for running course measuring seminars in each state. Two courses have already been undertaken and others are planned. It is envisaged that as course measurers are qualified they will take over responsibility for ensuring accurate road course measurement in accordance with the IAAF Rules.

Permit Guidelines: The Commission supported the issue of revised guidelines as a result of experience to date. The support of Associations is required to ensure that all significant open events obtain permits for the protection of our athletes and bring some order into the fun run scene.

Distance Running News: We are indebted to Len Johnson for providing DRC News inserts for Pat Clohessy's "Distance Running Update" which goes to all leading distance runners and the media. Thank you Len and Pat.

Schools Cross Country Championships: The Commission has endeavoured for years to eliminate the duplication of National Schools' Cross Country Championships. Some progress has been made thanks to Susan Hobson and John Harding of ACT Athletics; the Australian Secondary and Primary Schools CC Championships will be held this year in conjunction with our CC Championships in Canberra.

National Club Road Relay Championship: The Board agreed to the Commission's proposal that this additional Championship be conducted in 1991.

Distance Running Plan: A draft plan has been prepared but it requires further work before it is implemented.

Meetings: The Commission had two meetings during the year with only one of the meetings funded by Athletics Australia.

DENIS WILSON, CHAIRMAN

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OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

The year just passed has been a busy one, as Officials are still anxious to sit for examinations and become 'graded' officials, and this is pleasing to the Committee.

Last year, with examinations being held in April and November, just over 800 theory papers were completed, with only a very small percentage of failures. Queensland continue to lead the field with almost half of the candidates being from this State.

I, on behalf of the Committee, have had many 'thank you's' from officials, particularly at being told the correct answers to questions that they had answered wrongly.

At the Officials Committee Meeting held in February during the Open & U20 Championships in Sydney, changes were made to the procedure for examinations. Levels 2 & 1 are still to be held in April and November with the co-marking shared by the three members of the Executive of the Committee.

Level 3 may now be sat for at any time on application to the AA Officials Committee member in the State. As Level 3 is a reasonably easy paper, it was decided that these papers will only be marked by the AA Committee member in the State and results sent to the Convenor of the Committee for entry in the official books.

Practical examinations are still to be conducted as in the past, but all applications for grading cards must be on the correct AA Officials Committee application form - a copy of this has been sent to all AA Officials Committee Members.

When the examinations were commenced in 1981 there were some who felt that they would not be a success, this has undoubtedly been proved wrong. Over this time I have enjoyed being Convenor of the Committee and have made many friends, but the time has come when, due to many reasons, I will not be nominating again for this Committee.

To all members of the Officials Committee, both present and past, I say a very sincere "Thank You", your help to our sport has been tremendous.

FLO WRIGHTER, CONVENOR

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RACE WALKING COMMITTEE

In addition to our telephone hookup, the Committee met on a regular basis; in Melbourne last November, in Canberra during the coaching clinic, at the national track and field titles in Sydney in February and in Canberra during the national veteran titles in April.

Roy McFadden was unable to attend some of these meetings owing to a heart by-pass operation but was consulted by telephone on all matters discussed.

We obtained the view of the Australian Walkers Federation before reaching a decision on matters submitted to Athletics Australia.

Among the recommendations to 'AA' were:

- . endorsing the application of Di Lowdon as an International Judge
- . changing the present policy of appointing a person as a walk judge for life, without a regular review of his/her performances. We suggested that these appointments and levels of grading be reviewed every year.
- . that if sufficient competent judges are available, that coaches and parents be excluded from judging panels at State and Australian Championships.
- . suggested the Olympic Games women 10k and men 10k trial be held on May 10, 1992 and the 50k Olympic Games trial be on the weekend of May 24, 1992, also requesting that they be also the Australian Championships to enable our Olympic walkers a chance to contest their national championships.

PETER WADDELL, CONVENOR

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LEGAL & CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Appeals lodged with Athletics Australia involved positive drug testing and breaches of Rules of State Associations where a member appealed against the penalty imposed by such Association.

The appeals involving positive drug testing indicated that the athletes in some instances either are unaware of what drugs are prohibited substances or are not informed of the penalties that follow.

With the approach of the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, whilst it should not be necessary, it is recommended that State Associations highlight to their members that proven breaches of the Rules could make them ineligible for selection to represent their country.

In one particular case of an alleged breach of a State Association Rule, it was evident that the State Association had not complied with its By Laws in dealing with the matter. The Legal and Constitution Committee recommended that the penalty imposed should be set aside.

Care should be exercised to ensure that the Rules of Natural Justice are applied when the Board of the State Association considers a disciplinary matter.

It is recommended that the various State Associations re-examine their By Laws to ensure that those By Laws are sufficient to enable the Association to properly deal with any disciplinary problems which may arise.

The Committee also dealt with certain Constitutional enquiries which were referred to it.

The Committee has worked harmoniously as a team for the betterment of athletics in Australia.

P. O'BRIEN (CONVENOR), M.J. MacDERMOTT, R.B. MacDERMOTT

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RECORDS COMMITTEE

The World Junior Championships are a great incentive to our Under 20 athletes and the results show in the number of Under 20 Australian Records which were broken this season.

There was a significant increase in the total number of records processed this season.

Does this mean that although the number of registered athletes are decreasing the standard of those who are competing is improving? Or is the opportunity for athletes far greater now with the assistance of Athletics Australia and the Junior Development Programme, that athletes are putting more pressure on themselves and their bodies to strive for the highest reward?

My thanks to Athletics Australia staff and the State Associations and to my co-committee in adjudicating on some record applications.

<u>Records Broken</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Schools Best on Record</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
World	-	1	Under 19	2	2
Commonwealth	2	1	Under 17	1	3
Australian Open	4	5	Under 15	2	1
Australian National	11	10			
Under 20	15	12			
Under 18	8	3			
Under 16	7	2			
Best on Record	2	8			
Total	49	42	Total	5	6

RONDA JENKINS (CONVENOR), GRAHAM NICHOLLS, MICHAEL McLAUGHLIN

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

This Committee was formed after the 1990 AGM in Sydney in 1990. We provided recommendations to the IAAF Women's Committee regarding the overall planning of Women's Athletics in the world into zones/area; that coaching in underdeveloped areas be targeted to the untrained person; and that there be an exchange of expertise between less developed countries and those at a higher level of development - Australia being considered less developed in terms of access of our elite athletes.

We replied to the Equal Opportunity and Equal Status for Australian Women's Inquiry and found that women were poorly represented within the following parameters of Athletics Australia - office bearers and Committee members, Grand Prix events, Elite coaches, Executive Directors, management of teams, composition of teams and coaches within the ATFCA, media reward and financial gain.

Through the Women's Sports Promotion Unit of the Australian Sports Commission we have access to magazines and bulletins, and have attended seminars run by the Consultative Committee in Leisure and Recreation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

We realise that for women to have an active say in the running of athletics in Australia that:

- each state must endeavour to establish a Women's Committee like ACT and South Australia
- each State Association be responsible for encouraging more women to participate in the sport, either as competitors, officials or coaches
- more elite women be given the opportunity to train and compete overseas
- Tony Benson be an ex-officio of this Committee to advise us on - elite athletes, technical matters, competition, psychological concerns and physical attitudes of female athletes.

LORRAINE MORGAN (CHAIRPERSON), MARGARET KOENEN, BETTY MOORE

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STATISTICIAN

I am now putting rankings on a computer which has made lists easier to produce. As I am still experimenting with the programs the size and format of lists will vary for a while.

Throughout the season monthly lists were submitted to AA and to any Association requesting them. The fax machine at home has also made things easier in receiving results and sending information.

I am still doing a regular result sheet, a copy of which goes to AA and to any Association and AIS who requests it.

I have completed the work on the 1990/91 almanac and it is in the hands of AA.

There are still problems in results not coming in, especially private tours overseas. I would appreciate any results being forwarded, quite often people assume I have results when I don't. Work on a complete record of all Australian representatives continues. I am still finding information but the past is difficult, especially prior to 1940. I am also trying to compile full results of all National Championships. If anyone has copies of results or old programs or any data I would greatly appreciate a copy or loan.

PAUL JENES

COACHING CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Committee members during the year were: M. Mathews (Chairman), J. Boas, T. Benson, J. Quinn, P. Bowman, N. King, A. Rice. During the year five meetings were held.

The Committee, in its role as the coaching arm of Athletics Australia continues to monitor the Coach Education programme conducted by AT & FCA through the Rothmans Foundation National Coaching Convenor, and the Athlete Development Programme administered by AA National Coach. A report of athletes enhancement and performance has been documented by the National Coach.

Coach Accreditation Programme

More than thirty Level 0, and eighteen Level I Courses were conducted throughout the Nation. These courses continue to service the "grass roots" coach who operates at Club or Little Athletic Centre level.

The National level II Course was conducted at the AIS during January, with forty-seven coaches in attendance, including two from Papua New Guinea and one from New Zealand.

Five coaches successfully completed their Level III Development and Accreditation program during the year - J. Quinn (Sprints/Hurdles/Relays), B. Babijczuk (Triple Jump), C. Sherman (Middle Distance), K. Prendergast (Hurdles) and Y. Melene (Race Walking). A further two coaches from overseas, now resident in Australia - T. Bidder and F. Rogers - were granted reciprocal awards.

National Coaching Seminars

In accordance with our five-year development plan, two Event Conferences were held during the year.

A very successful Distance Running Conference was held at AIS during October. The Conference was very ably directed by Ron Brinkert, Group Director of Distance Running, and attended by 33 coaches from around the nation. Mr. Wilf Paish, the greatly respected coach from Great Britain was guest lecturer; he gave very valuable insight into developments in coaching and training for the middle distances. Lecturing duties were shared with Ron Brinkert, Tony Benson, Pat Clohessy, Pam Turney and Tom Kelly. It was very rewarding to have Simon Doyle on hand to give insight into his preparations for his extremely successful European season in 1990.

An equally successful Multiple Events Conference was held at Canberra during November. Peter Lawler, Group Director of Multiple Events, ably directed the Conference. Peter joined with Efim Shuravetsky and Craig Hilliard to share lecturing duties with the highly respected US Coach, John Tansley. It was particularly rewarding to have Jane Flemming, Stuart Andrews and Paul Scott form an athletes panel to give valuable insight into their own approach to training and competition. A total of 19 coaches from around the nation attended.

A four day Summer School programme of "Transition from the Talented Junior to Senior International in the Power Events" was conducted at AIS at the same time as the Level II Course. The programme was led and co-ordinated by Norm Osborne, with assistance from Merv Kemp and John Boas. Additional lecturers included Sandro Bisetto, Rex Barrand, Tudor Bidder, Dr. John Gross, Ken Lorroway, Shirley de la Hunty, and Clarke Perry. The very comprehensive programme was enjoyed by twenty coaches from around the nation.

Teacher's Award

The introduction of the award during the year has created a great deal of interest amongst Branches as well as State Departments of Education, and Teacher Training Institutions. However, only five courses have been run - one in Tasmania, two in Queensland, and at Wollongong University and Ballarat University College.

National Coaches Conference

Two Conferences were held during 1990! The first of these, in May, constituted the postponed 1989 Conference, whilst the 1990 version was held in November. Both of these Conferences gave great opportunity for National Event Coaches to meet, evaluate past programmes and refine future plans. Unfortunately, due to change of funding priorities at Athletics Australia with the junior programme, it was not possible for the Junior Event Group Directors to attend the November Conference.

Other activities included:

- * Continuation of National Resource Co-ordination activity under the direction of Jack Pross
- * In accordance with Athletics Australia's policy, the Committee has continued to recommend coaches for appointment to National Teams
- * Developing a policy of accreditation updating
- * Review and refine the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme
- * Initiate a recommended Scale of Fees for Coaches

The Committee records with thanks the very significant amounts of funding put into coach education and coach development programmes by the Australian Sports Commission and the Rothmans Foundation.

TONY RICE (CONVENOR)

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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Technical Committee communicated by telephone and letter on a number of technical matters during the year. Recommendations were made to the Board regarding a proposal to the IAAF Technical Committee to add an additional official to the list in Rule 113 and to add an additional event to the women's Olympic programme. Other recommendations related to local competition covered by IAAF Rules relating to lane draws and the use of starting blocks.

The matter of junior throwing implements is under review and a recommendation to the Board will be made soon.

On behalf of the other members of the Technical Committee, I would like to thank the Board for the opportunity for us to serve in this capacity.

IAN GALBRAITH (CONVENOR)

MEDICAL COMMISSION

The Medical Commission of Athletics Australia membership remained the same in 1990 as 1989. The members were: Dr. Brian Sando, Dr. Jenny Saunders and Mr. Neil Craig.

During the year it continued its support of the national drug testing and control programme and provided expert advice to Athletics Australia in the following areas:

1. Examination of athletes prior to selection of national teams.
2. Advice on the selection of personnel for teams travelling outside Australia.
3. Development of an information booklet for doctors and physiotherapists travelling overseas with teams.
4. Advice on gender definition of athletes.

The Commission was also represented at discussions held by the Australian Olympic Committee about issues concerning the medical support for the 1992 Australian team for Barcelona, and at discussions held by the Australian Institute of Sport on the provision of sports medicine support for scholarship holders resident outside Canberra.

PROFESSOR TERRY DWYER, (CHAIRMAN)

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ATHLETES' COMMISSION

Contact has been maintained with athletes through regular correspondence with information pertaining to Board reports as well as requests received from outside organisation, e.g. request from Qantas re in-flight meals for sports people.

A meeting was held at the time of the Australian Championships in Sydney. Athletes in attendance provided input to Grand Prix schedule whereby programme schedule was discussed and thoughts provided as to best venues for certain events. The pre World Championship procedure was given in length and funding options explained. Other matters highlighted were Team Code of Conduct, ASDA, in-flight meals and team coach responsibilities. The Commission gave support to the development of Australian Relay Teams.

The Commission is slowly gathering momentum and it is hoped in the coming year to include a column in AA News. Simon Baker has been nominated as the Oceania representative to the IAAF Athletes' Commission and no doubt will be an active participant within this group.

The next meeting is planned to be held at the time of the World Championships in Tokyo.

MARGARET MAHONY, CHAIRMAN

REPORTS OF ASSOCIATIONS

NORTHERN TERRITORY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

President: Mr. Rik Ralph
General Manager: Mr. Greg Adams

In the period of review, significant changes occurred in the athletic world of Northern Territory.

The NT Athletic Council, covering all groups from Little Athletics to Veterans officially came into operation on July 1.

For the Territory, it has resulted in significant administration and operational improvements. Thanks to the NT Government, the Arafura Stadium - a joint Athletic/Soccer Complex - opened for athletics on August 26 and State Titles for both Little Athletics and seniors were held on successive weekends in September.

Greater interest and improved results were a feature of the series.

It was with pride and pleasure that we were able to have five athletes included in the Oceania Team and their performances in the Games rated very well.

The Council was involved in a number of promotional ventures which lifted the profile and recognition of the sport in the 'Top End'. Our NT Marathon Championships drew only a field of 19 but it received national TV coverage as a special feature with Channel 7 Sportsworld. For information, to add to the occasion and atmosphere a Marathon 42.2 km Relay for teams of 10 was conducted in conjunction and with 12 teams competing, numbers on the course made the event a good spectacle.

Education of Officials and Coaches is ongoing and an important part of our activities.

The Council has been well supported by local business and the Government for which we are much appreciative.

Finally, our year ended on an extremely high rate at the NT Sports Award Dinner.

President Rik Ralph was named Administrator of the Year.

Junior Athlete, Melindy Smith, won 3 Awards:-

Junior Female
Junior Sportsperson
Female Athlete of the Year

Coach Roly Howard - Coach of the Year

This was a fitting end to a year when enormous progress has been made in athletics in this remote area.

ATHLETICS NEW SOUTH WALES

President: Mr. John Atterton
Executive Director: Mr. Alan Batchelor

At the commencement of the 1990-91 season, Athletics New South Wales faced three major challenges, namely to arrest a continuing declining membership, to overcome a financial deficit, and to raise the profile of the sport.

We have succeeded in arresting the membership decline, and have increased it by 8%, similarly a financial surplus has been achieved, and we believe the successful staging of the Sugar Games Sydney and the Sugar Australian Track and Field Championships made some contribution towards the raising of the National profile.

New South Wales Schools and Junior teams and individual athletes performed very creditably at home and abroad, however, we still face the challenge of developing this talented junior base to a similar high standard in the senior ranks. This transition and also the transition from Little Athletics to our Junior ranks will be the focus of a major developmental operation during the 1991-92 season. Aligned with these transitional hurdles is the need to provide exciting and meaningful competition for athletes at all levels and including all age groups from Little Athletics through to veterans.

We are confident that with our new management structure and new blood, these challenges will be met and overcome.

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ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

President: Mr. John Baguley
Exec. Director: Bruce Strickland

The 1990/91 season has been memorable on several counts. A number of Board resignations together with that of the Executive Director created difficulties not normally expected. Those who were approached to fill these roles performed them admirably and I thank them most sincerely for their efforts.

The success of any organisation is measured by the performance of its athletes and in that regard the 1990/91 season proved to be our best for many years. A record number of National titles together with an unprecedented representation in overseas teams is a tribute to all officials, coaches, committee and those who assisted in providing the vehicle in which our athletes could perform.

The policy of introducing events for more exposure to the public (Port to Court Relay, Terrace Mile) has been most successful with record participation. The Perth leg of the Mobil Grand Prix circuit was attended by 8150 people - a figure only surpassed by Melbourne.

Special thanks must go to the continued support of our sponsors, The Ministry of Sport and Recreation, Events Corp and WAIS, without whose assistance our operations would be impossible to maintain.

ATHLETICS SOUTH AUSTRALIA

President: Mr. David Prince
General Manager: Ms. Kathy Edwards

The major events of the past 12 months were

The launch of our new Headquarters of "Athletics SA".
The corporate breakfast to launch the Function Centre was well attended by our Corporate members, sponsors, guests and members of the Association. Mr. Kym Mayes, Minister for Recreation and Sport and Mr. George Beltchev, Director, Department of Recreation and Sport, officially launched this new aspect of the business of Athletics in South Australia.

The 12 month lease of Olympic Sports Field which enables us to hire the venue to schools, etc., to assist in upkeep of track, facilities and equipment.

Our administration now has three aspects of our corporate business.

1. The sport of athletics
2. Maintenance and hire of Olympic Sports Field
3. Function and Conference Centre and Licensed Club

The profile and development of Athletics SA continues to increase.

Competition Highlights

- * The Sugar Games Adelaide were again the highlight of the season with a very good attendance of both spectators and national athletes. Simon Arkell, a local athlete who is studying in the USA, broke the Australian pole vault record at these Games and repeated the performance at the National Titles in Sydney (5.55 metres).
- * Congratulations also to the hard working Winter Committee on the well run events during the 1990 season. Special mention should be made of the State Marathon, Schools Cross Country Championships and State Cross Country and Relay events.
- * A well attended meeting for interested Club Delegates was held and many constructive ideas were discussed and several of the recommendations have been adopted for next summer's programme.
- * South Australian athletes were successful at all the national titles held in 1990-91. Seventeen medals were won at the Open and Under 20 titles in Sydney, 17 at the Under 16 and Under 18 titles in Perth. Forty-two youngsters attended the All Schools Championships in Hobart and were successful in winning 12 medals. Four South Australian athletes are included in the current Olympic Squad - Simon Arkell, Sean Carlin, Wendy Old and Lisa Martin-Ondeki.

Although the registered numbers of athletes/officials/coaches is still not increasing we are running many events for the recreational athletes - City Bay Fun Run, Walk events, 10km Road Race, Schools Cross Country, Schoolgirls Fun Run which involved 13,000 people. We still need strategies to move some of these athletes into our system.

In addition 35,000 school students use our track and field facilities during the first and fourth terms and with our Development Officer we are working on Student Talent Identification Programmes, Junior Development Clinics and Camps. This puts 51,000 athletes from primary age through to veterans including all Disability Groups involved in our sport in South Australia.

Development Activity Highlights were:

- * Administration of Athletics SA has been reorganised and a Development Officer, Cole Larsen, has been appointed. This has been made possible through a generous grant from Foundation SA.
- * A busy year for Athletics SA development. We piloted the Schools Sugar Knock-Out Cup - a programme our General Manager brought back from overseas. This proved very popular with all schools and is being promoted nationally by Athletics Australia Junior Development Commission.
- * Athletics SA also piloted the "CAPS" Scheme for the Australian Sports Commission again a most successful project. Our former Development Officer, Peter Brett, is to be commended on his outstanding input into this National Youth Sport Programme.
- * The Mars Programme has been extremely successful. SA has covered 91% of expected schools, by far the greatest input of any State.
- * We held several inservice workshops for the Australian Sugar Industry Resource Material - they were extremely successful. Many teachers attended and have asked that we run others during the year, particularly in the practical areas.
- * Our major sponsors continue to be Foundation S.A., Regupol (Aust) Pty. Ltd., Mars, Ansett Australia, Coca-Cola, Streets, Shell, West End, Balfours as well as many supporting sponsors.
- * The only real concern of substance this year for the Association has been the possible loss of Olympic Sports Field at Kensington Park as the Burnside Council seeks to divest itself of the sports ground. Athletics South Australia has the lease until 1994, but the uncertainty of a continuing future here is unsettling.
- * Finally the Board and Members have found the past 12 months most exciting and are looking forward to continuing development and growth of the sport in South Australia.

QUEENSLAND ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION LIMITED

President:

General Manager: Mr. Rég Brandis

The 1990/91 Athletic Year has been one of steady progress for Queensland Athletics. The Association has continued to defy the National trend in registrations and once again has recorded a small but satisfactory growth in membership. This factor, together with a highly satisfactory financial result, has been achieved in a time of economic uncertainty in the community and is an indication of the sound management of the Association's affairs by the Board of Management and the administration.

Highlights of the year have been numerous however, pride of place should be given to Queensland's senior women athletes who for the first time ever won the Champions Trophy at the Australian Track & Field Championships in Sydney in February.

During the year the QAA conducted successful Cross Country and Track & Field Interclubs. The Track & Field Interclub again featured the Veterans competition commencing at 8.30am which then continued combined with the Juniors competition (8-13 years) commencing at 10.20am. Both groups appreciated the supportive mix of "young and old". At the conclusion of these competitions the senior events (14 years and over) commenced at 1.00pm continuing throughout the afternoon.

Once again the Australian Marathon Championship on the Gold Coast, incorporating the Queensland and Queensland Veterans Marathon Championships, was an outstanding success. The Association also conducted the Australian All Schools Road Walking Championships in conjunction with the Australian 20km (Men) and 10km (Women) Road Walking Championships at Davies Park in conjunction with the Australian Federation of Race Walking Clubs Carnival and the presence of World-class competitors, Kerry Saxby, Simon Baker and Andrew Jachno, ensured a large crowd of spectators and unprecedented media coverage.

In February, 1991 the QAAL conducted the Brisbane Sugar Games, part of the Mobil Grand Prix Series and this event was an outstanding success, both on and off the arena.

All Queensland State Championships were adequately conducted during the year with the State Track & Field Championships being particularly notable for the number of entries and the quality of the competition. This year's Queensland Country Championships were hosted by the Bundaberg Club and the North Queensland Championships by Townsville North Star. Both were outstandingly successful.

There is still a need to retain more senior athletes in country clubs and there are encouraging signs with some Club organising invitational Carnivals which will eventually provide a "circuit" of competition for older athletes. The provision of representative opportunities such as the Oceania Championships and Arafura Games are also of vital importance.

Queensland Athletics is in a reasonably sound position both financially and in terms of membership. However, we can be and indeed must be much stronger. There is a great and pressing need for the Association to devote a great deal of effort to determining how to encourage into our ranks the large body of school athletes, fun runners and power walkers who already participate in the sport outside our organisation. We must also devise ways of ensuring that Little Athletes carry on into QAA ranks once their time with Little A's is over.

There is no question that these people are out there. The challenge for athletics is to bring them under our umbrella.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION INC.

President: Mr. Brian Gleeson
Secretary: Mr. John Harding

Overall ACT Athletics has had a good year - financially, administratively and competitively. There have been a number of changes which have, as a first priority, resulted in an improved financial position and secondly, some efficiencies in conducting our affairs and competition.

The major event on the competition calendar was the hosting of the Australian Road Racing Championships. The women's event was brilliantly won by Krishna Stanton, on her comeback trail and the men's event was taken out by Brad Camp. The ACT mens' and the womens' teams won gold medals.

Former world record holder Sue Cook won the Australian 20kms road walk title in a tremendous comeback. Among the junior walkers, Gary Vogler won three national titles during the winter. Other highlights of our track and field performances during the year were Andrew Lloyd's new Australian Record over 3000m at the AIS - Coca Cola Distance meet, Rod Higgins' win in the 5000m at the Australian Championships and the gold medals by Susan Read, Greg Mace and Kirran Moss in the junior national titles at Perth.

Initial work has been undertaken towards the establishment of the Athletics Council, which would consist of all the representative athletic bodies in the ACT. The Council would perform umbrella responsibilities of liaison, funding and facilities negotiations with ACT Government and related bodies and also co-ordinate increased efforts on the development front.

Several discussions were held with ACT Government officials during the year with a view to improving our current relationship and maintaining their support for athletics in the ACT. I see this relationship as being very important with regard to improving the exposure of ACT athletics and in enhancing our financial support from the Government.

During the year, the inaugural Corporate Games were conducted and were considered to be a worthwhile initiative. Other major events during the year included the AIS/Seiko Classic and the AIS/Coca Cola Distance Meet. Both these events were rated very highly and demonstrated that ACT Athletics has a justifiably high reputation across Australia in conducting major athletic events.

ATHLETICS TASMANIA

President: Mr. Ken McNamara
Admin. Director: Mr. Noel Ruddock

The 1990/91 season has been a very busy but rewarding twelve months with many positive achievements for the sport including -

- * the reorganisation of the State administrative structure
- * the inaugural State Conference of Athletics Tasmania
- * the appointment of a Development and Promotions Officer -
the first full time employee in athletics in this State
- * the organisation and staging of three Australian Championship meetings over a five month period -
 - * Cross Country Championships in September
 - * All Schools Track and Field in December
 - * Relays for Senior and Under 20 Men and Women in January

The organisation of these events and the manner in which they were conducted by our officials again highlighted the ability of Tasmania to conduct the best athletics meets in Australia.

The State had five athletes selected in the Australian Junior Team which contested the World Junior Championships in Bulgaria and these athletes, Andrea Hughes, Susan Andrews, Joanna Campbell-Smith, Simon Hollingsworth and Kealin Hanigan all gained valuable experience for their future athletic careers.

Amongst other individual highlights for the State were the win of the Tasmanian women in the Open 4x400m Relay Championship and the performance of Andrea Hughes who won the Under 17, 18, 19 and 20 Australian High Jump Championships.

One of the major reasons for the continuing improvement in performances is the work of our coaches and while there is still a requirement for more coaches there is considerable quality in those that we do have.

ATHLETICS VICTORIA

President: Dr. Brian Hodgson
Secretary: Ms. Sharon Stewart

Gregor Mason, after 5 years of excellent service as Executive Director, decided to enter the commercial sector. Sharon Stewart as Secretary is now the most senior executive who has the skills to provide sound administrative practices.

The most recent initiatives of the Heart Health Junior Athletic Programme have seen the utilisation of senior athletes in the role of clinic instructors under the direction of David Culbert. This has effectively increased the flexibility of the programme. The 1989/90 Heart Health Victorian Junior Athlete Squad was a much needed initiative for junior athletes in Victoria. Other resources developed as part of the 1989/90 sponsorship programme such as Invitation Passes and a Teacher's Kit are being widely distributed throughout the State through clinic programmes.

All School Winter and Summer events were once again very well supported by an increasing number of schools from throughout Victoria.

The 1990 Winter Season saw another successful year of competition throughout the State with increasing numbers of participants seen in each of Cross Country, Road Walking and Walking Events. Success of Victorian and other State walkers has done much to raise the profile of walking in this State.

The Winter Challenge Series for intellectually handicapped athletes has developed since its introduction as a 1km race in the 1989 season. Three events were conducted throughout 1990 and a VICSRAPID premiership is now contested.

The major innovation of the Summer season was the change to Women's "A" Grade competition which was conducted in conjunction with Men's "A" Grade. These competitions were keenly contested and no team was able to complete the season undefeated.

Scheduling difficulties were faced by the Summer Competition Committee with the 1991 National Open and Under 20 Track and Field Championships in February rather than late March.

The NEC Meeting in February, 1991 was certainly the best athletic meeting held in Melbourne for many years.

Victoria had 9 athletes selected in the Australian Junior Team for the World Junior Championships in Bulgaria.

Inspiring efforts came from Tim Forsyth (named Mobil Grand Prix Athlete of the Year) and Rohan Robinson (named MLC Junior Sports Achiever of the Year).

OBITUARIES

BLUE, THOMAS CRAMPTON: Tom was involved in many sporting pursuits during his life. He played and refereed rugby union but his most notable achievements were with athletics and the Olympic movement.

Tom became President of the QAAA in 1959, a position he held until 1984. During this period he was a leader by example. He, with much manual effort, made Lmag Park the best grass track in Australia by giving it a cinders and rubber buffings base. He improved the finances of the Association by organising canteens at many school sports at Lang Park and spent many hours in them selling his beloved hot pies. Not only did he do this but he was for many years a timekeeper at competitions. He was responsible for raising \$6,000 as Queensland's quota to the AAUA's Ronald Clarke Foundation.

Tom was awarded the British Empire Medal in 1983 and made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1989. The Association bestowed Life Membership on him in 1973. As well as the above awards he was made a Life Member of the Athletic Union of Australia in 1980 and both the Queensland Olympic Council and the Australian Olympic Federation recognised his contribution to the Olympic movement with Life Memberships.

Tom attended his first AAUA Conference in 1960 which was the forerunner of many and served in many capacities with the Union including Vice-President and Board member.

Tom was President of the Queensland Olympic Council from 1964 to 1991 when ill-health forced him to stand down. His forte in this movement was his ability to organise the fund-raising for team appeals and he would have raised millions over the years. He chaired the Olympic Federation's Justification Committee and attended many Games, particularly as a member of the advance party. He fought hard, and won, for the right of Australian athletes to compete in the Moscow Olympics when the Federal Government and many of the hierarchy of the Union wanted a boycott.

He was a *hands-on* and not a *sit-back* man.

T.C., as he liked to be called, passed away, appropriately perhaps, on Anzac Day.

LEST WE FORGET

HUGHES, LAURIE: Laurie met a tragic death because of his love for the sport. He returned home from holidays so that he could attend a competition at QEII but fate dealt a cruel blow.

Laurie gave more than 20 years to the sport as an official and gave much assistance and encouragement to many athletes and officials in the Association and his club. He was a valued member of Mayne Harriers.

Laurie spent all his working life with the Education Department rising from teacher to Headmaster and finally Inspector of Schools. He was much respected by all who had contact with him. He was also a gardening enthusiast with a special interest in hibiscus bushes.

His calm and efficient manner helped make him an expert Long Jump and Triple Jump official and he officiated at school, club, national and international level including the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane and the 1985 World Cup in Canberra.

WISE, CLIVE: Clive 'Froggy' Wise was an institution as far as athletics is concerned in Tasmania and even Australia. His association with the sport started as a teenage competitor and went on to cover just about every facet. He was TAAA Treasurer in 1936/37 and was strongly involved in the reformation of the Association in 1945. He was the starter for many years (only one was needed) from 1945 onwards and then graduated to Track Referee. In addition, in those days when there was quite a lot of handicap events conducted he was appointed Handicapper in 1948. There wasn't a great deal of science in the marks he gave but the races usually produced close finishes and wins were spread around.

As an on ground official the highlight would probably be acting at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. Off the ground he was manager of many Tasmanian teams. In those times with small teams his coaching ability was called upon also. It was in this area he probably had most influence on athletics in the 64 years in which he was involved. Good, average and poor athletes all came the same to Froggy - he gave them all equal time and treated them the same. His great sense of humour came to the fore with the many nicknames he gave to competitors such as Muscles, Thumper, Blossom, Waltzing Lily and Fowlyard and many, many more. His greatest achievement as a coach was appointment as coach of the Australian Team to the 1960 Tokyo Olympic Games. Although it was a great honour, and a very rewarding experience, it was very demanding and perhaps not the one he remembered with greatest pleasure.

As an administrator he filled many Club, Branch and Association positions and was rewarded with Life Membership of all three in 1950 as well as the Merit Award of the Australian Athletic Union in 1969.

Froggy often livened up committee meetings acting on many occasions as "a devil's advocate" but after the particular matter was resolved everything was back to normal. As he grew older he seemed to like to stick to the "status quo" and it is sometimes thought that a lot of the revolutionary changes that have taken place in the sport in the last few years were hard for him to accept, but accept them he did.

He will be sadly missed but will be remembered with great affection by all who knew him.