



Athletics Australia
ABN 72 006 447 294

Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting of Athletics Australia held on 25 October 2024 (10.00am) at Athletics House, (Catherine Freeman Room) ground floor, 31 Aughtie Drive, Albert Park VIC 3206.

Ordinary Business

1. Welcome, apologies and obituaries

Jane Flemming, Chair of Athletics Australia welcomed Members, Directors, Life Governors, Life Members, Athletics Australia staff and invited guests to the Annual General Meeting. The Chair provided an Acknowledgement of Country:

Athletics Australia acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we walk, run, jump, throw and roll. We pay our deepest respects to Indigenous elders throughout Australia, both past and present.'

The Chair introduced the directors of the Company, confirmed a quorum was present and opened the meeting at 10.00am.

The Chair asked the Company Secretary to note apologies to the meeting (below):

<u>Apologies</u>	<u>Position</u>
Ian Boswell	Life Governor
Roy Boyd	Life Governor
Brenda Pearl OAM	Life Governor
Lorraine Morgan AM	Life Governor
Dennis Wilson AM	Life Governor
Anne Lord OAM	Life Member
Susan Hobson	Life Member
Dave Cundy	Life Member
Gerard Ryan	Life Member
Helen Lee	Life Member
Heather Mitchell	Life Member
Bob Cruise	Life Member
Tony Rice	Life Member
David Tarbotton	Life Member
Peter Donovan	Life Member
Wayne Fletcher	Life Member

Other Apologies

Jill Davies	AA Vice President
Rob Fildes	Former President
Nic Bideau	Staff, Athletics Australia
Victoria Moore	Staff, Athletics Australia
Michael Angus	Staff, Athletics Australia
Paul Jenes	Staff, Athletics Australia
Maggie Trewin	Staff, Athletics Australia
Sam Ajisafe	Staff, Athletics Australia
Charlotte Hunter	Staff, Athletics Australia
Craig Pickering	Staff, Athletics Australia

Present	Position
<u>Company Directors</u>	
Jane Flemming	President and Chair, Athletics Australia
Brian Miller	Vice President, Athletics Australia
Anna Cicogani	Director, Athletics Australia
Steve Moneghetti	Director, Athletics Australia
Megan Dwyer	Director, Athletics Australia
Merrick Howes	Director, Athletics Australia
Brian Miller	Director, Athletics Australia
Ben Sellenger	Director, Athletics Australia
<u>Members, Delegates</u>	
Andrea Pook	Director, Athletics Northern Territory
Clare Burton	Director, Athletics Victoria
Damon Thomas	President, Athletics Tasmania
Jane Russo	President, Athletics South Australia
Matthew Whitbread	President, Athletics New South Wales
Tim Lyons	Chair, Athletics West
Yvonne Mullins	President, Queensland Athletics
<u>Members, Executives</u>	
Adam Horner	Executive Officer, Athletics ACT
Blake Steele	EO, Athletics Tasmania
Christian Renford	CEO, Athletics New South Wales
David Gynther	CEO, Queensland Athletics (Online)
Leanne Chin	Executive Officer, Athletics Northern Territory
Matthew Duck	CEO, Athletics Victoria
Shane Fuller	CEO, Athletics South Australia
Vince Del Prete	CEO, Athletics West
<u>Life Governors and Life Members</u>	
Chris Wardlaw PSM	Life Governor
Peter Hamilton	Life Governor
Brian Roe OAM	Life Governor
David Grace AM QC	Life Member
Ian Jones	Life Member
<u>Invited Guests</u>	
Peter Bromley	Former CEO
Sandra Zuo	Grant Thornton Pty Ltd
<u>AA Staff</u>	
Simon Hollingsworth	Chief Executive Officer
Dorothy Taxakis	Company Secretary
Adam Bishop	Executive, Athletics Australia
Andrew Faichney	Executive, Athletics Australia
Karen Murphy	Executive, Athletics Australia
Brian Sefo	Executive, Athletics Australia
Steve Caddy	Staff, Athletics Australia
Emily Calwell	Staff, Athletics Australia
Jemma Caon	Staff, Athletics Australia
Chris Brophy	Staff, Athletics Australia
Lindsey Mersey	Staff, Athletics Australia
Leigh Meredith	Staff, Athletics Australia

The Chair invited AA Life Governor, Brian Roe OAM, to read out the names of the members of the athletics family who had passed away since the last AGM (Appendix one, below).

One minute silence was observed for all these people who have given such wonderful service to the sport.

2. Minutes of the previous Annual General meeting

The Chair introduced the first item of business, which was the minutes of the 38th AGM of Athletics Australia held on 20 October 2023. No questions were raised regarding the minutes, and these were adopted as a true and correct record of the 2023 AGM.

3. President's Report

The President's Report on the affairs of the Company was tabled for the reporting year. The report noted the following highlights and acknowledgements:

- Pivotal achievements including AA being named the World Athletics Member Federation of the Year at the conclusion of 2023.
- World championship success with athletes bringing home a record six medals at the World Athletics Championships in Budapest. The Chair acknowledged and thanked GM High Performance, Andrew Faichney for his contribution.
- Noted the 2024 Chemist Warehouse Australian Summer Season which drew record crowds and television audiences, showcasing just how much the sport has captured the public's interest.
- Historic success (beyond the reporting period) included the 2024 Olympics (7 medals), the World Under-20 Championships (14 medals and 28 finalists), and the Paralympic Games which comprised of a cross section of ages from seniors to juniors, with the youngest medallist only 15 years of age.
- A particular highlight has been the Sydney Marathon, which broke its own record with 25,000 participants. This is now being considered for the 7th major marathon candidacy.
- Welcomed Athletics Australia's new CEO Simon Hollingsworth, noting he is a two-times Olympian and is well placed to continue this momentum until 2032 and beyond, including key learnings from the 2000 Olympic games.
- Finally, the Chair expressed her deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the success of Australian athletics this year, including Athletics Australia Staff and the Company Secretary.
- The Chair thanked the Member Associations, athletes, coaches, volunteers and officials, for their tireless contributions to the sport.
- The Chair also thanked her fellow Board Members and incredible staff for their unwavering commitment, leadership, and countless hours of hard work throughout the year. The Chair acknowledged and thanked Vice President Jill Davies, who has been instrumental in the success of the Board and has also contributed as a member on the AFRC committee. Jill Davies has also driven the reestablishment of the Strategic Charter for the Organisation and its Members. The Chair confirmed that Jill Davies has volunteered to stay on as a member of the AFRC for a further 12 months.

- The Chair acknowledged and thanked the outgoing CEO, Peter Bromley for his many years of dedicated service. Peter's vision has been instrumental in steering the organisation for the past three years and has laid the foundation for the long-term success of the organisation.
- Finally, the Chair thanked all key stakeholders, including National Institutes Network, the Australian Sports Commission and the Athletes Commission.

4. CEO's Report

The CEO's Report on the affairs of the Company was tabled. The CEO thanked the Board for putting their trust in him to lead the sport. The CEO reflected on the past year and the report provided the following highlights and acknowledgments:

- Australian athletics is entering a golden era and setting itself up for success in 2032 and beyond. Achievements on the world stage over the last year have created a strong foundation for the future.
- High performance success delivering outstanding results internationally. Special mentions included Nina Kennedy (Budapest World Championships) and Australia's Para-athletes including James Turner and Vanessa Low.
- On the domestic front, the CEO noted the huge success the 2023/24 season, with special thanks given to Chemist Warehouse for its support, noting a 52% increase in attendees over the previous year (192% growth since 2022).
- Grassroots programs noting the launch of Next Athletics for kids aged 3-12. Building this program is a priority for the sport, presenting as an opportunity to introduce kids to athletics in an age-appropriate way. Additionally, growth in sporting schools program participation, and continued expansion of athletics in the outback with the support of our Partner Rio Tinto.
- Commercial and event success update, with the Sydney Marathon approaching world marathon major candidacy of which we will know the outcomes in the coming weeks.
- Welcomed new commercial partners – including Polytan, Hart Sport, and Victoria University, while strengthening relationships with Rio Tinto, Puma, and Chemist Warehouse. Partnerships with the Australian Olympic Committee, Paralympics Australia and Commonwealth Games Australia are key to our future success.
- Focus on People and Culture whereby Athletics Australia has a committed workforce who go above and beyond in doing what is required to get the job done. There is a strong focus on wellbeing and career development initiatives. Additionally, the employee engagement survey participation scores showed 90% participation and 70% engagement scores which are strong results across industry benchmarks. The CEO thanked all staff for their contribution to the sport.
- Future outlook including laying the groundwork for continued success in the lead up to Brisbane 2032.
- Finally, the CEO thanked key stakeholders including the Member Associations, partners and the Australian Government for its ongoing support as well as the athletics community who drive the passion and success of the sport.

5. Financial Statements and Reports

The Chair noted that the *Corporations Act 2001* requires financial statements, Directors Report, Directors Declaration and Auditors Report for the financial year ending 30 June 2024 to be tabled.

No questions were received on the reports.

The Chair thanked the General Manager Finance Chris Brophy for his efforts, noting that the rigour of financial reporting has improved dramatically, and thanked AFRC Chair, Jeff Cook for helping raise the standard, trajectory and leadership with regards to audit, finance and risk reporting.

6. Election/Ratification of Directors

The Chair reminded attendees that the proposed resolutions for the election of directors had been set out in the Notice of Meeting, provided to members on 26 September 2024. The resolutions asked members to elect directors Megan Dwyer and Brian Miller as directors of the Company in accordance with Clause 28 of the Constitution.

The Chair confirmed that Members had now signed the resolution unanimously (under clause 25 of the Constitution) and confirmed the election of Megan Dwyer and Brian Miller.

The Chair noted Vice President Jill Davies' contribution to the organisation and thanked her for all her significant efforts. The Chair confirmed that the director vacancy and appointment process has progressed well and that, due to timing, the director ratification will be submitted at the 2025 AGM.

7. Election of Auditors

The Chair confirmed that, under clause 60 of the Constitution, the voting members had all signed a resolution to unanimously agree for Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd to be reappointment as auditor of the Company.

The Chair also thanked the auditors for their work over the previous year.

8. Special Awards

Under clause 25 of the Athletics Australia Constitution, the members unanimously agreed by written resolution that:

Under clause 7.7 of the Constitution, Honorary Life Membership be conferred upon the following individuals nominated by the Special Awards Committee and whose candidacy has been approved by the Board.

Honorary Life Membership

- Neil Boden (ACT)
- Peter Bromley (NSW)

Brian Roe, Life Governor, read citations describing the outstanding contributions that each of these individuals has made to the sport.

Peter Bromley addressed the meeting and expressed his appreciation for the award.

The Chair congratulated the new Life Members on their awards and thanked them for their contribution to athletics.

9. Other Business

No further business was raised by Members, Life Governors or Life Members.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10.45am.

Signed as a true and correct record.

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Chair/President

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Date

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ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023-2024

OBITUARIES

DURING 2022 – 2023 REPORT YEAR

Frank Stephens (Qld) - Official

DURING 2023 – 2024 REPORT YEAR

Ted Allsopp (Vic) – Olympian (Race Walking)

EC (Ted) Best AM (Tas) – AT Merit Award Holder

Gary Bourne (Qld) – AA Life Member, Elite Coach

Nancy Boyle (Vic) – World Record Holder (440 yards)

Denis Brazil (Qld) – National Technical Official

Gavan Breen AO (Vic/Tas/NT) – Athlete

Peter Bruce (Vic) – National Marathon Medallist

Dianne (Bowering) Burge (SA) – Olympic Finalist, triple Commonwealth Champion

Jackie Byrnes OAM – AA Life Member, Elite Coach

Kevin Coombs OAM (Vic) – Paralympian

David Carr (WA) – AWA Life Member, AA Platinum Pin, Athlete

Mark Dadswell (Vic) – Sports Photographer, Runner

Norman Duff (Vic) – National Marathon Medallist

Tracey Freeman (Qld) – Six-times Paralympic Champion

Terry Giddy (NSW) – Paralympic Champion in Discus Throw

Jean Harmey JP (NSW) – AA Life Member, National Technical Official

Stephen Hough (Vic) - Official

John Hunt (ACT) – Coach, Athlete

Stephen Jackson (NSW) – International Road Course Measurer

Graham Kent (NSW) – ANSW Life Member, Club Administrator

Duane King (Qld) – National Technical Official

Gwen King (SA) – ASA Life Member

Heather Marshall (Tas) – National Technical Official

Ron Miller (Vic) – Official, Club Administrator

Brian Randall OAM (Vic) - Athlete

Mandy Robertson (NSW) – Coach, State Team Manager

Christopher Shute (NSW) – World Under 20 Championships Representative

Lorraine Smith (Vic) – National Technical Official, AV Merit Award Holder

Rudolf Sopko (NSW) - National Coach, National Team Coach

Pauline Stevens OAM (Qld) – AA Platinum, National Technical Official

Ron Stobaus OAM (Vic) – Coach, Club Administrator

Jenny Stevenson (Tas) – AT Merit Award Holder

Judy Vecellio (NSW – National Technical Official

Yvonne Waters (Vic) – National Medallist (Race Walking)

Geoff Warren (Vic) – Commonwealth Games Representative (3 and 6 Miles)

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Max Debnam (NSW) – AA Life Member, National Team Official

Kevan Gosper AO (NSW) - Olympic Silver Medalist, Commonwealth Champion, Administrator

David Morrow OAM (NSW) – Sports Broadcaster

John Murray (Vic) – World Record Holder

Terry Reade (Vic) – National Team Manager, Coach

Peter Vassella Snr (NSW) – Olympic 400m Finalist, National Champion

Jeanine Ward (NSW) – World Under 20 Championships Representative, National U20 Champion