

NSWMA ANNUAL REPORT 2014

This past 2013/2014 season has again been busy and successful for NSWMA, and naturally not without its challenges.

Competition

It has been a massive 12 months of competition opportunities for our members, both here and abroad:

August 2013:

World Masters Games - Torino Italy– 21 NSW athletes headed off to Torino Italy for the 8th World Masters Games

October 2013:

World Masters Athletics Championships (Outdoor) – Porto Alegre Brazil – 18 NSWMA members attended, with many great results and records. There were a great many NSW medals in that total.

January 2014:

Country Championships – were held in Wollongong, with many Masters athletes attending.

February 2014:

NSW Throws Pentathlon Championships – Campbelltown – again a huge day with a good turnout, and many records tumbling.

ANSW State Championships – Glendale – a change from the norm with our State Championships being held out of Sydney. A good venue and a good weekend away had by many from reports.

March 2014

AMA National Championships – Hobart Tasmania – 146 NSW athletes trekked to sunny Hobart in early March to compete in our national competition. Our final medal tally put us in 1st place, with **311** (121 G, 112 S, 78 B). Go Team NSW!

NSWMA Heavy Weight Pentathlon Championships were hosted again by Athletics Wollongong, and this year was held without the torrential downpour of 2013's inaugural event!

World Masters Athletics Championships (Indoor) – Budapest Hungary

NSW athletes joined the largest Australian team to enter in an Indoor World Championship, with stunning results and records.

Communication

This season we implemented a new **Country Ambassadors** program in NSW, appointing established athletes in six regional NSW areas to be a first point of contact and liaison person for members in their particular area. Having local contacts for NSWMA will improve our visibility in these regional areas, and assist in getting us better known in areas where we have previously not had great presence. With this in mind, we were pleased to announce the appointments of:

Central Coast – Kathleen Cook / New England – Jay Stone / Hunter region - Simon White / South Coast – Lynda Douglas / Dubbo/Orange – Ricard Meiring / Blue Mountains – Ranell Hobson.

We continue to produce The Waratah, our hardcopy newsletter, four times a year and a frequent email newsletter to members.

Awards

The Club has continued its successful awards luncheon held at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club on June 1 2014. Athletics NSW also include masters' categories in their annual awards.

Membership

The Club currently has 357 financial members which has us maintaining a steady level. A high percentage of these attend the AMA Nationals. It is hoped that a local nationals in 2015 will stimulate membership further.

Relationship with Athletics NSW

We continue to work closely with Athletics NSW to ensure masters' athletes can avail themselves of the best opportunities for competition and enjoyment. A number of masters' age athletes are on the board of ANSW and masters' age athletes make up a large fraction of the total ANSW membership.

AMA National Championships 2015

The **LOC** (Local Organising Committee) for the 2015 Sydney Nationals has been set up, and is forging ahead with plans to run the event next Easter. At the time of writing all the necessary facets of planning are in hand. The venue is The Crest, Bankstown, the same as used for the 2001 Nationals. The dinner venue is also as used then, Bankstown Sports Club.

NSWMA Committee 2014/15

President: Stuart Gyngell
Vice President: Jill Taylor
Hon. Secretary: Mark Johnston
Hon. Treasurer: Anatoly Kirievsky
Registrar: Audrey Thomson
Records officer: Peter Murray
Field Rep: Jamie Muscat
Track rep: Chris Brack
Distance rep: Garry Womsley
Uniforms: Belinda Westcott
Website: Janie Carter

Mark Johnston
NSWMA Secretary