

2015 AMA National Championships – SYDNEY

Having the largest entry field yet for a National Championships certainly was an exciting prospect, but not without its issues:

Council re turfing one of our throwing areas certainly didn't help 2 weeks out, and there was a lot of reprogramming that had to be done, and a lot of fires to be put out over the 5 days we virtually camped out at the track.

3 days of pouring rain that was not expected, or invited, but came anyway.

The first championships to have no manual entries, and going forward all Championships entries will be made on line. Some teething problems with various credit card types, cookies needing to be enabled and people using very old computers, but in the end it all worked.

Thanks to the various State Secretaries who assisted their members with no internet access.

RECENT HISTORY OF AMA NATIONALS ATTENDANCE BY STATE

Year	Location	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	OS	TOTAL
2015	Sydney	53	334	7	61	27	20	100	46	18	666
2014	Hobart	30	146	9	52	25	136	77	36	15	526
2013	Canberra	107	217	11	47	36	25	120	63	10	636
2012	Melbourne	43	143	1	59	28	30	290	57	14	665
2011	Brisbane	41	134	1	230	25	18	97	49	24	619
2010	Perth	30	95	0	46	30	25	72	203	8	509
2009	Adelaide	35	110	0	62	127	23	75	51	4	487

Problems and issues we had yes, but we also got amazing feedback during and after the event, and I have received many emails and fb messages from athletes, thanking us for putting on such a great event. A huge success? Big tick.

Can't do an event like this without people helping, and huge thanks must go to:

Bankstown Athletics Club President Col Whitbread and his team of willing members out there were awesome, as was Matt Whitbread, who took photos, MC'd the dinner and was a great sounding board for me; **ANSW** Brent Haywood and his fabulous band of officials worked tirelessly throughout the event; **Ernie Leseberg** who set up the entry tool system, which will now be the footprint for future AMA Championships; **Kwik Kopy Castle Hill**, who somehow managed to print 700 programs in a day and a half and deliver them to Bankstown 2 hours before Registration started on the Thursday, and **Awards 'r Us** at Gladesville for designing our amazing medals and trophies, which everyone raved about.

The amazing LOC members who backed me up – **Stuart Gyngell** for taking on the mammoth task of the event scheduling, and trying to fit everything in for the benefit of the athletes; **Janie Carter** for her amazing website; **George Jankowski** and his team for handling the Awards Dinner so brilliantly, and also George for organizing the splendid Masseurs that were available all through the event; **Anatoly Kirievsky** as Treasurer who somehow managed to get us \$10,000

profit, even though we kept having to spend it on extra throwing circles, shuttle busses and technical incidentals like radios; **Adriana van Bockel** our Merchandise officer and her team who did a monumental job, and I believe we had the best merchandise of any championships; **Ellena Cubbin**, who stepped in with a week to go as Volunteer Co-ordinator, you were a true life saver; **Audrey and Jamie Muscat** for the registration check work and for organizing the Officials Thanks You BBQ; **Amanda Coombe** for facilitating our very well run Coaches/Athletes Forum, and **Ron Wills** for helping bring the vision of the Nationals Nostalgia Photo Display to life. Thanks also to Andrew Atkinson Howatt, Tracey Grozdanis and Margaret Walker for their time spent on the LOC.

My biggest thank you has to go to **Stuart G**, who had my back the whole time the past year, and let me be the one and only bus driver – your confidence in my ability to see my vision for running the Nationals through to the end was the biggest help of all, thank you!

There were many members who assisted on the Registration desk, with the Medals presentations and with helping at events - our gratitude to you also, thank so much.

When I took on the job all I got was 2 pages of the Sydney 2008 budget. No other notes or records. Going forward I plan to have a detailed record booklet of what we did, what suppliers were used, and what NSWMA would need to do differently next time it hosts....in 2023!

Jill Taylor
LOC Convenor
2015amasydney