

Port Hunter Zone Little Athletics Inc.
Minutes of General Meeting held 5th September 2013
At Raymond Terrace Bowling Club

Meeting opened: 7.15 pm

Present: Barbara Inglis Raymond Terrace; Anne Watts Woodberry; Victor Marshall Wallsend; Michelle Marshall Medowie; Lee-Anne O'Sullivan Stockton; Troy Morrison Tilligerry; Melisa Brown Myall Coast; Kylie Patteson Zone-Co; James Lorang Newcastle City.

Apologies:

John Terranova & Graham Searles

Previous Minutes:

Moved Anne Watts by Victor Marshall that the previous minutes be accepted.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Nil

Incoming Mail:

Board Minutes

- **Uniform Photo-book Update**

Based on the recommendation from the Championships Committee, the uniform photo book will be updated with 1 digital photo from each centre, showing athletes with all variations of the uniform. This book will then be printed and made accessible to call rooms and field events.

- **State Championships**

Taking into consideration the feedback from the Zone Coordinators Workshop that we attempt to not utilise the warm-up track for events so that it is available for warm-up, we have undertaken a review of the State Championships program of events. Unfortunately, when the actual timings are considered, this is not achievable without a very late finish each day. This also would affect recovery times and now that we have 3 heats due to the 24 starters, it cannot be done. Therefore a decision has been made to continue with the same program as last year with some minor adjustments.

We will have a safety coordinator permanently at the warm-up track for the entire 2½ days.

The final program will be available on the website at end of August. This will include the starting times.

- **Zone & Region Program**

The zone & region programs are ready to be put on the website. The zone program is the same as 2012. The region program is also the same as 2012, however there is an alternative version which allows for the conduct of the 3,000m only on the Friday night.

- **Calendar of Events**

In the dates grid in the printed calendar of events, 23 October should read Entries close for State Relays & Trans Tasman Trials.

LANSW Newsletter

- **Working With Children - Member Protection Declaration**

As advised at the recent Annual Conference, the process of working with children checks has changed given new legislation that has come into place. There has been some confusion from some members and centres as to who is required to apply for a check and who is exempt for current volunteers prior to 2015 which is when sporting clubs and volunteers are phased in. Please don't

look into the future for the time being. What we are concerned about is the current season.

We reiterate what was in the newsletter last month and what is on the actual declaration which is that all persons who do not have children participating in the Little Athletics activity at which they are volunteering will be required to complete the LANSW Member Protection Declaration, along with all volunteer and existing paid coaches and any other person assisting in a 'high risk' role. We reiterate that while the current legislation is "loose" in regards to the current season for volunteer sporting clubs we see it as good governance to facilitate our own policy in the meantime.

If your centre committee wishes to have all their parents sign this form, that is clearly your choice, but as a minimum for this season we require every person as highlighted above to sign this form.

See the website for a copy of the Member Protection Declaration.

- **Athlete Assistance Program**

Via the Athlete Assistance Program we can provide a discount or waive the registration fees for some athletes each year. It is hoped that by offering the Athlete Assistance Program, the LANSW can help to overcome the financial obstacles that prevent some young people from participating in our sport in NSW. Any persons applying for financial support under the Athlete Assistance Program need to make a clear statement indicating the reasons for their application, and be able to verify the claim of financial hardship. They must possess a Centrelink concession card. The program can provide up to a maximum of \$200 per athlete for registration fees and/or centre uniform and/or running shoes. Applications are assessed on a case by case basis, based upon the demonstrated need for funding assistance and the funding assistance sought. For details and an application form see the LANSW website.

- **Competition & Rule Changes - Conference Discussion Items**

- **Discussion Item D3** - 800m at the State Championships will have 2 heats of 12 with the first six athletes from each heat progressing through to the final plus the next four fastest times, therefore a final of 16 athletes.
- **Discussion Item D6** - State Relays 4x100m for Under 17 will now operate on the same basis as other age groups on the seniors day. i.e. centres with 200 or more athletes in the U8-U17 the previous season can now only enter a girls 4x100m and/or a boys 4x100m team. They cannot enter a mixed 4x100m team.

- **Rules of Competition**

The Rules of Competition are currently being updated and will be available on the website soon. A list of changes can be viewed in the full board report.

In summary:

- The uniform rule and protest rules have been rewritten into easier to understand English.
- Walks - the wording for 'caution' has been deleted and is now 'yellow paddle' and the word for 'warning' is now 'red card'. This is in line with the IAAF rule.
- It has been clarified when an athlete has to return to a field event after a clashing event. Entry into competition has also been clarified.
- On field protests can only be made by athletes in the U13-U17 age groups.
- 4 x200m at State Relays to be run entirely in lanes.
- Changes to reflect the above discussion items regarding the 800m heats to finals and the U17 4x100m relay.

- **School Holiday Clinics “Skills Clinics”**

After two very successful Skills Clinics last school holidays in July we are now ready to run clinics in the upcoming school holidays in September/October. We have had several requests from centre to host clinics. Those centres being St Georges Basin, Girraween, Blacktown, Wauchope, Kurri Kurri and Canterbury. Thus far we have pencilled in the following dates for clinics (tbc):

Monday, 23 September – St Georges Basin LAC (walks clinic specifically)

Tuesday, 24 September – Kiama LAC

Wednesday, 25 September – Girraween LAC (walks clinic specifically)

Thursday, 26 September – Blacktown LAC

Tuesday, 1 October – Kurri Kurri LAC & Griffith LAC

Wednesday, 2 October – Temora LAC & Canterbury LAC

Saturday 28th September ½ day Woodberry - \$20.00 9.00 am – 12.00 pm covering Sprints, LJ & HJ, SP online entries close 26th September.

St Johns have confirmed their attendance at the Zone Carnival but not for the Zone Multi as yet.

Out going mail – Nil

Correspondence moved by Lee-Anne O’Sullivan 2nd by Michelle Marshall that the correspondence be accepted.

Zone Co-ordinators Report:

2014 Annual Conference will be held at Cessnock Leagues Club.

Coca Cola will be contacting all centres that purchase from them re bonus points.

Treasurers Report:

No report due to Grahame’s absence.

General Business:

Barbara – If centres are interested in having their first aid kits checked Raymond Terrace have just had their 2 kits checked by Vital First Aid Supplies Pty Ltd phone 1300 356 350 and they checked everything for use by dates and replaced items and made the kits up to regulations for \$160.89.

James Lorang - mentioned that at recent first aid training that he had done it was suggested to contact Asthma Australia about asthma kits for centres and also for committees to discuss the necessity of having auto injectors in their first aid kits for anaphylaxis emergencies.

The Newcastle athletics track is hopefully going to be upgraded after meetings with Newcastle City Council. Grahame would possibly have more information on this as he has been involved with the upgrading of the High Jump area etc already.

Victor Marshall - Wallsend Gala day will be on 27th October and entries and information on events will be on the Wallsend website.

Melisa Brown – Myall Coast centre are now running on Monday nights. They have also received a donation from the Tea Gardens RSL of \$1000 for field marking for the season.

Current Registration Numbers
Stockton 53

Wallsend 145
Medowie 103
Myall Coast 20
Raymond Terrace 78
Woodberry 5 online but they haven't had their rego days yet.
Tilligerry - not registration days held yet
Newcastle City - haven't had rego days yet

Zone & Zone Multi officials.

Attached to these minutes is a list of current officials. Would all centres please check with their officials and let us know if they are still available at next month's meeting or by email.

Meeting closed 7.55 pm

Next Meeting: 3rd October 2013