



***ATHLETICS WELLINGTON INC***

*Annual Report*

*and*

*Statement of Accounts*

*For the year to 31 March 2017*

*Presented to the*

*Annual General Meeting*

*Tuesday 20 June 2017*

## OFFICE BEARERS 2016/17

Louise McDonald

### President

David Lonsdale

### Life Members

Clive Chandler, John Riseborough (dec 2016), Peter Tearle, Ray Wallis, Geoff Henry MNZM, Peter Jack, Alan Stevens MNZM, Jim Blair MNZM, Colin Maclachlan, Peter Maunder, Sylvia Maunder, Bruce Perry, Don Dalgliesh, Peter Rendall, David Lonsdale, Willy Szeto

### Chair

Andrew Cooper

### Board

4

Andrew Cooper (from June 2014)  
Tim Fulton (from August 2014)  
Hamish Girvan (from June 2014)  
~~Louise McDonald~~ (from June 2015)  
~~Vaughan Oates~~ (from Jan 2013)  
Michael Wray (from June 2016)  
Alessandro Pinna (from June 2016)  
Julian Watt (June 2016 – Jan 2017)  
~~Don Grant~~ (June 2016 – Nov 2016)

### Committee Chairs

Willy Szeto (Juniors)  
Charlie Nairne (Track & Field)  
Todd Stevens (XC&R)  
Hamish Girvan (Health & Safety)

### Officials Coordinator

Jim McIlroy

### Sport Development Manager

Jo Murray

### Administration Assistant

Rama Smith

### Treasurer

Todd Stevens

### Registrar

Vaughan Oates

## **Chairman's Report**

It is with pleasure that I submit this Chairman's report for the 2016/17 year, noting that this is my last report as I am stepping down from the Board at this AGM.

The sport in the Wellington region continued to prosper over the past year due to the hard work of Jo, Rama and our committed group of volunteers – officials, coaches, parent helpers, committee and board members. I would like to share with you some of the highlights as well as detail some of the Board's activities.

A snapshot of the many highlights over the past year, include:

- The continuation of Jo Murray and Rama Smith going above and beyond their paid roles to run and grow the sport. We have been very fortunate to have such high quality employees driving our sport, but it is with regret that we had to accept the resignation of Rama at the end of the financial year.
- Year 4 of the Kids Cross Country Series in 2016 saw the number of children continue to grow by a further 22% on Year 3 participation with total entries exceeding 2800. The support of the host clubs and the help of a large group of teenage volunteers has been fantastic and is a key contributor to the success of the series. The Cross Country Series has recently been named as a finalist in the Wellington Airport Regional Community Awards.
- We continued to promote and support Tempofit. Interest has been slower than had been hoped but we will continue to develop the programme to make it as appealing and relevant as possible.
- The Athletics Wellington Athlete Development (AWAD) Programme has gone from strength to strength, with a continual improvement focus thanks to the efforts of Mark Harris and Jo. This season saw the development of an Athlete and Coach Pathways document developed to reflect international standards around talent ID and development. The programme forms part of Sport NZ's performance framework with athletes and their coaches provided with targeted assistance in the areas of goal setting, performance plans, athlete life, nutrition, and strength and conditioning.
- A number of coaching and officials courses have been held over the past year allowing our region's existing and aspiring coaches and officials the opportunity to increase their skills and qualifications. We offer one of the most comprehensive course calendars in the country, and would like to specifically acknowledge Mark Harris and Jim McIlroy for their significant contributions in delivering our coach and official training programmes respectively.

- This year we have gone one better than 2016 with 5 finalists in the Wellington Sports Awards, recognising fantastic performances and contributions in athletics over the past year. Athletics finalists were Nick Willis (Sportsman of the Year), Jim McLroy (Official), James Preston (Emerging Sportsman), Amanda Goldsmith (Volunteer) and Jo Murray (Leadership).
- Congratulations to Amanda Goldsmith who won the Sport Wellington Volunteer of the Year award.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Athletics Wellington awards dinner was held in May 2017. It was a great occasion to recognise the performances of our sportswomen and men, and all of our volunteers. Thanks to those who took the time to submit nominations and to the selection panel for the difficult task of selecting finalists and our overall winners.
- On the competitive front:
  - Nick Willis had a stand-out year winning the 1500m bronze medal at the Rio Olympic Games.
  - Hamish Carson also competed in the 1500m at the Rio Olympics
  - Quentin Rew also competed at the Rio Olympics in the 20km and the 50km Road Walks.
  - For Masters, there were two World Championships in the year, Perth in Summer 2016 and Daegu in Winter 2017 and the following won World Titles:
    - Michael Wray, Jim Blair and Jacqueline Wilson won World Titles in their respective events.
    - Tony Price, John Hines, Peter Tearle, Daphne Jones and Andrea Harris were medallists.
  - Imogen Skelton has been selected to represent NZ at the Commonwealth Youth Games in the Bahamas in July 2017
  - Three new athletes have been named on the Athletics NZ Pathway to Podium programme - Tessa Hunt, Phoebe McKnight and Cam Robinson. They join Alex Haye, Libby Leikis and James Preston who are entering the second year of the P2P programme.
  - James Preston has also been named on the Performance Potential Squad
  - 5 Wellington athletes named to represent NZ at the Oceania Area and Combined Events Championships in Fiji from 28 June. They are Anna Thomson, Gerard Hickey, Cam Robinson, Tessa Hunt, Ellen Schaef.
  - Wellington Scottish won the Senior Men's and the Masters Women's races at the NZ Road Relay Champs. The masters women team successfully defended their title for the 6th year in a row.
  - The Wellington Harrier Athletic Club sent 13 teams to NZ Road Relays and tied for the best overall club. They finished 1st in the Masters Men 40, 50 and 60 grades and third in the senior women's grade.



- NZ Secondary Schools Cross Country team was Stefan Przychodzko, Tessa Hunt and Imogen Skelton
  - NZ Secondary Schools 2016 Paper Team - Cross Country: Tessa Hunt
  - NZ Secondary Schools 2016 Paper Team - Athletics: Tessa Hunt, Joshua Nairne, Nick Smith, Yasheek Rosario, Gerard Ahnau.
- On the coaching front, Mark Harris went on an IAAF Lecturers course in Korea and was one of 5 who passed from 20 international attendees.
  - Athletics Wellington is part of Sport Wellington's Coach Developers programme with 5 coach developers identified and receiving training in this area - Mike Ritchie, Andrea Harris, Simon England, Willy Szeto, Vanessa Chatfield.
  - Mark Harris has been identified by Sport Wellington as a high level Trainer for coach development and is one of the lead facilitators in coach education.
  - Wayne Andrews Paul, Evan Cooper and Mark Harris were selected onto the 2 year Performance Coach Advance program. This means we have had four coaches in total accepted for the program.
  - Shaka Sola won Coach of the Year at the Hutt Valley Sports Awards.
  - Jim McIlroy is on the short list for selection as an official for the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in 2018.
  - Dawn Melrose received an Athletics NZ Long Service Award for 20 years of commitment to athletics.
  - Bryan Rose was inducted as a Sports Wellington Legend at last week's Sport Wellington Sports Awards for his efforts over the years in cross country racing. Congratulations Bryan.
  - A special mention for Peter Jack who was awarded the Queen's Service Medal (QSM) in the recent Queen's Birthday honours for services to sport, particularly athletics. Peter's citation for his QSM reads:

*Mr Peter Jack has actively contributed to the welfare and growth of amateur athletics and club rugby in Wellington for 50 years. Mr Jack has been heavily involved with athletics in the Wellington area as a competitor, coach, official, organiser and administrator since 1964. He has been a key player in the development of the Kiwi Athletic Club and has held many positions since 1966, including Chairman and President. In 1990 he was awarded Life Membership in recognition of his contributions to the Club. Since 1980 he has been directly involved in Athletics Wellington and has helped with coaching, fundraising and administration. He was awarded an Athletics Wellington Long Service Award and Life Membership in 1995. He has officiated at Wellington and New Zealand Senior Athletics Championships for a wide range of events for more than 34 years. Since 1996 he has held numerous positions in the Wellington Football Club and has contributed to the organisation of*

*various competitions. His voluntary efforts have been instrumental in helping the various sports clubs to grow and reach new members. Mr Jack is a Life Member of the Wellington Rugby Supporters Club, having been a foundation and committee member over the course of 30 years involvement.*

## **Board activity**

The Board has formally met monthly over the past year, plus many other “coffee” meetings and email exchanges.

The primary focus of the Board is on governance and ensuring that the sport, principally through the work of the sub-committees, operates in a manner that meets the needs of those participating in our sport. It is important that we do not lose sight of this. I would like to thank the Board members for their time and diligence to the governance of our sport.

A key focus for the Board over the past year has been the development of a new Strategic Plan to provide direction for the Board over the next 5 years. The Board has put considerable time and thought into the development of the plan and will now use the plan to guide decision making on how to ensure our sport continues to be enjoyable and relevant to both current and future participants.

The vision and strategic outcomes set by the Board for the next 5 years are:

### **Vision:**

To grow opportunities for Wellingtonians to participate in and enjoy athletics

### **Strategic outcomes:**

1. Increased participation
2. Stronger clubs
3. Capable community
4. Effective partnerships
5. Performance pathways

The full Strategic Plan, together with a one page summary, is available on the Athletics Wellington website at:

<http://www.athleticswellington.org.nz/About-Us/Athletics-Wellington-Board>

In addition to the development of the strategic plan, key areas of focus for the Board over the past year have included:

- Support to Jo and Rama
- Support to the committees
- Building on the relationship with Athletics NZ
- Completion of the updated constitution and lodging with the Companies Office



- Recruitment of new Board members (discussed below)
- Seeking views of the sport, both formally through surveys, and informally through conversations – this feedback is being used to guide our planning for the future
- Governance of the sport's finances, including development of relationships with funders

A presentation of the draft Strategic Plan together with an update to Clubs on the Board's outcomes for the 2016/17 year and priorities for the 2017/18 year was provided in April 2017.

It was with sadness that the Board accepted the resignation of Rama Smith as Competition and Events Manager. Like Jo, Rama has always gone above and beyond what has been asked of her. She was a huge support to Jo and to the Track & Field Committee in particular. She will be missed and the Board has put in place interim measures to resource the events that Rama managed while we consider replacement options.

### **Board membership**

Another key focus for the Board over the past year has been to attract and recruit new Board members to replace recent departures and bring new talent onto the Board.

During the past year, two Board members – Julian Watt and Dan Grant resigned due to both relocating out of Wellington.

Myself, Louise Evans-McDonald and Vaughan Oates also gave notice during the year that we intend to step down at the AGM. And unfortunately, most recently Alessandro Pinna also resigned from the Board.

To fill the vacancies left by Julian and Dan and the pending departures of myself, Louise and Vaughan, the Board advertised for new Board members. We had a very pleasing response to this with some high calibre applicants expressing their interest in helping to serve the sport as a Board member. In accordance with the constitution, the Board is able to appoint Board members in addition to those elected to the Board by the AGM. To take advantage of the skills and experience offered by the strongest of the applicants and to strengthen and broaden the Board's capability, the Board appointed four new members.

The latest Board appointments are:

#### **Sue McLean**

Sue is a member of the Institute of Directors and is a senior ICT Manager with 20 years' experience working for large IT Vendors and for Government and Private Sector companies. Sue currently heads the IST Shared Services division within Transpower New Zealand. Sue brings to the board her passion in



corporate governance having recently completed her master's degree research on increasing diversity on corporate boards in New Zealand. Sue competed in track and field athletics in school and supported her two children through their individual chosen sports. Sue herself has twice competed in the Speight's Coast to Coast in the two-person veteran team category choosing the Mountain Run and Cycle legs as her disciplines.

#### **Nick Hegan**

Nick joined the Board in April 2017. He is a member of Olympic Harriers and a keen cross country runner, and has two teenage daughters who are competitive track and cross country runners. During the work week, Nick is Head of Legal & Compliance at Forsyth Barr and was previously a partner at Russell McVeagh. He is also chair of the Securities Industry Association and a member of the NZX Market Disciplinary Tribunal.

#### **Mark Dunlop**

Mark was appointed to the Board in April 2017. Mark is an experienced lawyer and executive who has a passion for sport and in ensuring opportunities for community participation. He is a member of the Institute of Directors and holds various governance roles across his professional and business interests. Mark is a passionate Wellingtonian and trail runner who is a keen supporter of his children and their peers in athletics. He is actively involved in junior sports coaching and management, with a particular interest in the dynamic between club and school. Mark is committed to applying his business and governance skills supporting the Athletics Wellington team and community in building on its successes and in partnering with others to deliver on our vision and 2017-21 strategic priorities.

#### **Jake Inwood**

Jake joined the Athletics Wellington Board in April 2017. Jake brings proven experience in leveraging commercial and grant funding partnership to support regional sport programmes and facilities. This experience will assist Athletics Wellington to develop further income streams to enable their programmes to expand. As well as this, Jake brings a wealth of knowledge of community and performance sport having been involved with both areas over the past few years with Wellington Hockey Association.

The recruitment of the new Board members over the last few months means that the Board remains at its required minimum number of seven members, despite the recent resignations.

#### **Board elections**

The Board of Athletics Wellington comprises:

- Four persons elected by the AGM
- At least three persons appointed by the Board

Refer clauses 15.2 and 15.3 of the constitution.



Due to the resignations of some of the Board's elected members, and to ensure the Board continues to comprise four elected members, the AGM is asked to elect the following members to the Board:

- Michael Wray
- Sue Mclean
- Nick Hegan

### **Acknowledgements**

The Board is very appreciative of the work undertaken by the committees and those who freely volunteer their time to oversee the operational delivery of our sport. In particular, the Board would like to acknowledge the significant contributions of the committee chairs – Willy Szeto (Junior Committee), Charlie Nairne (T&F Committee), Todd Stevens (Cross Country & Road) and Hamish Girvan (Health & Safety).

I would also like to thank our countless volunteers. We are a sport that relies on a huge number of hard working people in order to successfully operate – be they officials, coaches, administrators, volunteers. We would not have a sport without everyone's collective efforts. Often the work is 'thankless' but I can assure you that the Board deeply appreciates the time people have dedicated to athletics in Wellington.

## **2016/17 Athletics Wellington Annual Sports Awards**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Athletics Wellington Annual Sports Awards were held in May 2017.  
Awards winners were:

*Junior Para Athlete:* Isaiah Koura-Albert  
*Senior Para Athlete Women:* Libby Leikis  
*Senior Para Athlete Men:* Keelan Ward  
*Senior Walker:* Jacqueline Wilson,  
*Junior Thrower Girls:* Amania Mafi,  
*Junior Throwers Boys:* Zion Trigger-Faitele,  
*Senior Thrower Women:* Montaya Wharehinga  
*Senior Thrower Men:* Cam Robinson,  
*Junior Sprinter Girls:* Joint Winner - Alyssa Wilson and Chethana Witharana  
*Junior Sprinter Boys:* Khya Wilson  
*Senior Sprinter Women:* Veronica Gould  
*Senior Sprinter Men:* Nick Smith  
*Junior Jumpers Girls:* Josephine Reeves,  
*Junior Jumper Boys:* Roderick Solo  
*Senior Women Jumper:* Anna Thomson  
*Senior Men Jumper Men:* Scott Thomson  
*Junior Cross Country Girls:* Joint winners: Esther Kozyniak, Maia Wilkinson  
*Junior Cross Country Boys:* Finlay Seeds  
*Senior Cross Country & Road Women:* Katie Kemp  
*Senior Cross Country & Road Men:* Tony Price,  
*Junior Middle Distance Girls:* Maia Wilkinson,  
*Junior Middle Distance Boys:* Finlay Seeds,  
*Senior Middle Distance Women:* Kelsey Forman,  
*Senior Middle Distance Men:* Nick Willis,  
*Senior Distance Women:* Phoebe McKnight  
*Senior Distance Men:* Paul Martelletti  
*Female Team:* Scottish Masters Women  
*Male Team:* Scottish Senior Men,  
*Junior Female Volunteer:* Amanda Goldsmith,  
*Junior Male Volunteer:* Nga Holmes  
*Senior Volunteer:* Mark Harris,  
*Junior Female Coach:* Amanda Goldsmith,  
*Junior Male Coach:* Jonathon Harper,  
*Senior Coach:* Mark Harris,  
*Official:* Jim McIlroy,  
*Lifetime Achievement:* Fred Goodall  
*Life Members:* David Lonsdale & Willy Szeto  
*Top Thrower:* Cam Robinson  
*Top Female Athlete:* Kelsey Forman  
*Top Male Athlete:* Nick Willis

## **Track and Field Committee Report 2016/17 Season**

Having now completed my first full year as Chair of the T&F Committee we have had a number of challenges but also a good number of positives that seems to have been well received by the Athletic community.

We will have a number of challenges next season with the Council looking to relay the track in early December but the capital Classic is also looking to double up as a Commonwealth Trial that should be very exciting and a good time to showcase Wellington Athletics.

The introduction of the grand Prix events (GPs) have been a major change for us in Wellington and in general it has been well received. The highlight was over 300 athletes who performed at the GP event in October. We did get the predicted drop off after Xmas and we are also looking to new ways of making the non-GP Saturdays more meaningful. There is also discussion whether the prize money influenced attendance and this will be discussed over the coming weeks.

We took a slightly depleted team of 52 athletes representing Wellington to the National Track and Field Championships held in Hamilton with at least 8 gold medallists from last year either injured or unable to compete. We however exceeded expectations and had a number of outstanding performances. There were a number of double Gold medals and maybe the 800m was our most successful event with 7 individual podium places. The throwers did extremely well this year with much of Shaka and Brad's hard work paying off. Thanks to Julie, Don and Evan who helped to manage the squad and we look forward to going back to the same venue next year.

We have had a number of athletes selected for various NZ teams.

Imogen Skelton who has been named to compete at the Youth Commonwealth Games next month in the Bahamas  
Anna Thompson, Cam Robinson and Tessa Hunt selected to compete at the Oceania Area and Combined Events Championships in Fiji.

James Preston and Alison Andrews-Paul both performed extremely well at The World Junior Champs held in Poland last July.

The Wellington Champs were run over 2 days in March and produced some excellent results especially in the field events. We did run a number of events in preceeding Saturdays and the a discussion has been had to try to run the whole program over 2 full days and maybe a Friday night (excluding the 10k).

It was again pleasing to see so many show up for our planning meeting we had in May and many good new initiatives came out of that day that will be further explored over the winter. Thanks again to Jo and Andrew for helping get this event up and running.



Another high point of the year was the awards night that we had in early May. We had 150 people attend and the general feedback was that it was once again very well received. We have some work to do around the selection process of winners and this is being looked at now to find a more equitable system moving forward. Thanks again to Jo, Amanda Vaughan and David for helping in this process.

Another high point was the successful introduction of the new Wellington singlet that has been very well received. Having a coordinated approach across summer and winter also including the school teams has made the process viable and a big thank you to Cathryn for the design and Jo for pulling it all together. As usual without Jo this, like many other things involving Wellington Athletics, would never have happened!

Another commendable year for officials in challenging times when getting new blood into this area is proving extremely hard. Thanks again to Jim, Louise and their team in managing to cover everything we ask of them. I was particularly pleased with our officials numbers at Nationals (16) that was well above many other areas. We are still committed to looking at new ideas around trying to attract new officials, which, for obvious reasons, becomes more and more vital as the years roll on.

We have had some changes on the committee with Willie Szeto and David Robinson coming on board and are hopeful of some more new faces coming on over the winter. A big thank you to Ann, Vaughan, Tina, Stu and David for their help over the last 2 years. We are of course always keen to have new people wanting to join the committee.

A big thank you to Rama Smith who sadly decided to stand down this year and we wish her well in which ever sports is lucky to have her!

A quick note to congratulate Peter Jack on his Queens Service Medal for services to athletics that I understand is well over 50 years and still going!

Also hot of the press very many congratulations to Amanda who won Volunteer of the Year at the Wellington Sports Awards this week for her many great years of work with the kids of Titahi Bay and Olympic as well as countless managers duties with the IPs team over many years. Very well deserved.

Charlie Nairne  
Chair, Track and Field Committee



## **Cross Country & Road Committee Report** **2016**

The 2016 cross country and road season was again busy, with a full programme of club events, interclub events and New Zealand championships.

2016 also saw some significant changes to our winter interclub competition:

- The introduction of an online entry system, tied back to the ClubNet registration database;
- Personalised race bibs;
- Bar code finish line scanning allowing for the fast and accurate production of results;
- The Wellington XC champs held on a Sunday at a new venue, in conjunction with the Kids XC series;
- The first Centre in New Zealand to bring in gender equality for Centre Championships, with the equalisation of both distances and age groups for men and women;
- The move to both a long (10km) and short (5km) course championship for adult grades at our Wellington Championships, designed to increase the appeal of and therefore participation in our champs.

Getting support for changes and to try new things is not easy. Too often the voice of the minority and those not willing to move with the times drown progress and the sport slowly dies. Thank you to the clubs and individuals that supported these changes.

Athletes from Wellington again performed very well on the national scene and overall numbers competing in Wellington interclub events were solid.

Athletics Wellington representatives were selected for the North Island Cross Country Champs in Taupo, the NZ Cross Country in Auckland and the NZ Road in Masterton. It was fantastic to have yet another NZ champs in our Centre, and congratulations to Mark Harris in particular for putting together an excellent event. The team achieved 21 individual medals at the Road Champs, 18 for running and 3 for walks, and team medals in all 7 grades. At the NZXC we achieved 7 individual medals and we won team medals in all 6 grades in which we fielded teams.

Congratulations to Stephen Day and Dougal Thorburn on their selection in the New Zealand team to the World Mountain Running Championships. Their performances in the Champs in Bulgaria in September 2016 were excellent. Also, Dougal won the New Zealand Mountain Running title while Stephen had an outstanding year as a first year Master, winning all his races including the New Zealand Mountain Running and North Island Cross Country titles.

Katie Kemp had a standout performance winning the Oceania Marathon Title and Nick Horspool won the prestigious Rotorua marathon and along with it the NZ Marathon title.

Congratulations also to the Wellington Harrier Athletic Club for its joint win of the "Top Club" at the NZ Road Relay in Rotorua in October 2016 – always a competitive competition!

Many thanks to all officials, committee members, selectors, team managers and other volunteers for contributing their time and expertise. They have all played a vital role in keeping the sport ticking along. Thank you to the clubs which organised our interclub events. Particular thanks to:

Treasurer: Ken Howell  
Selectors: Don Dalglish, Evan Cooper, Rees Buck  
Chief Referee: Alan Stevens  
Chief Timekeeper: Dave Grattan  
Timing system / Results: Daryl Bloomfield  
Team Managers: Don Dalglish, Bev Hodge

Todd Stevens  
Chair, Cross Country and Road Subcommittee





## **Junior Committee Report 2016/17 season**

Chair: Willy Szeto

Secretary: Megan Hutchinson

The 2016/17 season was a busy one for the Athletics Wellington Junior Committee (AWJC) with increased numbers for most clubs as expected in an Olympic Games year.

The Wellington team placed 1st at the New Zealand Children's Athletics Association Grade 14/15 North Island Inter-Provincial Teams Meeting held in Inglewood in January. The athletes and the management team should be proud of their fantastic achievement.

Wellington were the Host Centre for the New Zealand Children's Athletics Association Grade 12/13 Inter-Provincial Teams Meeting held in Masterton over the Easter weekend.

Big thanks go out to my fellow LOC members which consisted of Megan Hutchinson, John Quinn and David Knox with additional help from Teresa and Gary Bartlett, Jo Murray and Rama Smith.

A massive amount of time and effort to get everything organised in time and get the meeting running smoothly over the 2 days of competition - from booking accommodation and meals for the teams (approx 500 athletes plus managers and officials), putting the team packs together, transporting the camera and electronic timing gear and 80 hurdles from Wellington, to providing the catering for the Managers Meeting after the Prize Giving, and everything else in between.

A big Thumbs Up to Mel Quinn and the parents and volunteers from the Wairarapa clubs who made the weekend so much easier with awesome food (happy officials) and providing the man-power to set up the tents and help as event officials and runners. The runners team and their managers are to be especially commended - I heard heaps of praise for how awesome they were from all the Team Management and Officials.

Thanks go out too to the Wellington officials who went over the hill and gave up most of their Easter weekend to help out.

Unfortunately we weren't able to secure a home win with the Wellington team placing 3rd behind Canterbury and the Auckland team taking out the top honours. A very good achievement as this is a National event with regional teams from Northland all the way down to Southland and every province in-between.

Obviously, everyone in both Wellington teams did their part to achieve such high Team placings and shows the depth of talent in the Wellington region for these age grades. This is due in no small part to the commitment of the club



coaches who coach the Junior age grades and the InterProvincial Training Squad coaching programmes that have been implemented over the past 5 seasons.

A big thanks to all those involved – the managers, selectors, coaches, parents and of course to the athletes themselves who put in the hard yards training and gave it their all over the weekend.

The AWJC Kids Cross Country series implemented 4 seasons ago continues to be a highlight for many of our junior athletes with numbers of registered entrants in the hundreds at each of the 5 meets around the Wellington region and hosted by the Karori, Upper Hutt, Hutt Valley, Olympic and Wellington clubs.

Confirmation that the team format is appealing and is encouraging more youngsters to give it a go.

Thanks to all those who put in the work in the background to make it a reality – the parents of the host clubs setting up and manning various positions around the courses, the rabbits (lead runners) and the tail-end charlies, the officials, and especial thanks to Jo Murray, Don Dalgliesh and Geoff Henry for their tiresome efforts throughout the winter part of the season.

The AWJC Champs continues to be an enjoyable experience with lots of happy young athletes, heaps of medals presented and very few hiccups in the program overall. This season we had 415 individual athletes aged 7-15 who competed at the AWJC Championships held in March.

A credit to all the parents and volunteers who were involved on both days and the huge hours put in the lead-up by Jo Murray & Rama Smith to ensure a smooth running event.

The weather wasn't on our side on the first scheduled day of the AWJC Champs so we had to revert to running all the 4x100m relays and Medley Relays at the end of each day of the AWJC Champs again.

Unfortunately for the AWJC we have lost the services of Rama Smith and soon Megan Hutchinson will also be moving on to other things. I thank them both for all the time and effort they have put into the AWJC over the years and personally for the many laughs and fond memories.

My thanks to all the parents and club volunteers who give up their time to make the Wellington Junior athletics scene an enjoyable sporting experience for our junior athletes: my fellow AWJC delegates, my fellow officials, and of course the parents and volunteers who help in whatever way they can at our InterClubs and Championship.

Willy Szeto  
Convenor Athletics Wellington Juniors Committee



## **Financial report – 2016/17**

Athletics Wellington has maintained a strong cash position over the past year, and finished the year with \$236,000 of cash deposits. However, an operating loss of \$65,000 was recorded for the year.

The loss is largely attributable to three factors: a depreciation charge (non cash) arising from significant equipment expenditure ahead of the 2014 NZ track & field champs; a planned investment in the Administration Assistant role; and the end of the three year Sport Development Manager funding assistance from Sport Wellington (KiwiSport) and Athletics NZ.

During the year the Board applied without success for funding grants to assist with the Administration Assistant role and for increased funding for the SDM role. Other funding avenues will be looked at in the coming year for the Administrative role, but in the meantime the role has ceased.

The Athletics Wellington financial model used involves each of the three subcommittees largely operating autonomously, with the Board having its own budget but maintaining oversight (and a degree of control consistent with good governance) of the subcommittees. All external funding applications are signed off by the Board.

Income from athlete levies was \$40k (with \$8k attributed to the Junior Committee). Significant funding has again come from NZ Community Trust for the SDM role.

Sanction fee income from Round the Bays was again \$10k off the back of Athletics Wellington helping with the event. \$10k was received from Lion Foundation towards Newtown Park hire costs, which was very gratefully received. Infinity Foundation contributed \$8k towards the completion of the Hammer Cage. A Pub Charity grant of \$3k was received to cover the development cost of the Athletics Wellington Sports App.

\$16k was received from allowing Athletics Wellington's equipment (with support from Officials) at Newtown Park to be used by other track users (mainly schools). The Kids XC series produced a small surplus, after sharing 50% of the profit with the participating clubs. New entry fees for summer track and field competitions was recycled back in the form of prizes and support for Officials.

Athletics Wellington has continued its investment into the key areas of coach development and talent development (the latter with assistance from Wellington City Council).

Todd Stevens  
Treasurer