

coles



Little
Athletics
Australia

ANNUAL REPORT 201920



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MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew Pryor
Andrew Gosling
Colin Segota
Jennifer Bryant
Melanie Woodward
Simone Pearce
Steve Ryan
Teresa Finlayson

STAFF

Martin Stillman
Chief Executive Officer

Ashlea Watt
Administration and Events Manager

Andrew Johnston
Participation, Development & Projects Manager

Sara Agnew
Finance Officer

Laura McGrane
LAA/AA Officials Coordinator

Phillip Davies
Legal Manager

Gavin Macdonald
One Athletics Program Manager

Todd Williams
Athletics Operations Manager



LIFE MEMBERS

LIFE MEMBERS

1978	Trevor Billingham BEM*
1978	Alan Triscott
1983	Keith Maughan
1983	Doug Hancy*
1985	C P (Paddy) Robinson*
1989	Don Blyth
1989	Mal Hastie
1989	Peter Shinnick
1996	George Harvey
2001	David Cramer
2002	Maxine Boyd*
2004	Anthony Libke
2005	Grahame Searles
2008	Brian Newton
2008	Michael Stubbs
2010	Alison Quirke
2010	Gary Mutton
2010	Marjorie McNamara
2010	Dennis Goodwin
2012	Ross Burridge
2018	Dereck Fineberg

AWARD OF MERIT

1999	Alan Letcher
2001	R O (Dick) Healey *
2002	John Crouch
2004	Brian Newton
2004	Arnold Hunt*
2005	Alison Quirke
2007	Don Baker
2008	Marjorie McNamara
2011	Garry House
2012	Pieter Bergshoeff

MERIT CERTIFICATES

1984	John McCarthy
1984	John Marsden
1984	Peter Shinnick

* Deceased

ROLL OF EXCELLENCE

TRACK & FIELD

2009	Nathan Deakes
2009	Melinda Gainsford- Taylor
2009	Steve Hooker
2009	Jana Pittman- Rawlinson
2009	Amy Winters
2010	Jane Saville
2010	John Steffensen
2011	Darren Clark
2011	Bronwyn Thompson
2012	Christine Stanton
2012	Debbie Wells
2013	Jane Flemming
2013	Sally Pearson
2014	Dani Samuels
2015	Nicole Boegman- Stewart
2016	Fabrice Lapierre
2016	Todd Hodgetts
2017	Kim Mickle
2018	Lauren Wells
2018	Jayden Sawyer
2019	Brandon Starc
2019	Kylie Wheeler
2019	Alana Quade
2019	Stuart Rendell

SPORTSPERSON

2009	Alisa Camplin
2009	George Gregan
2009	Nova Perris
2009	Kathy Watt
2009	John Worsfold
2010	Hollie Grima
2010	Geoff Ogilvy
2011	Natalie Von Bertouch
2011	Matt Giteau
2012	Simon Black
2012	Megan Marcks
2013	Kimberlee Green
2013	Patrick Mills
2014	Jarryd Hayne
2014	Joel Selwood
2015	Sally Fitzgibbons
2016	Jackie Pereira
2016	Liam de Young
2017	Mitchell Starc
2017	Jack Riewoldt
2018	Kimberley Brennan
2019	Alanna Kennedy
2019	Bradley Hardie

VOLUNTEERS

2009	Trevor Billingham *
2009	Doug Hancy *
2009	Barry Garment *
2009	Helen Moir
2009	Alan Triscott
2010	George Harvey
2010	Peter Wickes
2011	Jim Arkins *
2011	Maxine Boyd *
2012	David Cramer
2012	Robin Johnson
2013	Ken Gardiner
2013	Andrea Harvey
2014	Professor Marcus Vowels
2014	Alison Quirke
2015	Maria McConville
2016	Kaye Runge
2017	Bob Cruise
2018	Wendy Beisiegel *
2018	Ron Keys
2019	Robert Chalmers

ACHIEVERS

2009	John Maclean
2009	Mike Whitney
2009	Dr. Peter Larkins
2009	Kirsty Marshall
2010	Chris Bradshaw
2010	Janine Shepherd
2011	Paul Murray
2011	Brett Rosebury
2013	Shane Crawford
2014	Ryan Fitzgerald
2015	John Pearce
2015	Lenny Pearce
2016	Chelsea Roffey
2017	Rishelle Hume
2017	Andrew May
2018	John Phillimore
2018	Tony Buti
2019	Jacquelin Magnay

OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

2018	Julie Cousins
2019	Peter Boden

* Deceased



OUR MISSION

Little Athletics aims to develop children of all abilities by promoting positive attitudes and a healthy lifestyle through family and community involvement in athletics activities

PARTNERS

Coles Little Athletics Australia (LAA) acknowledges the important role played by partners in helping to deliver services and benefits to members and records its appreciation to the following companies for their support.

NAMING RIGHTS PARTNER

COLES

At Coles, we're proud to be a major partner of Little Athletics Australia. In addition to financial support, we have celebrated the partnership by donating over 3 million bananas to little athletes across the country whilst providing more than \$1 million of equipment grants to over 300 grassroots Little Athletics Centre's. We are passionate about our fresh food and we think this sponsorship is another way we can help Australians to lead healthier, happier lives.



SUPPORTING PARTNERS

ISC

ISC is one of Australia's leading sporting apparel companies and has come on board as the Official Uniform Supplier of the Australian Little Athletics Championships, National U15 Camp as well as being worn by LAA Staff and Board of Coles Little Athletics Australia.



V-INSURANCE

Coles Little Athletics Australia has established a very strong relationship with V-Insurance who have provided assistance and professional advice over many years in a wide range of Insurances including personal accident, public liability, equipment and professional indemnity. Support from V-Insurance ensures Coles Little Athletics Australia is able to provide athletes, Associations and Centres comprehensive and cost effective insurance.



V-INSURANCE GROUP
CORPORATE AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE OF WILLIS





COLES LITTLE ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA REPORTS

PRESIDENT

It is with a sense of cautious optimism that I present my report for the 2019/20 Annual Report of Coles Little Athletics Australia (LAA). The evolving Coronavirus pandemic is the great challenge of our time and its impacts have been felt across every aspect of our operations. The multi-faceted Little Athletics response forms the backdrop to this report.

In commending this report to you, I recognise CEO Martin Stillman's report and have endeavoured to reduce duplication to the extent possible.

RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS

The drama of early morning on the 13th of March 2020 precipitated a series of events that would culminate in the LAA Board convening an emergency meeting to assess the implications of the rapid escalation of the Coronavirus in Australia and crucial Government advice related to containment. That afternoon the Board would recommend that state and territory championship events not proceed. The Board would meet a further four times and the Audit and Risk Committee twice before the end of March.

The ongoing decline in circumstances led to the unprecedented 17 March decision to cancel the 2020 Coles Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC). At the same time, it was recommended that Little Athletics centres cease all activities, and that, where activities were to occur, certain constraints be imposed including social distancing. Later that month, LAA and Athletics Australia (AA) decided to extend the OneAthletics project timeline including member engagements and the merger vote.

These were tremendously difficult decisions and they were not made lightly. Nevertheless, history will show that these early and decisive actions in the interest of member safety and containment prevented even further disruption and unnecessary financial impacts.

The impact on LAA, our member associations (MA's), our centre committees and volunteers, and our members and their families, has been, and continues to be, profound. LAA's business continuity and risk management systems have been tested like never before, and the impacts of the pandemic on projects and our strategic initiatives continues to be felt.

It is with tremendous gratitude that I recognise the leadership of our Chief Executive Officer Martin Stillman,

whose resolve and focus has helped LAA and our stakeholders navigate a volatile and rapidly evolving landscape. His has been a 'steady hand' at the tiller. Martin and his team have worked remotely since mid-March, relying on our IT systems and virtual conferencing to deliver our COVID-19 response on top of business-as-usual commitments. The decline in circumstances in Victoria, specifically Melbourne, will continue to present challenges to our primarily Melbourne-based team.

I have been impressed with our community's efforts to implement the range of COVID-19 measures. Thank you for your responsibility and support in implementing these measures as they have and will remain instrumental in keeping yourself, the LAA team, our families, and the Little Athletics community and its partners safe and healthy. It will be important however, that we continue to support one another through this crisis, with awareness of trauma psychology expert warnings of the impact of COVID-19 on mental health.

ENGAGEMENT

Amidst the anguish caused by the pandemic, I am heartened by the extent to which the Little Athletics community has rallied to support one another. The determination to coordinate our response has resulted in an unprecedented level of engagement and good-will between LAA and the MA's. CEO Martin Stillman instigated a regular virtual meeting with his state and territory counterparts that has since expanded in scope to cover a broad range of subjects. At the time of writing, sixteen CEO meetings have been held, along with several meetings on specific agenda items. In addition, LAA has convened three meetings of the LAA and MA Presidents, and these are set to continue.

In an environment made extremely complex due to variation in advice across state and territory jurisdictions, LAA has worked hard to support the MA's collectively and in respect of their unique circumstances.

A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

History suggests that organisations that switch to survival mode or react defensively during downturns are more likely to struggle post the downturn. While our strategy of preparing for recovery in the midst of a pandemic might seem like a luxury, we believe that this is the right thing to do. There will be a recovery and the Little Athletics community must be prepared for it. It is important therefore that Little Athletics balance our COVID-19 response with positioning the organisation to emerge from this crisis with positive momentum and not 'flat-footed'.

To that end, and while it is appropriate that we prepare for the worst and continue to prioritise responding to issues as

they arise, we also need to remain open to opportunities to discover new and exciting ways of doing business, especially around resilience and the ways in which we communicate. There will be plenty of things we will want to carry over into our 'business-as-usual' when 'normal' operations resume.

But while many in society long for a return to normalcy or the status-quo, the question that John O'Sullivan from 'Changing the Game Project' puts to junior sports administrators and boards is "Do we really want to return to the exact same junior sports system that we just had to shut down?"

Governments and industry authorities are aligned in their view that many junior sports clubs will be lost to insolvency, with a natural flow-on effect to already falling participation rates. Do we want to return to this gradual decline? Or do we embrace the opportunity to start over and evolve our product, to make it more athlete-centric and socially-oriented, accepting of technology, inclusive rather than exclusive, and sensitive to the time-poor realities of life in the 2020's? This will require us to be braver and more aspirational.

That is why we continue to prioritise strategic initiatives around product and a new national membership portal. It is why we are determined to expand ALAC to include multi-class competition for the first time along with increased athlete numbers, and it is why we prioritise collaboration with Athletics Australia as we pursue unification at the national level.

COVID-19 is providing opportunities for those sports prepared to back themselves. With threats of encroachment and sports adopting survival tactics, Little Athletics should be prepared to take calculated risks in expanding to both protect our position and expand into market gaps.

FINANCE

I commend to members the Finance Report at page 18 of this Annual Report.

In addition to its incalculable health and human toll, the pandemic has already left an indelible mark on the viability of junior sports as touched on above. Against the backdrop of a grim outlook, LAA was required to employ measures that would reduce the short-term pain while promoting long-term growth prospects. Independent financial advice was engaged to model scenarios and bring options to the Board for its consideration. The financial strategy that has been adopted outlines a series of high-level actions to minimise operating costs and preserve revenue streams to the extent possible during the COVID-19 disruption.

LAA remains heavily reliant on two main revenue sources; sponsorship and levies. If COVID-19 impacts extend

beyond October 2020, these revenue streams are at risk, likely impacting the ongoing sustainability and financial viability of LAA. With restrictions coming into place in late March 2020, LAA was fortunate that the Little Athletics program was substantially concluded for the year.

From a financial perspective, the short-term implications had a positive impact on LAA's cash flows as a result of additional funding in line with Federal Government stimulus, savings from the cancellation of ALAC, reduced payments under the Little Athletics Program in Schools (LAPS) scheme, salary savings from standing down staff shared with AA, and reduced travel and meeting costs due to the reliance on video-conferencing.

In terms of liquidity, LAA has sufficient cash reserves to cover business as usual operations for approximately twelve months in the absence of revenue sources. This places LAA in a strong position to manage a short-term disruption. The ability of LAA to operate from existing reserves is likely to be longer once COVID-19 financial strategies are taken into account. Despite this, utilisation of existing cash reserves represents a short-term solution at best. If cash reserves are diminished LAA will have limited ability to absorb any future financial shocks and increased difficulty in managing cash flow throughout the financial year, particularly due to the volatility of levy revenue under the new arrangements. Diminished cash reserves will impact the funding of strategic priorities and projects.

In terms of cost-base, the small number of staff and well controlled administrative costs places LAA in a strong position to overcome a short-term revenue downturn. Our major fixed costs primarily relate to employees and insurance premiums. While office expenses are primarily fixed, they represent a minor component of overall expenditure. Other administration expenses primarily relate to LAA project related activities that could be scaled back if required. State and territory distributions primarily relate to the dissemination of funding received from Coles to MA's in support of activations. Therefore, this expense correlates to the revenue received from our primary sponsor. Competitions, LAPS, meetings and conferences all represent variable costs that can be scaled up and down depending on the extent of business activity.

In summary, LAA maintains a solid financial position with strong cash reserves and a low level of current liabilities. This financial position will provide LAA with the ability to navigate a short-term disruption to business-as-usual operations. With the increasing likelihood however that business will not return to normal in time to support season 2020/21 kick-off, impacts on membership numbers and associated levy revenue will present head winds to operations going forward.

THE 2020 AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

It was with tremendous regret that LAA was forced to cancel the 2020 Australian Little Athletics Championships which was to be held in the ACT from 18 to 19 April. It is important that I recognise the efforts of Little Athletics ACT and the convening committee in the lead up to the cancellation of ALAC. Thank you to President David Lemon and his board, and Executive Officer Renée Cassell and her team. We understand and truly appreciate the obvious disappointment for you, the athletes, team management, coaches, officials, and the Little Athletics community that were preparing for, and looking forward to, this year's championships.

In addition to ALAC, state and territory championships, winter seasons, cross-country and the Under 15 camp have been impacted. Across the country, Annual General Meetings, forums and end-of-season presentation events have been conducted virtually. LAA's 2020 AGM and Hall of Fame (formerly the Roll of Excellence) will be conducted virtually for the first time.

ONEATHLETICS

The vision of OneAthletics is to unite Athletics Australia and Little Athletics Australia under a new national sporting organisation and transform athletics into the biggest participation sport in the country, with a clear and logical pathway for athletes, coaches and officials throughout their life in the sport. Recently, president of Athletics Australia Mark Arbib and I informed the community of the decision to delay the national vote to October 2021. This decision, which was brought about by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our ability to conduct member engagement, has provided planning certainty to the delivery team and all OneAthletics stakeholders.

The AA and LAA CEOs continue to identify opportunities for their staff to work together and promote collaboration around areas such as communications, competitions and pathways. We look forward to seeing the outputs from our joint teams who are already living the values of OneAthletics in their day-to-day work.

The Governance Committee has asked LAA and AA to collaborate and recommend how the sport could align functions better over the next twelve months, with a focus on coaching pathways, officials, communications and major events. We will continue to monitor these activities and report on their progress. Since December of 2019, the Governance Committee has conducted face-to-face or virtual engagements with the majority of the AA and LAA member associations. We have appointed experts to provide advice and guidance on finance, brand, engagement and legal matters.

We look forward over the coming months to engagements with MA's and member town-halls to provide more detailed updates of how athletics would work under a unified model. This will include revealing the new brand, conceptual organisational structures, an aligned pathway and product suite, a strategic framework, draft Constitution and a draft financial model.

It has been a privilege to lead the Governance Committee and I want to thank and recognise my colleagues in Mark Arbib, Jeff Cook and Geoff Nicholson of AA, LAA's Melanie Woodward, and Simone Pearce, along with Sport Australia's Steve Moneghetti and Cameron French. Thank you to Sport Australia's Matt Treglown who, with CEO's Martin Stillman and Darren Gocher, make up the OneAthletics Management Committee. It's important I recognise the outstanding Project Team of Gavin Macdonald and Penny Johnson of LAA and AA respectively. Thanks also to minute secretary Helen McAlister.

On behalf of LAA, I would like to congratulate Little Athletics WA and Athletics WA on their unification under the Athletics West Constitution, forming one state sporting body. The new Board of Athletics West came into effect at the beginning of July to commence an exciting new era for athletics in Western Australia. Teresa Blackman will lead the new Board as Chair in the first year with Tim Lyons as Deputy Chair, with the roles to be reversed in year two. We wish them and their new Board well, and we applaud all the Little Athletics member associations working diligently and in good faith with their senior-body counterparts for the betterment of the sport.

GOVERNANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The upcoming AGM in October will bring into effect the next phase in the transition to a skills-based, independent Board. Directors Andrew Gosling, Steve Ryan, Colin Segota and I are to stand down as part of this transition, with the option to re-join the Board as either elected or appointed Directors. At this time, the outgoing Directors will be contemplating whether or not to re-nominate, while the Nominations Committee will be presenting to the Members its view of the preferred make-up of the Board as it prepares for the next phase in our execution against strategy, including the remainder of the pathway to unification with Athletics Australia under the OneAthletics proposal.

This past year, LAA has continued to transition existing policies and procedures and worked diligently to address priority policy areas such as trans-gender, conflict of interest, gifts, the protection of whistle-blowers, and action on Reconciliation. The Board acknowledges its role in establishing a consistent, national policy framework in line with the organisation's objects, and consistent with our shared vision, mission, values and strategic priorities.

For some time I had been concerned that the LAA office lacked the capacity to deliver on our strategic plan and the growing number of projects, let alone the demands of the OneAthletics body of work. It is therefore with great satisfaction that I note Martin Stillman's expansion of the LAA office and welcome former LAA Board Member Todd Williams to the role of Operations Manager, Phillip Davies to the role of Legal Manager, Laura McGrane to the Joint Officials Coordinator position, and Gavin Macdonald to the role of OneAthletics Program Manager. Each brings industry leading skills and dedication to their roles that elevate the standing of LAA in the community.

INCLUSION

LAA takes seriously its obligation to lead reform that makes our sport accessible to increasing numbers of Australian children and builds capacity in our communities. Our commitment to inclusion is evidenced by our expanding work in trans-gender, multi-class competition and formative work in action on Reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians.

It was with great delight that we welcomed a grant from the Federal Government's National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) in partnership with the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) for a research project that will inform how we include children with disabilities in athletic activities.

This three-year project encompasses multi-disciplinary research and data collection, consultation, trials, feedback, evaluation and an implementation phase. We recently welcomed Glenn Dennis to the Inclusion Project in the role of Project Manager, and I wish him well. We are grateful to the NDIA for entrusting LAA with this important work and thank the Inclusion Committee of Simone Pearce, Jennifer Bryant, Andrew Johnston, Cathie Sherrington, Cheryl Webb and Sue Bowman. A special thank you is reserved for committee chair Simone Pearce who continues to be a champion for children with disabilities and for inclusion more broadly. Without her vision, leadership and drive, this grant would never have eventuated.

COMMERCIAL PARTNERS

It is important that I join with Martin in recognition of our partners.

We are grateful to Coles for being a wonderful national naming rights partner to Little Athletics over the last three years. As Martin mentions in his report, the activations, promotions and contributions continue to make a remarkable difference at the grass roots level. I thank Coles on behalf of everyone in Little Athletics and hope our partnership continues to deliver on expectations.

I also recognise ISC for their fourth year of association with Little Athletics. To Rob Veale and his team at V-Insurance Group, thank you for your support and guidance during this tumultuous period. Thanks also to Amelia Lynch at Lander & Rogers for your counsel, and to Jay Gartner for your valuable contributions to our marketing campaign.

THANK YOU

It is with immense gratitude that I acknowledge my colleagues on the Board; Jennifer Bryant, Teresa Finlayson, Andrew Gosling, Simone Pearce, Steve Ryan, Colin Segota and Melanie Woodward. COVID-19 has created unique challenges in the operation and oversight of Little Athletics. Yet this Board has been remarkable for its ability to strike a balance between the need to approach every issue with rigour, with the empathy and decisiveness demanded by the circumstances. Our decision making processes have necessarily balanced risk and opportunity in an environment of ongoing uncertainty and volatility. In addition to the monthly and special meetings of the Board, the LAA Directors contribute countless hours to committee duties and engagements. Thank you for the courage you show in leading our sport, and for your ongoing support and friendship.

I thank and acknowledge LAA's CEO Martin Stillman for embracing the challenges imposed by Coronavirus and for functioning at levels that continue to both impress and defy expectations. Thank you to the LAA staff of Andrew Johnston, Ashlea Watt, Todd Williams, Gavin MacDonald, Laura McGrane, Phillip Davies, Sara Agnew and Glenn Dennis for their unwavering dedication and professionalism. Not only have you continued to work diligently in delivering on your business-as-usual obligations, you have also been on the front line in the Little Athletics response to the pandemic. And you have also been instrumental in 'moving the needle' on the OneAthletics body of work.

I want to thank the state and territory Presidents, their CEOs and hard-working staff and volunteers, especially for their support and collegiality during the organisation's Coronavirus response. They too are on the front lines providing practical support to our centres as they grapple with getting seasons up and running. There will always be challenges to confront, but with mutual trust, alignment of purpose and open communications, we will share in the rewards. I want to recognise the National Technical Committee for lending their expertise to the ongoing refinement of Little Athletics' technical rules and standards, and pay tribute to our partner Glynis Nunn for her support in yet-again coordinating a peer-less Under 15 Camp.

I want to recognise and thank the President of Athletics Australia Mark Arbib, his Board and the staff of Athletics Australia for their partnership and commitment to our shared objectives for the sport. I thank them for their friendship and support.

And last but by no means least, a big thank you to all of the volunteers that make up our Centre committees and give of their time week in and week out so our children can enjoy all that Little Athletics has to offer. With your ongoing support, I am confident that the future of Little Athletics is in good hands.

CONCLUSION

Despite the challenges posed by season 2019/20, I remain confident that Coles Little Athletics Australia's strategy is sound, and that we have the right team in place, backed by the resources and relationships, to move to the next phase in our development. Our business continuity plans have been tested but we continue to demonstrate resilience even as circumstances rapidly evolve. However, having endured up to this point, we cannot afford to be complacent; the experts remain divided on how long the COVID-19 pandemic might last. And while there is no doubt that the impacts of this unprecedented situation will continue for the foreseeable future, Little Athletics must strike the right balance between ensuring the Little Athletics community remains safe, and positioning the sport to embrace the opportunities on the horizon. We owe it to the Australian community.

Andrew Pryor

President
Coles Little Athletics Australia

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

It's been another busy year for Coles Little Athletics Australia (LAA) and our Member Associations (MAs), one that was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fortunately, the impacts of the Coronavirus occurred at the end of the summer season. Unfortunately, a number of significant events were cancelled, including the Coles Australian Little Athletics Championship scheduled for April in Canberra, along with a number of state and territory championships and winter cross-country events.

Whilst Coronavirus has had an impact on a number of areas of our business over the past year, there have been numerous achievements, including but not limited to those outlined in my report.

ROLL OF EXCELLENCE

LAA again held a very successful Roll of Excellence (ROE) dinner in Perth. This event continues to evolve in prominence and stature. The ROE is a truly significant event on the LAA annual calendar. It's gratifying to see the smiles on the faces of the recipients, their family and friends. For the record, I would like to extend congratulations to the following inductees into the 2019 Roll of Excellence:

- Track & Field: Alana Quade, Stuart Rendell, Brandon Starc, Kylie Wheeler
- Sportsperson: Alanna Kennedy, Brad Hardie
- Volunteers: Robert Chalmers
- Achievers: Jacquelin Magnay

Congratulations also to official of the year Peter Boden from the ACT.

UNDER 15 CAMP

The National U15 camp was held in October 2019 at the AIS in Canberra, with 110 athletes participating from across the country. The calibre of athlete that attends the camp is a credit to the MA's and their centres. LAA has been tracking the progress of former camp participants and many have gone on to represent Australia at Commonwealth and Olympic Games, World Championships, and in other international events.

I would like to thank Glynis Nunn in particular for her support in coordinating the camp. There is no doubt in my mind the camp's success can be directly attributed to Glynis' work with the coaches and the time and effort spent coordinating the camp logistics with LAA Staff members

Ashlea Watt and Andrew Johnston. The quality of coaches assembled at the camp was simply outstanding yet again and I'm sure the athletes would have learnt a significant amount from their camp experience. LAA looks forward to continuing to enhancing the national camp program and will continue to seek improvements that benefit the athletes.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The LAA Representatives of the Governance Committee have worked extremely hard over the past twelve months. Under the leadership of Andrew Pryor (Chairman) I would like to extend thanks to Independent Directors Melanie Woodward and Simone Pearce for the time you have dedicated to OneAthletics and the potential merger with Athletics Australia.

LAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

To the LAA Board of Directors, Jennifer Bryant, Teresa Finlayson, Andrew Gosling, Simone Pearce, Steve Ryan, Colin Segota and Melanie Woodward, thank you for your ongoing direction and leadership of the sport. In particular, I would like to thank Andrew Pryor for his leadership and guidance during the year.

LAA STAFF

I would also like to convey my thanks to the small but dedicated LAA Staff of Andrew Johnston, Ashlea Watt, Gavin Macdonald, Laura McGrane, Phillip Davies, Sara Agnew and Todd Williams. Thank you for your hard work and support throughout the year.

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

To the Member Association CEOs and staff, your hard work and commitment is well recognised. Little Athletics is indeed fortunate to have so many wonderful people involved in the sport. I would also like to convey my thanks to the State Presidents for all your support during the year.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The National Technical Committee (NTC) continues to do exemplary work in tailoring the rules of athletics to ensure age appropriateness for little athletes. Over the past 12 months, the NTC continued reviewing how the modified rules and processes for Little Athletics will be presented in the future, for all levels of competition including regulations for multi-class athletes. Thanks are extended to Todd Williams and all representatives of the NTC for your tireless work. It is envisaged that the NTC will be very busy over the coming twelve months, with our renewed focus to make athletics accessible to more children across the country, and consistent with our expanded cooperation with partners such as Athletics Australia.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

I would like to thank the LAA Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) that has met more frequently than was initially anticipated as part of LAA's response to the Coronavirus that ramped up dramatically since March. The ARC, which has been ably led by Chairman Dennis Clark with Board members Colin Segota and Melanie Woodward, regularly reviews LAA finances and risk posture. In conjunction with Finance and Risk consultant Mitch Frost, the ARC developed options for response to a range of Coronavirus scenarios to provide guidance and leadership at state and national level.

PARTNERS

Thanks are extended to our loyal partners beginning with our naming rights partner Coles. I would particularly like to thank Patrick Hassett, Julia Balderstone and Kiemi Lai. Your support of LAA over the past three years has been nothing short of astonishing. The activations, engagement and promotion of Little Athletics, including the state and territory associations, has been enormous.

LAA also thanks ISC for their association with LAA. ISC has been associated with LAA for four years now and recently extended their partnership with LAA for another two years.

LAA has been fortunate to have a long-lasting relationship with the V-Insurance Group and thanks is extended to Rob Veale, Jess Girling and Shauna Hewitt. Your guidance and support in this area of our business is greatly appreciated.

To Amelia Lynch at Lander & Rogers, your support and guidance was again appreciated during the year.

I would also like to thank our marketing consultant and advisor Jay Gartner for your invaluable assistance over the past twelve months. Strategic marketing is a gap in our organisation and will be even more valuable as we position the organisation for growth in the recovery from the Coronavirus.

VOLUNTEERS

Finally, to the thousands of volunteers that contribute to the sport each week, 'thank you!' Little Athletics wouldn't be able to operate without your passion and commitment.

THE YEAR AHEAD

There is no doubting that the next 12 months will present many new challenges for Little Athletics, especially as we work our way through the impacts of COVID-19. It will be imperative that we embrace change and the opportunities to enhance the sport and grow our membership. Little Athletics continues to occupy a very special place in the hearts and minds of Australian families, and we have an

obligation to make it more accessible than ever. But one thing is certain: with the dedication and commitment of the member associations in partnership with Coles Little Athletics Australia, the future of the sport is in very good hands.

Martin Stillman

Chief Executive Officer
Coles Little Athletics Australia

FINANCIAL REPORT

Directors' Report

The Directors of Little Athletics Australia Limited ("LAA") present their report together with the combined financial statements of the company for the year ended 30 June 2020 and the Independent Audit Report thereon.

Director Details

The following persons were appointed as Directors of LAA at the General Meeting held 27 April 2019 and held office during the year ended 30 June 2020:

Mr Andrew Pryor

Chairperson

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

Andrew is the Director of Business Development for Northrop Grumman Technology Services within Australia. Andrew has over 25 years' experience in business development, program management and aerospace engineering. Andrew is also a qualified Track & Field official, has been a director of LAA since 2015 and was formerly the President of LAA in the ACT.

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Engineering in Aerospace Engineering, member of Institution of Engineers Australia and the AICD.

Special Responsibilities:

Chairperson

Ms Simone Pearce

Appointed Director / Company Secretary

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

Simone is a lecturer in Law at USC. Prior to starting with the University 5 years ago, Simone worked for 20 years as a lawyer in a prominent local legal firm, 15 of those years as a partner. Simone researches in the areas of discrimination, children, disability and women relating to sport, and has expertise and interest in areas of governance. Simone has extensive experience Board governance, including as Company Secretary, for various not for profit and sporting organisations.

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Laws, Masters of Law, currently undertaking a PhD

Special Responsibilities:

Company Secretary

Ms Melanie Woodward

Appointed Director

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

In her executive role, Melanie is the Chief Financial Officer for Orange Sky Australia. Prior to this Melanie held roles as the Chief Financial Officer for COSOL Australia and prior to that Director Operations for a funds' management business. Melanie is an experienced Director, CFO and enterprise risk management specialist with over 25 years' professional experience. Melanie is currently the Deputy Chair of QLeave and the Chair of their Audit and Risk Committee. Melanie has been a director on the LAA board since 2016.

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Business (Acctg), FCPA, FGIA, GAICD

Special Responsibilities:

Member of Audit and Risk Committee

Ms Jennifer Bryant

Elected Director

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

Jennifer is a public servant with over 25 years' experience in public and private hospitals. She holds qualifications in nursing, education and contract management. Jennifer is passionate about children's sport and the health benefits of life long exercise. Jennifer has held a directorship on the ACT Little Athletics Board and National Health Coop. Jennifer has been on the board of LAA since October 2018.

Qualifications:

Director – MN (Clinical Ed), BN, GradDipEd, Dip Contract Management

Ms Teresa Finlayson

Elected Director

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

Teresa is the Deputy Chief Information Officer at Monash University with oversight of a large division that delivers strategic projects across the institution. She is an experienced change management practitioner with over 14 years' experience in advising, executing and managing the alignment of strategic goals to the culture and values. Teresa has been on the board of LAA since October 2018.

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Applied Computing

Mr Andrew Gosling

Elected Director

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

Andrew has been a member of the South Australian Police Force since 1986. He has diverse experience ranging from operational police work, family violence investigations, drug action teams, community policing and crime prevention. Andrew currently works in Prosecutions in the field of Juvenile Justice. Andrew has been a director of LAA since April 2016 and has also served on the board of Little Athletics South Australia.

Qualifications:

Advanced Diploma in Policing, Certificate IV in Child Abuse Investigation

Mr Steve Ryan

Elected Director

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

Steve has been an active member of Little Athletics for over 20 years. During that time he has served in executive positions at his local Centre (now a life member of Werribee Little Athletics Centre), within Western Metropolitan Region, a Board member and State President of Little Athletics Victoria and now an appointed Board member for Little Athletics Australia. His community involvement extends well beyond Little Athletics, having been an active and now life member of Apex Australia for 25 years. Steve is currently a director and co-owner of ShutterTech Australia, a wholesale manufacturer of residential and commercial roller shutters situated in the western suburbs of Melbourne.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr Colin Segota

Elected Director

Appointed:

27 April 2019

Biography:

Colin is business & project management professional with over 30 years' experience in a number of industries including Food & Beverage, Banking & Finance, Telecommunications, Water & Travel. Colin has been actively involved in all levels of Little Athletics and has held Centre & Region President roles. Colin has been a director of LAA since October 2018 and has also served on the board of Little Athletics Victoria as President. Colin is passionate about sport and the benefits that sport can deliver to children and adults alike.

Qualifications:

Masters Business Management (MBM), Diploma in Project Management, Certified Scrum Master – Agile Project Management, PRINCE2 – Foundation & Practitioner

Special Responsibilities:

Member of the Audit and Risk Committee

Principal Activities

The principal activities of LAA during the course of the financial year were:

- To conduct national athletic competitions.
- To represent affiliated Associations in expressing policy in matters pertaining to Little Athletics at a national level.
- To provide rules and standards for competition to affiliated Associations and guidance on all other matters pertaining to competition.

Short-term Objectives

LAA's short-term objectives are:

- Improved financial viability and sustainability
- Establish clear national policies and procedures
- Build relationships with key stakeholders and add value to LAA and its members
- Implement effective communication with States & Territories, members and key stakeholders

Long-term Objectives

LAA's long-term objectives are:

- Develop a new and innovative product and flexible delivery models to increase recruitment and retention
- Promote LAA as the principle and preferred deliverer of athletics to children across Australia
- Deliver a digital experience that engages, grows and informs the entire little athletics community

Directors' Meetings

During the financial year, 16 meetings of Directors and 6 meetings of the Audit and Risk Committee were held. Attendance by each director is listed in the table below.

Director	Board Meetings		Audit and Risk Committee Meetings	
	Held (a)	Attended	Held (a)	Attended
Jennifer Bryant	16	13	-	-
Teresa Finlayson	16	9	-	-
Andrew Gosling	16	14	-	-
Simone Pearce	16	16	-	-
Andrew Pryor	16	16	-	-
Steve Ryan	16	14	-	-
Colin Segota	16	15	6	6
Melanie Woodward	16	11	6	6
Dennis Clark (Independent Member Risk Compliance / ARC Chairman)	-	-	6	6

Contribution in winding up

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company Limited by Guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member state is required to contribute a maximum of \$1.00 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2020, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the Company wound up is \$7.00.

Rounding of amounts

LAA is a type of Company referred to in *ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191* and therefore the amounts contained in this report and in the financial report have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under s.307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is included in page 6 of this financial report and forms part of this Director's Report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



Andrew Pryor
Chairperson



Melanie Woodward
Director

Dated this 6th day of October 2020

FINANCIAL REPORT



Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 to the Directors of Little Athletics Australia Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Nexia

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd
Melbourne

Dated this 6th day of October 2020

Geoff S. Parker
Director

Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the year ended 30 June 2020

		Year ended 30 June 2020	4 April 2019 to 30 June 2019
	Note		\$
Revenue and Other Income	4	2,762,989	747,132
Cost of Goods Sold		(5,227)	(23)
Gross Profit		2,757,762	747,109
Staffing expenses		494,435	115,582
Office expenses		79,478	20,903
Meeting related expenses		118,964	24,278
Competition and membership expenses		224,775	249,053
Management expenses		648,073	237,240
Administration expenses		825,859	147,772
Total expenditure		2,391,584	794,828
Loss on disposal of assets		-	1,089
Surplus before Income Tax		366,178	(48,808)
Income tax expense	1(d)	-	-
Surplus for the Year		366,178	(48,808)
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the company		366,178	(48,808)

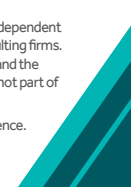
This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	2,859,482	1,788,093
Trade and other receivables	6	355,888	34,152
Inventories	8	568	568
Other assets	11	233,915	76,804
Total Current Assets		3,449,853	1,899,617
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	57,871	66,463
Intangible assets	10	7,898	10,528
Total Non-Current Assets		65,769	76,991
TOTAL ASSETS		3,515,622	1,976,608
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	12	84,892	65,503
Provisions	13	187,011	52,022
Other liabilities	14	1,375,621	379,381
Total Current Liabilities		1,647,524	496,906
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	13	34,813	12,595
Total Current Liabilities		34,813	12,595
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,682,337	509,501
NET ASSETS		1,833,285	1,467,107
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		1,467,107	1,515,915
Net income		366,178	(48,808)
TOTAL EQUITY		1,833,285	1,467,107

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2020

2020	Retained Earnings \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	1,467,107	1,467,107
Comprehensive Income		
Profit for the year attributable to members of the Company	366,178	366,178
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the company for the year	366,178	366,178
Balance at 30 June 2020	1,833,285	1,833,285
2019		
Balance at 4 April 2019	1,515,915	1,515,915
Comprehensive Income		
Profit for the year attributable to members of the Company	(48,808)	(48,808)
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the company for the year	(48,808)	(48,808)
Balance at 30 June 2019	1,467,107	1,467,107

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Note	Year ended 30 June 2020 \$	4 April 2019 to 30 June 2019 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from customers		1,520,948	364,532
Cash payments to suppliers and employees		(2,373,758)	(579,758)
Interest received		28,485	3,097
Sponsorship monies received		1,495,449	236,900
Grant funding received		533,672	-
Net goods and services tax received		(123,502)	(25,086)
Net cash (used in) / generated from operating activities	16	1,081,294	(315)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for tangible assets		(9,906)	2,926
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(9,906)	2,926
Net (decrease) / increase in cash held		1,071,389	2,610
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		1,788,093	1,785,483
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5	2,859,482	1,788,093

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2020

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The combined general-purpose financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. A statement of compliance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) cannot be made due to the Company applying not-for-profit specific requirements contained in the Australian Accounting Standards.

LAA is a Public Company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The address of its registered office and its principal place of business is Ground Floor, 31 Aughtie Drive, Albert Park VIC 3206

The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 6th October 2020.

(a) Basis of preparation

Historical cost convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets as described in the accounting policies.

(b) Revenue

Revenue is recognised when control of the goods or services are transferred to the customer and any obligations associated with those goods or services has been satisfied. Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration that LAA is entitled to in exchange for those goods and services.

Levies and related contributions revenue are recognised in the period in which the service is provided.

Sponsorship revenue is recognised evenly over the term of the sponsorship agreement.

Revenue from organising and hosting events is recognised in the period in which the events are held.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(c) Contributions, Government Grants and Donations

A non-reciprocal contribution or grant is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or grant and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the company, and the amount of the contribution or grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the company is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of contribution or grant as income is deferred until those conditions are met.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A non-reciprocal donation is recognised when the right to receive a donation has been established. When the entity receives grants but is obliged to give directly approximately equal value to the contributor, recognition of grant income will be deferred until the delivery of service.

(d) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(e) Inventories

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

(f) Financial Instruments

Recognition, initial measurement and derecognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument, and are measured initially at fair value adjusted by transaction costs, except for those carried at fair value through profit or loss, which are measured initially at fair value. Subsequent measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities are described below.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and all substantial risks and rewards are transferred. A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled or expires.

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets

Except for those trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component and are measured at the transaction price, all financial assets are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs (where applicable).

For the purpose of subsequent measurement, financial assets other than those designated and effective as hedging instruments are classified into the following categories upon initial recognition:

- Amortised cost
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVPL)
- Equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)

All income and expenses relating to financial assets that are recognised in profit or loss are presented within finance costs, finance income or other financial items, except for impairment of trade receivables which is presented within other expenses.

Classifications are determined by both:

- The entities business model for managing the financial asset
- The contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets

All income and expenses relating to financial assets that are recognised in profit and loss are presented within finance costs, finance income or other financial items, except for impairment of trade receivables which is presented within other expenses.

Subsequent measurement financial assets

Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets are measured at amortised cost if the assets meet the following conditions (and are not designated as FVPL):

- They are held within a business model whose objective is to hold the financial assets and collect is contractual cash flows
- The contractual terms of the financial assets give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding

After initial recognition, these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The company's cash and cash equivalents, trade and most other receivables fall into this category of financial instruments.

Impairment of Financial assets

AASB 9's impairment requirements use more forward-looking information to recognised expected credit losses – the 'expected credit losses (ECL) model'. Instruments within the scope of the requirements include loans and other debt-type financial assets measured at amortised cost and FVOCI, trade receivables and loan commitments and some financial guarantee contracts (for the issuer) that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss.

LAA considers a broader range of information when assessing credit risk and measuring expected credit losses, including past events, current conditions, reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the expected collectability of the future cash flows of the instrument.

In applying this forward-looking approach, a distinction is made between:

- Financial instruments that have not deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition or that have low credit risk ('Stage 1') and
- Financial instruments that have deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition whose credit risk is not low ('Stage 2').

'Stage 3' would cover financial assets that have objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date.

'12-month expected credit losses' are recognised for the first category while 'lifetime expected credit losses' are recognised for the second category.

Measurement of the expected credit losses is determined by a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of the financial instrument.

Trade and other receivables

LAA make use of a simplified approach in accounting for trade and receivables and records the loss allowance at the amount equal to the expected lifetime credit losses. In using this practical expedient, LAA uses its historical experience, external indicators and forward-looking information to calculate the expected credit losses using a provision matrix.

LAA assess impairment of trade receivables on a collective basis as they possess credit risk characteristics based on the days past due. LAA allows 1% for amounts that are 30 to 60 days past due, 1.5% for amounts that are between 60 and 90 days past due and writes off fully any amounts that are more than 90 days past due.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities

LAA's financial liabilities include borrowing and trade and other payables.

Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, and, where applicable, adjusted for transaction costs unless it designated a financial liability at fair value through profit or loss.

Subsequently, financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method except for derivatives and financial liabilities designated at FVPL, which are carried subsequently at fair value with gains or losses recognised in profit or loss (other than derivative financial instruments that are designated and effective as hedging instruments).

All interest-related charges, if any, and, if applicable, changes in an instrument's fair value that are reporting in profit or loss are included within finance costs or finance income.

(g) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

(h) Impairment of assets

Assets with an indefinite useful life are not amortised but are tested annually for impairment in accordance with AASB 136. Assets subject to annual depreciation or amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances arise that indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may be impaired.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

(i) Employment benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Long-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

Contributions made by the company to Superannuation funds are charged as expenses when incurred.

(j) Leases

LAA in its capacity as lessee has one arrangement in place for lease of office space. Under current terms of the arrangement LAA continues to lease the property on a month-by-month basis, subject to annual increases in line with the Consumer Price Index.

Payments associated with the lease arrangement have been recognised as a short-term lease within the financial statements on the basis that:

- the lease arrangement has no fixed, non-cancellable term remaining and
- LAA has the right to terminate the lease at any time without penalty.

Short term rent payments of \$32,009 for the current financial year have been disclosed as part of office expenses within the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

(k) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(l) Comparative figures

The current year financial statements cover the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

The comparative financial statements cover the period 4 April to 30 June 2019.

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Certain accounting estimates include assumptions concerning the future, which, by definition, will seldom represent actual results. Estimates and assumptions based on future events have a significant inherent risk, and where future events are not as anticipated there could be a material impact on the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities discussed below.

(a) Long service leave

The liability for long service leave is recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

3. ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT OPERATIVE AT 30 JUNE 2020

There is not expected to be any significant impact on the Company's financial report as the initial application of Australian Accounting Standards issued at reporting date but not yet effective.

FINANCIAL REPORT

4. REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Affiliation fees	60	-
Australian Teams Championship Levy	-	23,394
Administration Levy	932,030	210,546
Donations	5,000	-
Merchandise	7,800	30
Sponsorship	1,056,174	386,900
Insurance reimbursements	470,647	116,970
Grant Funding	133,028	-
Interest income	28,485	3,097
Other income	129,766	6,195
	2,762,989	747,132

5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	2,254,500	1,188,093
Short term deposits	604,982	600,000
Total cash and cash equivalents as stated in the statement of financial position	2,859,482	1,788,093
Total cash and cash equivalents as stated in the statement of cash flows	2,859,482	1,788,093

6. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade receivables	355,888	34,152
	355,888	34,152

All amounts held are short-term. The net carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value.

All of the company's trade and other receivables have been reviewed for indicators of impairment.

7. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

a. Categories of financial assets and liabilities

Note 1(f) provides a description of each category of financial assets and financial liabilities and the related accounting policies. The carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities in each category are as follows:

		Amortised Cost	Total
	Note	\$	\$
2020			
Financial Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	2,859,482	2,859,482
Trades and receivables	6	355,888	355,888
Total Financial Assets at 30 June 2020		3,215,370	3,215,370
Financial Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	12	84,892	84,892
Total Financial Liabilities at 30 June 2020		84,892	84,892
2019			
Financial Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		1,788,093	1,788,093
Trades and receivables		34,152	34,152
Total Financial Assets at 30 June 2019		1,822,245	1,822,245
Financial Liabilities			
Trade and other payables		65,503	65,503
Total Financial Liabilities at 30 June 2019		65,503	65,503

8. INVENTORIES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
At cost:		
Inventory	568	568
	568	568

FINANCIAL REPORT

9. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Equipment – at cost	132,854	122,948
Less accumulated depreciation	89,636	75,397
	<u>43,218</u>	<u>47,551</u>
Motor Vehicle – at cost	40,618	40,618
Less accumulated depreciation	25,965	21,706
	<u>14,653</u>	<u>18,912</u>
	<u>57,871</u>	<u>66,463</u>

10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Intellectual Property – at cost	20,000	20,000
Accumulated amortisation	12,102	9,472
	<u>7,898</u>	<u>10,528</u>

	Intellectual Property	Total
	\$	\$
2020		
Balance at 1 July 2019	10,528	10,528
Additions	-	-
Amortisation charge	(2,630)	(2,630)
Balance at 30 June 2020	<u>7,898</u>	<u>7,898</u>
2019		
Balance at 4 April 2019	14,044	14,044
Additions	-	-
Amortisation charge	(3,516)	(3,516)
Balance at 30 June 2019	<u>10,528</u>	<u>10,528</u>

11. OTHER ASSETS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Prepayments	183,465	70,577
Accrued income	50,450	6,227
	<u>233,915</u>	<u>76,804</u>

12. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade payables	30,324	51,578
Other creditors and accruals	54,568	13,925
	<u>84,892</u>	<u>65,503</u>

All above liabilities are short-term. The carrying values are considered to be a reasonable approximation of fair value.

13. PROVISIONS AND EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
Provision for employee benefits: annual leave	52,274	38,622
Provision for equipment insurance	134,737	13,400
	<u>187,011</u>	<u>52,022</u>
Non-Current		
Provision for employee benefits: long service leave	34,813	12,595
	<u>34,813</u>	<u>12,595</u>

Analysis of total provisions	Employee Benefits	Equipment Insurance	Total
	\$	\$	\$
2020			
Opening balance at 1 July 2019	51,217	13,400	64,617
Additional provisions raised during the year	57,639	134,737	192,376
Amounts used	(21,769)	(13,400)	(35,169)
Balance at 30 June 2020	<u>87,087</u>	<u>134,737</u>	<u>221,824</u>
2019			
Opening balance at 4 April 2019	44,427	4,408	48,835
Additional provisions raised during the year	6,790	13,400	20,190
Amounts used	-	(4,408)	(4,408)
Balance at 30 June 2019	<u>51,217</u>	<u>13,400</u>	<u>64,617</u>

FINANCIAL REPORT

14. OTHER LIABILITIES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Current		
PAYG Withholding Payable	49,780	7,596
Superannuation Payable	14,219	-
GST Payable	121,703	21,785
ASC Funding for OneAthletics (formerly National Database)	166,972	250,000
ECP Program Grant Funding	483,672	-
Unearned Revenue	539,275	100,000
	1,375,621	379,381

15. TRANSACTIONS WITH KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that company is considered key management personnel (KMP). The totals of remuneration paid to KMP of the company during the financial year are as follows:

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
KMP Compensation	214,810	51,650

16. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Reconciliation of cash flows from operations with profit for the period		
Profit for the period	366,178	(48,808)
<i>Non-cash flows in profit:</i>		
- amortisation	21,128	5,151
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities:</i>		
- (increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables	(365,959)	7,420
- (increase) / decrease in other assets	(112,889)	179,238
- (decrease) / increase in trade and other payables	19,389	15,626
- (decrease) / increase in provisions	157,207	16,144
- (decrease) / increase in other liabilities	996,240	(175,086)
Cash flows from operating activities	1,081,294	(315)

17. MEMBER'S GUARANTEE

The Company is limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member state is required to contribute a maximum of \$1.00 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2020, the number of members was 7.

18. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

LAA notes that, on 18 March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Australia, the Governor-General declared that a human biosecurity emergency (pandemic) existed.

LAA has enacted appropriate elements of its Business Continuity Plan and its Pandemic Plan and continues to follow relevant Commonwealth and State Government directions. LAA's risk management framework has continued to operate effectively in the context of this matter.

LAA's Board has reviewed forward cash projections under various conservative scenarios and has concluded that LAA is a going concern.

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial year.

Directors' Declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Little Athletics Australia Limited, the directors of the company declare that:

- The combined financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 7 to 21, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, and:
 - Comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements;
 - Give a true and fair view of the combined financial position of the company as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
- In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.



Andrew Pryor
Chairperson



Mrs Melanie Woodward
Director

Dated this 6th day of October 2020

FINANCIAL REPORT



Independent Auditor's Report To the Members of Little Athletics Australia Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Little Athletics Australia Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report' section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at The Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd
Melbourne

Dated this 6th day of October 2020

Geoff S. Parker
Director

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MEMBER ASSOCIATION REPORTS



LITTLE ATHLETICS ACT

The 2019/20 has been one of the most extraordinary in the history of the ACT Little Athletics Association. While many years have been impacted by storms and heat, never before has a season been impacted by heat, smoke, fires, hail, storms and, finally, a global pandemic.

The outcome from these were countless cancelled Centre meets, cancelled State carnivals and even the cancellation of national level events.

The year started as normal but with the added excitement of the knowledge that the ACT would be hosting the Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC) in the following April. This is an honour which only occurs every 7 years. During the summer season a number of highlights were achieved:

- Our oldest Centre, Corroboree, celebrated their 50th year. The celebration event, held in February, was a wonderful event and even included the participation of one of the founders of the Centre;
- Our newest Centre, Murrumbateman, registered over 100 members and had a fantastic first season;
- Our very own Life Member, Peter Boden, was judged Little Athletics Australia Official of the Year;
- Former ACT Little Athlete and national hammer throw champion Stuart Rendell was inducted onto the Little Athletics Australia Roll of Excellence;
- We made great progress on our One Athletics project with our colleagues from Athletics ACT and ACT Masters Athletics;
- Delivery, for the first time, of a single registration number across members of LAACT and AACT; and
- Most importantly, there were plenty of wonderful moments each weekend on the various tracks around the region.

ONE ATHLETICS PROJECT

Thanks to the generous investment from the ACT Government our project with Athletics ACT and ACT Masters Athletics, to create a single entity governing and managing athletics in the ACT and region, has continued.

As a result of a vote of the Association in August, LAACT joined with AACT and ACTMA to form the One Athletics

Working Party which has continued to guide the project. This working party has met regularly and progressed various activities including:

- Working with the ACT Government to develop a single athletics office at the University of Canberra campus. We look forward to moving into our brand new office in the near future.
- Securing further resources to help fund the project.

Further, while the COVID-19 pandemic may have shutdown athletics on the track, it provided the opportunity for the combined staff to come together to develop a suite of events and products covering the full pathway of athletics: from 3 years to 103.

Over the coming year, even more progress will be made in this space as the three organisations seek to deliver as one under a common banner.

PRODUCT DELIVERY

This season, once again, we joined with AACT and ACTMA to deliver the joint ACT Cross Country Championships. While numbers were down on the previous year, the event was still a success and a clear demonstration of what a future single sport will be able to deliver.

Sadly, our regular summer events were greatly impacted by natural disasters with the Relay Carnival being cancelled due to smoke and the State Championships a victim of the COVID-19 pandemic. We did manage to run the Multi-Event in February.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOVERNMENT

Our single major benefactor remains the ACT Government, who has continued to support us through various annual and one-off grants. The government has also provided financial support for the One Athletics project as well as covered the redevelopment costs associated with the shift to a single office at the University of Canberra. This support is very much appreciated and will enable us to continue our work towards a single organisation.

RELATIONSHIP WITH SPONSORS

The national naming rights sponsor, Coles, has continued to be a wonderful partner to Little Athletics across Australia. The bananas have continued to be enjoyed by athletes and a number of our local Centres have been successful in the national equipment grants program enabling investment in new equipment and facilities.

We continued our partnerships with Capital Chemist, Intersport (formally Sportsman Warehouse), People's Choice Credit Union and the Canberra Southern Cross Club.

We also entered into a new relationship with the ACT Government's Healthier Choices program. This provided both financial resources as well as opportunities for our Centres to learn new skills in many aspects of running a community organisation.

We have also worked as one with AACT with respect to new partnerships to gain benefits of a single offering.

ROLL OF EXCELLENCE DINNER

In October 2019, eyes turned to Perth for the annual Roll of Excellence dinner and LAA Conference. This year, our own Stuart Rendell, was inducted alongside Brandon Starc, Kylie Wheeler and Alana Quade. Stuart is greatly deserving of this recognition having represented his country in athletics on numerous occasions.

At the same event, recently elected Life Member of ACTLAA, Peter Boden, was awarded Little Athletics Australia Official of the Year. Peter has, and continues to be, a wonderful servant of Little Athletics and this recognition was greatly deserved.

REGISTRATIONS

Registrations for the 2019-20 season totalled 2883. This total represents a 2% increase over the previous season. However, when registrations from the new Centre at Murrumbateman are excluded, there is a reduction in registrations of 1.8% overall.

PROGRAMS

We continued our relationship with Variety Every Chance to Play which helps disadvantaged families to access sport in the ACT by funding their registration costs. Many participants are from non-English speaking background, so it helps with their language skills as a bonus. We registered 37 children through this program in the 2019-2020 season (an increase of 21 registrations through this program from the 2018-2019 season).

We also continued our involvement in the ACT Government's Indigenous Sports Grants Program supporting 32 indigenous children to compete in Little Athletics in 2019-20 (again, an increase from the previous season of 9 additional registrations). Funding has been approved to continue the program in 2020-2021.

DEVELOPMENT

Despite being a season full of disruptions it was also a season of many positives on the Development front. Mostly significantly, in cooperation with AACT we employed our first full-time Senior Participation and Development Officer. Matt Wade moved to the ACT from Geelong to join the

team in September 2019 and has fitted in very quickly. Already, he has identified opportunities for new products and new development activities. Other highlights included:

- Successful School Holiday coaching clinics in the October holidays, with significantly higher participation rates than previous years.
- Well attended coaching courses during the pre-season.
- Despite some unforeseen hiccups an enjoyable Development Squad trip to Sydney.
- The teamwork between the Senior PDO and key stakeholders in Bega which led to the resurrection of Bega centre this year.
- Murrumbateman Little Athletics Centre being formed, having more than 100 members in their first year and winning the Centre of the Year Award.
- The beginnings of strengthened relationships within the school system both at a School Sport ACT level and at individual schools in the ACT.
- As Athletics opportunities ceased due to COVID -19 a strong and regular social media presence with a range of articles from athlete and coach bio's to handy tips etc for training during the COVID – 19 lockdown.

CONCLUSION

The 2019-20 little athletics in the ACT region was one many would never like to see again. However, despite the disruptions caused by fire, rain, hail, smoke and disease, there were many highlights during the season that suggest that little athletics is strong in the region and the future is bright.

David Lemon

President
Little Athletics ACT





LITTLE ATHLETICS NSW

The challenges of the 2019/2020 season will live long in the memory of everyone associated with Little Athletics in New South Wales.

CHAIRMAN

Centres were adversely affected by the devastating bushfires throughout the state during this season. Sadly, some Centres are still recovering from the damage inflicted. The negative impact on air quality caused by bushfires prevented numerous meets and carnivals from being held at all levels of the organisation with some Centres unable to run normal competition for extended periods. Unfortunately, it was also necessary to cancel some Zone Championships because of the bushfire situation. However, as is often the case, out of adversity comes opportunity. This was certainly the case in Region 1. The cancellation of all Zone Championships in this Region prompted a rallying of the Zones resulting in direct entry to Region. Initially there were concerns that increased numbers may prove difficult to work with. Ultimately this proved not to be the case and the carnival was completed successfully.

Unfortunately, not to be content with bushfires, Mother Nature then saw fit to inflict flooding rain upon some areas. This forced the postponement and subsequent rescheduling of several Region Championships. Others found it necessary to compete over multiple weekends. Again, we were able to meet these challenging situations and complete our Region Championships on time.

Then came the ultimate challenge, COVID-19, which resulted in the cancellation of the State Track and Field Championships, the Australian Little Athletics Championships, State Cross Country and Road Walks in a disappointing end to the season.

MEMBERSHIP

Registration for the 2019/20 season saw an increase of 2.58% from 35,056 registered members last season to 35,958 members this season. We had a total of 187 affiliated centres which is a slight decrease from the previous season.

Approximately 24,400 members used the Active Kids voucher through the registration system. This was an increase of 36.9% (17,846) from last season. This fantastic initiative by the NSW Government is providing children with more opportunities to participate in sport by easing financial barriers.

CENTRES

We are pleased to announce that 15 centres were successful with their application for the centre grant scheme for the 2019/2020 season. The scheme aims to assist centres throughout NSW in maintaining their facilities and obtaining track and field equipment to better enable them to conduct events for their members.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

The 2019/20 season was the first season for Little Athletics NSW in which all region championships held multi-class events. In total 65 multi class athletes competed at region, with Region 7 having the highest



number of participants at 12 and Region 8 having 3, with an average of 8 multi class athletes per region. Multi class athletes must have a full classification, via the national body, to be eligible to compete at region and were given direct entry, via the head office, for region championships. All regions were provided with a results spreadsheet to calculate results based on the MDS tables. Multi class athletes then progressed to the State Championships under the same conditions as any other athlete.

MARKETING

Throughout the year the marketing team provided marketing and communications support to Little Athletics NSW events and programs. The communications strategy was focused on delivering relevant, timely and engaging content across all channels including Facebook, Twitter, email, YouTube and Instagram, through segmentation and targeted content largely guided by insights provided by Shunt Media.

The registration campaign for the 2019/20 season involved a mix between TV, Radio and Social Media, resulting in a 2% increase from the previous season. LANSW will re-evaluate the effectiveness of these mediums heading into the 2020/21 season and will look to build towards a big campaign for the recently moved 2021 Tokyo Olympics.

COACH OFFICIAL AND VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

Little Athletics NSW held the first annual recruitment drive for officials during National Volunteer Week which saw some success. This was part of identifying and utilising major events as ignition points for recruitment of new officials. Little Athletics NSW continues to investigate new ways to recruit the volunteer workforce and this includes researching key coach and official target groups.

COMPETITIONS

A total of 8,439 athletes competed at one of the eight regions, which was again a slight increase on the previous year. Congratulations to the centres/zones who hosted these events in very trying conditions and all the athletes on their performances, resulting in numerous personal bests and records, which was a testament to their courage and ability.

The Trans Tasman tour to Auckland took place from 9 – 21 January 2020. The touring party of athletes from the U11 and U12 age groups, plus officials and committee members, were housed at the Sacred Heart College in Auckland. The Trans Tasman Challenge was held at Mt Smart Stadium on Sunday 19 January with most athletes achieving personal bests. Sadly, this was the final Trans Tasman Tour after 43 years of exchanges between NSW and Auckland. We thank the committed volunteers who have devoted countless hours organising these tours during this time.

The State Combined Events was held on 29 February and 1 March at the brand-new synthetic track in Tamworth

on a weekend where we had great weather. Thanks are extended to Tamworth City Council for their assistance, both monetary and in kind. Their support was greatly appreciated. Special thanks are extended to our Regional Support Officer (Tamworth), Adam Jolliffe for his assistance before, during and after the event. 614 athletes from 104 centres across the state entered this year's event. Following this event, 3 girls and 3 boys from the U15 age groups were notified of their inclusion as members of the 2020 State Team in the U15 Combined Events Championships. Unfortunately, the 2020 Australian Little Athletics Championships was cancelled due to COVID-19, but we would like to congratulate these athletes on their achievement.

For the first time in the history of Little Athletics in NSW, the State Track & Field Championships, which were due to be held on the weekend of 14-15 March at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, were cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak. A total of 2,826 athletes from 167 Little Athletics qualified through this major event on our calendar.

THANK YOU!

We extend a big thank you to the NSW officials who assisted with the conduct of our events this season.

We also wish to acknowledge and thank our corporate partners, McDonald's, Nordic Sport, SportsTG, Instant Photos Australia and Wholesale Trophies and those businesses/ organisations that provided contra or operational assistance, including ANSW, NSW Office of Sport, Sport NSW, Sydney Olympic Park Authority, and ACT/NSW AFL.

Our thanks go to our two outgoing Directors, Heather Mitchell and Mavis Godber, both of whom made a significant contribution during their tenure.

We would also like to use this opportunity to acknowledge the fact that our longest serving member of staff, Di Levy, will be retiring this coming October, after 34 years with Little Athletics NSW. We wish Di, and her husband Mark, every happiness in their impending retirement.

In closing we wish to acknowledge the significant contribution outgoing Chief Executive Officer, Kerry O'Keefe, has made to Little Athletics in New South Wales. Kerry, a former Little Athlete, commenced her employment with Little Athletics NSW in 1989 as an Education and Development Officer and was appointed CEO during the 1993/1994 season. She has a wealth of experience in the Australian sporting landscape and has decided that now is the right time to pursue new opportunities. On behalf Little Athletics NSW, our volunteers and the countless athletes that have participated in our sport during her tenure we thank Kerry for her lengthy service and wish her every success in future endeavours.

Craig Scott

Chairman
Little Athletics NSW



ATHLETICS NORTHERN TERRITORY

It's been a remarkable year with an unprecedented challenge facing all sports. I can truthfully say that the Northern Territory handled the situation better than anywhere else in Australia. It was the first to implement lockdowns, quarantines, travel bans but then was also the first to implement a staged recovery which has been seen to be many months ahead of the rest of the country.

What we also saw was the incredible and fast support offered by the sports minister and her entire department. It's a worrying time as the President of an organisation when you can see your entire income potentially wiped for a year but knowing you will still have bills and salaries to pay. Without the advance help of the Northern Territory Government we would simply not be operating.

On that note, another reason we are still operating successfully through this troubling year has been the actions of Michele Hughes and Leanne Chin. Both quickly accepted they had sacrifices to make in order to keep Athletics NT afloat. Neither shirked their duties nor their responsibilities in see us through. A sincere thanks to both as ironically, Athletics NT is now in a very strong position.

Of course, no organisation has gone unscathed through this time though. Our Territory championships became a victim as without the participation and financial support of School Sport NT it simply wasn't viable to run. Similarly, the NT Government made an early decision to cancel next year's Arafura Games, which now seems a very wise and sage move. We've had to adjust our timing for the NT City 2 Surf and this will be a test for post COVID operations. It's also been a year (and will continue to be) whereby our elite and developing athletes are left without major targets.

With all that being said though, we do have some exciting times ahead. As the NT continues to come out of COVID, the public and our friends in the Government are all looking at participation events.

We still have the Mitchell St Mile on our agenda and have secured a new partnership for the City 2 Surf. Those two along with a potential redevelopment of the track in line with Arafura 2023 align very well with a continued strong presence for athletics in the NT. We've also taken the opportunity to address some long term historical debts and will be coming into 2021 on an even keel.

I am personally stepping down from my role as President. For the last 5 years I have been able to visit the NT, live and work there at will, but with the current restrictions that's no longer possible. I'd like to thank my current board members and especially Kevin who has been a good friend and guide for many years.

Shane Wylie
President
Athletics Northern Territory



LITTLE ATHLETICS QUEENSLAND

On behalf of Little Athletics Queensland, we are pleased to present the following report which highlights Little Athletics Queensland's achievements in the 2019/2020 season.

REGISTRATIONS

Registrations for the season 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 closed at 11,826 athletes. This is a decrease of 903 athletes from the previous season.

A new Centre was reformed at Chinchilla and they enjoyed a successful first season with 39 registrations.

Our Centre at Yeppoon formally closed after 42 years with our sport. We thank their committee for their ongoing efforts to keep the Centre operating during difficult times.

Centres at Kyogle, Goodna and Forest Lake did not operate this season.

COMPETITIONS

The number of athletes competing at Association competitions in the 2019/2020 season decreased overall by 175 from the previous year. The report shows a decrease in participation at all Regional competitions across both the Winter and Summer seasons.

The Summer Carnival in November continues to be a successful and popular event, with an increase in participation of 232 athletes. This increase resulted in a review of the program and events offered.

Unfortunately, the 2020 McDonald's State Championships in March were cancelled due to COVID-19. There were 1,962 athletes nominated to compete at this competition. This is a slight decline of numbers (-23) compared to the 2017 State Championship participation figures when the competition was last held in Brisbane.

In all LAQ competitions Multi Class participation continues to grow.

OFFICIALS SEMINARS AND THE AUSTRALIAN ATHLETICS OFFICIALS EDUCATION SCHEME

The past season has seen little increase in the number of new accredited officials in the sport. Those already involved continue to advance their qualifications through further education and event experience. There was a total of 58 participants engaged in 3 Metro & 3 Regional workshops and seminars.

With the continued intent of the LAQ Officials Committee and the QA Officials Commission to work together to improve and provide various avenues for members seeking official's education, information, and experience at the local level, the LAQ membership should see increased delivery of education and accreditation opportunities during the coming seasons.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS (INCLUDING LITTLE ATHLETICS PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS (LAPS))

LAQ development staff in conjunction with accredited LAQ coaches delivered LAPS school programs throughout Queensland last season. A total of 20,176 students participated in the program from 64 schools.

A total of 2 Sports Expos were also attended by LAQ development staff. These Sports Expos are an event where multiple sports are in the same location at the same time to showcase their sports to the many groups (school students) attending.



INTRODUCTION TO COACHING COURSES

During the season 122 people participated in one of the 14 courses held throughout the State.

FAST PROGRAM

FAST is a fundamental athletics skills training session utilising games and skill development activities to teach the basic, fundamental movement patterns of the events experienced in a Little Athletics competition. FAST is an eight (8) week program of one (1) our each week that teaches these skills and leads up to a modified "competition" at the end of the period.

LAQ uses this program to gauge interest, mainly of the parents, in communities prior to establishing a Little Athletics Centre.

FAST programs were run in Samford and Morven with 65 athletes in attendance. Discussions are ongoing with the communities as to if they will formally start a Little Athletics Centre.

NEW ZEALAND DEVELOPMENT TOUR

In January 2020 the Association successfully ran its 12th New Zealand Development Tour with 25 athletes attending. Athletes spent 11 days travelling, training and competing

together throughout the South Island of New Zealand. They also competed against athletes from all over New Zealand's South Island.

This was the third year that the athletes had the opportunity to compete in two competitions while on tour. The first of these competitions was the Colgate Games in Christchurch. The second (and major tour competition) was the South Island Teams Championships, where our Team finished 1st overall. This is the fifth time since the tours inception that our travelling group has finished 1st overall and claimed the Findlay-Vivian Cup.

LAA NATIONAL U15 CAMP

From the 29th September – 2nd October 2019, 13 LAQ athletes were selected to attend the LAA National U15 Coaching Camp. This camp was held at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. Athletes were housed, ate and had many opportunities to use and explore the facilities of the AIS.

REGIONAL SUPPORT AND LIAISON

Members of the Board and Staff travelled to the majority of Regions throughout the State in conjunction with Regional Championships to discuss local issues and to assist with the running of the competitions.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2024

The Board participated in strategic planning workshops with prominent Queensland sports consultant Peter Phair. The completed plan was ratified at the July Board meeting. It will be circulated to all Centres and posted on the LAQ website once the formatting is finalised. All members of the Board commented that it was the best strategic planning exercise they had undertaken in their time with LAQ.

LITTLE ATHLETICS QUEENSLAND AND QUEENSLAND ATHLETICS

Regular liaison took place between the respective CEO's and operational staff of both organisations. Of particular focus was the alignment of competition calendars. It was agreed that both organisations will continue to meet before competitions dates are set so that clashes can be avoided for athletes and officials. A dual sanctioned event was conducted at Spring Carnival in Bundaberg.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM

The Annual Conference was postponed due to COVID-19 and subsequently cancelled. An online AGM will take place on the place on the 8th of September.

COMPETITION AND REGISTRATION SYSTEMS

All Centres are now using SportsTG or ResultsHQ for registrations and nominations with Team Manager phased out of use. The Timing Solutions contract for ResultsHQ was renewed with feedback provided from the Centres on potential improvements. The sytem's ability to be used increasingly used for regional competitions was negotiated into the agreement.

CORPORATE SUPPORT

The Association's major sponsor, McDonald's, renewed their sponsorship for a further 3 years with an increase in the cash component provided under the agreement. The partnership, this season, will reach 40 years in duration which is one of the longest serving grass roots sponsorships ever in Australian sport. Additional activations are planned for this season to celebrate the milestone.

National sponsor, Coles, again provided bananas and promotional products to the athletes. They also paid for Olympics athletes to visit 4 lucky Centres in Queensland and deliver hands-on clinics through the Coles Little Athlete Big Dreams program. Under the sponsorship, they also provided naming rights to the Spring and Summer Carnivals.

Nordic Sport continued to sponsor the 11 Regional Championships and Comfort Inn & Suites Robertson Gardens are in the middle of a 3 year partnership. Kumon Australia, in January, didn't renew their sponsorship.

LAQ also partnered with Aspirations for 4 Kids to provide assistance to disadvantaged athletes to compete at state level competitions. Five families received \$500 each under the program.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

The 3 year State Government SDP funding was extended to all funded sports for an additional 18 months bringing our anticipated funding renewal date to June 2021. This coincided with the release of the Activate Queensland 2019-2029 Strategic Plan. This provided a timely opportunity for LAQ to closer align our strategic priorities with those of the State Government.

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

Radio advertising was aired in Brisbane on Hit105, 97.3FM and on the Southern Cross Austereo network in Cairns, Townsville, Mackay and Rockhampton. Digital roadside billboard advertising was commissioned in high traffic areas in Brisbane during the Summer sign-on campaign. LAQ also advertised on Facebook for both the Summer and Winter sign-ons. Regional newspapers were used during both summer and winter campaigns.

BOARD AND STAFFING

Ros McAlister served her final term on the LAQ Board bringing to a close 15 years of service at the 2019 Annual General Meeting. The Board thanked Ros for her outstanding contribution to the administration of the sport an extended period. She was offered the opportunity to assist North Queensland as the Regional Support Officer which she accepted. Gary Morisby was appointed after the AGM to fill the vacant Finance Director role along with Brad Jones was appointed to fill the vacant General Director left by Dave Brown after he accepted a paid position with Queensland Athletics. Of the remaining Directors up for election, Tony Frampton was re-elected to the Board at AGM.

There were no changes in staff.

THANK YOU

2019/2020 Season was another successful one for our sport but unexpectedly brought with it the beginning of an unprecedented challenge with the worldwide spread of COVID-19. Whilst the full effects will not be known until the end of the season and beyond, Little Athletics Queensland is determined to minimise the impact as much as possible and come out the other side of the pandemic well-prepared to grow the sport in all ways possible.

Again, thanks also to the Association Staff: Simon, Shannon, Karen, Shaun, Kendal, Ngaire, Amanda-Jayne, and Bianca who have been very supportive of the Centres and Board.

To the Board, and particularly departing Finance Director, Ros McAlister and General Director, Dave Brown, thank you for your contribution.

The Board of Directors would like to extend their thanks to all Centres and Association Committees, Coaches and Officials for all of their hard work throughout the course of the year.

Donna Smith

President

Little Athletics Queensland



LITTLE ATHLETICS SA

Season 2019-20 will long be remembered as the last season before Covid-19 changed everything. We were very lucky in South Australia that the corona virus reached us slower than many other places in the world allowing us to finish our season with our State Individual Championships just a week before the state went into lockdown with the rest of the world.

The lockdown severely affected our winter season with the cancellation of the Academy, the April holiday development clinic, and the race walking series as well as the postponement of the cross country series. At a national level it resulted in the cancellation of the Australian Little Athletics Championships for the first time since SA commenced participating in 1973.

On the flip side it has also led to some innovative and fantastic ways of keeping the sport going with the Backyard PB series, the virtual cross country program and our virtual conference and AGM. The athletes who made the state team were still recognised which I know meant a lot to those children and their parents. And there were many other positive developments during the season before all this happened.

The role of the Little Athletics SA (LASA) Board is one of governance focussing on strategy. The Board members have significant experience at Centre level and as parents of little athletes. There is a spread of essential skill sets including coaching, officiating, event delivery, finance, legal, education, facility management and marketing - all of which have proven invaluable to LASA. Increased competition from other sports and activities for children and their parents' time and attention have meant that keeping the strategy relevant is increasingly important.

Strategically we continue to work on ways to lighten the administration load on Centre committee members and other volunteers so they can focus on delivery of the sport. With the support of the Office of Recreation, Sport and Racing (OSRS) an exciting development ready for next season, is the Clubs Hub which will allow Centres to access a one stop portal for all the information needed to run their Centre more easily. Thanks to funding from OSRS, a risk management framework and the resulting policies will be available to Centres to protect committee members and enhance Star Club applications.

We continued to seek the best system for registering members to alleviate what used to be one of the most time consuming roles for Centres. For many new parents it is one of their first impressions of the sport and the database provides essential information for Centres.

We continue to tweak the state events with a view to maximising the number of athletes that can compete at the stadium. The interclub program continued to grow which



LITTLE ATHLETICS SOUTH AUSTRALIA

provides even more exposure to the stadium and brings back regional competition without the burden of hosting the event being placed on one Centre. Country Championships continue to provide this competition for regional areas without the need to travel all the way to Adelaide.

As the peak recreational athletics body in South Australia we were able to lead the way with statewide responsibility for funding from ORSR for marketing and communications on behalf of most athletics organisations in the state. Progress has been made towards providing a platform for all marketing and communication with current and potential members across all these athletics organisations. This will allow communication of available events to all members and of the pathway options for participating in athletics with an exciting branding for the sport.

This season also saw the announcement that Little Athletics Australia (LAA) is proposing to merge with Athletics Australia (AA). Whilst the announcement was unexpected and progression is slow due to the restrictions of Covid-19 we continue to be involved in the process and endeavour to ensure that junior sport will be protected as a primary focus of athletics.

We continue to work with Athletics SA on building a stronger sport and to look at all avenues to keep our little athletes participating in the sport for longer.

This season was the first that saw the final version of the of the Tiny Tots Program after 4 years of development to provide play-based activities that draw from athletic events but focus on basic skill development.

The time pressures that Covid-19 placed on LAA meant that the investigation into the best option for providing game-based activities for the under 6 to under 8 age groups was put on hold. This program, when developed, will keep young children active during waiting times for events, whilst at the same time providing opportunities for athletic specific skill development. We will continue to push for this program's development because addressing waiting times and inactivity, whilst still satisfying the desire of many children to participate in the events they see at the Olympic and Commonwealth Games, is essential for attracting and retaining young athletes.

Coaching at Centres is extremely important to the success of Centres and the sport. Thanks to funding from ORSR we were able to provide subsidised access to the Level 1 Coaching Course. Whilst this course is a great introduction to using games as a way of coaching younger children, those of us who have been involved in the sport for many years know that this is only part of coaching young children as they seek to improve their skills to do the actual events rather than just play games. We will continue to advocate for the Introduction to Coaching Course to be recognised

as part of the coaching pathway to provide new coaches with the skills needed to start their journey and the journey of children in the sport.

We continue to push for a national marketing campaign with LAA that would give maximum exposure to compete with the marketing campaigns of other sports.

None of this could have happened without the tireless work of our CEO Sue Bowman and the great team of LASA staff. They all show amazing passion for Little Athletics and deserve a very big thank you for often going above and beyond for our children. I would also like to thank the Board members for sharing their time, knowledge and expertise and helping to make sometimes difficult decisions for the future of the sport.

Thank you to our sponsors SA Power Networks, Adelaide Brighton Cement, Toyota and Coles. Also thank you to our great partners; Blackchrome Sportswear, Boileau IT Solutions, Snap Printing Hilton and IDM Sports. Thank you also goes to our state funding body ORSR. CEO Kylie Taylor and the staff have been a wonderful support. Without the contribution made by these organisations, we would not have been able to provide the level of programs, events and support that we did this season.

A big thank you goes to our state officials that give their time to help run our state events, capably led by Greg

Peterson. Also, a big thank you to the coaches who dedicated their skills to our holiday development clinics.

And last but not least, thank you to all the Centre committee and other volunteers helping to make this a great sport for all athletes and their families.

But season 2019-20 will also be long remembered as the season we lost one of the greatest stalwarts of Little Athletics in SA, Wendy Beisiegel. Wendy is a life member of LASA and the 2018 LAA Volunteer Role of Excellence inductee. She was a LASA Board member from 1994 to 2010 and has been Board secretary for the last 6 years making Wendy the longest ever serving SALAA Board member. She was an active Committee member at Barossa Valley Little Athletics for many years and was still supporting her grandchildren's involvement at both Barossa and Coastals. She was also a wonderful person and will be sorely missed.

Steve Camilleri

President
Little Athletics South Australia



LITTLE ATHLETICS TASMANIA

The 2019/20 season has been an interesting one to say the least with a lot of things happening throughout the season and then of course the coronavirus pandemic hitting Australia at the end of our season.

From a Little Athletics perspective, Tasmania was relatively lucky that we were able to complete our State Championships literally a few days before everything started going into lockdown. We were not completely immune from the effects however with several Centres having to cancel their presentation days, our Cross-Country season cancelled and the cancellation of the Australian Little Athletics Championships in Canberra and the International Children's Games in Hungary.

Whilst Tasmania is well placed at the moment, the threat of a second wave is always there and several changes will need to be implemented to our weekly competition meetings to ensure that Public Health guidelines are met and the risk of possible transmission of Covid-19 is minimised. We also face the difficulty of working around winter sports running later than usual and impacting the start of the season for many of our Centres, causing competition for both facilities and athletes. The economic effect of the coronavirus is also likely to impact the upcoming season, many people have either lost their job or lost significant income from their businesses or investments. Some people will simply have to cut costs where they can and will be more selective in their children's sports (especially those that participate in multiple sports). Fortunately, Little Athletics remains one of the most affordable sports to participate in, but we will all need to work together to ensure that our product remains attractive to our members and prospective future members.

GOVERNANCE

LATas underwent a review of the Constitution and Bylaws throughout the 2019-2020 season, giving the organisation a more modern governance structure and more voting power to members. This task was undertaken by our Finance Director, Ferdie Kroon, who consulted with both the Board and the Department of Community, Sport & Recreation throughout the process. The new constitution was adopted at a special general meeting held in March with all Centres voting to support the changes.

The new constitution removes the rights of Board members to vote and presents a 'one member, one vote' model, replacing the previous version which allowed two delegates from each Centre plus current Board members to vote.

I wish to thank Ferdie for his time and commitment to reviewing and rewriting the constitution, and to the Department of Communities, Sport and Recreation for their guidance throughout the process.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership numbers for 2019/20 were on a par with the previous season. It was pleasing to halt the decrease in membership numbers but now the challenge is to start increasing them again. The coronavirus restrictions and effects mentioned above will make increasing membership this coming season a challenge, but we do have some advantages to work with, such as being a sport that involves no physical contact and the flexibility to alter our programs at short notice. LATas will be taking advantage of the national LAA participation campaign and using this to promote the upcoming season at state level in addition to our own marketing strategy.

REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

Unfortunately, both our Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC) and International Children's Games (ICG) teams had their events cancelled due to the coronavirus. This was no doubt a major disappointment for everyone, especially the athletes and their families. LATas was hoping the 2021 ALACs could be extended to offer competition for those athletes who missed out in 2020 and was disappointed to learn this was not possible due to the format changing. LATas will continue to seek opportunities for these athletes that missed out but at this point in time, options are severely limited with the heavy restrictions on interstate travel.

LATas have participated in two International Children's Games in 2014 and 2016. While both events provided a wonderful experience for athletes, both competition and cultural, it is highly unlikely we will consider sending teams to future events. The cancellation of the 2020 event was incredibly disappointing for families who had worked tirelessly for up to two years to raise funds for the trip, with many of these athletes being too old to participate in the 2021 Games, should they proceed.

SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT

LATas was the recipient of a Tasmanian Government grant for State Sporting Organisations again in 2020. We are pleased to have met the KPI's set with this funding agreement in 2019 and despite the challenges of the coronavirus restrictions, we are on target to meet the KPI's again in 2020.

We welcomed Bendigo Bank as the sponsor for the 2019/2020 Little Athletics Program for Schools (LAPS). Bendigo Bank have supported several of our Centres and individual athletes in recent years and we are delighted to partner with them to deliver the LAPS program into schools across Tasmania.

I would like to thank Coles for their ongoing support, particularly for the Coles Little Athletics Community Fund. Grants available through the Community Fund enabled several of our Centres to purchase much needed equipment without having to stretch their limited volunteer pool further with multiple fundraising activities.

Our thanks are also extended to long-term sponsors McDonald's, RACT, JustWaste Consulting, Nordic Sport and Accolades Awards who again supported us through the 2019/2020 season. We are incredibly grateful for the support received from each these sponsors and look forward to continuing our partnerships in the upcoming season.

COACHING CAMPS & CLINICS

In 2019 LATas rebranded the pre-season Coaching Clinics to 'Come & Try Days' with an emphasis on allowing children aged 3-14 years a chance to see what Little Athletics has to offer. The change of format proved extremely popular with close to 1000 children attending the three sessions offered across Tasmania. Former Little Athletes & Australian representatives Hamish Peacock and Jack Hale headlined the team of Coaches delivering the sessions along with a range of former LATas athletes who happily volunteer to support our organisation.

In addition to the pre-season clinics, our Development Officer, Josh Mason, carried out school holiday clinics across Tasmania, working with volunteer coaches to offer athletes an opportunity to develop event specific skills.

The LATas annual U12/U13 Coaching Camp in January proved popular once again. The Coaching Camp provides a wonderful opportunity for athletes to develop friendships with athletes outside of their own Centre. It is always great to see athletes who walk in as strangers leave the camp as friends. The five day live-in camp provides coaching in all events delivered by qualified coaches. This year the camp delivered a record number of personal bests in the competition which is traditionally held on the final full day of camp. My thanks to Camp Convenor Garry House for once again hosting a wonderful event for all involved.

LATAS BOARD OF MANAGEMENT / STAFF / VOLUNTEERS

I would like to sincerely thank my fellow Board members, Ferdie, Brett, Steve, Kaelene and Paul for their dedication to ensuring that we continue to offer such a wonderful product to children in Tasmania. Ferdie Kroon has been the driving force in getting our Constitution updated and getting our policies and procedures, particularly those relating to finance, up to date. Kaelene Crossingham has done wonderfully well with the Education portfolio, organising Level 1 and 2 coaching courses, assisting with the preseason Come and Try Days and State Camp and continuing to look for ways to upskill our Officials and Coaches. Paul Mommers has been a great mentor for our Development Officer, Josh, and has taken a leading role in organising and coaching at our Coaching Clinics and at Camp.

We farewell two of our Board members in 2020, with Brett Gillow and Stephen Ahern stepping down at the AGM. Brett Gillow was elected in 2016 in the role of Development Director but moved to the Competition role in 2019. Brett has done a fantastic job with the Competition portfolio. It is a massive job organising meets for around 500 children, and he has done wonderfully well in ensuring all State Meets have been well planned and organised. Steve Ahern has done a great job ensuring all equipment is in place for each meet, updating checklists, being our National Technical Committee representative and assisting with clinics and camp. Our organisation is richer for having both Brett and Steve involved and on behalf of the Board and members, I wish to thank them for their commitment to LATas and wish them well for the future.

In the office, Tracy has continued to be a valuable resource for both the Board and the Centres in her role as Admin Officer. This role can be extremely difficult at times, often requiring her to juggle many tasks at once, but Tracy has continued to expand her skills and take on new tasks with enthusiasm.

Josh Mason continued his great work as Development Officer. His rapport with athletes at school visits, Centre visits and Coaching clinics is excellent, and it is not uncommon to receive several messages of thanks after his sessions. Unfortunately for LATas, Josh will be leaving us shortly for another opportunity and we wish him well in his future career endeavours. He will not be lost to Little Athletics completely though as he will continue with his coaching group. LATas is in the process of advertising for

his replacement and hope to have a new Development Officer appointed very shortly. Lastly, we welcome Jade Longstaff to the LATas staff. Jade is a former Little Athlete and has been appointed as a Development Officer on a casual basis in the North of the state.

I'd also like to thank our Life Member, Garry House, for his work as Camp Convenor in 2020, and Wim Vaessen, Kay Knee, Josh Mason, Anna Davie and Paul Mommers for taking on roles as State Team Coaches/Managers, even though the trip was not able to proceed.

I'd also like to acknowledge our State Service Award Winners. Peter McConnon and Rosemary Coleman were both awarded Distinguished Service Awards following many years of distinguished service to Little Athletics. Both are former Board members, and both have remained involved with Little Athletics well after their terms on the Board ended – Peter through his Results Management system (SLAM) and Rosemary through her co-ordination of Walks coaching, clinics and officials. Michael Brideson and Jenny Broad were awarded State Service Awards for their many years of assistance at various Little Athletics events – both Michael and Jenny regularly go "above and beyond" what is expected at State Meets and have done so for a number of years.

LITTLE ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA & OTHER STATES

I would also like to thank the Little Athletics Australia Board, led by Andrew Pryor, and staff, led by Martin Stillman and my fellow State/Territory Presidents for your support over the past 12 months. I came into this role under some difficult circumstances and the guidance and friendship that you all have provided is very much appreciated. We don't always agree on every issue but debate can often be healthy and at the end of the day, we all share the common goal of providing a great experience for our athletes.

I'm very proud to be a part of Little Athletics and we should all look forward to many more wonderful years of our great sport.

I take this opportunity to wish everyone success for the upcoming season. We are in undoubtedly in unique and uncertain times, but we are as well placed as any sporting organisation to work our way through the next 12 months.

Brett Johnstone

President
Little Athletics Tasmania



LITTLE ATHLETICS VICTORIA

The following summarises key activities and outcomes for LAVic in the 19/20 year.

OVERVIEW

BUSHFIRES

The first part of the 2019/20 track and Field season saw a large part of our state severely affected by bushfires. Whilst fortunately our regional centres were largely unaffected a small number of our families were directly impacted. Over the period of January and February, centres in affected areas were contacted regularly by staff members for updates on affected families, a gold coin appeal was initiated at the State Combined events Championship and Bush fire relief T-shirts were commissioned and sold through our online webstore. All proceeds raised were donated to the Victorian Bushfire appeal. The Bushfires had wider impact across our centres with air quality issues seeing some centres having to modify and even cancel weekly competitions.

COVID-19

Without doubt the biggest impact to our sport and indeed the wider community has been the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. The effects to our sport were first felt in March 2020 with the cancellation of the State Track and Field Championships followed quickly by the cancellation of the Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC), the Stawell Gift and the State Cross Country championships.

OPERATIONS REPORT

EVENT ENTRIES

The registration numbers for the events conducted:

- Region Relay Carnivals, after team scratching's, entries were up 9.9% 2444 to 2687.
- Region Track & Field Carnivals, entries were steady, 3401 to 3402.
- State Combined Events Championships, entries were up 15.45% from 945 to 1091.
- Stawell Gift, cancelled.
- State Cross-Country Relays, cancelled.
- Region Cross Country Carnivals, cancelled.
- State Road Relays, cancelled.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT SQUAD - JDS

JDS is the major education program for our athletes in the U12-U16 age groups. It involves six training sessions from October to August each season, with optional involvement in the JDS Camp. During the 2019-2020 season, JDS had 272 members who met the qualifying standards and registered.



MARKETING

Village Cinema's in-house production team developed a 30-second commercial which was played on Village Cinema screens throughout Victoria in the 6 weeks leading up to the commencement of the season. Further, the advert secured over 50,000 additional views on LAVic's YouTube, Facebook and Instagram and Facebook advertising. LAVic also designed an advertisement for Metro Trains which saw Little Athletics promotional imagery displayed on the outside of 8 carriages promoted across the Melbourne train network for three months.

Social Network	2019	2020
Facebook	17,015	17,961
Instagram	4,139	4,859
LinkedIn	98	157
Twitter	926	979
YouTube	2,534	3,360

Table 1: Social Network follower stats based on the 10th of July 2020.

LIVESTREAM

The investment into live streaming continued during the 2019-20 season.

Integration between Results Hub and our live streaming tools meant that viewers were able to see the most up-to-date start lists and results on-screen.

DIGITAL PLATFORMS

The complete re-launch of the digital home of Little Athletics Victoria saw a refresh of a decade-old website and also brought full control of our leading digital asset internally.

VICTORIAN SPORTS AWARDS

LAVic was awarded the inaugural 'Outstanding Media Coverage of Sport Award' at the 2019 Victorian Sport Awards, for the livestreaming of its State Championship events.

GENDER QUOTA

In 2018 the Victorian State Government established the Office of Women in Sport, in part for the purpose of driving its agenda for gender equity on the Boards and Committees of Victorian State Sporting Organisations, sporting associations and clubs. A condition of eligibility for State Government grant funding was to meet or exceed a mandated quota of 40% female representation on the LAVic Board by 31st July 2019. Pleasingly, following the 2019 Board elections and subsequent Board re-appointments, LAVic exceeded this quota with 4 of 9 Directors being female.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2023

LAVic has developed and released its Strategic Plan 2020-2023. The Plan has three strategic priorities:

1. Grow the sport: these strategies seek to help Regions and Centres thrive, excite our athletes and families about their involvement in Little Athletics, and improving the Little Athletics experience for athletes, families and volunteers. Key to achieving these outcomes are supporting our Centre & Region Committees, officials, coaches and parent volunteers.
2. Governance and Management: these strategies focus on the administration of a sustainable and thriving Association.
3. One Athletics: these strategies seek to LAVic's ongoing engagement with the project leadership, and commitment to keep our stakeholders fully informed.

SCHOOL PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES – LAPS

Fifteen Athletic Development Officers (ADOs) visited over 50 schools promoting Little Athletics and teaching fundamental movements to over 6,000 Victorian primary school children. The LAPS program was subsequently put on hold at the start of term 2 (2020) due to COVID-19

ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The Royal Children's Hospital remains our major beneficiary of fundraising activities, as has been the case for almost 50 years. Throughout the 19/20 season, our 101 Centres, Regions and Association office raised a combined total of \$40,204.57 – a tremendous effort.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

The total number of registered athletes was 15,896. This was down from 16,859 on the previous season, a reduction of 963 members (5.71%) on the 18/19 season.

Member retention across the Association was 54.53%, up from 51.41% in the previous season.

LAVic was delighted to welcome a new Affiliated Centre – Lake Bolac & District, and their 43 athletes – to the Association, located out of Western Country Region.

FINANCIALS

LAVic posted an end of year deficit of \$73,973. For noting was that 19/20 was a 10-month financial year (due to a transition from a 31 May to 31 March year end date) and subsequent application of new financial standards impacting the treatment of membership and other revenue streams.

Sherrie Boulter

President
Little Athletics Victoria

LITTLE ATHLETICS WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Little Athletics WA commenced the season under the auspice of One Sport – One Team where the Little Athletics WA Board and Athletics WA (Seniors) Board worked together collaboratively to establish the strategic intent for the whole of sport, extending from Tiny Tots to Masters.

Having established the foundation for change over the preceding years, and with ongoing development, a key milestone to commence the season was the establishment of One Management Team.

One Management Team was employed to deliver the sport of athletics to members across the 'whole of sport' and transition the staff and operations to a co-located premise within the WA Athletics Stadium. Although the concept of One Sport – One Team might be new in Australia for athletics, it was seen by our members, volunteers, management, and Directors to be a logical progression for the ongoing sustainability of the sport of Athletics.

For our members, One Management Team meant they were supported by staff across the whole of sport. Little Athletics programs and competitions continued to be delivered and supported, just as programs and competitions for the senior members did. One Management Team also supported a co-ordinated approach and development opportunities for the transitional age group members. Member engagement and support across the sport increased with all Little Athletics Centres and Senior Athletics Clubs being directly engaged, consulted, and further encouraged to seek assistance, guidance, and development opportunities.

The greatest challenges for the formation of One Management Team resided with the CEO, Mr Vince Del Prete, and his team of dynamic staff. Staff training, education and the nuances of co-location occurred whilst registrations commenced. Staff even resorted to utilising their personal Wi-Fi hotspots to ensure communications continued, whilst we negotiated to implement a reliable service! The successful implementation of One Management Team, whilst continuing to maintain the focus on delivery and service to our members was a key milestone and achievement to the progression of unification of the sport in WA.



A significant challenge, not only for Little Athletics, but across all communities, sports and businesses within the past 12 months has been the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As transmission across the world increased and positive COVID-19 cases developed within our local communities, the difficult decision was taken to cancel the 2020 State Track and Field Championships.

It was a decision not taken lightly by the Directors and Management and was based on the best medical advice available at the time. Simply put, the health and safety of our athletes, volunteers, officials, staff and event attendees was deemed our highest priority. Although it is extremely disappointing for all that we did not get the opportunity to complete the season with our final championships; an event we acknowledge many had worked hard for; we greatly appreciate the support we received in making this difficult decision. We wish to thank and acknowledge the entire athletics community for your flexibility and understanding.

Our ability to be flexible and adaptable was tested as COVID-19 restrictions in the community increased. Staff were able to work from home, developing future engagement opportunities, exploring membership models, developing policies and procedures for the future change in the governance construct, and developing commercial and marketing strategies. During this time the dynamic team continued to communicate and engage regularly through the implementation of alternate meeting strategies such as Zoom.

Following the successful implementation of the One Management Team, Special General Meetings for Little Athletics members and Athletics WA members were held in June. The purpose of the meeting was to unify Little Athletics with our senior counterparts to implement a single governance structure across the sport in WA. Members voted overwhelmingly in favour of adopting the single governance model with over 90% of both Little Athletics and senior members supportive of the motion.

I wish to specifically acknowledge the services of Alistair Talbot, Tottle Partners who graciously provided his professional services, experience and knowledge in assisting and guiding the development of the Athletics West Constitution.

The historic vote places WA as the only State Athletics body to exist under a single governance structure and under the strong leadership of one CEO across the whole of sport. Athletics West can now work as one with a clear direction and ability to ensure an enhanced delivery service to all current and future Members, state-wide. Our limitation will be the ability of the National bodies to progressively support whole of sport pathways from athletes, coaches and officials.

I would like to thank fellow Directors Fiona Bow, Dr Rishelle Hume, Lee Hutton, Ryan Hawkins, Dean Smith,

Allison Moore and Kevin Wilson for your continued efforts to support, grow and strategically develop the sport of athletics and in particular, Little Athletics. With the formation of Athletics West, the Little Athletics WA Association will be dissolved along with the WA Athletics Commission.

Effective from 1 July 2020, we have re-branded as 'Athletics West'. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the contributions of our Members, State Government; specifically Hon Mick Murray MLA, Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering; Sport and Recreation for his support, and Steve Humfrey, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, our stakeholders and partners and the support of the athletics community in making this historic decision.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the inaugural Board of Directors for Athletics West; Tim Lyons, David Rowe, Fiona Bow, Louise Soia, Dr Rishelle Hume, Dr John Forbes, Lee Hutton and Ashani Senevirantne.

I would also like to thank our Patron, Dr Toni Buti, MLA for his support and advocacy of the sport. Dr Buti understands the value and importance that sport has on the growth, development and health benefits for athletes and volunteers.

The following is a summary of key activities and outcomes for Little Athletics WA over the preceding 12 months:

- 2019 Malaysia Tour. 55 athletics and 5 Team Leaders represented Little Athletics WA in the International competition between Malaysia, Singapore and WA;
- 2019 NW Regional Championships. In its second year of existence, the NW Championships were held in Exmouth with visiting Centres including Broom, Hedland, Karratha, Newman and Ashburton. Little Athletics WA also hosted Officials Education, Coaching Clinics, Community Clinics and school events reaching across the community;
- 2019 LAA Role of Excellence. Brad Hardie (sportsperson) and Bob Chalmers (volunteer) were inducted to the Little Athletics Australia Roll of Excellence;
- 2019 Coles Junior Athletics Carnival. Ern Clark Athletics Centre was the host to a junior event aimed at the U6-U9 age groups and including siblings in the Tiny Tots group;
- 2019 State Track and Field Relay Championships Presented by Go 2 and 5. Over 3000 athletes forming 677 teams, from U8-U17 competed in the state championships which for the first year included the opportunity for mixed track and field relay events in addition to both the girls and boys teams;

- 2019 RAC Sport West Awards. With over 50 years of volunteering across the sport of athletics, Bob Chalmers was awarded the Roobix Service to Sport Award-May Campbell Medal;
- 2020 Country Championships. The first State event of 2020 was hosted by Margaret River Little Athletics season, with representation from all 17 regional Centres. This is a significant achievement noting the large distances many travel to participate. For the first time, the Country Championships were open to registrations from athletes in open competitions. We look forward to increasing participation in future years. Officials Education, Coaching Clinics, Athlete training and education and Tiny Tots sessions were also conducted. Thank you to Hon Mick Murray MLA for attending.
- 2020 State Combined Event Championships Presented by Go 2 and 5. The multi event competition was conducted in February with 275 athletes from U11 to U17 competing. We also welcomed a small team of athletes from Singapore Sports School who travelled to compete against WA athletes;
- Zones Championships. In mid-February, just over 2000 athletes competed in the Zones Championships in a bid to qualify for State Championships; and
- 2020 State Track and Field Championships. Unfortunately, due to the increasing health risk and based on medical advice, a decision to cancel the State Track and Field Championships was made. We wish to acknowledge the 1472 athletes who qualified and entered the event.

It is concerning to report that Little Athletics registrations continued to decline for the third year in a row, despite strong participation in community events and increasing community engagement. This is a challenge the sport must continue to address; to be innovative and to adapt to the changing community priorities and demands. A review of our memberships model will greatly assist us to provide flexibility for our membership in the future.

Although we may have concluded the 2019/2020 competition season abruptly, we should not let this overshadow our successes. The world has changed and will continue to do so, as has our concept of 'normal'. We need to look past 'how we have always done it' and create new and exciting opportunities for the future. Change should not be viewed negatively, but rather a platform upon which we can steer new and exciting paths with increased opportunities and engagement across the whole of sport. Out of adversity, we need to continue to seek opportunity.

I wish to acknowledge and thank our National sponsor Coles, for their ongoing banana donations and for providing

the opportunity for Centres to directly apply for community funding. Assistance of nearly \$40,000 was received by 9 Centres across WA to purchase much needed athletics equipment including high jump mats, hurdles, line marking machines and more. Coles also piloted the Athlete and Volunteer of the Month Award in WA during the season. Nominations were sought from our members and winners were awarded a \$50 Coles voucher for their contribution to the sport.

All award winners were eligible for the end of year award where the successful recipients received a trophy and \$500 Coles gift card. The awards highlighted and rewarded the tireless effort that so many of our Little Athletics volunteers contribute within our community. Thank you for all your support.

I would also like to make special mention of Little Athletics WA major partner, Healthway, Go for 2 and 5. Their support of our community in Western Australia has been truly invaluable throughout the year and continues to make a difference to the positive health choices for our members across the sport.

To our key partners and stakeholders including Landmark, ISC, Keep on Running, Travel and Sports Australia, Australian Financial Solutions Group, Worldwide Printing, Nutrien Ag Solutions, Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Rocktape, Aussies in Action Sports Photography, Tottle Partners and Nordic Sport; thank you.

Our successful achievements over the past 12 months would not have been possible with the motivated, dedicated and passionate staff. Capably led by Vince Del Prete, the team of Emma, Jake, Danny, Rebecca, Debbie and Heather transitioned to the One Management Team at the WA Athletics Stadium. Vince was successfully appointed as the One Management Team CEO, where the team were joined by Wayne, Stephen, Nathan, Lyndsay, Savannah, and Sharon. I wish to thank and acknowledge the extended services of Wayne and Stephen to the sport and wish them both well in their future endeavours.

Finally, to the Little Athletics community, athletes, coaches, officials, administrators and volunteers, thank you for all that you have contributed to support the sport and to provide the ongoing opportunity for thousands to participate each week. I sincerely thank you all. You should be proud of the contribution you have made to achieve collective success as a sport and to achieving the historic transition to a unified sport providing greater opportunities to all.

Teresa Blackman
Chairman
Little Athletics Western Australia



COLES LITTLE ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA

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