

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017



Jetstar

 Little  
Athletics  
Australia

asics





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# MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

## EXECUTIVE

Dereck Fineberg	President
Edward Fabian	Administration & Finance Director
Todd Williams	Competition & Standards Director
Martin Stillman	Chief Executive Officer

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Andrew Pryor  
 Neil Sandall  
 Donna Smith  
 Andrew Pryor  
 Rhonda O'Sign  
 Steve Ryan  
 Teresa Blackman  
 Simone Pearce (from January 2017)  
 Melanie Woodward (from January 2017)

## STAFF

Ashlea Watt	Administration and Events Manager
Andrew Johnston	Development & Projects Manager
Sara Agnew	Bookkeeper



# 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

## 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

## 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

## 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

## 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

\* Deceased

**Jetstar** 



## 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**



# SPONSORS

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

## Jetstar

Jetstar is the first naming rights partner of Little Athletics. The partnership reinforces Jetstar's commitment to Australian communities and demonstrates that they stand for more than just low fares.



## ASICS

ASICS shares the Little Athletics vision of developing young athletes of all abilities to BE YOUR BEST. The commitment by Asics to Little Athletics benefits every family through their support of the Australian Little Athletics Championships, Achievement Book, Website and the Little Athletics range of footwear



## V-INSURANCE

Jetstar 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 Jetstar Little Athletics Australia is able to provide athletes, Associations and Centres comprehensive and cost effective insurance.



# V-INSURANCE GROUP

CORPORATE AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE OF WILLIS



## EXECUTIVE REPORTS





# PRESIDENT

**In summarizing the 2016/2017 year I have chosen a number of significant items that have consumed much of our time and effort.**

## Governance & personnel

From the back end of 2016 to now the LAA board with the assistance of Lander & Rogers has been looking at potential changes to our federated model. This has required a lot of discussion at the national board level and with the state association boards. A new constitution and governance structure is being submitted for decision here in October. Let us see where that takes us.

One structure change already in place is the addition of two independent directors – Melanie Woodward and Simone Pearce – who joined the board in early 2017. Both have made valued contributions already and I thank them both for their insights.

During this year two of our board members have completed their state president tenures and have therefore stepped down from the LAA board. I refer to Neil Sandell (NSW) and Steve Ryan (Vic). I thank both gentlemen for their contributions to Little Athletics and wish them well for the future.

And we welcome the new state presidents and LAA board members- Craig Scott (NSW) and Colin Segato (Vic). I know both will be worthy additions to our team.

Two of our Exec are also moving on – Eddie Fabian, our Finance Director and Todd Williams – Comp and Standards. They have both carried out their respective roles brilliantly but also as members of the Exec and their input to many other matters. I can't thank them enough for the work they have done and for their friendship and support. They leave behind a great legacy.

## Senior Athletics

Perhaps due to a high turnover of staff in AA, at time of writing this report LAA is still waiting for responses to the redrafted MOU and also our questions on the membership proposal and we will continue to follow up on these.

We are also seeking a continuance of the high level management meetings between our two organisations and are keen to continue attending the AA board meetings.

While there are more opportunities for One Sport initiatives at state association levels and these are occurring, nevertheless it remains a topic of conversation between the two national bodies. A recent example is the joint funding of an Inclusion Officer's position and joint sponsorship opportunities.

## ALAC, ROE, U/15 Camp

This year saw the first two day ALAC which was held in Sydney. While some fine tuning will no doubt be done to the program feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Congratulations to LANSW.

Our U/15 camp and ROE function continue to be great successes and remain as very popular events on our landscape.

## Finance & Sponsorship

At time of writing I hope we will have announced a very major national naming rights sponsor which has been negotiated jointly with AA. It will be very exciting and should provide great benefits to the sport. Watch this space.

## Standard Rules & Events, Skills programs & Products, Age Groups

Our standard rules and events continue to be strengthened thanks to the efforts of Todd and the NTC.

Unfortunately, the product review/skills program has been delayed to the 2018/19 season to enable more time to prepare for a trial and subsequent implementation.

Work is continuing on more updated information about the Age Group date change scheduled for 18/19 and will be made available very soon.

## Appreciation

As always, I wish to thank the members of the Exec, Martin and the LAA office staff for all their efforts, support and companionship throughout 2016/17. It is much appreciated.

I also thank the LAA board and the state associations for their contribution to our sport. Little Athletics continues to be a success thanks to all your efforts.

## Looking Ahead

There will be more challenges and opportunities ahead and we will not always agree however, providing we all pull together and try to achieve the right outcomes for the right reasons we will be successful.

## Dereck Fineberg OAM

President

Jetstar Little Athletics Australia





# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## Jetstar Little Athletics Australia (LAA) has enjoyed another successful year.

During the past twelve months there have been numerous achievements including:

The ASICS Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC) held in Sydney was another successful championships. Our thanks are extended to all associated from Jetstar Little Athletics NSW for hosting such a successful Championships. For the fourth year, LAA live streamed the Championships enabling viewers across Australia and around the world to watch our Championships. The standard of this year's ALAC was outstanding and congratulations are extended to this year's winners and in particular Jetstar Little Athletics NSW for winning the Trevor Billingham Trophy.

LAA again held a very successful Roll of Excellence (ROE) dinner on the Gold Coast. The evening was another huge success with the induction of more worthy recipients into the ROE. I would like to extend congratulations to the following inductees into the 2016 Roll of Excellence:

**Track & Field – Fabrice Lapierre and Todd Hodgetts**

**Sportsperson – Jackie Pereira and Liam de Young**

**Volunteers – Kaye Runge**

**Achievers – Chelsea Roffey**

The National U15 camp was held in September 2016 at the AIS in Canberra, 104 athletes participated in the camp, which was an outstanding success. I would like to thank Glynis Nunn-Cearns for all her support in coordinating the camp. The quality of coaches assembled at the camp was simply outstanding and I'm sure the athletes would have learnt a lot from their camp experience. LAA looks forward to continuing to develop the national camp program and is always seeking further improvements for the camp.

Our registration numbers at the end of the year were 94,731 as we continue to work vigorously to strive for future growth in our registration numbers.

From a governance perspective, thanks are extended to all that were involved in committees and sub committees over the past year and your contribution to the sport. LAA during the year purchased the Intellectual Property of the Introduction to Coaching Course from the Australian Track and Field Coaches Association.

During the year, LAA worked with the LAA Board of Directors (BoD) and state associations on a new proposed constitution with the view of best governance practice. This proposed constitution will be voted on at the LAA October conference.

To our partners beginning with our naming rights partner for the past three years Jetstar, thank you for another twelve months of support. Jetstar has been extremely active in joint promotion of LAA with a variety of initiatives through the year.

To the states, who were extremely proactive with Jetstar activations – thank you. The Jetstar round for the second year added color and excitement across the country and a sea of orange as a great initiative last year to go beyond our obligations to Jetstar to further enhance the partnership.

LAA also thanks ASICS for their association with LAA for the past seven years being the naming rights sponsor of the Australia Little Athletics Championship and for providing the athletes apparel at ALAC.

LAA have been privileged to have a long-lasting relationship with the V-Insurance Group and thanks is extended to Rob Veale, your guidance and support in this area of our business is greatly appreciated.

LAA has continued to work closely with Athletics Australia (AA) over the past twelve months to develop a “one sport” focus and enhance the sport of Athletics across the country. To former AA CEO Phil Jones thanks are extended for your contribution to athletics and for all your support of LAA.

During the year LAA made a significant decision to change the Age Group registration date for the 2018/19 season. LAA will continue to work with the state associations to provide information pertaining to the transition in the area.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the LAA Executive led by President Dereck Fineberg, Todd Williams and Eddie Fabian. I sincerely appreciate your ongoing support and guidance in my role as Chief Executive Officer. To Eddie and Todd who both finish in their respect roles at the October conference thank you both for your outstanding contribution to LAA, it's been a pleasure to work with you both.

To the Board of Directors, thank you, I value your support and assistance in my role as CEO and would also like to convey my thanks to your State Boards for their contribution to the sport. I would like to express my thanks to former board members, Steve Ryan from Victoria and Neil Sandall from NSW for your contribution to the Board of Directors and in particular your state associations.

To the State Associations CEO's and staff well done again on another superb season of Little Athletics. Your dedication and passion is obvious in everything you do and your efforts really do make a difference to Little Athletics.

Special thanks are extended to the LAA staff Ashlea Watt, Andrew Johnston and Sara Agnew, thank you for all your support and assistance throughout the year, LAA are certainly privileged to have such enthusiastic and committed employees.

Finally the thousands of volunteers that make it all possible each week thank you, Little Athletics wouldn't be able to operate without the support of the volunteers and I have no doubt the participants appreciate your support to enable them to have the fun they have each week.

I am looking forward to further enhancements in the sport and continued sustained success of LAA and the state association next year and beyond.

**Martin Stillman**

Chief Executive Officer  
Jetstar Little Athletics Australia





# ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE DIRECTOR

## Financial Performance for the Year Ended 30 June 2017

Australian Little Athletics finished the year with a net deficit of \$74,717 which is \$82,025 unfavourable to budget. The cash balance of the association increased by \$20,026 to \$1,176,190.

The variations to budget are summarised in the table below and are followed by commentary on the major items of variance.

	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>INCOME</b>			
Levies & Affiliation Fees	1,264,022	1,264,021	1
Commercial Activities	26,382	25,000	1,382
Sponsorship	794,480	770,000	24,480
Other Income	109,904	110,945	(1,041)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,194,788</b>	<b>2,169,966</b>	<b>24,822</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Administration	210,703	100,180	(110,523)
Insurance	430,444	458,307	27,863
Sponsorship Costs	537,205	615,650	78,445
Meeting & Conference Expenses	226,665	184,710	(41,955)
Roll of Excellence	17,478	20,440	2,962
Little Athletics Program in Schools	147,042	138,000	(9,042)
Salary, Travel and Associated Costs	352,848	331,809	(21,039)
Office Expenses	47,309	49,154	1,845
U15 Camp and Interstate Competitions	134,180	139,408	5,228
Contributions to Associations and Projects	163,120	125,000	(38,120)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,266,994</b>	<b>2,162,658</b>	<b>(104,336)</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>(72,206)</b>	<b>7,308</b>	<b>(79,514)</b>
<b>Loss on Sale / Disposal of Assets</b>	<b>(2,511)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,511)</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(74,717)</b>	<b>7,308</b>	<b>(82,025)</b>

### Income

Sponsorship income was \$24,480 favourable to budget mainly due to additional contra air fare income.

### Expenditure

**Administration expenditure was (\$110,523) unfavourable to budget. The major items of variance include:-**

- (\$57,213) – ALAC Costs. Includes \$29,656 live streaming costs, additional \$17,500 contribution to host state to cover costs associated with two day competition, \$3,600 freight of marquees and other equipment and \$1,590 program printing. Live streaming costs and additional ALAC contribution funded by decrease in sponsorship and activation contributions to associations
- (\$44,539) – Legal Costs including expenditure on draft constitution, BOD workshops, governance, age groups, membership and affiliation with AA, purchase of intellectual property, trademarks, gender identity and child safety, sponsorship and commissions.
- (\$16,000) – Consulting. The expenditure includes governance workshops for LAA and association boards, assistance with role descriptions and recruitment of independent directors, sponsorship advice, governance advice.
- \$10,000 – ALA DVD Costs. Savings due to making DVD available on line.

**Insurance expenditure was \$27,863 favourable to budget. The major item of variance was:-**

- \$26,325 –Insurance premiums were favourable to budget due to volume savings realised from joint submission by brokers with AA policies and savings due to elimination of duplication of cover for dual registered clubs and athletes.

Sponsorship costs were \$78,445 favourable to budget. The major items of variance include:-

- \$38,500 –National Marketing Campaign - Contributions decreased by \$38,500 to fund additional ALAC Contribution and project costs.
- \$35,000 –Contributions to Associations - Contributions decreased by \$35,000 to fund live streaming costs.
- \$5,100 – Little Athletics Ambassador. LAA received only one request from associations for an ambassador to attend and events in the current year
- (\$8,296) – Jetstar string bags and logos. Expenditure, including packing and freight costs exceeded budget.

**Meeting & Conference Expenses were (\$41,955) unfavourable to budget. The major items of variance include:**

- (\$17,872) – AGM and Half Yearly Conferences. The adverse variance was as a result of higher than budgeted costs for the Sydney Conference and dinner in April 2017. The variance is partly offset by recoupment of dinner costs from associations in Other Income.
- (\$24,469) – Contra Air Fares. The adverse variance is due to expenditure of prior year unused contra and is offset by a corresponding increase in Contra Sponsorship Income.

**Little Athletics Programs in Schools expenditure was (\$9,042) unfavourable to budget. The major items of variance include:**

- (\$2,928) - Increase in LAPS contribution to LAWA not budgeted but approved by BOM.
- (\$6,483) – Increase in LAPS resources acquired including wristbands, stickers and certificates.

**Salary, Travel and Associated Costs were (\$21,039) unfavourable to budget. This unfavourable variance was mainly due to the following.**

- (\$2,265) – Increase in Employee Provisions
- (\$18,774) – Increase in other salary and employee related costs, including cost of increasing bookkeeper hours from one day per week to three days per fortnight

**Contribution to Associations and Projects was (\$38,120) unfavourable to budget. The major items of variance include:**

- (\$46,557) – Product Review not budgeted but approved by BOD
- \$14,500 – Contribution to Development Officers not fully expended
- (\$6,064) – Inclusion Officer not budgeted by approved by BOM



## ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE DIRECTOR

### Cash at Bank

The Net Cash at Bank movement for the year was \$20,026 favourable. This is reconciled as follows:

Last Year		This Year	Movement
\$	BANK ACCOUNTS	\$	\$
26,502	ANZ Cheque Account	29,561	3,059
8,695	ANZ Cheque Account # 2	315,678	306,983
11,293	ANZ On Line Saver	-	(11,293)
25,405	ANZ V2 Account	-	(25,405)
812,811	Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit Combined	830,951	18,140
271,458	Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit ASC	-	(271,458)
<b>1,156,164</b>	<b>Total Cash at Bank</b>	<b>1,156,164</b>	<b>(572,963)</b>

The movement of \$20,026 is represented by:

		\$
	<b>Net Shortfall of Income versus Expenditure</b>	<b>(74,717)</b>
Plus:	Non Cash Expenses – Depreciation	16,763
	Non Cash Expenses – Cost of Sales Book	4,318
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>(53,636)</b>
Less	Fixed Assets Purchases	(82,407)
	Book Purchases	(8,613)
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>(144,656)</b>
Plus	Disposal of Fixed Assets	18,875
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>(125,781)</b>
Plus	Decrease in Debtors	83,411
	Decrease in Prepayments	47,597
	Decrease in GST Receivable	7,989
	Increase in Trade Creditors	56,680
	Increase in Accrued Expenses	44,514
	Increase in Employee Entitlements	2,265
	Increase in PAYG Tax Payable	1,171
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>117,846</b>
Less	Increase in Proclaim Trust Account	(19,744)
	Decrease in ANZ Business One Visa	(1,332)
	Decrease in Equipment Insurance Provision	(25,930)
	Decrease in Superannuation Payable	(620)
	Decrease in Accrued Income	(50,194)
<b>Net Cash Flow</b>		<b>20,026</b>

### Net Assets

The Net Tangible Assets of the Association decreased from \$1.016M to \$0.941M. The table below highlights the net movement in the Net Assets over the past 16 years.

Year Ended	Net Surplus /(Deficit)	Net Assets
31-Dec-01	\$45,088	\$271,643
31-Dec-02	(\$21,055)	\$250,588
31-Dec-03	\$126,099	\$376,687
31-Dec-04	\$250,640	\$627,326
31-Dec-05	\$169,272	\$796,598
31-Dec-06	\$88,503	\$885,101
31-Dec-07	\$155,706	\$1,040,807
31-Dec-08	\$183,934	\$1,224,741
30-Jun-10	(\$84,099)	\$1,140,642
30-Jun-11	\$180,313	\$1,320,956
30-Jun-12	\$289,133	\$1,610,089
30-Jun-13	\$120,263	\$1,730,352
30-Jun-14	(\$148,661)	\$1,581,691
30-Jun-15	(\$167,401)	\$1,414,290
30-Jun-16	(\$398,562)	\$1,015,728
30-Jun-17	(\$74,717)	\$941,011

### Insurance

The premiums for 2016-17 decreased by an average of 6.5% over 2015-16. The primary reason for the decrease was due to the partnering with Athletics Australia in securing common policies, with a common due date, which eliminated duplication of cover for dual registered clubs and athletes and the volume discounts associated with that process. The table below sets out the comparative values for 2016-17 and 2015-16. All values are exclusive of GST.

	2016-17 Budget	2016-17 Actual	2015-16 Actual	%age Change
<b>Class of Insurance</b>				
Directors & Officers Liability	\$7,902	\$5,536	\$7,713	(28.23%)
Personal Accident/Professional Indemnity	\$76,568	\$73,333	\$72,985	0.48%
Public Liability	\$79,506	\$61,366	\$73,891	(16.95%)
Travel Insurance	\$5,820	\$5,676	\$5,681	(0.09%)
Cyber Liability	\$1,634	\$1,643	\$1,523	7.88%
Equipment Insurance	\$45,877	\$47,520	\$46,850	1.43%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$217,307</b>	<b>\$195,074</b>	<b>\$208,643</b>	<b>(6.50%)</b>
Brokerage	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$282,307</b>	<b>\$260,074</b>	<b>\$273,643</b>	<b>4.96%)</b>

The insurance premium paid in September 2016 for the 2016-17 year covers the period 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017. The proportion of the premium covering the period 1 July 2017 to 31 August 2017 was recognised as a prepayment in the accounts and will be brought to expenses in July 2017. The proportion of the premium covering the period 1 July 2016 to 31 August 2016 was recognised as a prepayment in the accounts last year and was brought to expenses this financial year. Consequently, 12 months expenditure is reported in the income statement that being the two months premium transferred back from prepayments, plus the 12 months premium paid in September 2016, less the transfer of two months premium to prepayments from the 2016-17 payment.



### Registrations

The following table shows the registrations by Association since 2001-2002 together with an average over the 16 year period. There was a decline in each of the three years from 2012-13, but an increase in 2016-17 following on from the Rio Olympics.

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
LA ACT	3040	2875	2614	2849	2414	2656	2709	3227
LANSW	40200	39276	35900	41128	37451	39476	38440	39779
LA QLD	13217	12921	11150	13288	11697	13121	12926	13975
LASA	5637	6067	5576	5742	5789	6487	6398	7338
LATAS	2599	2561	2400	2717	2454	2606	2470	2701
LAVIC	24859	22513	19931	21385	20194	21850	20536	23244
LAWA	5588	5503	4992	5877	5827	6016	6361	7809
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95140</b>	<b>91716</b>	<b>82563</b>	<b>92986</b>	<b>85826</b>	<b>92212</b>	<b>89840</b>	<b>98073</b>

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	16 Year Ave
LA ACT	2792	2942	2794	3451	2975	3098	3014	3268	2920
LANSW	37785	35918	35948	41278	38913	37698	36324	39935	38466
LA QLD	13092	12374	12362	16330	15148	14240	13568	14502	13369
LASA	6602	6621	6322	7943	7272	7428	6920	6510	6541
LATAS	2413	2433	2402	2661	2310	2539	2594	2643	2531
LAVic	21206	21206	19760	23083	20774	19932	18672	19422	21160
LAWA	7279	7613	7591	9316	8874	8691	8398	8451	7137
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>91169</b>	<b>89107</b>	<b>87179</b>	<b>104062</b>	<b>96266</b>	<b>93626</b>	<b>89490</b>	<b>94731</b>	<b>92124</b>

Grouping the annual totals into averages over four year cycles, we see a small growth in registration numbers.

Cycle	Average Registrations	4 Year %age Change	Annual %age Change
2005-06 to 2008-09	91,489		
2009-10 to 2012-13	92,880	1.52%	0.38%
2013-14 to 2016-17	93,531	0.70%	0.18%

## Independent Auditor's Report To the Members of Australian Little Athletics Incorporated

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Australian Little Athletics Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, statement of financial performance for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors report.

In our opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Australian Little Athletics Incorporated as at 30 June 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

#### 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 Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements 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 believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of matter regarding basis of accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist Australian Little Athletics Incorporated to comply with its financial reporting obligations under the Associations Incorporation Act (ACT) 1991. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association'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 management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

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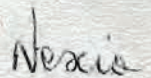
**Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report**

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.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

  
**Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd**  
 Melbourne

  
**Geoff S. Parker**  
 Director

Dated this 13 day of September 2017

**AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS INC. (ACT)**  
**SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

Your Directors submit the financial accounts of Australian Little Athletics for the twelve months ended 30 June 2017.

**DIRECTORS**

The names of the Directors in office at the date of this report are:

Dereck Ronald Fineberg	President
Edward John Fabian	Finance Director
Todd Williams	Competition and Standards Director
Martin Stillman	Chief Executive Officer

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The principal activities of the Association during 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.

**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES**

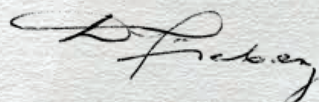
No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

**OPERATING RESULT**

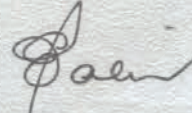
The deficit of the Association for the year amounted to \$74,717.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

On behalf of the Directors:



**DERECK FINEBERG**  
 President



**EDWARD FABIAN**  
 Administration and Finance Director

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017



**AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS Inc. (ACT)  
SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017**

Last Year		Note		
\$			\$	\$
	<b>INCOME</b>			
70	Affiliation Fees		70	
	<b>Levies</b>			
33,694	Australian Teams Championship Levy	32,769		
649,797	Administration Levy	772,416		
423,571	Insurance Reimbursement	458,767		
1,107,062			1,263,952	
	<b>Commercial Activities</b>			
24,856	Royalties	25,000		
0	Merchandise Sales	1,382		
24,856			26,382	
	<b>Sponsorship</b>			
825,548	Sponsorship	794,480		
825,548			794,480	
	<b>Reimbursements</b>			
60,000	Ticket & Book Reimbursement	0		
60,000			0	
	<b>Other Income</b>			
0	Other Income	0		
5,906	Recoupment of Expenditure	10,479		
3,295	Roll of Excellence Dinner	2,287		
67,500	Coaching Camp Contributions	68,866		
36,919	Interest Received	28,272		
113,620			109,904	
2,131,156	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		2,194,788	

15,773	Legal Costs	57,539	
597	Legislative Costs	317	
1,383	Office Expenses	1,964	
255	Postage	505	
6,230	Printing & Stationery	5,415	
0	Staff Training	657	
3,176	Subscriptions	5,471	
117	Sundries	49	
0	Telephone/Facsimile/Internet	0	
180,251			210,703
	<b>Insurance</b>		
7,713	Directors & Officers Liability	5,536	
72,986	Personal Accident & Professional Indemnity	73,333	
73,891	Public Liability	61,366	
5,681	Travel Insurance	5,676	
1,523	Cyber Liability	1,643	
46,850	Equipment Insurance Premium	47,520	
131,175	Equipment Insurance Claims	170,370	
65,000	Brokerage	65,000	
404,819			430,444
	<b>Ticket &amp; Book Costs</b>		
20,198	Tickets - Printing Costs	0	
64,862	Ticket Books - Printing Costs	0	
85,060			-
	<b>Sponsorship/Projects</b>		
2,387	Sponsorship Servicing	444	
175,000	Sponsorship Contributions to Associations	140,000	
110,000	Sponsorship Commissions	110,000	
42,760	Branding	38,970	
5	Bravehearts Workshops	3,682	
11,000	Media Tracking	11,000	
165,800	National Marketing Campaign	71,500	
50,826	Promotion/Advertising	52,283	
98,823	Stringbags - Jetstar	109,326	
656,601			537,205
	<b>MEETING/CONFERENCE EXPENSES</b>		
9,710	Executive Meetings	10,091	
15,503	Board of Management Meetings	18,148	
25,363	Annual & Half Yearly Conferences	44,854	
7,934	National Technical Committee Meetings	8,332	
124	AT&FCA Meetings	0	
256	Joint Management Group Meetings	0	
5,071	State Conferences	0	
3,640	CEO Joint Meetings	5,200	
5,189	Development Officer Meetings	7,054	
0	Other Travel	4,560	
1,401	LAA/AA Meetings	3,956	
155,520	Contra Air Fares	124,470	
229,711			226,665
	<b>Roll of Excellence</b>		
19,916	Airfares, Accommodation, Dinner and Other Expenses	17,478	



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

19,916			17,478
	<b>U15 Coaching Camp / Interstate Competitions</b>		
66,441	Airfares	54,255	
4,680	Other Travel Costs	5,341	
50,746	Accommodation & Meals	33,589	
39,651	Other Costs	40,995	
1,006	Interstate Competitions	0	
162,524			134,180
	<b>National Little Athletics Program in Schools</b>		
241,188	Allocation to Associations	122,928	
54,566	Equipment & Resources	21,183	
2,714	Uniforms	2,931	
298,468			147,042
	<b>Office</b>		
330,792	Salary, Travel & Associated Costs	330,390	
16,585	Motor Vehicle Usage, Parking & Tolls	22,458	
29,592	Rent	30,006	
4,180	Telephone	5,510	
(4,420)	Electricity	0	
2,717	Cleaning	2,737	
631	Other Office Expenses	1,432	
1,537	Staff Recruitment Costs	0	
6,016	Depreciation - Office Equip. & Intellectual Property	7,624	
0	Sundry Expenses	0	
387,630			400,157
	<b>Contributions to Associations and Projects</b>		
3,278	Inclusion Officer Costs	6,063	
1,460	ITCC Course	0	
0	Product Review	46,557	
100,000	Development Officers Contribution	110,500	
104,738			163,120
2,529,718	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		2,266,994
(398,562)	<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		(72,206)
-	Loss on Sale / Disposal of Assets		(2,511)
(398,562)	<b>NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>		(74,717)

## AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS Inc. (ACT) SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH JUNE 2017

Last Year	Note			
\$		\$	\$	\$
	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
26,502	ANZ Cheque Account	29,561		
8,695	ANZ Cheque Account # 2	315,678		
11,293	ANZ On Line Saver	0		
25,405	ANZ V2 Account	0		
812,811	CBA Bank Term Deposit Combined Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit	830,951		
271,458	ASC	0		
7,718	Proclaim – Equipment Trust Account	27,462		
200	Petty Cash	200		
1,164,082	Total Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,203,852	
200	Security Deposits	200		
304,082	Trade Debtors	220,671		
0	Books on Hand	4,295		
137,735	Prepayments	90,139		
14,579	Accrued Income	0		
16,601	GST Paid	8,612	323,917	
1,637,279				1,527,769
	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
71,511	Office Equipment at Cost	93,300		
46,821	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	53,171	40,129	
34,817	Motor Vehicle at cost	40,618		
15,942	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	9,139	31,479	
0	Intellectual Property at cost	20,000		
0	Less: Accumulated Depreciation	1,274	18,726	
43,565	Total Fixed Assets			90,334
	<b>INVESTMENTS</b>			
1	Shares		1	
1	Total Investments			1
1,680,545	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>			1,618,104
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
7,633	PAYG Withholding Payable		8,804	
7,797	Superannuation Payable		7,177	
4,904	ANZ Business One Visa		3,573	
0	Trade Creditors		56,680	
9,815	Accrued Expenses		54,329	
31,278	Provision - Employee Entitlements		33,543	
78,620	Provision - Equipment Insurance		52,690	
250,000	National Data Base Funding - ASC		250,000	
275,070	Unearned Revenue		210,297	
665,117	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>			677,093
1,015,728	<b>NET ASSETS</b>			941,011
	<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
1,414,290	Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) Brought Forward			1,015,728
(398,562)	Surplus (Deficit) this period			(74,717)
1,015,728	<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			941,011



AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS Inc. (ACT)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 (ACT). The directors have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of less than 12 months.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

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

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 Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Note 2: Provision for Equipment Insurance Claims

Australian Little Athletics has National Property and Equipment Insurance, which provides cover of up to \$75,000 per event for every centre and Association. The policy is an aggregate deductible policy which currently requires Australian Little Athletics to pay the aggregate of the first \$175,000 of claims. Any claims in excess of this sum will be met by the insurer.

A requirement of the policy is that Australian Little Athletics deposit funds into a trust account to meet any claims made under the policy, current or past. The current policy expires on 31st August 2017 and a provision of \$52,690 has been made for unsettled claims as at the balance date and events which may occur between the balance date and the expiry date of the policy. This figure represents the value of unpaid claims for 2016-17 identified by Proclaim Management Solution.

For the insurance year ending 31st August 2017, a total of \$142,718 has been deposited to the trust account. The funds deposited, less costs to date, are reflected in the Statement of Financial Position as "Proclaim Management Solutions – Equipment Trust Account". Claims paid for the year out of the trust account include \$53,764 for 2015-16 and \$69,209 for 2015-16 and prior years. Claims totaling \$59,500 for flood claims in 2016-17 were paid direct to the insurer.

The value of future claims against the policy is unable to be quantified, however Australian Little Athletics recognises the probability of future claims being received and has provided for this eventuality.

COMPETITION &  
STANDARDS DIRECTOR

NTC, Competition and Standards

The NTC continues to do an amazing job as a sub-committee to the board and over the past 3 years has developed, proposed and had implemented many changes to the rules, specifications and events which has bettered what we do.

There is still some work to do and the group have several items on the agenda to bring to the table in the coming year. Whilst I won't be here to see some of them come to fruition, I thank the team for their energy, passion and drive to make these decision come to life.

The introduction of a new program for the younger age groups is exciting and whilst it is being held off for 1 more year, I look forward to hearing how it rolls out and the progression from there.

Martin and Andrew are finally meeting with School Sports Australia (SSA) after several attempts for a suitable meeting time so we look forward to hearing about that relationship progressing.

National U15 Camp

At the time of writing this report, planning is well under way for our Little Athletics Australia 2017 National camp being held from 1st – 4th September 2017 at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

This year will be our second year hosting an elite (high performance) camp with qualification standards set for selection. Again we have not evenly split how many athletes attend from each state but based it purely on qualification standards and not where they came from. In saying that we do have athletes representing all Associations which is fantastic. At the time of writing this report, we have a total of 98 athletes attending the camp this year.

Thanks to Andrew and Ashlea on the work they put in to pulling it all together and also to Glynnis Nunn-Cearns who does a fantastic job in getting together a selection of the very best coaches from around Australia for the benefit of our athletes.

ALAC

Congratulations to New South Wales on hosting the very first of our two day events for ALAC's in Sydney and for turning on some wonderful weather. A huge thankyou to Simon Nicola (Convenor) and Kerry O'Keefe and her team in NSW who did a wonderful job in putting the event together and I am sure the athletes and team personnel enjoyed the experience. Yes there are a few little things that we will need to tinker with but overall the feedback received was extremely positive.

This year the Live Streaming was once again a huge success with other social media platforms tested for viewing which saw a huge increase in the audience numbers. The quality and production was again superior but as always, we continue to look at ways of improving and how we best utilise it for the benefit of all involved in Little Athletics.

The winners of each trophy are listed below:

Trevor Billingham Trophy for the Australian Teams Championships (U13)	
1st	New South Wales
Alan Triscott Trophy for the Australian Teams Championships (U13) - Handicap	
1st	New South Wales
Dick Healey Trophy awarded to the winner from the smaller Associations (U13)	
1st	Tasmania
Life Members Trophy for the Multi- Event Teams Competition (U15)	
1st	New South Wales



There were also several ABP's set on the day and congratulations should go to all athletes who performed their best for themselves, their families and their Associations.

**2018 and beyond:**

We are still looking to continually improve on our sport and we will be working hard to finalise our skills development program for the younger age groups and our joint program and calendar of events with our senior body.

It is exciting news that we are finally moving forward in the inclusion space and the opportunity to roll out our inclusions and diversity program in conjunction with the State Associations and AA is sensational for our sport.

We also still believe that we can provide an even better set of Standard Rules for everyone (format) so we are looking at that as well and there are more events that we will be investigating that we could include in our standard events. We are also looking at what more we may add to ALAC's to further enhance that event. Stay tuned.

**Thank you:**

This is my final report under this portfolio of Competition and Standards Director which will end on the last day of this Conference weekend.

The structure now with the inclusion of two Independent Directors is I believe the start of some progressive movements forward. In my opinion, a move away from the current structure and governance model is a necessity and hopefully the outcome at this Conference/AGM will be a positive one. There is some way to go but I know everyone is in it for the right reasons.

To Neil Sandall (LANSW) and Steve Ryan (LAVic) who have left us, thank you for your contributions and best of luck for the future.

To Ashlea, Andrew and Sara in the LAA Office, thank you for your amazing work and we look forward to another big year, and finally, to the LAA Executive (Dereck, Eddie and Martin), the LAA Board, Senior Management Teams and their staff, thank you for your input and contributions in assisting to make Little Athletics a pleasure to be involved in.

**Todd Williams**

Competition and Standards Director  
Jetstar Little Athletics Australia



# STATE ASSOCIATION REPORTS





# JETSTAR LITTLE ATHLETICS ACT

## It is with great pleasure that I present the 2016/17 Annual Report of the ACT Little Athletics Association, trading as Jetstar Little Athletics ACT (LAACT).

Highlights of 2016/17 included the expansion of our ALAC team to 32 athletes for a two day competition in Sydney, our largest ACT Championships in recent history, the introduction of a new annual award for volunteers, and a bold new format for our Annual Dinner. With positive transformation occurring across the sport, new partnerships, revamped programs, and a healthy financial position, it's a great time to be involved in Little Athletics in the ACT and south east NSW.

### Registrations

Final registrations tallied 3168 for season 2016/2017, a modest increase of 153 registrations or approximately 5% on 2015/2106. In the lead up to the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, Centre registrations went "live" a month earlier than normal, with an "Early Bird" competition that awarded free registrations to lucky winners. We will attempt to replicate its success in future years.

### Relationship with Athletics ACT

Cooperation with Athletics ACT over the 2016/17 season built on the gains of the past. Once again, the LAACT President sat on the Athletics ACT board as a board appointed director. In an effort to expand the cooperation, we accepted an invitation to participate in the Athletics ACT Officials Working Group to augment our role in the Athletics ACT Competition Committee. This allows us to address future opportunities to collaborate in both technical and competition domains. I am grateful to President Neil Boden and the Athletics ACT Board for their commitment to the pursuit of mutual objectives and their fellowship. This arrangement has served its purpose however, and with the advent of the joint quarterly meetings between the boards, we have agreed to discontinue the practice from season 17/18.

At the first of our joint meetings in November 2016, the two organisations agreed to work together on several key strategic areas including competition, officials, and coaches. The joint meeting explored the rate at which the transition to a 'OneSport' model should occur. We agreed to develop a Position Statement as a pre-cursor to more binding and comprehensive arrangements in the future. The 'Statement of Intent' was signed in January of this year and we continue to work together to find effective ways to improve services on offer to everyone interested in participating in the sport of Athletics in the ACT and surrounding areas of regional NSW. Near term achievements include collaboration on a winter cross country program for little athletes, more support for coaches, and the development of officials.

### 'OneSport' Progress

While progress continues at pace in some quarters, with the alignment of our Ginninderra and Woden Centres with their seniors counterparts being great examples, other centres can do more. In this increasingly competitive sporting landscape in which little athletics continues to lose market share, it is clear that we must change our approach if we are to grow, let alone maintain our position.

### Finance

Despite headwinds in registration revenue and forecasts of a deficit, the Association achieved a healthy surplus of \$29,908 this past year, which is a terrific effort. The board works hard to balance investing in services for our members while maintaining the financial reserves required by our Strategic Plan to guard against unforeseen circumstances. When compared with other sports, Little Athletics remains relatively inexpensive and represents tremendous value for money.

### Product Development

As the Age Group Changes ratified at the national level near implementation, Little Athletics ACT is preparing for these changes with the implementation of an Age Group subcommittee charged with local roll-out, and a focus on minimising impacts to children that would otherwise be eligible to participate in ALAC and the U15 camps. And, with the success of Nitro athletics in February, a new precedent has been set for innovation in the sport of athletics. Congratulations to those centres that rolled out their own versions of Nitro!

We were heartened by the introduction of development squads that target athletes outside of the ALAC age groups, with early take-up a great result. Similarly, the formation of an ACT coaches' forum and Facebook support network is an

important initiative. We remain optimistic that it will be embraced by our coaching fraternity and address one of our major challenges over the long term.

### Carnival Structure

In the ACT, we will continue to innovate. In the lead up to this season, the Association agreed to trial a number of changes to our carnival structure to open up opportunities to more of our members. We lowered the ages at which athletes could complete in our relay and multi-event carnivals, as well as our championships. We didn't do this lightly. We are mindful of over exposing our younger cohort to competition when development and fun must take precedence. In addition, we conducted a trial to determine the pros and cons of removing the regional carnivals as a means of progression to the ACT championships. If nothing else, more of our athletes were able to experience the thrill of participating in a state-level competition. When compared with last season, 400 extra athletes competed in our relay carnival and an extra 100 took part in our Championships. At our conference, the Association will be asked to decide between continuing with this new arrangement, or reverting to a Northside and Southside carnival. It is important that we recognise the Carnival Subcommittee comprising Peter Boden (Chair), Brian Duval, David Lemon, Joe Sheridan and Renée Cassell (Observer).

### Bravehearts

Following the findings of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, our Association received online training and highly informative training at our Annual Conference.

### Athletics in the Eurobodalla Shire

In season 2016/17, incremental progress was made in resolving sustainability issues in our centres based in the Eurobodalla Shire. Addressing this issue with the Shire Council, NSW Government, Athletics ACT, the school district and our local centres, will be a priority for the LAACT Board in 2017/18. We have enjoyed constructive dialogue with all stakeholders up to this point, with high quality facilities likely to underpin future business cases.

### Relationship with Government

We continued our fruitful partnership with the ACT Government and Active Canberra. In December, we reached agreement on a new triennial funding arrangement with the ACT Government. Our key outputs and reporting requirements for 2017 are around our partnership with Cerebral Palsy Alliance, a review of product offering in the U6 to U8 age groups, training of officials, and joint board meetings with Athletics ACT. We continue to work with the Government on other funding opportunities, as well as ongoing management of, and upgrade to, the Woden Park facility.

### Relationship with Sponsors

We were delighted to welcome a new registration patch sponsor in Sportsman's Warehouse (Gungahlin & Fyshwick) in 2016/17, a company with Headquarters in Canberra and solid roots in the community. We also welcomed a new Carnival Sponsor in People's Choice Credit Union. We are grateful for the ongoing support of the Canberra Southern Cross Club and our outgoing naming rights sponsor, Jetstar. Jetstar has been a wonderful partner to LAACT and we were particularly pleased with the Orange Round promotion that was taken out by our Corroboree centre.

This is an area in which we need to achieve more in the next year to consolidate our financial position without having to continue to increase levies.

### Recognition

Little Athletics ACT values the contribution of our volunteers. I was particularly delighted to recognise Bob Morgan from our Goulburn Mulwaree Centre as our inaugural recipient of the Michael Spencer Volunteer of the Year Award. Volunteers are the life blood of our sport, and Little Athletics is perhaps the most volunteer-intensive of all junior sports. We are grateful for the role volunteers play and, in a similar vein, we will be launching a LAACT Roll of Excellence in honour of our remarkable alumni as a pathway for the LAA Roll of Excellence.

Congratulations to all of the Centres that won awards this year, especially our Champion Centre Calwell and our Small Centre Championship Award winner Jindabyne. To our Centre of the Year Weston Creek, thank you for your wonderful contribution to Little Athletics in the ACT.

### Welcome

In May we welcomed Shane Ellis to the position of joint LAACT/Athletics ACT Participation and Development Officer. Shane was selected from a highly competitive field of applicants and made the big decision to move from Perth to Canberra. He has an impressive background in sports administration as a Manager, Educator, Coach, and Masters Athlete. His most recent activities have included a role with Athletics Australia where he was involved in Coach Education, the 'Athletics in the Outback' Program, and as a coach with the Target Talent Program.

Shane hit the ground running at the RunACT Junior series and we look forward to his contribution in the years to come.



### Thank You

From a Board standpoint, we welcomed and then fare-welled Marketing & PR Director Mel Sykes-Bridge, while Leanne Nelson, Peter Boden, Jennifer Bryant, and David Lemon continued in their roles. Mel's role was transitioned at season's end to newcomer Rory O'Sullivan, a final year comms major at the University of Canberra.

During Mel's tenure, LAACT was able to negotiate new sponsorship arrangements with Sportsman's Warehouse and People's Choice Credit Union, while supporting our naming rights partner Jetstar with wonderful activations such as 'Orange Round'. In her capacity as Administration Director, Leanne's attention to detail, her pragmatism, commercial acumen and strong leadership, were instrumental in ensuring that the board met its commitments to our government stakeholders and the Association. Peter worked tirelessly to tackle an enormous workload in the Competition and Technical portfolio at both local and national levels, the latter through the National Technical Committee. With his enviable experience and knowledge, Peter was ideally placed to navigate LAACT through difficult technical challenges. Peter led our Carnival and ALAC Subcommittees and supported the Joint Officials Working Group with Athletics ACT. For his part, Finance Director David Lemon managed to expertly deliver a healthy surplus of almost \$30,000 in a year we had budgeted a deficit, while investing in outcomes for our membership. His ability to tease out conclusions from complex data has been invaluable in informing the Board's decision making processes. Jennifer's energy and professionalism in the Development Role has been evidenced by the growth in participation rates across all of our key programs, especially the development squads that targeted age groups outside of the ALAC years. This past 12 months, our Little Athletics Program for Schools was rolled out to 1,285 children. Jennifer was instrumental in the recruitment of our new PDO, and in elevating our risk management processes through the drafting of a new Risk Management Plan for our Association.

In summary, the 2016/17 Board will be remembered for its energy and collegiality, and the rigour with which it approached each issue that came before it. It's important that Boards consist of diverse perspectives and open dialogue, and I am pleased that this was a feature of the 2016/17 board.

A special thanks is owed to our Executive Officer Renée Cassell for her leadership of the Association at such an important juncture in our history. Renée brings to the role tremendous enthusiasm, professionalism, and a tireless work ethic. In addition to leading the organisation, Renée contributed to our subcommittees and Athletics ACT's Competition Committee. A special thanks to Sue Knight for her wonderful support in the office, especially for her work in registrations, carnival preparations, and in organising our 'best ever' Annual Dinner. Sue continues to drive accountability in centre reporting, and can be counted on to spoil the board with great fare at our meetings. Thank you to Records Officer Barbara Eddowes, IT Officer Darren Smailes, Health & Safety Officer Ken Hopkins, Officer of Officials Ken Steinman, Equipment Officer David Canavan, and Chris Timpson for your service.

I want to recognise the great work of our subcommittees, including our ALAC subcommittee comprising Peter Boden (Chair), Geoff Davidson, Barbara Eddowes, Andrew Eddowes, Margaret Lane and Renée Cassell (Observer), and our Competition Subcommittee (highlighted previously).

I also want to acknowledge the great work of Mary Schumacher, who vacated the joint participation and development officer role to take on her "dream" position at Gymnastics Australia. Mary was instrumental in building strong programs and initiatives that engaged all athletics stakeholders in the local community and in delivering a pathway between Little Athletics and seniors.

Thank you to our ALAC management team of Geoff Davidson and Cathy Tanks, and coaches Ruud van Scheppingen and Andrew Eddowes, as well as our selectors. Congratulations to the entire ALAC team for your exemplary conduct and tremendous efforts in Sydney; we could not be more proud of you.

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 in the ACT and south east NSW is in good hands.

### Andrew Pryor

President  
Jetstar Little Athletics ACT

# JETSTAR LITTLE ATHLETICS NEW SOUTH WALES

## ORGANISATIONAL REVIEW - PROGRESS ON RECOMMENDATIONS

As reported last year, Little Athletics NSW and Athletics NSW jointly commissioned a comprehensive and independent Organisational Review to identify efficiencies to be gained by working more closely together and to recommend the most suitable governance and structural staffing arrangements, to take the sport of athletics in NSW into the future. Of the wide-ranging suite of endorsed recommendations from the review, four of the more significant ones for immediate attention were:

- The development of a 2017-2020 Athletics in NSW OneSport Strategic Plan;
- Changing the Little Athletics board and corporate structure, including the removal of board portfolios; shifting board focus from operational issues to driving future strategic direction; and developing a board skills matrix that supports progress towards a skills-based board composition;
- Restructuring the human resource model to an appropriately sized, well-resourced, and highly skilled operational structure
- Relocating the Little Athletics NSW and Athletics NSW administration headquarters to a single, shared, modern, strategically located, and suitably sized, office facility.

Outlined below is progress to date on these 4 key recommendations.

### OneSport Strategic Plan

After months of consultation, review and development, a OneSport Strategic Plan for Athletics in NSW, 'Reframing the Future 2017-2020', was endorsed. This plan was jointly prepared by Little Athletics NSW, Athletics NSW and NSW Masters Athletics and outlines what the 'NSW Athletics Movement' plans to achieve collectively over the next four years and how we plan to achieve it. The plan provides the platform from which we will work together as a united group to drive the growth and capacity of the sport in NSW. The plan stems from the central vision "We are OneSport, committed to engaging, connecting, growing and developing the NSW Athletics Movement and to meeting the participation motivations of everyone engaged in our sport".

Over the period of the 'Reframing the Future' OneSport Strategic Plan, we will progressively and jointly review most elements of athletics including membership, coaching and officiating, marketing and sponsorship, digital/technology, staffing, administration headquarters, facilities, competition, and club/centre capacity and support. We are confident in the directional role that the OneSport Strategic Plan will play in guiding us into the future.

### Governance and Board Structure

The second significant recommendation from the review was to make changes to the governance structure of Little Athletics NSW, in order to shift board focus from operational issues to future strategic direction. This recommendation became an even greater priority in late 2016, when Little Athletics NSW received formal notification from NSW Fair Trading that our accrued assets and annual business turnover was now of a magnitude above the levels they regard as appropriate to remain incorporated under the NSW Associations Incorporation Act, and as such Little Athletics NSW was advised to "take the necessary steps to transfer registration to an alternate corporate structure which more appropriately supports its operations".

At the 2017 Annual General Meeting, a motion was put to the members to support Little Athletics NSW migrating from an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporations Act, to a registration as a company limited by guarantee, under the Corporations Act. This motion received unanimous support, however it is still subject to adoption of a new constitution. This new constitution is in final draft form and we aim to conduct a postal ballot for its adoption towards the end of this year. It is our intention to have the entire migration process completed by the end of our financial year, on 31 March 2018.

Although not strictly part of the move to a company limited by guarantee, the obligations of Directors under the Corporations Act, does support the review recommendation to change the Little Athletics NSW board structure by removing portfolios to help shift focus from the operational to the strategic level. It therefore makes sense for the changes to both the board and corporate structures to occur at the same time.



### Human Resources (Staffing)

The area of staffing is one that was identified as being critical to the success of future OneSport initiatives. Ironically, this has meant that we have been under resourced in regards to our staffing needs for the past 12-18 months, in an effort to allow the required flexibility to introduce the best model to look after our needs as we move into the future.

Given the challenges associated with these staff shortages over the past year, it was with a sense of eagerness and relief, that in April of this year, we appointed HR consultants, Left Field Sports Solutions, to assist with the development of a OneSport Human Resource Strategy, which among other things, will provide the blueprint for our future staff hires. The final report and recommendations from Left Field Sports Solutions has been received and in general terms, the recommendations aim to ensure that there is a common understanding between the two organisations and their employees; that the existing structures align with recognisably associated roles where possible; and that jointly funded roles are agreed and put into place. After considering the recommendations, the Joint Working Party has agreed on the staffing structure that the two businesses should be looking to move towards over the next couple of years, of which the most significant aspect is the introduction of a new shared 'management tier'.

Our part-time Web and Graphics Coordinator, Amy Harris, will not be returning to her position following her 12 months maternity leave. It has therefore been agreed that this position will now be replaced by a full-time marketing role which, along with the existing Athletics NSW Marketing Manager position, will become a shared resource, with the salaries to be met by both businesses.

Outside of the OneSport staffing proposal, we have recently appointed someone to fill the new Little Athletics NSW administrative role of 'Operations and Administration Manager'. This is a senior leadership and management support role that will provide high level administrative assistance to the CEO, human resource operational support, and will deliver across a range of responsibilities in planning, reporting, marketing and events.

We had hoped to fill the vacant Regional Support Officer positions in both Dubbo and Wagga Wagga during the season, however despite the fact that interviews were held at both locations, we were unable to find the right candidates to fill them. Advertisements have recently been placed to once again try and fill these roles.

### Administration Headquarters (Athletics House)

Another OneSport initiative that will have immediate and significant benefit for the sport when achieved, but will unfortunately take a little longer to come to fruition, is the development of a shared administration headquarters or 'Athletics House'. The Sydney Olympic Park Authority board has approved allocation and an ongoing lease for a parcel of land (located at the athletics warm-up track) to build a purpose built facility to house the sport of athletics in NSW. A functional and technical facility brief has been developed which allowed a quantity surveyor report to be prepared, providing us with the necessary cost estimates upon which to base funding requests for this facility. We are now at the stage of holding discussions with the NSW Government in an effort to gain support in raising the required funds to meet the estimated construction costs.

### Finance, Grants and Financial Assistance Programs

In 2016/2017, the Little Athletics NSW assets rose by 7.4% as our asset base strengthened and non-current assets reduced by 4.6%, due to depreciation and no fixed asset purchases in the financial year. Although registration income was more than 9% above budget, overall income was only \$24,000 or 1% above budget. Expenditure however, was 5.3% below budget. This was largely due to staff positions being vacant for a considerable portion of the year, meaning costs were below budget in salaries, and where staff were not in place, some budgeted programs and activities did not eventuate. The result was an overall surplus of \$148,931, which will now be used to underwrite the loss anticipated in 2017/2018 when some of the deferred programs are initiated and some of our OneSport initiatives are introduced.

Our annual Sports Development Program funding from the NSW Office of Sport remains constant with no NSW sport receiving an increase in allocation for seven years now. We were however successful in securing additional funding for 3 specific projects, being: implementation of a digital marketing strategy; development of a suite of video resources; and licensing to deliver and use resources from the Coaching UK Fundamentals of Movement Skills Workshop.

Financially, we once again offered a number of assistance programs to our members. Through the Athlete Assistance Program we were able to cover registration fees for 91 Little Athletes (\$10,000) and through the Country Athletes Support Program, 27 Little Athletes from regional areas were provided with financial assistance (\$11,500) to attend the State Championships in Sydney. Through the Centre Grant Scheme, we were able to support 19 centres (\$43,000) with equipment and facility upgrades (many of these centres acquired scissor mats to comply with the recent changes to the high jump standard rules).

### Facility Development

A 'Future Needs of Sport Infrastructure Study' was commenced in 2014 and remains a major project area for the NSW Office of Sport. As part of this project, Little Athletics NSW and Athletics NSW have submitted a joint Sports Facilities Priority list to the NSW Office of Sport, which represents our aligned viewpoint on key facility projects, and forms the basis of our NSW Athletics (OneSport) Facility upgrade and development strategy.

In addition to the areas we are lobbying for athletics facility upgrade and development in, the NSW Office of Sport is also aware of our need to obtain high level funding for the construction of our own 'Athletics House' at Sydney Olympic Park.

In line with the agreed facilities strategy, opportunities for both upgraded and new facilities continue to be pursued in conjunction with councils and local interest groups. Some of the key facility outcomes for the 2016/2017 season are:-

- Blacktown City Council's new facility at 'The Ponds' is now complete and a new Little Athletics centre has been established and will be starting there in the upcoming season.
- A grant was received to resurface and upgrade the Newcastle Athletics Track. These works took place earlier this year.
- The Sylvania Waters Athletic Track and the Kerryn McCann Athletics Field in Wollongong, have both been fully resurfaced recently by the councils who own those facilities.
- Tamworth Council has just commenced work on the development of a \$17 million dollar Regional Centre of Sporting Excellence that includes a 400m synthetic athletics track. This project is due for completion in December 2018.
- Maitland City Council has also been awarded funding (through the Hunter Regional Development Fund) and has commenced planning for development of a synthetic athletics track. This project is due for completion in late 2019.
- NSW Government funding was recently been approved for the upgrade and resurfacing of the athletics track at the Sydney Academy of Sport at Narrabeen. This project is currently at the tender stage.
- Shoalhaven Council has formally approved a proposal for the development of a Regional Sports Precinct, including a synthetic athletics track.
- Wagga Wagga Council is committed to the development of Jubilee Park (the site of the current grass athletics field) and has placed this high on its priority list. Funding is being pursued for the installation of a synthetic track as the main component of this project.
- Blacktown Council is also vigorously pursuing funding for upgrade and expansion of the Blacktown International Sports Park, including the current athletics venue.
- Other areas in which plans have been considered for development of a synthetic track in the future are: Coffs Harbour, Penrith, Westleigh and/or Hornsby Quarry, Riverwood, and Batemans Bay.

### Sponsorship and Marketing

Our corporate support continued with generous backing by our state partners McDonald's, The Athletes Foot, Hart Sport, SportsTG, Instant Photos, GA Millers and the Prime 7 Network, as well national partners, Jetstar, Asics and V-Insurance. Without the commitment and financial support of these businesses, Little Athletics NSW would not be able to provide the programs and services that we do – thank you. Our thanks also go to our many other partners, whose support helps us with various aspects of our operations. These include: Athletics NSW, NSW Office of Sport, Sport NSW, the Sydney Olympic Park Authority; and ACT/NSW AFL.

Marketing Mechanics again assisted with placement and costing for television and radio advertisements during our peak registration period and the Prime 7 Network provided fantastic in-kind support by providing at least dollar for dollar matching of purchased TV advertising and securing the best possible placement of paid spots. Marketing Mechanics also managed our Facebook and Google Ad Words strategies to further boost brand awareness throughout the entire year. Accordingly, our overall Facebook support and engagement grew by 34% over the past 12 months and the reach of targeted campaigns continues to increase. For example, in 4 days around registrations opening on 1 August, our Facebook page was able to reach in excess of 100,000 people.

A formal alliance between Little Athletics NSW and AFL NSW/ACT was launched on Saturday, 18 February at the Blacktown International Sports Park, alongside the first-ever AFL Women's game to be played in NSW. The launch featured a pre-game Auskick/Little Athletics clinic, a half-time photo shoot and some Little Athletes being involved in half-time Auskick activities. This alliance sees reciprocal promotion and marketing of each other's programs and products; along with other benefits such as the sharing of volunteer training resources; networking opportunities; local community partnerships, etc.



### Registrations

Registrations for the 2016/2017 season saw an increase of about 9½% from the previous season, rising from 36,464 to 39,954. Of course this result came off the back of the Rio Olympics that were perfectly timed in August to coincide with our registration period, so the challenge will be to try and maintain this level in the season ahead.

Affiliation was approved for three new centres during the past season. Yetman is a new winter centre that operated for the first time in the 2017 winter season and The Ponds and Harrington are set-up and ready to commence in the upcoming summer season.

The number of families paying for their registration via the Sports TG system continued on its upward trend, with now more than 60% of members electing to register and pay online. Centres have been advised that this coming season will be the last one for which manual registrations will be accepted and from the 2018/2019 season, the Little Athletics NSW board has determined that all registrations and payments must be made through the online registration portal.

Furthering our commitment to improved transition pathways, the NSW 'dual registration' agreement advanced to a new stage this past season, so that now, every athlete who registers with Little Athletics in the U12 to U17 age groups, automatically receives a 'Dual Athlete Membership' with Athletics NSW, at no extra cost. Athletes were given the choice to select their preferred Athletics NSW club during the registration process with Little Athletics NSW, and where no club was selected, athletes were allocated to their nearest one based upon their home address. In previous seasons, athletes who wanted to take out a dual athlete membership were required to undertake the registration process twice, once with Little Athletics NSW and once with Athletics NSW, even when no fee applied. To further simplify this transition process, a OneSport 'dual athlete registration number/bib' was also introduced, so that these dual aged athletes would wear the same number/bib whether they were in a Little Athletics NSW event or an Athletics NSW event. These new arrangements now give every athlete in the U12-U17 age groups eligibility and easier access for participation in any Little Athletics NSW or Athletics NSW event, which in turn will hopefully engage more of them in all that is offered by both organisations.

### Coaching and Development

A total of 28 coaching clinics/camps were held throughout the season, with over 1,300 members taking part; an increase of 8½% on last season. This figure includes an increased number of programs held at the Hunter Sports Centre in Glendale (Newcastle) due to a new partnership arrangement with that facility; a OneSport clinic held on the first Monday of every school holidays at Sydney Olympic Park (jointly conducted with Athletics NSW); Super Clinics in the regional towns of Tamworth and Ballina (with a Level 1 Community Coach Course conducted by Athletics NSW alongside each clinics); and maximum numbers reached at our longest running annual camp, the Christmas Camp.

The JETS (Junior Encouragement & Talent Squad) program enjoyed another successful season, achieving its aim to nurture and prepare athletes to excel in their chosen athletics discipline. Three camps were held at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation, at which athletes were able to learn from coaches like Peter Fortune (Cathy Freeman's coach), Du'aine Ladejo (UK Olympic Medallist and TV gladiator) and one of our very own Olympian's (and former LANSW member), Anneliese Rubie.

Between our promotional school visit program, "Desire to Inspire" and LAPS (Little Athletics Program for Schools), we reached almost 45,000 school students. Although this number appears reasonable, it is actually one of our lowest. One of the major reasons for this decline in uptake is reported to be the presence of the Sporting Schools Program in primary schools, which have traditionally been serviced by Little Athletics NSW. We hope to be able to explore ways in which Little Athletics NSW can gain more promotional benefit from the Sporting Schools program in future.

In the area of coach education, a total of 12 Introduction to Coaching Courses were conducted for 164 participants (59 male and 105 female) over the course of the past year.

Little Athletics NSW was represented by Coaching and Development staff at a number of other community events including: Carnival of the Codes, where 'come and try' activities were held over five days for over 1,500 primary school students in the Cooks River area; Panthers on the Prowl Sports Expo, where 'come and try' activities were conducted for over 1,200 students from the Penrith area; Park Runs at various locations across NSW; and the NSW PSSA (Primary Schools Sports Association) State Athletics Championships, with Rio Olympian's and former LANSW members, Ella Nelson and Jessica Thornton attending to 'meet and greet', sign autographs and help promote Little Athletics.

### Competition and Championships

Almost 1,300 teams (up by nearly 200 on the previous year) entered the State Relay Championships last November. The junior day had 605 teams and the senior day 682. This was a fantastic increase, due mainly to the restructure for the field event relays. We changed the events to include a jumps relay with three members in each team (long jump, high jump, triple

jump) and throws relay also with three members in each team (shot put, discus, javelin) with centres permitted to enter two teams in each event (six athletes), as opposed to one team of four athletes in each event previously. Track events remained unchanged and, once again, we conducted timed finals for all track events other than the 4 x 100m.

The Trans Tasman Trials were also held in November, with 282 athletes vying for 100 positions (25 athletes plus 2 reserves in each of the U11 and U12 boys and girls age groups). Those who were named in the team following the trials then competed against the children's team from Auckland, at the Trans Tasman Challenge held at Campbelltown in January. This was a great day of friendly competition that resulted in many PB's and many new friendships.

All 24 Zone Championships (U7-U17) were conducted in the first half of the season (in late November/early December) for approximately 12,000 athletes; and the 8 Region Championships were conducted from late January to late February, for approximately 9,000 athletes (U8-U17).

Challenging conditions were experienced at some of the Regional Championships this past season due to the extreme heat of February last. We commend the manner in which our Regional organisers dealt flexibly with the conditions avoiding events at the hottest parts of the day by conducting heats as timed finals, shortening the final field event efforts to one final trial, conducting evening/night sessions, etc. and in the case of the Region 2 Championships (Hunter/Central Coast) postponing the carnival until the following weekend. It was great to see everyone taking heat risk so seriously for our athletes and officials. There were key learnings from these approaches for the future.

The State Multi-Event Championships were held at the Hunter Sports Centre at the beginning of March, with entries from 820 athletes representing 112 centres and the State Track & Field Championships at Sydney Olympic Park also in March, finished the summer competition season for just over 2,900 athletes (U9-U17) representing 162 centres.

The winter season began with the State Road Walk Championships (Little Athletics NSW and Athletics NSW) in early June at the Penrith Lakes Regatta Centre, for athletes in the U9 to 75+ age groups. This was once again a fully integrated event, with all age groups up to and including U11 conducted under standard Little Athletics age groups and U13 and above conducted under Athletics Australia age groups (no U12, as they all became U13). There were 150 entries for this event, with 121 being of Little Athletics age (U9 to U17).

The State Cross Country Championships (Little Athletics NSW and Athletics NSW) were held in early July at Upjohn Park, Rydalmere for athletes in the U7 to 75+ age groups. Like the State Road Walk Championships, this was a fully integrated event. There were a total of 825 entries, of which 517 were of Little Athletics age (U7 to U17).

We were pleased to host the first ever two-day Asics ALAC (Australian Little Athletics Championships) at Sydney Olympic Park, in April. Being the first championship in the two-day format meant we were 'paving our own way' to a large degree and, as such, it was tremendous to receive such positive feedback suggesting the event was extremely well received. We offer a huge vote of thanks to our officials who all did a wonderful job as usual. Thanks are also extended to the ALAC Organising Committee: Simon Nicola (Convenor); Tim Batho; Diane Levy; Kerry O'Keefe; Sally Richardson; and Lisa Sayers.

From a NSW team perspective, the 2017 Australian Little Athletics Championships would have to go close to being one of the best results ever recorded. The U13 team won the Trevor Billingham trophy for overall team point score and the Alan Triscott Cup for handicap point score; the U15 team won the Life Members Trophy for the Multi-Event teams point score; NSW team members achieved at least 40 personal best performances; the 32 medals (18 gold, 12 silver and 2 bronze); fifty-seven top 8 performances; Nicola Hogg achieved ABP's (Australian Best Performances) in the 800m and 1500m; and Tiahna Skelton performed an APB in the 200m hurdles. Our congratulations go to all the athletes, team management and selectors.

Finally, I would like to extend a very special thank you to our retiring President, Neil Sandall. It was fitting that Neil be presented with Little Athletics NSW Life Membership as he 'retired' from the board of management at the AGM in July. Neil's contribution to Little Athletics spans all levels of the sport, from centre to national level, over a 32 year period.

As we look towards the 2017/2018 season and realise how much the scope of our activities is continuing to evolve and develop, it is easy to be motivated by the promise of what lies ahead for the sport of athletics in NSW.

### Craig Scott

President  
Jetstar Little Athletics NSW



# JETSTAR LITTLE ATHLETICS QUEENSLAND

**On behalf Little Athletics Queensland, we are pleased to present the following report.**

## **Registrations**

Registrations for the 2016/2017 season closed at 14,502 athletes. This is an increase of 934 athletes from the corresponding period last year. New Centres were formed at Biggenden, Nanango and Bribie Island. Biggenden enjoyed a successful first season with registrations of 21. Nanango and Bribie Island will formally start competition in 2017.

Winter registrations are currently 1,473 which represents an increase of 145 from last season.

## **Competitions**

The number of athletes competing at Association competitions in the 2016/2017 season increased by 497 from the previous year.

This season, 2 competitions will be conducted on the Gold Coast at the Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre, the Senior Carnival & Junior Pentathlon in November and the ALAC's in April.

## **Officials**

Due to lack of national direction at AA level, the number of officials completing accreditation has significantly dropped with only 81 new LAQ Officials completing the courses online. This needs to be rectified urgently.

## **Development Programs and Coaching Clinics**

The Regional Coaching Clinics and All Comer Clinics are currently being reviewed with extensive changes planned. The number of clinics therefore was reduced, however, a number of coaching sessions are currently being conducted by development staff at Centres in their place.

## **School Programs (including Little Athletics Program for Schools (LAPS))**

LAQ Development staff have delivered significantly less LAPS school programs throughout the year with only 12,236 to date. We expect to reach 20,000 by the end of the year.

## **Introduction to Coaching Courses**

During the year, 87 people have participated in one of the 10 courses held throughout the State. More courses are planned for the remainder of the Summer season.

## **FAST Program**

The FAST Program was delivered to 8 schools as part the Indigenous Athletics Program conducted in July this year. Kits will be distributed free of charge to 6 Winter Centres in the next few weeks.

## **Strategic Plan 2017-2019**

To satisfy funding requirements, a draft Strategic Plan was drafted, approved and submitted to the State Government in late 2016. A workshop was later facilitated with the Board at the April Board Meeting and the new plan was adopted in August this year.

## **Annual Conference & AGM**

The Annual Conference and AGM took place at Rydges Southbank in Townsville. All standing Directors were re-elected.

Discussion groups and workshops were provided as part of the conference agenda, which included: Age Group Changes, Timing Solutions, Excellent Centre Committees, FAST Program, Centre Planning, Centre Programming, Conflict Resolution and Bravehearts. It was a very successful Conference conducted in North Queensland.

## **Corporate Support**

McDonald's re-signed with LAQ for a further 3 years at an increased level. The new sponsorship has many opportunities that will benefit all parts of our organisation and membership.

## **Queensland Government Support**

Little Athletics Queensland continues to exceed its key performance measures and funding obligations with the State Government and was successful in gaining the maximum funding allowable under the 2017-2019 funding program. LAQ also received an additional \$40,000 in Regional Event funding to host the State Championships in Townsville in 2019 and \$38,720 in funding to conduct an Indigenous Athletics Program in Far North Queensland.

## **Indigenous Athletics Program**

North Queensland Development Staff and contracted coaches recently completed the State Government sponsored Indigenous Athletics Program in Far North Queensland for 1,800 children in 8 Schools taking part. The children participated in a LAPS session and each school was left with a FAST Kit and accompanying lesson plans. New trips have already been planned to the areas and an ongoing link has been established with the regional Indigenous communities.

## **Marketing and Promotion**

Our marketing and promotion continues at current high levels with radio advertising on Hit105, 97.3FM and Hot FM in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay. Digital roadside billboard advertising is currently in place in high traffic locations in Brisbane. LAQ is also advertising extensively on Facebook and Instagram. McDonald's is providing excellent coverage with Little Athletics sign-on television commercials airing across South Queensland this month. Digital posters were also displayed instore.

## **Donna Smith**

President

Jetstar Little Athletics Queensland





# JETSTAR LITTLE ATHLETICS SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## Season 2016/17 has been another year of advances for Little Athletics SA as we continue to implement our strategic plan.

There have been developments in each of the 4 pillars of Leadership, Participation, Communication and People which underpin the LASA strategy.

This season started with high hopes of significantly increased membership numbers on the back of the Rio Olympics. Unfortunately, the cold and wet start to the season in many locations contributed to a slow start in numbers. But more importantly we faced increased competition from other sports offering tailored junior programs backed by the strong financial resources their high profile senior competition provide. It is precisely this challenge that has driven much of the strategic changes over the past 4 years and without that groundwork I believe instead of a smaller increase we could have seen a fall in member numbers despite the exposure provided by the Olympics.

### Leadership

We remain one of the cheapest sports to participate in, but increasingly we have found that value for money is the real driving force for participants to continue in our sport. This is supported by the Australian Sports Commission's AusPlay participation report released in December 2016. This showed that the inability to afford a sport was consistently the lowest barrier to participation but that time and other commitments were consistently the biggest barrier. The only barrier that was higher was when children were too young to start sport.

Knowing this from our own research, and with tiny tots able to register children at a younger age than most other sports, this year we have invested in a new program, whilst nationally there is investment in a new under 6 to under 8 development program for future seasons. Both of these initiatives will keep participants more active and engaged throughout an athletics meet whilst developing the core track and field skills of running, jumping, throwing and walking on an age appropriate basis.

Our new bespoke on-line membership database has been in development this season and is now ready to roll out for the coming season. This marks an important step in the use of technology to reduce the workload of our centres.

At the local level we had the exciting development of the first season for our new "one club" at Northern Districts from the merger of our Salisbury East Little Athletics Centre with the ASA aligned Salisbury Athletics Club to provide a strong unified club for athletes in their region. Both South Coast and Mildura Little Athletics centres also joined ASA to provide not only a pathway for athletes in their regions but participation opportunities for senior athletes that cannot always travel to ASA interclub.

We continue to work closely with Athletics SA to support our centres retain members and to provide athletes with opportunities to remain in the sport not only for competition but also as a recreational activity which will result in continuing initiatives and streamlining next season.

### Participation

Participation numbers and excitement has grown around both the State Carnivals and State Challenge in their second season. The Carnivals provide an opportunity for athletes to experience participating at the stadium and to receive experienced coaching and officiating. The Challenge provides opportunities for those athletes who don't qualify for state championships to compete against athletes with similar abilities to further their enjoyment of both participation and competition.

Our Multi-event Championships were again co-hosted with Athletics SA and were a huge success as a "one sport" event which provided our little athletes with the opportunity to see the state's top multi-eventers in action and created a real positive atmosphere at the stadium. Similar events are also being held during the winter cross country season and in race walking.

Nationally the decision was made to align the age groups with both School Sport Australia and Athletics Australia. This is a really positive step forward for the sport. Whilst there may be an initial adjustment for some athletes and their parents this will provide a much smoother transition to encourage more school athletes into our club system and to encourage more of our athletes into senior ranks to continue in the sport.

Our research indicated that the lack of coaching at centres was a barrier to athletes continuing in the sport so investment was made in training more coaches. There has been a significant increase in trained coaches as a result, which can now provide training to athletes to increase their enjoyment of our sport.

Holiday training programs also expanded this season to provide even more coaching options for athletes and the Athletics Academy joint initiative with Athletics SA is growing in numbers. These sessions allow athletes to access state level coaches for a series of training sessions during school holidays season and during winter.

### Communication

We continue to refine our communication with members and this season saw the commencement of the Centre Portal as a central location for information needed for running a centre. The uptake has been high and feedback very positive and adds to the significant different lines of communication we have with our members.

I would like to recognise and thank our sponsors in SA. Firstly, Health Partner as our major partner who have been actively involved at out state events and have utilised some fantastic initiatives to provide funds direct to centres. They are a great SA organisation. Our major sponsors Blackchrome Sportswear, Boileau Business Technology and SA Power Networks are fantastic organisations to work with and their support has been invaluable.

We also thank Jetstar for their continued support this season as national naming rights sponsor and V-Insurance.

Sponsorship provides us with the opportunity to improve services to members so we have invested heavily in our marketing and sponsorship development this season. We are just starting to reap the rewards for this investment and there will be fantastic additional sponsors in the coming season.

Little Athletics does not receive any federal government funding, so we are very grateful for the support and facilities provided by the SA Government Office for Recreation and Sport. They are fantastic partners and provide invaluable training and other resources at State and Centre level.

### People

Our conference continues to provide the training opportunities and information that our centre volunteers need to perform their roles. As mentioned the new database will further reduce the work load experienced by registrars, recorders and treasurers. The Centre Portal reduces the time needed to find the necessary information to administer Centres. Freeing up these support roles provides these dedicated volunteers with more time to be actively involved with their children's little athletics.

All these advances were made to meet the expectations of members and to remain at the forefront of the junior sport in SA. Advancing necessitates change, which is both exciting and - at times - uncomfortable. But change cannot happen without hard work and belief. For this hard work and belief I would like to say thank you:

Thank you to our Centres and the volunteers that run them. Your passion and endeavour is unquestionable. Without you there would be no little athletics for our children.

Thank you to the band of officials and coaches that go above and beyond their Centre involvement and work tirelessly at state competitions and clinics. Many of these people are past parents and past competitors who continue to give their time for the betterment of our sport.

Thank you to the LASA board and minute secretary who volunteer their expertise to provide direction and guidance to the organisation. Their significant time and effort often goes unseen by others in the sport.

Thank you to the management team who continue to show a passion for our organisation and our sport that is inspirational to see. The organisation is now professionally run by this very capable team under the excellent leadership of our CEO Sue Bowman.

With these advances in our strategic pillars it has been extremely busy season and with the Commonwealth Games in Australia in April 2018, along with the next instalment of Nitro Athletics, generating even more interest in our sport, the next season promises to be just as exciting.

### Andrew Gosling

Vice President

Jetstar Little Athletics South Australia



## Now entering my fifth year with SALAA I reflect on how much we have achieved in this time.

It has taken much patience and belief from our Little Athletics community to allow us to have developed to where we are as an organisation today. I am extremely grateful to all of the Centre Committees who have taken a leap of faith and collaborated with us to strive towards a better future for the sport.

It is sometimes very difficult to put personal feelings aside and focus on the right decisions for the future athletes who pass through our gate.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the support and enthusiasm you have shown.

At times, we have had to shift our focus into different directions, however; we have managed to track through this year with some very positive results.

One area we are extremely pleased with is the increase in our athlete retention rate, from 44% four years ago to 53% this year. This data only reinforces that our Centres are setting an excellent foundation for their future sustainability.

After much awaited anticipation, our new database is now ready to roll out. Our team have been working considerable hours with the Database provider to have it ready for the new summer season of Little Athletics. I thank the board for investing considerable funds from our cash reserves to allow this to happen. It is truly a valuable investment for this Association.

Another investment decision made by the Board was to upgrade our IT infrastructure. This investment will allow for steady growth for SALAA over many years to come.

Some key points received through the Association membership survey last year have very much been the focus for us in developing improved systems across the association.

Key value gained from this has allowed us to streamline our communications strategy and provide increased support to Centres by way of Coaching and Parent helper development. Survey results from this year's survey have confirmed to us that we are on the right track with these new initiatives.

In a time where sponsorship for Sporting organisations is hard to come by, Little Athletics SA is proud to say that our long-term goal to align the Organisation with partners who share our vision has now come to fruition. We are very privileged to have a number of organisations alongside us as we embark on our journey of a healthier and happier Little Athletics community.

To my Board and to my Staff, I applaud all of you for trusting in the vision of a more sustainable future for the organisation and thank you all for your ongoing commitment and hard work. The following areas are a snapshot of the organisations activity over the past 12 months

### Sue Bowman

Chief Executive Officer  
Jetstar Little Athletics South Australia

# JETSTAR LITTLE ATHLETICS TASMANIA

## The 2016 / 2017 season was one of growth, new initiatives, closer liaison with Athletics Tasmania.

We saw a slight increase this year of 2.2%. This is encouraging, however we are facing another large challenge with several of our Centres and the inability to form a committee. Little Athletics Tasmania has formed a close working relationship with Volunteering Tasmania, and we will be liaising closely with them on strategies to address this issue.

We are always mindful that the sporting environment is becoming extremely competitive in terms of choices, accordingly the challenge is for us to hold our ground, and grow, in terms of membership numbers. Through initiatives and strategies in our extensive marketing campaign, coupled with our LAPS program, the profile of Little Athletics continues to grow.

### LATAS Board of Management/Staff

We went into the 2016/2017 season with three new board members – Ferdie Kroon, Brett Gillow and Belinda McEwan.

These three have brought new initiatives and fresh outlooks to board meetings, and coupled with our Finance Director Garry House, and Competition Director Brett Johnstone, the strategic management of Little Athletics is in excellent hands and I thank them for the dedication and commitment.

I would like to thank our Administration Officer, Tracy Canhan, and Development Officer Simon Bennett for their contribution in the past 12 months.

### One Club Model Centres

Last season a One Club Model Committee was formed comprised of representatives from Little Athletics Tasmania, Athletics Tasmania, representatives of several Little Athletics Centres and Senior Clubs. The first step was the establishment of a concept plan, with a view to trial a One Club model at two Centres in the State.

The One Club model was rolled out on a trial basis at St. Helens and South East Centres. Mixed results were achieved, however the overarching message was that this model is one which will allow better alignment from Junior to Senior Athletics, and as such plans commenced to roll out the model in full at St. Helens Centre on the East Coast, and Circular Head Centre on the West Coast. Huon Valley in the South are committed to trialling the program this coming season.

### Athletics Tasmania

The Board recognise the importance of continuing to improve our relationship with Athletics Tasmania, and to work more closely with them. To that end, in addition to the formation of our One Club Centres, other areas of collaboration have included :

- An LATas representative on the Athletics Tasmania working group to discuss registration fees. This is extremely beneficial in regards to our dual membership options.
- Attendance at an Athletics Tasmania forum to discuss their Strategic Plan.
- Combined Under 12/Under 13 Multi-Event competition.
- Meetings with Athletics Tasmania representatives to discuss competition calendars for the coming season to avoid any potential clash of events.

### Online Registrations – STG Sport (formerly IMG)

The percentage of members who opt to use online registrations has continued to grow. This coming season will see it compulsory for members to register online. No family will be disadvantaged due to merchant fees; with a strategy being put into place by LATas to cover these fees.

This initiative will heavily decrease the workload on Centre registrars and treasurers.

A full training session on the online portal was held in August, with a representative from STGSports conducting training in both the North and the South. This was extremely beneficial, with many Centres becoming more familiar with functions available to them.



#### Information Technical Sub-Committee

Due to the many issues we have experienced with IT in terms of emails, compatibility with SLAM and the online achievement book, and our results system, an Information Technical (IT) sub-committee was established to trouble shoot current issues (as a priority, the online achievement book), and also options for a results/timing system. The sub-committee will be working to improve our IT in terms of gaining a better understanding of technology requirements and where we can improve our business function in this field.

At a minimum, the committee's role being to –

- Finalise their study into a suitable timing/results system which will can be rolled out to all Centres, and importantly, compatible with the online achievement book portal;
- Undertake analytics analysis of the web traffic on our website to gain a better understanding of how effective the website is, and where we may be able to improve the layout and content;
- Investigate the various social media platforms to ensure we are obtaining our target reach for both current membership and prospective new members;
- Use STGSports as our events management system to include, the registration for regional / state championships. The system has been used for several years for online registration to our coaching clinics, and we see this as an extension to that.

Achievements LATas would like to see include, but not limited to-

- Improved State wide results database compatible with online achievement book.
- Statewide online registration payments
- Major communication strategies through social media platforms with seamless communication
- Updating of our website.

#### Development Opportunities

This year saw many opportunities for adult members and athletes to develop in several areas –

- Free Coaching clinics were offered for all children aged between 4 and 14 years in the three major regional areas of the State – South, North and North West.
- Under 12 / Under 13 Coaching Camp was held in January. Such is the popularity of this camp, that registrations closed early due to the maximum number of applicants being received. This is a four day live in camp held at Camp Banksia each year.
- Officials Courses were conducted pre season at open sessions, and at several Centres at the commencement of the season. These courses show a commitment by our members to become trained as officials.

#### Sponsorship

Little Athletics Tasmania acknowledge the tremendous support we received from our sponsors, many who have been supporting our sport for over 15 years.

- McDonald's
- IGA
- RACT
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- Nordic Sport
- Zone3 Laser Games
- Medalmania

I would like to pass on our thanks to our Centre Committees, volunteers and officials, all who have put in many voluntary hours for our sport. We acknowledge the efforts of so many, without whom, we would not be able to offer Little Athletics in this state.

I would like to acknowledge the support of the Board and Staff who continue to give 150% to ensure that we continue to offer one of the best junior sporting options to children in Tasmania.

I look forward to the 2017 / 2018 season and the continued progression and growth of Little Athletics.

#### Rhonda O'Sign

President  
Jetstar Little Athletics Tasmania

# JETSTAR LITTLE ATHLETICS VICTORIA

## Little Athletics faces many challenges in what is a diverse and constantly changing sporting, recreation and leisure landscape.

For several years now we have experienced declining membership numbers as our current and future members are exposed to an increasing number of new sports and also existing sports that are adapting to the changing environment to offer a modified event that is attractive to both parents and athletes alike.

In February 2017 we witnessed the birth of Nitro Athletics and the revised competition format, led by Usain Bolt and his All Star team, breathed a breath of fresh air into the sport and for just over 2 weeks athletics was the talk of the town! Crowd attendance at the 3 competition events was very strong and the high Channel 7 television ratings showed that athletics could also be attractive for competitive and non-competitive people alike. The challenge for Little Athletics is to regain a position so that it is one of the key choice of sports during the summer period. If we achieve this then we will attract new members and simultaneously improve our overall retention rate.

This is a challenge that I believe our sport is ready to take on and defeat. As we enter the 2017/18 season, we have a golden opportunity to take a giant step forward as athletics will again hold centre court in April 2018 when the Commonwealth Games are held on the Gold Coast in Queensland. We need to ensure that as an organisation, we are prepared to capture the lift that will come off the back of the national exposure that athletics will receive over the Games period.

In late 2016, the board of Little Athletics Victoria commenced a journey to see it transition from an operationally focussed board to one that was strategically focussed. This journey is not complete however a number of the key building blocks are now in place to complete that transition. At our AGM in August 2017, our membership endorsed 2 key motions that now position the board to effectively move forward as a strategic body. The first of these motions saw the number of board members increased from 7 to 9 whilst the second motion allowed the board to directly appoint 2 directors to address any skills and capability gaps that may exist the board level.

The increase in board members will allow the board to increase the focus on our strategic plan that addresses a number of key areas including governance at a state, region and centre level, the attraction of new members, existing member retention and finally the ongoing, support and development of our athletes, officials, coaches, and centres. As a board we are acutely aware that we need to adapt to meet the expectations of modern families who are becoming increasingly time poor, wanting shorter and faster programs and services. Our strategic plan will continue to evolve in order to reflect the needs and aspirations of the Association.

The board of Little Athletics Victoria supports the One Sport notion and during the 2017/2018 season we will work collaboratively with Athletics Victoria, Athletics Australia and of course Little Athletics Australia, on initiatives that will progress the One Sport initiative. Our focus on the future will continue to see our sport evolve. The contribution at all levels – from our Board, office team members, the various State and Region Committees, Centres and their committees, Coaches, Officials and the countless volunteers each week will be pivotal if we are to achieve successful change.

It is important we acknowledge and thank our generous sponsors and partners both at the National and State level as they provide far more than just revenue opportunities. Their involvement demonstrates the strength of our Brand as many of these partnerships share the same core values relating to family, fun and a sense of community.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our new CEO, Anthony McIntosh. Anthony has been on board since December 2016 and his fresh views on the sports and the opportunities that are available, have already had a positive impact both an operational and board level. Thank you also to all of the team in the office for their contribution in the past 12 months. In particular, thank you to Shane Bertrand and Julie Green for their efforts in keeping the office functioning over what was a very challenging time.

I'm very proud to be the new President of Little Athletics Victoria and I'm looking forward to working with my fellow board members to grow and improve this fantastic sport that we are all involved with for the betterment of our athletes and their families.

Finally, it would be remiss of me to not thank our immediate Past President Steve Ryan for his contribution to Little Athletics at a State and National level. Steve intends to stay active within Little Athletics and we look forward to welcoming Team Ryan to our centre, regional and state events.

On behalf of the Little Athletics Victoria Board and our office team, I wish you all success for the 2017/18 season.

#### Colin Segota

President  
Jetstar Little Athletics Victoria



# JETSTAR LITTLE ATHLETICS WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**2017 has been a year where Little Athletics WA (LAWA) has re-built the foundations of its governing function to provide greater support, structure and pathway development for its members and volunteers alike.**

Concurrently, LAWA also undertook to review its events and competition delivery as part of a commitment to continual improvement and growth for the sport.

The year commenced with the final transition to the revised Board structure comprising five elected and three appointed Directors. The Board structure allows the sport to be governed by Directors with a variety of skills and different professional background to support the strategic development of Little Athletics to meet both current and future challenges. The operational functions previously undertaken by the Board have been transitioned to management, thus providing greater support and accountability to the members.

The resourcing and recruitment of dynamic and innovative staff has resulted in an increased ability to support, guide, assist and communicate with the members, volunteers, and all other stakeholders.

The LAWA 2016-19 Strategic Plan was implemented 12 months ago and is the core document outlining what LAWA is doing, and where we are focusing our energy and resources to achieve the future direction of the sport. It is an ambitious plan, and the past year has been a positive and productive one, where LAWA has clearly established itself as a leader in junior sport, and within the wider sporting community.

LAWA's increased communication and engagement in the sporting community, together with our dynamic and proactive approach to increase our profile, was acknowledged when the Hon Mia Davies, then Minister for Water, Sport and Recreation and Forestry, accepted an invitation to become the Patron for LAWA. As a former little athlete, Minister Davies understood the value and importance of Little Athletics as a foundation sport for children, and the significance the sport has for personal growth, development and health benefits for the athletes and their families. We want to thank the Hon Mia Davies, MLA for her support and advocacy of Little Athletics over the past year.

The LAWA internal business sustainability model has seen progressive development in governance compliance over the past year. Centre's have also benefited from an increased level of support and guidance assisting in the reduction of workload burdens on Centre volunteers and increasing efficiencies.

A 'Whole of Sport' approach to athletics in Western Australia has proactively commenced. Where good intentions have been discussed for many years, actions are now occurring through a joint commitment and genuine interest to progress the sport. The concept is not new, however for the first-time, formal initiatives will now be documented within the 'Whole of Sport' Strategic Plan. The plan will outline projects to achieve greater efficiencies such as the use of shared resources and better utilisation of funding. Creating clear and supported developmental pathways for athletes, coaches and volunteers will also contribute to the sports success, strength and sustainability into the future.

Events and Competition reviews have been conducted over the past year to provide the best possible experience for athletes, their families, and volunteers. With the advent of new staff and key supporting personnel changes, lessons learnt will be used to implement further improvements and contribute to the desire to achieve a continuous improvement culture.

A key benefit to achieving a supported governance structure, increasing our profile, and being proactive through wider community engagement is that LAWA has developed partnerships, with several key organisations including Volunteering WA, Inclusion WA, Office of Multicultural Interests, Perth Children's Hospital Foundation, Communicare, Edmund Rice Foundation, Department of Sport and Recreation, and many more.

LAWA is also building strong relationships with other sports to work in partnership to increase health and lifestyle choices to the community. LAWA wishes to acknowledge the work and dedication of Gymnastics WA, with whom LAWA is working closely with to co-ordinate the 'Little Urban Jungle'; a community event held in the July school holidays, for young children to come and try athletics and gymnastics for free.

LAWA acknowledges and thanks McDonalds who have supported Little Athletics for the past five years as a major State

sponsor. Their ongoing support and contribution to the sport throughout the sponsorship term has been very much appreciated and provided much needed assistance to the delivery of our sport.

In January 2017, LAWA was pleased to announce a three-year commercial partnership with leading apparel brand ISC Teamwear as our Official Apparel Partner. The new agreement will see ISC produce apparel for Little Athletics events and State representatives in fresh, dynamic designs and quality apparel. Centres are also able to receive rebates and access online custom kit systems through ISC Teamwear.

In a significant step for LAWA, we are pleased to announce and confirm Healthway has recently signed on as a major commercial partner for Little Athletics WA for the next two years. The healthy lifestyle message of both organisations is mutually exclusive and we are excited to support the 'Go for 2 & 5' message through our program delivery locally, regionally and within schools. LAWA will be working with Healthway to develop projects with mutual benefits to the sport, and within Centres.

To the Little Athletics WA community, athletes, coaches, officials, administrators and volunteers, thank you for all that you have contributed to ensure the collective success and ongoing support for the sport.

It has been a pleasure to Chair a Board with a diverse mix of skills and expertise, including business and financial knowledge, but also have a great passion and understanding of athletics. I would like to sincerely thank the Board Directors, who have committed many hours to achieve organisational aims and to professionally develop their strategic outlook.

I wish to acknowledge each of the Directors, David, Bruce, Megan, Fiona, Lee, Ryan and Alison for their personal contribution and support throughout the year. On a personal note, I would like to acknowledge and thank David Stanton's contribution and commitment to the sport during his term to progress the sport future directions. David has not sought re-election however his contribution to ensure change and the future direction cannot be underestimated.

I also want to acknowledge and commend the CEO, Vince Del Prete and his staff for their contribution, leadership, and innovation throughout the year. All staff have put in significant hours and personal investment over and above their job description, to deliver the sport for our young athletes. I have watched each of them progress through significant learning curves, and develop their positions over the past 12 months. All have achieved outstanding results over the past year and are to be congratulated.

We are all indebted to the large numbers of volunteers, coaches, officials, club, and centre executives who have put in numerous hours to support LAWA. We gratefully acknowledge and thank you all, as without you, we do not have a sport. Do not underestimate your value, and I urge you to continue to bring others along with you. All too often we tend to rely on the few; encourage succession planning, and spread the load. The more we do this, the more we can continue to grow as a successful and sustainable sport.

Finally, whilst the past year has seen the organisational development build the foundation for the path ahead, the next year will be a year of consolidation, review, and continuous improvement to grow the sport. As we are open and honest with you, we encourage you to also provide open and honest feedback.

We encourage you to seek opportunities, be innovative in your ideas and feedback, and promote a positive culture to assist in creating and developing new and exciting ideas for the sport.

The sport belongs to you!!!

**Teresa Blackman**

President

Jetstar Little Athletics Western Australia



As I complete my first full year with LAWA, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the support of the Board and Staff who continue to go above and beyond to make sure that we are continuing to raise the bar and better serve our members.

I would also like to thank all the Centres and Committees for the countless hours you give to the sport, which is very much appreciated.

Without you, the sport would not be where it is in 2017, and going to.

To Wayne Loxley, CEO AWA and his staff thank you for working in partnership with LAWA to ensure the ongoing development of the sport for all, to enjoy!

On a personal note, I would like to thank Chairman Teresa Blackman for her guidance and confidence in me to deliver on the needs of the sport.

Finally, I look forward with the management team in working with you all on the ongoing delivery of the strategies contained in the LAWA Strategic Plan, and the new whole of Sport Strategic Plan with AWA.

The sport has a bright future, and so many opportunities for us.

**Vince Del Prete**

Chief Executive Officer

Jetstar Little Athletics Western Australia

## 2016/17 PARTICIPATION



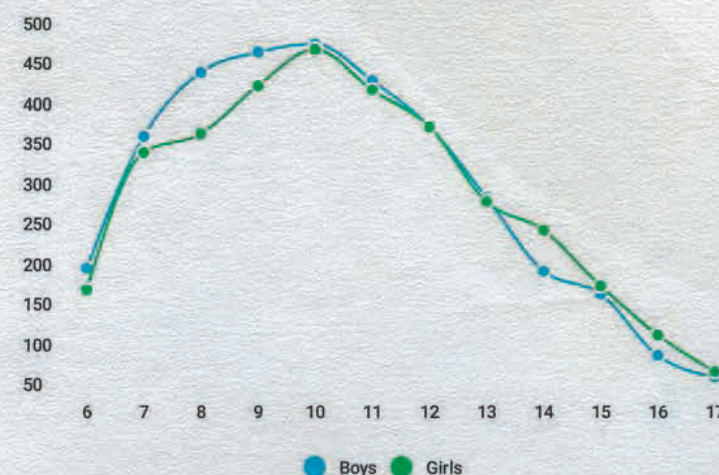
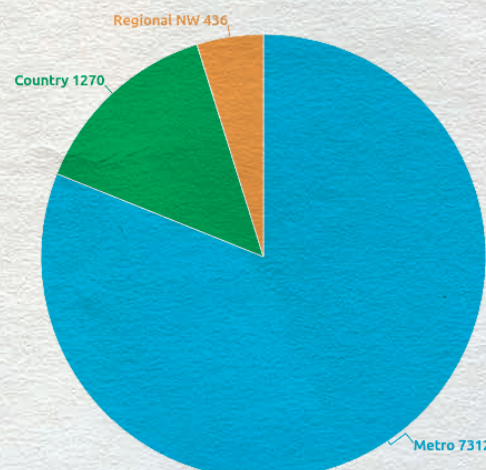
**9,018**

Total participants for 2016/17

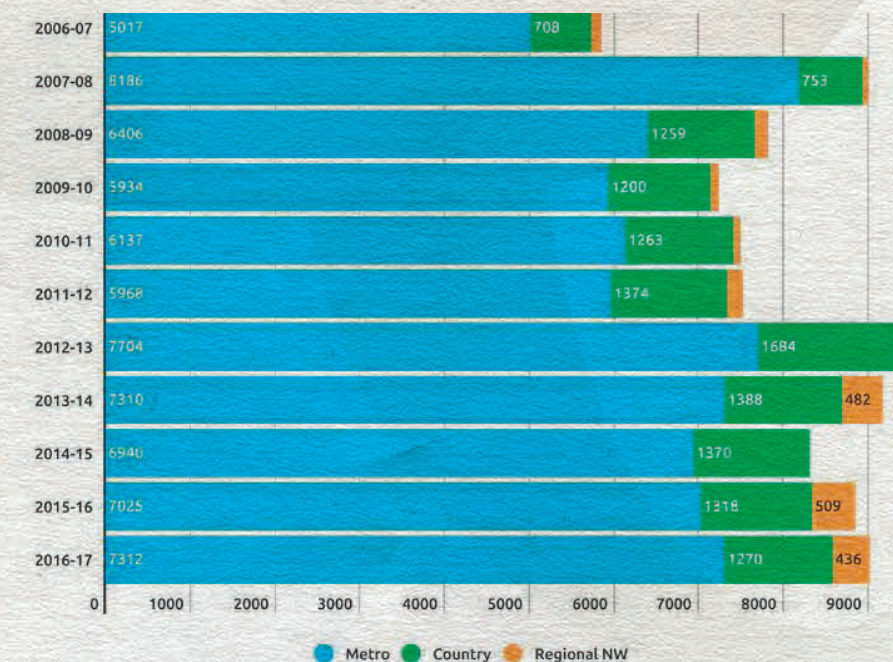


### Participation by Age/Gender

Little Athletics participation is equally split between boys and girls



## HISTORIC PARTICIPATION BY REGION



## 2016/17 ACHIEVEMENTS



**7,312**

Metro Participants



**1,270**

Country participants



**436**

North-West Regional participants



**74**

Clubs



**35**

Centres



**38**

Centre requested actions and outcomes addressed by LAWA



**21**

Athletes have participated in Little Athletics for 11 years



**666**

Teams participated in the Little Athletics State Relay Championships

**16,303**

Students

124 Visits

83 Schools



**1,519**

Participants took part in the 2017 State Track and Field Championships



**5,500**

LAWA Email database



Increase in Facebook followers from 2015 to 2016



**Jetstar** 



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