

Australian Little Athletics Inc Annual Report



2012-
2013



Australian Little Athletics

Annual Report

2012-2013

Board of Management



EXECUTIVE

Ross Burridge	President (To October 2012)
Dereck Fineberg	President (October 2012 onwards)
Edward Fabian	Administration & Finance Director
Charlie Sanders	Competition & Standards Director
Adam Wallish	Chief Executive Officer (To July 2012)
Matthew Cowling	Chief Executive Officer (September 2012 – January 2013)
Martin Stillman	Chief Executive Officer (March 2013 onwards)

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

Tony Reilly	LAACT President
Neil Sandall	LANSW President
Tony Northey	LAQLD President
Scott Pitts	LASA Managing Director
Rhonda O'Sign	LATAS President
Gordon Major	LAVIC President
Rob Crockett	LAWA Chairman

STAFF

Ashlea Watt	Administration and Events Manager
Melissa Chisholm	National Joint Venture Participation Coordinator

LIFE MEMBERS

Trevor Billingham BEM*	Don Blyth
Alan Triscott	Mal Hastie
Keith Maughan	Peter Shinnick
Doug Hancy*	George Harvey
C P (Paddy) Robinson*	David Cramer
Maxine Boyd	Anthony Libke
Grahame Searles	Michael Stubbs
Brian Newton	Marjorie McNamara
Alison Quirke	Dennis Goodwin
Gary Mutton	Ross Burridge

AWARD OF MERIT

R O (Dick) Healey *	Brian Newton
Alan Letcher	Arnold Hunt*
John Crouch	Alison Quirke
Don Baker	Marjorie McNamara
Garry House	Pieter Bergshoeff



MERIT CERTIFICATES

John McCarthy
Peter Shinnick
John Marsden

ROLL OF EXCELLENCE MEMBERS

Track & Field

Steve Hooker
Nathan Deakes
Melinda Gainsford- Taylor
Amy Winters
Jana Pittman- Rawlinson
John Steffensen
Jane Saville
Darren Clark
Bronwyn Thompson
Christine Stanton
Debbie Wells

Sportsmen

Kathy Watt
John Worsfold
George Gregan
Nova Perris
Alisa Camplin
Geoff Ogilvy
Hollie Grima
Natalie Von Bertouch
Matt Giteau
Simon Black
Megan Marcks

Volunteers

Trevor Billingham *
Alan Triscott
Doug Hancy
Barry Garment
Helen Moir
George Harvey
Peter Wickes
Maxine Boyd
Jim Arkins
David Cramer
Robin Johnson

Achievers

John Maclean
Mike Whitney
Dr. Peter Larkins
Kirsty Marshall
Janine Shepherd
Chris Bradshaw
Brett Rosebury
Paul Murray

* Deceased



OUR MISSION

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

Sponsors



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 for their sponsorship in 2012/13

IGA

IGA sponsors the patch on every registered Little Athlete across Australia. IGA also hosts an interactive Little Athletics section on their website and supports a National Docket Promotion. They have provided games, healthy tips and competitions for Little Athletes. IGA also provide support for the official's uniforms at the Australian Little Athletics Championships.



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

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



BEYOND BANK

The new partnership between Beyond Bank and Little Athletics Australia will help to grow strong, healthy kids through successful, nationwide programs that offer coaching in track and field. The partnership is helping to develop more coaches and reduce program costs for families.





Family Fun and Fitness

EXECUTIVE REPORTS



President Report



Well my first year in the LAA President role has certainly been an interesting one in many ways and has passed by very quickly. A number of challenges that could not have been predicted, have presented themselves and have ensured that life in LAA after 5 years in a State role has been anything but boring by comparison.

Once again the world of Little Athletics has been I believe busy, interesting, challenging and overall quite successful and rewarding. In terms of registration numbers the 2012-13 season was the most successful in our history with over 104,000 athletes joining up. Congratulations must go to all involved, in particular the staff and volunteers in the state associations.

Early on in the season we were faced with recruiting a replacement CEO for LAA and while this initially proved frustrating we were fortunate to obtain the services of Martin Stillman who has proved to be a great acquisition for our organisation. I have enjoyed my association with Martin and look forward to that continuing.

Of course the approach by the Australian Sports Commission to LAA and Athletics Australia to consider a merger is an extremely important consideration and one which obviously demands our utmost attention. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of Martin and the LAA office staff and our other two steering committee delegates – LAACT chairman Tony Reilly and LANSW President Neil Sandall as well as the rest of the LAA Board. The deliberations are continuing and we are all interested in an outcome that is in the best interests of Little Athletics.

The 2013-14 season represents a significant milestone as it will be the 50th season of LAs in Australia. In recognition of this we are holding a special 50th celebration in the birthplace of our sport – Geelong – in October in conjunction with our annual Roll of Excellence event. Once again a big thank you to Martin and his staff for the work they have put into the preparation for this special occasion.

In addition to the merger discussions we of course have had to focus on the usual range of business as usual activities including the –

- Joint Venture between LAA and AA which was boosted by additional funding from the ASC,
- ALACs - congratulations to LAACT who so successfully hosted this year's event,
- 2012 U/14 coaching camp (now U/15 for 2013) in ACT in October,
- partnership with Bravehearts to be implemented during the 2013-14 season,
- establishment of a National Technical Committee to consider applications for rule and event specification changes,
- management of LAA's financial assets.

The coaching framework and officials accreditation committee are two areas which continue to present challenges and progress is proving to be slow. We all look forward to a successful completion of both initiatives. A major area of disappointment is the ongoing disconnect between AA and the ATFCA despite attempts to reach consensus on a way forward. We will continue to support any attempts to achieve a constructive outcome.

It was with great sadness that we said farewell during August to one of our longest serving personnel in Pam Sard, the CEO of LASA who passed away after recent illness. On behalf of everyone in Little Athletics I express condolences to her husband Brian, other members of Pam's family and her extended family – LA South Australia. Pam made an enormous contribution to LAs especially in South Australia and she will be greatly missed.

I wish to acknowledge and thank not only all the LAA sponsors but the State sponsors as well for their continued support. It is not always easy to find financial and other support in the competitive corporate world so we appreciate their commitment to the youth of Australia.

In closing I wish to thank Martin and the staff of LAA, my colleagues on the Executive, members of the LAA Board as well as many of the staff and others in the State associations for your support during my first year as LAA President. I look forward to continuing our association into the future.

**Dereck Fineberg OAM
LAA President**



Chief Executive Officer Report



Little Athletics Australia (LAA) has had one of the most successful years in our history.

I am delighted to report that in the 2012/13 season, LAA has exceeded 100,000 registered participants for the first time in our history. In fact, six out of the seven member associations registered record participation numbers this year, culminating in a national membership figure of 104,062. This is an outstanding effort by all concerned at state and centre level.

The year also saw many other successes and significant achievements, including:

ALAC in Canberra was an outstanding success. The weather was superb, as was the athletics standard and congratulations are extended to this year's winners:

Trevor Billingham Trophy (U13) – New South Wales (NSW)

Alan Triscott Trophy (U13 – Handicap) – Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

Dick Healey Trophy (U13 – Smaller Associations) – Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

Life Members Trophy (U15) – Western Australia (WA)

LAA again held a very successful Roll of Excellence dinner this year in Perth, WA. I would like to extend congratulations to the following inductees into the 2012 Roll of Excellence:

Track & Field – Christine Stanton and Debbie Wells

Sportsmen – Simon Black and Megan Marks

Volunteers – David Cramer and Robin Johnson

The inaugural national U14 camp was held in October 2012 at the AIS in Canberra. 168 athletes participated in the camp which was an outstanding success, and we look forward to continuing to develop this camp program.

From a governance perspective, the introduction of the National Technical Committee (NTC) has been advantageous to bring together the states and work through motions and rules/regulations to ensure we are continually progressing in this area.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the following LAA partners:

IGA – to Tracy Wilson and her team, thank you. IGA have been a long time principle partner of LAA and the member associations, and IGA's commitment to Little Athletics is very much appreciated.

ASICS – to Sam Chew and Simone Bushnell, thanks for your support of LAA, we are delighted to be associated with your organisation.

Willis, now V-Insurance Group – to Rob Veale and Sarah Whitehall, your guidance and support in this area of our business is greatly appreciated, you continue to provide the very best insurance premium for LAA and other benefits that come with our broker agreement.

Community CPS, now Beyond Bank – to Peter Rutter and Robert Keogh, LAA look forward to further enhancing our relationship with Beyond Bank.

Without the commitment and financial support of these organisations, LAA would not be able to provide the programs and support to the states as we do currently.

We are also grateful for the strong relationships with other stakeholders of LAA. Thanks are extended to the ATFCA, to Glynis Nunn-Cearns CEO and President Dennis Goodwin, thank you for your assistance throughout the year. To Matthew Smith at Paoli Smith thank you for your support during the year.

Having joined the organisation six months ago in March 2013, I have been overwhelmed by the passion, commitment and enthusiasm by all associated with Little Athletics. I would like to take this opportunity to thank former CEO's Adam Wallish and Matthew Cowling for their dedication and contribution to LAA during their time as CEO.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the LAA Executive led by President Dereck Fineberg, Charlie Sanders and Eddie Fabian. I sincerely appreciate your support and guidance in my first six months as CEO. To the LAA Board of Management, thank you, again I valued your support and assistance in my role and would also like to convey my thanks to your Board for their devotion and contribution to the sport.

Special thanks are extended to Ashlea Watt for her support assistance to me in my role. Ashlea's positive approach to her work and support to the states is greatly appreciated by all.

Thanks are also extended to Melissa Chisholm on her fine work and commitment to LAA/AA through the Joint Venture (JV). Melissa has made a significant contribution over the past two years of the JV.

The working relationship with Athletics Australia (AA) continues to strengthen year by year. I would like to thank Dallas O'Brien and his staff at AA for their cooperation with LAA over the past twelve months and the achievements made by both organisations during this time, including:

- The Joint Venture's major achievements during the past twelve months include:
 - Average of 10% increase in dual registrations in Victoria and GWS
 - Substantial increases in membership figures in both Little Athletics and club athletics
 - Over 40,000 participants in AASC athletics programs across the country, with an average of 34% of programs being run by Little Athletics Centres or athletics clubs
 - Partial funding of the inaugural U14 National Camp at the AIS in Canberra
 - Coordination of 5 Prime Minister's Olympic Challenge events across Victoria, involving over 1300 primary school-aged children
 - JV Development Officers working with Little Athletics Centres and athletics clubs to strengthen relationships and improve transition
- The development of a common accreditation for athletics officials is almost complete. This is exciting for the sport and will no doubt assist athletics into the future by providing a clear pathway for accreditation and retention of officials in our sport
- AA's new coaching framework continues to evolve. I would like to thank the LAA steering committee consisting of Glynis Nunn-Cearns, Darren Wensor and Shane Bertrand for their

assistance in the coaching framework discussions with AA. We are very close to having the framework finalised.

- The working relationship between Little Athletics Associations and Senior Associations has improved again over the past twelve months. A number of states now share offices and staff and the benefit of additional cooperation between the two bodies is now evident.

Finally to the thousands of volunteers that make it all happen, a big thank you, because without your contribution week in week out the kids just wouldn't be able to get out there and participate and have the fun that they do.



On 20 April 2013, LAA was invited to attend a joint meeting with the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and Athletics Australia (AA), for the purpose of discussing the proposal by the ASC to explore a merger or some other structure that would better align LAA and AA. Each state was represented at this meeting by the President/Chairman of their Board. One of the outcomes from this meeting was to form a steering group made up of representatives from the ASC, LAA and AA.

Following on from the initial appointment of the steering group, numerous meetings have been held and LAA and AA have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to further explore discussions relating to a potential merger.

A business case was presented to the steering group in August outlining the benefits of a merger of equals. It was determined by the LAA BoM that each state association would be presented the business case and be provided the opportunity to submit feedback and seek clarification on any aspect contained within the business case for LAA to forward to the ASC.

At the time of writing this report the business case presentations concluded on 17 September and the Heads of Agreement document (HOA) was distributed to member associations on 18 September with the timeline of 31 October from the ASC for signing.

LAA will continue to keep member associations updated on future developments as they occur. The LAA representatives are mindful of the history, tradition and core values of Little Athletics in Australia, and will continue to act in the best interests of the organisation and its members in all aspects of steering group discussions.

We are honoured to be celebrating 50 years of Little Athletics in Australia, and excited to see just how far the sport has come since its inception in Geelong in 1964. Little Athletics has embedded itself into the fabric of society, and most people I speak to have some connection to this sport.

I look forward with much anticipation towards the upcoming season, and the celebration of 50 years of Little Athletics in Australia.

Martin Stillman
Chief Executive Officer

Competition & Standards Director Report



2013 ALAC Canberra

The weather Gods shone on the Championships' this year unlike 7 years ago when we were greeted by frost and ice on the ground and freezing conditions for the closing ceremony. A big day combined with wonderful conditions created another fantastic Championship. These Championships' saw the results go online live, an innovation that proved to be very well accepted.

All Association teams turned out well and credit must go to all team members for the way they competed and represented their Associations. It was very apparent that again the team managements prepared their athletes very professionally. Many athletes performed personal bests and have no doubt made many new friends.

Congratulations to the many fantastic Officials who so willingly gave up their time to assist at these Championships. The LAACT organising committee pulled together a team of officials to cover every position required for the Championships. Your efforts and the commitment of your valuable time are greatly appreciated by all of the athletes and team managements.

Congratulations to the convening team and the many helpers for preparing another very successful Championship.

Trevor Billingham Trophy for the Australian Teams Championships (U13)

Place	Team	
1	New South Wales	717.50
2	Western Australia	637.50
3	Victoria	628
4	Queensland	607
5	Australian Capital Territory	473
6	South Australia	452
7	Tasmania	316

Alan Triscott Trophy for the Australian Teams Championship (U13) - Handicap

Place	Team	
1	Australian Capital Territory	995
2	Western Australia	945.50
3	New South Wales	912.50
4	Queensland	912
5	South Australia	905
6	Victoria	828
7	Tasmania	816

Dick Healey Trophy awarded to the winner from the smaller Associations (U13)

Place	Team	
1	Australian Capital Territory	473
2	Tasmania	316

Life Members Trophy for the Multi-Event Teams Competition (U15) Australian Teams

Place	Team	
1	Western Australia	228
2	Queensland	227
3	Australian Capital Territory	191
4	New South Wales	181.50
5	Victoria	174.50
6	South Australia	166
7	Tasmania	163

National Technical Committee

At the April conference it was agreed by the Board to support a motion from LAVic to form a National Technical Committee to review and recommend all aspects pertaining to rules and competition. A representative was nominated from each Association to act on their behalf on this committee. An initial meeting was convened and all unresolved rules were discussed with all having a resolution with the exception of "high jump". This will be the subject for another meeting when more information can be sought from those with the knowledge and skills to inform the committee information needed to allow a well informed decision.

The committee is at present reviewing IAAF changes to check relevance to Little Athletics.

National Coaching Camp

The initial camp proved to be an outstanding success and the experience obtained from the camp and the survey sent to all participants (Athletes, coaches and managing staff) prompted LAA to make some subtle changes for this year's camp. The camp will again be held at the AIS, and will have attendees from all Associations from the 15's and 14's age groups. Attendees at this camp have had to meet qualifying standards set by the camp committee. 139 athletes will be attending the camp and Glynis Nunn-Cearns has again put together a complete coaching contingent.

The camp will have a combination of workshops and training session and has been extended by one day.

The LAA office staff have worked tirelessly to make this camp another success in all aspects and I wish to thank them for all of their hard work.

General

I would like to thank my fellow Executive Board members for their help and friendship. I also extend my thanks to the Board members from all associations.

Thankyou must go to the staff, Martin, Ashlea and Melissa.



Charlie Sanders

Competition and Standards Director

Administration & Finance

Director Report



Financial Performance for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Australian Little Athletics finished the year with a net surplus of \$120,263, which is \$184,662 favourable to budget. The cash balance of the association increased by \$122,880 to \$1,755,698.

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

	Actual	Budget	Variance
INCOME			
Levies	267,395	267,391	4
Commercial Activities	8,797	25,000	(16,203)
Sponsorship	225,177	182,500	42,677
Reimbursements	728,304	728,303	1
Other Income	120,685	60,000	60,685
Total Income	1,350,358	1,263,194	87,164
EXPENDITURE			
Administration	122,041	142,960	20,919
Insurance	343,348	456,000	112,652
Ticket & Achievement Costs	70,010	94,710	24,700
Sponsorship Costs	100,287	100,400	113
Meeting & Conference Expenses	118,138	66,965	(51,173)
Roll of Excellence	15,151	20,880	5,729
Little Athletics Program in Schools	105,405	148,000	42,595
Salary, Travel and Associated Costs	193,388	228,098	34,710
Office Expenses	46,162	38,820	(7,342)
U14 Competition & Hunter Classic	116,165	9,240	(106,925)
Projects & U14 Competition	0	21520	21,520
Total Expenditure	1,230,095	1,327,593	97,498
Surplus (Deficit) of Income over Expenditure	120,263	(64,399)	184,662

Income

Sponsorship income was \$42,677 favourable to budget mainly due to an increase of \$8,586 in the Asics sponsorship and new sponsorships of \$25,000 from Soda Stream and \$9,091 from Community CPS.

Royalties were \$16,203 unfavourable to budget. The main reason for the unfavourable variance was a delay in obtaining sales data from Asics on which to bill the royalties until after the audit was complete. The outstanding royalties will be included in the 2013-14 income.

Other Income was \$60,685 favourable to budget. Interest Income was \$7,861 unfavourable to budget due mainly to interest rate cuts over the past 12 months. Coaching Camp contributions of \$68,545 were unbudgeted and were made up by \$51,545 in athlete contributions and a \$17,000 contribution from the ALA/AA Joint Venture

Expenditure

Administration expenditure was \$20,919 favourable to budget. The major items of variance include:-

- \$23,836 - Introduction to Officiating & Coaching DVD. The expenditure for the year was \$8,164 against a budgeted expenditure of \$32,000.
- (\$26,759) – Consultancy Costs. The consultancy expenditure mainly related to the engagement of Cleo Consulting to undertake a sponsorship review,
- \$25,012 – Office Equipment. The budget included an amount of \$27,500 to replace office equipment as part of the relocation of the office. Most of the existing equipment was retained and the actual expenditure was only \$2,488.

Insurance expenditure was \$112,652 favourable to budget. The major items of variance include:-

- \$63,365 – Insurance premiums. The total cost of premiums paid for the year were \$167,635 compared to a budgeted value of \$231,000
- \$39,288 – Equipment Insurance claims paid were \$110,712 compared to a budget of \$150,000.
- \$10,000 – Brokerage fees were \$10,000 favourable to budget

Ticket and Achievement Book costs were favourable to budget by \$24,700 mainly due to the savings achieved with the change in suppliers.

Meeting & Conference Expenses were \$51,173 unfavourable to budget. The major items of variance include:

- \$10,472 – Board of Management meetings. ALA has been incurring the travel and accommodation costs of all BOM members since the January meeting.
- \$7,975 – ALA / AA meetings. These meetings were mainly unbudgeted and were incurred as a result meetings related to the proposed merger with AA.
- \$5,811 – AGM and Half Yearly Conferences. The adverse variance was as a result of higher than budgeted costs for the Perth conference in October 2012.
- \$25,000 – LAA/AA Joint Venture contribution. The contribution was in accordance with the joint venture agreement which was due to expire in June 2013 but was not budgeted.

Little Athletics Programs in Schools expenditure was \$42,595 favourable to budget mainly due expenditure on resources and equipment being \$39,059 favourable to budget. This expenditure was to cover the acquisition of certificates, stickers, rulers and uniforms. The number of students delivered with the LAPS program was 82,400. This is well below the post budget target for the year of 150,000 students. This target was set after LAA secured a \$50,000 sponsorship with Soda Stream and directed those funds to the LAPS program.

Salary, Travel and Associated Costs were \$34,709 favourable to budget. This favourable variance was mainly due to the period that LAA was without a CEO.

Office Expenses were \$7,342 unfavourable to budget. The major items of variance include:

- \$2,278 – Rent. Costs at the new premises are slightly higher than budgeted, but lower than the rent paid at the previous offices.
- \$2,223 - Cleaning Costs. Costs at the new premises are slightly higher than the costs paid previously and include a pro rata share of the common facilities.
- \$1,010 – Office Supplies. Costs of general supplies, including coffee and water.

Projects Expenses were \$21,520 favourable to budget. The items of variance included:-

- \$11,520 – Skills Development Program. This expenditure did not occur in 2011/12 and was included in the approved 2012/13 budget. This program did not occur in 2012/13 and has been excluded from the 2013/14 budget, pending a review of requirements
- \$10,000 – Joint Officials Program This expenditure did not occur in 2011/12 and was included in the approved 2012/13 budget. AA have met all costs to date for this program.

Cash Flow

The Net Cash Flow for the year was \$124,740 favourable. This is reconciled as follows:

Last Year	This Year	Movement
\$	\$	\$
BANK ACCOUNTS		
24,619 ANZ Cheque Account	32,220	7,601
973,054 ANZ On Line Saver	1,064,476	91,422
42,974 ANZ V2 Account	44,035	1,061
581,351 Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit	606,009	24,658
1,621,999 Total Cash at Bank	1,746,739	124,740

The movement of \$124,740 is represented by:

	\$
Net Surplus of Income over Expenditure	120,263
Plus: Non Cash Expenses - Depreciation	10,638
Sub-Total	130,901
Less: Fixed Assets Purchases	(5,121)
Sub-Total	125,780
Plus: Decrease in Security Deposits	7,183
Decrease in GST Paid	1,754
Decrease in Proclaim Trust Account	1,860
Increase in Accrued Expenses	2,478
Increase in Equipment Insurance Provision	48,397
Increase in Suspense Account	70
Increase in PAYG Tax Payable	941
Sub-Total	188,463
Less: Increase in Prepayments	(8,489)
Increase in Debtors	(15,690)
Decrease in Employee Provisions	(26,955)
Decrease in Equipment Grants Payable	(9,450)
Decrease in ANZ Business One Visa	(3,139)
Net Cash Flow	124,740

Net Assets

The Net Tangible Assets of the Association increased from \$1.610M to \$1.730M, an increase of 7.5%. The table below highlights the growth in the Net Assets over the past 13 years.

Year Ended	Net Profit / (Loss)	Net Assets
31 Dec 2000	\$65,703	\$226,555
31 Dec 2001	\$45,088	\$271,643
31 Dec 2002	(\$21,055)	\$250,588
31 Dec 2003	\$126,099	\$376,687
31 Dec 2004	\$250,640	\$627,326
31 Dec 2005	\$169,272	\$796,598
31 Dec 2006	\$88,503	\$885,101
31 Dec 2007	\$155,706	\$1,040,807
31 Dec 2008	\$183,934	\$1,224,741
30 Jun 2010	(\$84,099)	\$1,140,642
30 Jun 2011	\$180,313	\$1,320,956
30 Jun 2012	\$289,133	\$1,610,089
30 Jun 2013	\$120,263	\$1,730,352

Insurance

The premiums for 2012-13 were only marginally different to 2011-12 with the exception of Public Liability Insurance Premium which increased by 3.76%. The table below sets out the comparative values for 2012-13 and 2011-12. All values are exclusive of GST.

	2012-13 Budget	2012-13 Actual	2011-12 Actual	%age Change
Class of Insurance				
Directors & Officers Liability	\$9,000	\$7,424	\$7,3920	.44%
Personal Accident/Professional Indemnity	\$54,000	\$40,304	\$41,222	(2.13%)
Public Liability	\$85,000	\$62,992	\$60,707	3.76%
Travel Insurance	\$3,000	\$1,825	\$2,038	(10.46%)
Equipment Insurance	\$80,000	\$55,051	\$55,527	(0.86%)
Sub-Total	\$231,000	\$167,635	\$166,886	0.45%
Brokerage	\$75,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	0.00%
Total	\$306,000	\$232,635	\$231,886	0.31%

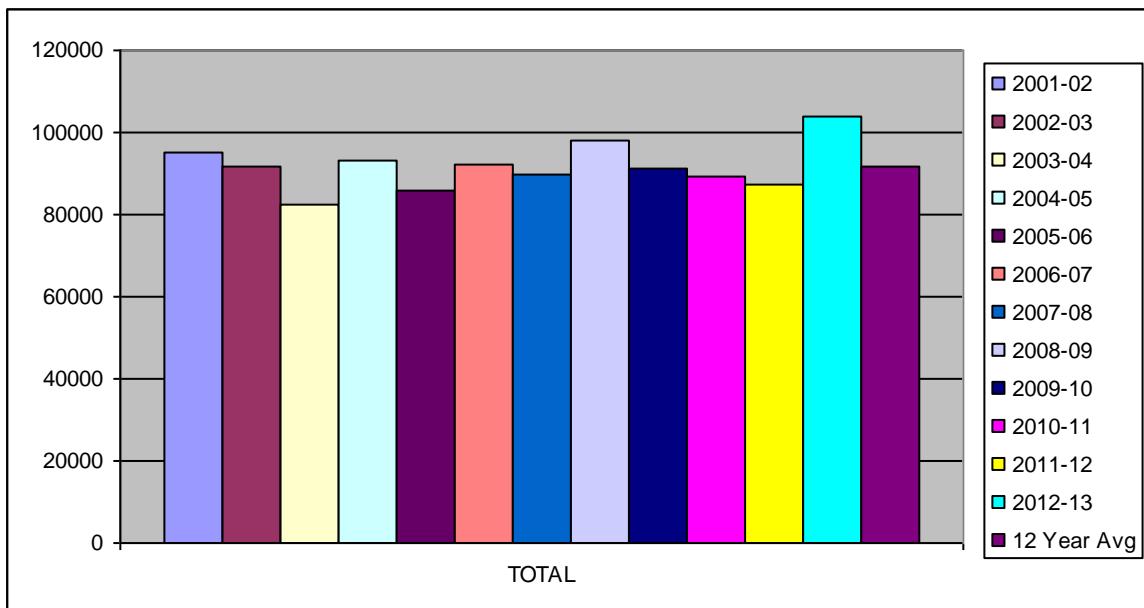
The insurance premium paid in October 2012 for the 2012-13 covers the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013. The proportion of the premium covering the period 1 July 2013 to 31 August 2013 was recognised as a prepayment in the accounts and will be brought to expenses in July 2013. The proportion of the premium covering the period 1 July 2012 to 31 August 2012 was recognised as a prepayment in the accounts last year and was be 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 October 2012, less the transfer of two months premium to prepayments from the 2012-13 payment.

Registrations

The following table shows the registrations by Association from 2001-2002 to 2012-2013, together with an average over the 12 year period. There was a decline in each of the three years since 2008-09 which was the last Olympic year, followed by a record year in 2012-2013 following the 2012 London Olympic Games. The four year average shows growth over each of the four year cycles:

Period	4 Year Average		%age Change	
2001-02 to 2004-05	90,601			
2005-06 to 2008-09	91,488		0.98%	
2009-10 to 2012-13	91,879		1.52%	
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
LAAC	3040	2875	2614	2849
LANSW	40200	39276	35900	41128
LAQLD	13217	12921	11150	13288
LASA	5637	6067	5576	5742
LATAS	2599	2561	2400	2717
LAVic	24859	22513	19931	21385
LAWA	5588	5503	4992	5877
TOTAL	95140	91716	82563	92986
	2005-06	2006-07		
LAAC	2414	2656		
LANSW	37451	39476		
LAQLD	11697	13121		
LASA	5789	6487		
LATAS	2454	2606		
LAVic	20194	21850		
LAWA	5827	6016		
TOTAL	85826	92212		

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	12 Year Avg
LAAC	2709	3227	2792	2942	2794	3451	2864
LANSW	38440	39779	37785	35918	35948	41278	38548
LAQLD	12926	13975	13092	12374	12362	16330	13038
LASA	6398	7338	6602	6621	6322	7943	6377
LATAS	2470	2701	2413	2433	2402	2661	2535
LAVic	20536	23244	21206	21206	19760	23083	21647
LAWA	6361	7809	7279	7613	7591	9316	6648
TOTAL	89840	98073	91169	89107	87179	104062	91657





**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS INC.**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Australian Little Athletics Inc. (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2013, the statement of financial performance for the year then ended and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Australian Little Athletics Inc. as at 30 June 2013 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

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 has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Hayes Knight Audit

Hayes Knight Audit Pty Ltd
Melbourne


Geoff S. Parker
Director

Dated this 13 day of July 2013

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Associated Offices : Adelaide | Auckland | Brisbane | Darwin | Melbourne | Perth | Sydney

**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 2013.

DIRECTORS

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

Dereck Ronald Fineberg	President
Edward John Fabian	Administration and Finance Director
Norman Charles Sanders	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 surplus of the Association for the year amounted to \$120,263.

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 28th day of July 2013

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

Last Year	Note
\$	\$
INCOME	
70	Affiliation Fees
Levies	
24,793	Australian Teams Championship Levy
250,716	Administration Levy
<u>273,509</u>	<u>22,278</u>
	<u>245,047</u>
	267,325
Commercial Activities	
20,482	Royalties
0	Donations/Raffle (Profit)
745	Merchandise
<u>21,227</u>	<u>8,797</u>
	<u>0</u>
	8,797
Sponsorship	
184,500	Sponsorship
0	Association Contribution to Sponsorship Servicing
<u>184,500</u>	<u>225,177</u>
	<u>0</u>
	225,177
Reimbursements	
683,679	Insurance Reimbursement
70,239	Ticket & Book Reimbursement
0	Website Rebate
<u>754,008</u>	<u>668,304</u>
	<u>60,000</u>
	<u>0</u>
	728,304
Other Income	
0	Protest Fees
2,712	Other Income
1,000	Roll of Excellence Dinner
0	Coaching Camp Contributions
70,643	Interest Received
<u>74,355</u>	<u>58,545</u>
	<u>52,139</u>
	120,685
1,307,668	1,350,358
TOTAL INCOME	

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

Last Year	Note	\$
		\$
		less EXPENDITURE
8,939		(23)
3,200		4,800
34,932		36,449
0		0
0		4,000
0		4,944
500		31,759
6,254		6,728
0		8,164
14		0
728		1,578
1,164		702
736		1,981
1,320		3,800
4,471		512
623		230
68		0
5,334		6,139
2,727		0
535		32
6,712		7,467
0		0
0		1,676
9		0
971		1,103
1,094		0
80,331		122,041
		Insurance
6,160		7,424
34,352		40,344
50,589		62,992
437		1,825
46,272		55,051
83,557		110,712
65,000		65,000
286,367		343,348
		Ticket & Book Costs
0		17,170
76,609		52,840
76,609		70,010
		Sponsorship/Projects
14,000		0
12,828		13,183
2,642		665
7,365		4,217
56,467		82,222
93,302		100,287

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013

Last Year	Note	\$	\$
MEETING/CONFERENCE EXPENSES			
20,582		Executive Meetings	15,312
9,030		Board of Management Meetings	20,732
17,620		Annual & Half Yearly Conferences	29,101
0		Review Committee	9,139
169		AT&FCA Meetings	1,702
5,273		ALA/AA Meetings	12,475
914		State Conferences	712
913		ALAC Inspection Meetings	509
<u>28,723</u>		LAA/AA Joint Venture	<u>27,806</u>
<u>83,224</u>			<u>117,487</u>
TRAVEL - OTHER			
<u>151</u>		Airfares, Accommodation, Meals and Other Expenses	<u>651</u>
<u>151</u>			<u>651</u>
Roll of Excellence			
<u>23,744</u>		Airfares, Accommodation, Dinner and Other Expenses	<u>15,151</u>
<u>23,744</u>			<u>15,151</u>
U14 Competition/Australia Cup			
474		Airfares	59,679
658		Other Travel Costs	1,672
498		Accommodation & Meals	39,375
300		Allowances	0
510		Other Costs	<u>15,439</u>
<u>2,440</u>			<u>116,165</u>
National Little Athletics Program in Schools			
100,000		Allocation to Associations	96,463
0		Equipment & Resources	2,942
<u>3,325</u>		Uniforms	<u>6,000</u>
<u>103,325</u>			<u>105,405</u>
Office			
200,161		Salary, Travel & Associated Costs	183,315
12,804		Motor Vehicle Usage, Parking & Tolls	10,074
29,132		Rent	27,278
3,341		Telephone	5,258
1,455		Electricity	2,010
19,500		Staff Recruitment Costs	0
0		Moving Expenses	2,449
<u>2,650</u>		Sundry Expenses	<u>9,166</u>
<u>269,043</u>			<u>239,550</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>1,018,535</u>	<u>1,230,095</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<u>289,133</u>	<u>120,263</u>

AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS Inc. (ACT)
SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2013

Last Year	Note		
\$	\$	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS			
24,619		ANZ Cheque Account	32,220
973,054		ANZ On Line Saver	1,064,476
42,974		ANZ V2 Account	44,035
581,351		Commonwealth Bank Term Deposit	606,009
		Proclaim Management Solutions - Equipment	
10,619		Trust Account	8,758
0		ANZ Business One Visa	0
200		Petty Cash	200
<u>1,632,818</u>		Total Cash on Hand	<u>1,755,698</u>
7,383		Security Deposits	200
4,400		Trade Debtors	20,090
35,971		Prepayments	44,460
<u>21,170</u>		GST Paid	<u>19,416</u>
<u>1,701,742</u>			<u>84,166</u>
			1,839,864
FIXED ASSETS			
56,164		Office Equipment at Cost	61,285
26,458		Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>33,186</u>
<u>31,946</u>		Motor Vehicle at cost	<u>31,946</u>
<u>11,095</u>		Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>15,005</u>
<u>50,557</u>		Total Fixed Assets	45,040
INVESTMENTS			
<u>1</u>		Shares	<u>1</u>
<u>1</u>		Total Investments	<u>1</u>
<u>1,752,300</u>		TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,884,905</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
0		Trade Creditors	0
2,526		PAYG Withholding Payable	3,468
0		ANZ Cheque Account	0
4,231		ANZ Business One Visa	1,092
24,825		Accrued Expenses	27,303
40,929		Provision - Employee Entitlements	13,975
60,250		Provision - Equipment Insurance	108,647
9,450		Provision - Equipment Grants	0
0		Suspense Account	70
<u>142,211</u>		TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>154,553</u>
<u>1,610,089</u>		NET ASSETS	<u>1,730,352</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
1,320,956		Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) Brought Forward	1,610,089
289,133		Surplus (Deficit) this period	120,263
<u>1,610,089</u>		TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	<u>1,730,352</u>

AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS Inc. (ACT)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013**

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 three months or less.

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).

AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS Inc. (ACT)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2013**

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 \$150,000 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 2012 and a provision of \$108,647 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 a balance of \$88,647 in unpaid claims identified by Proclaim Management Solutions plus a further contingency of \$20,000 for claims not yet identified. This amount is based on claims paid in 2012-13 for prior year claims.

For the insurance year ending 31st August 2013, a total of \$67,000 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".

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.



State Association Reports

Association Report

LAACT

In the ACT and region, we had a record number of registrations in 2012/2013. Our 3460 (up 24%) was above the national average increase. This reflected the traditional increase in an Olympic year but the size of the increase shows other factors were also at work. The Gala Day at the beginning of the season kicked off the season in style and attracted new members, according to our survey. The efforts made by centres to promote our sport to local communities was impressive. Most importantly, centres' efforts to improve the product we offer to members have started to pay off. In particular, every local and national survey shows that parents want (i) centre meets completed in around 90 minutes for U6-8 and two hours for U9-17 and (ii) athletes not to have long periods of waiting around between events. Achieving that has required some innovative thinking by centre committees but the numbers show it is working. Our challenge in the year ahead will be to build on what has already been achieved in order to retain the new members from last season. The quality of our product will continue to be the key.



ALAC 2013 was an outstanding achievement for our Association on a number of levels. I cannot praise enough the work done by our ALAC 2013 organising committee, over a period of nearly two years, to make the event the success that it was. This committee was a model of how sub-committees in volunteer organisations should work. Our volunteer officials and athlete runners also stepped up in huge numbers. Watching the officials at the 'dress rehearsal' at the ACT Championships and watching the officials and runners marching into the stadium at ALAC in their specially commissioned uniform were particular highlights of the season. The ACT government also came to the party by including ALAC 2013 as a Centenary event. Working with the Centenary team was another highlight.

Best of all, our athletes were simply magnificent. Every single athlete in the team achieved. ALAC 2013 was our best ever result at an ALAC: most medals ever, first time we won the Small States Trophy since 2008, first time ever we won the Alan Triscott Trophy. Our team managers, selectors and coaches planned our campaign beautifully. In particular, introducing an U13 squad from before Christmas for extra coaching and taking them away to Narooma to compete in Narooma's inaugural carnival (also an outstanding success!) reaped instant rewards. The benefits of what was initiated this season will leave a legacy for future seasons.

The Association recorded a better than forecast financial outcome, based on higher registrations than budgeted and additional sponsorship income. We are well placed to invest in the sport in the coming seasons. In particular, we cannot overstate the importance of our new sponsorship arrangements with Community CPS Credit Union (now Beyond Bank). They wanted to target their investment in an area where the money will do the most good and chose to support our volunteer coaches. As a result, we have been able to produce new publications and we have employed a new participation/development officer to help us improve the product on offer across the Association. They were also a pleasure to deal with.

We must also acknowledge our other longstanding local sponsors and supporters: the ACT Government, IGA, Canberra Southern Cross Club and The Athletes Foot. Without them, the sport would not be thriving.

Our priorities for next season will be to consolidate some of our achievements from last season in terms of quality of the product, the U13 squad and making sure our coaches and officials are well trained and have the resources they need to do their job.

Our new development officer will be paying special attention to supporting volunteers in our regional centres because we still need to do more to include them in Association discussions about how to improve our sport.

The installation of a synthetic track at Phillip Enclosed Oval will be a major priority for us in the coming season. In the short term, we need to work with Woden LAC to ensure they are best able to deal with moving out for a season. In the short and long term, we need to work with the ACT government to ensure that the new facility is the best it can possibly be for the benefit of the whole sporting community. The short and long term planning with Woden and the ACT government is already well under way.

We will work more closely with the ACT government to co-ordinate maintenance and improvement of facilities at ACT grounds. We also need to develop relationships with relevant NSW Councils to ensure our regional centres are also well served.

We still want to engage participation in our sport by culturally and linguistically diverse communities and the ACT government will help us with that.

We will continue to work to improve our relationships with existing sponsors and attract new sponsors. In particular, we will try to foster ongoing relationships with the sponsors who came on board to help us with ALAC.

There was a significant turnover on our board at the AGM this year. Phil Alchin (8 years), Margaret Lane (4 years) and Peter Boden (3 years) have done exceptional work in their portfolios over a long period and their experience, expertise and enthusiasm will be missed (especially by me). I thank them on behalf of the Association. Our board positions are all filled for 2013/2014 and the board has begun planning next season enthusiastically.

Tony Reilly
Chairman



Association Report

LANSW

It is a pleasure to provide my first report as President of Little Athletics NSW. We can reflect on a very significant year of achievement over the past season.

REGISTRATIONS

The 2012/13 season has been our most successful in registered competitors ever with a total of 41,623. This represents a 15.8% gain over the previous season and also eclipsed our previous 2004/05 season record.



It was also pleasing to see an increase in the number of centres promoting the online registration system as the preferred method of registration and subsequently an increase in the number of athletes registering via this means. We had approximately 12,300 athletes register and pay online, which shows an increase of 89% over the past 2 years. The number of athletes registering online and paying manually also continues to grow and now sits at over 20,000.

NEW CONSTITUTION & REGULATIONS

A postal ballot was conducted with the approval of the NSW Fair Trading, Director General, for the adoption of a new LANSW constitution. A total of 87% of the votes were in favour of acceptance of the new constitution, and therefore the resolution was passed. The adoption of this new constitution strengthens our governance arrangements and puts our centres at the forefront of our business model. A set of 12 regulations have also been endorsed by the board to underpin the constitution and provide the operational framework within which we operate.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year also saw the full realisation of our new 8 region championship structure with 4 metropolitan and 4 country regions. We also rolled out our new qualification regime from Region to State Championships which effectively saw up to 24 qualifiers in each event – 16 being automatic qualifiers by virtue of 1st and 2nd placings in each event of the Regional Championships, with a further 8 qualifying based on best remaining performances collectively across all 8 regions. As a result of the new structure, a total of 2,600 athletes qualified for the State Championships. This is the largest number of athletes ever to qualify for our pinnacle event.

We also introduced a fully-timed program at the State Championships for the first time and we were largely able to meet published event times throughout all 3 days so that we finished each day's competition around the scheduled time. This approach gives families more certainty of when their children are actually competing.

ONLINE OFFICIALS ASSESSMENT

The introduction of the online official's assessment program at the beginning of the season meant a significant increase in the number of officials obtaining accreditation at the D and C grade levels. A total of 1,269 C and D grade exams were passed during the 2012/13 season, which represents an increase of 122% on the previous year.

SPONSORSHIP & MARKETING

A key factor in our registration increase was the brilliant Little Athletics lift-out in the Daily Telegraph, courtesy of McDonald's. This 8-page lift out was exclusively about Little Athletics NSW and contained a mix of editorial, photographs and advertising. Thanks to McDonald's and to their public relations company PPR, who put the material together and coordinated the coverage with the Daily Telegraph.

In addition to our own regular regional TV advertising, LANSW also advertised in some local Sydney newspapers and in the Daily Telegraph Olympic Games editorial section.

A further factor assisting with the increase in membership is the reach of the LANSW school visit program. A total of 45,000 NSW school students, at 220 schools were contacted via the promotional school visit program. These visits were made by LANSW development staff on behalf of 69 Little Athletics centres. This remains one of our best marketing tools.

From a sponsorship perspective, our relationship with various partners continues to be strong. We are



lucky to have McDonald's and their public relations company, PPR, continually looking for ways to further assist LANSW and our centres in gaining media attention and promoting our sport. A few new initiatives, including a new television commercial, have been included this year to celebrate the 10th year of the partnership. McDonald's professional approach to providing maximum return for the partnership is unequalled.

Our relationship with The Athletes Foot continues to grow, largely due to the fact that it is now driven at the state level, enabling increased local opportunities and arrangements.

The only disappointing aspect of sponsorship is the partnership with IGA. We only have a 1 year agreement and the dollar return to LANSW is one-third less than the previous agreement.

FINANCIAL POSITION

The 2012/2013 financial year saw a significant growth in the financial position in the strength of LANSW and in the strength of net assets of the organisation. Income was \$383,491 or 19.6% above budget, mostly due to registrations being at the highest they have been for many years. Positive growth in income was also seen in coaching camps and clinics, sponsorship and interest generated from our investment policies.

Championships expenditure was above budget and needs to be reviewed as we settle in the new championship structure. The overall surplus was \$303,199.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The past season again saw a number of financial assistance programs offered to our members. Total funding across these programs was lower than last year at \$35,775, due to the lack of submissions for the Centre Grant Scheme. The individual support programs however continue to grow. Total funding was comprised of the following: \$5,775 to 23 athletes as part of the Country Athletes Support Program, providing financial assistance to talented young athletes from country areas of NSW to attend the State Championships; \$7,000 to 80 Little Athletes as part of the Athlete Assistance Program, helping with registration expenses; and \$23,000 for 9 centres via the Centre Grant Scheme, for equipment and facility upgrade.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK LEGISLATION

The new, online Working With Children Check commenced on 15 June 2013, however the new requirements are being phased-in over a 5-year period, according to industry sector. Sport is being phased in 2015. This means that only new paid personnel are required to complete the check until 2015 when it will be extended to volunteers and existing personnel.

As a result of the staggered phase-in, the LANSW board of management decided to implement its own declaration for volunteers, in the interim period until the 2015 commencement. In line with the new legislation, persons who do not have children participating in the Little Athletics activity at which they are volunteering are required to complete the declaration, as well as all volunteer and existing paid coaches, along with any other person assisting in a 'high risk' role.

In closing, I look forward to working with everyone again in the 2013/14 season to continue the great family sporting tradition that is Little Athletics, as we celebrate 50 years of this uniquely Australian developed children/young peoples' sporting icon.

Neil Sandall
President

Association Report

LAQLD

Registrations

Registrations for the 2013 Winter Season has increased slightly from last year at 1647 athletes.

Reports from the summer registrations for this season are extremely encouraging with most Centres reporting a similar number of registrations to last year so far.

We have 3 new affiliated Centres, Anakie, Tamborine Mountain and Charleville.



Competitions

The Winter Championships held in Townsville was open to non LAQ members and all Summer Centres. Numbers were up slightly on last year.

A Winter Coaching Camp was also held in the lead up to the competitions with 42 athletes attending over 2 days.

Athlete Development Programs

McDonald's All-Comers Clinics and Development Squads have been held successfully throughout the Winter season and at the end of the last Summer season. Numbers in both programs are up significantly with nearly the double the participants at 1223 athletes in the combined programs.

LAPS

The number of children reached through LAPS has increased dramatically. At last count we have had 31,155 participants through the program in 2013 which is almost double the number we reached last season. The cost of conducting the visits has also increased given additional coaches had to be employed.

Coaching Development

Thanks to the Medibank subsidy we put 280 coaches through an ITC Course last season. This is an increase of 192 extra coaches.

Sponsorship

IGA have indicated that they will not be sponsoring LAQ on an ongoing basis. They have agreed to continue for another 12 months in order to allow a phase out period of stock and promotional material.

McDonald's have indicated verbally they will be continuing for another 3 years.

Government Support

The State Government has opened its 3 year funding program. LAQ will be submitting a joint application with QA once again. The funding amounts available are similar to 3 years ago.

Joint LAQ and QA Activities

Dual registration is still being offered although QA is now charging \$15 instead of the membership being free. A full review of dual registration, affiliation and membership categories is to be undertaken before next season.

LAQ joint promoted the QA cross country season and there was moderate take up. A joint State Relays competition is again planned for later in the year.

Online Registrations

We have trialled Clubs Online at one of our summer Centres and will be making changes to the format prior to making it available to other Centres.

2013 Conference

The 2013 Conference was held at the Novotel Palm Cove near Cairns on the 15-16 June weekend. Attendance at the Conference was excellent and similar to the previous year's attendance on the Gold Coast. The feedback from the Conference has been very positive.



Healthy Centre Forums

LAQ with the help of Medibank has conducted 4 Healthy Centre Forums in our Winter Regions. The forums are open to all Centres within the Region to attend and include items of significance for each Region. The forums have been extremely well received. More Forums are planned for the summer Regions.

Tony Northey
President

Association Report

LASA

It is my pleasure to present on behalf of Little Athletics SA our report to the Annual General Meeting and Conference of Australian Little Athletics.



Administration

- Athlete Registrations for 2012/2013 were very healthy with a new record number of 8004 athletes. This was due to an increased interest of the public following the Olympic Games and also an improved retention rate of last season's athletes.
- The number of affiliated Centres and Clubs in South Australia is 59 this includes a new Centre established in Kingston SE and the Officials and Coaches Clubs who are affiliated and have voting rights.
- A trial of on-line registrations with IMG was carried out at one of our centres last season. Following a few teething issues and subsequent system changes we believe the system is ready to be placed into phase 2 of the implementation. This coming season will see 10 centres using the system as phase 2 of this trial; if successful it will be offered as an option for all centres in the 2014/2015 season.
- It was unfortunate that Steve Fairfield tendered his resignation as Deputy Chairman during the year due to increasing work commitments. Steve provided tremendous support of our organisation over many years; it was of great privilege to have served with him on the board. On the bright side this provided an opportunity for Iain Carlin to join the board as Deputy Chairman. Iain brings a wealth of knowledge to our board; I welcome him and look forward to working with him in support of our sport.

Education

- It is encouraging to see so many new Officials and Coaches being educated during the season. Congratulation to all attendees and a very big thank you to all of the presenters who volunteered their time.
- The schools development program is maintaining a presence within the school community and also remains one of our top marketing strategies. We were provided an increase of funding by LAA to enable us to promote our organisation to a greater number of school children this year. Well done and congratulations to Paul Townley on the large increase of student participation this year.
- Fifty athletes in the Under 13 age group were invited to join our Star Squad last season. This was done as a new initiative to encourage the development of athletes who are eligible for selection in the state team, providing them an opportunity to receive further coaching and information about the selection process. This proved to be a well worthwhile exercise with the participants achieving personal improvement. It also assisted our selectors greatly in being able to select our state team. The squad will be continued this season.

- The inaugural National Under 14 camp was held at the AIS in Canberra during October 2012. This was a very successful event which was heavily subsidised in funding by LAA. Our athletes are looking forward to this event this October as an Under 15 camp.

Sponsorship

- How fortunate are we having IGA as our major sponsor. The relationship we have is excellent. IGA have continued to financially support our Volunteer awards, it is very satisfying that we can continue to show appreciation to the most important part of our organisation (our volunteers). We are very thankful for the involvement of IGA with Little Athletics and look forward to further growing this relationship as we progress.
- South Australian Government through the Office for Recreation and Sport have been a tremendous supporter of our Association as they recognise we are the base for any sport young people may wish to pursue as well as a feeder to the sport of Athletics. We continue to work with them in promoting the many important Health and Safety messages, ensuring we have as many people actively participating or volunteering in the community. We are appreciative of the continued funding grant for our core business and growth opportunities.
- McDonalds have continued to be the sponsor of our winter Cross Country Program, State Cross Country Championship, Age Patch, Multi-Event Championships and Travel Grants for Country Athletes. They also promote our organisation with a very successful television advertising campaign prior to the season beginning.
- Last year we were fortunate to obtain a new sponsor in Beyond Bank. During the initial year of sponsorship I have been very pleased of how our two organisations have been working together in a mutual goal of providing support into the community.
- A big thank you to our National Sponsors:
 - Asics
 - Willis Insurance
 - IGA
 - Beyond bank.

On behalf of the 8004 athletes and their parents, we thank these Sponsors for their belief in our organisation.

General

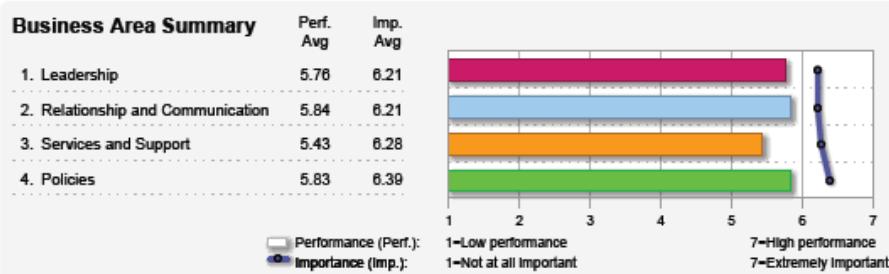
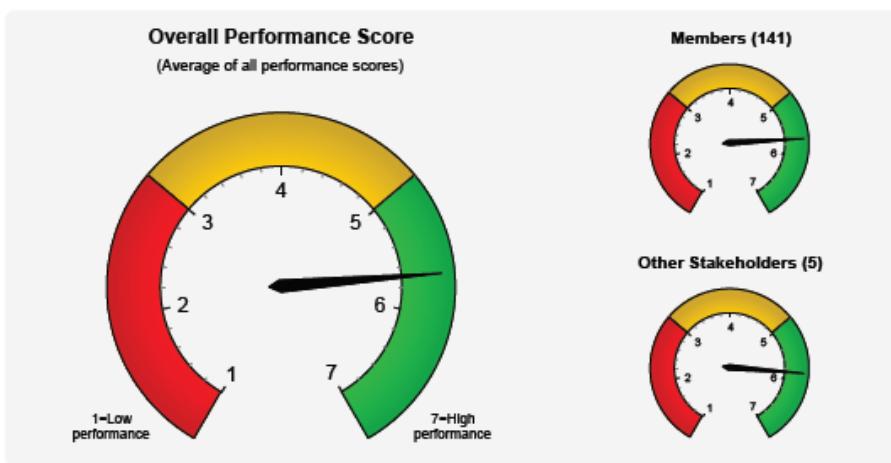
- The season began with a joint board meeting of Athletics SA and LASA. It is now very pleasing that communications between our organisations have improved greatly. I thank Tony Keynes (outgoing president ASA) for working with me in an effort to improve communications between our organisations. I look forward to working further with Joe Stevens (incoming president ASA) ensuring that our organisations continue working together ensuring minimal issues so that our sport continues to grow and prosper.
- Many of our Centres have again benefited from the Active Club Grants that are available twice a year. These grants are an excellent way of ensuring that our centres continue to have all of the equipment and facilities that are required to operate successfully. The ongoing support of these grants from the government is greatly appreciated.

- The upcoming season will be the 50th season of Little Athletics in Australia. From its humble beginning in Geelong, Victoria to the iconic Australian brand that it is today. It is very satisfying to be involved in such a wonderful organisation and we should look forward celebrating the success of our organisation and to make it even better in the future.
- Following our record breaking registration numbers in the 2012/2013 season our challenge now is to improve the retention rate this upcoming season. We are encouraging every centre to look at how they can retain their existing athletes and also promote their centre to increase numbers even further.
- The Office for Recreation and Sport conducted a 360° Review of all state sporting organisations. From the details provided an action plan will be produced to further improve our organisation. It was very pleasing to see the result of our survey in comparison to other sporting organisations. An overview is shown in the figures below.

Little Athletics SA - Performance Snapshot

Apr 2013

The graphs below show respondents' overall perception of Little Athletics SA's performance.



The graphs below show Little Athletics SA's overall performance scores compared to other medium SSOs and all other SSOs.



- The LASA Annual Conference was held in Port Augusta. It is the first time that we have held this event West of Adelaide and it was very encouraging to see the increase in the number of Centres represented and in particular the number of new delegates attending for the first time.

The program was jammed packed with worthwhile presentations and workshops. From the number of emails we have received the delegates certainly appreciated the opportunity. Guests Speakers covered Risk Management, the new Work Health & Safety Act 2012, Star Club, Keeping Children Safe in Recreation and Sport, Beyond Bank promoted the opportunities for centres. These together with Workshops on: Who meets and greets on Registration day; Who follows up the calls; How do you encourage volunteers; How do you communicate with members and parents; with many more topics workshopped.

At the Conference Dinner the IGA Volunteer Awards were presented to the five recipients, the winning ticket for a trip for two to New Zealand donated TAE was drawn. The theme was 'Go West to the Outback' the costumes were outstanding with great entertainment during the evening.

- It was with great sadness that our Executive Officer of the past 31 years, Pamela Fay Sard passed away on 19th August 2013. Pam dedicated her life to Little Athletics and will be sadly missed by all of us, her legacy of what she has done within our organisation will never be forgotten and will live on forever. Our thoughts are with her husband Brian and children Brenden & Scott during this difficult time. The Board of Directors are planning a memorial service to be held at Santos Stadium on Sunday 17th November 2013.
- We have been very fortunate that Brittany Winter has continued to show her dedication and support of our organisation in her full time position. Since the passing of Pam, and also Brian no longer working in the office, Brittany has stepped up and shown her true potential. From what she



has shown I am confident that one day she will follow in Pam's footsteps and become the Executive Officer of our organisation.

- Recruitment for a replacement Executive Officer has begun with a flood of applicants having remarkable qualifications and experience. Our organisation is very well regarded in the community which is highlighted by the level of candidates we have received. We are hopeful of employing the replacement candidate before the end of September.

I am sure the next 12 months are going to be very challenging for us with a number of changes within our organisation. With the passion and dedication of our Board of Directors, employees and volunteers I am positive of an excellent outcome and successful season.

We look forward to another challenging year of 'Family, Fun and Fitness' at grass roots level.

Scott Pitts
Managing Director

Association Report

LATAS

I am pleased to present my report for the 2012/2013 Season, and reflect on the past 12 months, recognising the efforts and dedication of so many that make Little Athletics a successful sporting option for over 2,660 young children in Tasmania.

During this season a number of initiatives have been undertaken and progressed as the Board continues to look at ways we can improve many areas of our Association.

These include:

- the continuation of the Regional Committees, although it is recognised that more work is required with this area;
- continuation of the ever increasingly popular under 12/13 Coaching Camp;
- successful Cross Country competition and championships;
- the continuation of the Little Athletic Regional Clinics and combined coaching clinics with Athletics Tasmania which have proved to be very popular;
- the implementation of online registrations, and a central database.



Online registrations went live at the beginning of season 2012/2013, and to say there were a few teething problems would be a slight understatement. Many hours were spent developing user friendly guides for Centres, at the same time learning how the program operated. The Board is committed to continuing to work with IMG to enable our members a quick and easy method of registering for the new season.

We welcomed to the Board Kendra Hey to the position of Competition Director. During October to March, this is one of the busiest portfolios on the Board, and I congratulate Kendra on the attention to detail in successfully organising our State Conducted Meetings. Unfortunately Kendra has resigned from the position due to time constraints.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship remained strong heading into the 2012/2013 season, with much valued support from the following:

- Aurora Energy
- McDonald's
- IGA Tasmania
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- Medalmania
- Zone3
- Robbie's Confectionery
- Southern Cross Television

Season 2012/2013 saw the end of our partnership with Aurora Energy, due to a pending merger with Transend. Aurora has been our longest and most recognised sponsor, giving support over the past 11 years. Their name was prominent on the athlete's name and age badge, championship medals and ribbons, and Aurora is well known as a supporter of Little Athletics.

Again this season, we saw Centres undertake fundraising for the Ronald McDonald House (RMH), and I sincerely thank those Centres who participated by holding a relayathon or other activity. Our State Team management and members attended the RMH on Easter Friday and was honoured to present the cheque to Penney Richardson, CEO OF RMH.

The three athletes who won the McDonald's prize draw last year – Ashlee Hey, Declan Kearns and Emma Summers, travelled to Sydney in October to undertake a training session with Little Athletics Ambassador,

John Steffensen. The coaching session was held at Olympic Stadium, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the athletes, and John himself. John took the athletes through many warm up drills, educated them on the importance of training, warm ups and stretching, and challenged them in the Long Jump. This year's prize winners – Amie Broad from NLWC and Declan Joyce from Circular Head, have both won a trip to Melbourne for a family of four which included airfares, accommodation, tickets to the MCG Museum and \$500 spending money.

Zone 3 provided our great registration bags which each registered athlete received, and also the many Zone 3 vouchers which Centres were presented with at the beginning of the season, and also those which were given out during our State meetings.

This year, and in addition to being a major sponsor and sponsor of our Coaching Clinics, we introduced the IGA Awards. These award covered several areas, Top Centre, State Officials Incentive, New Officials Incentive, Athlete Participation, Growth, Retention, and the IGA Docket Competition. We thank LAA for supporting the IGA Awards.

IGA give great support to our State as one of our principal sponsors, and sponsor for our combined LATAs and AT coaching clinics.

Registrations

Last season, Little Athletics Australia adopted a strategic goal to increase participation in little athletics throughout Australia. To assist its growth strategy, Little Athletics Australia sought to understand and appreciate the medium to long term demographics of state and regional locations to identify the greatest potential for growth, particularly in the age range 5-12 years of age.

As I reported last year, the report for Tasmania concluded as follows:

There is little significant opportunity for growth in Tasmania with the population ageing and the population of those aged 0-14 years decreasing slightly over time.

There is some growth in the Brighton and Kingborough regions although existing centres in these regions would be best focussed on expansion rather than any consideration for new centres as the expected increase in numbers will be small.

Maintaining current numbers of participants and arresting any decline would be a good outcome for Tasmania.

I also stated that the challenge for LATAs and Centres was to prove this report wrong, and it is extremely pleasing to report that we had an increase in registrations from 2,418 to 2,661.

The State retention rate was 71.84%. Our top two Centres in respect of retention recorded 77.55% and 71.45%.

Education

Little Athletics Coaching Clinics

We ran our fourth season of the Little Athletics Clinics, again combining with Athletics Tasmania. Unfortunately the weather was not kind, and the North West and Northern Clinics were cancelled. Great support is given to the clinics by Athletic Tasmania's Development Officer, Simon Bennett, and I thank him for the work he does in this area.

Coaching Courses were held throughout the season at various Centres. These were conducted by Wim Vaessen and Roger Hosie, and served as an introduction to Coaching for those parents simply wishing to have the skills and knowledge to assist at their local Centre each week.

Officials Courses were offered by Athletics Tasmania, conducted by Brian Roe. These were held in the North and South and attracted a large number of little athletic parents.

The LATAs Education Director made many Centre Visits during the season, offering assistance to parents and athletes.

Development

Symons Plains V8 Supercars

An invitation was received from the organisers of the V8 Supercars to set up a display over three days for a round of the 2013 V8 Supercar at Symonds Plains was received. An area in the 'Family Zone' was allocated for the display. The activities consisted of three running/hurdle lanes where your times were shown as recorded by an indicative speed camera. Off to one side we set up a turbo javelin - closest to the cone, activity with small prizes being given as a reward if the javelin hit the cone correctly.

13 Centre Volunteers assisted throughout the three days, and their assistance ensured that everyone was able to take time to enjoy the car racing. This forum was an excellent opportunity to pass on Little Athletics information to the many schools who visited on the first day of the program.

Explore Their Sporting Potential

Explore Their Potential are open days whereby sporting organisations have the opportunity of showcasing their sport to children with disabilities and their families, and highlight the inclusivity of the sport. LATAs was invited to participate in two sessions in the south of the State, and a third session in the North. LATAs President, Development Officer, and Centre member Brett Johnstone, attended. Activities included 'soft shot-put'; hurdles, running and co-ordination activities. Parents and carers were provided with a "goodie bag" which included a copy of the Association's Inclusion Policy, with some unaware that the sport organisation catered for all. It was a very rewarding experience to attend these open days, and we look forward to welcoming any new disabled athletes along in the new season.

LAPS

With the passing of our former LAPS Presenter, the Association's ability to visit the large number of schools as in previous years, was lessened. However, with two new presenters on board, the program was introduced to schools statewide. With two, now experienced presenters, we aim to increase the number of school visits heading into season 2013/2014.



Centres

Much focus was given to several of our Centres who specifically requested additional, one on one coaching and support. Regional Committee Meetings continued during the season. These forums present the opportunity for Centres to discuss any areas of concern in a less formal atmosphere than State Conference, finalise state meeting responsibilities, and importantly network and liaise with members from other Centres.

State Conducted Meetings

A very successful season of state conducted meetings with all State and Regional meetings being well attended. Our Championship Events – Multi-Events, Relays, and our State Individual Championships attracted above average entries, and it was a credit to all our officials that the events ran smoothly, and to time.

Mentoring Program

A mentoring program was introduced as part of the Associations' IGA Award System. This program was designed to give officials the support and confidence to have a go at officiating at state meets without being thrown in the "deep end". It was also the starting point of assessing the standard of officiating before being able to be accredited as a 'C' Grade Official.

The mentors selected had many years of experience between them. Some are getting to the end of their time in little athletics and will take that knowledge and experience with them when they leave. This program allowed new parents the opportunity to tap into some of that knowledge and learn from them. Mentors also acted as a support and/or backup for parents who may be officiating at a centre level but lack the confidence or have not had the opportunity to officiate at a state meet. The mentor was there to guide,

assist and correct any problems along the way. The improved skills and knowledge could then be taken back to a centre level and passed onto other new parents.

As a result of the mentoring program, the Association gained 32 new C Grade Officials.

Finances

Little Athletics Tasmania remains financially strong, due in the main to our strong sponsorship support, and the support of our hundreds of valued volunteers who do such a magnificent job at their local Centre, and within their local community. With the loss of Aurora Energy as a major sponsor, Little Athletics Tasmania will review registration costs heading into the new financial year.

I remain proud to be a part of this great sporting organisation and I thank my fellow board members for your valued support and input over the past twelve months. As a Board, we work together as a team to provide this great sport to our communities, and I thank again, the many volunteers, officials and coaches who freely give up their time.

Rhonda O'Sign

President

Association Report

LAVIC

It is with great pleasure I provide the following report on activities, events and administrative matters here in Victoria. It is fitting that this conference is being hosted in Geelong, the original home of Little Athletics, as we lead into our 50th Anniversary year. I welcome all LAA Board members and their respective partners to our state for the weekend. In support of the Roll of Excellence dinner all LAVic Board, Staff and our 50th Anniversary Committee members have been invited, with Victoria taking three tables. On Sunday 20th Oct we will be hosting an Open Day and our inaugural Region Challenge at Landy Field to kick off our year of celebrations.



On a sad note, Victoria passes our heartfelt condolences following the loss of a truly loved one, Pam Sard, an inspirational administrator for Little Athletics South Australia. Our thoughts are with Pam's wonderful family. We are also saddened following the passing of Victorian Life Governors John Treanor (1984) and Max McLennan (1977 – received Life Governorship just after Trevor Billingham and Alan Triscott).

Our office and our centres are finalising preparations for the commencement of the new season. Our on-line registration portal is now been opened and registrations are rolling in, in line with expectations. Whilst we anticipate a small decline in registrations, following a stellar year on the back of the London Olympics, we feel we are in a good position to leverage on our marketing efforts as well as the recent media attention around our McDonald's sponsorship. A ¼ page add also listed in "Melbourne Child" – a monthly publication distributed through the kindergarten network to over 300,000 families. LAPS are now being conducted all year round and are successfully being marketed through School Sports Victoria.

We are continuing our financial incentive scheme with our centres with positive results. Linking the incentive to a number of important administrative activities has certainly seen improvements in both compliance as well as cash flow for the association.

On the sponsorship front, Victoria lost IGA as a major sponsor after a three year association. With no replacement at this stage much of the IGA branding, ie: chest patches, etc, will be replaced with our 50th Anniversary logo, further promoting this significant milestone.

Following the success of our merchandise sales at State events in recent years, in early October we will be commencing an on-line shop offering a great range of clothing, footwear and athletic merchandise to our wider community. Management of the shop is being outsourced through a mail house distribution centre in order to minimise the impact of office staff.

With a high focus on potential merger talks, it is disappointing to report a recent newsletter from Athletics Victoria's President was sent to their Centres, coaches and others, purporting the merger to be a completed deal with minor details to be finalised in the next 12 months. These sorts of message serve little purpose towards constructive negotiations. AV and LAV do have a number of successfully shared processes, events and activities all to the mutual benefit of athletes, officials, coaches and staff and whilst the two associations are operating out of a shared office environment, these initiatives were not driven to streamline any potential merger.

In December (Thurs 12th), Athletics Victoria will once again be hosting Zatopek at Lakeside Stadium. LAVic will be participating in three events on the night – U15 1500m, Victoria's Fastest Kid (invitational event only) and a combined Little A's / Seniors Club Relay (2xU9, 2xU14, 2xOpen Age). These events further strengthen the ties between our associations and certainly promote the transition path for athletes.

The AV / LAV Victorian Officials club is progressing well. Combined courses and accreditation is improving the availability of officials at both associations' events. We are currently rolling out a series of Officials Seminars across each of our regions with an expectation of each of our centres to send along a minimum of 1 resource. These seminars will go a long way towards standardising practices at a centre level in terms of combining rules with practical applications for all Track & Field events, along with the important aspects of safety, venue set up, recording results and handling equipment.

Centrefest and AGM were conducted the same weekend as LAA's last Board Meeting. Three new directors were elected to office:

Myself - President,
Graham Wood - Membership Development and
Alex Newman, IT (new position).

83 out of 103 Centres were in attendance at the AGM and 200 people in attendance at the Gala Dinner. We also have three new staff members:

Jennifer Chan, Competition & Events Manager (replacing Matt Collister who is advancing his career with a role with the AFL),
Chris Lonergan, Communication & Brand Management Coordinator (new role) and
our reception role is being resourced by "Just Mums" recruitment agency

Steve Ryan
President



Association Report

LAWA

This has been a big year for Little Athletics WA. We have seen many changes and new initiatives as well as a bumper year of registrations. We took the opportunity to look at the Structure, functions and Succession of the Board. Following a facilitated review we have started the process of reviewing our constitution and setting out a strategic plan.

We have had a complete change in staff in the office with the employment of a new Executive officer Samya Monaco just before the start of the season, by October we had a new Administration Officer Tracey Robinson as well as a casual administration assistant Leanne Germaine and a bookkeeper Karen Pryce.



All these new additions to the office coupled with the Development officer Abid Imam has led to the redirection of the office and the administration of the association. It was a difficult year with a steep learning curve for all but they have handled it with aplomb.

We have initiated a new online Registration system this season through Timing Solutions, this went live for all our centres, and with limited preparation and training raised a few issues for many centres. This has been worked on through the season and the process has been streamlined and more training has been given for all the centres leading up to registration day this coming season. Along with the online registration system we introduced a new competition program, also through Timing solutions which has worked well this season.

Sponsorship

We have been fortunate to have good Community Partnerships and we are thankful to one of our major sponsors McDonalds, who through their ongoing support we were able to provide registration information in the form of tray mats in all WA McDonalds stores.

This season we embarked on a new advertising campaign with radio advertising on all major metro and regional radio stations prime drive time advertising our registration day, the result was an increased awareness and interest in our sport. Their support of our State Championships should not be underestimated and this season we saw increased numbers across the board participate in this event. Their support of our International and State teams was also commendable, allowing us to enhance the experience for our developing athletes.

We were pleased to also announce a new partnership this season with United Community; this was part of a national sponsorship arrangement that benefited WA immensely, allowing us to enhance our coaching and officiating programs throughout the state. The local state branch of United Community embraced the WA Little Athletics Community across the state with genuine interest and enthusiasm, as was seen at many of our centres throughout the season.

The ongoing relationship between United Community in WA and Little Athletics WA has led to a new sponsorship arrangement for next season in the form of Beyond Bank State Relay Championships. This is a partnership we are looking forward to developing and we are grateful, for the opportunities it will afford us as an association to develop our officials and coaches.

Community Council of WA

We have continued to build our relationship with our senior athletic partners, Athletics WA, through the Community Athletics Council of WA. This council was formed to bring both arms of the sport together, to work in mutually beneficial areas. We have seen this relationship continue to evolve and strengthen over this season and with the Australian Sports Commission Funding through the Department of sport and recreation(DSR), we have been able to employ 3 members of staff to work across both organisations, in the areas of coaching, officiating and club development. We continue to strive for improved communication and a transition pathway for our junior athletes through to seniors, as the main aim of this Council, and to encourage greater participation across the board, within the sport of athletics.

Fundraising

An area we are most proud of is our fundraising efforts for our state children's hospital (Princess Margaret), who through our fundraising efforts over the last 15 years, we have raised more than \$150,000 for. All monies raised go to the PMH foundation which allocates funds to worthy projects within the hospital.

Currently, our fundraising efforts help to support the Artist in Residence Program providing long and short term projects, for children aged 5-18 years. Some of the long term patients embark on design and 3D art projects, whilst some short term patients use the art therapy as a distraction from their treatment. This season through the participating centres, Little Athletics WA raised over \$22,000 for this worthy cause, we are proud to say that our athletes, who are generally fit and well, are assisting to make the lives of those less fortunate, better, with kids helping kids PMH day.

Administration and Development of Centres

As many of our centres have been transitioning to new committees, it has been important that we provide them with solid education and structures, by which they can operate. Many centres have experienced conflict situations this season so education and training in this area has been provided to support them, we have also introduced new Cyber Safety awareness programs for the all our teams and will be looking to introduce new code of behaviour policies for next season for travelling teams.

Finance

This season saw the introduction of a book keeper to assist the Executive Officer in the delivery of the financial accounts. We restructured the accounts through MYOB and streamlined the reporting system. Many thanks to Karen for her work in setting this system up.

Registrar

This season has been a massive one for WA, in terms of registrations, with the largest in our history. We saw a 20% increase in numbers, to 9,476 this can be largely attributed to the Olympic factor, the successful McDonalds advertising campaign and also the increased population growth in WA. The online registration process was introduced, and we would like to thank all our centres for their patience and diligence with the process in its first year, with all the teething problems. The hope is that through streamlining the process of registrations we can alleviate some of the workload on the centres and the Association staff.

Competition and Special Events

We trialled a new state event this season for our junior athletes, based on fun and participation, the aim was to expose our junior athletes to the State Athletics Stadium in a fun environment. This was a very well attended event, affording our youngest athletes to experience the stadium and their parents the opportunity to see first-hand the role of officials at a state event. This event was an overwhelming success and has now been added to our state event calendar, for the 2013/14 season. Our other state events, this season, were well attended and some outstanding results were achieved.

Due to our large numbers and our limited space at the stadium, we have set up a state Technical Committee to look at all our aspects for state events. This has been a consultative process with our centres and their involvement and ideas have been well received. And changes and adaptations are being made.

Officials Accreditation and Education

Through funding from DSR we were able to employ a member of staff to work on Officials Recruitment and Accreditation, and are pleased to welcome aboard Marion Buchanan to this role. Marion has worked tirelessly in her short tenure to engage with centres to improve their officiating knowledge and skills. With funding through United Community we have also been able to provide more officiating information and literature for our existing officials and provide more clinics to help develop more officials for state run events and centre competitions.

Through the accreditation process we have accredited number 224 level Ds, 47 level Cs and 1 level B officials. The office has worked tirelessly to streamline the accreditation process. With more sponsorship again for next season, through Beyond Bank, we have more plans to improve education and training for officials throughout the metro and regional areas of WA.

Parent Coaching, Accreditation and Education

This season we have had a continued program of education across metro and regional WA, this was enhanced by the United Community sponsorship allowing us to deliver improved programs, literature and expose our coaches to better and more experienced trainers.

With Beyond Bank continuing its support next season, we intend to reach more remote and regional areas in WA.



Development Officer WA Little Athletics

This season has seen an increased diversification of this role, from delivering the Little Athletics Program for Schools to co-ordinating it, training and managing LAPS Officers throughout the Metro region. This program was also delivered in the Northwest remote region of Karratha, Port Headland and Broome. This program was also introduced through the Department Sport and Recreation to the Active after School Officers to deliver and introduction to Little Athletics to its students. It was well received and has proved to be very successful.

Another component to this role has been the partnership with Inclusion WA which is an organisation that provides opportunities for children with special needs. We have run several programs to allow children of all backgrounds and needs to experience Little Athletics in a short program format. The demand for these clinics is growing and will be looked at more closely for the upcoming season. With the bumper numbers this season, the one area to be addressed is that of facilities and resources.

We're currently exploring the opportunity of establishing new centres within the metro area and also in the outer suburbs which are fast developing.

As part of our ongoing exposure in the community, we have embarked on the School Ambassadors Program, training teachers to deliver Little Athletics at schools. Whilst this program is delivered predominately at primary schools it is also being requested at many middle schools and some high schools, and the plan is to take this program to the regional areas in the new season.

Our Continued work with Inclusion WA allows us to expose children to the sport of athletics regardless of their needs. This program is proving to be hugely popular and the demand is growing throughout the metro area. This will be an area for expansion in the future.

Athlete Development

A successful year was achieved in this area with increased participation in all our Development clinics and Squads. Our U12 Development Squad from 2011 produced 9 of our state team members who took part at

the ALA Championships in Canberra. One area which has been identified for development is that of athletes with special needs, and education and training will be provided for these athletes in the new season. The development of our Multi event athletes proved successful with our results at the ALA Championships this year. Our International team who competed in Kuala Lumpur this season did exceptionally well and this is attributed to continued improvement through coaching and development.

In conclusion, whilst at times this season has presented us with many challenges it has also provided us with opportunities to reflect and review what we do in the delivery of our sport.

Our aim is always for continuous improvement and better participation. To do that we need to acknowledge the hard work of our Office staff our Board off Management for their generosity of skill, expertise and humour and to their families for so generously sharing them with us. To our Centre executive committees across the state for the grassroots provision of our sport for the commitment and grace with which they deliver it. To the officials and coaches who make the difference each week by generously giving their time, and expertise for the athletes and parents. To the parents and families for all their efforts to support the sport, participate in its delivery and for encouraging all our athletes. And finally to our athletes for their commitment and their willingness to embrace the ethos of family fun and fitness and for being your best.

Rob Crockett
Chairman

Be Your Best





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