



# AUCKLAND CITY ATHLETICS CLUB

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2021

The Annual General Meeting of the Auckland City Athletics Club for the year ended 31 March 2021 was held at 7.30pm, Tuesday 23 November, online via Zoom.

- 1. Quorum.** Andrew Pirie confirmed a quorum of Members was present.
- 2. Apologies.** Apologies were noted from Luke McCallum, Brandon Allen and Margie Peat. Paul Craddock was initially an apology but joined later in the meeting.
- 3. Minutes of 2020 AGM.** The Minutes of the 2020 AGM, held on 10 February 2021, were approved. *Moved: Simon Yarrow; Seconded: Sue Potter.*
- 4. President's Annual Report and reports from Winter and Summer sub-committees.** The reports (as appended) were received and accepted. *Moved: Andrew Pirie; Seconded: Sue Potter.*
- 5. Annual Financial Statements and Treasurer's Report.** The financial statements were approved and the Treasurer's report (as appended) was accepted. *Moved: Sue Potter; Seconded: Barry Magee.*
- 6. Amendment to Club Constitution.** A proposed amendment to the Club's Constitution, increasing the maximum number of people on the Executive Committee from 10 to 12, was approved unanimously. *Moved: Andrew Pirie; Seconded: Phil Clode.*
- 7. Election of Officers.**
  - President:** Simon Yarrow was re-elected unopposed. *Moved: Andrew Pirie; Seconded: Dianne Craddock.*
  - Treasurer:** Andrew Pirie was re-elected unopposed. *Moved: Sue Potter; Seconded: Phil Clode.*
  - Summer Committee Chair:** Sue Potter was re-elected unopposed. Sue indicated the current 2021/22 summer season would likely be her last. *Moved: Dianne Craddock; Seconded: Simon Yarrow.*
  - Winter Committee Chair:** Vacant, as Andrew Pirie is wanting to step aside to focus on his Treasurer role (this will be determined by incoming Executive Committee).
  - Other Executive Committee members:** Paul Craddock, Dianne Craddock and Phil Clode were all re-elected. Sarah Renshaw, Grace Wood, Luke McCallum, Brandon Allen and Tim Lindsay were all elected as new Committee members.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8.25pm.



## ACA President's Report

The 2020.21 season was a challenging one for the club thanks to COVID that interrupted a number of our initiatives and inhibited our ability for members to compete at various times during the season. Despite this we were still able to invest resources into a number of different areas to improve our offer to members.

### Member Communication

We have put in significant effort into improving our communication to members including an improved and expanded [website](#); monthly [newsletter](#) to almost 500 folks on our database; and increased [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#) activity. This has led to better engagement with our members and wider community.

### Coaching

[The Central Hub](#) coaching initiative for 12-14 years old has continued to expand so we now offer this year round, across all four terms and even a 10 week block across the summer holidays. Big thanks to our junior club partners Ellerslie, Roskill South, Pt Chevalier, Hillsborough and Eastern Junior clubs; and coaches Phil Clode (distance); and Ignacio Pena & Bailey Stewart (sprints).

We often have schools interacting with the club, mainly through our Wed Track & Field club nights. We have developed a good relationship with some of these schools, especially Dilworth, who pay for regular coaching and a number of their students have joined the club. Unfortunately COVID did have an impact on our ability to expand this relationship with more schools..

We have also worked hard to expand the number and diversity of our [coaches](#) so that we now have 13 coaches across different specialities

### Club Logo and Apparel

After a thorough redesign process we were super excited to launch our new logo and [club apparel](#) With kids, women and men singlets, shorts, t-shirts, hoodies and caps we believe we have the widest range and best designed in the country. Member response to this new logo and gear has been overwhelmingly positive

### Events

This was the toughest area for the club, mainly thanks to COVID disruptions. For example, despite the huge amount of work by our Treasurer Andrew Pirie to successfully obtain funding we were not able to send teams to National Road Relays due to travel restrictions.

This event area is one with the most opportunity for our club to attract new members. Our event calendar has been fixed for a number of years, some of which does not attract significant member interest. The challenge is for us to come up with new formats that resonate with more members in what is already an overcrowded calendar.

### Thanks to our supporters

Finally just a short note to say thanks to Athletics Auckland and Athletics NZ for their support, not to mention all our tireless administrators, officials, coaches and volunteers. Also a big shout out to the ACA committees. Thanks to all of you for your support.

**SIMON YARROW**



## ACA TRACK & FIELD SEASON 2020-21

ACA ran 18 Wednesday night Club Competitions during the 2020-21 SUMMER season. As part of an open invitation we had young athletes from the Central HUB (Eastern, Ellerslie, Hillsborough, Pt. Chevalier & Roskill South Junior Clubs) training and competing on some of the Club nights. At various times we also had Dilworth, Westlake, Baradene, St Cuthberts, MAGS and AGS school athletes swelling the ranks of Club night competitions.

ACA athletes performed well at the 2021 Auckland T&F Championships, bringing home 27 individual Gold medals, 10 Silvers and 5 Bronze medals. This compared with 20 Gold medals, 13 Silver and 6 Bronze in the 2021 Auckland Champs.

At the **2021 NZ Track & Field Championships in Hastings** there were a number of fine medal performances by ACA athletes - 2 individual Golds, 6 Silvers and 1 Bronze. Six athletes won relay medals.

**Bella Browne** was a double-medallist with a Gold in the WU20 1500m and Bronze in the WU20 5000m.

**Josh Hawkins** won the SM 110 Hurdles with Tom Moloney getting the silver medal in the same event.

Six ACA athletes won silver medals at the Nationals. As well as **Tom Moloney's** Silver making it 1-2 in the SM sprint Hurdles, **Penelope Salmon's** silver in the WU20 1500m also made it 1-2 for ACA in that event. Also winning silver Silvers were **Chloe Browne** in the WU20 5000m, **Maiya Christini** in the SW 5000m, **Dominic Devlin** in the SM 800m and **Scott Thomson** in the Triple Jump.

**Isabel Allen** was a double medallist with a Gold in the Auckland WU20 4x100m and a Silver in the WU20 4x400m relay Teams. Her 4x400m Team was entirely made up of ACA athletes: **Isabel, Joanna Poland, Kimberley May and Macey Hilton**.

**Abhijeet Parmar** won a gold-medal in the Auckland MU20 4x400m relay team.

**SUE POTTER**



## ACA CROSS COUNTRY AND ROAD SEASON 2021

Unfortunately, this report is mostly just on Cross Country as almost all of the Auckland and national road running season was wiped up due to the latest COVID lockdown. This included our annual trip to the NZ Road Relay Championships.

During the year the Club held two club only events – the **King of the Mountain** run up and down Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill) and the **Ian Hay Memorial Pairs** – as well as hosting two events open to all clubs around Auckland – the **ACA / Southland Relays** at Sacred Heart College and the **ACA Pairs Relays** at Cornwall Park. These events were well received and enjoyed by all those who attended; a huge thanks to all those across the Club who volunteered to make them a success.

One of the ongoing challenges we face as a club is a congested winter schedule of regional, national and secondary school events. While this means there are plenty of events for competitive elite athletes, it means it is difficult to find good spots in the calendar for club events of a more social nature. It also means many of our stronger athletes choose to bypass these club events as they focus on their training and competition, which weakens attendance by ACA athletes at our own events. While it will always be difficult getting the right balance between social and competitive running, putting on events takes a lot of effort by our volunteers, so we want to make sure we are meeting the needs of members in doing so. The Committee is keen to get input from all Club members about what sort of events we should look to organise over the winter season.

Within Auckland, a solid contingent of ACA athletes participated in the five winter cross country events that made up the **Athletics Auckland Grand Prix**, with points awarded for consistent performances across the series. Congratulations to **Louay Benaoum** ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Boys U12, **Jono Jackson** 1<sup>st</sup> in Senior Men, **Grace Wood** 2<sup>nd</sup> in Senior Women, **Margie Peat** 2<sup>nd</sup> in Womens 60+, **Chris Robb** 3<sup>rd</sup> in Mens 45+, **Scarlett Robb** 4<sup>th</sup> in Girls U14, and **Ben Worrall** 4<sup>th</sup> in Boys U14.

The pinnacle event of the Grand Prix series was the **Auckland Cross Country Championships**, where several ACA athletes performed creditably: **Louay Benaoum** (1<sup>st</sup> Boys U12), **Quinn Moss** (1<sup>st</sup> Boys U14), **Sophie Robb** (2<sup>nd</sup> Women U16), **Jono Jackson** (2<sup>nd</sup> Senior Mens), **William Johnston** (2<sup>nd</sup> Men U18), **Macey Hilton** (2<sup>nd</sup> Women U20), **Glenn Wright** (2<sup>nd</sup> Men 55+), **Margie Peat** (2<sup>nd</sup> Women 60+), **Jack Erickson** (2<sup>nd</sup> Men U16), **Scarlett Robb** (3<sup>rd</sup> Girls U14), and **Chris Robb** (3<sup>rd</sup> Men 45+).

ACA athletes also had a strong year on the national stage. In April at the **NZ Mountain Running Championships** in Queenstown, **Jono Jackson** (Senior Men), **Peyton Leigh** (Women U20) and **David Clark** (Men 50+) all won gold in their events, with **Brett Laurent** (Men 50+) picking up bronze.

At the **NZ Cross Country Championships** in Dunedin, our younger athletes performed outstandingly. **Jack Erickson** won Mens U16, **Scarlett Robb** was 2<sup>nd</sup> in Girls U14, **Sophie Robb** 3<sup>rd</sup> in Women U16, and **William Johnston** 4<sup>th</sup> in Mens U18. In the Women's U20 race, ACA athletes took five places in the top 10: **Chloe Browne** 2<sup>nd</sup>, **Penelope Salmon** 3<sup>rd</sup>, **Bella Browne** 4<sup>th</sup>, **Kimberley May** 6<sup>th</sup> and **Peyton Leigh** 10<sup>th</sup>. **Margie Peat** did well for our Masters athletes by winning her Womens 65+ race.

At the **North Island Cross Country Champs** in Taupo, **Scarlett Robb** (Girls U14) and **Louay Benaoum** (Boys U12) both won, while ACA had a very strong showing in the Women U20 race with **Penelope Salmon** 2<sup>nd</sup>, **Kimberley May** 3<sup>rd</sup> and **Peyton Leigh** 4<sup>th</sup>. **Richard Conyngham** came 3<sup>rd</sup> in Mens 50+.

**ANDREW PIRIE**



## Treasurer's Report

### Financial overview for the 2020/21 year

The Club's financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 show a net surplus of \$8,326.30 in the year, compared with a deficit of \$9,326.29 in the previous financial year. The key differences were:

- The success of fundraising for the 2020 NZ Road Relays trip, which meant we did not need to dip into Club reserves.
- The various user-pays coaching initiatives the Club is now running, including the Central Hub coaching, ended the year in a slight surplus, mostly due to the Club receiving an Athletics NZ grant to set up the Central Hub coaching.

The Club ended the year with almost \$83,000 in its bank accounts.

### Financial overview year to date for 2021/22

In the current financial year, we are currently running at a year-to-date deficit of just over \$5000. This is not unexpected and primarily reflects one-off cost associated with the Club rebranding – including the new tent and banners, giveaways of t-shirts or caps with gear orders, and providing all our coaches with a free hoodie or jacket.

Our bank balances have also dropped significantly, to just over \$63,000. As well as reflecting the year-to-date deficit, we have had to outlay approx. \$12,000 cash to buy new uniforms and leisure gear, which is treated as inventory until we sell to members.

### Membership

We finished the 2020/21 year with 118 financial members. This is significantly lower than the 147 members we had in the previous financial year. This was mainly due to a drop off in 7-14 year old juniors who joined for the winter cross country season – just 15 in 2020 vs 36 in 2019. This is mostly due to the impact of COVID particularly the April/May 2020 COVID lockdown.

As of 17 November 2021, we have 112 financial members in the current year. Unfortunately, the current lockdown has had a negative impact on athletes joining for the summer athletics season. So far this year, we have had just 15 new members since September – normally by now we have at least 30 more joining. Enrolments seem to be beginning to pick up again now so hopefully we will improve once the COVID restrictions ease.

It is also relevant to note that these membership numbers do not include everyone participating in our junior programmes, such as the successful Central Hub initiative. The vast majority of the non-ACA kids involved are registered with one of the five junior clubs within the Central Hub area.

**ANDREW PIRIE**