

Board Update November 2014

The Board met on the 28 November for its last board meeting of the year. For the first time I was unable to attend in person due to a travel restricting injury but joined by audio conference.

There were a number of key items on the agenda - the ongoing discussion with regards to the proposed levy change and finalisation of strategic initiatives for the next planning cycle.

Levy Review

The closing date for feedback on the proposed change did not close until 5 December. Feedback to date was reviewed and at that time a number of Centres had not provided feedback. The board had a wide ranging discussion around the feedback and how this might affect the proposal and the fee charges as had been circulated. Whilst there was varying feedback around various topics, it is clear that there is support to change the current model. The broad based fee is welcomed albeit with a range of perspectives around the cost.

It was further agreed that there would need to be comprehensive communication plan following the board decision. The Board will meet by audio conference on 14 December once it receives the Rules Committee recommendation on the proposed by-law change and a summary of all the feedback.

Strategic Plan

There was considerable discussion around identifying a product/new or existing event/unique selling proposition that could increase revenues. This has been a strategic initiative for some time, but has not been delivered on with the focus going on sponsorship and funding opportunities which are not necessarily self-sustaining.

It was agreed that recommendation, along with supporting business case, research and rationale was to be presented to the Board by 30 June 2015.

During the course of the discussion, the need to revise an existing and introduce a new Strategic Outcome was recognised. It was agreed that there should be some strategic initiatives for developing athletes that sit outside of the HP elite programme that is funded through HSPNZ. The CE and HP Director will consider what these might be and what resources would be required to support these.

It was agreed to develop a new five-year Strategic Plan in 2016 to take effect from 1 April 2017. It was felt that 2016 was most appropriate as the outcome from the levy change will be known during 2015 and 2016; the number of medals achieved in Rio will impact on the High Performance area and will determine whether Athletics is a multi-medal winning sport and the impact the new Sport NZ Community Strategic Plan has on our Community Department. Time will be set aside in the Annual Work Plan to develop the strategic plan during 2016.

Finance and Risk

The organisation is on track to achieve its budget. The additional income from Rotorua will not be absorbed into the budget but will be carried forward. One of the impacts of the levy change is that income will not be received in regular instalments. The impact to cash flow will be largely unknown

until after year one, thus the board will be setting a very conservative budget for the 2015/16 year to insulate the organisation against any adverse financial impact.

Staples Rodway were ratified as the Auditors for the 2015 financial year end.

A review of the organisations Risk profile was undertaken and a number of amendments made.

Oceania Athletics Association

Board member Trevor Spittle talked to some aspects of his recent report from OAA council .The OAA Council believes the level of competition currently available in the Region needed to improve. An U23 competition is being discussed as a possibility of achieving this. For NZ, this would provide an opportunity for introducing athletes into higher levels of competition within the Region. Trevor advised it had been noted that it was some time since NZ hosted Regional Championships. The possibility to host the Polynesian games in 2019 was raised, and it was agreed to continue the discussion in more detail next year.

The Oceania congress will take place in February 2015. It is an important Congress ahead of the IAAF 2015 Congress. A number of senior IAAF officials will be in attendance including Lord Coe who is seeking nomination for IAAF President. ANZ will be represented by Linda Hamersley, Trevor Spittle and Annette Purvis.

Valerie Adams – IAAF Female Athlete of the Year Award

The Board noted the exceptional achievement of Val Adams. In being named the IAAF female athlete of the year, she became the first New Zealander to receive this award, but most importantly it was a fitting recognition of Val's achievements.

New Zealand records that have been recorded since the last meeting

NZ Women Race Walk, Women U20 National: 10000m Race Walk, 49:40.78 – Courtney Ruske – Christchurch Avon AC, 13 July 2014, North Shore NZ

NZ Women 1500m, Women U17 National: 1500m, 4:17.72 – Kara MacDermid – Palmerston North H & AC, 16 July 2014, Watford GBR

NZ Women 1500m, Women U17 National: 1500m, 4:17.27 – Kara MacDermid – Palmerston North H & AC, Ninove, BEL

Regards

Annette Purvis

Chairperson