

Board Update – October 2014



The board met on the 10 October in Auckland. This meeting incorporates the annual strategy review and therefore a number of guest speakers were invited as part of the meeting.

The major focus for the board is the ongoing levy review and this also formed a large part of the meeting.

Strategy and Planning

The Board reviewed its current strategic initiatives primarily across its Community and Participation and Commercial functions. The High Performance strategy was not reviewed pending the outcome of our bi-annual performance review with Sport NZ which occurs in early November.

The main focus was considering what strategic initiatives were required to ensure that we met the key performance indicators of our strategic plan.

Ian Maxwell from Auckland Sport and Recreation joined the meeting outlining the Auckland strategic plan through to 2023. He provided information on unique opportunities for growth in participation and highlighted initiatives that Athletics NZ may be interested in.

Geoff Barry General Manager Community Sport at Sport NZ presented to the meeting and gave an overview of the just released draft Sport NZ Community Sport strategic plan. Key changes were increased focus on participants and how they would partner with organisations to deliver participant experience. There was also focus on key demographic groups and areas. As the plan is in draft all stakeholders will be invited to provide feedback on the proposal.

Association Levy

Considerable discussion was held over the proposal to change the method of collection for the association levy. Documentation outlining potential funding scenarios, rule change proposals, administration impacts, risks and feedback summary were presented to the board.

Further impacts to the rules governing Centres were highlighted as needing review.

Whilst considerable feedback had been received from the road shows it was acknowledged there was not true representation of all clubs at the presentations, with very few summer and children's focused clubs in attendance. It was therefore hard to gauge what the support from clubs overall will be. Communicating the benefits was considered the key factor for achieving success with the new model along with Centres supporting the proposal by encouraging and ensuring its clubs would use the new membership model.

The Board agreed that the proposal along with the rule changes be sent out for 50 day feedback as constitutionally required. Upon receipt of this feedback the board would then consider any change further. It was noted that feedback from wide sections of the Athletics community was necessary to support a robust decision making process. It was agreed that the budget for 2015/16 would need to be set conservatively, to accommodate the unknown revenue expectation from the change.

Finances

Current budget performance along with revised cash flow reporting was reviewed.

The organisations financial position remains stable and ahead of budget due to a higher surplus than expected from the Rotorua Marathon.

A recommendation was received on Administration Charge for Payroll Services to External Organisations and was approved by the Board.

Strategic Issues

NSO – Anti Match Fixing and Sports Betting Policy. It is a requirement that this be adopted by June 2015 in order to ensure ongoing High Performance and Sport NZ funding. Sport NZ has confirmed that adoption at our August 2015 AGM would be acceptable. The content of the policy places some ongoing education requirements on Athletics NZ and the extent of this is being worked through.

General Business

IAAF proposed rule change. The board agreed to resubmit the proposed 4 x 100m relay change zone for consideration by the IAAF General Congress in 2015.

Oceania Athletics Association. It was noted that the OAA Congress will be held on the Gold Coast in February 2015. The board agreed that Trevor Spittle would be Athletics NZ nominee for election to OAA Council.