



19<sup>th</sup> July 2017

President  
Melbourne University Athletics Club  
By email only.

Dear Hamish,

**RE AAC Open Athlete Team Levy**

Thank you for your question with notice dated 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

2017 was the first year where the Junior and Open Australian Track & Field Championships were held as a one national event.

Prior to 2017 athletes qualifying to participate in the Junior Australian Track & Field Championships entered via each Member Association ('MA') who were required to provide all entry information to Athletics Australia via a 'Meet Manager file'. Each Victorian Junior athlete paid a levy to cover administration costs, team management costs (15 managers/coaches at Junior Nationals) and medical services including physiotherapy, massage and recovery treatment.

Open Athletes entered directly via the Athletics Australia entry portal.

When the National decision was made to conduct a combined Australian Championships, Member Associations were asked (and all agreed) to accept event entries for all age groups for the Australian Championships. AV had responsibility for collating all entries, confirming that each athlete had achieved the entry standard, modifying/changing entries, creating and finalising the Meet Manager file and then working with Athletics Australia to complete the entry process.

Athletics Victoria set a levy of \$70 (inc GST) across all age groups/entries to cover all administration costs, team management costs and provision of medical services for 'all' athletes intending to compete at the Australian Championships.

The compulsory levy was included in the event information on the Athletics Victoria member portal when entries for the Australian Track & Field Championships opened on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017. This was also the first day of the AV State Championships. The entry portal remained open until entries closed on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

A further communication was sent out via email setting out further information around the purpose and cost of the levy for members competing at National championships.



I am aware that there has been discussion around imposing a levy on Open athletes which has not occurred in the past. With the Australian Championships being conducted as one event with entry obligations, team management and medical services now the responsibility of the States, we consciously set the levy at that price point and made it equitable by imposing the levy on all athletes.

We take on board the feedback received at the time around notice of the levy and the communication around the reasons for it and commit to making sure we communicate as soon as possible so that all members continue to be sufficiently informed.

The President of Athletics Victoria will refer to your question on notice under General Business at the Annual General Meeting and will also refer to this response.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM,  
Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Glenn', with a large loop at the end.

Regards

Glenn Turnor  
Chief Executive Officer