



ANNUAL REPORT

2009

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mission: to encourage, improve, promote and manage athletics in victoria.

we will:

.encourage participation in athletics by all people

.provide for the development of athletes at all levels of ability from beginners to elite

.increase the profile and awareness of athletics within the community

.provide for the development of coaches, officials, administrators and other volunteers in athletics

.provide financial viability

ANNUAL REPORT

2009

From the President

ANNE LORD, PRESIDENT, ATHLETICS VICTORIA

Athletics Victoria continues to enjoy growth in all aspects of our sport. Participation numbers continue to climb steadily. Financial growth has been important. AV needs to increase its surplus in order to maintain many of the programs previously supported by the government's Moving Athletics Forward funding.

The continued growth of our sport over the past few years is due in part to a resurgence of athletics and running's popularity amongst the general public but also because of the great success of AV's development programs in clubs, coaching, officiating and developing pathways linking AV with schools and Little Athletics. We have a fantastically dedicated staff. They put in an enormous effort as well as many unpaid hours of overtime. This includes helping out most weekends through summer and winter, club and schools events.

Thank you

I would like to thank and congratulate the office staff on yet another fantastic job throughout 2008/2009 and welcome new staff members, Elizabeth Stubbings (administration officer) Tom Nickson (PR and communications officer) and Jill Taylor (programs liaison) to the team.

Nick Honey, Jade Borella, Michelle James, Tim Crosbie, Matt Griffin, Don Blyth, Tudor Holton, Sharon Russell, Tom Nickson, Toby Borella (who left AV in May) and Elizabeth Stubbings have all put in above and beyond the call of duty and their efforts are much appreciated.

Thanks also to our many committed officials, coaches, club administrators and committee members whose valuable contributions and tireless efforts make our sport happen.

Congratulations

Not everyone can be publically applauded, but I would like to congratulate Pam Noden, John Coleman and Martyn Kibel on their Official of the Year awards.

Two of our members were recognized in the Queen's birthday honours. Congratulations to Paul Jenes and Ronda Jenkins who were both awarded the OAM for their contribution to athletics. Their work in diligently recording results and keeping records and statistics form the basis of the history of our sport.

Ronda's and Paul's contributions of course expands into many other areas of our sport at club, state and national levels, serving on various committees and working hard behind the scenes. The OAM is a deserved award for these dedicated passionate athletics people.

Congratulations to the 2008 XCR premiership clubs Box Hill (men) and Knox (women) and our male and female XCR athletes of the year Lee Troop and Susie Michelsson.

Congratulations to the 2008/2009 Shield champions in all divisions and age groups.

Congratulations to our Victorian athletes who have been selected to compete in Berlin at the World Athletic Championships: Tamsyn Lewis, Collis Birmingham, Jeff Riseley, Madeleine Pape, Sean Wroe, Lisa Jane Weightman, Jared Tallent, Chris Erickson, Mark Tucker, David McNeill, Alwyn Jones, Anthony Alozie, Jessica Rothwell, Josh Ross, Aaron Rouge-Serret, Andrew Letherby, Sarah Jamieson and Nathan Deakes.



As a sport we must understand that all of us; the office, the board, the committees, the clubs, the officials, the coaches are working together for the athletes and for the sport. Some are paid, some are volunteers but we are there because we want to be and we want to be there to foster, grow and support the sport and its athletes.

Summer

The 2008/2009 summer season was very well supported with increasing numbers.

Thanks to Marian O'Shaughnessy in her first year as chair of the summer committee. One of the challenges of our sport is that it has to cater for all levels of competitors, provide sufficient events on the program for these athletes to compete in yet run a timely and efficient competition. The summer committee is working hard to achieve this.

Communication and feedback is critical and as well as our annual surveys, Jade and Marian organised special focus group meetings to discuss more effective ways of conducting our competitions and what each of the event group needs. Thanks to all those who participated in these meetings, your input is greatly appreciated.

A big disappointment for 2008/2009 was the ongoing issue of scoring and ranking. Although many aspects of our open score system were improved, there remained glitches. Many of these were operational but our IT team and Michelle James (I particularly thank Michelle in this regard as she spent many hours after dark re entering data) worked tirelessly to rectify mistakes. Special thanks to Tudor Holton, Craig Mahony, and the IT team for continuing their work on Open Score. Modifications and subsequent testing has continued this XCR season with pleasing results.

XCR

XCR 2008 saw us just short of 7000 participants over the season. The XCR events continue to grow. So far this season (XCR 2009) we have had record numbers at every event.

The XCR committee continues to do a terrific job. Thanks to Tim Crosbie and his team. I would also like to thank all our regular officials who brave the elements to come out and conduct our XCR events. We cater for the quick and the slow and often our officials patiently wait for the completion of the event.

From the President

ANNE LORD, PRESIDENT, ATHLETICS VICTORIA

You Tube

Our resident Martin Scorsese, David Armstrong's You tube coverage has been extremely popular and adds another dimension to our web site. Interaction with our members has been fantastic. This has been a fabulous addition to AV and I would like to thank David for all the time and effort he puts in both filming, editing and producing these documentaries.

One of the aims of Athletics Victoria is that while recognising the various issues at different venues and different regions, we are one sport and it is important for our sport to grow in every corner of Victoria. We need to keep working together to improve the sport.

Constitution

A new constitution was introduced and accepted at the 2009 summer general meeting. Ian Jones headed up the team with Don Blyth and Nick Honey. There were many opportunities for consultation through email and meetings. I would like to thank those who contributed. The need for a more modern constitution and the process of consultation on the changes meant that new constitution was voted in unanimously.

Olympic Park/Albert Park

Work on the State Athletic Centre continues. A significant amount of our CEO's time is taken up with work on this project, including discussions with various government departments and the architects and drawing up documents, meetings with other stakeholders etc. I thank Nick for his increased hours, time, effort and dedication to this role. Brett Moore continues to play a vital role in our negotiations with the government. Special thanks for his ongoing work.

The technical aspects of the State Athletic Centre project have been considered from day one and David Gynther (AA) and Khan Sharp have been involved from the start. I would like to thank them for their diligence and patience as they continue to advise, recommend and report to the appropriate bodies.

I would like to thank the board for their continued support over the past year.

Pat Scammell leaves the board this year. He has accepted a job in Queensland. I would like to personally thank Pat for his support. I have appreciated his experience and advice over the past few years. His contribution to policy and process has been much appreciated. I would like to thank Pat for his work with Matt Griffin in trying to encourage club and athletic development in the country.

I would like to thank Eric Sigmont, our treasurer who continues to monitor and report on our finances, Lisa Hasker and Richard Burnet who are working on our marketing committee, Brett Moore who is absolutely pivotal to our government negotiations regarding Albert park, (Brett has brought a level of professionalism to these meetings and continues to push for the AV cause), Ian Jones who has worked extremely hard in his first year on the board, (meticulous in his development of our new constitution, this was reflected by its unanimous acceptance), Russell Clowes who has worked hard both on and off the track this year (back competing including Victorian Decathlon championships!!) with his involvement with the summer committee and the IT team, putting in a great deal of time to these areas.

Sponsorship continues to play a vital role in developing and promoting athletics. Special thanks to our long time sponsor and supporter Neil Ryan from Runner's World. Thanks to our government Moving Athletics Forward programs supported by the State Government of Victoria. I would also like to thank Adidas, Skins, Clarion Hotels, Citrus Growers, and Run for your Life magazine.

The key to continued success is working together and actively seeking to improve our sport. We must not get complacent. We should not just "accept" because it's always been that way or is satisfactory. We must continue to strive for improvement if athletics is to become a sport of choice.

Anne Lord

PRESIDENT

Past Presidents

Victorian Amateur Athletic Association

1891 - 1897	Hon Robert W	BEST MLA *
1897 - 1897	Mr Walter T	COLDHAM *
1897 - 1901	Mr Montague	COHEN *
1901 - 1905	Mr Lawrence A	ADAMSON *
1905 - 1918	Sir John	MADDEN *
1918 - 1943	Sir William H	IRVINE *
1943 - 1957	Sir John G	LATHAM *
1957 - 1970	Sir Wilfred K	HUGHES *
1970 - 1976	Sir Edgar S	TANNER *
1976 - 1978	Hon Justice Allan W	McDONALD
1978 - 1982	Sir Murray V	McINERNEY *

Victorian Women's Amateur Athletic Association

1929 - 1935	Miss Louise C	MILLS *
1935 - 1937	Mrs Doris M	MULCAHY *
1937 - 1938	Mrs Flora	HYAMS *
1938 - 1945	Miss Louise C	MILLS *
1945 - 1948	Miss Doris J	CARTER *
1948 - 1952	Mrs Doris IL	DAVIS *
1952 - 1961	Mrs Mabel E	ROBINSON *
1961 - 1962	Mrs Lena	BERZINSKI *
1962 - 1965	Mrs Aileen VE	KENNEDY *
1965 - 1976	Mrs Joyce I	DAVIS
1976 - 1982	Mrs Margaret L	MAHONY

Victorian Athletic Association Inc.

1982 - 1983	Dr Frank P	LARKINS
1983 - 1984	Mr Gary A	COZENS
1984 - 1989	Mr Stan M L	GUILFOYLE
1989 - 1992	Dr Brian	HODGSON

Athletics Victoria Inc.

1992 - 1994	Dr Brian	HODGSON
1994 - 1995	Mr Greg D	LEWIS
1995 - 1997	Mr Kevin L	DYNAN
1997 - 2002	Mr John K	HIGHAM
2002 - 2005	Mr Max C	BINNINGTON
2005 -	Ms Anne R	LORD

*Deceased

Office Bearers & Staff

ATHLETICS VICTORIA, 2008-09

Board of Directors

President Anne Lord

Vice President Lisa Hasker

Vice President Russell Clowes

Treasurer Eric Sigmont

Board Members

Richard Burnet

Ian Jones

Brett Moore

Pat Scammell

Sub Committee Managers

Championships & Special Meets

Khan Sharp

Coaching Harry Summers

Country Pat Scammell

Officials Richard Lawysz

Summer Marian O'Shaughnessy

Technical Gary McBroom

XCR Tim Crosbie

Staff

CEO Nick Honey

Programs Manager Jade Borella

Club Development Manager Tim Crosbie

Competitions Manager Michelle James

Development Officer Matt Griffin

Systems Coordinator Tudor Holton

Accounts Manager Sharon Russell

Officials Development Officer Don Blyth

Administration Officer Elizabeth Stubbings

PR & Communications Officer Tom Nickson

Coaching Services Steve Cain

Programs Liaison Jill Taylor

Officers

Legal Affairs Scott Chesterman

Records Officer Ronda Jenkins

Selection Officer Ronda Jenkins

Statistician Paul Jenes

Tracks Officer Kevin Dynan



Honour Roll

ATHLETICS VICTORIA

Life Members

1896	PARKINSON	Basil J *	1976	FERRIER	Douglas G *
1901	COHEN	Montague *		GELL	Jean I
1904	BARRETT	Albert O *	1977	BUROW	Amy EB
1906	TRAVIS	Herbert A *		DAVIS	Joyce I MBE
1909	BRIGGS	Walter E *	1979	DAVIS	Doris IL *
1912	CROLL	Robert H *		McDONALD	Allan W Hon Mr Justice
1914	ADAMSON	Lawrence A CMG MA *	1980	LEACH	William J *
1915	SERLE	E Hamilton OBE *	1981	BEOVICH	Beverley L *
	SHAPPERE	Philip *		CHUGG	Jack W *
1920	STILLWELL	J Alexander *		MAHONY	Margaret L OAM
1926	SMITH	Harry D *	1982	BELL	Donald F OAM *
1928	ABBOTT	Harry A *		DYNAN	Kevin L
	LANGFORD	George E *	1983	DAVIS	Robert L *
1935	WEIR	Hugh R CBE *		TUNALEY	William S *
1938	RYAN	William M *	1984	GALBRAITH	Alec C *
1939	SCHOBER	Albert V *	1985	BIGGINS	Jack McD *
1944	AKERS	Phyllis M *		DOWNES	Lola C OAM
	MILLS	Louise C *		STANTON	Horace J ISM *
	WILLSON	Doris M*	1986	COLDREY	Fred H *
1945	NEVILLE	Lilian M OAM *		FIELD	Ralph W *
	PAINTER	Wilfred E *		GRIERSON	William R *
1948	ROBINSON	Mabel E MBE *		KNOTT	George CH *
	O'DRISCOLL	Jack X QC OBE *		LONNQUIST	Arthur H *
1949	KENNEDY	Aileen VE BEM *		McBETH	Emily T *
	PIZZEY	F H "Bill" *		PATTERSON	Marion J OAM
	GRANT	C William H *		STANTON	Doreen F *
1951	AITKEN	C Ronald CBE *		TURNER	Dick A *
	CURNOW	Leonard B OBE *		WOOD	WJP "Bill" *
1953	GARDINER	C Herbert G QJM *	1988	GRAF	Fred JG *
1954	KIELY	Nance *		NICHOLLS	Stanley L OAM *
1957	BENNETT	Iris I *		ROBLEY	Stuart E
	MAYER	Sidney M *		SCHUBERT	Henri J MBE *
	MORRIS	Evelyn LF *		SHILSTON	Mark W *
1958	DUNCAN	F May *	1991	GRANT	Irene M *
	DAVIES	Owen E *		HODGSON	Brian
1961	CLEMSON	Reginald *	1992	KENNY	Raymond M *
1963	JAMIESON	Alexander A *	1993	HINES	Joan L
1964	McQUISTON	Maisie BEM *		ROBERTS	Phyl M *
1967	PATCHING	Julius L AO OBE *	1994	SAUNDERS	Margaret L *
	STRINGER	George B *	1995	ABBOTT	Sylvia M
1968	MEARS	Kitt F *		DUNBAR	Margaret E
	CAMPBELL	A Hugh *		FRASER	Martha *
1969	ROBINSON	Alfred E *		THOMPSON	Margaret A
1970	ANDERSSON	Phyllis M H		WATT	Eileen M *
1972	MOORE	Edward *	1996	AGG	Patricia J
1973	DUNN	Crystal	1997	GUILFOYLE	Stanley ML AM
1974	EASTHAM	Edward D *	1998	CURNOW	Vern W
1975	EMBLING	Stewart A *		HOCHREITER	Rudi J *
				JENKINS	Ronda M OAM
				WOODS	E Frank *

1999	NOLAN	Charles R
	SMITH	Raymond C
	STEVENS	Harold M OAM
2000	JENES	Paul OAM
2001	CARMODY	Joseph *
	COLLINGS	Vern F
	SILLITOE	Neville J
2002	BRADBURY	B Joy
2003	MC LELLAN	Amy C C
2005	FISHER	Margaret M
2007	WHITCHELL	Athur
2008	LAWYSZ	Richard
	PRESTON	Laurie
	WILLIAMS	Tony

1998	GRANT	Geoff F
	HALL	Lew R *
	MILLER	Ron A
	MINTER	Allan J
	SMITH	J Gordon
	SMITH	Laura A *
	WILLIAMS	Tony J
1999	FISHER	Margaret M
	KITT	Ivan T
	LAWYSZ	Richard B
2000	BLUNDY	Merv A
	DAVIDSON	John G
	HANCOCK	Tom B
	MORGAN	Lorraine M AM
2001	LUCARDIE	Ron T *
	MCKECHNIE	Hugh L
	TOOHEY	Bill J
	VINCENT	Trevor A
	WOODBIDGE	Russell H
2002	MONEGHETTI	Stephen J
	PRESTON	Laurence G
	RICKARD	Ian
	UPTON	Ian
2003	HALL	Ken R
	MC DONALD	Ray
	MOORE	Brian
	PUOPOLO	A 'Gus' J
2004	ANDERSON	Peter K
	GARDINER	Robert C
	MAJOR	Geoff W
	WILLIAMS	Irene
2006	LAMB DEN	Ruby
	WHITCHELL	Arthur
2007	BARRETT	Peter
	GARTSIDE	Patricia
	NODEN	Pamela
2008	BARNETT	Diana
	BOAS	John
	GRIFFIN	Rod
	MASON	Harry *
	MASON	Judy
	STEWART	Bill
	WIGMORE	Kevin
	VIZE	Beth

Merit Award

1960	BURT	Maisie S *
1962	MEARS	Kitt F *
1969	VENN	Fay N *
1970	McBETH	Emily T *
	ROSE	Gladys I *
	STANTON	Doreen F *
1972	HOLMAN	Keith
1974	PATTERSON	Marion J OAM
1978	STEPHENSON	Harry F *
1980	SAUNDERS	George E MBE *
1983	NICHOLLS	Stanley L OAM *
1984	DUNN	Jack B *
	FRASER	Martha *
	FRASER	William C*
	WOOD	WJP 'Bill' *
1986	ABBOTT	Sylvia M
1987	COX	Sydney J *
	HENRY	Laurie F *
1988	KITT	W David *
	WALSH	Jim F*
1989	KENNY	Raymond M *
	SAUNDERS	Margaret L *
1990	DONALD	Wyn V
	DUNBAR	Margaret E
1991	FOLEY	Royce P *
	ROBERTS	Phyl M *
1992	AGG	Patricia J
	VAUGHAN	Hazel G
1994	BETHELL	Peter S
	BOURKE	Russell J
	BRADBURY	B Joy
	HOCHREITER	Rudi J *
	LETHBRIDGE	RA 'Tony' OAM
	WATT	Eileen M *
	WOODS	E Frank *
1995	VODDEN	Nancie A *
1996	WARREN	E Geoff

Distinguished Service

1989	DAVIES	Judy J
1994	GUILFOYLE	Stanley ML AM
2002	CHESTERMAN	Scott
2002	HIGHAM	John K

Track & Field

MARIAN O'SHAUGHNESSY, SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER, SUMMER COMPETITION

It is with pleasure that I present the following report concerning the 2008-09 Athletics Victoria Summer Season for the careful consideration by the members and clubs of Athletics Victoria. Buoyed by record membership, the committee is dedicated to the continued strengthening and re-vitalisation of grass-roots participation in Victorian track and field.

Committee Achievements in 2008-09

Through the course of the past 12 months, the summer committee has worked diligently to streamline and improve the structure and operations of AV Shield competition. By updating the AV Shield rules, and installing a new eligibility scheme for AV Shield Finals, the committee aimed to stimulate weekly participation levels. Discussions with regions' committees concerning possible program order changes, has also been undertaken to a similar end, with the added motive of improving the efficiency and timeliness of competition schedules.

In conjunction with the AV Officials Committee, the Summer Committee introduced a new system of appointing officials and a club roster for allocating weekly officiating duties.

Most satisfying was the findings of the club and member survey, in which athletes indicated a 'high' level of satisfaction with AV Shield competition.

Looking to the future, the committee presented a new 'mission statement' and five-year plan to the AV Board, detailing a vision and works schedule for the betterment of AV Shield competition. Deadlines for individual tasks and undertakings were included, with specific attention paid to short-term targets in the next 12 months. Despite the plan's ambitious nature, the committee is confident of meeting and achieving all objectives.

Participation by Region

Region	2005-06	2006-07		2007-08				2008-09			
	Total	Total	Change	Total	Change	Min	Max	Total	Change	Min	Max
Ballarat	134	115	-14.2%	143	24.3%	114	162	128*	0.7%	114	144
Bendigo		92		91	-1.1%	68	109	109*	42.9%	96	130
East	508	532	4.7%	528	-0.8%	446	610	500*	11.0%	427	586
Geelong		145		125	-13.8%	93	175	113*	8.0%	101	135
NorthWest	351	360	2.6%	402	11.7%	362	445	348*	10.7%	183	445
SouthEast	327	401	22.6%	411*	2.5%	264*	526	372*	12.4%	188	462

* Abandoned competition

2008-09 Shield Premiers

	Women	Men
Div 1	Athletics Essendon	Box Hill
Div 2	Western Athletics	Preston
Div 3		Oakleigh
40+		Athletics Waverley
U20	Diamond Valley	Western Athletics
U18	Athletics Waverley	Box Hill
U16	Preston	Diamond Valley
U14	Keilor St Bernards	Preston

Areas For Consideration & Improvement

In our attempt to revitalise and improve AV Shield competition, the committee has identified specific areas of deficiency for improvement. It is in these areas that the committee – in consultation with Athletics Victoria’s administration, clubs and members – will work towards improving and rectifying.

With rounds cancelled due to adverse weather (rain and extreme heat), there have been suggestions that eligibility rules be re-considered to encompass these unplanned and unavoidable interruptions to AV Shield competition.

The ‘OpenScore’ IT scoring project failed to deliver the promised outcomes on time. The AV Board has decided that ongoing development should continue over the XCR season with a view to having the system working efficiently by the beginning of the next Track and Field season.

Following the results of the AV member survey, the timeliness and co-ordination of AV Shield schedules will be investigated, to find solutions and best practice for weekly Shield competition. The envisaged outcome is to find a program that is operationally efficient, and prioritises the needs and well-being of the athletes.

Finally, discussion will be had with country clubs as to the collaborative measures necessary to ensure their participation at AV Shield finals.

These aforementioned items will be initial areas of discussion and improvement when the committee re-convenes in the 2009-10 athletics season.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the following groups and individuals:

- Fellow Summer Committee members – David Armstrong, Jade Borella, Russell Clowes, Sam Ellis, Rod Griffin, Jeff Hawkins, Nick Honey, Michelle James, Craig Mahony and Pam Noden – for all their commitment, support and effort throughout the past 12 months. AV Shield competition is the better for it.
- The officials for their time, patience, and persistence with the new operational system of AV Shield competition.
- The Region’s Scorers and helpers for all the hours they put in to make OpenScore work.
- Athletics Victoria Competitions Manager Michelle James, for her significant time commitment (and pain and suffering) trying to ensure the accuracy of OpenScore results.
- Athletics Victoria’s Nick Honey and Jade Borella for their counsel and direction during the season
- Athletics Victoria Club Development Manager Tim Crosbie, for his direction and information on club-based matters.

As we move into season 2009-10, I look forward to working with you all on the continued improvement and prosperity of AV Shield completion, and creating a new benchmark for state-based athletics competition in Australia.

Marian O’Shaughnessy

SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER,
SUMMER COMPETITION



Cross Country & Road Racing

TIM CROSBIE, SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER, XCR COMPETITION

Statistical Overview

2008 witnessed sustained growth in participation rates, with an overall increase of 4.7% over 2007. This continues Athletics Victoria's positive growth rates across all levels of membership and participation statistics.

The table below details historical data for each of the 10 races comprising the XCR series, with comparisons to 2007, 06, 05 and 00. Additionally, the table outlines the total growth figures across the series for the same years:

From a statistical perspective the growth of the LaTrobe University 15k/5k and Coliban Relays are very pleasing, now placing each event in a comparatively healthier position than they have been before.

The Coliban relay growth comes as no accident, with considerable effort coming from both the XCR Committee and Bendigo Region to ensure the event continues to provide a safer, rewarding and more enjoyable experience for teams and individuals. This event is no doubt a unique race on the calendar that it is finally attracting the level of support it deserves.

Equally pleasing is the continued growth of what could be termed our traditionally larger events, the SKINS Sandown Classic, Saucony Sandown Road Relays, Tan Relays, Jells Park Cross Country Relays and the Bundoora Cross Country. These events form the backbone to the XCR series and must continue to thrive in order for the series itself to continue steady growth.

Participation by Event

Rd	Venue	Event Type	2008	2007	2006	2005	2000	% Diff to 2007	% Diff to 2005	% Diff to 2000
1	Jells Park	Relay	939	906	886	797	590	3.6	17.8	59.2
2	Lardner Park	Cross Country	667	701	632	592	524	-4.9	12.7	27.3
3	Sandown	Road Race	862	845	793	638	539	2.0	35.1	59.9
4	La Trobe Uni	Road Race	659	567	562	517	418	16.2	27.5	57.7
5	Bendigo	Relay	572	486	502	370	301	17.7	54.6	90.0
6	Geelong	Cross Country	715	674	648	439	468	6.1	62.9	52.8
7	Bundoora*	Cross Country	490	471	490	440	401	4.0	11.4	22.2
8	Sandown	Relay	828	823	831	685	627	0.6	20.9	32.1
9	Burnley	Road Race	346	341	336	260	187	1.5	33.1	85.0
10	The Tan	Relay	908	860	776	704	N/A	5.6	29.0	N/A
Total participation			6986	6674	6456	5442	4055	4.7	28.4	72.3
Average participation per event			699	667	646	544	451	4.7	28.4	55.1

* Open & U20 participants only. U14 to U18 are considered part of the Victorian All Schools Championship

Cross Country & Road Racing

TIM CROSBIE, SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER, XCR COMPETITION

Comparison of % of Participation by Category

Year	Open Men	Junior Men	Total Men	Open Women	Junior Women	Total Women	Total Open	Total Junior
2008	56.5	11.4	67.9	20.0	12.1	32.1	76.5	23.5
2007	58.1	10.9	69.0	20.7	10.3	31.0	78.8	21.2
2006	58.5	10.6	69.1	21.5	9.4	30.9	80.1	19.9
2005	60.7	11.0	71.7	17.7	10.6	28.3	78.4	21.6
2000	64.0	12.0	76.0	15.0	9.0	24.0	79.1	20.9

I'd also like to draw attention to the Geelong Cross Country event. In 2005 the traditional 10 mile Cross Country race faced an uncertain future. With declining numbers and a general reticence amongst athletes and coaches to take part, the general view was that it was a race to do for points and nothing else. In subsequent years, the relocation to Geelong, the inclusion of "Tradition Day" and the general focus on the event's long and rich history have seen this race thrive once again.

Our demographic statistics reveal some slow but steadily evolving trends. The competition is still predominately Open Male dominated, however, both the Female and Junior components are on the rise. The table above details these changes as percentages of total participation.

It is relevant to note that the above figures are not entirely accurate given that at some events such as the Coliban Relay, there are no Junior competition meaning all Juniors run in Open divisions, while there are always a number of Women running in the Men's competition for various reasons.

Divisions & Grading

The continued use of the two up/two down promotion/relegation system, combined with regularly updated ladders, provided plenty of interest throughout the series. With many clubs engaged in battles to stay in or out of the promotion and relegation zones, the spirited level of club v club team competition that we strive for was achieved.

As usual anomalies appear where teams are either graded above or below their ability, however, the combined use of the two up/two down system plus a degree of commonsense and consultation has ensured yet another series

of lively competition in most divisions.

Indicative of the growing depth of XCR competition, 16 different clubs collected the 22 Premiership flags awarded. Box Hill were the stand out amongst the pack, collecting their first Division 1 Men's Premiership in many years plus Men's Division 3 and the Men's Under 20 title.

Other notable flag winners included the U16 Boys from the Richmond Harriers, a club more commonly associated with Masters competition, and the successful debut of new club South Coast with 2 Premiership flags to their name.

Sponsorship

Limited sponsorship arrangements continue to provide the XCR series with opportunities to provide something beyond the norm at certain events.

Our association with SKINS continued into the second of a three year deal, once again enabling AV to bolster the field with interstate competitors and further enhance the competitive nature of the event.

Saucony came on board for the Sandown relays and provided product for random prizes and a highly visible product display on the concourse. Negotiations are currently underway to broaden this relationship in 2009.

Media & Promotion

Much of the standard promotion for XCR events continued on from 2007. Andrew Wear worked his extensive media contacts once again to ensure we received good coverage, particularly in regional areas.

The inclusion of Craig Mottram at the Jells Park relays certainly generated a broad level of interest

both from within and outside the running community. The ABC's 7:30 Report filmed the Jells Park event for file footage in the lead up to the Beijing Olympics, while both major daily newspapers gave Mottram's appearance at Jells Park space.

Added to this there were several radio interviews given in the lead up to the Coliban Relays and National Cross Country.

Run for Your Life magazine continued to give our events strong coverage thanks to the input of Paul Jenes, Andrew Wear and the AV photographers. Both the Sandown 10k and Advanced Freight Half Marathon received feature articles which act as a perfect promotional tool for next year's calendar.

Special mention must be made of David Armstrong for his extensive coverage of the XCR series on AthsvicTV. After trialling the video presentations in 2007, David went into full production in 2008, covering each of the ten XCR rounds, plus the National Cross Country. On top of this David also produced the excellent Beijing Bound series during what little spare time he had. With David's slick editing and the golden voice of Paul Jenes, we appear to have struck on a winning combination.

Like so many people who help with the XCR series, David volunteers his own time. With the AthsvicTV productions often available the day after the race, David spent many late nights doing his editing in order for the footage to go to air when the events are still fresh. With over 18,000 views of David's work from around the world, this feature of the XCR promotional material was certainly a highlight of the series.

Overall Review & Summary

Pure statistics can't always paint the picture of a series of races. XCR'08 was no doubt successful in many aspects, however, there were a number of disappointments as well. The Sandown mis-measurement, for which I take full responsibility for, was no doubt a low light particularly given that despite the course shortfall our runners performed at an exceptional level.

Some fairly regular 'issues' with the scoring system also lead to a certain amount of frustration throughout the series. The XCR committee are conscious of the need for fast and accurate results and endeavour to deliver on this at all events.

Obviously the lessons learnt from XCR'08 will be used to make XCR'09 an even better series.

As with David Armstrong mentioned above, a number of individuals volunteer a significant amount of their own time to make the XCR

series happen. Yvonne Glover, ably assisted by husband Alan, contribute many hours to the behind the scenes tasks such as tags and relay number production. Combined with their race day contributions, the Glovers play an integral part in ensuring we deliver a strong series.

Similarly Tony Williams continues to play a major part in managing race day activities. With many of the XCR committee involved in other duties, or competing, it is up to Tony to make sure the day runs smoothly and without incident. Yet again XCR'08 was relatively incident free and predominately ran to schedule thanks to Tony's contribution.

To all the other 'regulars' who volunteer throughout the series, I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you for a job well done. Whether they have performed the obvious or not so obvious tasks from a competitor's perspective, there is no doubt that without their support we simply cannot run our competition.

Unfortunately for the committee Andrew Wear has finished his three year 'tour of duty'. Andrew came onto the committee in 2006 with a brief to raise the profile of the XCR Series, as it was back then. Andrew had a strong belief that we simply weren't good at getting the message out about the series and through his efforts there is no doubt that 3 years later every creditable distance runner in Australia is aware of the strength and value of Victoria's XCR series. We may be losing Andrew to the XCR committee but AV are confident of his continued valuable input into our sport.

2008 is also the last year for committee stalwart Marg Dunbar. Marg's contribution to the committee over the past 20 years features too many achievements for a mere paragraph to do justice to. Marg will be greatly missed, but her legacy will be a very healthy competition that she has played a significant role in shaping.

Finally I'd like to thank the AV staff for their ongoing support. Nick Honey continues to provide the guidance, with the occasional 'no you can't do that' thrown in, while the other staff supply their areas of expertise – Jade through design & marketing, Don with officials, Tudor on the technical issues and Matt with pure brute strength as assistant Van packer. And lastly to our Competition Manager, Michelle James, thanks for being the glue that held the series together ensuring once again that Victoria produced the most vibrant and successful Cross Country and Road racing in the country.

Tim Crosbie

SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER,
XCR COMPETITION



Officials

RICHARD LAWYSZ, SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER, OFFICIALS

Turnover of officials in athletics is not high but usually it is the most experienced who retire or leave for other reasons. The challenge is to replace them.

The level of and depth of commitment to athletics has changed for all involved. Traditionally, officials took on the role on a long term basis but today volunteers are often involved in a number of sports. This broader approach can even have an impact within a single summer or winter season.

The number of officials prepared to undertake formal qualifications and further their development has been pleasing. This in turn, has opened up opportunities for those willing to test their skills and take on the responsibilities of more senior positions. We have encouraged and supported officials to put into practice the theory they have learned. There is nothing to compare to actually “doing the job”.

It is important that officiating is not just seen as a job, but a role involving the promotion of the sport.

The February/March period was very hectic period with the championships outlined below as well as various specialist group meets (AV Throwers, High Velocity, Rare Air and Vic Milers Club) on various dates and at various venues.

The major commitment for the majority of our officials was the Shield Competition conducted at venues in Melbourne and also country Victoria, which meant many kilometres of travel and hours of work.

Athletics Victoria officials were well represented at National Championships held interstate.

We highlight the same issues each season for major state level meets:

- Withdrawals of officials after initial advice of being available.
- Actual advice of appointments could have been earlier so as to avoid disappointment of not being appointed and thus sourcing replacements. In several instances, these were influenced by late alterations to the timetables.
- Endeavouring to meet requests for specific appointments to assist with the practical component of formal qualifications.

Every official who made themselves available and advised us was appointed.

Unfortunately, some officials were not appointed simply because we were not advised of their availability. We can only appoint those we know are available and publish the appointments accordingly. By the same token, we thank and are grateful to those officials who offered or volunteered to assist at major meets “at the last minute”.

A check of the registration records for 2008-09, indicates 316 were registered (including dual categories) as officials, yet for the major meets such as All Schools or Victorian Championships, we continued to struggle to get 70-80 officials to initially nominate to do so. With some persuasion we managed to get approximately 80-90. Why such a low participation rate?

What measures can we implement to encourage others to share the experience?

Officials

RICHARD LAWYSZ, SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER, OFFICIALS

Championships Conducted During Summer Season

2008

September 12 – 13	Pacific Schools Games Selection Trials
September 29 – October 3	Australian University Games
November 7 – 8	Victorian All Schools Championships
November 22	Ron Clarke Classic, Geelong
December 11	Zatopek Meet

2009

January 24 – 26	Victorian Country Championships, Geelong
February 14	Shield Final
February 19 – 22	Victorian Open/Youth Multis Championships
February 21 – 25	Australian Masters Games, Geelong
February 27 – March 1	Victorian Youth/Open Multis Championships
March 7	Peter Norman Classic
March 28 – 29	Victorian Masters Championships

The above highlights the depth and breadth of experience we have to conduct a successful athletic meeting. However, it also identifies the challenge to build on this strong foundation and nurture and mentor those who wish to be involved and those who may need a little encouragement to test themselves.

We may need to expand the mentoring program to give more officials the experience, exposure and confidence to officiate.

Thanks & Acknowledgements

- Don Blyth, AV Officials Development Officer, whose role has improved the profile and support structure for officials
- Michelle James for her assistance with championships
- The other members of the Officials Sub Committee: Ronda Jenkins, Danny Mc Grady, Diane Lowden, Lorraine Morgan, Lynda Gusbeth and Ian Sinclair, together with AV staff members Nick Honey and Jade Borella for their support and contribution within their own areas of expertise and also overall for the improvement in the structure and recognition of officiating expertise
- Brian Moore for his continued assistance with selections for the start area officials
- Diane Lowden for coordinating the walk judges panels.
- Athletics Victoria Officials Sub Committee endeavoured to cover of all aspects of officiating, namely : education/ development, recruitment, mentoring and social activities.

Seminars & Exams

Officials Seminars were conducted:

- 20/5/2008: Level C Out of Stadia
- 16/7/2008: Level C Throws
- 9/8/2008: Starters (Geelong)
- 5/11/2008: Level B Track
- 11/11/2008: Level B Jumps
- 19/11/2008: Level C Jumps
- 23/11/2008: Level C General (Warrnambool)
- 25/11/2008: Level B Throws
- 7/12/2008: Level C General designed primarily to assist Little Athletics officials.

Unfortunately, due to the congested calendar, we were not able to conduct the all encompassing AV officials' seminar this year.

The following number of candidates sat exams:

- Level C papers Jumps(25), Throws(39), Track(16), Out of Stadia(10)
- Level B papers Jumps(6), Throws(11)

The challenge for these candidates is to challenge themselves, gain knowledge and experience through "doing the jobs" and also by seeking information and direction from our more qualified officials. Such approaches from our newer qualified officials should be seen as a compliment and a pathway to assist with Athletics Victoria succession planning and not as a threat. This will increase our base number of qualified officials.

There is an ever increasing call upon officials' services to officiate at schools meets and other AV events on week days and this provides excellent opportunities for appropriately qualified officials to be paid for their services.

This summer season, AV introduced a payment structure for our key officials (event supervisors) at the metropolitan venues Shield Competition with clubs providing club helpers. This approach was well received with officials accepting the responsibilities involved.

The Administrators/Officials luncheon on 26/4/2009 was again a success and we thank Jade, Michelle, Toby, Don and Matt for their work behind the scenes to make it so.

At the luncheon, the following officials were specifically recognized:

Officials of The Year: Pam Noden and John Coleman

Rookie Official of The Year: Martyn Kibel

With regret, we record the passing of Harry Mason, our esteemed and widely respected Technical Manager. The esteem in which Harry was held was evident by the very large numbers who attended his memorial service at his beloved Collingwood Athletic track. During the year, we also lost "Judy" Patching, Grand Old Man of the Olympic Movement and Ron Lucardie AV Life Member and dedicated supporter of the promotion of athletics in the Latrobe Valley.

Richard Lawysz

SUB COMMITTEE MANAGER, OFFICIALS



Records

RONDA JENKINS, SELECTION OFFICER

There was a significant increase in records across all the age groups, and many athletes bettered their own performances throughout the season bumping up this number. The records were also over a vast range of events as well, which is very promising for our future.

Numbers of New Records Set in 2008-09

	State Men	State Women	Country Men	Country Women
Open	4	2	5	4
U20	7	8	5	3
U19	9	6	3	1
U18	2	2	2	1
U17	3	7	3	3
U16	3	8	3	2
U15	7	3	4	2
U14	3	15		11
U13			1	1

Thanks to all those who supply me with results and information. Also to athletes, parents and coaches who advise me of their performances, as this ensures I don't miss any potential records.

Ronda Jenkins

RECORDS OFFICER

Victorian Records

BROKEN IN 2008-09

Men

Sam	Baines	110m Hurdles	State U18	13.33	9/11/08
Sam	Baines	110m Hurdles	State U18	13.28	4/12/08
Callum	Baker	Shot Put	Country U13	13.20m	25/1/09
Jackson	Bews	Pole Vault	Country U18,U19,U20 EQ Op	4.60m	3/1/09
Jackson	Bews	Pole Vault	Country U18, U19, U20	= 4.60m	24/1/09
Jed	Bews	Pole Vault	Country U15	3.90m	8/11/08
Damien	Birkinhead	Shot Put	State & Country U16	19.88m	25/10/08
Damien	Birkinhead	Shot Put	State & Country U16	20.00m	9/11/08
Damien	Birkinhead	Shot Put	State & Country U16	20.64m	4/12/08
Damien	Birkinhead	Shot Put	State & Country U17	18.95m	17/1/09
Damien	Birkinhead	Shot Put	State & Country U17	19.13m	17/1/09
Damien	Birkinhead	Shot Put	State & Country U17	19.22m	17/1/09
Collis	Birmingham	10,000m	State & Country Open	27.29.43	24/4/09
Brodie	Cross	Pole Vault	State U15	4.41m	3/12/08
Brodie	Cross	Pole Vault	State U15	4.45m	15/1/09
Henry	Frayne	Triple Jump	State U19	16.40m	10/7/08
Henry	Frayne	Triple Jump	State U19	16.58m	11/12/08
Henry	Frayne	Long Jump	State U19 & U20	7.99m	15/2/09
Benn	Harradine	Discus	State Open	66.37m	22/5/08
Rob	Hill	Pole Vault	Country Open	4.81m	24/1/09
Craig	Huffer	1500m	Country U20 & U19	3.43.89	18/1/08
Craig	Huffer	1500m	Country U20	3.42.23	11/12/08
Craig	Huffer	1500m	Country U20	3.39.98	28/2/09
Daniel	Jackson	2000m Steeple	Country U15	6.32.05	8/11/08
Daniel	Jackson	2000m Steeple	State & Country U15	6.22.06	2/12/08
Daniel	Jackson	2000m Steeple	State & Country U15	6.20.15	28/2/09
Blake	Lucas	Pole Vault	State U19 & U20	= 5.30m	28/2/09
Blake	Lucas	Pole Vault	State U19 & U20	= 5.30m	5/3/09
Blake	Lucas	Pole Vault	State U19 & U20	5.40m	7/3/09
Blake	Lucas	Pole Vault	State U19 & U20	5.45m	20/3/09
Blake	Lucas	Pole Vault	State U19 & U20	5.55m	28/3/09
Daniel	Martin	110m Hurdles	State U19 & U20	13.60	3/4/09
Craig	Mottram	10,000m	State & Country Open	27.34.48	4/5/08
Jason	Santa	100m	State U14	11.59 EQ	6/12/08
Jason	Santa	100m	State U14	11.38	6/12/08
Jack	Sheridan	200m Hurdles	State U15	26.35	8/11/08
Jack	Sheridan	200m Hurdles	State U15	25.60	4/12/08
Jack	Sheridan	400m	State U15	49.72	5/12/08
Jared	Tallent	5000m Walk	State & Country Open	18.41.83	28/2/09
Vic State Team		4x100 Relay	State U14	46.17	5/12/08

Victorian Records

BROKEN IN 2008-09

Women

Athletics Chilwell		4x100 Relay	Country U13	54.50	26/1/06
Monique Cilione		Javelin	State U15	42.76m	2/12/08
Georgie Clarke		5000m	Country Open	15.27.41	31/5/08
Brigette Dillon		80m Hurdles	State & Country U14	12.24	3/12/08
Brigette Dillon		80m Hurdles	State & Country U14	12.12	3/12/08
Brigette Dillon		80m Hurdles	State & Country U14	12.00	4/12/08
Brigette Dillon		200m Hurdles	State & Country U14	29.95	25/1/09
Brigette Dillon		200m Hurdles	State & Country U14	29.44	25/1/09
Alana Green		Pole Vault	Country U17,U18,U19,U20,Op	3.31m	20/3/09
Rebecca Marchant		Triple Jump	State U16 & U17	12.21m	7/11/08
Rebecca Marchant		Pole Vault	State U16	3.70m	7/3/09
Paris McCathrion		Pole Vault	State U14	3.15m	13/11/08
Paris McCathrion		Pole Vault	State U14	3.25m	29/11/08
Paris McCathrion		Pole Vault	State U14	3.30m	5/12/08
Paris McCathrion		Pole Vault	State U14	3.35m	22/2/09
Paris McCathrion		Pole Vault	State U14	3.41m	7/3/09
Paris McCathrion		Pole Vault	State U14 & U15	3.50m	14/3/09
Paris McCathrion		Pole Vault	State U14 & U15	=3.50m	4/4/09
Kimberley Mulhall		Discus	State U18, U19, U20	52.78m	15/11/08
Kimberley Mulhall		Discus	State U19 & U20	53.34m	31/1/09
Kimberley Mulhall		Discus	State U19 & U20	53.86m	8/2/09
Kimberley Mulhall		Discus	State U19 & U20	54.26m	28/2/09
Kimberley Mulhall		Discus	State U19 & U20	54.84m	28/2/09
Kimberley Mulhall		Discus	State U19 & U20	55.50m	3/4/09
Jessica Rothwell		10,000m Walk	State & Country Open & U20	44.44.22	9/7/08
Jessica Rothwell		5000m Walk	State & Country Open & U20	21.03.33	20/2/09
Brooke Stratton		Long Jump	State U16	6.06m	5/12/08
Brooke Stratton		Triple Jump	State U16 & U17	12.47m	16/1/09
Brooke Stratton		Long Jump	State U16	6.07m	21/2/09
Brooke Stratton		Triple Jump	State U16 & U17	12.62m	3/4/09
Rachel Tallent		5000m Walk	Country U16 & U17	24.59.01	24/1/09
Rachel Tallent		5000m Walk	State & Country U17	23.42.03	20/2/09
Sophie Taylor		200m	State & Country U14	25.40	13/9/08
Sophie Taylor		100m	Country U14	12.33	7/11/08
Sophie Taylor		Triple Jump	Country U14	11.45m	8/11/08
Sophie Taylor		Triple Jump	Country U14	11.50m	8/11/08
Sophie Taylor		200m	State & Country U14	25.23	9/11/08
Sophie Taylor		200m	State U14, Country U14, U15, U16	25.06	4/12/08
Ashleigh Whittaker		100m	State U16 & U17	11.83	5/12/08
Vic State Team		4x100 Relay	State U17	47.01	4/12/08
Vic State Team		4x200 Relay	State U16 & U17	1.40.03	6/12/08
Vic State Team		4x200 Relay	Country U15	1.46.05	11/12/08
Vic State Team		1000 Sprint Medley	State U18	2.14.89	21/3/09



Statistics

PAUL JENES, STATISTICIAN

2008-09 was another season of improving performances. Results are coming in quickly from the venues as well as interstate. I have been updating both national and state rankings on a weekly basis on the AV website.

I wish to thank the venue recorders and the many people who have passed on results and information.

Acknowledgements are listed on the ranking list.

Paul Jenes

STATISTICIAN



Tracks

KEVIN DYNAN, TRACKS OFFICER

The Olympic Park track will be lost to the Association when the redevelopment of the Bob Jane Stadium in Albert Park is completed. The present indications are that this will occur at the beginning of the 2011-12 season.

It is understood that the existing Olympic Park track surface will not be installed in the new facility. It will be about five years old in 2011 and would have several years of use left in it. It is hoped that the surface will be taken up and made available for use at some other public facility in the State.

The older members may remember the promises made in the early 1950's – "A Home for Amateur Sport for ever". The Velodrome disappeared in two years, The Olympic Swimming Centre was lost to the sport rather quickly and I suppose we have been lucky to still have the facility since 1954 and the many years before on the site of the Rectangular Stadium. Perhaps it should be renamed "Football Park"?

There have been proposals to build a new track at Berwick and another at Melton. These proposals have stalled but have not been abandoned.

Kevin Dynan

TRACKS OFFICER

From the Chief Executive

NICK HONEY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ATHLETICS VICTORIA

Having set significant new bench marks last year, I am delighted to report that the 2008-09 athletics year has seen further improvements in our measurable success indicators. There has been continued growth in membership numbers, membership satisfaction, competition participation rates and brand recognition. Athletics Victoria has also, once again, returned a solid financial surplus for the year.

The 2008 Cross Country and Road Racing (XCR) season has continued to go from strength to strength and has further enhanced its reputation as the leading out of stadium athletics competition in Australia. Once again I offer congratulations to Tim Crosbie and the XCR Sub Committee, as well as the Athletics Victoria office staff, for conducting and managing another successful XCR season.

The summer track and field season was again conducted with considerable success. Athletics Victoria's state wide Shield competition is the only true multi venue club based competition in Australia. Although faced with many challenges, the competition continues to grow and further innovations and improvements will continue to be trialed. The Zatopek 10 was managed and promoted by Athletics Victoria for the second year and was considered an outstanding success. The Z:10 was only one of a number of specialist meets that were facilitated by AV and contributed to a busy and rewarding summer schedule. Others included the Australian Masters Games, the Australian University Games, the Pacific Schools Games selection trials, the Ron Clarke and the Peter Norman Classics, as well as the usual suite of Athletics Victoria State Championships.

Thanks to the many dedicated volunteers who offered their time, skill and passion to the planning and delivery of these athletics meets. In particular, thanks to Marian O'Shaughnessy, who chaired the Summer Competition Sub Committee, and to Khan Sharp, chair of the Championships and Special Events Sub Committee. I would also like to make a special mention of David Armstrong, who has given many hundreds of hours producing Athletics Victoria's internet video highlights packages that are branded as AthsVic TV. This wonderful and popular addition to our communication formats is greatly valued.

The biggest and most important specialist meet of the year did not have any direct input from Athletics Victoria, although there was a strong AV connection. The Beijing Olympic Games took place during the year and I offer my congratulations to all the athletes who represented Australia. In particular I congratulate our athletics medal winners: Sally McLellan, AV's Jared Tallent, and, (formerly!) AV's, Steve Hooker.

Athletics Victoria was proud to continue its growth in membership. The impressive figure of a 4991 total membership represents a 20 year high for Athletics Victoria and is the largest membership of any Australian senior athletics State Sport Organisation! Nonetheless, we will be looking to break through the 5000 mark next year and continue our growth in the following years. This year we also introduced a new membership category that takes into account the many fun runners who compete in Victoria's major fun runs. The Recreational Runner category accounted for a further 13076 Athletics Victoria members, enabling us to report a total annual membership of 18067!



Financially, Athletics Victoria has again performed well. Although not matching last year's record surplus figure, a surplus of \$32,105 will be recorded. This is the last year that Athletics Victoria is to receive the specialist funding from the State Government as a result of the Commonwealth Games. Subsequently, budgeted revenues for the 09-10 year will be reduced and the challenge is to continue running our development programs on smaller budgets. Thanks to Athletics Victoria's Accounts Manager, Sharon Russell and Treasurer, Eric Sigmont, for their valuable financial administration and advice during the year.

As I reported last year, Athletics Victoria continues to build strong and productive alliances with other athletics bodies. The Masters (Victorian Masters Association), the Pros (Victorian Athletic League), the Victorian Little Athletics Association and our national governing body, Athletics Australia, have all worked co-operatively and productively with Athletics Victoria at different times throughout the year in order to provide better products and services to our customers.

The move of the home of the sport away from Olympic Park to the State Sports Centre's Trust precinct at Albert Park continues to progress. Athletics Victoria is still negotiating and planning with various participating departments of the State Government in an effort to secure the best deal possible for the sport, for both the short and long

terms. I thank Board member Brett Moore for the many hours he has contributed towards this project. His skills and insights have proven invaluable.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Athletics Victoria Board and, especially our President, Anne Lord. These individuals' enthusiastic and sound advice, governance and direction have enabled the organization to move forward and achieve success in a range of areas. In particular, I would like to thank Vice President Russell Clowes for the enormous amount of work he has undertaken under considerable pressure, to project manage the IT Scoring project. I also commend Board member, Ian Jones, for his knowledge, skill and diplomacy in re-writing and successfully introducing a new constitution for Athletics Victoria.

Thank you also to the dedicated AV staff members who work above and beyond the call of duty for our sport. Their remarkable efforts and skills often go unrecognized, yet are vital to the everyday success of Victorian athletics.

I look forward to another successful year of operation and growth for Athletics Victoria in 2009-10.

Nick Honey

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Programs

JADE BORELLA, PROGRAM MANAGER

In 2007 Athletics Victoria developed a unique and exciting program aimed at “Moving Athletics Forward” in the Victorian Secondary School system. The program is supported by the State Government and the “Go For Your Life” campaign. Along with coaching services provider, Trakstart, Athletics Victoria made available a number of different athletics services to educate schools about athletics and provide them with a clear pathway to involvement in the popular Schools Knockout Competition. The services were offered free to government schools and at a heavily subsidised rate to non government schools, to ensure access for all.

Moving Athletics Forward programs:

- ATHS 2 GO (Teacher Education Course)
- Athletic Team Training Sessions/Regional Training Sessions
- Schools Knockout Competition

The programs are designed to:

- Ensure athletics is a focus at schools
- Build school/team morale
- Educate staff and students
- Promote healthy, fun extra curricular activities
- Provide local, State and National competition
- Appeal to all levels of experience and ability

Our schools database was compiled in 2007 and much time has been spent maintaining it. Every school in Victoria has received information about the MAF program and its benefits and targeted mailouts and follow up phone calls happened region by region in the lead up to School Knockout competitions.

2008/09 was an extension of the MAF program conducted in 2007/08. Once again we utilized the ACHPER conference to launch MAF. Each of the 1300 delegates received MAF paraphernalia and booking forms. We also manned an information booth and distributed show bags over the 2 day conference. For the second year running we had over 40 teachers taking part in the ACHPER Aths 2 Go coaching course.

Either as a refresher or an introduction to the sport of athletics, Athletics Victoria offered teachers a 3 hour Aths 2 Go coaching course. The Aths 2 Go sessions were held at local athletics tracks to ensure they were relevant and valuable for teachers. A perfect professional learning session, as expert coaches were in attendance to provide ongoing athletic knowledge and pass on specific tips for preparing students for the Schools Knockout Competition and other school athletics meets.

The Aths 2 Go courses continued to receive extremely positive feedback from participants. The course, certified by Athletics Australia, is both informative and practical in its delivery. Upon completion each participant received an Aths 2 Go resource and accompanying DVD. The appeal of this course is that it caters to a broad cross-section of people. In addition to qualified teachers, the Aths 2 Go course was also conducted for student teachers at two universities and at a local track for Athletics Victoria club members. In 2008 346 had completed the Aths 2 Go course – 132 teachers, 106 student teachers and 62 club members.

The Athletic Team Training and Regional sessions allowed schools to gain access to expert coaching sessions. These 1 hour sessions were tailored to suit schools individual requirements. Well over 100 Athletic Team Training sessions were conducted at over 50 schools from May 2008 – April 2009.

There was also a strong emphasis on coaching throughout regional Victoria. Sessions were held in Ballarat, Colac, Euroa, Gippsland, Hamilton, Hastings, Loddon, Mallee, Mildura, Numurkah, Warragul and Western Victoria.

Schools Knockout competition provided schools throughout Victoria with the challenge of a unique track and field competition that promoted team spirit and increased participation. 8 rounds of Schools Knockout were conducted (4 regional, 4 metropolitan), culminating with the Victorian and Australian finals. Over 150 teams from 64 schools participated. We had 27 new schools to the program, 12 of these government schools and 6 progressed to the Victorian Final.

Positive initiatives from 2007 were continued:

- Show bags & giveaways – every participant received an Athletics Victoria show bag which was very popular with the athletes.
- Offered free coaching clinics (Athletic Team Training sessions) for schools in the lead up to their SKO round.
- Offered free ATHS 2 GO coaching course (structured around SKO events) for teachers. A resource and DVD was provided to all participants.
- Coaches were present at all Regional Knockout rounds to assist teachers/team managers. This initiative worked extremely well for new schools and schools that had utilised earlier Athletic Team Training sessions.
- DJ played music at Metropolitan SKO rounds which was very popular with the athletes.
- The best officials available were handpicked and were encouraging to all athletes.

The Schools Knockout competition continues to grow. 7 of the 8 rounds were programmed for term 3, giving schools more time to prepare and focus on team training and coaching sessions in the lead up to SKO. We trialed a “Regional Road Trip” to the Mallee Region, in late 2008. Our coaches spent three days in the region and local schools took part in the Athletic Team Training sessions, an Aths 2 Go course (for teachers) and finished off with a mini-Knockout competition. From this, a combined team will be selected to compete at the Bendigo Schools Knockout. As this initiative was extremely successful, more Regional Road Trips will be conducted in 2009.

Every school that utilises a component of the MAF program is encouraged to enter at least one team in the Schools Knockout. We have also made it compulsory for schools, in their second year of the MAF program, to enter at least two teams in the Knockout competition. We continued to fund appropriate schools to send teams to Schools Knockout regional rounds (and state finals where relevant). Bus transport, entry fees and replacement teacher costs were also subsidized by Athletics Victoria.

Thank you to all involved in the 2008/09 MAF programs, in particular the staff from Trakstart: Naomi Symington, Chris Symington, Peter Van Miltenburg and Jill Taylor and all of their coaches who have worked tirelessly over the last 12 months promoting athletics in Victoria.

Jade Borella

PROGRAM MANAGER

Development

TIM CROSBIE, MATT GRIFFIN & DON BLYTH

Club Development

Membership

2008-09 was once again a year of growth for Athletics Victoria. The following table outlines the growth trend in competing members over the past 5 years:

Membership by Age Group

	Open	U20	U18	U16	U14	Total
2004-05	1654	233	443	572	347	3249
2005-06	1805	239	534	659	331	3568
2006-07	1781	279	582	656	368	3666
2007-08	1924	329	601	669	452	3975
2008-09	1979	374	609	723	569	4254

In percentage terms this represents a growth rate of 6.9% for the year, which coming on top of 5 successive years of growth is a good result for the Athletics Victoria.

The main drivers for growth have come from the U14 & U16 age groups, indicating that the Dual Athlete scheme is providing a good flow through of athletes from Little Athletics. With AV clubs and athletes becoming more aware of the scheme, the uptake of Dual Athletes more than doubled from the previous year.

The Victorian Little Athletics Association has also been very proactive in promoting the involvement of their members with Athletics Victoria. With a number of joint initiatives and the relaxing of uniform regulations for VLAA athletes competing at AV events, a clear and easy transition path is now being established.

There are also strong indicators that Masters age athletes are increasing in number, leading to more viable competition in both the Track and Field and Road/Cross Country events. Our strong ties to the Victorian Masters Athletics club has been very productive with the second year of the combined VMA/AV Track and Field Championships being a strong and vibrant competition.

2008-09 saw the introduction of a new membership type for Athletics Victoria – Recreational Runners. These members are drawn from Athletics Australia’s “Running Australia” program and comprises runners who have taken part in events like the Melbourne Marathon and Great Australian run and agreed to be part of Running Australia.

This new category added 13,076 athletes to the Athletics Victoria database in 2008-09. The ramifications of this are two fold – we can use these figures to more accurately assess the size of our sport in Victoria and they are now a group we can send targeted marketing information to encourage awareness and increased participation in Athletics Victoria events.

Churn Rates

By definition our churn rate is the percentage of athletes who do not re-register from one season to the next. In effect these become lost members who for the most part leave our club based structure never to return.

In determining the churn rate, figures for retained members and new members are derived which allows an accurate assessment for how many members have not registered the following year.

Over the past three years the churn rate sits at 25.3%. The individual figures for each year are:

2006-07 – 27.0%
 2007-08 – 23.5%
 2008-09 – 25.6%

Based on the average churn rate for the three years being applied, Athletics Victoria can expect to lose 1,075 athletes registered in 2008-09 for the 2009–10 year.

When sub divided into Age groupings, the figures show an alarming loss of athletes in our Under 16 (15 yo & below) category. Under 16 males in particular have a historical churn rate that is consistently over 50% with the comparative female figure tracking some 8% better in the mid to high 40% range.

Under 20 churn rates are considerably better, normally sitting between 10% and 20%, with a 3 year average of 15.7%. It must be noted however that the base numbers are lower than for the younger age category. This leads to the conclusion that once we have lost the Under 16 athletes they are unlikely to return.

Open Age churn rates are lower again with a 3 year average of 14.6%. Traditionally the churn rate amongst open women is higher than that for open men, with the exception of 2006/07.

The table below details the relative churn rates for each age grouping and gender:

Churn Rates by Age Grouping

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
U16 Men	57.9%	56.7%	53.8%
U16 Women	50.9%	48.0%	45.4%
U16 Total	54.4%	52.4%	49.7%
U20 Men	13.1%	20.0%	21.2%
U20 Women	15.7%	7.4%	12.1%
U20 Total	14.2%	15.1%	17.5%
Open Men	17.4%	9.3%	12.7%
Open Women	16.8%	15.3%	21.8%
Open Total	17.3%	11.0%	15.3%
Overall Men	29.4%	25.7%	28.0%
Overall Women	25.6%	22.2%	24.1%
Overall Total	27.0%	23.5%	25.6%

A reasonable level of consistency shows through the table, meaning that although the churn rate has not risen, it is also obvious that despite concerted effort to retain athletes there is little evidence to suggest that this is happening.

Club Statistics

The overall growth in competing members obviously reflects positively in club statistics. The following table demonstrates how our clubs are continuing to develop and build:

Number & Size of Clubs

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Total Clubs	63	62	62
Clubs with 100+ members	9	13	15
Clubs with 200+ members	0	1	3

In 2008-09 38 clubs grew their competing members, 2 clubs remained the same and 22 clubs declined in numbers. Of the declining clubs 50% lost 5 members or less, which although is not a good result for these clubs, it does not indicate any alarming trends.

In numeric terms, our top ten growing clubs were: Athletics Essendon +47 (26.0% growth), Eaglehawk YMCA +29 (38.2% growth), Croydon Athletic Club +26 (108.3% growth), Maccabi +23 (176.9% growth), Doncaster +21 (16.3% growth), Western Athletics +21 (16.9% growth), Knox Athletics +20 (10.9% growth), Wellington Athletics +20 (285.7% growth), Athletics Chilwell +19 (22.9% growth) and Old Melburnians AC +19 (31.7% growth).

One new club was formed in 2008-09 with Casey Cardinia Athletics commencing competition for the Track and Field season. In their first year of operation Casey Cardinia attracted 29 athletes across a range of age groups and went as far as making the AV Shield Final in a number of Divisions.

The De La Salle Old Collegians club folded part way through the year, whilst the Northern Comets, a club primarily set up to provide registration coverage for young athletes travelling for certain competitions in the USA was not reaffiliated.

Despite the fact that the majority of clubs are growing, a number of clubs continue to face issues that challenge their ability to survive. Athletics Victoria are working with each of these clubs in an effort to identify and resolve issues that may impact their ability to grow.

Tim Crosbie

CLUB DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Development

TIM CROSBIE, MATT GRIFFIN & DON BLYTH

Coaches

The past twelve months have witnessed significant developments in the Victorian coaching structure. Registration numbers have again increased as have the number of coaches undertaking formal coaching qualifications via our coach education provider, the Australian Track and Field Coaches Association (ATFCA). Club coaching structures have continued to be a focus and Athletics Victoria has been able to assist by funding coaches recommended by their club to undertake the Level 1 and 2 course as well as provide a level of support to coaches furthering their education at levels 3, 4 and 5.

The major change to the coaching structure in Victoria was the introduction of Athletics Australia's Accredited Athletics Coach system. This has meant that all coaches registered with Athletics Victoria are formally recognised if they are an ATFCA member, have undertaken an ATFCA course in the past four years, or meet the requirements of the AA Recognition of Current Competency Tool.

Coach Education

In 2008/09 Athletics Victoria and the Victorian branch of ATFCA continued to build on the breakthroughs made in the previous twelve months. The ATFCA conducted 4 Level 1 and 2 Level 2 coach accreditation courses in Victoria with record attendance numbers of 179 Level 1 coaches entering the system and 67 coaches upgrading their accreditation to Level 2. Once again accreditation courses were held in the country regions with Level 1 courses being conducted in Ballarat and Geelong and a Level 2 course in Bendigo. Athletics Victoria continued to do the promotion of the courses to the wider community, as well as the photocopying of all course material for the participants. Special acknowledgment goes to Victorian ATFCA branch Course Co-ordinator Bryan Neighbour for his efforts in continually improving the Level 1 and 2 courses and supporting Athletics Victoria in our bid to provide ongoing coach education.

Along side the Level 1 and 2 courses Athletics Victoria continued to encourage ongoing coach education via a series of forums and workshops.

In conjunction with the Victorian branch of the ATFCA three large workshops were run offering 14 different topics covering all event groups. These sessions were well attended with an average of 32 coaches patronising each session. As well as these sessions two workshops were held in conjunction with Athletics Australia, a sprints question and answer forum with Jamaican coach Steve Francis and a Pole Vault workshop with renowned coach Alan Launder.

Athletics Victoria continued to increase communication avenues to coaches, using the growing links with schools and Little Athletics. With the increased coaching activity over the past twelve months it suggests that this promotion is proving very effective.

Coach Services

Athletics Victoria again had the services of two Coaching Services Officers. Mark Ladbrook and Steven Cain filled the part time positions which provided assistance with coach and athlete development and a presence at as many school and regional meets as possible to promote Athletics Victoria. They also attended regional clinics and training sessions in Ballarat, Geelong and Gippsland.

Coaches in Schools Program

The coaches in schools program continues to be utilised by many schools in the metropolitan area. Schools contact Athletics Victoria with requests for suitable coaches with AV sourcing and appointing the coach. This year 11 school groups called on the skills and knowledge of Athletics Victoria's accredited coaches to prepare training schedules and sessions for their athletics team. Alongside the Aths2Go program, the coaches in schools program has proven to be a valuable channel for promotion and awareness of Athletics Victoria and our events.

Athlete Development

The development pathway and support structure for emerging U14 to U23 athletes continues to evolve and promote education and Long Term Athlete Development. Athlete numbers in both the AVIS Development Squad and the Future Squad were higher than previous years and this growth also reflected in the number of athletes who qualified and competed at the 2008 Pacific School Games incorporating the Australian All Schools Track and Field Championships. Victoria sent over 320 athletes to this event in the U14 to U20 age categories compared with just over 300 in 2007. Thanks go out to Nick Bowden, Clare Burton, Steve Cain, Tim Crosbie, Michelle James and Leana Tilley for the wonderful job they did managing the Athletics Victoria team.

AVIS-08 Development Squad

The AVIS-08 Development Squad provided talented young athletes with education on a wide range of relevant topics as well as the opportunity to train with their peers in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. The squad also allowed for athlete coaches to network and share ideas.

Athletes aged between 12 and 18 were selected on the basis of achieving performance standards similar to those required to compete at the National Championships. All athletes received a t-shirt as recognition for their inclusion to the squad which saw excellent participation numbers with 102 athletes selected for the duration of the program.

Six squad days were conducted between May and September incorporating practical and theory sessions led by head coaches Mark Ladbrook and Steve Cain. The focus of the program was to promote long term athlete development and educate athletes on the importance of preparing for the future. Parents and coaches were also invited to attend the sessions to foster an open and sharing relationship between like minded coaches as well as recognise the role they play in the development of junior athletes.

Future Squad

The Future Squad caters for athletes in the U20 and U23 age brackets who are achieving a high level of performance. There are two methods by which athletes may be selected to the AV Future Squad program; 1- via right of performance measured against the objective criteria and 2- via selectors discretion.

Future Squad athletes receive a level of funding assistance to aide attending and competing in National Championships and other major events. A level of funding for massage and rehabilitation is also set aside. Other benefits include Athletics Victoria membership for athlete and coach, entry into Victorian State Championships, access to basic testing, screening and education sessions and an allowance for the development of the athletes personal coach. There is also an International team selection bonus toward team levies. All funding is to be approved by AV Future Squad program co-ordinator.

The 2008 squad finished the year off strongly with 10 athletes capturing National titles, 9 representing Australia and one, Jess Rothwell, graduating to the VIS. Currently the 2009 squad has seen 4 athletes selected to represent Australia and 7 win National titles.

The 2009 squad is as follows: Liam Adams, Elise Clayton, Matthew Coloe, Melissa Duncan, Henry Frayne, Molly Grau, Jess Gulli, Chris Hamer, Craig Huffer, Regan Lamble, Blake Lucas, Scott Mace, Daniel Martin, Bianca Maurer, Kim Mulhall, Meggan O'Riley, Andrew Peska, Alex Rowe and Kane Wille.

Special thanks goes to Bill Gibbins for generously sponsoring the squad and to Derek Clayton for his involvement in promoting the initiative. Thank you also to SKINS for supplying a full set of apparel to each athlete in the squad and Mark Ladbrook for providing screening tests.

Development

MATT GRIFFIN, DON BLYTH & TIM CROSBIE

Athlete Development Clinics

Over the past twelve months a number of very successful athlete clinics were conducted targeting young enthusiastic school aged students. The highlight of these clinics were the three Craig Mottram sessions conducted throughout regional Victoria. Craig spoke to groups from Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong, sharing his experiences as an international athlete before taking the students for a training session. The three sessions were well attended with at least 60 athletes per clinic. Other clinics included the Geelong Super Aths day where over 30 children had the opportunity to train with Australian representatives such as Scott Martin, Alwyn Jones and Kelly Cartwright. Two sessions hosted by Ballarat Harriers focusing on jumps and throws were held in Ballarat with twelve in attendance and a very successful clinic for school children was held at Casey Fields for the Casey Cardinia region which saw over 30 children attend the 2hr session.

Indigenous Development Program

The annual funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria was this year put towards athlete and coach registration and education with direction from Athletics Australia.

Matt Griffin

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Officials

With increased membership and an expanded range of competitions, the demands on our officials and volunteers were high in 2008/9. Apart from our normal Shield Competition and State Championships, we also conducted two additional major events – Australian University Games and Australian Masters Games. Increasingly, schools are using the services of our officials to conduct their school carnivals, both track and field and cross country.

As in previous years the voluntary officials rose to the challenge and contributed many hours of work to ensure that athletes and students enjoyed top quality competition.

Recruiting new and more officials continued to be a challenge and some success was achieved mainly from amongst the clubs and parents of athletes. Part of the challenge was also to retain our existing officials and encourage them to take on new challenges.

The Association's Education Officer, Richard Lawysz, did an outstanding job in travelling to various parts of the State to conduct education courses for new and existing officials. It was encouraging to see a number of Level C officials upgrade their qualifications by undertaking Level B exams.

To provide officials with new and increased challenges, the Association's policy of rotating roles at major meets continued. This policy added to the range of skills of our officials and provided us with the basis of succession planning in future years.

A new Shield Competition Officiating Plan was introduced in the metropolitan regions this year. Under the Plan, the Association appointed and paid the key officials. In return for their payment, the key officials were required to prepare weekly reports, to manage events and educate and train the club helpers assigned to each event. Under this plan, a number of club helpers were identified as having potential to become qualified officials.

Officials continued to be recognized for their efforts through a range of programs.

I thank the members of the Officials Sub-Committee for their time, support and advice during the year.

To our wonderful group of officials, thank you once again for a job well done.

Don Blyth

OFFICIALS & VOLUNTEERS
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



Competition

MICHELLE JAMES, COMPETITION MANAGER

All Schools XCR Series

The All Schools Cross Country Relays saw an 11% increase in team entries, predominately across the U18 boys and U20 girls divisions. Marcellin College and Ruyton Girls School continued their dominance over the boys and girls championships, while Haileybury made it three in a row claiming the Co-Educational Championship.

Numbers continued to grow across the shorter distance of the schools road relay event at La Trobe University, as we welcomed 14 new schools and a record high of over 270 teams.

2008 saw the All Schools Cross Country Championships remain united with the AV Cross Country Championships in yet another successful competition at Bundoora Park.

Although we were once again hindered by technical difficulties which affected the presentation of medals, trophies and overall pennants, the vibe amongst the athletes remained positive throughout the day

Ballarat Grammar was out in force to defend their 2007 Co-educational Championship and managed to claim back to back victories; while Marcellin College & Ruyton Girls Schools took out the boys and girls championships respectively, securing both schools a clean sweep of the Schools XCR events.

All Schools Track Relays

The All Schools Track Relays were considerably down on the 2007 season by just over 20%. This was due to the extensive number of competitions on offer from AV and APS during this period, as demonstrated by the fact that a number of the larger schools could only commit to one of the two day program. The Pacific School Games Team Trials were regrettably scheduled four days after the second day of competition, a clash that was unavoidable due to the limited availability of Olympic Park. The Pacific Schools Games Trials were heavily supported as over 960 athletes competed in an attempt to secure their place in the Victorian Team. Melbourne Grammar took the Boys Overall Championship, while Caulfield Grammar secured their second consecutive victory in the Girls Overall Championship.

All Schools Track & Field Championships

The 2008 Track & Field Championships were combined as one competition, the U12, U13 and U20 divisions were dropped from the program and a viable competition across the U14-U18 divisions was formed. The newly established two and a half day competition catered for over 770 athletes who competed within 1,795 event entries. Although this appears to be lower than the 2007 participation rate, with the merger of the competitions no longer allowing athletes to compete on both weekends and the Victorian team already selected at the Pacific School Games trials, the All Schools Track & Field competition did not lead to anything this year and was viewed as a PB meet by the majority of competing athletes.

Pacific School Games Trials

In 2008 the National All Schools conducted their championships in conjunction with the Pacific School Games over an extensive eight day program in Canberra. As a result of the merger, Athletics Victoria was required to submit our team earlier than usual and therefore a last minute selection trial was scheduled. With the only available and suitable weekend in early September, this put enormous pressure on the participating athletes to be able to attain the qualifying standards two months earlier than normal. With over 2260 entries from 960 athletes a strong 320 member team was selected to represent Victoria.

I would like to thank all of the officials who endured this long and intensive program. It was two very long and arduous days and your time and effort was very much appreciated.

XCR'08 Series

Once again the XCR series produced a continuous and steady growth rate - an increase of 4.7% on the previous year's competitor numbers! Although there was a slight decline in participation at the Lardner Park 8km, the positive feedback from all athletes who attempted the classic course that was riddled with challenging hills, fences and ditches, suggests that this number will grow for 2009.

It was great to see a new era of premierships clubs coming through; congratulations to the newly formed South Coast Athletics Club, within their debut year taking out the Men's Division 6 and Women U20 premierships. Box Hill broke a very long drought conquering the Men's Division 1 premiership, as Knox Division 1 women's team defended their 2007 triumph in style, claiming back to back victories.

It was encouraging to see another two country clubs break into division 1; Bendigo Region pulled themselves together to progress into the men's, while Traralgon advanced in the women's.

Thank you to all of the clubs who assisted us with course set-up/pack-up and yummy canteens, your time and effort is vital to the successful outcome of each competition. Also, thanks to all of our officials, club helpers and in particular Tony Williams, as Competition Director.

Shield Competition

During the 2008/09 Shield Season AV released a set of athletics swap cards. The cards were of Victorian athletes who had competed at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. There were 18 standard cards plus 7 rare gold holographic cards to collect. Packs of cards were distributed to all junior athletes who attended the Shield Competition each round. The swap cards were also dispersed at a variety of additional AV and VLAA meets across the summer period in an attempt to entice new athletes to attend the Shield Competition. The elite athletes made appearances at a number of shield rounds throughout the season signing their cards, with the majority returning to their home region.

Unfortunately the 2008/09 Shield Season was heavily affected by the changing weather conditions. A number of rounds were cancelled or postponed due to excessive heat and others due to rain! This caused many of the regions to reschedule rounds, mostly to mid week twilight meets which affected numerous athletes in attaining the higher eligibility requirements to compete at their region and shield finals.

With the release of the new OpenScore program came a number of technological problems which caused headaches for all athletes, team managers and clubs. It seemed like a never ending battle in ensuring results were correct so that clubs were aware of their athlete's eligibility and ladder position. Although the program was still not 100% at the end of the 2008/09 Shield competition there had been significant improvements made throughout the season by program creators Tudor Holton and Craig Mahony. Tudor and Craig will continue to iron out the pending issues over the XCR period to ensure that the OpenScore program is up and running for next season. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the region scorers for their immense effort and patience throughout the season

The Shield Final competition was considered a success. Although some clubs were confused about the eligibility of some of their athletes, the overall competition on the day ran very well. Allan Mathews put a great deal of time and effort in dealing with the local council to ensure the venue would be suitable for the program, primarily, the installation of a new hammer cage. As a result of Allan's hard work the Meadowglen facility is now a viable Shield venue for the North West Region

Competition

MICHELLE JAMES, COMPETITION MANAGER

Specialist Meets

A series of specialist groups were formed for the 2008/09 summer season, to individually cater primarily for the elite/semi elite athletes within their disciplines. The four groups met regularly throughout the season and were managed by committees made up of coaches and athletes with the full support of AV. All meets were conducted with the necessary qualified officials to give the athletes a higher level of competition and the chance to achieve national qualifying standards.

The High Velocity Club provided sprinters, hurdlers and horizontal jumpers with the opportunity to participate in fast paced event specific races. All races were graded to ensure that athletes of similar abilities competed against each other and pushed one another to achieve PB performances.

Athletes specialising in Pole Vault and High Jump were accommodated for by the Rare Air Club, with five meets conducted over the summer period including three starting heights at each event.

AV Throwers covered Shot Put, Discus, Javelin and Hammer, originally scheduling three meets for the season and conducting an extra two as a result of athlete demand.

The Vic Milers Club who were already established, aligned themselves with AV and provided graded competition for all athletes focused on middle distance

Victorian Country Track & Field Championships

The rotation of the event around Victoria, saw Geelong host the 2009 Country Track & Field Championships, receiving record numbers in a highly organised three day program. A total of 644 competing athletes smashed the previously held record (Bendigo 2007) by 28%, with the event entries exceeding 2260, an increase of 26% on Albury 2008.

Once again the Australian Defence Force were in attendance with 15 athletes across 51 entries, growing their participation rate by 25%

The country clubs continue to provide a high level of team spirit and camaraderie amongst themselves, creating a strong social atmosphere which has assisted in the competitions overall growth.

Congratulations to Athletics Chilwell who won the Men's Overall Championship, while Eaglehawk took out the Women's and were premiers in the prestigious Margaret Saunders Cup.

I would like to thank the Geelong LOC and all attending officials for their hard work in producing a great event, with special mention to Anula Costa, Beth Bauer and Yvonne Glover for their invaluable support within the administration area and to Richard Lawysz as Competition Manager for his direction and timely running of the program.

Victorian Track & Field Championships

100 Victorian Little Athletic competitors, an increase of 40%, added value to the Youth Championships for the second year in a row. In an attempt to bridge the gap between Little Athletics and AV senior athletics, the VLAA competitors were once again treated to a range of guest speakers, expert coaching and photo opportunities with Victoria's elite athletes.

Improved communication with clubs and members was instrumental in achieving excellent entry numbers for the Open & U20 Track & Field Championships. We did invite clubs to erect banners, flags etc. to engage themselves in a sense of team spirit and build the atmosphere within the Championships; however very few clubs chose to accept this invitation.

Additionally we were unable to maintain the soaring increase of AWD entries from last year, with numbers falling by over 72%.

Victorian Masters Track & Field Championships

The feedback from the previous Masters Championships was addressed by moving the championships to a smaller more intimate venue and ensuring all athletes wore coloured bibs to determine their individual age divisions. The concept of one medal worked well, allowing presentations to run more efficiently, although not completely hassle free and with entry numbers increasing by 5% the overall championship continues to be a success. I believe that the combination of our Masters Championships with the Victorian Masters Association provides a stronger competition for all of our overage athletes, additionally allowing them to compete in five year age brackets and use their correct implement height and weight.

Victorian Track & Field Relay/Multi-Event Championships

For the second consecutive year the Victorian Track & Field Relay Championships were combined with the alternate individual Track & Field Championships. Once again we found that the amalgamation provided a great atmosphere throughout the program and provided a high level of competition for athletes of all ages, allowing all family members to be involved. Unfortunately the field relays were barely supported, with only 28 teams spread across the 12 events, forcing the Championship Committee to review their viability for the coming season.

Despite splitting the Multi-Event Championships across our two prominent championship weekends, the entries remained stagnant with 67 athletes across the 14 events.

I would like to thank all of our officials, volunteers and club helpers for their time, effort and expertise throughout the season. A big thank you to Alan and Yvonne Glover, Marg Dunbar, David Armstrong, Richard Lawysz and Ronda Jenkins as their continued support and commitment is highly valued.

Thank you to Tim Crosbie (XCR), Marian O'Shaughnessy (Summer), Khan Sharp (Championships) and their devoted committees who work extremely hard to better the sport.

Last but certainly not least, thank you to all of the AV office staff who have assisted me throughout the year, their contribution and ongoing support is very much appreciated.

Michelle James

COMPETITION MANAGER

XCR Awards

ATHLETICS VICTORIA

Victorian XCR Championships

George Saunders Trophy

Champion Female Winter Athlete
Renate Wyss (MUU)

Lola Downes Trophy

Women Open Champion Athlete
Renate Wyss (MUU)

Athletics Victoria Trophy

Champion Male Winter Athlete
Lee Troop (GER)

Stewart Fraser Trophy

Women U20 Champion Athlete
Lisa Stanton Smith (KSB)

Joan Beretta Trophy

Women U18 Champion Athlete
Samantha Carberry (DON)

George Thomas Memorial Trophy

Men U18 Champion Athlete
Ryan Geard (ATE)

Joyce Davis Trophy

Women U16 Champion Athlete
Erin Rayner (ATE)

Joe Carmody Trophy

Men U16 Champion Athlete
Samuel Quirk (SCA)

Frank Chapman Trophy

Women U14 Champion Athlete
Samanth Prime (KNA)
Courtney Scott (WES)

Bendigo Building Society Trophy

Men U14 Champion Athlete
Zachary Rouse (MPA)

Lavinia Petrie Award

Women 40+ Champion Athlete
Michelle Bleakley (APS)

Neil Ryan Award

Men 40+ Champion Athlete
James Atkinson (AWA)

Margaret Dunbar Award

Women 45+ Champion Athlete
Jeanette Chapman (COL)

Chris Wardlaw Award

Men 45+ Champion Athlete
Michael McIntyre (KSB)

Colleen Stephens Award

Women 50+ Champion Athlete
Stacey Van Dueren (COB)

Trevor Vincent Award

Men 50+ Champion Athlete
Peter Gaffney (KSB)

Peter Battrick Award

Men 55+ Champion Athlete
Paul Twining (COL)

Ian Upton Award

Men 60+ Champion Athlete
Kevin Solomon (RIC)

Lillian Neville Trophy

Cross Country Teams Champions
Knox Athletics

Eddie Moore Trophy

Male 16K CC Championship
Lee Troop (GER)

Jack Biggins Trophy

Male 15K Road Championship
Clint Perrett (SAN)

AV Trophy

Female 15K Road Championship
Renate Wyss (MUU)

Phyllis Andersson Trophy

Women U16 Road Relay Team
Athletics Essendon

Mark Shilston Trophy

Male 12K CC Championship
Lee Troop (GER)

Harrison Jones Trophies

Female Open Handicap Winner
Corrie Van Raaphorst (BYC)

Female U20 Handicap Winner
Sadie Plumb (SCA)

Female U16 Handicap Winner
Kaylee Turvey (COL)

Marion Patterson Trophy

Female Marathon Championship
Michelle Bleakley (APS)

J.C. Draper Memorial Trophy

Male 10K Road Championship
Lee Troop (GER)

S.C. Reeve Perpetual Trophy

Male 8K CC Championship
Lee Troop (GER)

Ron Clarke Trophy

Male Road Relay Championship
Box Hill AC

Ron Clarke Trophy

Female Road Relay Championship
Glenhuntly AC

XCR School Trophies

Joan Beretta Shield

Female School CC Total Points
Ruyton Girls School

Geoff Walker Trophy

Male School CC Total Points
Marcellin College

Robbie Morgan Morris Shield

Co-educational School CC Total Points
Ballarat Grammar

La Trobe University Trophy

Girls U18 School CC Team Champions
Haileybury College

La Trobe University Trophy

Boys U18 School CC Team Champions
Ballarat Grammar

Walk Trophies

Betty Newman Trophy

Womens Walking Team Competition
Athletics Essendon

Avis Redman Trophy

U16 Most Improved Girl
Ayla Collins (MAL)

Norm Goble Trophy

Most Points in Mens AV Championships
Andre Jamieson (OSC)

Tom Daintry Trophy

Best U14 First Year Walker
Ebony Whiley (EAG)

Summer Awards

ATHLETICS VICTORIA

Victorian Track & Field Championships

Sir Frank Beaurepaire Trophy

Female Open Outstanding Championship Athlete
Jessica Rothwell (EAG)

John Park Memorial Cup

Male Open Outstanding Championship Athlete
Aaron Rouge-Serret (ATE)

H.H Hunter Shield

Male Open Club Championship Aggregate
Athletics Essendon

Standard Newspapers Shield

Female Club Championship Aggregate
Glenhuntly AC

Female Youth Athlete of the Championship

Ashleigh Whittaker (SAN)

Male Youth Athlete of the Championship

Damien Birkenhead (COR)

Female Op/U20 Athlete of the Championship

Tamsyn Lewis (SAN)

Male Op/U20 Athlete of the Championship

Aaron Rouge-Serret (ATE)

Phyllis Cantwell Shield

Female Open Club Championship Aggregate
Sandringham AC

VAA U20 Championship

Female U20 Club Championship Aggregate
Box Hill AC

Mabel Robinson Shield

Female U18 Club Championship Aggregate
Glenhuntly AC

Mabel Moad Shield

Female Under 16/14 Club Championship
Aggregate
Glenhuntly AC

Phyllis Akers Cup

Female U18 Outstanding Championship Athlete
Margaret Satupai (GHY)

Ex Athletes Trophy

Female U18 Outstanding Championship Performance
Ashleigh Whittaker (SAN)

Sir Raymond Connelly Trophy

Female U16 Outstanding Championship Athlete
Monica Brennan (DIV)

Lady Connelly Trophy

Female Open Nontitle Aggregate
Brittney Knee (KSB)

Emily Crockett Memorial Trophy

Female Open 100m Champion
Angela Byrt (GLG)

Hector Hogan Trophy

Male Open 100m Champion
Aaron Rouge-Serret (EMH)

W H Brown Memorial Trophy

Male Open 1500m Champion
Brenton Rowe (DKN)

Frank P Brown Memorial Trophy & Rob Fildes Trophy

Male Open Decathlon Champion
Steve Cain (STK)

H B Selby Trophy

Female Open Heptathlon Champion
Theodora Spathis (BOH)

Aileen Kennedy Memorial Trophy

Female U18 Multi Event Champion
Jessica Kaufman (GHY)

Aileen Kennedy Memorial Trophy

Female U16 Multi Event Champion
Tanya Higgs (EAG)

VAA Relay Shield

Male Club Championship Aggregate
Doncaster AC

Doris Carter Trophy

Female Open 4x100m Championship
Athletics Essendon

Maisie McQuiston Trophy

Female U18 4x100m Championship
Sandringham AC

Lillian Neville Trophy

Female U16 4x100m Championship
Croydon AC

Jess Reing Trophy

Female U14 4x100m Championship
Croydon AC

L.C. Mills Trophy

Female Open 4x400m Championship
Ringwood AC

Evelyn Morris Trophy

Female U18 4x400m Championship
Knox Athletics

Doris Mulcahy Cup

Female U16 4x400m Championship
Doncaster AC

Pat McDonnell Trophy

Female U14 4x400m Championship
Croydon AC

George Knott Trophy

5000m Track Walk Championship
Christopher Erickson (ATE)

Country Track & Field Championships**Margaret Saunders Country Cup**

Country Club Championship Aggregate
Eaglehawk AC

VWAAA Ex Athletes Cup

Female Country Club Championship Aggregate
Eaglehawk AC

David Kitt Memorial Trophy

Male Country Club Championship Aggregate
Athletics Chilwell

Joyce Lockyer Memorial Shield

Overall Performance/Encouragement Field Events
Sophie Taylor (EAG)

Australia Day Awards

Female Athlete of the Meet
Sarah Byron (BYC)

Male Athlete of the Meet
Nigel Skurrie (CHI)

Stuart Hunter Memorial Shield

Most Outstanding Athlete Under 16
Nathan Krepp (SWA)

Victorian School Track & Field Trophies**Maisie McQuiston Foundation Trophy**

Female Most Outstanding Championship
Sophie Taylor (EAG)

Elmar E. Rhan Memorial Trophy

Male Best Championship Performance
Sam Baines (OLM)

Relay Shield

Female School Relay Championship Aggregate
Caulfield Grammar

Relay Shield

Male School Relay Championship Aggregate
Melbourne Grammar

Membership Statistics

ATHLETICS VICTORIA MEMBERSHIP BY CLUB

Metropolitan Clubs	Open Male						Total Male	Open Female						Athletes	Coaches	Officials	Associates	Total
	U20	U18	U16	U14				U20	U18	U16	U14							
Athletics Essendon	71	13	16	18	14	132	36	7	14	19	20	96	228	12	17	16	271	
Athletics Nunawading	16	3	1	4	2	26	2	0	6	8	1	17	43	4	4	2	51	
Athletics Waverley	47	5	7	5	2	66	19	5	6	5	1	36	102	5	8	6	115	
Box Hill	58	10	20	12	2	102	29	12	14	9	4	68	170	15	7	4	187	
Brunswick	8	0	1	2	0	11	5	1	0	3	2	11	22	0	11	1	35	
Casey Cardinia Athletics	8	1	2	1	5	17	5	0	1	3	3	12	29	1	0	1	30	
Coburg Harriers	40	2	8	3	10	63	12	1	5	7	8	33	96	4	6	0	101	
Collingwood Harriers	57	2	6	7	8	80	15	2	1	3	3	24	104	2	20	0	121	
Croydon	6	1	2	6	6	21	3	0	3	6	17	29	50	2	0	6	57	
De La Salle Old Collegians	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	
Diamond Valley	53	8	14	12	7	94	14	7	11	7	6	45	139	8	4	1	143	
Doncaster	34	10	16	19	11	90	12	7	14	16	11	60	150	5	10	1	164	
East Melbourne Harriers	3	2	15	16	12	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	1	0	0	50	
Frankston	17	7	17	12	8	61	5	11	8	14	9	47	108	9	5	9	129	
Glenhuntly	95	6	12	10	6	129	33	4	12	15	18	82	211	15	11	2	234	
Haileybury	9	0	0	0	0	9	4	0	0	0	0	4	13	2	1	4	18	
Independent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	4	26	0	35	
Ivanhoe Harriers	9	6	0	3	0	18	1	1	0	1	0	3	21	3	4	3	29	
Keilor St Bernards	28	8	6	9	6	57	14	7	11	15	22	69	126	7	12	0	135	
Knox Athletics	50	11	22	23	6	112	28	11	20	18	14	91	203	8	12	2	220	
Maccabi	6	1	2	8	9	26	0	0	2	3	5	10	36	1	4	1	41	
Malvern Harriers	27	3	7	7	8	52	11	0	2	9	8	29	81	4	3	10	94	
Melbourne University	46	4	0	1	0	51	35	3	2	2	2	44	95	5	9	1	105	
Mentone	29	0	2	6	0	37	8	1	3	5	3	20	57	6	0	0	60	
Mornington Peninsula	14	1	3	5	5	28	1	0	3	3	3	10	38	3	3	0	41	
Oakleigh	18	0	0	1	0	19	2	0	0	0	0	2	21	0	2	0	23	
Old Melburnians	18	9	22	16	5	70	2	1	4	1	1	9	79	4	0	0	79	
Old Paradians Meadowglen	6	0	1	3	1	11	2	0	0	0	0	2	13	1	3	3	18	
Old Scotch Collegians	24	4	5	6	5	44	1	0	0	0	0	1	45	0	0	0	45	
Old Xaverians	16	1	5	15	5	42	7	0	0	0	0	7	49	2	2	0	50	
Preston	16	9	6	7	5	43	5	3	4	10	6	28	71	2	7	1	77	
Richmond Harriers	29	2	4	5	4	44	12	1	1	0	0	14	58	3	2	1	60	
Ringwood	28	9	11	6	9	63	20	6	5	2	3	36	99	11	10	4	116	
Ruyton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	14	4	27	27	0	2	0	29	
Sandringham	44	1	6	10	2	63	13	4	9	14	4	44	107	9	9	2	122	
South Melbourne	17	1	1	0	4	23	1	1	0	0	1	3	26	0	0	0	26	
St Kevins	25	7	4	7	2	45	1	0	1	1	0	3	48	1	1	1	49	
St Stephens Harriers	30	5	8	8	3	54	10	7	9	3	2	31	85	8	5	2	93	
Victorian Masters	29	0	0	0	0	29	10	0	0	0	0	10	40	0	2	0	40	
Western Athletics	32	19	10	19	7	87	15	4	6	15	18	58	145	10	3	8	162	
Williamstown	9	1	6	10	4	30	5	8	5	6	1	25	55	2	5	5	66	

Country Clubs	Open Male						Total Male	Open Female						Total Female	Total				
	U20	U18	U16	U14				U20	U18	U16	U14				Athletes	Coaches	Officials	Associates	Total
Athletics Chilwell	26	4	12	7	8	57	10	4	6	10	15	45	102	7	7	0	110		
Ballarat Harriers	38	2	6	2	5	53	9	0	1	2	1	13	66	2	3	17	84		
Ballarat YCW Harriers	42	4	4	7	13	70	16	2	5	8	7	38	108	2	7	23	136		
Bellarine Athletics T&F	12	0	0	4	6	22	5	2	2	2	0	11	33	2	7	0	38		
Bendigo University	6	1	1	0	1	9	1	0	0	0	0	1	10	1	1	8	18		
Bendigo YMCA Harriers	31	4	5	6	1	47	12	2	1	4	3	21	68	3	3	3	72		
Corio	2	1	3	2	2	10	2	0	4	3	3	12	22	0	3	0	25		
Deakin	20	3	1	3	0	27	7	3	8	6	2	26	53	5	4	3	62		
Eaglehawk YMCA	22	3	7	6	11	49	13	4	5	17	17	56	105	2	6	1	108		
Eureka	21	3	8	7	7	46	11	6	7	14	8	46	92	7	4	3	99		
Geelong Guild	14	7	5	4	1	31	16	4	5	4	2	30	61	1	12	1	74		
Portland Runners Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	9		
South Bendigo	21	2	8	4	7	42	7	2	3	4	4	20	62	4	7	1	71		
Stawell & Ararat Cross Country Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10		
Warrnambool	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	11		
Wendouree	26	4	3	7	8	48	5	2	8	2	6	23	71	5	8	10	86		
Unattached																			
Border Track & Field	6	0	1	1	1	9	4	0	1	1	1	7	16	1	0	1	17		
Gippsland Athletics	6	1	2	7	1	17	2	1	1	3	2	9	26	4	7	1	32		
South Coast Athletics	10	2	5	6	9	32	3	2	3	5	10	23	55	5	2	4	62		
South West Athletics	5	0	1	4	2	12	0	0	1	6	2	9	21	0	0	24	45		
Traralgon Harriers	31	1	4	0	0	36	19	2	1	1	0	23	59	2	0	79	139		
Wangaratta Harriers	1	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	0	2	4	10		
Wellington Athletics	3	2	2	2	8	16	0	2	1	3	5	11	27	1	0	4	32		
Wodonga	10	4	4	4	1	23	9	1	3	2	5	20	43	1	1	1	44		
Specialist Group																			
Ballarat Walkers Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2		
Bendigo Athletics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1		
Bendigo Walkers Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Burramine Sports Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10		
Trakstart Pty Ltd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3		
Geelong Cross Country Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4		
Geelong Walkers Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Knox Road Runners	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	15		
Rye Sports & Social Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10		
Stawell Athletic Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	14		
Victorian Cross Country League	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7		
Victorian Milers Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Victorian Race Walking Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
Woody Yaloak	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2		
Total	1430	220	351	387	277	2664	549	154	258	335	293	1586	4251	238	317	382	4991		

Recreational Athlete Member

13076

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

18067

Victorian Institute of Sport

STATE PERFORMANCE COORDINATOR, DEREK BOOTHROYD

Athletics – Track & Field

The primary aims of the VIS track and field program are to provide the highest level of support to Victoria's elite track and field athletes and to improve performances at major international athletics events including Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games, International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Championships and International Paralympic Committee (IPC) World Championships.

The Program

The program is recognised as the high performance service provider for Victorian athletes under the Athletics Australia High Performance Plan.

This year, maximising the opportunities for athletes to perform at the 2008 Olympic/ Paralympic Games and 2009 IAAF World Championships was the central focus of the 2008/09 VIS Track and Field program.

VIS track and field athletes work with individual coaches at training venues across the state. The VIS State Performance Coordinator, together with specialist staff, provide support to athletes and coaches via the delivery of a coordinated service program (sports medicine, sport science, physical preparation, ACE) and competition support for each athlete.

The program year commenced with 21 VIS athletes finalising their preparations for the Beijing Olympic Games. Following the Olympics, athletes returned to Australia in order to work towards 2009 IAAF World Championship selection.

Results & Highlights

May 2008

- Benn Harradine broke the Australian discus record twice in two weeks at meets in the USA

June 2008

- Thirteen VIS athletes were nominated to compete at the Beijing Olympic Games
Men – Craig Mottram, Collis Birmingham*, Benn Harradine*, Scott Martin*, Sean Wroe*, Lee Troop, Jeff Riseley.

Women – Sarah Jamieson, Madeleine Pape*, Benita Johnson, Lisa Weightman*, Kate Smyth*, Victoria Mitchell*

- Eight VIS athletes were selected to the track and field team to compete at the Beijing Paralympic Games

Men – Tim Sullivan, Russell Short, Chris Mullins*, Ian Speed*, Richard Colman

Women – Lisa McIntosh, Jodi Willis-Roberts, Brydee Moore*

*denotes Olympic/Paralympic debutant

August 2008

- Sean Wroe sets a personal best in the heats of the 400m at the Olympic Games and progresses through to the semi finals at his first Olympics.
- The Australian Men's 4 x 400m team, including Sean Wroe, clocks the 2nd fastest time ever by an Australian 4 x 400m team to finish 6th at the Beijing Olympic Games.

September 2008

- VIS Paralympic Athletes return with 3 Gold Medals [Lisa McIntosh 100m and 200m, Tim Sullivan and Chris Mullins 4 x 100m], 1 Silver Medal [Richard Coleman] and 2 Bronze Medals [Richard Coleman and Jodi Willis-Roberts].

January 2009

- Christopher Mullins is awarded an Order of Australia Medal in recognition of his performances at the 2008 Paralympic Games.

March 2009

- VIS athletes win 11 Gold Medals at the National Athletics Championships in Brisbane.
- Sean Wroe lowers his 400m PB to 45.07sec at the National Championships.
- Lisa Weightman finishes in the Top 20 [17th] at the IAAF World Cross Country Championships held in Jordan.
- At 31st March, 6 VIS were selected to represent Australia at the 2009 IAAF World Championships to be held in Berlin in August 2009.

Derek Boothroyd

STATE PERFORMANCE COORDINATOR

Network Coaches

Phil Badman, John Eden, Robbie Bolton, Alex Gusbeth, Mandi Cole, Nic Bideau, Steve Moneghetti, Bruce Scriven, Gus Puopolo, Eric Hollingsworth, Simon Baker, Simon Lewin, Terry McGrath, Adam Larcom, Ray Treacy, Jeff Hawkins, Andrew Russell, Chris Wardlaw, Pam Turney, Dick Telford.

Partners

Athletics Australia

Athletics Victoria

Athletes

Aaron Rouge-Serret, Benn Harradine, Benita Johnson, Brydee Moore, Chris Mullins, Collis Birmingham, Craig Mottram, Georgie Clarke, Ian Speed, Jeffrey Riseley, Jessica Rothwell, Jodi Willis-Roberts, Kate Smyth, Kathryn Mitchell, Lee Troop, Lisa McIntosh, Lisa Weightman, Madeleine Pape, Mark Fountain, Richard Colman, Russell Short, Sarah Jamieson, Scott Martin, Sean Wroe, Tim Sullivan, Victoria Mitchell

Financial Report

ATHLETICS VICTORIA, 2008–09

Statement by Board of Management

In the opinion of the Board the attached financial report

- 1 Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Athletics Victorias Inc. as at 31 March 2009 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
- 2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Athletics Victoria Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the board and is signed for and on behalf of the board by:



Anne Lord

PRESIDENT



Eric Sigmont

TREASURER

Date: 26th May 2009

Balance Sheet

as at 31st March 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
Membership Funds			
ACCUMULATED RESERVES	2	599,948	567,843
Represented by:			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	3	300	300
A.N.Z. Bank	3	34,961	8,905
Other Financial Assets	4	1,073,968	1,146,118
Receivables		35,087	60,181
Inventories		65,382	71,125
Payments in Advance		30,630	43,039
Deposits Paid		2,787	700
		1,243,115	1,330,368
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipment	5	66,801	99,263
TOTAL ASSETS		1,309,916	1,429,631
Deduct			
LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS			
Projects in Progress	6	42,152	74,310
Sundry Creditors		84,106	121,586
GST		259	827
Advance Grants – SRV	7	19,760	18,036
Advance Grants – Moving Athletics Forward	7	441,186	543,844
Advance Grants – Vichealth		0	0
Advance Grants - AA		0	3,939
Provision for Annual Leave		63,349	42,422
Provision for Long Service Leave		20,226	17,132
Provision for future depreciation		23,285	33,441
Provision for Audit fees		3,000	3,000
Provision for Obsolescence		0	0
Advance Deposits		12,646	3,251
TOTAL LIABILITITES		709,969	861,788
NET ASSETS		599,948	567,843

Financial Report

ATHLETICS VICTORIA, 2008–09

Income Statement for year ended 31st March 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
Income			
Athlete Registrations		342,911	317,550
Club Affiliation/Claims/Transfers		19,877	21,856
Investment Interest		77,427	79,594
Management/Administration Fees		4,322	5,014
Athletics Australia – Development Grant		1,000	1,000
Athletics Australia – Telephone Subsidy		0	5,855
Athletics Australia – Memorandum of Understanding		0	6,547
Athletics Victoria Foundation Grant		9,087	0
Merchandising		81,379	68,366
Sponsorship/Grants		22,273	12,500
Sundry		6,937	4,440
VAL Rent		5,479	5,300
SUB TOTAL		570,692	528,022
DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES (Gross Operating Surplus)			
VicHealth Program		0	12,474
Government Grants	7	37,720	60,024
Schools Competitions		5,545	9,246
Officials/Coaches		30,228	17,377
General Development		5,915	2,010
SUB TOTAL		79,408	101,131
COMPETITION ACTIVITIES (Gross Operating Surplus)			
Winter Events		32,044	24,037
Summer Events		(76,149)	(35,997)
Championships		7,625	18,897
Schools Events		44,740	32,911
State Teams		19,385	5,225
Sundries		(5,952)	(5,823)
Special Meets		37,790	8,262
SUB TOTAL		59,483	47,512
INCOME		709,583	676,665
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		677,478	562,368
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		32,105	114,297

Income Statement

for year ended 31st March 2009

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Expenditure		
Advertising	590	692
Affiliation Expenses	577	614
Audit fees	3,510	3,350
Awards & Gifts	5,680	1,802
Bank/Government charges	5,610	5,117
Board expenses	2,532	3,492
Capitation	0	3,667
Committee Expenses	389	321
Computer Expenses	12,003	11,548
Courier Expenses	164	280
Depreciation	12,758	23,081
Insurances	26,425	25,404
Lease Payments – Equipment	0	5,395
Legal Expenses	16,064	0
Maintenance – Equipment & Furniture	5,086	3,301
Meetings	3,851	1,163
Merchandising	78,507	61,999
Office Rent	24,810	23,811
Photocopier and Fax Expenses	7,760	6,153
Postage	7,428	8,690
Printing & Stationery	25,537	24,222
Salaries	374,837	303,615
Staff/Office Amenities	4,370	3,269
Staff Training	1,277	120
Sundry	12,603	4,822
Superannuation	35,201	25,031
Telephone	7,789	8,682
Travel	2,118	2,727
TOTAL	677,478	562,368

Financial Report

ATHLETICS VICTORIA, 2008–09

Statement of Cash Flows for year ended 31st March 2009

	Note	2009 \$	2008 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		1,184,987	1,279,043
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,233,859)	(1,263,845)
Interest received		77,427	79,594
GST paid		(71,649)	(84,844)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	8	(43,094)	9,946
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Advances (to)/from short term deposits		72,150	49,167
Proceeds from sale of investments		0	0
Acquisition of F/A		(3,000)	(56,649)
NET CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		26,056	(7,482)
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		26,056	2,466
Add opening cash brought forward		9,205	6,739
CLOSING CASH CARRIED FORWARD		35,261	9,205

Notes to the Financial Statements

for year ended 31st March 2009

1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria).

The financial report covers Athletics Victoria Inc. as an individual entity. Athletics Victoria Inc. is an association incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

The financial report of Athletics Victoria Inc as an individual entity complies with all Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) in their entirety.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

Accounting Policies

(a) Fixed Assets

The assets have been recorded at cost and the policy of the Board is to annually reassess the market value of the fixed assets and depreciate accordingly, to show the lower of cost or net realisable value.

(b) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax by virtue of Section 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(c) Revenue

The surplus/deficit from projects completed during the year transferred to the income and expenditure statement represents the net of revenues (including revenue received by way of grants to some projects) and expenses of those projects.

Financial Report

ATHLETICS VICTORIA, 2008–09

2 Membership Funds

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Accumulated Surplus as at 1st April 2008	567,843	453,546
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	32,105	114,297
Balance as at 31st March 2009	<u>599,948</u>	<u>567,843</u>

3 Cash at Bank & On Hand

	2009	2008
Cash on hand	300	300
A.N.Z.Bank	<u>34,961</u>	<u>8,905</u>
Balance as at 31st March 2009	<u>35,261</u>	<u>9,205</u>

4 Investments

	2009	2008
ANZ V2 Plus	25,000	5,000
Bendigo Building Society (IOOF)	643,543	0
ANZ Term Deposit	405,425	0
ANZ Bank Commercial Bills	<u>0</u>	<u>1,141,118</u>
Balance as at 31st March 2009	<u>1,073,968</u>	<u>1,146,118</u>

5 Fixed Assets

	2009	2008
Office Equipment & Furniture at cost	193,933	208,640
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(127,132)</u>	<u>(109,377)</u>
Total written down value at 31st March 2009	<u>66,801</u>	<u>99,263</u>

6 Projects in Progress

	2009	2008
Schools Knock Out	1,309	1,691
ATFCA Courses	10,109	0
Development Squad	136	1,136
AV Future Squad	30,598	62,663
Officials Rewards Scheme	<u>0</u>	<u>8,820</u>
Balance unexpended at 31st March 2009	<u>42,152</u>	<u>74,310</u>

Projects in progress represents unexpended funds from projects which are expected to be spent in the future.

AV Future Squad has been funded by sponsorship and has seen \$49,808.51 distributed to Future Squad athletes and \$27,711 expended on the employment of Coaches during 2008-09.

7 State Government Grants

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Advance Grants at 1/4/08	561,880	607,971
add income:		
Sport Development Scheme	20,000	10,000
Automated Timing Project	0	20,000
Moving Athletics Forward	300,000	300,000
Indigenous Sport Devt Program	2,000	0
Victalent	0	1,000
	<u>322,000</u>	<u>331,000</u>
total	883,880	938,971
less expenses	385,214	317,067
less Advance Grants – SRV MAF at 31/3/09	441,186	543,844
less Advance Grants – SRV at 31/3/09	19,760	18,036
	<u>846,160</u>	<u>878,947</u>
	<u>37,720</u>	<u>60,024</u>

The reported surplus of \$37,720 is offset by expenses of salaries, administration and program running costs, hence the program has made a nil net contribution to the Statement of Financial Performance of the Association.

A “Moving Athletics Forward” grant of \$1,200,000 has been allocated by the Department for Victorian Communities from 2007 to 2009. \$758,814 has been expended to 31/3/09. The four programs supported by this grant are: Development Officer Support, Schools Knockout, Mind the Gap and Officials and Coach Recruitment.

8 Statement of Cash Flows

	2009	2008
	\$	\$
(a) Reconciliation of cash		
Cash on hand	300	300
Bank Account	34,961	8,905
Closing Cash Balance	<u>35,261</u>	<u>9,205</u>
(b) Reconciliation of the operating profit after Tax to the net cash flows from operations		
Operating profit after tax	32,105	114,297
Depreciation of non-current assets	35,461	23,081
Changes in assets and liabilities		
Trade and other receivables	25,094	(34,063)
Inventory	5,743	(56,467)
Prepayments and deposits	10,322	(24,920)
Advance Grants	(104,873)	(79,950)
Trade and other creditors	(70,398)	48,218
Employee entitlements	24,021	19,412
Goods and services tax payable	(568)	338
Net cash flow from (used in) operating activities	<u>(43,094)</u>	<u>9,946</u>

Financial Report

ATHLETICS VICTORIA, 2008–09

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Athletics Victoria Inc.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Athletics Victoria Inc. (the Association) which comprises the balance sheet as at 31st March 2009 and the income statement, statement of recognised income and expenditure and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Associations Incorporation Act (Vic). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing 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 entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, 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.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion –

the financial report of Athletics Victoria Inc. is in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act (Vic), including –

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 31st March 2009 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Auditing Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Associations Incorporation Act (Vic).



Name of Firm: E. F. McPHAIL AND PARTNERS

Name of Partner: Wayne C. Durdin

Address: 38 Ellingworth Parade,
Box Hill, Victoria, 3128

Dated this 18th day of June 2009



Athletics Victoria gratefully acknowledge the following sponsors for their continued support over the 2008–09 year



