

Athletics
Australia

Annual Report 2005-06



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Message from Telstra

Telstra would like to congratulate Athletics Australia and the Australian athletics team on a remarkable year.

Telstra is delighted to be entering into its sixth year as principal sponsor of AA, supporting Australian athletes as they strive to reach the pinnacle of their sport and compete with the world's best.

The highlight of the past 12 months was undoubtedly the Melbourne Commonwealth Games. In this elite competition, our athletes emphatically returned Australia to the top of the Commonwealth with an impressive 41 medals.

In addition to being a financial sponsor, Telstra provided AA with Telstra technology to assist with communication during the Commonwealth Games. This included our advanced SMS technology which delivered team selection news to athletes and the Telstra HeroMessage service that relayed thousands of goodwill messages from the public to our team.

Working alongside Australian athletes – from the elite to our junior competitors – we remain committed to supporting AA's goal of identifying and developing a new generation of champions. Our support includes the Telstra Athletics Assistance Fund, one of the most important grassroots programs for getting young athletes on

the road to Commonwealth and Olympic selection.

The Telstra Athletics Assistance Fund, launched last year, provides local athletics clubs across Australia with essential equipment. The program encourages younger people to play a greater part in their community, mix with peers, get involved in athletics and maintain a healthy and active lifestyle.

Last year, the fund received 170 applications from athletics clubs across Australia, for equipment such as shade structures, hurdles and starting blocks. This year the number of clubs applying for assistance increased by almost 400 per cent, with 646 applications submitted. Further details on this annual funding program can be found at www.beinvolved.telstra.com

By working together with AA and its other sporting partners, Telstra is helping make a positive contribution to the communities in which we operate.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with AA and supporting the ongoing development of this sport over the coming year.

David Moffatt

Group Managing Director, Telstra Consumer Marketing and Channels





President/Chairman's Report

November 2006 marks one year since my appointment. Along with my fellow directors and the Athletics Australia (AA) management team, I believe we have already achieved a great deal in the rebuilding of our sport, but much remains to be done. Our challenge is to reposition and strengthen athletics in its many aspects throughout our community. To our athletes, whether you're a fun runner or an Olympic athlete, we want you to participate, enjoy, train, compete and feel the joy of physical exertion. We also want you to rely on good management and organisation at the administration level. We look forward to continuing our work towards these goals and aspirations.

Since the critical 2004 AA/Australian Sports Commission Review into the sport, many organisational and operational changes have been made. As President, a key focus for me is to oversee the implementation of the sport's operational plan. Such a plan remains vital to the development of athletics as a vibrant and successful sport in Australia.

“We have been working hard to place the best people available into the key athletics positions. We have also rearranged and introduced new management positions into AA.”

It is very clear that athletics is quite a difficult sport to administer. We have many disciplines within the one sport and great diversity. As President I'm finding it a great organisational and leadership challenge. Along with my fellow directors and our CEO, Danny Corcoran, we have been working hard to place the best people available into the key athletics positions. We have also rearranged and introduced new management positions into AA. I have also invited a number of independent honorary experts onto various new committees to support our efforts.

During the past year, Australia watched Geelong golden boy Craig 'Buster' Mottram take on the Africans in the 5000m at the World Championships in Helsinki and courageously bring home the bronze medal in an unforgettable finish. Many athletes achieved personal and season-best results at these World Championships, with a record number of athletes reaching top 8, or top 16 finishes.

We had a successful 2006 World Cross Country team, winning our first ever team medal (bronze) in the women's short course, along with some tremendous individual results. Our fantastic walkers once again showed class at the 2006 World Walking Cup in Spain and for the first time won silver in the men's 20km team event.

The World Youth (Under-18) Championships showcased the talents of our exceptional young athletes. Our fifth placing overall was a tremendous effort, no mean feat in an international sport such as athletics. The team won two gold, three silver and two bronze medals, plus posted a host of personal bests. Some of the top young athletes to keep an eye on include Chris Noffke, Dani Samuels, Vicki Parnov, Tristian Garrett, Nick Toohey, Sophia Begg, Amy Sadler and Scott McLeod-Robertson.

We had an exciting domestic season with several national series meets and the pinnacle of the domestic competition, the Telstra A-series, culminating at the Telstra Selection Trials and 84th Australian Athletics Championships. Then, of course, we had the biggest event on Australia's sporting calendar, when athletics returned to the MCG for the first time in 50 years, for the Melbourne Commonwealth Games. The largest Australian athletics team ever competed at the Games, an outstanding result which reflected the physical and mental preparation and dedication of our athletes. The team consisted of 30 Under-23 athletes and 10 teenagers, who will lead the sport to the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the 2012 London Olympics and beyond.

Athletics was the jewel in the crown at the Commonwealth Games, with more than 60 per cent



of all ticket sales for our great sport (610,000). We convincingly exceeded our medal expectations with 41 (16 gold, 12 silver and 13 bronze) and finished No. 1 nation in athletics in the Commonwealth.

The IAAF continued to recognise Australia's contribution to world athletics and rewarded Australia with World Athletics Tour status for the Melbourne meet held on March 9. This in a year when the IAAF reduced what was previously called the Grand Prix series from 34 to 24. Australia was the sole nation in the Oceania region to hold a world series event.

Our board was further strengthened when Matt Mahon and Michael Smellie accepted invitations to join. Their experience and expertise will make a significant contribution to Athletics Australia. My thanks go to Ken Roche, immediate past Chairman of the AA board for his determined work to help the sport stabilise since the 2004 review. Thanks also to all AA directors for their support and guidance during the past year.

A special thank you to the member associations, which were a pleasure to work with. Your dedication to the sport does not go unnoticed and I genuinely thank you for your co-operation, commitment and hard work. Thanks also to our outstanding CEO, Danny Corcoran, and the staff and management team at AA. Your tireless work and dedication brings us closer to our goals everyday.

We improved our working relationship with Australian Little Athletics and look forward to continuing this important work for the overall betterment of Australian athletics.

I would like to thank the numerous committee members for the enormous time and expertise they provided to the organisation. The new committees gave the board and management staff advice on sponsorship, brand development, marketing, advertising, communications, media and events, plus valuable commercial and sports analysis.

A special thank you to all our sponsors and supporters, especially our principal sponsor Telstra, which has supported athletics for many

years and continues to be a fantastic supporter of sport in Australia. Thanks also to our new footwear and apparel sponsor, Asics, and to Accor and Musashi, for their ongoing support. We sincerely appreciate all the support from the Australian Sports Commission, which we strongly rely on. Also the Australian Olympic Committee, Australian Paralympic Committee and the Australian Commonwealth Games Association. Athletics Australia once again appreciates the support of the Victorian Government, whose assistance helped us to host the Melbourne World Athletics Tour event. This event again attracted world-class international athletes to our shores. Also a special mention goes to Athletics International, which has been a strong supporter of our up and coming athletes since 1968.

Along with my fellow directors, I look forward to working towards a brighter future for the sport of athletics in Australia. Also, together with our wonderful athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, administrators, family and supporters, to helping athletics prosper for future Australians to participate in and enjoy. I wish the entire athletics community all the very best for their athletics goals in 2006-07.

Rob H Fildes OAM

President and Chairman, Athletics Australia

Jana Pittman celebrates with the crowd after winning the 400m hurdles final at the Commonwealth Games.



Chief Executive Officer's Report

The administration of Athletics Australia has some similarities to the life of an elite athlete. We work relentlessly preparing for a major event – and in this season's case, a home Commonwealth Games – then immediately we resume our preparation for the next major event. The enjoyment of being part of Australia's greatest Commonwealth Games performance was short-lived. The World Cross Country Championships in Fukuoka in Japan immediately followed the Commonwealth Games and then it was on to the World Walking Cup in La Coruna in Spain. Our sport moves relentlessly on to the next championships and again we must be ready.

After the Commonwealth Games, our focus immediately turned to the next challenge and, in this case, it was to continue to review and restructure the programs we conduct as we try to position our sport for ongoing success.

While all stakeholders should be proud of their contribution to our sport, we are under no illusions about the amount of work that must be done to meet the many challenges that confront us. I do not need to remind anyone involved in the sport that we have an enormous amount to do in order to ensure our high performance programs are comparable with the best in the world, that our athletes and coaches are well supported, that our development programs are the envy of other nations and that our sport thrives at grassroots level.

Many sports in this country provide a full-time career with significant salaries for talented athletes and their coaches. This is not the case in athletics and we are continually reminded of the need to provide more resources to keep pace with the rest of the world. For the talented athlete, there are many sports with lucrative career options competing for his or her talents. We must now recognise this and put in place programs to identify talent and support athletes with the potential to represent their country by providing clear pathways to achieve this.

This also includes recognising the athletic talent in our indigenous communities and creating

programs to enable us to find the next Cathy Freeman.

As we address the challenges that lie ahead, it is appropriate to record the key outcomes from the past year:

The strategic direction of Athletics Australia

During the past year, we continued to work on our 2004–2009 Strategic Plan. As a result, we continued to focus on our five key pillars that underpin our direction as we continue to implement the recommendations of the Athletics Australia Australian Sports Commission Review.

The five key pillars are:

1. FINANCIAL STABILITY

We must ensure that AA is capable of fulfilling its responsibilities over the long term.

The interim financial results for AA for the financial year ended June 30, 2006, indicate a surplus in the vicinity of \$500,000. At the end of June, the net asset position of the organisation had grown from \$413,194 in 2004 to \$1,323,936. The board and management of AA firmly believe that we must protect the organisation from any future financial instability and still be able to continue running our programs. This strategy is consistent with the recommendations of the AA/ASC Review, which recommended that AA build sufficient reserves to protect it from the loss of a major sponsor.

As you will note from the financial summary, one of the major expense savings was the amount recorded as expenses to the state institutes and academies as part of the high performance plan. This was significantly lower than budgeted. This occurred largely as a result of the deferral of the implementation of the high performance plan leading up to and including the Commonwealth Games with much of the high performance staff's time allocated to selection, appeals and other high performance issues surrounding the Games. During this time AA also received unbudgeted and non-



recurring income from activities revolving around the Commonwealth Games.

2. HIGH PERFORMANCE

Determine how AA will contribute to superior performances at major championships and the programs required to achieve this.

A key plank in the high performance plan was the establishment of discipline-focused national high performance centres. The multi-discipline nature of athletics required a new approach towards the management of the high performance program.

AA has already implemented several of these event-focused national high performance centres with specialist national event coordinators to manage and coordinate the various disciplines nationally.

I am pleased to report we established high performance centres at the following institutes:

1. Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) – walks, jumps, 400m/400m hurdles program;
2. Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS) – national distance program; and
3. New South Wales Institute of Sport (NSWIS) – national sprints, hurdles and relays program.

AA still needs to increase the funding support for the programs at the VIS and NSWIS but they are now well positioned to grow as centres of excellence.

Of some disappointment was the fact, because of a lack of resources, that we were unable to commence a throws program or a multi-events program.

3. DEVELOPMENT

Provide the road map as to how we as a sport will foster participation and interest in athletics.

While the member associations administer the sport at club level, AA is very much involved in working with the development officers in each state and of particular interest is the establishment of school/club links for the talented school athlete. We increased the distribution of the AA STAR program to schools across Australia to provide curriculum resources for teachers. We also commenced

a national indigenous program designed to encourage and develop the wonderful talent in our indigenous communities.

AA, with the assistance of the International Management Group's eCommerce department, led the development of the clubs' online program. This included the development of new websites for all member associations and the ability to rapidly communicate with all clubs and their members. The new system allows for online entry to events, the sending of newsletters to clubs and members via an aggregated database and the selling of merchandise. This project should be completed by the end of 2006.

4. BRAND

Define what athletics and AA stands for, and determine how best to communicate via a redefined corporate image.

To signify a new beginning, AA embarked on a re-branding exercise to establish a new logo and corporate look. This exercise also included our member associations in a re-branding program to establish a new look and feel that was consistent with that of AA. Our aim was to enable our sport to be readily identifiable as one brand across the states. We believe we are in the process of achieving this.

5. GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Outline how AA will be structured, what capabilities it requires, and how it will interact with other athletics bodies.

To achieve this we had to restructure the internal management of the organisation by establishing senior management positions for finance, high performance, development, commercial operations and competitions.

We continued with our plan to rebuild the confidence and trust of many within athletics, in particular with other athletics bodies, such as Little Athletics. I am pleased to report that a joint board meeting was held between the Australian Little



Athletics board and AA last year, and it was agreed that we will forge stronger relationships and work together on several common issues that require a national approach.

We commenced a redevelopment plan for our website and are in the final phase of this redevelopment. The website, although functional, is now five years old and does not have the capabilities that we, as an organisation, will require for the next five years. The website, of course, is our main communication tool to keep the fraternity informed and we look forward to the launch of the new version in November, 2006.

It is worth noting several other key outcomes for 2005-2006, as some of these achievements were record breaking and significant for our sport:

The athletics contingent of the Melbourne Commonwealth Games team numbered 122 athletes (123 with Justin Anlezark, who was a late withdrawal). This represented the largest Australian track and field team ever and the average age of the team was 25. Notably the team included 10 teenagers, with 62 members aged under 25.

The Australian medal tally was our greatest in Commonwealth Games competition, with 16 gold, 12 silver and 13 bronze – 41 in total. Australia's previous best performance was 37 at the Empire Games in Perth in 1962, with 34 in Kuala Lumpur in 1998.

Australia was ranked No.1 in athletics, with Jamaica second (22 medals) and Kenya third (15). England with 18 was next followed by South Africa with 14 medals. This was an outstanding achievement.

The World Cross Country Championship in Fukuoka in Japan in April, where Australia won its

“We are under no illusions about the amount of work that must be done to meet the many challenges that confront us.”

first women's team medal in the short course event with outstanding performances from a team consisting of Benita Johnson (4th), Melissa Rollison (11th), Anna Thompson (25th), Donna MacFarlane (29th), Victoria Mitchell (33rd) and Eloise Wellings (39th).

This was a stellar performance and our congratulations go to all team members.

The World Race Walking Cup, in La Coruna, Spain in May, where Australia won the silver medal in the men's 20km team event. This was the first team medal won by Australia. Our previous best was fourth in the 50km in 2002. Congratulations to team members Luke Adams, Nathan Deakes, Jared Tallent, Duane Cousins and Adam Rutter.

Attendances at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games athletics program at the MCG totalled 611,333. This did not include the tens of thousands of people who lined the courses for the marathons and walks.

As a result of these attendances and the proximity of our spectacular venues to the CBD, Melbourne is seen as one of the great sporting cities in the world.

Australia's 4x400m relay team pose after winning gold. (From left) Mark Ormrod, Christopher Troode, Sean Wroe, Clinton Hill and John Steffensen.



| DATE | DAY | EVENT | ATTENDANCE |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|
| March 19 | Sunday | Athletics (Super Sunday) | 76,500 |
| March 20 | Monday | Athletics (AM session) | 29,478 |
| March 20 | Monday | Athletics (PM session) | 79,026 |
| March 21 | Tuesday | Athletics (AM session) | 40,524 |
| March 21 | Tuesday | Athletics (PM session) | 42,499 |
| March 22 | Wednesday | Athletics (AM session) | 50,996 |
| March 22 | Wednesday | Athletics (PM session) | 45,037 |
| March 23 | Thursday | Athletics (PM session) | 83,369 |
| March 24 | Friday | Athletics (PM session) | 80,987 |
| March 25 | Saturday | Athletics (PM session) | 82,917 |
| Total Attendance | | | 611,333 |

Media Penetration

According to the Australian Broadcasting Authority, the Commonwealth Games reached a total worldwide audience of more than 1.5 billion.

Member Associations, Coaches, Officials and Volunteers

I warmly thank our President, Rob Fildes, and the AA board for their support and direction over the past year. We are extremely fortunate to have a president who is not only a former leading decathlete with an understanding of the sport but someone who is passionately committed to improving athletics in Australia.

I would like to thank the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) for its ongoing support, with special thanks to Mark Peters and the ASC team. Also thanks to our member associations for their commitment to athletics at grassroots level as without their contribution our sport would not function as it does.

Special thanks to our state institutes of sport and academies of sport partners who have supported our high performance plan and who have been instrumental in its implementation.

I would like sincerely to thank our coaches, officials and volunteers for the countless hours they gave to assist in the running of our sport. Without your support we could not effectively run the sport as a whole, and in particular, conduct world-class major events.

In closing, I remind the athletics fraternity that AA and the City of Brisbane via the Queensland Events Corporation are bidding for the 2011 World Championships. The host city will be decided at the IAAF Council meeting before the 2007 World Cross Country Championships in Mombassa in March. This is a prestigious world event and the IAAF marketing division points out that only the Olympic Games and the FIFA World Cup are bigger in terms of global reach and impact.

Danny Corcoran
CEO, Athletics Australia

Above: Steve Hooker clears the bar at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne.

Right: Nathan Deakes powers to a Commonwealth Games gold medal in the 50km walk at Docklands.



High Performance

International Competitions

The major event for the year was the Melbourne Commonwealth Games, but that was just one of many international meetings in which Australian athletes participated with distinction.

Huge crowds came to support Australian athletes at the magnificent MCG. And the athletes did not disappoint the crowds of up to 85,000, as they ended the Commonwealth Games with a record 41 medals (16 gold, 12 silver and 13 bronze). As a result, Australia was a clear winner in athletics.

Aside from the huge medal tally, notable aspects of the Commonwealth Games were the tremendous support from the local crowds and the response of the athletes in the quality of their performances.

There were many crowd-pleasing performances – from Kerryn McCann’s exciting win in the marathon and Scott Martin’s last-throw win in the discus, to Jane Saville’s third straight gold medal in the walk and Nathan Deakes’ second double gold medal performance in the 20km and 50km walk. The gold medal performances of Steve Hooker (5.80m) and Kym Howe (4.61m) in the pole vault and Bronwyn Thompson in the long jump (6.97m) were world-class efforts. Other world-class performances included Craig Mottram’s 5000m battle, Sarah Jamieson’s 1500m silver medal and the personal bests of our women in the steeplechase.

The other major event in the past year was the IAAF World Championships at a rain-soaked Helsinki in Finland. While this was a significant event on the world athletics calendar, many Australian athletes spent the winter preparing for the Commonwealth Games, because of their early scheduling, instead of the World Championships.

The small team of 20 athletes struggled early, but then came home with a rush. The male sprinters all made the semi-finals, while Patrick Johnson excelled in reaching the final of the 200m, and placed sixth. John Steffensen continued his improvement on the world scene, finishing eighth in his first World Championships final. The men’s 4x100m relay team snuck through to the final,

then ran very well to finish fifth, only 0.05 seconds behind third-placed Great Britain, reinforcing their place in the world’s top six 4x100m relay teams.

The final result for the Australian team was one medal, with six athletes reaching finals, four placing in the top eight and ten achieving top 16 results.

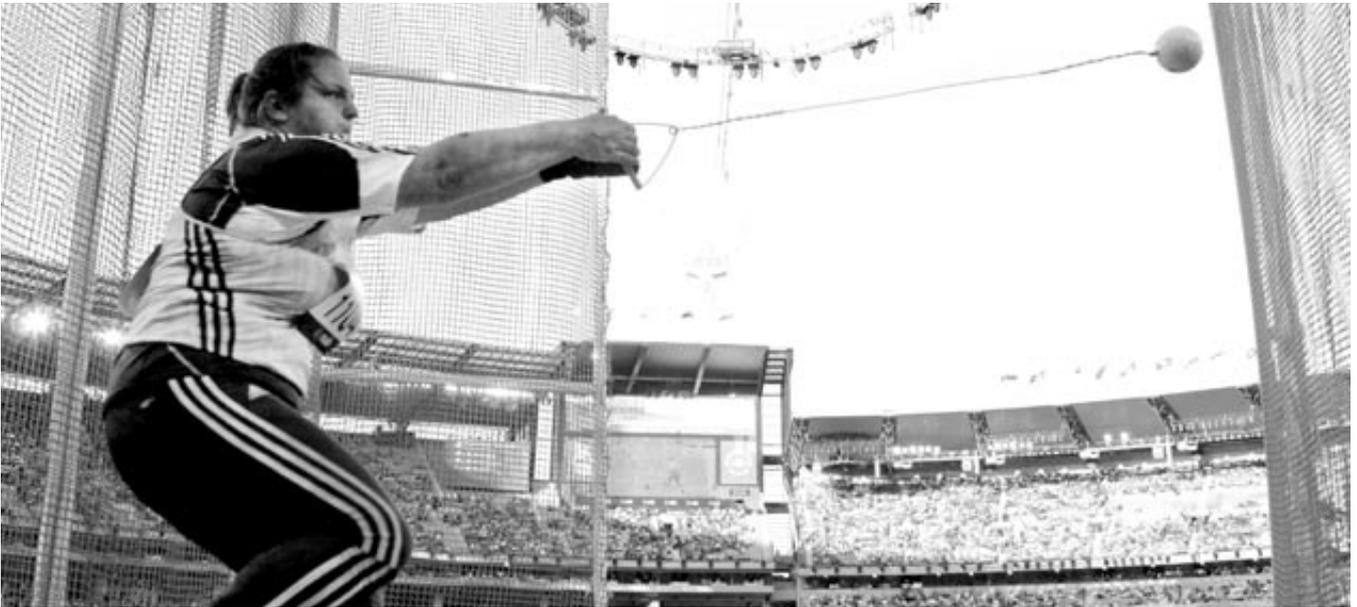
The Australian highlight of the World Championships was saved until the last event, when Mottram took on the might of Africa and established himself as one of the world’s great distance runners, finishing a fighting third against the world’s best.

In July 2005, one of the largest Australian teams went to the World Youth Championships in Marrakesh, Morocco. This young team covered itself in glory, finishing fifth of 180 nations. Dani Samuels won a gold medal in the discus and a bronze medal in the shot, while Chris Noffke dominated the men’s long jump. Silver medallists included Sophia Begg (high jump), Lauren Boden (400m hurdles) and the women’s medley relay team, while Katherine Katsanevakis was third in the 800m. This was Australia’s equal best result in the championships.

The challenge of competing in a country such as Morocco was a unique experience for these young athletes, and one they will hopefully use to their advantage in athletics in the future.

In October, Brett Cartwright and Lauren Shelley competed in the World Half Marathon Championships in Edmonton, Canada, placing 35th and 32nd respectively. During 2005, teams also competed in two Ekidens, which gave opportunities to some of Australia’s future elite distance athletes to gain international experience.

Following the Commonwealth Games, Australian athletes continued their high standard of performance with outstanding results at the World Cross Country Championships in Fukuoka in Japan. Benita Johnson confirmed her status as Australia’s best athlete in the championships when she finished fourth in both the long and short course events, missing a top three place by only five seconds in the long course race and just one second in the short course event.



The women's team excelled, placing fourth in the long course race and then third in the shorter race to be the first Australian team to win a medal at the championships. The team was Benita Johnson (4th), Melissa Rollison (11th), Anna Thompson (25th), Donna MacFarlane (29th), Victoria Mitchell (33rd) and Eloise Wellings (39th).

Picking up the momentum, our walkers travelled to La Coruna, Spain, for the World Race Walking Cup, where a genuine team effort carried the Australian men to a first ever team medal in the 20km walk. Host Spain took the gold medal with 33 points, but Australia came a close second with 37 points.

Australia defeated a host of walking powerhouses, including Russia, China, Italy and Mexico. Australia's previous best placing had been fourth in the 50km walk in 2002, and the well-respected Australian team received a special ovation from the crowd when they received their medals.

Nathan Deakes led the team home, placing fifth in 1:19.37. Only Deakes and Simon Baker have ever placed higher at a Race Walking Cup. Geelong's Jared Tallent capped a magnificent six weeks, which included two personal bests, a Commonwealth Games medal and a World Cup medal, when he placed 14th in 1:21.36. Luke Adams, who was competing in his fourth 20km race in six weeks, placed 18th in 1:22.11, teenager Adam Rutter finished 50th in 1:26.54, while dual Olympian Duane Cousins clocked 1:27.08, his fastest time in the 20km walk for seven years.

AA also sent under-23 athletes on development tours to China and the United States to provide experience for those athletes expected to be key members of elite teams well into the future.

National High Performance Centres

In revitalising our high performance plan, we reached agreement with the institutes and academies of sport to develop a series of national high performance centres based at the institutes. The first two were established in December 2005, with the Centre for Sprints, Hurdles and Relays set

up at the NSW Institute of Sport, and the Centre for Distance at the Victorian Institute of Sport.

The plan included the appointment of two national event coordinators. Paul Hallam (Sprints) and Shaun Creighton (Distance) were selected after an extensive recruitment process. Both event coordinators quickly got into action, meeting with athletes and coaches and establishing a plan for the future development of their events.

The Australian Institute of Sport agreed to become the Centre for 400m, 400m hurdles, jumps and walks. Other national high performance centres for throws and combined events will be set up when the agreements are put in place and funding becomes available.

Max Binnington

National Performance Manager

ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA PARALYMPIC PREPARATION PROGRAM

Over the past year, the partnership between Athletics Australia and the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) that originally began in 2001 was reaffirmed. This resulted in AA undertaking responsibility for the preparation of the 2008 Beijing Paralympic athletics team.

The Athletics Australia Paralympic Preparation Program (AA-PPP) goal for the Beijing Paralympic Games is to have the best ever 'away' performance. This means that Australia must finish in the top two nations. In an environment where more countries are now investing greater resources than Australia, this will be a difficult but attainable challenge. In particular, it will be very difficult to finish in front of host country China, but Australia will be doing everything in its power to bridge the gap the Chinese established over the rest of the world at the 2004 Athens Paralympics.

Following the team's second place in Athens, there was a rebuilding phase. AA-PPP staff worked closely with the APC state development officers to support the APC's talent search program to identify

Brooke Billett in the swing of things on her way to victory in the hammer throw at the Commonwealth Games. She took gold with a 67.9m throw.

and establish an AA-PPP emerging talent squad. Brett Jones has been coordinating this approach. As a result of the program, we have over 40 'new' athletes who are being nurtured for the 2008 Beijing and 2012 London Paralympics.

Coach education has also become a major AA-PPP focus. Alison O'Riordan has been liaising with the Australian Track and Field Coaches Association and implemented a number of coach education initiatives to develop this area. The philosophy is that if there is a larger pool of committed and competent coaches, then the emerging talent squad athletes and athletes with a disability will receive greater support.

Melbourne Commonwealth Games

A number of AA-PPP squad members represented Australia in the six Athletes with a Disability (AWD) events at the Commonwealth Games. With significant support from the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA), the AA-PPP implemented a program to assist the athletes in preparing for these events. Standout individual performances included:

- Heath Francis' victory in the T46 200m.
- Lisa McIntosh's victory in the T38 100m.
- Katrina Webb's silver medal in the T38 100m.
- Asti Poole's bronze medal in the women's seated shot put.

2005 Canberra INAS-FID World Athletics Championships

Another significant event was the 2005 INAS-FID World Athletics Championships in Canberra (September 26-October 1). The Australian contingent of 22 athletes and nine staff was the biggest ever team to contest the championships. AA-PPP staff assisted with preparation, selection and equipping the team in close consultation with the Ausrapid CEO, Robyn Smith. John Bell was the head coach, while a number of paralympic coaches and paralympians were involved with the team. Congratulations to John, Robyn and all the athletes, staff and supporters involved with the team.

Standout performances included:

- Murray Goldfinch's dominance in the F20 men's throwing events with victories in the discus and shot put.
- Paul Mitchell's victory in the men's T20 10,000m and amazing silver medal in the men's T20 5000m after falling in the home straight.
- Crystal Adams' silver medal in the F20 women's triple jump, and bronze medals in the long jump and 100m.
- Andrew Newell's silver medal in the men's T20 100m.
- Tanya Krome's bronze medals in the women's F20 javelin and hammer.
- 19-year-old Tim Page's bronze medal in the men's T20 1500m.
- Bronze medals for the men's 4x400m team and the women's 4x100m team.

Support staff

The continued support and efforts of a large number of volunteer coaches, therapists, administrators, parents and carers was critical to the ongoing functioning of the AA-PPP. It would be remiss not to acknowledge the efforts of:

- Wheelchair track and road coaches: Andrew Dawes (coordinator), Paul Angel, Louise Sauvage and Greg Jones.
- Throws coaches: Alison O'Riordan (coordinator), Gary Lees and John Eden.
- Sprints and jumps coaches: Brett Jones (coordinator), Richard Bednall and Iryna Dvoskina.
- 2005 INAS World Championships head coach: John Bell.
- Physiotherapists: Luke Vladich and Rowena Toppenberg.
- Massage therapists: Kieran Cusack and Phil Power.
- Managers: Louise Mogg, Andrew Faichney and Michael Thomson.
- AA AWD representative and statistician: Neil Fuller.
- Distance coordinator: Robbie Bolton.
- All the athletes.



Thanks also to the staff at the AIS track and field program who provided considerable support to the AA Paralympic Program manager and, in particular, Tudor Bidder and Iryna Dvoskina. Thanks also to APC staff – Jason Hellwig, Tony Naar, Natalie Jenkins and Darren Peters – for their ongoing support.

In addition, thanks to AA staff for their ongoing support and, in particular, Max Binnington, Carol Grant, Tina Folmer, David Gynther, Stephen Crook, Rohan Robinson, Janet Chitts and Danny Corcoran.

Training and Competition

We prepared a squad of 47 athletes to compete at the 2006 Assen IPC World Athletics Championships from September 2-9, as well as a team of 42 athletes for the 2006 Kuala Lumpur FESPIC Games, from November 25 to December 1. The FESPIC team consists primarily of AA-PPP emerging talent squad members.

There was further solidification of the AA-APC partnership through:

- An agreement to conduct the inaugural Athletics Australia Underage AWD Championships in Canberra from November 17-19.
- The inclusion of 12 AWD athletes in the athletics team for the Commonwealth Games.
- The ongoing support to AA-PPP squad members to attend training camps and access targeted competitions as part of both the qualifying process and the final preparation for the Commonwealth Games.
- The running of the fifth combined AWD and Able-Bodied National Championships.
- Continued AWD events coverage in the Telstra A-series.

We look forward to another year of progress ahead.

Scott Goodman

AA Paralympic Program Manager

ELITE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

This year Athletics Australia launched the Elite Youth Development Program. It began with a highly successful Commonwealth Games experience camp. Forty Under-18 athletes from around Australia came together for the development camp, which included both educational and training sessions with some of our leading junior coaches.

The group ventured to the MCG to watch the Commonwealth Games athletics – a fantastic experience for these bright young athletes.

The National Under-17 Development Program commenced in June 2006 with an elite development camp at Runaway Bay on the Gold Coast. National youth event coaches were appointed to work with these athletes and to support their personal coaches. The camp involved educational sessions with a sports psychologist and a dietician from the Australian Institute of Sport. This program continued with a second camp held at the AIS in September.

Following selection, the national under-18 elite squad program will commence in February 2007. This program will become AA's flagship for elite junior development. The aim is to assist each athlete's personal coach in helping these talented youth take the next step to international success as a senior athlete.

This is an exciting time, with these types of programs certainly providing hope for the future of Australian athletics.

Sara Mulkearns

National Youth Performance Manager

Commercial Operations

The past year saw significant change both in the structure of Athletics Australia's commercial operations department, as well as its personnel. The appointment of a new commercial operations manager, a restructure of the department to ensure that the roles were aligned with the strategic commercial direction of the organisation, and the evolution of the sub-committee support structure combined to strengthen this area of AA's business.

Key Achievements

- Re-signing major sponsor Telstra for a further two years.
- The launch of the new AA brand.
- Reaching a four-year free-to-air broadcast deal with SBS for the Telstra A-series and Australian Championships.
- Signing the leading athletics brand Asics as AA's footwear and apparel partner for the next four years.
- Annual sessions on www.athletics.org.au grew by 66 per cent to pass 2.25 million for the first time, with more than 95 million hits.
- Media coverage increased by 66 per cent from the previous year.
- Attendances at the Telstra A-series and Telstra Selection Trials increased by 30 per cent to more than 30,000.

Marketing

In planning for the marketing of the 2005-06 season, a number of key objectives were set:

- Leverage the Commonwealth Games, the 'race' for selection and the availability of international athletes.
- Start to build public awareness of emerging Australian athletes.
- Re-establish the value of the athletes' performances i.e. world and Australian records are hard to achieve; an athlete doesn't need to break a world record to register an outstanding performance.
- Melbourne agency SMART was selected to work

with AA to develop a campaign designed to achieve the objective of raising attendances by 20 per cent with a flow-on to total media coverage and television viewer numbers.

- The 'You've got to see it to believe it' print and radio campaign was developed to explain to the public the extraordinary feats of athletes, in an amusing way.
- In addition to print and radio, mobile outdoor advertising was used in Sydney and Melbourne in the form of rickshaws carrying large posters and distributing fliers and Musashi water at running tracks, events and in the central activity district of both cities. Nova FM in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne were promotional partners giving away Asics prize packs during the breakfast shows on each station.
- In Melbourne, due to the pre-selling of tickets and confirmation of international athletes competing on each night, the campaign differed. A focus on head-to-head showdowns between Australian athletes and the leading international challengers was tagged again with the line 'You've got to see it to believe it'. Josh Ross v Asafa Powell, Clinton Hill v Avarad Moncur and Craig Mottram v the Australian 2000m record are examples of the chosen showdowns.
- Overall, the reaction to the marketing was positive and it reached its objectives for the year. Disappointing was the lack of response to the high number of quality international athletes at the Telstra A-series Melbourne, suggesting the event failed to capture the public's attention on the eve of the Commonwealth Games.

Attendances

As expected in a Commonwealth Games year, attendances increased sharply in 2006. Spectator numbers increased 30 per cent on 2005 numbers for comparable events in Melbourne, Sydney and



Brisbane. Total attendance for six events in 2005 was 22,000, compared to 30,500 for five events including the Athletics Australia Invitational at the MCG.

The attendance at the Telstra A-series Brisbane was severely impacted by Tropical Cyclone Ingrid. The resulting attendance of 2500 was well below expectations.

Some 12,500 people attended the two events in Melbourne, the Telstra A-series and Athletics Australia Invitational. The attendance at the Telstra A-series Melbourne was 20 per cent higher than the previous year, but was affected negatively by the Commonwealth Games.

Sponsorship

AA is pleased to recognise its partners during the past year:

- Telstra
- Asics
- New Balance
- Accor-Novotel
- Musashi
- Pitcher Partners
- SBS
- *The Age*
- Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- Queensland Events
- Australian Sports Commission
- Australian Commonwealth Games Association
- Australian Olympic Committee
- Australian Paralympic Committee

This was a year of correction in regards to sponsorship income, with monies previously brought forward by AA, taken up in the accounts during the financial year.

Telstra

AA's successful partnership with Telstra entered a new period of co-operation with a renewed commitment through to the end of 2007 and a vision to explore new opportunities such as 3G mobile telephony and IPTV. The Telstra partnership

offers AA significant benefits beyond financial income, with new technology allowing the delivery of results and footage from around the world into lounge rooms and via mobile phones. This is a key new way for fans to consume the sport, especially international performances and results. AA and Telstra are committed to ensuring the sport plays a leading role in the adoption of these opportunities.

In 2006, athletes selected for the Australian Commonwealth Games team were notified via Telstra SMS. In a first for both Telstra and athletics, each athlete received a personalised message of congratulations, which also informed them of their selected events. The response from athletes was overwhelmingly positive and included a number of entertaining SMS responses.

Highlights of the year included the success of the \$200,000 Telstra Athletics Assistance Fund, which in its second year incorporated Australian Little Athletics for the first time and received 167 applications with grants being provided to benefit 77 clubs. The Telstra A-series saw Telstra focus on hero messaging leading into the Commonwealth Games. In addition, fans who visited the Telstra Fan Zone had their photos taken on a Telstra mobile phone and could then log on to see and download the images through www.athletics.org.au.

The Telstra Athlete of the Year Awards were held in June and saw unprecedented media coverage, with Craig Mottram and Bronwyn Thompson taking out the Male and Female Athlete of the Year respectively.

Australian Sports Commission

The Australian Sports Commission's support of athletics is critical to the development of the sport. In the past year, the Commission again provided critical funding to AA, as well as to many athletes through the Direct Athlete Support (DAS) program. The relationship between the organisations continues to strengthen and a number of new initiatives are in development for 2006-07.

Stuart Rendell shows off the gold medal he won in the hammer at the Commonwealth Games.

Asics

Asics Oceania joined the AA team at the start of 2006, taking over as the sport's official footwear and apparel partner from New Balance. For both AA and Asics, the partnership is a meeting of two premium brands that will work together for the next four years to strengthen the sport's brand and promote participation in both track and field and out of stadium running.

The Asics partnership will see a new, innovative national uniform to be launched in 2007, as well as a number of exciting initiatives at the Telstra A-series and other meets.

It is also appropriate to recognise the contribution New Balance has made to athletics over the past four years. New Balance has been a strong partner for AA and is to be congratulated for its involvement in the sport.

Accor

Accor continued its partnership with AA as the official accommodation partner of the sport. Through its Novotel brand, known as the 'Home of Athletics', Accor played a key role in assisting AA's expanded efforts to provide opportunities for athletes to compete at interstate meets through the national series and Telstra A-series. In addition, Sofitel Melbourne was a key supporter of the Telstra Athlete of the Year Awards.

The relationship with Accor continues to grow and both parties look forward to expanding the benefits into the wider athletics community over the coming year.

Musashi

Australia's premium sports supplement and nutrition brand, Musashi, experienced a year of transition with Nestlé taking over the company in late 2005. The second year of the relationship with Musashi saw the supply of water for AA meets, as well as premium products being made available for a number of elite athletes. Musashi has also been a key partner in the start of the National

Development Pathway program, with nutrition education for young athletes being a key part of the program's curriculum.

Partners

Two key event partners played major roles throughout the year. Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA) has been a wonderful contributor to both the Telstra Selection Trials and the Australian All School and Youth Championships – not only in regards to supporting the events and provision of facilities, but also through marketing initiatives such as promotions to Little Athletics Clubs, at Sydney shopping centres and via press advertising.

Queensland Events was a key supporter of the Telstra A-series in Brisbane, with a view to the Brisbane 2011 bid for the IAAF World Championships in Athletics. Queensland Events is a leader among major event companies and the partnership with AA will see Queensland host the 2007 Telstra Australian Championships, just a few days prior to the IAAF's vote on the 2011 host city.

Communications

A great deal of strategic work has gone into reviewing the overall communications of AA and putting in place a plan for the future.

A new AA database is under development to better manage contacts and unite a number of data storage centres into one resource. This initiative will allow better management of data and a more professional approach to information dissemination, ensuring the right information gets to the right contacts.

The A-News electronic newsletter was discontinued in late 2005. It was determined that a restructure of this tool was required to ensure its relevance and to bring together information from across all areas of the organisation. The new AA newsletter will be launched in late 2006.

Regular teleconferences took place with member associations to communicate developments within AA, and to discuss issues and share information



from each state. In addition, two meetings bringing together each state were held – the Annual General Meeting in November 2005 and the National Athletics Forum in June 2006. A spirit of co-operation and sharing of ideas and experiences between all parties was an extremely positive outcome over the past year.

Athletics is a widely dispersed sport with multiple disciplines, elite centres and athletes and coaches across the globe. There is still a great deal of work to ensure AA's communications to the entire athletics community achieve the desired key objectives. However, the past year saw tangible movement along this pathway.

Media

Media was identified as a key area for attention leading into the 2006 season. A great deal of relationship building was required to re-establish connections with the media and to build media coverage. Stage one of this program took place over the past year, with excellent results.

Jump Media was appointed to work with AA on media management and servicing. Headed by former Australian long jump champion David Culbert, Jump's expertise, in both athletics and with the media, played a key role in the successes attained during 2006.

Overall, television and print media coverage during the season increased by 66 per cent from 2005. There were 755 television news stories (up from 486 the previous year) and 695 press stories (up from 465). These figures do not include Commonwealth Games coverage, merely the period surrounding the four major events and the Zatopek Classic in December 2005.

AA is working on a media and public relations plan through to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

New Media

The AA website continues to build in importance both as a communications tool, and front door to the sport. The 2005-06 year saw website visitation

growth accelerate, with more than 2.25 million unique sessions conducted over the 12-month period, up 66 per cent on the previous year. This equated to 95 million hits.

Use of the website has evolved over its six-year life, from primarily being a place where the athletics community looked for technical information and news, to a site where sports fans searched for news and information on athletes and events. With this in mind, and the reality that the site is showing its age, AA embarked on a program to build a completely new website.

George Patterson Y&R was appointed in May 2006 to build the site, which will include features designed to make information readily accessible and to ensure it also incorporates new media content such as podcasts and blogs. The site will become a key part of AA's media and communications strategy linking television, the web, the 3G mobile network and IPTV technology, to increase the accessibility of the sport for all fans.

In addition, the site will have a commercial aspect, designed to create a new revenue source for the sport. The new site will be launched before the 2007 season.

Brand

One of the most exciting developments during 2005 was the unveiling of the new brand for AA. An exhaustive seven-month process of identifying the personality of the sport and reviewing more than 50 concepts led to the release of the image in November.

The brand, developed by Hayman Design, was designed to be distinctive both in being Australian, as well as representing the sport. Ochre was selected as a new hue for the sport, representing the colour of 80 per cent of the continent and also that of the athletics track. The pattern of colours changing from deep ochre to gold reflect the changing light of Uluru and will become a unique brand in its own right for the sport.

The new image represents a new start for

athletics and will be progressively incorporated into all material, across the new national uniform and into new products such as merchandise.

Consumer Products

Discussions were initiated with a company interested in licensing the AA brand for a range of goods to be sold in major retailers nationally.

This is a key area for new commercial opportunities and the organisation will continue to explore these with the aim of launching a licensing program in 2007-08.

In addition, AA will work with Asics to develop branded elite footwear and apparel items that can be retailed nationally. For the first time in many years, AA now controls all rights for licensing of branded consumer products, a key achievement towards its strategy to develop this area of its business.

Events and Hospitality

Willis Insurance, Austcorp, Melbourne Convention and Visitors Bureau, ANZ and Lexus were among the companies introduced to athletics for the first time in 2006, through events and hospitality held during the season.

Corporate sales for the Telstra A-series Melbourne saw hospitality demand exceed available facilities at Olympic Park. The official President's function took place prior to the meet at the Lexus Centre.

Saturday, March 11, saw attention turn to Melbourne's Regent Theatre for a gala night of celebration. Hosted by James Brayshaw, more than 300 corporate guests listened to Craig Mottram and other Australian and international athletes discuss their road to Melbourne and their expectations for the Commonwealth Games.

The Commonwealth Games also provided an opportunity to unite the athletics community under one roof to celebrate the sport and wish the athletics team well. Close to 500 people attended the Athletics Supporters Function on March 17

at Eden on the Park in Melbourne. Organised by Sam Culbert of Jump Media and hosted by Bruce McAvaney, the event united athletes, officials, volunteers, administrators and fans to celebrate Australian athletics, its glorious history and exciting future. The event was an outstanding success and set a benchmark for future athletics community celebrations.

The performances of the past year were celebrated at the Telstra Athlete of the Year Awards at the Sofitel Melbourne in June. There was significant media interest and 100 guests attended the event that recognised not only the athletes of the year, but also the Novotel Volunteer of the Year, Ronda Jenkins, and the Asics Junior Athlete of the Year, Dani Samuels.

Broadcasting

One of the most important decisions taken during the past year was that the sport must remain on free-to-air television. A strategic direction was set to seek a long-term partnership with SBS to build ratings and the value of the sport as a broadcast product. SBS, which has IAAF rights until 2009, was the logical partner and was keen to work with AA to strengthen its position as 'The Athletics Network'. Under the agreement SBS will be the exclusive free-to-air broadcast partner of AA until the completion of the 2009 season.

In 2006, the partnership saw AA and SBS jointly produce four one-hour programs, covering the Canberra, Brisbane and Melbourne Telstra A-series events, as well as the Telstra Selection Trials in Sydney. Broadcast in the 11am Sunday slot, 857,511 people watched at least part of the coverage, with viewer loyalty stronger than for a number of other high profile summer sports. Overall, there was a small increase (two per cent) in viewers from the 2005 season, although viewer numbers in Melbourne fell sharply (by 30 per cent), most likely due to the proximity of the broadcast to the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games. This is, however, a key area for attention in 2007.



Live radio coverage of the Telstra A-series in Melbourne was provided by SEN 1116, and available on www.sen.com.au. Future opportunities to broadcast events live both on traditional radio and web radio are part of the AA's media development strategy.

Running Australia

The past year will be remembered as a key turning point for the Running Australia program. Participation in recreational running continued to grow strongly with most events reporting increased entrants, especially in the shorter recreational distances. In particular, family participation showed strong signs of growth, while the Sweeney Sports report showed that 25 per cent of the population, and 39 per cent of 18-29 year olds, run recreationally.

In addition, a great deal of work was committed towards the commercialisation of the program,

with the aim of securing a naming rights partner to invest in Running Australia and the industry. With close to 200,000 active participants in events around the country, this is an extremely valuable opportunity and AA is hopeful of securing a partner next year.

A refocus of the program will see the phasing out of the membership program, but AA aims to work with promoters and race directors to provide support and resources to assist them to grow the quality and ultimately the numbers in their events. The support shown to date by the event promoters suggests this strategy will be supported and the program will continue to develop strongly.

Luke Bould

Commercial Operations Manager

Jane Saville (left) and her sister Natalie celebrate finishing first and second in the 20km walk at the Commonwealth Games.

Competitions

With the Melbourne Commonwealth Games athletics program running from March 19-25, the 2005-2006 athletics season proved a very interesting challenge for Athletics Australia. For the first time in many years, a major international championship was staged during the Australian summer domestic season. While we have been blessed in recent years in Australia with a succession of international events, including the 2000 Olympics, 2001 Goodwill Games, 2001 IAAF Grand Prix Final and 1996 World Junior Championships, all these events were held in the August/September timeframe, which is the traditional northern hemisphere summer athletics season.

In this context, we needed to consider a wide range of requirements in setting the competition calendar. The selection trials could be no later than the first weekend of February; our athletes would need ample opportunities for qualifying before these selection trials, and the athletes selected, along with a large number of visiting international athletes, would need high level competition post-trials in order to maximise their performance at the Commonwealth Games. To assist the preparations for the Commonwealth Games, a test event for the MCG was needed before the Games. However, the MCG was not available for this until February 14 at the earliest. For 2006, the IAAF also introduced changes to the structure of the World Athletics Tour – the Melbourne Telstra A-series, previously an IAAF GPII meeting, became a World Athletics Tour event, effectively upgraded to full GP status with greatly increased requirements in prize money.

After consultation with the track and field committee and member associations, a structure was put in place to meet all these needs. The number of Telstra A-series events was reduced from six to three – one to be staged pre-trials and two post-trials in the lead-up to the Commonwealth Games. A three-day test event for the MCG was organised by combining the Victorian State Championships with an Athletics Australia Invitational. Most critical was the introduction of a new series of invitational athletics meetings around Australia – the National Series. These meetings were joint efforts between local organisers and AA. Local organisers covered on-ground and venue costs; AA selected fields of the best Australian athletes in a range of events, then arranged and covered the cost of travel for interstate athletes. AA

budgeted to provide more than \$80,000 in flight costs to support the National Series. The meetings were very flexible – from single-event competitions, such as the Bank of Queensland Milers Club Classic at the University of Queensland, to fully-fledged GP-style meetings, such as the Queensland Track Classic, and meetings at Hobart and Perth. In all, seven national series meetings were held in five different states from November 2005-January 2006.

This overall strategy proved an outstanding success, with the National Series and Canberra Telstra A-series providing a large number of Commonwealth Games qualification performances leading into the selection trials. In the period after the trials, the Telstra A-series events produced some of the best domestic competitions since the mid-to-late 1990s, culminating in the Melbourne Telstra A-series, which featured more than 150 international athletes, including 100m world-record holder Asafa Powell.

Competitions organised or supported by AA during the 2005-2006 season:

- **July 3, 2005:** Telstra Australian Marathon Championships, Gold Coast
- **July 16, 2005:** Australian 100km Road Championships, Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre, Gold Coast
- **August 27, 2005:** Telstra Australian Cross Country Championships and IGA Australian All Schools Cross Country Championships, Victoria Park Racecourse, Adelaide
- **August 28, 2005:** Telstra Australian Road Walking Championships and IGA Australian Junior Road Walking Championships, Santos Stadium, Mile End, Adelaide
- **September 11, 2005:** Telstra Australian Half Marathon Championships, Sydney
- **October 23, 2005:** Men's 50km Road Walking Qualifying Meeting, Albert Park, Melbourne
- **November 3, 2005:** Bank of Queensland Milers Club Classic, National Series Meeting, University of Queensland, Brisbane
- **November 19, 2005:** The Clarion, National Series Meeting, Bill Stewart Athletics Track, Nunawading
- **November 26, 2005:** Brisbane Track and Field Classic, National Series Meeting, Queensland Sport and Athletic Centre, Brisbane
- **December 1, 2005:** Telstra Zatopek Classic, Olympic Park, Melbourne

- **December 8-11, 2005:** Australian All Schools and Youth Athletics Championships, Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Sydney
- **December 13, 2005:** Schools Knockout National Final, Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Sydney
- **December 17, 2005:** Ron Clarke Classic, National Series Meeting, Landy Field, Geelong
- **December 17-18, 2005:** Australian Under-18 and Under-16 Combined Events Championships, AIS Athletics Track, Canberra
- **December 18, 2005:** Drug Free Track and Field Classic, National Series Meeting, Perry Lakes Stadium, Perth
- **January 6, 2006:** Graham Briggs Memorial, National Series Meeting, Domain Athletic Centre, Hobart
- **January 19, 2006:** Sydney Track Classic, National Series Meeting, Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Sydney
- **January 26, 2006:** Telstra A-series, AIS Athletic Track, Canberra
- **February 2-3, 2006:** Telstra Australian Open, Under-23 and Under-20 Combined Events Championships, Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Sydney
- **February 2-5, 2006:** Telstra Selection Trials and 84th Australian Athletics Championships, Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Sydney
- **February 4-5, 2006:** Australian Interstate Youth (Under-18) Match, Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Sydney
- **February 18, 2006:** Athletics Australia Invitational, Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne
- **February 19, 2006:** Telstra Australian Club Relay Championships, Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne
- **March 3, 2006:** Telstra A-series, Queensland Sport and Athletics Centre, Brisbane
- **March 9, 2006:** Telstra A-series (IAAF World Athletics Tour), Olympic Park, Melbourne
- **March 31-April 2, 2006:** Telstra Australian Under-20 and Under-23 Athletics Championships, Santos Stadium, Adelaide
- **April 2, 2006:** Telstra Australian Club Championships, Santos Stadium, Adelaide
- **April 9, 2006:** Australian 50km Road Championships, Canberra
- **April 29, 2006:** Telstra Australian Mountain Running Championships, Mount Tennent
- **June 11, 2006:** Telstra Australian Men's Under-20 10km Road Walking Championship, Canberra

- **June 11, 2006:** Australian 100km Road Championships, Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre, Gold Coast

These events were only possible with the help of a large group of experienced and dedicated volunteers and officials. The 2005-2006 season proved a very heavy workload for this group, who once again stepped forward, and delivered, in a wide range of events. In addition to all the listed AA competitions, our volunteers also contributed to a wide range of state championships, interclub meetings and the Pacific School Games.

At the Commonwealth Games, our national technical officials and sports-specific volunteers once again proved why they are considered the best in the world.

From all of us involved at AA, the athletes and supporters, I would like to thank all these dedicated and talented people, without whom we could not have conducted our sport, especially great events like the Commonwealth Games.

I would also like to recognise and thank all the members of the AA committees who advised on competition-related matters. Their expertise and assistance is greatly appreciated.

David Gynther
Competitions Manager

Development

Athletics Australia Indigenous Program – Athletics For the Outback

We have acknowledged our responsibility to provide all Australians with equal opportunities to participate in education and healthy lifestyle programs, regardless of location or socio-economic status. Our indigenous program is designed to link education, life skills, responsibilities and sport to create a ‘whole of life’ activity.

Sport is a wonderful way to provide a healthy outlook and lifestyle that, over generations, will provide indigenous people with the knowledge and ability to address some of the health issues they face. Being fit, adopting healthy-eating habits, attending school beyond Year 10 and having positive childhood experiences that can be carried into adulthood are some of the key areas the indigenous program addresses.

We assist recommended indigenous communities in understanding organised sport (athletics), along with the benefits that sport can bring with healthy lifestyles, high self-esteem, team building, career opportunities and aspirations to become an elite athlete. We target women in the program, providing them with choices and opportunities to be involved in sport as an athlete, official or coach. Funding is provided by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), which is passed directly to the state member associations and DCITA (Department of Communications, Information, Technology and the Arts).

Education courses are conducted through the Australian Track and Field Coaches Association (ATFCA). All attendees are instructed to Level One accreditation. Since the inception of these courses, more than 110 indigenous men and women have been accredited. Additionally, a number of young people will be mentored in all areas relating to athletics development, with local community members being guided in how to run an athletics meeting or carnival. Specialist instructors are brought in as necessary, along with elite athlete mentors such as Kyle Vander Kuyp,

Joshua Ross and our new younger international representatives, such as Benn Harradine and Robbie Crowther. Equipment is delivered into the care of a responsible person – usually the ASC indigenous development officer – to be used by the community and surrounding schools. The education program is a continual process of updating knowledge and increasing the available coaching pool.

Clear progressions from junior to senior participation are promoted, with talented athletes identified through our reporting system, and nurtured. Since the program was initiated last year, more than 70 indigenous boys and girls aged 14–18 have been brought to our attention through links we have created with state associations, indigenous sport and recreation staff, schools and local aboriginal organisations. Although this doesn’t seem a large number, it is an improvement on previous figures.

These athletes are placed with experienced coaches and, in some instances, are helped into school placements to continue their education. As the program grows in reputation, we are receiving more of these recommendations.

Our ultimate goal is to create an indigenous squad of junior athletes who will be guided into the Elite Youth Development program.

Endeavouring to keep indigenous youth in further education has been highlighted as a priority by the ASC, and our program addresses this by encouraging the community members who participate in the Level One coaching course to deliver year-round programs in local schools and communities. Students will benefit from having a structured program in place. AA helps the coaches with an ongoing mentoring program and reporting process.

There is a great natural talent and ability for sport in the indigenous communities, particularly in the running, throwing and jumping events. However, although we have had some outstanding indigenous athletes, none have come from the more remote communities, even though we know



the talent is there. By providing support in an appropriately structured manner, the program will give indigenous people the choice to participate at a higher level of competition, if desired, and will encourage communities and members to be more active, and so have healthier lifestyles, by developing a culture of sport and athletics for all.

Club Development

The Australian clubs and centres received a further \$200,000 grant from Telstra, which provided valuable support. In the past year, 167 clubs and centres applied for funding, and 77 clubs and centres benefited from grants. Little Athletics centres and clubs also applied for funds.

It was extremely pleasing that the number of applications doubled from last year and that there was an increase of successful applicants from 41 clubs in 2004. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Telstra for its continued support in this vital program.

The number of clubs registered with the ASC club development network also increased, which shows that clubs are more aware of the importance of developing their facilities to improve the experiences of their members.

Schools Programs

The STAR program continues to be a very popular coaching tool for teachers in schools across Australia. International schools from cities such as Beijing and Washington DC also requested copies. More than 1200 schools in Australia registered with the program, which means about 200,000 students are involved.

The Schools Knockout competition was once again an extremely successful and popular program. The national final was held at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, with 44 teams contesting the prestigious cup and plate division titles.

There was an extremely close contest in both the senior girls and senior boys cup, with only one point separating Queensland's Moreton Bay College from winners Ravenswood College, New South Wales. It was even closer in the senior boys clash, with Nudgee College from Queensland pipping Victoria's Caulfield Grammar School by just half a point. AA would like to thank the state development staff for their commitment to the program.

Sally McGrady
Development Manager

Kylie Wheeler, flying during the heptathlon high jump. She won silver in the event at the Commonwealth Games.

Life Members

The following individuals have been recognised for their significant contributions to the sport of athletics in Australia as Life Members of Athletics Australia:

| NAME | YEAR ELECTED |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| C Ronald Aitken CBE* | 1965 |
| John Bailey AM | 1995 |
| Thomas C Blue AM BEM* | 1980 |
| Joyce Bonwick OAM | 1978 |
| Reginald H Brandis | 2005 |
| Graeme T Briggs AM JP* | 1990 |
| Gwen Bull OAM* | 1962 |
| Margaret Cahill OAM* | 1972 |
| H George Carruthers MBE* | 1977 |
| Gwen Chester* | 1998 |
| Leonard B Curnow OBE* | 1968 |
| Mavis Ebzery OAM* | 1967 |
| C Herbert Gardiner QJM* | 1974 |
| Nell Gould OAM BEM* | 1962 |
| Robert E Graham OBE* | 1968 |
| Arthur J Hodsdon MBE | 1965 |
| Norman G Hutton* | 1968 |
| Jill Huxley | 2003 |
| Paul Jenes | 1995 |
| Ronda M Jenkins | 2002 |
| Clive D Lee AM | 1984 |
| Doris Magee AM MBE* | 1962 |
| Margaret L Mahony OAM | 1997 |
| Allan W McDonald QC | 1993 |
| Stella McMinn AM JP | 1992 |
| Maisie McQuiston BEM* | 1971 |
| Fred W Napier OAM* | 1992 |
| Lillian Neville OAM* | 1962 |
| Brenda J Pearl OAM | 1992 |
| Mabel E Robinson MBE* | 1973 |
| Noel J Ruddock AM | 1989 |
| George Soper* | 1969 |
| George W Tempest | 1994 |
| F Theo Treacy OBE* | 1969 |
| Hugh R Weir CBE* | 1957 |
| Doris M Willson* | 1964 |
| Denis P Wilson AM | 1997 |
| Flo Wrighter OAM BEM* | 1986 |

* Deceased

Australian Honours List

The Australian Honours List is an official record, containing more than 224,000 entries, of Australians who have been honoured since Federation, excluding those who have been recognised for military campaign service and with military long service awards.

The Order of Australia was created in 1975 and since then, more than 14,000 Australians have been recognised for their service to Australia or to humanity.

This year the following members of the Australian athletics fraternity received an award recognising their service.

Australia Day Honours

January 26, 2006

Hugh Edwards OAM (VIC)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to athletics as a coach, particularly for discus and hammer events.

Janice Gibb OAM (NSW)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to athletics as a team manager and official.

Rodney Gibb OAM (NSW)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to athletics as an official and convenor.

Peter Hadfield OAM (NSW)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to athletics as a commentator and competitor and to the community through a range of charitable organisations.

Queens Birthday Honours

June 12, 2006

Peter Brukner OAM (VIC)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to sports medicine, particularly through the Australasian College of Sports Physicians, and as a medical adviser for sporting organisations.

John Coates AO, AC (NSW)

Companion (AC) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to the development of sport nationally and internationally through the Olympic movement promoting the wellbeing of youth and values of tolerance, understanding, peace and mutual respect between peoples of the world.

Ralph Doubell AM (NSW)

Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to athletics through administrative roles, particularly with Athletics New South Wales, and as a competitor.

Max O'Toole OAM (TAS)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to sport as an athletics coach, and as an instructor of community fitness groups.

Des Paul OAM (SA)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to athletics through a range of administrative roles with sporting organisations.

Jack Pennington OAM (ACT)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to athletics, particularly in the area of long distance running, as an administrator, coach and competitor.

Ted Simmonds OAM (NSW)

Medal (OAM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia, for service to soccer, athletics and tenpin bowling as a referee, announcer, coach and journalist.

Vale

Michael Bucavic

Michael Bucavic passed away on July 3, 2006, aged 43. He had battled stomach cancer for many years, although not many people knew about it.

Michael migrated to Australia from Austria in 1984. After finishing his pole vaulting career (his personal best was 5m), he coached at Box Hill, Essendon and Melbourne University with much success.

William Collier

William (Bill) Collier died in April 2006, aged 81.

Bill started his working career as an aircraft engine mechanic with the RAAF, before taking on an inspection role at the Ford Motor Company, where he worked for 36 years.

After marrying Hilda Brennan and sharing their passion for sport, the couple became a prominent duo in children's athletics. When their son Greg joined Little Athletics, Bill's own sporting passion and interest in teaching young athletes was ignited.

He joined East Hamilton Hill Little Athletics Club in 1975 and filled various roles including club manager, coach and president. He regularly helped out other local clubs with events and coached at East Hamilton Hill.

In 1981, Bill was made a lifetime member of both East Hamilton Hill Little Athletics Club and Cockburn Little Athletics Centre.

Bill's sports knowledge, combined with his encouragement of the children to try their best, made him an asset to all the clubs he was involved with.

He also earned the nickname "The Gadget Man" from another of his passions – inventing and modifying sports equipment.

Bill's generosity, devotion and passion is sure to be carried on by his three children, seven grandchildren and all the young athletes he encouraged and inspired up to his last days.

Brian Foley

Brian Foley, secretary of Australian Masters Athletics (AMA) died on April 1, 2006, aged 62. Tasmanian-born Brian had returned to Perth

after working as an athletics official at the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games.

Secondary to his work as a chemical engineer, Brian had a long and esteemed career in athletics. From 1987-2001, he served on the Masters Athletics WA committee holding various posts including president, vice-president and secretary. In 1994 he was elected to the AMA board and served as secretary from 1996.

He also worked as an official at the 2000 Sydney Paralympics; represented Australia as a delegate to the World Masters Athletics General Assembly in 2001 and again in 2005; received the AMA Administrator of the Year Award for outstanding services nationally in 2003; was awarded life membership of WA Athletics during the 2004-05 season for more than 20 years' service; and served on the organising committee of the National AMA Championships from 2004-2006.

An 'A' Grade-qualified official, Brian spent many seasons with open athletes. As an athlete Brian regularly trained and competed at a high level in 800m and 1500m events. In 2005, despite a hip injury, he managed to compete at world level in San Sebastian.

Brian was a remarkable man who will be hard to replace. His voluntary contributions to both masters and open athletics in Australia were outstanding and he will be greatly missed. He was well known, well liked and well respected in the wider athletic community as an athlete, an administrator and an official.

Alex Hutt

Alex Hutt passed away on June 14, 2006. He was a former board member for winter events, an organiser of the City to Surf and *Sydney Morning Herald* Half Marathon events and a very strong supporter of athletics in the Sutherland Shire.

Jess Jarver

Jess Jarver was a merit award winner, coach and mentor to many elite athletes, media personality

and a passionate lover of track and field.

He was a driving force behind the formation of the Australian Track and Field Coaches Association and founding editor of *Modern Athlete and Coach* magazine.

Jess made a huge impact on athletics in South Australia specifically and Australia generally.

Frank Knight

Frank Knight passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. We will remember Frank for his friendship, loyalty, deep love of athletics and his dedication to coaching and officiating at national, state and junior levels.

Frank was a life member of Queensland Athletics and Thompson Estate-Eastern Suburbs Athletics Club and a vice-president of the Brisbane Athletics Officials Club.

He was recognised with an Athletics Australia Service award badge for 40 years of service to the sport.

Lynne Mazey

Lynne Mazey died on March 27, 2006, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Lynne's involvement in athletics began as a member of the Newstead Women's Harrier Club in Launceston. She was a state representative in the 200m and 400m, competing in national championships alongside athletes of the calibre of Raelene Boyle.

She later became one of the state's most successful coaches with the Sandy Bay Club in Hobart. Lynne was one of the first female mentors to take on coaching male athletes.

During her 25-year coaching career, she guided more than 75 athletes to success at all levels of the sport, culminating in Mark Nichol's emotional win in the 2005 Latrobe Gift, which he dedicated to Lynne.

Athletics Tasmania will recognise the significant contribution made to the sport by Lynne by naming an event in her honour at each year's Tasmanian Track and Field Championships. Starting in the 2006-07 season, competitors in the senior women's 400m will take part in the Lynne Mazey Memorial.

Fred Napier OAM

Fred Napier OAM died on November 19, 2005. Fred was the guru of technical management in Australia during the 1980s and 1990s.

Fred served as a member of the AAU technical committee and a regular member of the old technical management committees, which oversaw national championships. As the system changed over the years, Fred took on new roles, mainly as a technical delegate for many Australian Championship, Grand Prix and A-series meetings.

A key member of the national officials panel at major international meetings held in Australia over a period of 40 years, Fred commenced with the Commonwealth Games held in his home city of Perth in 1962 through to the Sydney Olympics in 2000, where he was an assistant technical manager.

He regularly served as a West Australian team official at national events and in 1978 acted as assistant manager to Geoff Martin of the athletics section of the Australian Commonwealth Games team.

He was also involved in the 1996 World Junior Championships in Sydney, the 1985 World Cup in Canberra and the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane.

Fred was recognised for his enormous contribution to the sport of athletics with life membership of both the AAWA and Athletics Australia, and the AA Merit Award. External recognition also came through the Australian honours system in the form of the Medal of the Order of Australia and the Australian Sports Medal.

A great mentor, particularly to the next generation of national technical officials, Fred will be sadly missed. He will be remembered for his significant contribution to the healthy state in which Australian officiating is now maintained.

Len Norwood

Len Norwood passed away peacefully following a long battle with diabetes on October 26, 2005, aged 78.

Len was a life member of ANSW and contributed enormously to ANSW as an official and office volunteer.

Harold Ralph OAM

Harold Ralph OAM was a board member of Athletics NSW for many years.

He was also manager of the NSW teams involved in several Australian Championships.

Athletics Australia Awards

Telstra Male Athlete of the Year

Craig Mottram (middle distance)

Telstra Female Athlete of the Year

Bronwyn Thompson (long jump)

Telstra Male Athlete with a Disability of the Year

Heath Francis (sprints)

Telstra Female Athlete with a Disability of the Year

Amanda Fraser (discus)

International Athlete of the Year

Craig Mottram (middle distance)

Athletics International Emerging Athlete of the Year

John Steffensen (sprints)

Asics Junior Athlete of the Year

Dani Samuels (discus, shot put)

Novotel Volunteer of the Year

Ronda Jenkins

Overall Media Coverage

Scott Gullan (*Herald Sun*)

Australian Records

| MEN | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--|---------------------------|----------|------------|----------|
| Adam Bevis | QLD | U16 | Combined event | 4949pts | Canberra | 18/12/05 |
| Jared Bezuidenhout | WA | U16 | 200m hurdles | 24.54 | Sydney | 09/12/05 |
| Robert Crowther | QLD | U20 | Long jump | Eq 7.99 | Canberra | 26/01/06 |
| Nathan Deakes | VIC | Aust National, Aust All Comers | 5000m walk | 18.45:19 | Melbourne | 09/03/06 |
| Craig Mottram | VIC | Aust National | One mile | 3.48:98 | Oslo | 29/07/05 |
| Craig Mottram | VIC | Aust National, Aust All Comers | 2000m | 4.50:76 | Melbourne | 09/03/06 |
| Chris Noffke | QLD | U18 | Long jump | 7.95 | Marrakesh | 15/07/05 |
| WOMEN | | | | | | |
| Linda Allen | QLD | U20 | Triple jump | 13.28 | Sydney | 05/02/06 |
| Emily Brichacek | ACT | U16 | 3000m | 9.08:93 | Canberra | 29/10/05 |
| Kym Howe | WA | Aust National, Aust All Comers, Commonwealth | Pole vault | 4.61 | Canberra | 26/01/06 |
| Kym Howe | WA | Aust National, Aust All Comers, Commonwealth | Pole vault | 4.62 | Melbourne | 25/03/06 |
| Bianca Maurer | VIC | U16 | Javelin | 45.41 | Melbourne | 28/11/05 |
| Sally McLellan | QLD | U20 | 100m hurdles | 13.01 | Brisbane | 26/11/05 |
| Vicky Parnov | WA | U16 | Pole vault | 4.10 | Perth | 18/06/05 |
| Vicky Parnov | WA | U16, Eq U18 | Pole vault | 4.15 | Gold Coast | 05/07/05 |
| Vicky Parnov | WA | U18 | Pole vault | 4.20 | Perth | 21/01/06 |
| Vicky Parnov | WA | U18 | Pole vault | Eq 4.20 | Canberra | 26/01/06 |
| Vicky Parnov | WA | U18 | Pole vault | 4.30 | Sydney | 04/02/06 |
| Melissa Rollison | QLD | Aust National, Aust All Comers | 3000m steeplechase | 9.24:29 | Melbourne | 22/03/06 |
| Dani Samuels | NSW | U18 | Discus throw | 55.46 | Brisbane | 26/11/05 |
| Dani Samuels | NSW | U18 | Discus throw | 56.55 | Brisbane | 26/11/05 |
| Dani Samuels | NSW | U18 | Discus throw | 58.52 | Brisbane | 26/11/05 |
| Australian Team | | U18 | 1000m sprint medley relay | 2.08:25 | Marrakesh | 16/07/05 |
| Australian Team | | U18 | 1000m sprint medley relay | 2.06:58 | Marrakesh | 17/07/05 |
| Randwick Botany Team | NSW | U18 | 4 x 800m relay | 8.57:81 | Sydney | 19/11/05 |
| INDOOR | | | | | | |
| MEN | | | | | | |
| Paul Burgess | WA | Aust National | Pole vault | 5.80 | Donetsk | 12/02/06 |
| Shawn Forrest | VIC | Aust National | 5000m | 13.47:72 | Arkansas | 10/02/06 |

Australian Medallists 2005-06

IAAF WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Marrakech, Morocco July 13-17, 2005

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----|--------------|
| Dani Samuels (NSW) | 1st | Discus throw |
| | 3rd | Shot put |
| Chris Noffke (Qld) | 1st | Long jump |
| Sophia Begg (NSW) | 2nd | High jump |
| Lauren Boden (ACT) | 2nd | 400m hurdles |
| Jess Gulli (Vic) | 2nd | Medley relay |
| Megan Hill (Vic) | 2nd | Medley relay |
| Jaimee-Lee Hoebgen (NSW) | 2nd | Medley relay |
| Olivia Tauro (NSW) | 2nd | Medley relay |
| Katherine Katsanevakis (Vic) | 3rd | 800m |

IAAF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Helsinki, Finland August 6-14, 2005

| | | |
|---------------------|-----|--------|
| Craig Mottram (Vic) | 3rd | 5,000m |
|---------------------|-----|--------|

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Melbourne, Australia March 15-26, 2006

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|---------------------|
| John Steffensen (WA) | 1st | 400m |
| | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Jana Pittman (NSW) | 1st | 400m hurdles |
| | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Nathan Deakes (Vic) | 1st | 20km walk |
| | 1st | 50km walk |
| Scott Martin (Vic) | 1st | Discus throw |
| | 3rd | Shot put |
| Steven Hooker (Vic) | 1st | Pole vault |
| Stuart Rendell (ACT) | 1st | Hammer throw |
| Kym Howe (WA) | 1st | Pole vault |
| Brooke Billett (SA) | 1st | Hammer throw |
| Kerryn McCann (NSW) | 1st | Marathon |
| Jane Saville (NSW) | 1st | 20km walk |
| Bronwyn Thompson (Qld) | 1st | Long jump |
| Heath Francis (NSW) | 1st | 200m EAD T46 |
| Elizabeth McIntosh (Vic) | 1st | 100m EAD T37 |
| Clinton Hill (NSW) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Mark Ormrod (SA) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Chris Troode (WA) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Sean Wroe (Vic) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Rosemary Hayward (NSW) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Jaimee-Lee Hoebgen (NSW) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Tamsyn Lewis (Vic) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Caitlin Willis (Qld) | 1st | 4 x 400m relay |
| Luke Adams (NSW) | 2nd | 20km walk |
| William Hamlyn-Harris (NSW) | 2nd | Javelin throw |
| Dmitri Markov (WA) | 2nd | Pole vault |
| Craig Mottram (Vic) | 2nd | 5000m |
| Tatiana Grigorieva (SA) | 2nd | Pole vault |
| Sarah Jamieson (Vic) | 2nd | 1500m |
| Melissa Rollison (Qld) | 2nd | 3,000m steeplechase |
| Natalie Saville (NSW) | 2nd | 20km walk |
| Kerrie Taurima (ACT) | 2nd | Long jump |
| Kylie Wheeler (WA) | 2nd | Heptathlon |
| Eliza Stankovic (NSW) | 2nd | 800m EAD T54 |
| Katrina Webb (SA) | 2nd | 100m EAD T37 |
| Dani Samuels (NSW) | 3rd | Discus throw |
| Cheryl Webb (NSW) | 3rd | 20km walk |
| Donna MacFarlane (Tas) | 3rd | 3,000m steeplechase |
| Jason Dudley (Qld) | 3rd | Decathlon |
| Oliver Dziubak (WA) | 3rd | Javelin throw |
| Christopher Erickson (Vic) | 3rd | 50km walk |
| Mark Fountain (Vic) | 3rd | 1500m |
| Alwyn Jones (SA) | 3rd | Triple jump |
| Fabrice Lapierre (NSW) | 3rd | Long jump |
| Jared Tallent (Vic) | 3rd | 20 km walk |
| Asti Poole (Qld) | 3rd | Seated shot put EAD |
| Crystal Attenborough (NT) | 3rd | 4 x 100m relay |
| Lauren Hewitt (Vic) | 3rd | 4 x 100m relay |
| Melanie Kleeberg (Qld) | 3rd | 4 x 100m relay |
| Sally McLellan (Qld) | 3rd | 4 x 100m relay |

IAAF WORLD CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fukuoka, Japan April 1-2, 2006

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Benita Johnson (Qld) | 3rd Teams | Short course |
| Donna MacFarlane (Tas) | 3rd Teams | Short course |
| Victoria Mitchell (Vic) | 3rd Teams | Short course |
| Melissa Rollison (Qld) | 3rd Teams | Short course |
| Anna Thompson (Vic) | 3rd Teams | Short course |
| Eloise Wellings (NSW) | 3rd Teams | Short course |

IAAF WORLD RACE WALKING CUP

La Coruna, Spain May 13-14, 2006

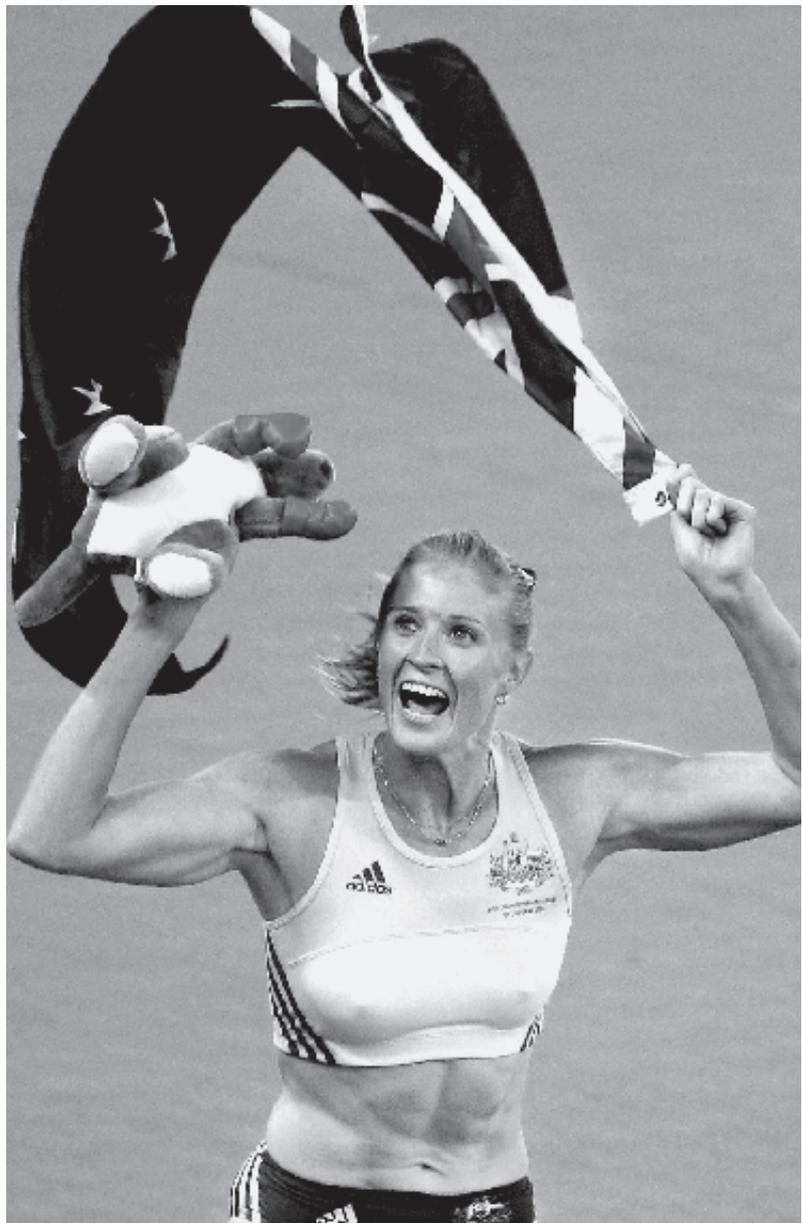
| | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Luke Adams (NSW) | 2nd Teams | 20km walk |
| Duane Cousins (Vic) | 2nd Teams | 20km walk |
| Nathan Deakes (Vic) | 2nd Teams | 20km walk |
| Adam Rutter (NSW) | 2nd Teams | 20km walk |
| Jared Tallent (Vic) | 2nd Teams | 20km walk |

Australian Rankings

WORLD TOP 50 RANKED AUSTRALIAN ATHLETES IN 2005

| | | |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 3rd | Nathan Deakes | 20km, 50km walk |
| 8th | Craig Mottram | 5000m, 10000m |
| 10th | Paul Burgess | Pole vault |
| 12th | Steven Hooker | Pole vault |
| 15th | Kylie Wheeler | Heptathlon |
| 16th | Victoria Mitchell | 3000m steeplechase |
| 19th | Dimitri Markov | Pole vault |
| 19th | Tim Parravicini | Long jump |
| 19th | Jane Saville | 20km walk |
| 21st | Daniel Batman | 200m |
| 22nd | Patrick Johnson | 200m |
| 22nd | John Steffensen | 400m |
| 23rd | Tatiana Grigorieva | Pole vault |
| 24th | Stuart Rendell | Hammer throw |
| 24th | Benita Johnston | Road running |
| 26th | Benita Johnston | 5000m, 10000m |
| 27th | Joshua Ross | 100m |
| 27th | Luke Adams | 20km, 50km walk |
| 28th | Scott Martin | Discus throw |
| 30th | Georgie Clarke | 1500m |
| 31st | Peter Nowill | 3000m steeplechase |
| 35th | Lauren Hewitt | 200m |
| 36th | Cheryl Webb | 20km walk |
| 39th | Suzy Walsham | 1500m |
| 43rd | Patrick Johnson | 100m |
| 46th | Bronwyn Eagles | Hammer throw |
| 46th | Monique Nasca | Discus throw |
| 49th | Chris Noffke | Long jump |
| 49th | Lisa Corrigan | 1500m |

As at December 31, 2005.



Kym Howe celebrates winning the pole vault final at the Commonwealth Games, setting a new Australian and Commonwealth record of 4.62m.

Registration and Participation Figures 2005-2006

| | | Totals | ACT | NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA | Totals |
|-------------------------------------|----|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | 04-05 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 05-06 | 05-06 |
| ATHLETES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Senior | M | 3997 | 113 | 1173 | 185 | 702 | 254 | 105 | 1303 | 98 | 3933 |
| | F | 2243 | 51 | 615 | 180 | 434 | 148 | 53 | 502 | 51 | 2034 |
| Under 20 | M | 603 | 39 | 168 | 5 | 123 | 52 | 20 | 147 | 30 | 584 |
| | F | 415 | 25 | 140 | 3 | 98 | 37 | 17 | 93 | 29 | 442 |
| Under 18 | M | 1095 | 36 | 355 | 17 | 233 | 82 | 29 | 310 | 52 | 1114 |
| | F | 893 | 43 | 314 | 17 | 218 | 60 | 34 | 224 | 51 | 961 |
| Under 16 | M | 1210 | 51 | 368 | 25 | 215 | 61 | 58 | 352 | 35 | 1165 |
| | F | 1142 | 56 | 361 | 24 | 222 | 69 | 42 | 308 | 59 | 1141 |
| Under 14 | M | 749 | 32 | 183 | 37 | 151 | 17 | 60 | 142 | 35 | 657 |
| | F | 836 | 37 | 213 | 59 | 206 | 33 | 57 | 182 | 25 | 812 |
| Under 12 | M | 704 | 0 | 125 | 149 | 431 | 0 | 0 | N/A | 1 | 706 |
| | F | 789 | 0 | 124 | 188 | 471 | 0 | 0 | N/A | 1 | 784 |
| Total | M | 8361 | 271 | 2372 | 418 | 1855 | 466 | 272 | 2254 | 251 | 8159 |
| | F | 6315 | 212 | 1767 | 471 | 1649 | 347 | 203 | 1309 | 216 | 6174 |
| Total Athletes | | 14,676 | 483 | 4139 | 889 | 3504 | 813 | 475 | 3563 | 467 | 14,333 |
| OFFICIALS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | M | 657 | 31 | 205 | 18 | 165 | 39 | 43 | 168 | 21 | 690 |
| | F | 577 | 16 | 114 | 24 | 283 | 38 | 51 | 107 | 25 | 658 |
| Total Officials | | 1234 | 47 | 319 | 42 | 448 | 77 | 94 | 275 | 46 | 1348 |
| ACTIVE LIFE MEMBERS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | M | 160 | 10 | 27 | 11 | 24 | 32 | 8 | 16 | 21 | 149 |
| | F | 120 | 2 | 16 | 8 | 23 | 25 | 4 | 17 | 18 | 113 |
| Total Active Life Members | | 280 | 12 | 43 | 19 | 47 | 57 | 12 | 33 | 39 | 262 |
| COACHES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 | M | 1083 | 21 | 132 | 5 | 194 | 52 | 25 | 98 | 46 | 573 |
| | F | 644 | 11 | 75 | 4 | 174 | 17 | 7 | 41 | 31 | 360 |
| Level 2 | M | 277 | 11 | 156 | 0 | 201 | 23 | 9 | 97 | 10 | 507 |
| | F | 78 | 11 | 50 | 0 | 120 | 7 | 1 | 33 | 7 | 229 |
| Level 3 | M | 89 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | F | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Level 4* | M | * | 14 | 73 | 0 | 59 | 20 | 9 | 51 | 10 | 236 |
| * Coaching Levels Restructured | F | * | 1 | 22 | 1 | 18 | 6 | 3 | 14 | 4 | 69 |
| Level 5* | M | * | 2 | 17 | 1 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 29 | 2 | 76 |
| * Coaching Levels Restructured | F | * | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 17 |
| Others | M | 56 | 1 | 17 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 48 |
| | F | 48 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 15 |
| Total Coaches | | 2293 | 76 | 549 | 17 | 805 | 135 | 57 | 377 | 119 | 2135 |
| Total Registrations | | 18,483 | 618 | 5050 | 967 | 4804 | 1082 | 638 | 4248 | 671 | 18,078 |
| PARTICIPATION PROGRAMS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Schools Knockout | | 5218 | 50 | 1070 | 125 | 1316 | 667 | 250 | 1390 | 430 | 5298 |
| Australian All Schools | | 1618 | 51 | 464 | 10 | 430 | 121 | 45 | 286 | 84 | 1491 |
| STAR Athletics | NA | 6386 | | 53,821 | 970 | 44,047 | 12,024 | 5839 | 32,518 | 20,983 | 176,588 |
| Running Australia | | 138,711 | 3559 | 16,589 | 80 | 24,789 | 19,380 | 5886 | 37,893 | 25,977 | 134,153 |
| Total Participation Programs | | 145,547 | 10,046 | 71,944 | 1,185 | 70,582 | 32,192 | 12,020 | 72,087 | 47,474 | 317,530 |
| Total Participation | | 164,030 | 10,814 | 76,813 | 2,152 | 75,146 | 33,516 | 13,500 | 78,323 | 47,987 | 338,251 |

Queensland Athletics

It was a very strong year for Queensland Athletics. Real gains were made in our key areas of competition, sport development, regional development, communication, and volunteer development. The major strategic issue of unification was addressed with vigour, but without a satisfactory outcome.

We continued to increase participation numbers at events and championships. However, revenue was no higher than last year, largely due to reduced funding of more than \$56,000 from Athletics Australia. In response, we closely monitored expenditure to ensure all available funds were directed into our key expenditure groups without recording a loss. The challenge for the board and management will be to try to rectify this decision from AA, maximise income from existing areas, and create new income streams without significantly increasing operating costs.

“In 2005, we continued to focus heavily on sport development initiatives.”

The 2005 competition season had two key highlights. These were the Brisbane Track and Field Classic and the Athletics North Queensland (ANQ) Championships. The Track and Field Classic, co-hosted by the Brisbane Officials Athletics Club, attracted 45 of the country's national squad athletes, and produced 21 Melbourne Commonwealth Games qualifying performances and 11 world junior qualifying performances. The ANQ Championships continued to grow in popularity, partly due to the ANQ board designing complementary activities around the championships, including a development squad camp, a coaching course and many social activities.

In 2005, we continued to focus heavily on sport development initiatives. Key initiatives were:

- Employment of 23 school-based athletes as sport and recreation trainees.
- The rural and regional coach development program.

- Development squad activities for more than 400 athletes.
- After-school hours programs to targeted schools.
- Coordination and delivery of coach education courses.
- Coordination and delivery of approximately 20 officials courses.

Thanks to Reg Brandis, Jim Minehane, Helen Roberts, Lyn Miles and Yvonne Mullins for administrating and running these, and to the Queensland Schools Knockout competitions, which led to Queensland teams winning three out of four divisions at the national finals.

Unfortunately, despite these grassroots advancements, Queensland still remains without a high-performance program, as a result of issues created by the AA/Australian Sports Commission review. We are hopeful that AA can rectify this, as Queensland is clearly a major talent pool for the nation.

In regard to communication strategies, the *Inside Queensland Track and Field* weekly newsletter was introduced in 2005. This informs our members of weekly events, results and insider athletics information. Thanks to Daryl Cross, who was the brainchild of this concept.

The unification of the sport in Queensland remains our biggest challenge. During 2005, the concept received support from:

- The QA board and QA members.
- The Queensland Little Athletics board and QLA members.
- The Queensland Masters board and QMA members.
- The AA board.
- The Queensland Government.
- The Commonwealth Government (through the ASC).

Unfortunately, the national board of Little Athletics vetoed the proposed concept. Until



common sense prevails on this issue, the sport will continue to under-perform.

Finally, I would like to thank all the volunteer officials, club administrators and coaches, who worked so tirelessly for our sport and asked for nothing in return. I would also like to thank our commissions, the board of Athletics North Queensland, the QA CEO and staff, the Queensland Government and my colleagues on the QA board.

Doug Carlson
Chairman, Queensland Athletics

Sally McLellan sprints for the line in the 200m at the Telstra A-series in Canberra.

Athletics South Australia

Athletics SA (ASA) underwent some important changes in the past year. An executive officer and administration officer were appointed to implement our strategic plan for 2005-08. Neither has a history in athletics, but both bring other credentials to the organisation.

We were keen to learn from other member associations about programs they initiated that could benefit South Australia.

The most important program “imported” from another state was the New South Wales Clubs on Track ranking system. Through ASA facilitation, the clubs initiated further direction for athletics in South Australia that built on this program.

We are close to completing our website. ASA and the clubs have been eager for the website to be fully functional so that registrations can be made online. The website will also prove extremely important as a cost-effective medium for information dissemination.

The focus of ASA during 2005-06 was to re-evaluate our direction. Part of the process looked at the structures that need to be in place in order to help us meet our goals.

ASA plans to focus on the following areas to achieve this:

- Strengthening the clubs.
- Improving ASA support to clubs.
- Broadening the participation rate, particularly through schools.
- Increasing focus on indigenous inclusion.
- Improving the performance of ASA administration.
- Improving the financial status of ASA so that more funds can be reinvested into athletics.
- Developing effective pathways from Little Athletics to seniors.

The AA Conference was most beneficial, and the AA staff should be congratulated on their professionalism.

The ASA board is very appreciative of the work contributed by volunteers and thanks them for their contribution.

Michael Verwey

Executive Officer, Athletics South Australia



Athletics Tasmania

This was a year for consolidation for Athletics Tasmania (AT).

Nationally, levels of openness and co-operation were significantly improved, with member associations given a much better understanding by Athletics Australia of where they stood and clear guidelines of the levels of assistance available to them.

AT was pleased to resume a role as host of a national series meeting. With the assistance of Tasmania's forest industries, AT was able to successfully deliver the Graeme Briggs Memorial Track Classic in the style we had sought. The significant assistance from AA towards interstate athlete travel is acknowledged.

On the domestic front, the board was required to consider the best ongoing structure for the AT's administration when Gordon Jablonski resigned as executive officer in mid-October. After consultation with member branches the consensus was very much towards using available staff resources in the development area.

For financial reasons it was not possible to make an immediate appointment. As a result the burden for delivering AT services for the rest of the year fell to administration officer, Fiona Plummer, with assistance from the board and volunteers.

During the year, the board concentrated on the AT's administration, communication, higher performance and competition responsibilities. This resulted in a return to surplus, as well as some encouraging results on the competition front.

AT and its members maximised the advantage of the Commonwealth Games being staged in Melbourne. In addition to steeplechase bronze medallist Donna MacFarlane and Tristan Thomas making the team, a significant number of AT members took up the opportunity to serve as technical officials and sports-specific volunteers. Many Tasmanian athletes took the chance of competing in the Victorian Championships on the MCG in February – the official test event for the Commonwealth Games.

In local competition good outcomes were achieved, while there remains significant potential for growth at state level. The All Schools Cross-Country Championship continues to give the best return to the sport in all respects. The board noted encouraging growth in the Cadbury Marathon, Half Marathon and Race to the Taste events, which were conducted directly by AT.

The success of the Intrastate Under-18 Match was particularly encouraging, as was the excellent achievement of the State Youth Team in repeating its 2005 bronze medal success in the national version of the competition.

Discussions with the Tasmanian Athletic League (TAL) to establish further ways in which AT and the TAL might be able to co-operate in more joint ventures (including the administration of the sport) continued, with the expectation of some changes being implemented for 2006-07.

The effect of the changes made by Tasmanian Little Athletics (TLA) to its structures can now be assessed after two years of operation.

An excellent partnership with both AA and the Tasmanian Institute of Sport (TIS) was established to deliver a joint AT/TIS track and field program. We were fortunate to secure the services of Peter Fortune as the state performance coordinator from March 2006. The benefits began to flow almost immediately.

AT is confident that the new direction for this program, with realistic concentration on elite development rather than high performance, is the correct one and will bear fruit for Tasmanian athletics. We are indebted to both AA and the TIS for supporting this direction and for funding the program extensively.

Nationally, results were again encouraging with some younger athletes making breakthroughs in a busy junior season at events such as the Pacific Schools Games, Australian Championships, and Youth Teams Challenge.

None of this would have been possible without the ongoing commitment to athletics by Tasmanian



clubs and coaches. The board has made coaching its No.1 program development priority for the ensuing period. Scholarship funding will be made available to encourage more coaches to gain qualifications and work within the club system.

With the assistance of a special one-off grant from AA in 2006, some innovative programs will also be offered to assist clubs, as well as increase the number of officials' education courses to be offered – each of which is regarded by the board as being essential to the future growth of athletics in Tasmania.

AT acknowledges the substantial contributions made to it during 2005-06 by the Tasmanian Government, the TIS, Tasmania's forest industries, Cadbury, Athletics Australia and its principal sponsor Telstra, and an increasing number of support providers.

We are also pleased to recognise further support

for competition equipment provided to our three branches and some Little Athletics Centres by Telstra.

Acknowledgement is made of the service given to AA by Gordon Jablonski during his time as executive officer. We wish him well on his return to golf club management.

AT again takes the opportunity to recognise the commitment by volunteers to make the sport operate so well on a daily basis at club, branch and state level.

After recovery and consolidation in recent years, the time has now come for athletics in Tasmania to enjoy a period of growth and expansion. This will require the concerted and co-operative effort of all members and stakeholders.

Brian Roe

President, Athletics Tasmania

Donna MacFarlane competes in the 3000m at the Telstra A-series IAAF World Athletics Tour at Melbourne's Olympic Park.

Athletics Victoria

What a magnificent year it was for Australian athletics and, in particular, Victorian athletics. Clearly, the pinnacle of the athletics year was marked by the track and field meet at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games. The highlight of the Athletics Victoria (AV) year was undoubtedly the State Championships held at the MCG.

Used as a test event for the Commonwealth Games, the State Championships were a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many of AV's members to compete in the most famous stadium in the country. The MCG, having been transformed into an athletics venue (and looking as though it had been built for exactly that purpose) provided a magnificent setting for more than 1500 AV athletes to compete in nearly 2000 events. The time and effort put in by the AV staff to produce this event was extraordinary. In the lead-up to the Championships staff worked long hours, with the end result proving their enormous effort had been worthwhile. I sincerely thank the dedicated individuals who made this event so successful.

2005-06, an increase on the previous year's figure of 3953. An even more encouraging sign was the 10 per cent increase in the membership figures in the competing athlete category. A number of retired athletes were motivated to come back for one more season to be eligible to compete at the State Championships at the MCG. Although they are unlikely to maintain their AV membership in the future, the general trend in the figures was very satisfying. The challenge for our clubs, as always, is to retain and build on their current membership.

By using the profile the sport gained via the Commonwealth Games to recruit new members and re-sign past and present members, AV clubs can look forward to another great year.

Another highlight of the year was the support AV received from a number of government and commercial sources. The Department of Sport and Recreation once again supported AV with a number of program grants, as did VicHealth. Neil Ryan from Runners World was again a great sponsor. His contribution in sponsoring athletes' bibs and the Under-20 competitors during the winter season is greatly appreciated.

The year saw the formation of a new commercial partnership with the Melbourne Citrus Committee. The committee was formed to represent the state's citrus growers and suppliers. The committee's support and financial contribution was invaluable. We look forward to continuing this mutually beneficial relationship.

Once again, the City of Whitehorse and Nunawading Toyota also generously helped us, providing great support and the major prize for the Whitehorse Mega Mile, AV's annual fun run. Clarion Hotels on Canterbury, a major sponsor of the Mega Mile was the naming rights' sponsor for the AV national series meeting conducted at the Nunawading track. Our thanks and gratitude go to all who provided support.

The year was also successful from a financial perspective, with a record surplus being delivered. This can be attributed to prudent controls on

“The year was also successful from a financial perspective, with a record surplus being delivered.”

The athletics year began in April 2005 with the start of the winter cross country and road season. The winter sub-committee, headed by Tony Williams, once again produced an interesting and challenging season that provided the membership with a high standard and variety of cross country and road courses. A number of new venues were used this year, with relays at Yarra Bend, the 16km road race at Frankston, and the season-ending relay competition around the Tan. The number of members competing in the winter season was substantially up on previous years and was comparable to the participation rates of 20 years ago.

The increase in overall membership figures for the year was encouraging. AV had 4207 members in



expenses, an increase in membership numbers and sponsorship revenues, and the opportunity to host the State Championships at the MCG as a test event.

I am looking forward to another great athletics year. Hopefully, the momentum and excitement generated last season will see the sport and AV continue to grow. The financial surplus will be

reinvested back into programs designed to help achieve continued growth with the overall aim to deliver better products and services to our members.

Nick Honey
CEO, Athletics Victoria

Craig Mottram made headlines across the world when he won the bronze medal in the 5000m at the 2005 IAAF World Championships in Helsinki.

AthleticA (Western Australia)

This year Western Australia finally resolved to provide a world-class athletics facility to replace Perry Lakes Stadium, built for the 1962 Empire Games.

After a long battle with local council authority, the Town of Cambridge, the State Government passed legislation in February to resume the land at Perry Lakes, and the proposed site for the new facility at AK Reserve, and assume control of the project.

This positive move will result in a state-of-the-art, boutique-style facility with lights that will offer a unique track orientation, designed to take advantage of the prevailing winds for all athletes.

Construction is due to commence in March 2007, with the opening scheduled for March 2008, and we look forward to a major athletics meeting to launch the opening.

The year started with the Australian team competing at the World Youth Championships in Morocco where four competitors from AthleticA were selected: Vicky Parnov and Miranda Tiong (pole vault), Wally Meekin (triple jump), and Megan Wheatley (heptathlon). Megan later withdrew due to injury, but all four athletes form an exciting part of Western Australia's future.

The Melbourne Commonwealth Games in March were an outstanding success with 11 West Australians representing their country, equalling the highest number ever selected. All performed extremely well, the highlights being John Steffensen's win in the 400m and Kym Howe's gold medal in the pole vault.

The 2005 Drug Free Track and Field Classic in

December was the first time the national series format had been held in Perth, and proved to be an outstanding success. Patrick Johnson again showed his love for running in Perth when he won the Drug Free men's 100m in a wind-assisted 10.01 seconds, ahead of Daniel Batman, with Joshua Ross finishing third. Pole vaulter Kym Howe confirmed her No. 1 ranking in Australia by winning the event with a leap of 4.35m.

The Synergy Gallipoli Run was held on April 23 and continues to grow, with more than 430 competitors celebrating the Anzac spirit by completing the picturesque course in Kings Park.

The Athletics Federation of WA continues to operate harmoniously, facilitating a clear communication process for all athletics groups. Every second year, the Federation nominates two members to the Western Australian Athletics Commission, ensuring the sport has some grassroots representation at board level.

The governance and administration of the sport continues to be stable and well managed, with AthleticA set to record another surplus. The challenge ahead is to capitalise on the prospect of a new facility by increasing membership numbers.

I would like to again thank all officials and coaches for their tireless efforts in maintaining their strong commitment to our sport. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Peter Bacich

Chairman, AthleticA



ACT Athletics

It was both a rewarding and challenging 2005-2006 for ACT Athletics (ACTA) – rewarding in respect to the performances of our athletes, and ACTA's ability to deliver quality athletics competitions, including a world championship event. Implementing the findings of the Review of Athletics in Australia has enabled us to move forward by restructuring ACTA. Revitalising our membership and club structure has been a challenging process, which ACTA remains committed to and continues to work on.

In September 2005, ACTA hosted the fifth INAS-FID World Athletics Championships. Nineteen countries affiliated with the International Sporting Association for people with an Intellectual Disability (INAS-FID) supported this event. These championships were well supported by Athletics Australia officials and were a major success, with positive feedback on the organisation and conduct of the championships received.

The ACT Cross Country Club (ACTCCC) continues to deliver a comprehensive program of ex-stadia events on behalf of ACTA. In June 2006, the ACT Race and Fitness Walking Club (ACTR & FWC) conducted the 40th Lake Burley Griffin Carnival, which included the Australian Under-20 Men's 10km Walking Championships. ACTR & FWC also conducted selection trials for junior athletes for the 2007 World Race Walking Cup.

On the track, ACTA in conjunction with AA conducted another successful Telstra A-series and Under-16/Under-18 National Combined Event Championships. ACTA also assisted both the ACT Veterans Club and ACT Little Athletics Association in conducting their respective National Championship events.

ACTA was pleased to induct Dave Hobson as a life member. A member for more than 30 years, Dave has served ACTA well in numerous roles and is a former president of the ACTCCC.

Jack Pennington, another well-known athletics identity in the ACT, was honoured with the award of OAM for his services to the sport as an

administrator and coach.

ACT-based athletes performed well on the world stage in 2005-06. Emma Murray won the 42km World Long Distance Mountain Running Championship title, blitzing the women's field with the runner-up a huge 18 minutes in her wake. She also beat 570 male competitors.

Lauren Boden collected a silver medal at the 2005 World Youth Championships in Morocco.

Patrick Johnson was a finalist at the 2005 World Championships, and our athletes with a disability won numerous medals at the German and European International Paralympic Committee Championships.

Murray Goldfinch was a dual world champion, winning both the shot put and discus titles at the fifth INAS-FID World Athletics Championships in September 2005. Murray later went on to smash the world record for the F20 shot put on three occasions.

Amanda Fraser established a new world record in the F37 discus while competing at the 2006 ACT Track and Field Championships.

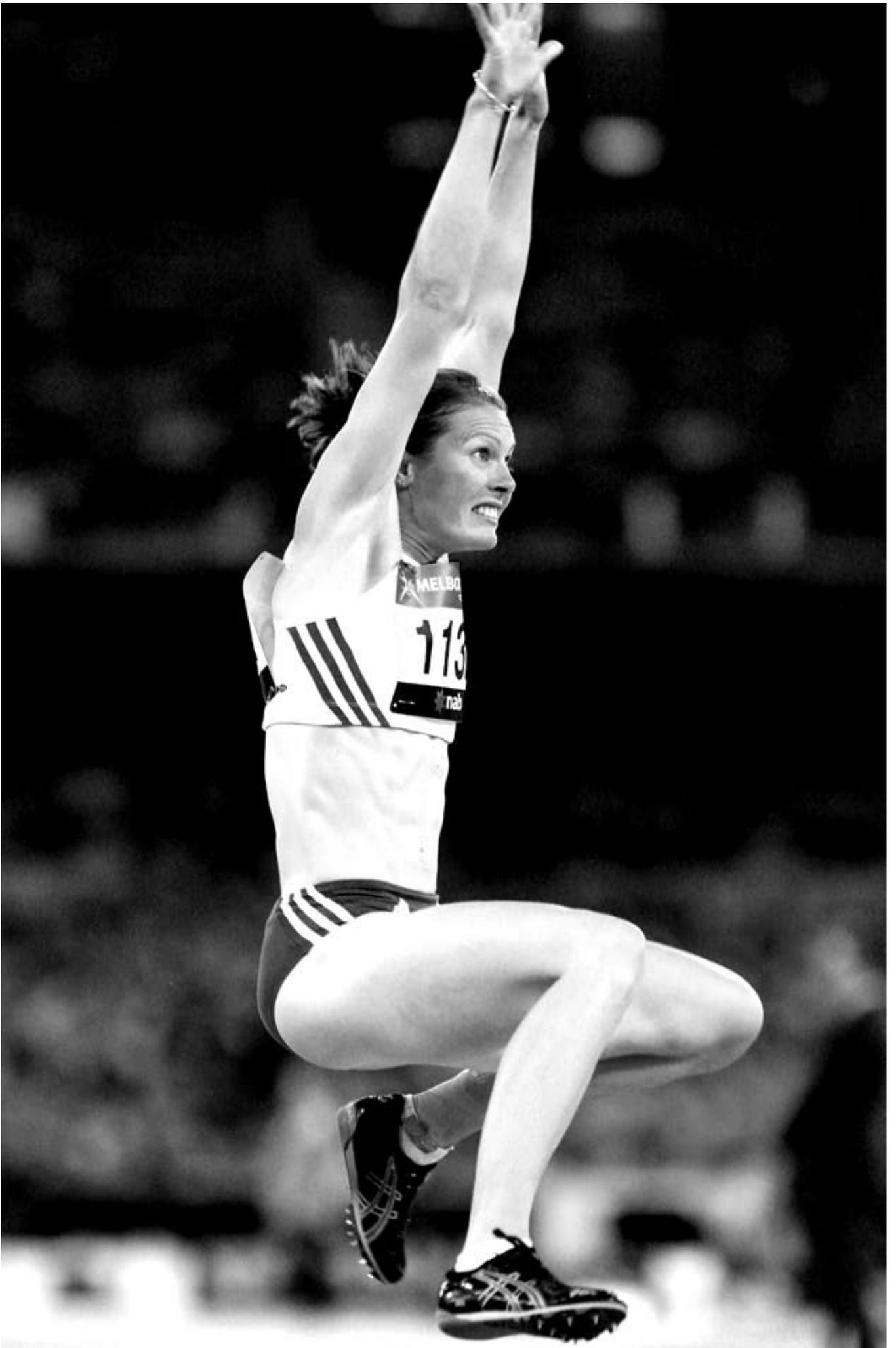
The participation of ACTA and ACT-based athletes in the Commonwealth Games was another highlight for the year.

A large number of ACT athletes are preparing to represent Australia in various world championship events.

With the reduction of financial support for major sports resulting from ACT Government funding cuts, ACTA is preparing itself for a difficult year.

There were many rewarding experiences for ACTA over the past 12 months. Despite challenges and an uncertain future financially, there is still a very positive frame of mind for athletics in the nation's capital.

Michael Thomson
President, ACT Athletics



Northern Territory Athletics

Firstly, I would like to thank the board for its commitment to Northern Territory Athletics (NTA) throughout the year, as without its behind-the-scenes efforts, we would not be able to successfully operate.

NTA continued to work through changes in our office organisation and we completed the restructuring with the new administration officer arriving in August. Both Cherry Harvey and Melissa Curry moved on to pursue other careers and we thank them for their efforts. We especially hope Cherry will continue in a coaching and volunteer development role.

The inter-club events were well represented in the northern region but dropped away in the southern regions, which we will need to work on next season. The Australia Day Fun Run (with more than 3000 runners) and the City to Surf event with new sponsor Tattersall's saw excellent fields.

The link with School Sport NT (SSNT) continued, with SSNT again attending the NT Athletics Championships. There is plenty of untapped natural talent at this level, especially from the remote areas and islands. I watched an under-16 athlete, with no coaching, throw a javelin three times out to about

45-metres and all landed within about a metre of each other. Recently appointed Development Officer Emily Ryan will be trying to harness this type of talent.

The number of 'Development' and 'Phantom' squad athletes aiming to qualify for the All-Schools competition remained steady, but we did not realise greater numbers at the Monday night All-Comers sessions for those under-14 and older.

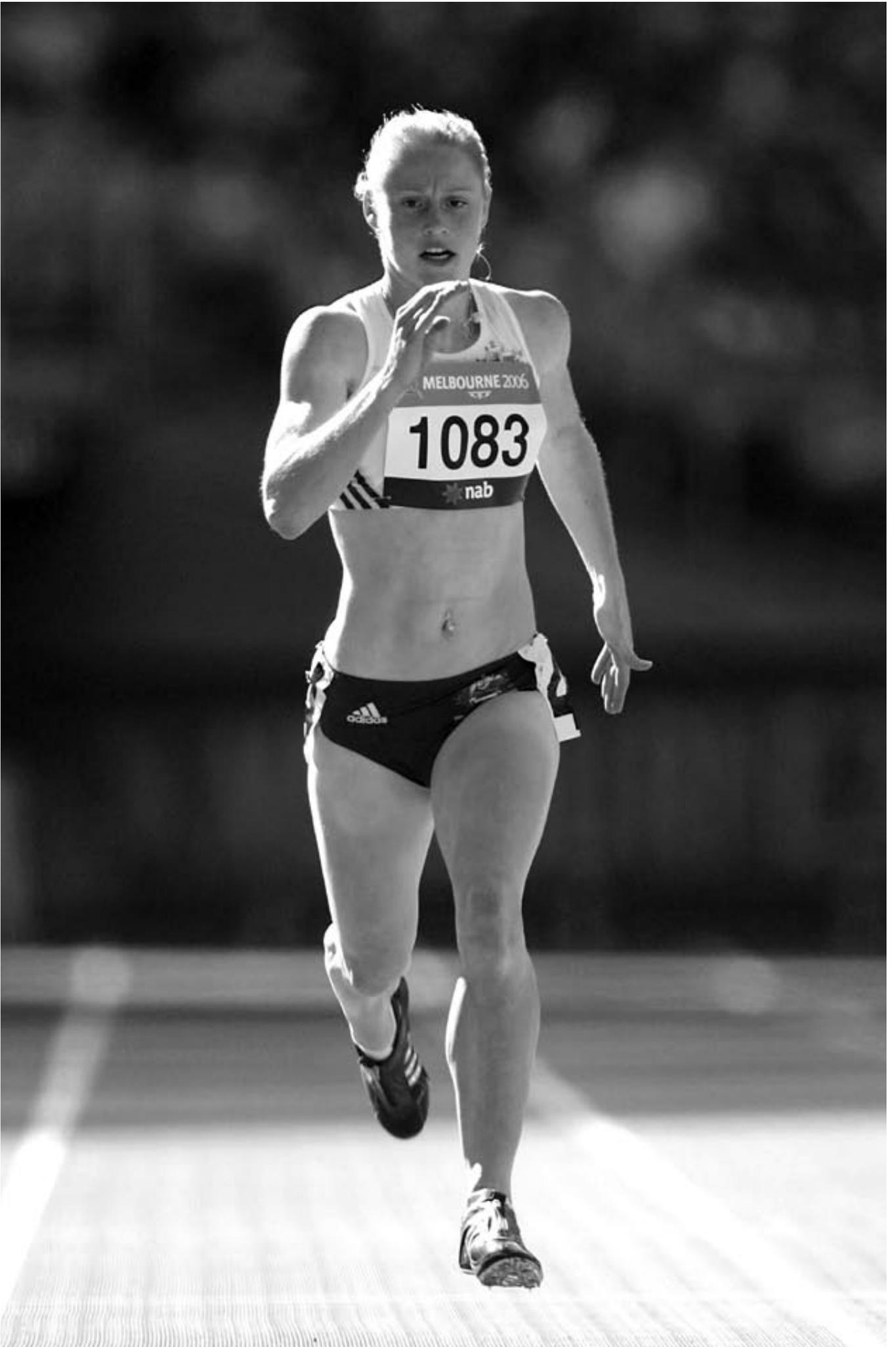
A development strategy for the new season will see our Development Officer build closer links with coaches to work out how we can improve the competition and assist athletes preparing for interstate events.

Congratulations to Crystal Attenborough for her inclusion in the Commonwealth Games team. She proved athletes can attain an international competitive level without having to move south.

Thanks to the volunteers throughout the Northern Territory at all levels, as there can be no competition without them.

Ian Fullarton

President, Northern Territory Athletics



Athletics New South Wales

This past year saw Athletics NSW enter a new and exciting phase in the evolution of its programs, activities and commercial practices. Although there was only a small increase in registrations, it was nevertheless an increase, arresting the trend of the past 10 years.

The implementation of the Clubs on Track program is perhaps the most adventurous project Athletics NSW has undertaken for a number of years. As the program is further implemented it is hoped all clubs embrace the concept and address those areas where performance may be lacking. This project provides a quality assurance framework for clubs and will occupy a prominent place on board agendas for the immediate future. Its successful conclusion will result in stronger, more competitive and viable clubs and create increased options for competition.

enormous amounts of time and energy to introducing a competition calendar and program of events to achieve a heightened level of member satisfaction. Athletics NSW will continue to proactively respond to member feedback with the fundamental aim of increasing athlete participation in competitions, a goal we successfully achieved over the past three years.

The provision of development programs offering all NSW-based athletes the greatest possible opportunity to progress as far as their talent, dedication and desire can take them will remain a key objective for Athletics NSW. Of significant importance is the Emerging Athlete Program (EAP) that continues to build momentum and we are keen to expand its functionality in the future as reflected in the board's decision to allocate funds to it for the next two years. This inaugural partnership with the NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS) in the junior development area has been extremely successful and it is anticipated that this group will supply an ever-increasing percentage of Australian representatives. The competition among athletes for places at the various camps is testimony to the popularity of the program.

A new business plan, *Making a Difference*, was adopted by the board in early 2006. It provides a clear direction and platform for Athletics NSW to grow, manage, promote and showcase the sport. A key driver will be the establishment of partnerships and a culture of co-operation and unity from members and stakeholders such as Little Athletics Association NSW (LAA NSW), Australian Track and Field Coaches Association (ATFCA), NSW Member Associations (NSWMA), NSW Athletic League (NSWAL) and NSWIS.

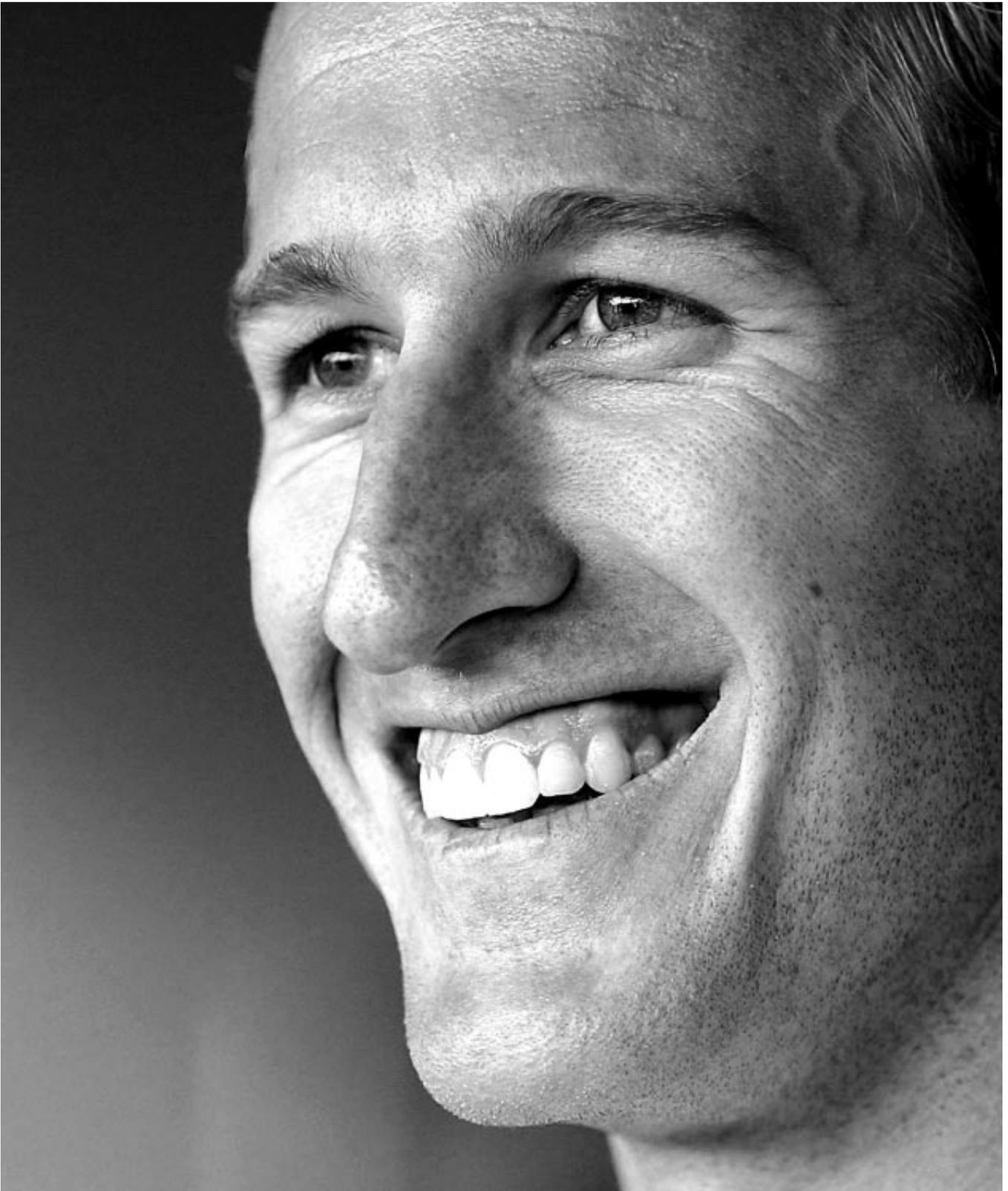
To coincide with the implementation of *Making a Difference*, Athletics NSW launched a new corporate logo. Inspired by the recently updated Athletics Australia logo, it retains the traditional waratah emblem that reflects the rich history and tradition of our state.

Athletics NSW continued to consolidate and

“There are exciting times ahead with many new initiatives to be introduced in the administration, development and competition areas.”

Athletics NSW provided clubs with the opportunity to access \$20,000 in funding through the Clubs on Track club administration grants scheme. The aim of this scheme is to assist clubs achieve a strong level of club administration, encompassing the areas of leadership, planning and competition management. This has led to the efficient operation of clubs and an increased ability to communicate successfully with members. It is pleasing to note that 26 clubs were successful in their applications for software and/or cash grants to complete administrative training courses.

To meet the needs of our athletes and clubs, Athletics NSW continued its commitment to the provision of full calendar of events. While it may not be possible to satisfy all of our membership, the competition advisory panel has committed



expand e-commerce practices aimed at further improving communication and administrative efficiency within the organisation. A new user-friendly website was also introduced. Online competition entries and club registrations were operational from September 2006.

The trading outcome for the year showed a healthy surplus of \$31,670 with the balance sheet remaining strong. Continued improved liquidity has provided the foundation for increased investment in the sport.

There are exciting times ahead with many new initiatives to be introduced in the administration, development and competition areas. I believe we are well placed to take advantage of any opportunities that may arise to progress the cause of athletics.

John Patchett
Chairman, Athletics NSW

400m runner Clinton Hill was co-captain of Australia's Commonwealth Games athletics team.

Australian Sports Commission

In 2005-06, the Australian Government, through the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), supported Athletics Australia with funding of about \$4.6 million for the development and enhancement of the sport from grassroots to elite levels. This also included support for the athletics program at the Australian Institute of Sport.

The ASC funds and works closely with a range of national sporting organisations, state and local governments, schools and community bodies to develop sporting excellence and ensure sport is well run and accessible for everyone. It upholds the integrity of sport through many innovative programs to promote ethical sporting practices, and sport free of performance-enhancing drugs.

The ASC continued to work closely with AA management and staff to implement the structural and operational changes recommended in the joint AA/ASC review of athletics completed in 2004. Our message in last year's annual report made particular reference to financial management, so we are pleased to note AA's continued transparent and disciplined financial management.

The ASC has been very active in supporting AA's lead role in working with the Australian Track and Field Coaches Association, Australian Little Athletics and School Sport Australia to improve the delivery of athletics to the community. All parties are represented on a steering committee to develop a national junior sport plan, with a primary goal to ensure more effective links between these key stakeholders, in order to achieve improved access, pathways and opportunities for positive experiences in the sport.

AA was one of the inaugural bodies to receive ASC funding for Project CONNECT (Creating Opportunities Nationally through Networks in Education, Classification and Training), a program designed to prepare sport for the inclusion of people with a disability at all levels from grassroots to the elite. Funding for the project ceased in 2005-06 after three years of investment by the ASC, and while this is an ongoing program, AA has made

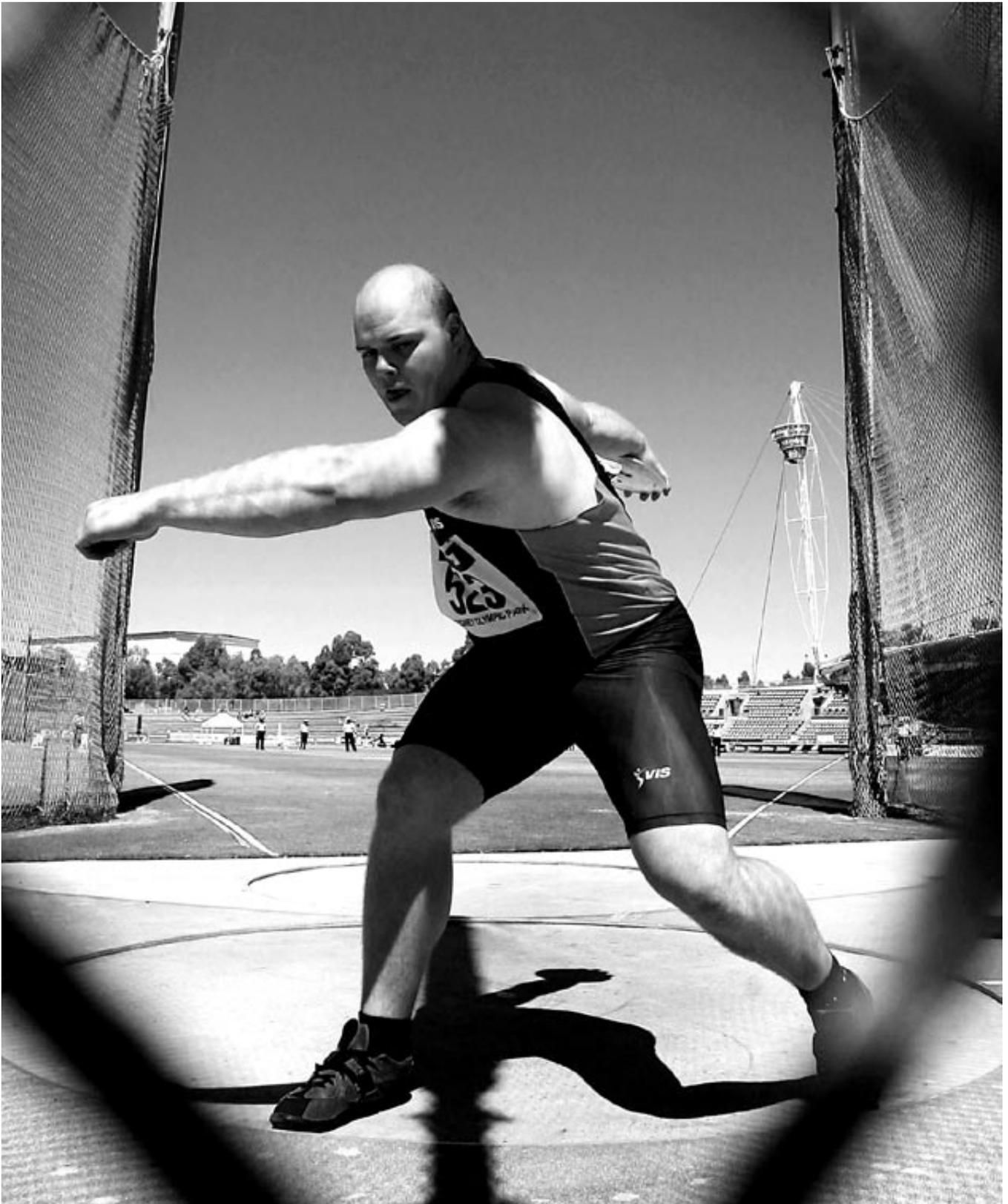
considerable progress enhancing integration and inclusion.

AA has also achieved great success in taking athletics to the bush. By forming strong working relationships with the network of the ASC's indigenous development officers, AA has run clinics within indigenous communities in regional and remote areas. At the same time, AA has provided education and training for coaches and officials. Such capacity building means that athletics activities can continue to be offered by the local community in the local community.

At the grassroots club level of the sport, the ASC is represented on a panel that determines the allocation of funds made available through the Telstra Assistance Scheme. This scheme provides substantial grants to clubs, via national sporting organisations, for the purchase of equipment. For the first time this year, AA made these grants available to Australian Little Athletics centres, further enhancing the links between AA and Australian Little Athletics. In line with recommendations from the 2004 athletics review, AA is also well on the way to producing a national model clubs policy. Clubs on Track draws on existing work done by state member associations, as well as learning from the examples of other national sports, especially swimming.

The performance of Australia's track and field athletes at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games, and other high profile events, was closely scrutinised. In 2005-06, the ASC increased its support for AA's high performance programs by almost \$1 million per annum, in recognition of the need to invest strongly in senior and emerging elite athletes, as well as a network of event group, national high performance centres, and the coaches who play a key role in developing our best athletes and provide leadership and technical direction for the sport.

The Australian Institute of Sport program was restructured in 2005 to align itself with the 2004 review recommendations and is now focused on



attracting younger athletes with medal potential for the 2012 London Olympics, specifically in the event groups of walks, jumps, 400m, hurdles and sprints for elite athletes with a disability (EAD).

As we approach the 2008 Beijing Olympics and Paralympics, the ASC looks forward to maintaining its strong partnership with AA.

Mark Peters

CEO, Australian Sports Commission

Scott Martin, competing in the Telstra Selection Trials in Sydney, won the gold medal in the discus at the Commonwealth Games.

Australian Commonwealth Games Association

2006 was a Commonwealth Games year of special significance, with the Games held in Melbourne. As a result, the expectations for success were high and the pressures on athletes were considerable.

This was foreseen and as such it was a year that saw the culmination of four years of preparation of Australian track and field athletes by the Australian Commonwealth Games Association (ACGA) under the Target 2006 program. Under the program the ACGA granted \$900,000 to Athletics Australia for preparing able-bodied and elite athletes with a disability (EAD) to compete in Melbourne.

When AA lodged its Target 2006 plan in March 2003 it set a goal of winning 35 medals overall – 12 gold, nine silver and 14 bronze. In 2005, AA revised its medal target to 26 overall – eight gold, six silver and 12 bronze.

Australia's track and field athletes actually won 41 medals at the 2006 Games – 16 gold, 12 silver and 13 bronze. This was the best result for Australian track and field athletes in Commonwealth Games history and certainly suggests that the ACGA's Target 2006 funding was an important factor in achieving the success.

During the four-year period leading to the Games, the ACGA met regularly with AA in relation to Target 2006, encouraging and assisting where possible. The ACGA made representations to government funding authorities strongly supporting the case that Australian athletes should be funded to do their best in Melbourne.

The ACGA also made sustained representations to the Prime Minister and the Federal Minister for Sport for the establishment of a Direct Athlete Support program for preparing Commonwealth Games athletes with medal potential. This was agreed to and funding commenced in March 2005, one year out from the Games. Eligible athletes received up to \$20,000 to assist them to spend more time training, competing, and preparing for the Games.

Almost all of the athletes selected for the 2006 team had competed in either the IAAF World Junior or IAAF World Youth Championships. The ACGA has provided funding to AA to assist high-performance junior athletes to attend these events since 1996 and in 2006 the ACGA provided \$66,000 for this purpose.

The 2006 Commonwealth Games was the culmination of a decade of endeavour for the ACGA in bringing the Games back to Australia after the very successful 1982 Games in Brisbane. The 2006 Games marked the fourth time the event has been held in Australia – Perth hosted in 1962 and Sydney in 1938.

In 1996, the ACGA set about nominating a host city among a number of Australian candidates and chose Melbourne as the bidding city. The right to host the Games in Melbourne was awarded to the ACGA by the Commonwealth Games Federation at the General Assembly held in Fiji in 1999.

Following this, an organising committee was established and ACGA representatives served on the board and the many committees that were instrumental in ensuring the correct and proper planning and organisation of the Games. The ACGA President, Sam Coffa, was Deputy Chairman of the Organising Committee, as well as Chairman of the key Sports and Technical Committee.

ACGA representatives also served on the Finance, Risk Management and Audit, and Joint Marketing Committees. AA CEO, Danny Corcoran, who is an ACGA board member, served on the Joint Marketing Committee. The ACGA played a major role in the organisation of the Games, along with the other major partners, the Victorian State Government, the Federal Government and local government, particularly the City of Melbourne.

The ACGA exists to prepare, enter and manage the Australian teams at the Games, and having the Games at home presents certain challenges. The 2006 Australian team was the largest ever, with more than 600 athletes and officials.

To ensure the best possible team, the ACGA agreed to allow selection as close to the Games as



permitted in the entry process. This in turn meant that the ACGA was faced with very tight timelines and logistical issues with respect to accreditation, transport, outfitting, and accommodation. With cooperation from the program sports, and through the commitment and experience of ACGA and team headquarters staff, the 2006 team had the necessary support to perform their best, which is what all involved wanted.

The athletics section of the 2006 team was easily the largest, with 122 athletes selected, including EAD athletes. It was the largest athletics section ever for any Australian Commonwealth Games team and there was some comment that the selection was “generous”. As stated above, the results achieved showed that the higher number of selections was justified.

The next few years present new challenges for the ACGA and for AA in relation to the Commonwealth Games. The third Commonwealth

Youth Games are to be held in Pune in India in October, 2008, followed by the 19th Commonwealth Games in Delhi in India in October, 2010. The athletics competitions at both Games are sure to be keenly contested.

As was the case in the 2003-2006 quadrennium, the ACGA will work in partnership with AA to ensure the best representation possible of Australian track and field athletes. Of course, the aim will be to achieve similar or better results as those posted in 2004 in Bendigo at the 2nd Commonwealth Youth Games, and in 2006 in Melbourne.

Athletics is a core sport in the Commonwealth Games and the ACGA congratulates AA for its support and commitment.

Perry Crosswhite

CEO, Australian Commonwealth Games Association

John Steffensen didn't hold back with his celebrations after his crushing win in the 400m at the Commonwealth Games.

Australian Olympic Committee

The Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) is responsible for Australia's participation at the Olympic Games and Olympic Winter Games.

Much of the AOC's focus of the previous 12 months was on Australia's campaign at the Winter Olympic Games in Turin in Italy. Our 40-strong team of athletes, who competed in 10 disciplines, made us proud of their remarkable achievements. Most notably, Dale Begg-Smith won a gold medal and Alisa Camplin a bronze medal. It was the fourth successive Winter Olympics where Australian athletes have won medals.

Following the Games, attention quickly turned to Melbourne – the host city for the 2006 Commonwealth Games. Australia's outstanding record at the Commonwealth Games is well documented. The AOC is encouraged by the multitude of talented young athletes across a number of sports who emerged in Melbourne. This was most evident in athletics.

The MCG, filled to near capacity, was the perfect setting for Australian athletes to showcase their talents to the world, an opportunity that was grasped with both hands.

The AOC's focus has now shifted to the 2007 Australian Youth Olympic Festival (AYOF) and preparation for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing in China.

For the 2007 AYOF, we look forward to welcoming some 1600 young athletes from more than 20 nations to compete in this five-day celebration of sport. Once again, athletics will feature as one of the core sports. The athletics competition will be bolstered by the participation of teams from China, Chinese Taipei, New Zealand and Oceania. As with past editions of the AYOF, the AOC hopes to discover our future Olympians among the Australian participants.

Preparations are now in full swing for the Australian Olympic team's participation in Beijing. The AOC has adopted its strategic plan for the team and is progressing with operational planning. As with Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004, it is the AOC's objective for our athletes to finish in the top five nations in the 2008 medal tally. This will be a formidable task, with host nation China expected to commit considerable resources to achieving medal success.

The AOC will continue to provide funding support to its member national federations and Olympic-calibre athletes and coaches as they prepare for Beijing.

The AOC looks forward to working with AA to meet the challenges ahead.

Craig Phillips

Secretary General, Australian Olympic Committee



Australian Paralympic Committee

The 2005-06 season was a rewarding period for the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC), but not without its challenges.

Following a successful winter campaign in March, culminating with two Australian medals in the toughest Winter Paralympic Games yet in Turin, the APC has switched its focus to the summer Paralympic sports. Our campaign is well under way to confront what we anticipate will be an outstanding and highly competitive 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

The APC is implementing a number of initiatives and strategies to maintain our position as one of the leading Paralympic nations, with our biggest challenges coming from China and Great Britain. The APC launched its national talent search program across Australia last year. To date, approximately 600 participants have taken part in the program, with more than 200 athletes identified as having the potential to one day become Paralympians. Athletics has been represented at every event so far. This engagement has paid off, with three of the identified athletes (Katherine Proudfoot, Evan O'Hanlon and Chris Mullins) bringing home medals as part of the successful Australian team at the 2006 IPC Athletics World Championships in Assen.

This year, the APC took a proactive role in the development of classification. Under the backing of the International Paralympic Committee, the APC identified needs (by sport and by state) to increase the number of qualified classifiers and establish a national classification pathway. The end result will be an easier and more accessible network for emerging athletes to attain classification. In July, the APC appointed a national classification manager to direct this development.

In 2006-07, the APC's Paralympic Education Program (PEP) will also be introduced. Targeted at Year Five students throughout Australia, the PEP aims to educate children and build awareness of Paralympic sport. Paralympic athletes will play an important role in launching the program to schools around Australia.

More recently, one of the APC's major sponsors, Telstra, appointed five Paralympians as Telstra ambassadors. Their role is to communicate the key values of Paralympic sport – "empower, achieve and inspire" – to the Australian community. Athletics is well represented by Paralympians Eliza Stankovic and Heath Francis.

Team preparations are well advanced for the ninth Far East and South Pacific (FESPIC) Games in Kuala Lumpur in November 2006. The Australian team size is close to 200 athletes and officials. With the largest sport contingent, athletics will form nearly a quarter of the total team size. FESPIC is a good opportunity to test our athletes and staff in preparation for the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

In May, the APC conducted its first Beijing planning workshop with coaches and managers from the sports we hope will qualify for the Beijing team. Later this year, the APC expects to make its first official site visit to Beijing – to inspect facilities and meet with the Beijing organising committee.

A key initiative undertaken by the APC in developing Paralympic sport in Australia and the whole region was the announcement this year of the inclusion of the Oceania Paralympic Championships as part of the Arafura Games to be held in Darwin in 2007. Outstanding support was provided by the Northern Territory and Australian Government, setting the stage for Arafura to become an important event on the 'athletes with disabilities' sporting calendar. Australia will be able to use this event as a Paralympic Games qualifying round.

The success of our programs would not be possible without the support of our Paralympic sports. Athletics Australia has played a leading role in advancing Paralympic sport in Australia, and we look forward to continuing this strong partnership in the future.

Darren Peters

CEO, Australian Paralympic Committee







Commonwealth Games 2006





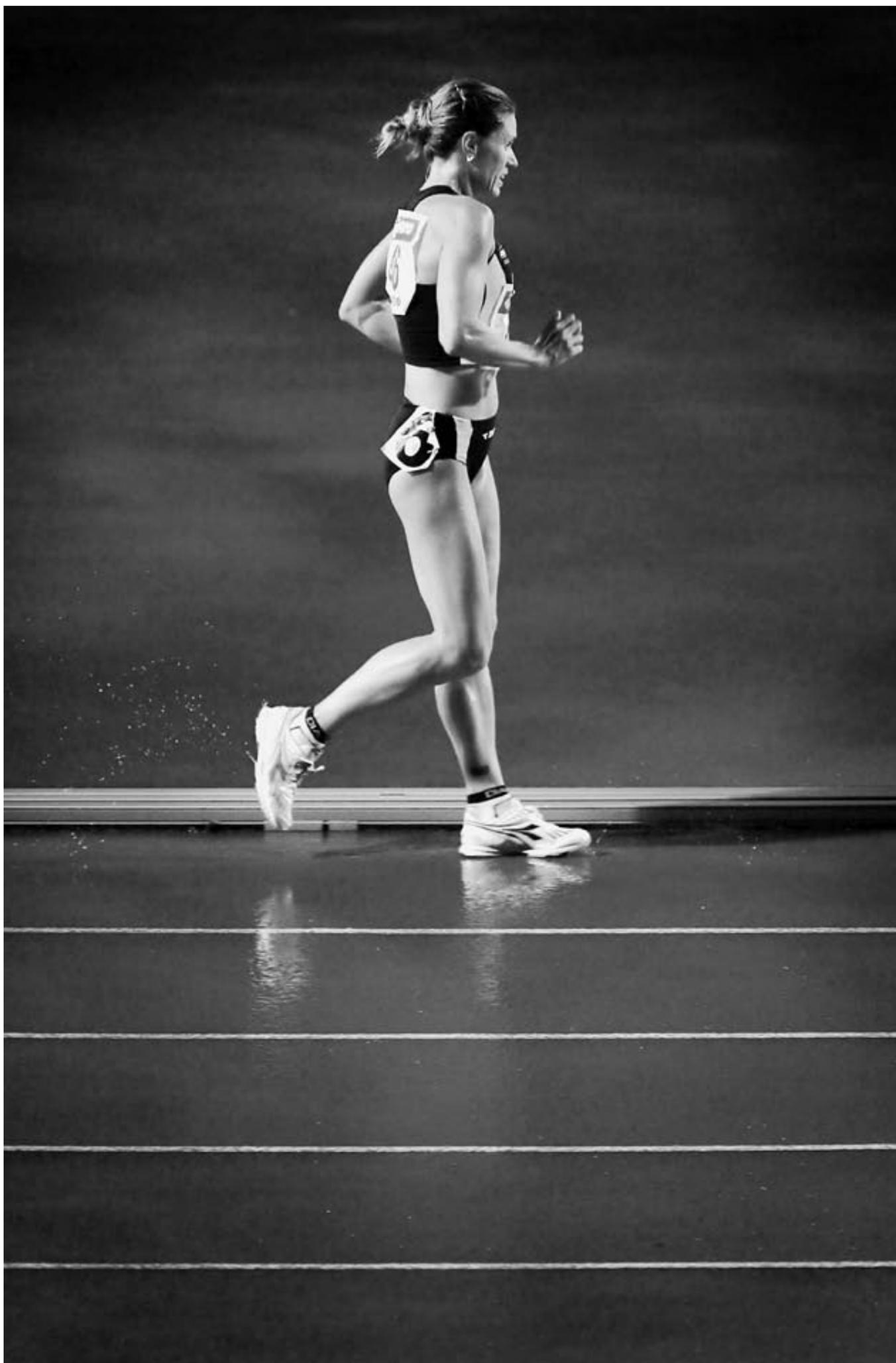
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Finance

It is with satisfaction that, due to another year of attention to costs and taking advantage of any revenue opportunity afforded by the interest in the past Australian summer season, Athletics Australia can report a surplus of \$678,742 against a budgeted surplus of \$26,301.

The Melbourne Commonwealth Games provided a number of opportunities to secure some one-off revenues that assisted AA to report the significant surplus. Combined with the delay in the implementation of AA's full High Performance program, AA was able to report not only revenues above budget (\$468,813), but also savings in costs (\$183,628).

At the end of June 2005, AA provided for a potential adverse legal finding and during the financial year this was settled without costs being awarded against AA. As a result, the provision was reversed and \$250,000 included as unbudgeted income. This fact, combined with \$140,000 provided by Melbourne 2006, an additional \$67,944 by the IAAF to support the Melbourne Telstra A-series, a debtor recovery of \$56,250 and a change in the method of recognising grant income of \$86,000 illustrates the unbudgeted nature of this income.

Unfortunately the administrative burden that accompanied the Commonwealth Games delayed important plans that were a crucial part of AA's High Performance programs. This resulted in payments to the state institutes and academies,

coaches and high performance event specific programs being below budget by \$241,863. The delay has since been dealt with and the budget is progressing at expected levels.

Expense savings have largely been offset by additional costs incurred for additional prize money for the Melbourne Telstra A-series (\$107,800) and increased funding for special projects for our member associations (\$100,000). AA launched a new logo and brand during the year and also assisted some of the state member associations in their own unique logo development. We are now some of the way to consistency in the look and feel of our logos, both nationally and at state-level.

Despite two years of successive surpluses, there is still further capacity to budget for surpluses to ensure the safety of the sport should the organisation experience any future difficulties. The losses of 2002-03 and 2003-04 remain and have not been recouped, and until they have been, the sport remains exposed in the advent of unanticipated revenue losses.

The audit committee continues to provide valuable feedback, enabling the board to be proactive in addressing issues as and when they appear.

Stephen Crook

CFO, Athletics Australia

Left: Jane Saville leads the 5000m walk during the Brisbane Telstra A-series held at the Queensland Sport and Athletics Centre.

Above: Steve Hooker celebrates a successful clearance in the pole vault final at the Commonwealth Games.



Rob Fildes



Ken Roche



Bill Bailey



Jane Hansen



Paul Kennedy

Directors' Report

Your directors present their report on the company for the year ended June 30, 2006.

The names of directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

R H Fildes OAM (President)

K J Roche AO

W F Bailey

J C Hansen

P R Kennedy

E J McGuire AM

M B Mahon – appointed February 6, 2006

M J Smellie – appointed February 23, 2006

R J Scrimshaw – resigned November 22, 2005

H J Elliott AC, MBE – retired November 22, 2005

MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

| BOARD MEMBER | MEETINGS HELD | ATTENDED |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------|
| Robin H Fildes OAM | 8 | 7 |
| Kenneth J Roche AO | 8 | 8 |
| William F Bailey | 8 | 2 |
| Jane C Hansen | 8 | 8 |
| Paul R Kennedy | 8 | 6 |
| Edward J McGuire AM | 8 | 3 |
| Matthew B Mahon | 2 | 2 |
| Michael J Smellie | 1 | 1 |
| Russell J Scrimshaw | 4 | 2 |
| Herbert J Elliott AC, MBE | 4 | 0 |

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

The principal activity of the company in the course of the financial year was the organisation of athletics. No significant change in the nature of the activity occurred during the year.

The net surplus of the company for the financial year was \$678,742 (2005: \$366,222).

Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend.

No dividend has been paid or declared since the commencement of the financial year.

During the financial year the company conducted

national championships in various disciplines of athletics and sent a representative team to compete in the World Championships, World Cross Country Championships, World Walking Cup, World Youth Championships and the Commonwealth Games.

During the financial year there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the company.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

The company will continue with its normal activities of conducting national championships and organising various teams to compete in the world championships and other international events.

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

DIRECTORS

The total number of directors' meetings held during the financial year was eight.

ROBIN (ROB) H FILDES OAM (PRESIDENT)

Qualifications

» Fellow Australian Institute of Management (FAIM)

Experience

- » Executive Chairman of Fildes Group
- » Over 40 years' commercial experience
- » Trustee of the Melbourne Olympic Park Trust
- » Chairman of the Australian Masters Games
- » Director of the AFL Publications Board
- » OAM recipient for sports administration

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

N/A

KENNETH (KEN) J ROCHE AO

Qualifications

- » Fellow of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology



Eddie McGuire



Mathew Mahon



Michael Smellie



Russell Scrimshaw



Herb Elliott

- » Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia
- » Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
- » Chartered Professional Engineer

Experience

- » Chairman of Roche Holdings Pty Ltd
- » Over 35 years' corporate experience
- » 1964 Tokyo Olympics (400m, 400m hurdles)
- » 1962 and 1966 Commonwealth Games (400m hurdles gold medallist)

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

- » Downer EDI Ltd

WILLIAM (BILL) F BAILEY

Qualifications

- » Bachelor of Arts

Experience

- » Executive Director of the Oceania Athletic Association
- » Competition Manager Athletics, Sydney Organising Committee for Olympic Games
- » Over 30 years' teaching and sports management experience

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

N/A

JANE C HANSEN

Qualifications

- » Bachelor of Economics
- » Masters of Business Administration

Experience

- » Investment banking in New York, London and Australia
- » Board member of Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust
- » Board member of State Sports Centres Trust

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

N/A

PAUL R KENNEDY

Qualifications

- » Bachelor of Commerce
- » Master of Commerce (Hons)

Experience

- » CEO of Biogreen Ltd
- » VP Marketing, Carlton and United Breweries
- » Over 20 years' corporate experience

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

N/A

EDWARD (EDDIE) J MCGUIRE AM

Experience

- » CEO of the Nine Network
- » President of the Collingwood Football Club (1998-)
- » Chairman of the Trevor Barker Foundation
- » Australian Sports Medal (2000) for services to Australian Football
- » Centenary Medal (2000) for services to media and Australian Football
- » Television host and sports commentator

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

N/A

MATTHEW B MAHON

Qualifications

- » Bachelor of Commerce

Experience

- » General Manager of Royce Communications
- » 14 years' experience in marketing communications, corporate and financial advisory services and sport

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

N/A

MICHAEL J SMELLIE**Qualifications**

- » Bachelor of Business (Accounting)

Experience

- » Chief Operating Officer of Sony BMG
- » Chief Executive Officer of MMA Group
- » Group Managing Director/Finance Director – Polygram Group
- » Over 25 years' corporate experience

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

N/A

RUSSELL J SCRIMSHAW**Qualifications**

- » Diploma of Business Studies
- » Member of Australian Society of Accountants

Experience

- » Head of Technology, Operations and Property, CBA
- » Over 30 years' corporate experience

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

- » Fortescue Metals Group
- » Quadtel Ltd
- » Fusia Ltd
- » Mobilesoft Ltd

HERBERT (HERB) J ELLIOTT AC, MBE**Qualifications**

- » Master of Science

Experience

- » Managing Director of Puma, Australia
- » CEO of Puma, North America
- » Director of Pacific Dunlop
- » Director of Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- » Director of Richmond Football Club

Public Company Directorships held in the past three years

- » Fortescue Metals Group Ltd
- » Ansell Ltd

COMPANY SECRETARY**STEPHEN J CROOK****Qualifications**

- » Bachelor of Business (Accounting)
- » Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia
- » Registered Tax Agent

Experience

- » Over 15 years' accounting and senior management experience
- » Financial Controller – AAV Ltd
- » Group Financial Controller – ISIS Communications Ltd
- » Financial Controller of Comcopy Pty Ltd/ISIS Broadcast Media Pty Ltd

Indemnification and Insurance of Directors and Officers

The company has not, during or since the financial year, in respect of any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company or a related body corporate:

Indemnified or made any relevant agreement for indemnifying against a liability incurred as an officer, including costs and expenses in successfully defending legal proceedings; or

Paid, or agreed to pay, a premium in respect of a contract insuring against a liability incurred as an officer for the costs or expenses to defend legal proceedings with the exception of the following matter:

The company has paid a premium of \$1,528 representing a group policy to insure all company directors against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending any legal proceedings arising out of their conduct while acting in the capacity of director of the company other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the company.

No options over issued shares or interests in the company were granted during or since the end of the financial year and there were no options outstanding at the date of this report.

No person has applied for Leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings. The company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

Declaration

Auditor Independence and Non-audit Services

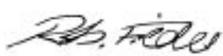
The directors received the following declaration from the auditor of Athletics Australia Ltd.

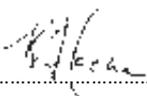
Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Athletics Australia Ltd

In relation to our audit of the financial report of Athletics Australia Ltd for the financial year ended June 30, 2006, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 or any applicable code of professional conduct.

Ernst & Young
R. Bruce Dungey
Partner
Melbourne
September 2006

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the board of directors:

Director 

Director 

Date: September 27, 2006

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Athletics Australia, we state that:

In the opinion of the directors:

(a) The financial statements and notes of the company and of the consolidated entity are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

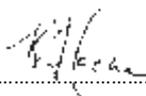
(i) Giving a true and fair view of the company's and consolidated entity's financial position as at June 30, 2006, and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and

(ii) Complying with Accounting Standards and Corporations Regulations 2001; and

(b) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the board

Director 

Director 

Date: September 27, 2006

Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Athletics Australia Ltd

In relation to our audit of the financial report of Athletics Australia Ltd for the financial year ended 30 June 2006, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 or any applicable code of professional conduct.



Ernst & Young



R Bruce Dungey
Partner
Melbourne

29 September 2006



Sarah Jamieson in the 1500m
at the Melbourne 2006
Commonwealth Games.

Financial report for year ending June 30, 2006

Consolidated Income Statement and Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Note | Company and Consolidated 2006 \$ | Company and Consolidated 2005 \$ |
|---|------|---|---|
| Revenue from ordinary activities | | | |
| Revenue from operating activities | 3 | 7,117,251 | 7,585,073 |
| Revenue outside operating activities | 3 | 53,423 | 5986 |
| | | 7,170,674 | 7,591,059 |
| Competition expenses | | (1,231,366) | (912,679) |
| High performance expenses | | (2,527,447) | (3,101,593) |
| Development expenses | | (877,434) | (1,341,018) |
| Marketing and media expenses | | (1,076,195) | (743,346) |
| Administration expenses | | (779,490) | (1,126,201) |
| Profit/(loss) from ordinary activities before income tax expense | | | |
| | | 678,742 | 366,222 |
| Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities | | - | - |
| Net profit/(loss) | | | |
| | | 678,742 | 366,222 |
| Retained profits at beginning of the year | | 779,418 | 413,196 |
| Total Equity at the end of the year | | | |
| | | 1,458,160 | 779,418 |

Consolidated Balance Sheet as at June 30, 2006

| | Note | Company and Consolidated 2006 \$ | Company and Consolidated 2005 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---|---|
| Current Assets | | | |
| Cash assets | 22 (b) | 1,356,587 | 486,830 |
| Receivables | 5 | 115,794 | 409,112 |
| Inventories | 6 | - | - |
| Other | 7 | 150,006 | 483,460 |
| Total Current Assets | | | |
| | | 1,379,402 | 1,622,387 |
| Non-Current Assets | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 8 | 1,020,866 | 1,054,802 |
| Total Non-Current Assets | | | |
| | | 1,020,866 | 1,054,802 |
| Total Assets | | | |
| | | 2,643,253 | 2,434,204 |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Bank overdraft – interest bearing | 22 b | - | - |
| Payables | 9 | 879,754 | 1,199,510 |
| Interest bearing liabilities | 14 (b) | 148,005 | 115,743 |
| Provisions | 10 | 136,867 | 331,309 |
| Total Current Liabilities | | | |
| | | 1,164,626 | 1,646,562 |
| Non-Current Liabilities | | | |
| Interest bearing liabilities | 14 (b) | - | - |
| Provisions | 10 | 20,467 | 8224 |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities | | | |
| | | 20,467 | 8224 |
| Total Liabilities | | | |
| | | 1,185,093 | 1,654,786 |
| Net Assets | | | |
| | | 1,458,160 | 779,418 |
| Equity | | | |
| Reserves | | - | - |
| Retained profits | 11 | 1,458,160 | 779,418 |
| Total Equity | | | |
| | | 1,458,160 | 779,418 |

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Note | Company and Consolidated 2006 \$ | Company and Consolidated 2005 \$ |
|--|--------|---|---|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Receipts from all sources | | 7,401,855 | 8,088,129 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | | (6,575,391) | (7,034,374) |
| Interest received | 3 | 53,423 | 5986 |
| Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities | 22 (a) | <u>879,887</u> | <u>1,059,741</u> |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | | |
| Proceeds from disposal of asset | | 22,077 | 24,467 |
| Payments for property, plant and equipment | | (64,469) | (39,090) |
| Net cash inflow/(outflow) from investing activities | | <u>(42,392)</u> | <u>(14,623)</u> |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | | |
| Proceeds from/(repayment of) finance contracts | | 32,262 | (35,857) |
| Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities | | <u>32,262</u> | <u>(35,857)</u> |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash held | | 869,757 | 1,009,261 |
| Cash at the beginning of the financial year | | 486,830 | (522,431) |
| Cash at the end of the financial year | 22 (b) | <u>1,356,587</u> | <u>486,830</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2006

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this statement of cash flows.

Note 1. Corporate Information

Athletics Australia is a company limited by guarantee that is incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The registered office of Athletics Australia is located at Suite 22 Fawkner Towers, 431 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004. The principal activity during the year was the organisation of athletics. The entity employed 20 employees as of June 30, 2006 (2005: 20 employees)

Note 2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies Basis of accounting

This financial report is a general purpose financial report prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001, which includes applicable Australian Equivalents of International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS). Other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views) have also been complied with.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets, which have been measured at fair value.

CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated financial statements are those of the consolidated entity, comprising Athletics Australia and all entities that Athletics Australia controlled from time to time during the year and at balance date.

Information from the financial statements of the subsidiaries is included from the date Athletics Australia obtains control until such time as control ceases and consolidated financial statements reflect results for that part of the reporting period Athletics Australia has control.

The financial statements of subsidiaries are prepared for the same period as the parent company, using consistent accounting policies.

All intercompany balances and transactions are eliminated in full.

As the subsidiaries have not operated since incorporation, company and consolidated financial statements are identical.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year. Where expenses have been reallocated between departments or within expense lines, the comparatives for the previous year have been reallocated also to assist comparability between the years.

CASH

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks, and money market investments readily convertible to cash within two working days, net of outstanding bank overdrafts and call deposits with banks or financial institutions.

INVENTORIES

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Trade and other receivables are recognised and carried at original invoice amount less any allowance for any uncollectible debts. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that the amount will not be collectible. Bad debts are written off as incurred.

GOING CONCERN

The directors have considered all available information for a period of 12 months from the date of the report and consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis.

TRANSITION TO AUSTRALIAN EQUIVALENTS TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (AIFRS)

For all periods up to and including the year ended June 30, 2005, the group prepared its financial statements in accordance with Australian generally accepted accounting principles (AGAAP). These financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2006 are the first the Group is required to prepare in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS). Accordingly, the Group has prepared financial statements that comply with AIFRS applicable for periods beginning on or after January 1, 2005 and the significant accounting policies meeting those requirements are described in this note. In preparing these financial statements, the Group has started from an opening balance sheet as at July 1, 2004, the Group's date of transition to AIFRS, and made those changes in accounting policies and other restatements required by AASB 1 First-time adoption of AIFRS. This note explains the principal adjustments made by the Group in restating its AGAAP balance sheet as at July 1, 2004 and its previously published AGAAP financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2005.

EXEMPTIONS APPLIED

AASB 1 allows first-time adopters certain exemptions from the general requirement to apply AIFRS retrospectively. The Group has adopted the following exemptions:

- Comparative information for financial instruments has been prepared in accordance with AGAAP and the company and group has adopted AASB 132: Financial Instruments: Disclosure and Presentation and AASB 139: Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement from July 1, 2005.
- AASB 3 Business Combinations has not been applied to acquisitions of subsidiaries that occurred before July 1, 2004.
- The Group has elected to measure an item of property, plant and equipment at the date of transition to Australian equivalents to IFRSs at its fair value and use that fair value as its deemed cost at that date. Impact of adopting AIFRS

The impacts of adopting AIFRS on the total equity as reported under previous Australian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("AGAAP") are illustrated below:

| | 2005 | 2004 |
|---|---------|-----------|
| Total equity under previous AGAAP | 779,418 | 413,196 |
| Adjustments to retained earnings (net of tax) | | |
| De-recognition of asset revaluation reserve adoption of fair value of an item of property, plant and equipment as its deemed cost on July 1, 2004 (A) | | (518,780) |
| <i>Adjustments to other reserves (net of tax)</i> | | |
| De-recognition of asset revaluation reserve adoption of fair value of an item of property, plant and equipment as its deemed cost on July 1, 2004 (A) | | 518,780 |
| Total equity under AIFRS | 779,418 | 413,196 |

(A) The opening accumulated depreciation for the premises which has been deemed to be carried at cost as at July 1, 2004, has also been written off against the cost of the asset.

EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PROFIT AND LOSS

There have been no material differences between the profit and loss presented under AIFRS and the statement of financial performance presented under previous AGAAP.

EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL ADJUSTMENTS TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENTS

There have been no material differences between the cash flow statements presented under AIFRS and the cash flow statement presented under previous AGAAP.

COMPLIANCE

The financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, which include Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS). Compliance with AIFRS ensures that the financial report, comprising the financial statements and notes thereto, complies with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

This is the first financial report prepared based on AIFRS and comparatives for the year ended June 30, 2005 have been restated. Reconciliations of AIFRS equity and profit for June 30, 2005 to the balances reported in the June 30, 2005 financial report and at transition to AIFRS are detailed in this note.

Australian Accounting Standards that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted as they are not applicable to the Group and therefore have no impact.

IMPAIRMENT

Non-Current assets are written down to their recoverable amount when the carrying amount of the asset is greater than the assets' recoverable amount. Where a group of assets working together supports the generation of net cash inflows relevant to the determination of recoverable amount, the net cash inflows are estimated for the relevant group of assets and the recoverable amount test is applied to the carrying amount of that group of assets.

The carrying values of plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment at each reporting date, with recoverable amount being estimated when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may be impaired.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property is valued at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment loss. All assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to the company.

| Major depreciation periods are: | 2006 | 2005 |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Freehold buildings | 40 years | 40 years |
| Plant and equipment | 3 to 10 years | 3 to 10 years |
| Infrastructure | 3 years | 3 years |

LEASES

Leases are classified at their inception as either operating or finance leases based on the economic substance of the agreement so as to reflect the risks and benefits incidental to ownership.

OPERATING LEASES

The minimum lease payments of operating leases, where the lessor effectively retains substantially all of the risks and benefits of ownership of the leased item, are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis.

FINANCE LEASES

Leases which effectively transfer substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the leased item to the company are capitalised at the present value of the minimum lease payments and disclosed as plant and equipment under lease. A lease liability of equal value is also recognised. Capitalised lease assets are depreciated over the shorter of the estimated useful life of the assets and the lease term. Minimum lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of the lease liability with the interest expense calculated using the interest rate implicit in the lease and charged directly to the income statement.

Note 2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at amortised cost and represent liabilities for goods and services received prior to the end of the financial year, whether or not billed to the company.

UNEARNED REVENUE

The amount of \$13,390 recorded as a current liability 'Unearned Income' at balance date comprises team levies for the World Championships that will be recognised as revenue in July and August 2006 (refer to Note 9).

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

SALE OF GOODS

Control of the goods has passed to the buyer.

GRANTS

In accordance with AASB1004, the company recognises the revenue from grants when the entity gains control of the grant or the right to receive the grant, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the grant will flow to the company and the amount can be measured reliably.

EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

Provision is made for employee entitlement benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries, annual leave, and long service leave.

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave, and any other employee entitlements expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE

The liability for long service leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method.

Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2006

Note 2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

INCOME TAX

The company is exempt from income tax under the provisions of item 1.4 of Section 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS

Foreign currency transactions during the period are converted to Australian currency at the rates of exchange applicable at the dates of the transactions. Amounts receivable and payable in foreign currencies at balance date are converted to the rates of exchange ruling at that date.

The gains and losses from conversion of short-term assets and liabilities, whether realised or unrealised, are included in operating profit before income tax as they arise.

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Note 3. Revenue from Ordinary Activities | | |
| Revenue from operating activities | | |
| Athlete and team levies | 103,776 | 97,572 |
| Indigenous Funding - IMIA/ATSIS | 80,000 | 100,000 |
| Australian Commonwealth Games Association | 370,500 | 220,500 |
| Australian Olympic Committee | 256,500 | 167,659 |
| Australian Paralympic Committee | 567,500 | 512,001 |
| Australian Sports Commission | 3,552,000 | 2,625,000 |
| Capitations | 14,676 | 150,000 |
| Domestic Competitions | 137,229 | 115,159 |
| Entry fees – championships | 66,846 | 70,849 |
| IAAF | 95,122 | 32,243 |
| Melbourne2006 | 156,895 | 15,000 |
| Merchandising | 7257 | 21,830 |
| Other | 558,388 | 224,590 |
| Running Australia | 48,119 | 28,862 |
| Sponsorship | 1,079,230 | 3,192,172 |
| Equipment sales | 23,213 | 11,636 |
| Total revenues from operating activities | <u>7,117,251</u> | <u>7,585,073</u> |
| Revenue from Outside Operating Activities | | |
| Interest received other persons | 53,423 | 5986 |
| Foreign exchange gain/(loss) | - | - |
| Total revenue from outside the operating activities | <u>53,423</u> | <u>5986</u> |
| Total revenues from ordinary activities | <u>7,170,674</u> | <u>7,591,059</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated 2006 \$ | Company and Consolidated 2005 \$ |
|--|---|---|
| Note 4. Expenses and Losses/(Gains) | | |
| Expenses | | |
| Depreciation of non – current assets | | |
| Buildings | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| Plant and equipment | 51,328 | 137,963 |
| | <u>76,328</u> | <u>162,963</u> |
| Amortisation of non – current assets | | |
| Leased assets | - | 6903 |
| Infrastructure | - | 42,739 |
| | - | 49,642 |
| Total depreciation and amortisation expenses | <u>76,328</u> | <u>212,605</u> |
| Borrowing costs expensed | | |
| Interest paid to unrelated persons | 8418 | 43,145 |
| Other expense items | | |
| Inventory writedown | - | 116,926 |
| Operating lease rentals | - | - |
| Increase/(decrease) in provision for doubtful debts | (25,000) | 67,404 |
| Bad debts written off or provided for | - | 14,321 |
| Employee benefit expense | 1,420,194 | 1,449,510 |
| Note 5. Receivables (Current) | | |
| Trade debtors | 115,794 | 481,618 |
| Provision for doubtful debts | - | (87,500) |
| Other debtors | - | 14,994 |
| Total current receivables | <u>115,794</u> | <u>409,112</u> |
| Terms and conditions relating to the above financial instruments | | |
| Credit sales are on seven-day terms. | | |
| Note 6. Inventories (Current) | | |
| Finished goods | - | - |
| Note 7. Other Assets | | |
| Prepayments | 150,006 | 141,292 |
| Deferred costs | - | 342,168 |
| | <u>150,006</u> | <u>483,460</u> |
| Note 8. Property, Plant and Equipment | | |
| Land and buildings | | |
| Deemed cost | | |
| Opening balance | 973,812 | 973,812 |
| Revaluation | - | - |
| Closing balance | <u>973,812</u> | <u>973,812</u> |
| Accumulated depreciation | | |
| Opening balance | 25,000 | - |
| Depreciation | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| Revaluation | - | - |
| Closing balance | <u>50,000</u> | <u>25,000</u> |
| Net book value | <u>923,812</u> | <u>948,812</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Note 8. Property Plant and Equipment (continued) | | |
| Plant and equipment | | |
| Cost | | |
| Opening balance | 773,130 | 758,507 |
| Additions | 64,469 | 39,090 |
| Disposals | (288,960) | (24,467) |
| Closing balance | 548,639 | 773,130 |
| Accumulated depreciation | | |
| Opening balance | 667,140 | 529,177 |
| Depreciation for the year | 51,328 | 137,963 |
| Disposals | (266,883) | - |
| Closing balance | 451,585 | 667,140 |
| Net book value | 97,054 | 105,990 |
| Total property, plant and equipment | 1,020,866 | 1,054,802 |

Note 9. Payables (Current)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Trade creditors and accruals | 866,445 | 726,054 |
| Unearned revenue (refer Note 2) | 13,309 | 473,456 |
| | 879,754 | 1,199,510 |

Terms and conditions relating to the above financial instruments

Trade liabilities are normally settled on 30 to 60-day terms

Note 10. Other Provisions

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Current | | |
| Provision for annual leave | 131,334 | 81,309 |
| Provision for long service leave | 5533 | - |
| Provision for adverse legal finding | - | 250,000 |
| | 136,867 | 331,309 |
| Non-current | | |
| Provision for long service leave | 20,467 | 8224 |

Note 11. Retained Profits/(Accumulated losses)

| | | |
|---|-----------|---------|
| Retained profits at the beginning of the year | 779,418 | 413,196 |
| Net profit/(loss) | 678,742 | 366,222 |
| Retained profits/(Accumulated losses) at the end of the year | 1,458,160 | 779,418 |

Note 12. Members' Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Articles of Association state that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At June 30, 2006 the number of members was 8 (2005: 8).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |

Note 13. Trust Funds

In addition to its normal activities Athletics Australia acts as Trustee for two foundations:

(a) Alf Robinson Memorial Race Walking Foundation

Income from this fund is used to assist race walking athletes to obtain overseas walking competitive experience between the World Track and Field Championships, Olympic and Commonwealth Games. During the financial year the fund derived income of \$1,035 (2005: \$962), and the balance of the fund at June 30, 2006 is \$22,579 (2005: \$21,544).

(b) R W Clarke Foundation

Income from this fund is used to assist athletes to obtain overseas competitive experience between the World Track and Field Championships, Olympic and Commonwealth Games. During the financial year the fund derived income of \$1,643 (2005: \$1,823), grants totalling \$8,000 (2004: \$7,500) were made and the balance of the fund at June 30, 2006 is \$29,368 (2005: \$35,724).

Note 14. Commitments

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| (a) Capital commitments | - | - |
| (b) Finance lease expenditure contracted for is payable as follows: | | |
| Not later than one year | 148,005 | 115,743 |
| Later than one year but not later than two years | - | - |
| Later than two years but not later than five years | - | - |
| Later than five years | - | - |
| | <u>148,005</u> | <u>115,743</u> |
| Future finance charges | - | - |
| | <u>148,005</u> | <u>115,743</u> |
| Reconciled to: | | |
| Current liability | 148,005 | 115,743 |
| Non-current liability | - | - |
| | <u>148,005</u> | <u>115,743</u> |

Terms and conditions relating to the above financial instruments

Finance arrangements had a term of 10 months at inception of the agreement. This relates to the financing of Athletics Australia's insurance premium. The average discount rate implicit in the lease is 10.30% (2005: 7.86%)

Note 15. Employee Entitlements

The aggregate employee entitlement liability is comprised of:

| | | | |
|---|----|----------------|---------------|
| Accrued wages and salaries and on costs | | | |
| Provisions (Current) | 10 | 136,867 | 81,309 |
| Provisions (Non Current) | 10 | 20,467 | 8,224 |
| | | <u>157,334</u> | <u>89,533</u> |

Note 16. Contingent Liabilities

| | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Contingent liabilities | - | - |
|------------------------|---|---|

Note 17. Subsequent events

There were no subsequent events for the year ending June 30, 2006.

Note 18. Auditors' Remuneration

Amounts received or due and payable by Ernst & Young for:

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------|---------------|
| an audit or review of the financial report of the entity | | | |
| and any other entity in the consolidated entity. | | <u>16,500</u> | <u>16,500</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Note 19. Compensation of Key Management Personnel | | |
| Short Term | 605,959 | 557,788 |
| Post Employment - Superannuation | 53,131 | 47,942 |
| | <u>659,090</u> | <u>605,730</u> |

Note 20. Related Party Disclosures

Directors

R H Fildes

K J Roche

W F Bailey

J C Hansen

P R Kennedy

E J McGuire

M B Mahon – appointed February 6, 2006

M J Smellie – appointed February 23, 2006

R J Scrimshaw – resigned November 22, 2005

H J Elliott – resigned November 22, 2005

There were no related party transactions during the year.

Note 21. Financial Instruments

Note 21 (a) Interest rate risk

The company's exposure to interest rate risks and the effective interest rates of financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial Assets

Floating interest rate

| | | |
|------|------------------|----------------|
| Cash | 1,356,587 | 486,830 |
| | <u>1,356,587</u> | <u>486,830</u> |

Non-interest bearing

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Trade and other receivables | 115,794 | 409,112 |
| | <u>115,794</u> | <u>409,112</u> |

Total carrying amount per financial statements

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Cash | 1,356,587 | 486,830 |
| Trade and other receivables | 115,794 | 409,112 |
| Total financial assets | <u>1,472,381</u> | <u>895,942</u> |

Weighted average effective interest rate

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| Cash | 4.55% | 2.05% |
| Trade and other receivables | N/A | N/A |

Financial Liabilities

Floating interest rate

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| Overdraft | - | - |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

Non-interest bearing

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Trade creditors | 879,754 | 1,199,510 |
| | <u>879,754</u> | <u>1,199,510</u> |

Fixed interest rate – one year or less

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Finance lease liability | 148,005 | 115,743 |
| | <u>148,005</u> | <u>115,743</u> |

Fixed interest rate – over one to five years

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| Finance lease liability | - | - |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

Total carrying amount per financial statements

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Overdraft | - | - |
| Trade creditors | 879,754 | 1,199,510 |
| Finance lease liability | 148,005 | 115,743 |
| Total financial liabilities | <u>1,027,759</u> | <u>1,315,253</u> |

Weighted average effective interest rate

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|
| Trade creditors | N/A | N/A |
| Overdraft | 10.95% | 10.95% |
| Finance lease liability | 10.30% | 7.86% |

Note 21 (b) Net fair values

The fair value of finance lease liability has been calculated using a market interest rate.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Note 22. Notes to Statement of Cash Flows | | |
| (a) Reconciliation of net profit/(loss) after income tax to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Net profit/(loss) | 678,742 | 366,222 |
| Depreciation | 76,328 | 212,605 |
| (Increase)/Decrease in debtors and prepayments | 284,604 | 503,056 |
| (Increase)/Decrease in deferred expenses | 342,168 | (121,165) |
| (Increase)/Decrease in inventories | - | 107,617 |
| (Decrease)/Increase in sundry creditors | 140,391 | (288,231) |
| (Decrease)/Increase in unearned income | (460,147) | 36,455 |
| (Decrease)/Increase in provisions | (182,199) | 243,182 |
| Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities | <u>879,887</u> | <u>1,059,741</u> |

(b) Reconciliation of cash assets

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to items in the balance sheet as follows:

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Bank overdraft | - | - |
| Cash at bank | 1,356,087 | 486,330 |
| Petty cash | 500 | 500 |
| | <u>1,356,587</u> | <u>486,830</u> |

(c) Credit Stand-by Arrangement and Loan Facilities

The company has an ongoing overdraft facility of \$685,000 secured over Suites 22 and 23, Fawkner Towers, 431 St Kilda Road, Melbourne.

Note 23. Controlled Entities

Cost of Investments

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Host City Marathon Ltd incorporated in Australia July 13, 2001 | - | - |
| Team AA Ltd incorporated in Australia July 13, 2001 | - | - |

These companies are limited by guarantee

Athletics Australia exercises a controlling influence over these companies as on becoming a member of the Board of Athletics Australia a person is deemed to have been admitted to the membership of the Company and likewise is deemed to be appointed a Director.

During the year these companies did not trade.

Independent audit report to members of Athletics Australia Ltd

Scope

The financial report and directors' responsibility

The financial report comprises the balance sheet, income statement, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the directors' declaration for Athletics Australia Ltd (the company) and the consolidated entity, for the year ended 30 June 2006. The consolidated entity comprises both the company and the entities it controlled during that year.

The directors of the company are responsible for preparing a financial report that gives a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the company and the consolidated entity, and that complies with Accounting Standards in Australia, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

Audit approach

We conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion to the members of the company. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including compliance with Accounting Standards in Australia, and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's and the consolidated entity's financial position, and of their performance as represented by the results of their operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report; and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

We performed procedures to assess whether the substance of business transactions was accurately reflected in the financial report. These and our other procedures did not include consideration or judgement of the appropriateness or reasonableness of the business plans or strategies adopted by the directors and management of the company.

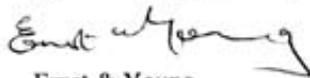
Independence

We are independent of the company and the consolidated entity and have met the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the *Corporations Act 2001*. We have given to the directors of the company a written Auditor's Independence Declaration.

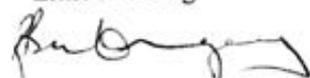
Audit opinion

In our opinion:

1. the financial report of Athletics Australia Ltd is in accordance with:
 - (a) the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of Athletics Australia Ltd and the consolidated entity at 30 June 2006 and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Accounting Standards in Australia and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*; and
 - (b) other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia.



Ernst & Young



R Bruce Dungey

Partner

Melbourne

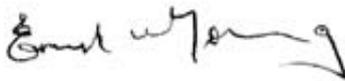
27 September 2006

Disclaimer on Additional Financial Information

The additional financial information, being the attached Detailed Statement of Financial Performance and any other information provided subsequent to this page, has been compiled by the management of Athletics Australia Ltd.

No audit or review has been performed by us and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

To the extent permitted by law, we do not accept liability for any loss or damaged which any person, other than Athletics Australia Ltd may suffer from any negligence on our part. No person should rely on the additional information without having an audit or review conducted.



Ernst & Young



R Bruce Dungey
Partner
Melbourne

24 September 2006

Detailed Income Statement for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Revenue | | |
| Athlete and team levies | 103,776 | 97,572 |
| Australian Commonwealth Games Association | 370,500 | 220,500 |
| Australian Olympic Committee | 256,500 | 167,659 |
| Australian Paralympic Committee | 567,500 | 512,001 |
| Australian Sports Commission | 3,552,000 | 2,625,000 |
| Capitations | 14,676 | 150,000 |
| Domestic competitions | 137,229 | 115,159 |
| Entry Fees – championships | 66,846 | 70,849 |
| Equipment sales | 23,213 | 11,636 |
| IAAF | 95,122 | 32,243 |
| Indigenous funding | 80,000 | 100,000 |
| Interest received | 53,423 | 5986 |
| Melbourne 2006 | 156,895 | 15,000 |
| Merchandising | 7257 | 21,830 |
| Other | 558,388 | 224,590 |
| Running Australia | 48,119 | 28,862 |
| Sponsorship | 972,008 | 2,697,500 |
| Sponsorship – VIK | 107,222 | 494,672 |
| Total revenue | <u>7,170,674</u> | <u>7,591,059</u> |

Detailed Income Statement for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Competition Expenses | | |
| Competition equipment | 11,002 | 22,498 |
| Competition expenses | 43,735 | 10,514 |
| Domestic competition | 489,937 | 318,405 |
| International athletes | 100,450 | 236,882 |
| Officiating | 90,113 | 49,136 |
| Prize money | 182,800 | 44,940 |
| Salaries, wages and on-costs | 177,442 | 170,806 |
| Travel | 118,440 | 7389 |
| VIK | 17,447 | 52,109 |
| Total competition expenses | <u>1,231,366</u> | <u>912,679</u> |
| High Performance Expenses | | |
| Athlete funding | 17,864 | 171,589 |
| Camps | 203,088 | - |
| Coaches | 7727 | 35,228 |
| Inter-divisional expense recovery | 100,000 | 99,997 |
| International competition | 477,332 | 583,777 |
| Juniors/Espoirs development | 106,657 | 88,692 |
| Other high performance expenses | 35,022 | 284,179 |
| Paralympic program | 706,473 | 478,844 |
| Salaries, wages and on-costs | 303,166 | 320,756 |
| Selection and athlete commission costs | 1582 | - |
| Sport science and medicine | 43,074 | 43,042 |
| State Institute programs | 483,137 | 746,921 |
| Travel | 19,883 | 12,488 |
| VIK | 22,442 | 236,080 |
| Total high performance expenses | <u>2,527,447</u> | <u>3,101,593</u> |
| Development Expenses | | |
| AA federation support funding | 10,000 | 9091 |
| AT&FCA subsidy | 70,000 | 73,000 |
| Club and school development activities | 4148 | 16,116 |
| Indigenous sport | 83,502 | 100,000 |
| Member association financial support | 219,743 | 367,415 |
| Member management services | 39,535 | 36,970 |
| National insurance program | 201,375 | 265,050 |
| Out of stadium | 77,944 | 96,872 |
| Project Connect | 20,108 | 6431 |
| Salaries, wages and on-costs | 77,194 | 165,729 |
| Team athletics and school projects/events | 64,032 | 176,723 |
| Travel | 530 | 1739 |
| VIK | 9323 | 25,882 |
| Total development expenses | <u>877,434</u> | <u>1,341,018</u> |

Detailed Income Statement for the year ending June 30, 2006

| | Company and Consolidated | Company and Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 2006 | 2005 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Marketing expenses | | |
| Athlete of the Year event | 65,775 | 34,050 |
| Domestic season marketing | 255,418 | 61,859 |
| Media and PR | 40,954 | 47,599 |
| Other expenses | 48,903 | 12,792 |
| Publications and collateral | 70,232 | 85,395 |
| Sponsorship management | 66,939 | 52,978 |
| Salaries, wages and on-costs | 271,414 | 207,657 |
| Television coverage | 218,000 | 150,000 |
| Travel | 18,870 | 4935 |
| VIK | 19,690 | 86,081 |
| Total marketing expenses | <u>1,076,195</u> | <u>743,346</u> |
| Administration expenses | | |
| Affiliation fees | 383 | 401 |
| Audit fees | 22,500 | 23,970 |
| Bad and doubtful debts | (25,000) | 81,725 |
| Bank charges and credit card commissions | 5907 | 6358 |
| Board costs | 4412 | 8262 |
| Couriers, freight and cartage | 1976 | 1102 |
| Depreciation | 76,313 | 212,605 |
| Inter divisional expense recovery | (100,000) | (99,997) |
| Interest paid | 8418 | 43,145 |
| Legal expenses | 5675 | 31,844 |
| Meeting expenses | 13,655 | 8343 |
| Office expenses | 50,737 | 53,314 |
| Outgoings | 19,396 | 18,256 |
| Postage | 13,280 | 12,728 |
| Printing and stationery | 17,632 | 17,425 |
| Professional fees | 11,000 | 7275 |
| Publications and subscriptions | 3675 | 5943 |
| Rates and taxes | 3870 | 3770 |
| Salaries, wages and on-costs | 590,978 | 584,562 |
| Staff expenses | 3607 | 6964 |
| Storage | 1805 | 1101 |
| Telephone, fax and internet | 42,876 | 96,422 |
| Travel | 6395 | 683 |
| Total administration expenses | <u>779,490</u> | <u>1,126,201</u> |
| Net profit/(loss) | <u>678,742</u> | <u>366,222</u> |

R W CLARKE FOUNDATION**Statement of Income and Expenses as at June 30, 2006**

| | 2006 | 2005 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Balance of distribution account as at July 1, 2005 | (17,276) | (11,599) |
| Plus, interest (net of bank charges) | 1643 | 1823 |
| Transfer from capital account | | |
| Less, grants paid | (8000) | (7500) |
| Balance as at June 30, 2006 | <u>(23,632)</u> | <u>(17,276)</u> |

Balance Sheet as at June 30, 2006

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Cash at bank | <u>29,368</u> | <u>35,724</u> |
| Capital and reserves | | |
| Capital account | 53,000 | 53,000 |
| Distribution account | <u>(23,632)</u> | <u>(17,276)</u> |
| | <u>29,368</u> | <u>35,724</u> |

ALF ROBINSON MEMORIAL RACE WALKING FOUNDATION**Statement of Income and Expenses as at June 30, 2006**

| | 2006 | 2005 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Balance of distribution account as at July 1, 2005 | 4944 | 3982 |
| Plus, interest (net of bank charges) | 1035 | 962 |
| Less, grants paid | - | - |
| Balance as at June 30, 2006 | <u>5979</u> | <u>4944</u> |

Balance Sheet as at June 30, 2006

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cash at bank | <u>22,579</u> | <u>21,544</u> |
| Capital and reserves | | |
| Capital account | 16,600 | 16,600 |
| Distribution account | <u>5979</u> | <u>4944</u> |
| | <u>22,579</u> | <u>21,544</u> |

Staff

Chief Executive Officer/General Secretary

Thomas 'Danny' Corcoran

Chief Financial Officer/ Company Secretary

Stephen Crook

Senior Bookkeeper

Shiranthi Sivarajah

Personal Assistant to CEO

Janet Chitts

Receptionist

Gillian Heydon
(to December 2005)
Kandece Gardner
(from January 2006)

National Performance Manager

Max Binnington

National Youth Performance Manager

Sara Mulkearns
(from January 2006)

National Events Coach – Distance

Shaun Creighton
(from December 2005)

National Events Coach – Sprints

Paul Hallam
(from December 2005)

High Performance Administrators

David Tarbotton
Rohan Robinson

Paralympic Program Manager

Scott Goodman

AA-PPP Sprints and Jumps Coach and Emerging Talent Coordinator

Brett Jones

AA-PPP Throws Coach and Coach Education Coordinator

Alison O'Riorden

Competitions Manager

David Gynther

Assistant Competitions Manager

Cameron Yorke
(November 2005-
April 2006)

Competition Coordinators

Carol Grant
Tina Folmer

National Development Manager

Sally McGrady

Commercial Operations Manager

Luke Bould

Personal Assistant to COM

Jan Tyrrell

Media Manager

Katie Hodge
(to September 2005)

Running Australia Administrator

Ben Nancarrow
(to March 2006)

Communications and Publications Coordinator

Brad van Wely
(to December 2005)

Marketing Services Coordinator

Jackie Tuzee
(from January 2006-
March 2006)
Nicole Roache
(from June 2006)

Media Officer

Tania Poletti
(from October 2005-
April 2006)

AFL SportsReady Trainee

Laura Anderson
(from September 2005-
June 2006)

Solicitors

The Law Office
of Simon Rofe
Suite 303,
46 Market Street
Sydney, NSW 2000

Bankers

Commonwealth Bank
of Australia
Business Banking
Centre
Level 1,
2-4 Pascoe Vale Road
Moonee Ponds, VIC
3039

Auditors

Ernst & Young
Level 23,
8 Exhibition Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000

National Statistician

Paul Jenes

National Records Officer

Ronda Jenkins

Commissions

Anti-Doping Commission

Tim Barbour (Chair)
Chris Bradshaw
Peter Larkins
Simon McDonald
Dion Russell
Danny Corcoran (AA Management Contact)

Athletes' Commission

Not currently active

Athletics Australia Tribunal

David Grace QC (Chair)
Paul Connolly
Tricia Kavanagh
Jamie Nettleton
Mark Rosenberg
Danny Corcoran (AA Management Contact)

Coaching Commission

Peter Bowman (Chair)
Tudor Bidder
Nic Bideau
Ross Burridge
(from April, 2006)
Joan Cross OAM
Marjorie McNamara
(to April, 2006)
Glynis Nunn-Cearns
Kevin Prendergast
Harry Summers
John Weeks
Max Binnington (AA Management Contact)

Facilities and Equipment Committee

Denis Wilson (Chair)
Rob Blackadder
Graham Dwight
Greg Gilbert
Bob Mitchell
Anton van Bavel
David Gynther (AA Management Contact)

High Performance Commission

Max Binnington (Chair)
Nic Bideau
Rob Fildes OAM
Craig Hilliard
Maurie Plant

International Tours

Commission (New)
Max Binnington (Chair)
Peter Bowman
Carol Grant
Brent Kirkbride
Margaret Mahony
Maurie Plant

Officials Commission

Reg Brandis (Chair)
Janelle Eldridge
Lorraine Morgan
Yvonne Mullins
Helen Roberts
Brian Roe
Chris Wilson
David Gynther (AA Management Contact)

Out of Stadium Committee

Anne Lord (Chair)
Dave Cundy
Daniel Green
Ken Green
Susan Hobson
Joe Murphy
June Petrie
Pam Turney
Trevor Vincent
David Gynther (AA Management Contact)

Schools Commission

Kirsteen Farrance (Chair)
Helen Fraser
Jodi Lambart
Paul Travis
Sally McGrady (AA Management Contact)

Selection Committee – Road Walking, Road Running, Relays and Cross Country

Max Binnington (Chair)
Bob Cruise
Gerard Ryan
Pam Turney

Selection Committee – Track and Field

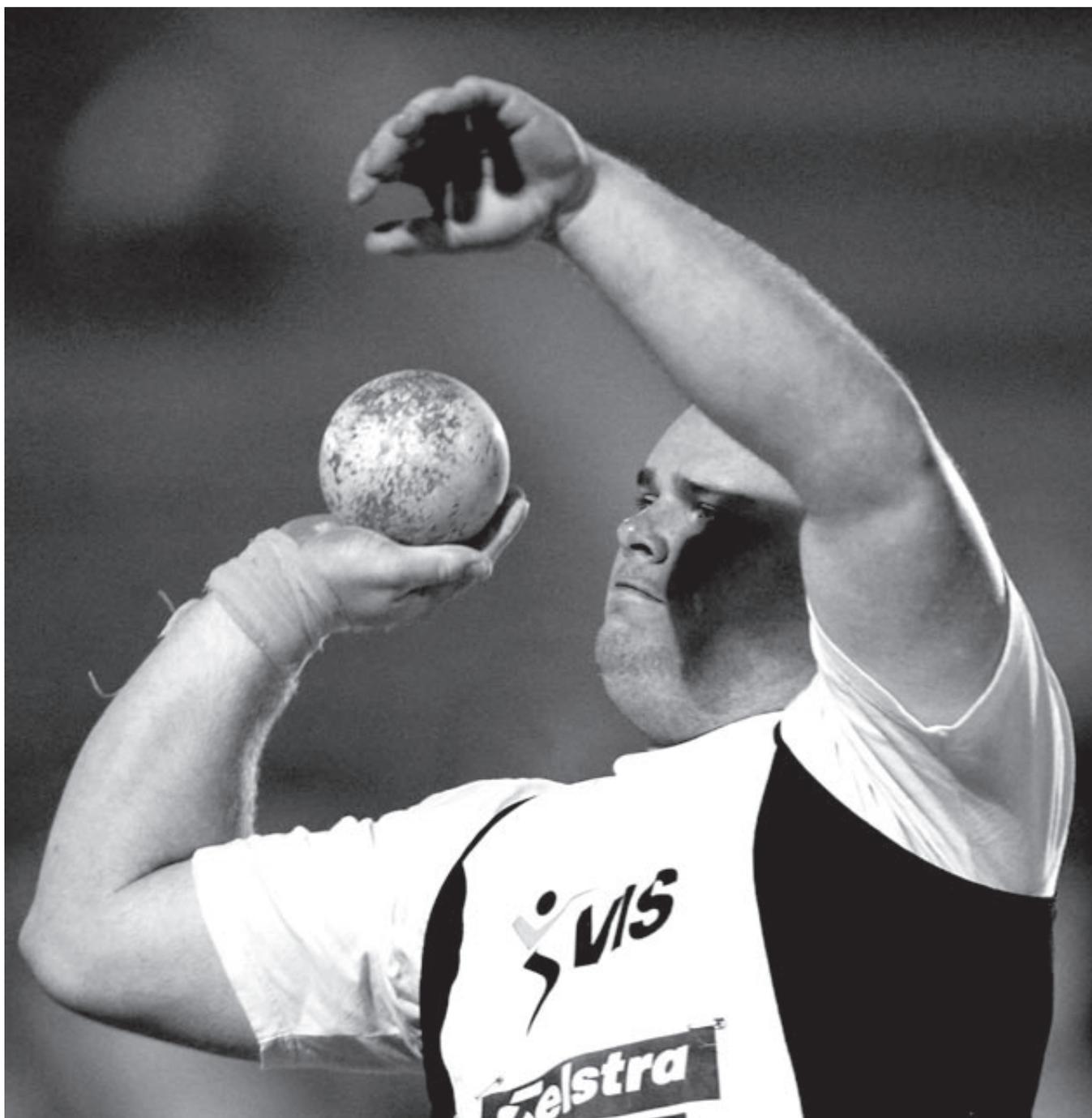
Max Binnington (Chair)
Peter Brukner
Michael Hillardt
Glynis Nunn-Cearns
Dion Russell

Track and Field Committee

Khan Sharp (Chair)
Greg Bowman
Grant Cremer
Daryl Cross
Peter Hamilton
Grant McKay
Brian Roe
Cameron Yorke
David Gynther (AA Management Contact)

Walking Committee (New)

Bob Cruise (Chair)
Tim Erickson
Wayne Fletcher
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Scott Martin in the shot
put final during the
Telstra Selection Trials
at Sydney Olympic Park
Athletic Centre.

Back cover:
Jane Saville carrying the
flag at the Melbourne
Commonwealth Games.



