**BRIGHTON LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Minutes**

**Wednesday 24th April 2018**

**Elsternwick Hotel**

Meeting Commenced – 7.45pm

Attendees:

Committee – Mark Barling (President), Brian Ballamy (Vice President, Amelia Frid (Secretary), Matt Dever (Treasurer), Craig Jackett (Marketing), Terry Jamieson (Competition), David Saunders (Coaching)

Members - Ed Allen, Annette Leahy; James Edmond, Katie Hill, Patty Hill, Robert McEwan, Dean King, Andrew Richey, Anne Wright, Fiona Rebecchi, Mark van Grootel and Mark Stevens.

Guest – James Newbury Member for Brighton

Apologies – Meg Geary, Michael Verberne, Suzie Paton, Simone Kennedy

**Introductory Comments**

1. Presidents welcome – oriented to agenda, acknowledge and introduce James Newbury (MP, Brighton), keen to engage in the community, thanks for attending and for your commitment to the community and local endeavours
2. Acknowledgment made of the efforts of active members who have continued to involve themselves in the running of the club
3. Minutes from 2018 AGM –

Move to adopt – James Edmond.

Seconded: Anne Wright

1. Business arising following AGM 2018.

Reference made to pathways beyond little athletics, and what we are doing as a club to build connections for those athletes looking to move on.

This has been a strong drive for David Saunders Coaching Director, who reported that Glen Huntly Athletics club have been approached as the oldest club in Vic and highly successful in its own right with many great athletes coming out of this club.

Josh Plant head of junior coaching at Glen Huntly talked with U13 athletes, uptake of offers to transition into this club remains to be seen.

Rupert van Dongen (connected with Mentone Senior club) to be invited at outset of 19/20 season to talk to athletes.

We have made the decision as a club to be non-aligned to any one senior club, to offer the widest range of options and opportunities for young athletes too progress to a senior club.

We are inviting Mentone and Sandringham senior clubs to talk with our athletes and if a club emerges as holding greater appeal, this will be taken into consideration.

James Edmond: noticed other clubs conduct off season training which appeals to older athletes who would otherwise lose their form during the off season. Perhaps this is something than can be promoted amongst our club, to be maintained at nearby clubs (Caulfield, Mentone, Sandringham)

1. Strategic plan and survey update – last year BLAC put in place a 3 yr plan setting out foundational principles of club and guidelines for investment of resources we have attained.

* long jump cover, replacement
* HJ covers
* Pavilion is in a poor state and lacking some basic facilities (eg separate toilets) – identified as a key need to address, in particular the area of safety for young athletes when accessing toilets
* Advancement of principles of investment of capital
* James Newbury: made an offer to lobby Mayor and Councilors to move it up the list of priorities. Approaches to social media discussed. To be actioned between James and Mark (President)

1. Reports
   1. President – Mark Barling

As tabled in document. Immensely proud to be part of club that has continued to gain strength at a time when there is a national decline in membership. This is only possible where the workload is shared. Wish to acknowledge the contribution of Craig Jackett and Matt Dever who have contributed to the profile, and finance and compliance, both fundamental in shaping the club and ensuring our financial soundness, as they step down from the committee after 4 and 3 years respectively.

* 1. Brian Bellamy. Report as tabled. This year has been different from those before, as no responsibility to take on competition on Saturday mornings, allowing this chapter to be closed (thanks to Terry). Wish to acknowledge Suzie Paton, who maintained a high standard and expectation of results recordings. Investing in the gates ensured that failures were due to user error rather than the technology itself, a strong point for the season. Terry has done an excellent job on competition days.
  2. Matthew Dever. As final season in role of Treasurer, a number of controls have been implemented meaning I can step down knowing the club is in a good state and will continue to be in capable hands (Dean King as successor in the role). Four years ago our balance was $50k – at end of YTD FY balance it is $100k. This result is attributed to the success of the strategic plan, as well as building our reserves and spending where this is needed in the club. Our investment must be reflected by the members and this has been done well by the club. Future investments will focus on creating and installing high jump mats, and other equipment as required according to the needs of the club. Reference financial reports, HG&Co audited our financial statements. Based on this we generated a surplus of $21k, based on total income of $77,500, operating expenses of $56,500. This year we have exceeded last year’s performance, with the main drivers being registration, uniform sales, savings on expenses. Therefore, areas we anticipated as driving growth were not needed as numbers exceeded expectations. Canteen, coaching, centre equipment continue to be strongest investment points, and managed to get savings due to exceeding expectations of registrations. Thank you to the committee and their support and efforts are humbling and wonderful to see and be a part of. Best of luck to Dean in this role.

Move to table the audited accounts. Tabled by Matt Dever, approved by Andrew Richey, seconded by Anne Wright.

Early Bird registration initiative commenced this year, as a way of predicting level of membership, in future will ensure we look to this.

* 1. Amelia Frid. Report as tabled. Thanks to the committee and members of the club for your warmth and patience with me as I find my feet in this role.
  2. Terry Jamieson. Expression of thanks to Brian and acknowledgement of effort required from the committee and ops team to ensure a successful competition season every week. There are several matters to continue to discuss and deliberate in the off season. Thanks all for a fabulous season and looking forward to another excellent season next year.

In particular Terry’s dedication and flexibility were highlighted as being central to the effecting

* 1. Craig Jackett. Report as tabled. Buxton Brighton have been a support to BLAC for 21 years. Up & Running Podiatry and BLAC have fantastic synergy, and their insights have been invaluable to the athletes across the season. M8 finance contributed for the second year in a row, there a many valued partnerships we continue to uphold, and the invitation is extended to build on any existing or potential partnerships. A big night was our social night and the funding this generated, and the creation of a tighter knit parent community. Thank you to the committee for the efforts of the last four years, I feel I am leaving the committee in a better place than when I started. The BLAC brand has flown over the season and thanks to Andrew Richey’s contribution through his images and efforts in ensuring this is the case.
  2. David Saunders. My report is the longest, report is as tabled. A comment on the sense of pride I have in what we have achieved on the coaching front and as a committee over the course of this season. President of the T&F Coaching Assoc and Middle Distance Coach are both assets to the coaching roster. Now that the compliment is almost filled, we need to ensure that our numbers in attendance at training is worked upon, and the importance of attending training is something that needs to be reiterated to our athletes. Our coaches have attained national and international success, and it is upon us as a committee to increase the excitement and build momentum and attendance at these training events.

Bob – question where there is no coach for a particular sport, could you supply names at other clubs where athletes could attend to build skill in particular event, in particular Javelin? David to take on notice and respond.

* 1. Kelvin Monsborough. Report as tabled. Membership base is 319 members, a small increase, in contrast to the overall downward trends reported by LAVic, and a testament to the strength of the committee., which is important in maintaining a growing membership base. Our strengthening social media presence has also helped raise the profile of the club. The focus needs to be on building and retaining membership in younger age groups in particular, with main growth in U7 to U11 athletes. In addition, there has been a growth in older age groups

Follow up: confirm retention of returning members as a %)

We will approach 19/20 season to hold on to existing member and grow to capacity (up to 350 to comfortable manage competition numbers

1. Ops committee reports
   1. Cross country (Andrew Richey) – LAVic competition has increased by one relay event, regional and state events, and Bayside Cross Country (28 athletes attended last season between April and August 2018).
   2. Equipment Manager report (Andrew Richey) - As tabled. Roll over covers will ensure safety and maintenance of equipment. Ongoing investment in equipment is great, incoming equipment manager may need to look at upgrading – Mark (President) called out Andrew’s contribution over the last 4 years (in particular) as this is likely to be the Richey families last season. A huge effort, from photography to region/state support to the equipment manager role – the club thanks you and wishes Hugo and Milla well in their future sporting endeavours.
   3. Team Manager Ed Allen. His efforts acknowledged. Last two years participation numbers consistent (15% of membership). Strength of numbers pre Christmas noted. On reflection, numbers at combined and external competition events have improved dramatically, and is a reflection of the improvements made to the infrastructure of the club, availability of training. Mark (President) thanked Ed for his contribution, noted this may be the last season we see the Allen’s at the track, and wishes Ed, Katie and the family well in their future endeavours.

Move to sign off:

Motion: Patrick Hill

Seconder: Fiona Rebecchi

1. 2019/2020 positions, nominations received

Dean King – Treasurer

Scott Orchard – Marketing

Mark Barling, in accordance with the constitution, accepted the nominations proposed and welcomed Dean and Scott to the team

1. Operations team vacancies

* Results coordinator
* Comp duty coordinator
* Team Manager
* Equipment Manager
* Competition Coordinator – Christine Jordaan Confirmed

Any

1. Call for any other business to discuss
   1. call out for effort of Mark Stevens as Canteen Manager by a number of the members present – an endorsement to two superb seasons as the Canteen Manager and best wishes for his ongoing management of this function.

Meeting closed 8.55pm