



**WENDOUREE ATHLETIC CLUB Inc**

Inc No A 2824 ABN 49 298 547 941 **"TEAM SPIRIT"**

P.O. BOX 160N, BALLARAT NORTH, 3350



## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CE BROWN RESERVE WENDOUREE ON 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2025.**

### **PRESENT:**

Brendan Hawkes, Michelle Hawkes, Alison Fidler, Graeme Quick, Caitlin Christie, Nev Down, Peter Luke, Phil McLennan, Steve McLennan, Kylie Mitchell

### **APOLOGIES:** Nil

### **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:**

Welcome address by Brendan Hawkes

### **MATTERS ARISING from 2024 Annual General Meeting:**

Was noted the minutes that "All positions for the Wendouree Athletic Club were declared vacant and Phil McLennan was asked to take the chair for the duration of the Elections." This was incorrect Graeme Quick was asked to chair for the duration of the Elections.

### **CONFIRMATION of the 2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes:**

<b>Moved</b>	Alison Fidler	<b>Sec</b>	Caitlin Christie	<b>Carried</b>
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### **ANNUAL REPORTS:**

#### **Presidents Report by Brendan Hawkes:**

Attached at the end of minutes.

#### **Cross country Report by Phil McLennan:**

Attached at the end of the minutes

#### **Track and Field Report by Nev Down:**

Attached at end of minutes.

#### **Junior report by Michelle Hawkes:**

##### **- Cross-Country –**

For the junior cross-country 2024 season we had 54 kids registered and they were a great bunch of kids. We really focus on the kids challenging themselves and bettering their PB's over the season. We had 38 the previous year. This year we have 68 registered.

##### **-Track and Field –**

The Wendouree Junior Track and Field 2024/25 season again went extremely well. The junior presentations were great, and we had lots of compliments about how the presentations went considering we have so many kids. As we keep on saying year after year the junior athletic program is the major fundraiser for the Wendouree Athletics Club, and it would be great to have some more help on the Friday

nights. We must say a big thankyou to Josh Hawkes and Rosie Hunt who came along every single Friday to help, it so great these younger athletes come along and help. The young kids really look up to these guys and absolutely love seeing them each week. A big thank you also to our parents/grandparents who also came along and helped again this season, Gordon Davis and Judy and Rick Winnell, thank you so much. Also, to Brendan Hawkes, Phil McLennan, Jenny Kisler and Evan for helping with pack up. And lastly to Alison Fidler and Michelle Hawkes for the setup, organisation and keeping our junior athletic program going and being successful each year. If we didn't have all the people just mentioned, we wouldn't be able to conduct the Wendouree Juniors and we wouldn't be able to support athletes with their athletic endeavours. It would be great to have extra help this coming season and we really hope to get more senior and younger athletes coming along to help.

**Woody Yaloak report by Peter Luke:**

Attached at end of minutes.

**Treasurers Report by Alison Fidler:**

Available on request

**All Reports Moved as Read:**

<b>Moved</b>	Alison Fidler	<b>Sec</b>	Nev Down	<b>Carried</b>
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**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

**Bendigo Bank Term Deposit** - current investment \$\*\*\*\*. Interest rates 4.65%. Maturity date 17 September 2025

**Equipment Purchased** – Display Cabinet for all our Trophies \$2,056.09

**Major Expenses** – Display Cabinet, uniforms,

**Wendouree Juniors** – The Junior program was again very well supported with over \$10,000 raised.

The BBQ again was successful and well supported.

The introduction of the square reader for payments of registrations and at the BBQ has been very successful.

**Ballarat Triathlon Club** – Club members again assisted the Ballarat Tri Club marshalling over five events during the Season. Total raised \$1,000 was paid to the club for our assistance.

Cans and Bottles : Over \$1000 raised

**Banksia Funds** – No further distributions were received this year. To date 91.5% of funds have been returned to the club. Possibility of further distribution but no clear indication of when or the amount.

The club is in a very good financial position.

<b>Moved</b>	Nev Down	<b>Sec</b>	Alison Fidler	<b>Carried</b>
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## **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:**

All positions for the Wendouree Athletic Club were declared vacant and Graeme Quick was asked to take the chair for the duration of the Elections.

<b>Position:</b>	<b>Nominee:</b>	<b>Nominated By:</b>	<b>Seconded By:</b>
<b>President</b>	Brendan Hawkes	Lachlan Hawkes	Josh Hawkes
<b>Vice President</b>	Neville Down	Michelle Hawkes	Josh Hawkes
<b>Secretary</b>	Michelle Hawkes	Alison Fidler	Nev Down
<b>Treasurer / Finance Officer / Fundraising</b>	Alison Fidler	Michelle Hawkes	Brendan Hawkes
<b>Jnr Vice President</b>	Position left vacant		
<b>Cross Country Convener</b>	Phil McLennan	Brendan Hawkes	Nev Down
<b>Jnr Cross Country Convener</b>	Michelle Hawkes/Alison Fidler	Phil McLennan	Brendan Hawkes
<b>Records Officer</b>	Phil McLennan	Alison Fidler	Caitlin Christie
<b>Social Media (Facebook, Instagram), IT / Website Manager, Communications</b>	Caitlin Christie	Nev Down	Alison Fidler
<b>Jnr T&amp;F Convener &amp; Jnr Development Officer</b>	Michelle Hawkes	Caitlin Christie	Nev Down
<b>Jnr Development Officer</b>	Alison Fidler	Michelle Hawkes	Brendan Hawkes
<b>AV Delegate</b>	Steve McLennan	Graeme Quick	Nev Down
<b>AV Delegate</b>	Caitlin Christie	Michelle Hawkes	Brendan Hawkes
<b>Additional Committee Members</b>	Peter Luke Kylie Mitchell		

**Comments.** Graeme Quick passed on his congratulations and best wishes to the incoming committee.

## **NOTICES OF MOTION:**

Nil

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- **Membership fees.**

<b>Category</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>Proposed 2027-28</b>
Open athlete	\$50	\$50	\$50
Juniors (13-19)	\$40	\$40	\$40
Recreational runner	\$50	\$50	\$50
Coach	\$0	\$0	\$0
Official	\$0	\$0	\$0

<b>Moved</b>	Kylie Mitchell	<b>Sec</b>	Nev Down	<b>Carried</b>
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- AV have imposed a 2% cost on all athletes' club fee; the club will absorb this for this year and then review for the 2026/27 year.
  - Cross country 2027 season ticket (all age groups including juniors)
- Season ticket \$30

<b>Moved</b>	Nev Down	<b>Sec</b>	Peter Luke	<b>Carried</b>
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**Accounts for payment:**

AV affiliation Fee - \$650

Athletics Ballarat - \$750

<b>Moved</b>	Alison Fidler	<b>Sec</b>	Peter Luke	<b>Carried</b>
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**Questions from the floor:**

Nil

**Meeting Closed at 5.43pm**

## **President's Report 2024/2025**

The 2024/25 season was another great year for the Wendouree Athletic Club.

Our Cross-Country season saw Phil McLennan take out the club aggregate.

We also saw some great results throughout the season with the Athletics Ballarat Teams in the AV XCR'24 competition. Most notable was the Premier Men finishing in 5<sup>th</sup> place, Premier women 7<sup>th</sup>, and the U20 men finished 2<sup>nd</sup>.

In the Athletics Ballarat Cross Country individual awards the following athletes won following Champion Athlete awards:

### **Cross Country Champion Athlete:**

U20 – Rosie Hunt

U16 – Amali Torney

60+ - Steve McLennan

We also had several athletes compete at the Cross-Country State and National Championships throughout the year with outstanding results.

Congratulation to everyone involved in the Ballarat AVSL 2024/25 competition. What another fantastic season!

We competed again in the AV Premier Division this season and for a small club we punched well above our weight finishing in 5<sup>th</sup> position. That is amazing and we should all be very proud.

In the Athletics Ballarat competition, we won the following awards:

### **Track and Field Individual Awards:**

U18 Women – Juliette Downes

U18 Men – Jace Murray

U16 Men – Purv Patel

50+ Men- Marcus Downes

60+ Men - Chris Lang

### **Team Awards – Track & Field:**

U18 Women

U18 Men

Veteran Women

Veteran Men

Open Men

### **Sandra Griffin Award:**

Nyajima Jock

Other big highlight throughout the Track and Field Season were the Athletics Ballarat 4 x 400m relay teams. The men with Husdon Downes finish 1<sup>st</sup> winning the gold medal at the Zatopek competition.

Thank you to everyone from Wendouree that put their hands up to compete, officiate and help out throughout the season.

We had some outstanding performances in the Vic Country Championships over the 3 days of competition. The number of medals and personal bests across the competition was amazing. Well done to everyone that competed and once again thank you to all our officials and club helpers for making the competition happen and run smoothly.

The State championships were no different with lots of medals and PB's. The Wendouree athletes brought home a swag of medals. Congratulations to everyone who competed.

At the National championships in Perth just recently our athletes were outstanding, again with lots of PB's and medals being brought home. Congratulations to everyone who competed.

Also congratulations to all our overage athletes we compete in the Masters competitions throughout the season.

We must also note that Nyajima and Yual also competed at the Mauri Plant meet. This meet was huge, and their performances were outstanding.

Yual is still competing and is overseas at the moment and competing in competitions such as the World Diamond League events.

For those who follow our athletes via Facebook and Instagram, thank you to Caitlin Christie who, after many hours officiating, spends endless hours at night trolling through results to post the results, so we and all our family and friends, are kept informed during and after all the athletes' events.

Also thank you to Nev for his fabulous photography throughout the season, we all love seeing your photos.

Thank you again to everyone that helps organise and run the junior Track and Field competition on Friday nights during the warmer months, the participations numbers were again very good this year, and we had lots of happy kids and parents.

The junior cross-country competition has started back up again, and we have great numbers this year. Friday night seems to work well for the juniors.

Congratulations to the winners of one of the club's highest awards:

\* The Bill Cleary Trophy Best Club Person (for track season) Sam Culvenor was the winner. Thank you, Sam, for your dedication to the club. Officiating, volunteering and your support to all the juniors is very inspiring.

\* The Brian Gudgeon Best Club Person (Cross Country Season)— Again Michelle Hawkes was the winner. Thank you, Michelle for all the time and work you put into the Wendouree athletic Club

To finish, I would like to thank the board and committee members for another great year, we continually work very together to keep the club and the sport going strong.

Brendan Hawkes

# WAC 2025 AGM Track & Field Report

## *Report prepared and presented by Nev Down*

The Wendouree Athletic Club has once again had a fantastic Track and Field season. In the local Athletics Ballarat competition WAC won premierships in the U18 Women and Men, 40+ Women & Men, and Open Men.

To finish 5<sup>th</sup> for the second year in a row in Premier division in the AVSL competition is something we should be very proud.

WAC performed extremely well with over 40 athletes competing in the 2025 Victorian Country Championships in Bendigo. Well done to the athletes who produced many PBs and won a swag of medals. Thanks to our many wonderful officials and helpers who assisted with the conduct of these championships.

Congratulations to our Athletics Ballarat AVSL Championship event winners and the following athletes won the BRAC Champion Athlete awards for scoring the most points in total over the season: Purv Patel U16 Men, Juliet Downes U18 Women, Jace Murray U18 Men, Marcus Downes 50+ Men, and Chris Lang 60+ Men.

We recognise and congratulate our club's special award winners for season 2024-25. Best first year athletes – Mia Schodde and Derek Okolo; Most improved – Nyajima Jock and Purv Patel; Spirt of WAC – Max Austin; Best Clubperson – Sam Culvenor.

Mackenzie Estlick was nominated and awarded the David Stevens Junior Athlete of the Year by the Ballarat Sportsmen's Association.

Nyajima Jock was also awarded the prestigious Athletics Ballarat Sandra Griffin award for being voted the most valuable female athlete in the AB competition. Well done on a great season.

In addition to the many state representatives, WAC had 8 athletes compete at the National Championships in Perth. Congratulations to Nyajima Jock (Open 200m), Yual Reath (Open High Jump), Mitch Korosec (U17 3000m), Ella Culvenor (U17 Long Jump), Mackayla Culvenor (U18 Long Jump), Mackenzie Estlick (U18 100m, 200m, Shot Put, 4 x 100m), Derek Okolo (U14 100m, 200m, 4 x 100m), Max Austin (U14 Pole Vault, 100m).

Notable mentions from the season include:

Nyajima Jock finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Open Women's 200m at the National Championships (Perth) in a PB of 23.28 seconds.

Well done to Derek Okolo, Bronze medallist in the U14 100m (12.11s) at the National Championships.

Chris Lang capped off another wonderful season by winning numerous medals at the Australian Masters Championships, Adelaide.

Congratulations to Yual Reath on jumping 2.20m to claim silver in a tense jump off in the Open Men's high jump at the Australian Championships. The Paris Olympian has recently performed well in the Seiko Golden Meet and Rabat Diamond league where he jumped 2.25 to finish 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We recognise and value the importance of our Little Athletics competition on Friday nights. Thank you to Michelle Hawkes and Alison Fidler and the regular helpers for running this great competition. It's a popular fun competition and fantastic feeder program into senior athletics.

Wendouree AC has continued to supply many well-qualified and hard-working officials and helpers at all levels of competition. For a country club to have 14 qualified officials assist in the conduct of competition on a regular basis, is a great achievement and something we are very proud of. We thank them for their continued support of our sport, and we hope to continue to build on the many wonderful officials we already have. Thank you.

Congratulation to Stephen McLennan for being the recipient of the Mackenzie-Valpied Sports Administrator/Volunteer of the Year award and the AV Official of the year award. Well done, it's great to see your tireless work recognised and rewarded.

Wendouree AC have many highly qualified, experienced, and wonderful coaches. Coaches contribute a lot to driving the sport through development and recruiting. We hope to build on the many wonderful coaches we already have. Thank you for your dedication and work towards guiding and helping our athletes.

Congratulations one and all for helping make 2024-25 season an enjoyable and successful season.

Thank you and well done.



## Wendouree Athletic Club - 2024 Cross-Country Report

From its earliest incarnation in 1953 and conducted annually since 1958 the Wendouree Athletic Club's Cross Country program has progressively developed and evolved into the syllabus that we have today. Initially the winter season included a number of pack runs with run ins, an occasional handicap race, the perennial Lap of the Lake, as well as the club championships over 2 miles and 5 miles, along with the BLC and VAAA events. Over the years events have come and gone, courses have invariably changed and significant members have been recognized through the naming of events and trophies in their honour. Here follows an overview of the season that was.

Open club champions were crowned. Oscar Wooton and Rosie Hunt were awarded their maiden club titles over 5km at Victoria Park in May. Rosie added the 8km championship off the road a couple of months later with Jacob Cheesman claiming the men's open gold medal. One became two for Jacob in the final championship event over 10km with Michelle Hawkes adding to her already extensive collection of titles in the women's race.

At the Schnyder Handicap Hudson Downes added his name to the winner's list, the McLennan Handicap was taken out by Zac Grainger, Marcus Downes and Freddie Lynch claimed the spoils in the Graeme Quick Handicap, Amali Torney staved off all challengers in the prestigious Kingsley Curtis Handicap, Phillip McLennan added another Gudgeon Cup title and Marc Schnyder finished the season with victory in the Macauley Cup for the Lap of the Lake

The club made a successful start to the 2024 BRAC winter campaign with the team of Jacob Cheesman, Hudson Downes, Cody Torney, Mitch Korosec, Oscar Wooton and Joshua Hawkes rewarded with a victory in the relays at Lake Wendouree.

Cody Torney (U/18), Mitch Korosec (U/16), Stephen McLennan (60+) all claimed gold medals at the Lap of the Lake. Jacob Cheesman (U/20), Rosie Hunt (U/20), Abigail Cartledge (U/18), Amali Torney (U/16) and Alison Fidler (50+) collected silver with Michelle Hawkes (50+) gaining bronze.

At the Wal Brown 8km Cross Country Championship Jacob Cheesman placed second overall (1<sup>st</sup> U/20) with Rosie Hunt taking third in the women's race (2<sup>nd</sup> U/20). Cody Torney (2<sup>nd</sup> U/18), Hudson Downes (3<sup>rd</sup> U/18), Juliette Downes (2<sup>nd</sup> U/18), Abigail Cartledge (3<sup>rd</sup> U/18), Marcus Downes (3<sup>rd</sup> 50+), Michelle Hawkes (2<sup>nd</sup> 50+) and Alison Fidler (3<sup>rd</sup> 50+) also amongst the medals. In the 4km Mitch Korosec and Amali Torney both produced excellent runs to win gold. The men's 50+ team did enough to score a category win.

Zac Grainger steepling skills stood him in good stead at the Chas Suffren 6.4km held at the Smythesdale Equestrian Complex finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the open men's race (2<sup>nd</sup> U/20). Gold medals were collected by Rosie Hunt (U/20), Juliette Downes (U/18) and Stephen McLennan (60+) with Michelle Hawkes (2<sup>nd</sup> -50+) and Marcus Downes (3<sup>rd</sup> 50+) receiving well-earned minor medals. Amali Torney continued her impressive winter season form to claim top place in U/16 3.2km race.

At the state level the club continues to make a meaningful contribution in representing Ballarat in the Athletics Victoria XCR competition. From Hanging Rock to The Tan Wendouree members pounded the paddocks and paths in support of the Ballarat team and ensuring a position in both the men's and women's Premier divisions was maintained. Highlights included:

- AV XCR CCC - Hanging Rock.

12km – Alison Fidler (2<sup>nd</sup> 55+), Women's 50+ Teams – 1<sup>st</sup> (Alison Fidler, Michelle Hawkes),

7km – Men's U/20 Teams – 2<sup>nd</sup> (Jacob Cheesman).

- AV XCR 10km / 3km Road - Albert Park.

10km - Alison Fidler (1<sup>st</sup> 55+), Michelle Hawkes (3<sup>rd</sup> 50+), Women's 50+ Teams – 1<sup>st</sup> (Alison Fidler, Michelle Hawkes), Men's U/20 Teams – 1<sup>st</sup>, (Jacob Cheesman, Zac Grainger).

- AV XCR 8km CCC - St Anne's Winery, Bendigo.

8km - 1<sup>st</sup> Angela Williams (1<sup>st</sup> 50+), Women's Open Teams – 3<sup>rd</sup>. (Angela Williams, Michelle Hawkes).

4km - Men's U/20 Teams – 2<sup>nd</sup> (Jacob Cheesman), Women's U/20 Teams – 2<sup>nd</sup> (Rosie Hunt)

3km - Women's U/16 Teams – 2<sup>nd</sup> (Amali Torney), Women's U/18 Teams – 1<sup>st</sup> (Juliette Downes)

- AV XCR - Sandown Relays.

Men Premier – 6<sup>th</sup> (Jacob Cheesman), Female U/20 – 5<sup>th</sup> (Amali Torney, Juliette Downes, Rosie Hunt).

- AV XCR Ekiden Relay - St Anne's Winery, Myrniong.

Men Premier – 2<sup>nd</sup> (Darcy Williams), Men Division 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> (Joshua Hawkes, Zac Grainger), Women Premier – 5<sup>th</sup> (Angela Williams, Michelle Hawkes, Rosie Hunt), Men Under 20 – 2<sup>nd</sup> (Jacob Cheesman, Cody Torney).

- AV XCR Tan Relays - King's Domain, Melbourne.

Men's Premier - 6<sup>th</sup> (Oscar Wooton, Josh Hawkes, Darcy Williams).

Women's Premier - 6<sup>th</sup> (Rosie Hunt, Amali Torney, Alison Fidler, Michelle Hawkes).

There were challenging conditions at the Australian Cross Country Championships in Launceston with Wendouree well represented.

Adam Conway – U/15 4km, 12<sup>th</sup> 15.19.

Cody Torney – U/18 6km, 47<sup>th</sup> 24.18.

Jacob Cheesman – U/20 6km, 41<sup>st</sup> 24.06

Amali Torney – U/16 4km, 33<sup>rd</sup> 18.12.

The end of season wrap gave recognition for the seasonal awards

Junior Champion Athlete recipients were announced for:

U/12 – Freddie Lynch; U/16 – Amali Torney; U/18 – Juliette Downes

The Junior Aggregate title was presented to Juliette Downes (131 points) ahead of Amali Torney (101 points) with Cody Torney (94 points), Rosie Hunt (93 points) and Jacob Cheesman (86 points) rounding out the top five.

Phillip McLennan (137 points) accrued enough points across the season to win the Senior Aggregate by a close margin over the consistent Michelle Hawkes (130 points), Marcus Downes (110 points) placed third with Heath Downes and Joshua Hawkes locked together on 106 points for fourth,

The Robert Brookes Trophy for outstanding performance during the winter season was awarded to Amali Torney who is continuing to reap the rewards of dedicated and consistent training reflected in her achievements at local state and national level.

The club's ongoing prosperity and organizational stability is due in no small part to the selfless efforts and input of Michelle Hawkes who was deservedly presented with the Best Club Person for the season. Thanks Michelle.

Thanks also to those who have helped assist in the conduct of the club's activity through the winter with time keeping, marshalling, course marking, photography and so forth. Furthermore, for the support and encouragement provided to athletes as they traversed their way through the challenges of the season as it unfolded. May we continue to forge ahead and provide opportunity for our members to enjoy cross country for many years to come.

The Cross-Country Committee.

## **Woody Yaloak Report**

Another track and field season has finished with a wonderful trophy night and celebration for the end of the season.

A huge thank you to all committee members who pulled the night together and took the lead in the absence of myself and Pete on the night, especially Lucy for being the master of ceremonies and getting everyone organised for the relays and other activities.

A huge thank you too .. to all our sponsors, especially to our major sponsors that do cover our subsidised club singlets, T.Shirts and Hoodies.

A huge [congratulations](#) to all of our members and to those that won awards, especially Chloe M and Lucas E, who were named as the Champion and Best athletes of the Track and Field season.

Some highlights were the runathon, and the two ribbon nights where a number of club records were broken. The handicap night had also provided much interest.

The club is now looking forward to the cross country season. We are hoping to come to an agreement with Parks Victoria concerning our setups in the Haddon Common and maybe a restructure of our courses to cater for future participation and other engagements.

Thank you,

Benita Martin and Peter Luke

Woody Yaloak Athletics Club