



VOA Board Meeting

Friday 25 November, 2005
Outdoor Recreation Centre, Viewbank

MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: Blair Trewin, Ruth Goddard, Ian Dodd, Warwick Williams

Meeting opened 7:20 PM.

1. Apologies

Peta Whitford.

2. Business Arising

- BG has expressed interest in running the Victorian Sprint championship in either 2008 or 2009.

3. Reports

3.1 Finance

- We are presently running a small surplus for 2005. It is likely that we will break even on the full year.
- No VOA levy has been set for the Australian MTBO Championships.

*Moved that this levy be set at the same level as for the Victorian MTBO Championships
BT/ID Carried.*

3.2 P & D

- Report received.
- Both primary schools championships were very successful.

3.3 Easter 2006

- The carnival dinner is not included in the entry form. This is because the details are not yet finalised. A number of other events is to take place around Castlemaine next Easter and no venue has yet been booked.

3.4 SportIdent

- The new control have been received and were given their first use at the Australian MTBO Championships. They worked well.

3.5 Bush-O Sub-Committee

- A set of proposals has been circulated to clubs. No feedback has yet been received on these. It is intended to have an email ballot on them.
- Proposals:
 - Badge events to have the same 10 course structure as state series events.
 - Middle distance championships to be offered for all age classes.
 - Victorian long distance championships to earn State Series points.
 - Victorian long distance championships to count towards the Rockhopper Trophy.
 - Either best 8 or best 9 events to be counted towards State Series awards.
 - In non-A grade state series classes, no award shall be made unless at least 3 competitors reach the minimum number of 5 events.

3.6 MTBO Sub-Committee

- The Australian Championships weekend was successfully staged.

3.7 Park/Street-O Sub-Committee

- New brochures have been received.
- Expressions of interest are out for staging next winter's events

3.8 Participation

- Summary spreadsheet received.

3.9 Correspondence

- Report received.

4. Orienteering Australia Annual Conference

- The Board considered 5 of the issues listed for discussion at the conference:
 - (a) Proposed new OA levy on all events – proposed to be a uniform 30 cent levy per competitor on all events. It is estimated that this would raise \$22,000 per year. Victoria would pay a greater share of this than we do of membership levies because our competitor numbers are swelled by park/street. A levy such as this is easiest and best if broad based. The proposal is supported.

- (b) The Director(Administration) is proposed to be replaced with an executive officer (not part of the Board). This is supported. The constitution is proposed to be further amended to prohibit Council members holding an “office of profit” with OA. This would be better worded as a “salaried position.”
- (c) OA committees that presently only meet at Easter are proposed to operate throughout the year using email. Option to reduce state representation at the annual OA conference to one representative per state – states would still have 2 votes each. Proposal would save ~\$3,000 per year. The VOA board did not take a position
- (d) It has been decided to remove the subsidy on the OA magazine. The Board supports this. It is proposed to establish an editorial reference group to advise the editor on any difficult issues. The VOA believes that the Board can fill this role if and when required.
- (e) A series of rule changes is proposed – Seeding would be optional for less significant events and AS and B classes. The spreading of start time in multi-day events is to be formalised. The board noted that in some cases seeding and spreading start times cannot both be optimised at once.

Proposed changes to rules regarding the handling of protests would leave the only remedial options for a jury as cancelling a class, or disqualifying or reinstating a competitor. The board felt that the option of amending finish times should continue to exist where the time disadvantage suffered by competitors can be properly quantified.

The amended rules would allow more mixed classes to be offered in relays. If this is not made compulsory, the board agrees with this.

It is proposed that the target winning times for a range of older age classes be altered to come into line with World Masters classes. The Victorian position is that this is likely to be very controversial, and that a decision should be postponed until Easter 2006, after wide consultation.

- A junior sport policy and a risk management framework are up for consideration. Both of these are likely to flow on to states for consideration (see item 7 below).
- Selection trials for the Australian MTBO team are scheduled for February. A system of “badge” events is to be introduced into MTBO with one such event programmed per state each year.
- Victoria will not nominate a representative to the events committee (Hugh Cameron is the chairman).

5. VOA Advertising Policy

- A revised version of this policy will be put forward for discussion at the policy day.

6. OA Search & Rescue Policy

- Policy is to be revised.
- Responsibilities for taking action need to be clear, as do procedures for determining that a problem exists.

7. Policy Day Agenda

- Risk management
- Junior sport policy
- Search & rescue
- Advertising policy
- Review of strategic plans
- Review of finances
- Others? ...

8. Other Business

- Some concern has been expressed that people may have their photograph posted on the VOA website when they would not want it there. This was not considered to be a big issue, but if anyone objects to their photo or their children's being posted on the website, it will be removed.
- The sponsorship of Melways was acknowledged. 20 copies of the current Melbourne directory have been made available as prizes.
- The discount being offered for the purchase of multiple seasons ticket to street orienteering has been popular. Whether revenues have increased or decreased as a result of the discount cannot yet be ascertained.

9. Next Meeting

- Thursday 15th December, at Goddards', following the Watsonia street event.

Meeting closed 9.45 PM.