

## **MEMO TO CLUB PRESIDENTS – JULY 2009**

Dear President,

We are now well into the 2009 XCR season and what a fabulous event at Sandown with over 1000 participants, and more recently the new 15km road championship course in Ballarat with over 700 participants, a great result. Thanks must go to Tim Crosbie, his XCR committee, the office staff and officials and of course all the clubs who competed and helped. Special mention must also go to Paul Hayes who headed the Ballarat LOC.

We had great support from interstate athletes at Sandown and many PBs especially amongst the women were recorded. A new system of chip recording was used at Sandown and with a few modifications this system will hopefully be introduced to our XCR season for 2010.

### ***Albert Park***

Currently a request is being submitted by AA and AV for extra federal funding under the Federal government infrastructure grants. Brett Moore, Nick Honey and Danny Corcoran have been working non-stop. If successful this will mean significant extra funding for the project's office buildings.

Work in parallel continues, of course and Brett and Nick are working on the Memorandum of Understanding agreement with the State government for our state athletic centre, to ensure the best outcome for athletics is secured.

This of course has been an ongoing project. Technical aspects have been considered from day one and David Gynther (AA), Khan Sharp and Grant McKay have been involved from the start. Issues such as throwing facilities and simultaneous pole vault competitions etc are being addressed.

The timeline for completion is aimed at Feb 2011 but we expect we won't be competing at Albert Park until season 2011/2012.

### ***Celebrating 80 years of women's athletics in Victoria***

In November 1929 a formation meeting was held discussing the idea of a Victorian Women's athletics association. In December 1929 the Victorian Women's Amateur Athletic Association was established.

On Sunday November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at the Melbourne Town Hall, we will be celebrating 80 years of women's athletics in Victoria.

The event will be one of reminiscing, revelations, and rendezvous. There will be guest speakers, presentations, chance for reunions as well as afternoon tea in



opulent surrounds. Cost will be approximately \$25-30 per head. Men and women both welcome.

If you are interested in attending please let AV office know Elizabeth- 94288195 so we can get an idea of numbers or if you have any interesting bits of history, stories, photos, memorabilia, records or you know someone who might, please contact Ronda Jenkins on 93865031.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate 80 years of women's athletics but also to develop a recorded history of women's athletics in Victoria, much of which exists but has not been officially summarized.

### ***Country Conference***

The inaugural country conference was held in Ballarat over the weekend. This proved to be most successful with 17 out of the 22 regional clubs represented. It was a great chance for exchanging ideas, information and needs.

Thanks to Peter Barrett whose idea it was to conduct a meeting involving the regions and Matt Griffin who went on to organize the 2009 country conference. Thanks also to Don, Tim, Michelle and Nick for their hard work leading up to and at the conference.

### ***Summer Competiton***

Thanks to Jade, Michelle and Marian O'Shaughnessy for organizing the recent focus group meetings. These have provided some insight as to how we can best conduct the competitions effectively and efficiently. Hopefully this will contribute to a more stream line Shield Competition next summer. Thanks to all those who attended these meetings.

For season 2009/2010, it has been decided that the three current venues will remain the same and hopefully by reverting to the two week program and giving official helpers four weeks on one event, Shield competition can be run efficiently next season.

Integral to next season's success will be the Open Score. Current trials of the system have proved successful to date and more thorough testing will continue before Summer season begins.

***Congratulations*** to AV members Ronda Jenkins and Paul Jenes. We all know the incredible amount of time and effort they both put into our sport and on the Queen's Birthday they were acknowledged accordingly with an OAM.

Running regards,

Anne Lord  
President  
Athletics Victoria