



22nd January 2010

Athletics Victoria's response to accident at North West Region AV Shield Competition, on Thursday 21st January 2010.

Athletics Victoria was this morning devastated to learn of serious injuries sustained to a highly-valued member, as a result of an unfortunate accident during AV Shield competition, last night. Coburg Harriers Athletic Club member and athlete Diane Brimacombe, was assisting with the hammer throw competition at Moonee Valley Athletics Track, when she was struck in the side of the head, by a hammer which had been thrown out of bounds.

Mrs Brimacombe was immediately administered first aid before being transported promptly by ambulance to the Alfred Hospital, where she underwent surgery to manage the injuries sustained in the accident.

Mrs Brimacombe is currently undergoing treatment and monitoring to manage her condition.

Athletics Victoria wishes to convey its sincere and heartfelt well-wishes to Mrs Brimacombe and her family.

As many of you may know, Diane Brimacombe is the mother of Australian Olympic and world championship representative sprinter Steve Brimacombe.

Athletics Victoria has already commenced preliminary investigations into this incident, with a thorough root-cause analysis to follow. From initial reports, the hammer competition at Moonee Valley Athletics Track yesterday evening was conducted correctly and in accordance with IAAF and Athletics Victoria competition rules and safety guidelines.

Athletics Victoria will ensure that competition safety guidelines and rules continue to be understood and adhered to by Athletics Victoria members and their clubs.

Athletics Victoria has extended counselling services to all parties immediately and directly affected by this incident, and would also like to extend the offer of counselling to those that seek it.

Athletics Victoria members with any concerns pertaining to this incident are invited to contact the Athletics Victoria office on (03) 9428 8195.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Honey', with a horizontal line underneath.

Nick Honey
Chief Executive Officer