



**49th Annual Report
VICTORIAN MASTERS ATHLETICS INC.
&
Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the period
1st January to 31st December 2020**

OFFICE BEARERS

President:	Russell Oakley
Vice Presidents:	Tony Bradford,
Secretary:	Philip Urquhart
Assistant Secretary:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Andrew Edwards
Club Captain:	Shane Draper
VMA Team Manager:	David Sheehan

General Committee

Russ. Dickenson
Judy Farrell
Rob Mayston
Graeme Rose
Christopher Worsnop
Rob. Waters (ex officio)

Honary Auditor : David McConnell

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2020

The past year was a testing time for VMA with COVID19 restrictions closing venues, competitions and the cancellations of both State and National Championships.

Despite being unable to meet in person, the Committee continued to function thanks to monthly Zoom meetings. Two new people joined the Committee during the year, Judy Pfanner as the Thrower's Group Representative and Margret Hunter as Assistant Secretary.

The membership of VMA and the Committee were both saddened and shocked with the sudden death of Russ. Dickenson. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding work done by Russ as editor of Footprints and as a member of the Committee. The monthly issues kept the membership informed about VMA and other matters athletic.

Congratulations go to Phil Urquhart on his election as President of AMA, the first Victorian to hold this position for many years.

My thanks go to Graham Rose, who retired from the Committee after a long period of service at both the State and National level, especially in the areas of weight throwing and other field events.

At the end of the year, Andrew Edwards retired as Treasurer and is to be thanked for his contribution to the finances of VMA and especially his work before, during and after the National Championships in Melbourne.

The Committee would like to give a very big thank you to all Venue Managers, officials and helpers for the effort they put in to keep the Venues together over this difficult period.

To all VMA athletes and their supporters, thank you for maintaining enthusiasm and fitness, ready for a wonderful 2021.

Russell Oakley

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2020

The Committee met twelve times this year, exceeding the Constitutional requirement of a minimum of four meetings in any year. Nine of the meetings were successfully conducted via Zoom. The following changes to the committee occurred during the year: Andrew Edwards did not stand for re-election to the committee. We thank Andrew for his contribution as Treasurer over many years. At the March meeting Simon Evans was co-opted onto the committee to replace Andrew Edwards as Treasurer effective from the next meeting. Margaret Hunter was co-opted onto the committee immediately to assist with Secretarial duties. During the year Margaret completed the AV Member Protection and Complaint Handling course and took on this role within VMA.

The committee continues to work on broadening the composition of the committee to include more representation of younger age groups and females.

Russ Dickensen passed away suddenly during the year. He will be very sadly missed by Victorian Masters Athletics for his untiring contribution over a long term.

Rob Mayston and Phil Urquhart attended the AMA AGM in September 2020. Phil Urquhart was elected as President with John Clark (NSW) elected as Treasurer and Stan Perkins (QLD) joining the board. Lisa Attenborough (SA) was re-elected to the board. The remaining incumbents, Vice President Steve McGugan (NT), Secretary Donna Hiscox (NSW), Jane Hardy (ACT) and Judy Farrell (VIC) continue to serve their two year terms. Roy Foley was elevated to the AMA Hall of Fame, while AMA Awards were made to Heather Carr (walks), Lavinia Petrie (distance) and Andrew Wilcox (sprints and hurdles).

Phil Urquhart attended the Athletics Victoria AGM via Zoom in July. Judith Farrell and Phil Urquhart attended the Athletics Australia AGM on behalf of AMA.

The optimistic start to 2020 was soon overshadowed by the spread of the Covid 19 pandemic with most sporting activities including all athletics shut down from March. This hampered efforts to attract new members as Victoria was the last State to resume any form of organised sporting activity late in the year.

At the VMA AGM the following were honoured with a Service Award: John Hallo, Jack Friedrickson, Gerald Burke, Kath Gawthorn, Andrew Edwards and Janine Mackerron. Life Membership was awarded to Russ Oakley, Russ Dickenson and Phil Urquhart.

Particular thanks are due to a number of members for their work through the year to the extent that activities were possible:

- David Sheehan for coordinating our AV Shield and XCR teams during the year.
- Clyde Riddoch, records officer and Club Statistician.
- David McConnell for auditing the club financial records.
- Peter Thorne for co-ordinating the Browne Shield.

The report by the Treasurer shows the strong financial position of the Association but the committee continues to look for sponsorship and other fund raising avenues to ensure we can maintain and increase services to members.

I am confident that I speak for the Committee in stating that the greatest plaudits must go to the particular members who form the backbone of the organisation, namely the Venue Managers, together with the many volunteers who give of their time every week. In this difficult year many venues took the initiative to organise "virtual" events where members could compete in isolation while observing the ongoing restrictions.

We look forward to 2021 with confidence that competition within states will remain possible while we plan for a return to some level of normality nationally as travel restrictions are eased.

Phil Urquhart

Secretary

Victorian Masters Athletics Inc. - Headquarters Accounts

2020

2019

Profit or Loss Statement

Revenue

Membership	\$	12,150	\$	21,003
Merchandise	\$	1,589	\$	11,101
Events	\$	780	\$	4,744
Interest	\$	3,023	\$	5,091
Donations	\$	185	\$	-
Government Grants	\$	1,500	\$	-
Other	\$	20	\$	1,780
TOTAL	\$	19,247	\$	43,719

Expenditure

Bank Fees	\$	188	\$	289
Insurance	\$	4,356	\$	5,148
Printing Footprints etc.	\$	10,185	\$	9,349
Software	\$	450	\$	-
Room Hire	\$	432	\$	792
AMA Fees (Capitation/Travel)	\$	6,297	\$	6,097
AV VMA Rebate	\$	2,700	\$	2,800
Medals	\$	1,524		
Website	\$	337	\$	1,254
Honorariums	\$	700	\$	1,100
Other	\$	2,165	\$	6,286
TOTAL	\$	29,334	\$	33,115

Surplus / (Deficit) for the year

\$	(10,087)	\$	10,604
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Balance Sheet

CBA Main at call account	\$	49,168	\$	13,701
CBA Society Account	\$	1,150	\$	1,150
Ing Account	\$	115,204	\$	161,052
 Bendigo bank Term Deposit 10 Sep 2021 @ .85%	 \$	 19,857	 \$	 19,564
Total Cash and Deposits	\$	185,379	\$	195,466

Notes

Notes : In 2020, we switched to accounting on a cash basis. This is the most conservative way of accounting as items such as equipment, medals, property are expensed immediately on purchase. The surplus/deficit each year will now equal the move in bank and term deposit accounts.

Comments

The 2020 results were severely affected by Covid. Membership was down from 963 to 634. Many events were cancelled reducing revenue from events. Overall revenue was down from \$43,719 to \$19,247.

Expenses were lower at \$29,334 versus \$33,115 in 2019.

The overall deficit of \$10,087 was acceptable given the difficulties caused by Covid.

Victorian Masters Athletics Inc

Financial reports of the Venues - Year ended 31st December 2020

P & L Statement															
Income	Total														
	\$	Knox	Aberfeldie	Collingwood	Burwood	Geelong	Mentone	Springvale	Doncaster	Croydon	Frankston	Glen Elira	Throwers		
Track Fees	12,800	\$ 1,361	\$ 1,101	\$ 448	\$ 1,689	\$ 621	\$ 1,040	\$ 776	\$ 1,015	\$ 952	\$ 624	\$ 2,653	\$ 519		
Clothing Sales	440	100	0	0	0	0	0	340	0	0	0	0	0		
Special Event Entries	713	0	0	0	0	0	0	713	0	0	0	0	0		
Social / Supper	928	0	0	0	368	0	195	0	0	0	0	0	0		365
Donations	118	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0		68
Interest	672	0	0	0	173	0	0	125	249	7	5	103	10		
Other	3,372	1,212	400	0	0	0	0	0	1,760	0	0	0	0		
Total Income	19,042	2,673	1,501	448	2,230	621	1,284	1,954	3,024	959	629	2,756	962		
Expenses															
Track Hire	4,439	796	808	360	1,195	0		649	234	397					
Social / Supper	2,570	0	261	131	339	404	466	689	228			53			
Clothing	1,001	1,001													
Special Event costs	1,148	420					12	716							
Trophies & prizes	1,545	284			218	16	601	106	166			155			
Equipment	2,382	64		417	99	12	77		1,714						
Postage	62	1					10		51						
Bank Charges	122	0							2			120			
Other	1,140	265	50			197	185	70	190			183			
Total Expenses	14,409	2,830	1,118	908	1,851	629	1,350	2,230	2,584	397	0	511	0		
Surplus/Deficit	4,633	(157)	383	(460)	379	(8)	(66)	(276)	439	562	629	2,246	962		
Balance Sheet Assets															
Bank 31 Dec.20	87,326	10,031	6,387	4,699	4,284	10,975	7,128	10,333	5,151	5,857	5,236	5,376	11,868		
Term Dep. 31 Dec.20	46,723			193	14,774		0	9,472	14,000	0	0	8,283			
	134,049	10,031	6,387	4,893	19,058	10,975	7,128	19,806	19,151	5,857	5,236	13,659	11,868		
Bank 31 Dec.19	83,106	10,188	6,004	5,352	3,905	10,983	7,194	10,726	4,712	5,295	4,607	3,234	10,906		
Term Dep.31 Dec.19	46,310	0	0	0	14,774	0	0	9,356	14,000	0	0	8,180			
	129,417	10,188	6,004	5,352	18,679	10,983	7,194	20,082	18,712	5,295	4,607	11,414	10,906		
Cash move 2020	4,633	(157)	383	(460)	379	(8)	(66)	(276)	439	562	629	2,246	962		

Comments : Venues generated a combined cash surplus of \$4,633 in 2020. This led to an increase in cash and term deposits held by the venues to \$134,049 at 31st Dec.20.


VICTORIAN MASTERS ATHLETICS INC.

(ACN A1760)

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I advise that I have audited the books and accounts of Victorian Masters Athletics Inc. as at 31st December 2020, and the final accounts are in accordance with those records.

I have sighted the individual summaries of Venues' accounts for the year, and Venues' Consolidation of Income & Expenditure and Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020, but have not checked details of financial transactions and records as they are kept independently of VMA Management.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David McConnell'.

David McConnell
16th April 2021

ABERFELDIE VENUE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

ABERFELDIE, after a very successful 2019 including good numbers late in the year, were looking to continue the success in 2020. Of course Covid stopped us in its tracks after conducting about ten nights of competition.

During the lengthy shutdown, the Moonee Valley Council opened the track for informal training only. This gave us the opportunity on some occasions to say hello to some of our members who attended within Government and council guidelines. We must thank the MVCC for keeping the track open and regularly informing us on Covid updates and Council guidelines.

The Refurbishment of the Club rooms continued during the lockdowns and will continue for a few months into 2021. Something to look forward to.

Fortunately, we were able to Host the Annual Neighbours Night (Aberfeldie, Coburg, Collingwood and Doncaster) in February, probably the highlight of the year.

Tony Bradford
Venue Manager

CASEY FIELDS VENUE

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

What a year it was, hopefully never to be seen again, we were going along nicely with good numbers averaging 15 or 16 most nights until Lockdown 1.0, most of us managed to do something within the Health Dept guidelines, when the first lot of restrictions eased and we were able to use the track again we held training sessions that were well attended, because we all know competition was a no- no. Lockdown 2.0 came down and we couldn't do anything.

When we came back in early November we had an average of 12 athletes each night, our X Mass break up attracted good numbers with some novelty events and pizza outdoors. Since our return in early January we have had good numbers and a few new people have come down for a run, Memberships pending, we have included field events into our program on a fortnightly basis. We are still unable to use the community room and kitchen due to the Covid testing facility set up down there. Although disappointed with Nationals being cancelled we have quite a few athletes looking forward the State Championships in April.

PAUL OLSSON

VENUE MANAGER

COBURG VENUE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

In the restricted year of 2020 the Coburg Masters group managed to successfully achieve it's cross country season in January and February with some inconvenience as one of our courses was out of action due to flooding of the creek.

In March the annual Neighbours Night 4x200m relay was held at Aberfeldie in trying conditions. This year saw the addition of a 240+ mixed relay to accompany the traditional 180+ mixed relay. Coburg took the win in the 180+ and Doncaster won a tight contest in the 240+.

A short mid-year season of training events were held when possible.

In December the annual Pudding Gift was raced with a strong turnout of competitors. The 120m Handicap Gift was won by Stephen Huang and the Pudding Mile was won by Donna-Marie Elms.

Bernie Goggin who has been a long serving member of the committee stood down from active duty at the end of 2020. His services have been much appreciated over the years.

As 2020 came to a close the Coburg Harriers announced that they had secured council funding for a much needed upgrade to the club rooms. A total of \$847,300 will go towards the project and the upgrade should be completed in 2021.

Paul O'Neill
Venue Manager

COLLINGWOOD VENUE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Collingwood venue of Victorian Masters Athletics meets at the George Knott Reserve in Clifton Hill every Tuesday evening. This year, however, our last meeting was held on March 17, as a result of which, only one of our many annual events occurred. That was the annual Neighbors' Night 4x400m Relay held at Aberfeldie on Feb 18, 2020 when we were out to defend the title we won in 2019 – unfortunately we were not so successful on this occasion. It was not possible to run any of our long-standing annual trophy events during 2020, viz. - the Don Warden 400 metre Handicap, - the Alan Burgoyne 5 km Handicap, - the Magpie Marathon featuring the Denis O'Hehir trophy for the age-graded winner. - The Magpie Half-marathon featuring the Keith Lodge trophy for the age-graded winner. - The Winter Points Competition held over the 8-week period in July and August. Nor was it possible to stage the two VMA events that Collingwood Venue has successfully hosted for the last few years, i.e. - the Cross-Country Championship - the 10,000 metres Track Championship. The management committee, which unfortunately had little to do this year after the first couple of months, would nevertheless like to thank all venue members for their cooperation and assistance during this difficult period. A special thanks to Helen Bayley for her tireless work in the kitchen and to Ken Senior, Mal Brown, Peter Johnstone and Bruce Gibbs for their valuable assistance in organizing the events. Collingwood

Venue Committee of Management:

Paul Ban, Rod Bayley, Helen Brown, Jim Hopkins, Heather Johnstone, Meghann Blakeman, Mary Murphy, Carmel Pardy, Jim Hejtmanek, John Pocock.

Croydon Masters Annual Report 2020

Welcome all to Croydon's annual report.

Well, what can I say but what a different twelve months we have just seen!
As you all know, we haven't had much of a year with athletics at Club, State and National levels, being cancelled for some time.

Croydon had a much later start back to competition compared to other venues; this was due to the Croydon track not having a perimeter fence. This is the only venue I know of without fencing around its track. Due to this, we were unable to resume weekly competition with continuing Covid-19 restrictions stopping us. However, we did finally get back once restrictions were lifted.

During the time of lockdown, we lost one of our esteemed and much loved members, Russ Dickinson. He was well known to a vast number of members in Masters Athletics and was a very highly respected friend to all that knew him. Russ' clever, unwittingly, off the cuff remarks, were always welcomed at our Croydon speeches. He was always willing to do the best for Masters Athletes, with his involvement at VMA Committee level, his time spent promoting Athletics during the winter months, with his campaign to highlight safe running at night, just name a few.

Russ' involvement with Footprints was second to none, with his regular in depth interviews with many a talented athlete.

Russ will always be remembered by us all.

Croydon venue is now having regular Tuesday night competition with numbers varying from 25 to 30 people each week.

I must thank Grant Murfett for all his help working out the Program of Events on a monthly basis, along with supporting me in my absence.

Our venue would not run efficiently without the likes of Les Clark and I am truly grateful for everything Les does.

Let's hope that all the uncertainty of 2020 is behind us now and we can all look forward to a more 'normal' season in 2021.

Maybe State and National Championships, to whatever level, are back on the agenda for all to enjoy in the near future, so we are all able to catch up with our interstate friends and foes.

Andrew Egginton

Venue Manager – Croydon Masters

DONCASTER VENUE

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

As with most venues, 2020 was a bit of a “non-event”. With COVID hitting hard, most major events were cancelled and our Venue was close from March 16 until November 9th. There was no Victorian or Australian Championships or inter-venue challenge.

During lockdown, members were kept informed with in frequent newsletters and some social zoom sessions, which proved quite popular. Now that lockdown has ended, Doncaster will be hosting the Victorian Championships and the Victorian Pentathlon Championships in April 2021.

We have picked up a number of new athletes, lost some, and things are looking good. We also picked up a grant from Manningham City Council due to the pandemic to enable us to purchase more equipment and meet COVID –safe requirements. The regular pentathlon competition was able to re commence!

Special thanks to our COVID safe officer, Darryl Kilmartin, who did a lot of work required to get us back to competition.

June 2020, saw the sad loss of much loved Doncaster member, Janine James. Janine was diagnosed with brain cancer in 2017, but despite this, reached her athletic peak in April 2019- - one gold and two silver. Numbers at her funeral were limited by the pandemic, but such was the importance of athletics to Janine, her family invited a few from the Venue.

In December, the Venue held a successful Christmas Party, where we enjoyed a BBQ, some games and karaoke.

Competition is now back in full swing with regular pentathlon nights on the 3rd Monday of each month. The Winter Inter-Venue Track Challenge is planned for August, and we look forward to welcoming members of all abilities for a friendly day of competition.

To all Doncaster athletes, enjoy a fantastic year of health, happiness and great running in 2021.

Visitors from other venues are also welcome at any time!

GRAHAM FORD

VENUE MANAGER

EAST BURWOOD VENUE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The East Burwood Venue started 2020 with our usual delight in getting together for some physical exertion and fun. We had a great celebration for Leo Coffey's 90th birthday with a live performance by Ashley Ryan and Stewart Handasyde. We had themed nights: all pink and red for Valentine's Day, and green for St Patrick's Day. Then the Covid-19 pandemic struck and we had to close from the middle of March until mid-November. We were fortunate in that no-one suffered directly from the coronavirus, although there was significant hardship with the lock down, various restrictions, limited travel and loss of employment.

Our activities had to be modified when we resumed later in the year, but we still had our usual seven events with sprints, middle and long distance runs, a walk and a field event. We kept the handicaps, nominate your own time/distance events, and prizes for these. Initially we had to wear masks and could not use the pavilion. We were awash with sanitizer and modified our check in process.

Thanks very much to Toni Matters for setting up an online payment and check in system. The Bill Stewart Athletics Track committee kept charging us rent during the lock down, although at a reduced rate. They also plan to increase the rent and charge us for the use of the new lights that were installed. As a result we had to increase our weekly fee to five dollars.

Despite this and despite ongoing concerns about the pandemic, the numbers attending each week at the end of the year were higher than previously. We have also been able to welcome several new members. We do, however, miss Eddie Stack who now lives in an aged care home and can no longer visit us. Leo Coffey is no longer able to compete, but his family bring him on some nights so that he can cheer us in our races.

Unlike some other venues we were able to keep our supper. Special thanks to Shirley Coppock and Christine Robinson for organizing this every week, and to others who also contribute. We had our usual Christmas party, although we had to huddle under the veranda when rain started to fall. Gerald and Anita Burke again did a wonderful job organizing the meal.

The bright positive atmosphere at East Burwood has not been dampened by the pandemic, and the willingness for people to help when needed has not diminished. Special thanks to Gerald Burke fills in as venue manager when I cannot make it on a Thursday night; Jack Fredrickson for organizing the field events and locking up the sheds; Pete Battrick for the handicaps for the longer running and walking events; Paul Durrant for the sprint handicaps; Toni Matters as treasurer; Alan Wood for organizing our trophies and medals; Stephen Day for our online presence, and acting as an assistant manager; Phyllis Gosbell for recording results; Donna Clarke for her support and assistance.

At the VMA annual general meeting, which was held virtually, Gerald Burke and Jack Fredrickson were awarded Service Awards for their contributions to East Burwood Masters.

Thanks to everyone for making participating in East Burwood Masters a great pleasure.

CHRISTOPHER WORSNOP VENUE MANAGER

EASTERN MASTERS VENUE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

2020 has been an unusual year, but despite the Covid-19 upheaval and restrictions, Eastern Masters has still enjoyed some success.

Before we had become accustomed to the concepts of pandemics, work from home, Zoom, social distancing, elbow taps, lock-downs and virtual races, we enjoyed a few running events once the air had cleared from the bushfires.

In January we had 8 runners compete in the rescheduled Lindsay Thomas memorial 5km/10km at Braeside Park.

February saw the Eastern Masters team take out 2nd place at the annual Andy Salter 3.1km road relays, with Kym Osmand running fastest female. Later that month our Eastern Masters team took out 1st place for most kilometres run in the Warburton Up & Running festival for the third consecutive year, with the help of some family and friends.

March saw the unprecedented suspension of all usual training for almost nine months. Our members kept in touch with each other via our online presence in email & Facebook, and some buddied up for partner training sessions within their local radius and time constraints. We tested ourselves with 5km time trials, encouraged one another to maintain fitness, while some runners participated in various virtual events including Boston & Melbourne marathons.

For a short period mid-year when restrictions had eased, we were able to resume training in small groups and were able to welcome several Masters athletes from other venues who were unable to train at their usual location. Such is the beauty of the Masters community.

In October we were all deeply saddened by the passing of Russ Dickenson who regularly joined our training sessions and contributed to our team Facebook page. We will all miss his cheeky sense of humour and kind nature.

November came and restrictions eased, the sun shone a little brighter and we were able to return to our summer training ground at Jells Park with cautious optimism. We celebrated in December with our annual end of year 5km time trial, and now look forward to what we hope will be a less disruptive 2021.

NICKY HAMILTON-MORRIS
ON BEHALF OF BRONWEN CARDY & DAVID SHEEHAN
VENUE MANAGERS

FRANKSTON VENUE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

We began the visually pleasing year of 2020 full of hope for wonderful things to come. We commenced our usual weekly program, and even managed a few of our regular memorial events. Some Frankston athletes competed in the Lindsay Thomas Memorial, and the Frankston venue entered teams in the Andy Salter/Bert Warburton relays.

Then the world was besieged with the COVID- 19 pandemic, and life as we all knew it changed forever. Face masks, hand sanitising, physical distancing, lockdowns became the order of the day, and sadly, also, the shutdown of our sports.

Some of us sprang into action to develop a new format/routine for our physical activities. Others remained numb and shocked with the sudden changes to our everyday lives for a time, before also embarking on a new fitness routine, whilst keeping within the ever changing COVID safe rules. Some of us teamed up with one other running buddy within their 5k radius from home for runs & having runs with a few different buddies on rotation in order to keep more friends motivated to keep moving. We eventually did move to virtual events for our members, thanks to the efforts of Chris Sheedy.

At the start of November, we began to take baby steps out of COVID lockdown/shutdown. Numbers increased gradually. By Christmas we were getting around 20 members attending. Numbers have been similar over summer, and we are all happy to be back to our regular programming.

At our AGM/Special meeting in February, David Dodson and Frances Halton were voted back yet again as Co Venue Managers, with two trainees stepping up, Nonie Chan, and Chris Sheedy.

Early in 2020, we were approached by Russ Dow, and Barry Jeffs of Southern Peninsula Masters, to merge into one entity, as they had serious concerns about their venue remaining viable. Negotiations were stalled in 2020 due to COVID, but recommenced in January 2021, and was voted on positively by the members of Frankston Masters Athletics. Our new name acknowledges both our combined geographical location, and also the history and contribution of Southern Peninsula Masters venue. We shall hereby be known as **Frankston & Peninsula Masters Athletics**.

FRANCES HALTON

DAVID DODSON

VENUE MANAGERS

GEELONG VENUE ANNUAL REPORT 2020

2020 a season like no other. January was impacted by smoke from the bushfires, with one race being cancelled due health risk. This of course was to be followed by the Covid-19 cancellation of competition in March.

The venue pivoted to running virtual competition – few in number initially growing quickly as it provided a focus for runners during the lockdown. We had regular runners alongside competitors from outside of Geelong and one or two new runners that have since joined us on the resumption of competition.

The virtual competition proved popular and served well to keep the group together such that when the venue resumed competition at the start of December numbers were at pre-Covid levels. Our crude measure of participation for 2020 then remained on par with 2019 due to the virtual competition.

Geelong saw the passing of club legend and previous venue manager [1996-2007] Mike McAvoy in June. McAvoy held 84 venue records over many distances and age categories in addition to many other achievements at VMA and athletics.

Vale Mike.

Thanks to our volunteers and others that have served to keep the venue viable over this difficult year.

ALAN JENKINS

GEELONG VENUE

GLEN EIRA VENUE

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

As has no doubt been the case for all venues, 2020 was a strange and difficult year.

In the early months of the year, numbers were very strong with up to 17 competitors in the sprints and over 20 in the longer runs and walks and between 40 and 50 in all. Our last meet before Covid was March 17th before we were able to resume on November 24th. In between, we ran a number of virtual challenges to keep interest and training up and these were well received with around 30 of our distance runner and walkers and about 10 sprinters generally taking part. Most of these were based around trying to improve times but we varied the format to provide interest.

Most of our normal events could not be held, including our Annual Living Legend relays. We also suffered a great loss with the death of 'Living Legend' Jim Sinclair, a foundation member of the venue and Australia's oldest competing athlete. The funeral was restricted but the hearse did a circuit around the Mackinnon Reserve and many members (subject to Covid restrictions) were there to say their farewells.

The few winners on the track this year were:

The "Leo Charles" 100 Metres Series - Chris Brown
The "Ray Kemp" 3km Distance series – Jane Sturzaker
The "Sandra Middleton" Walk series – John Zeleznikow
The Annual Sprint points – Michelle Edmonds
The Annual Middle Distance points – Jo Whittle

Note that the Annual series were based on only four rounds of competition.

Financially, we have not suffered too much because Glen Eira Council did not impose the rent during the lockdown period.

Once again thank you to all who have assisted in the successful running of our Venue for 2020. Our committee was boosted by the addition of some of our younger female members who have come up with a welcome injection of new ideas.

Many thanks to our Committee members: Jim McLure, Janet Holmes, Peter McGrath, Phil Urquhart, Andrew Edwards, Jo Cockwill, Michelle Edmonds, Sarah Lorentzen, June Treweek, Chris Brown and Tony Doran.

Our Event handicappers: Kevin Browne, Jim Rountree and Des Middleton.

Our event sponsors: Bob Wishart, Ray O'Connor, Kevin Browne, Judy Wines and Sandra Middleton.

Thanks also to our starters, Ray O'Connor and Sarah Lorentzen, our track organiser Andrew Edwards and to the many others who help out each week.

Mike Clapper

VENUE MANAGER

KNOX VENUE

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

2020, well what a year, or should I say 'What Year'!

Before the year 2020 turned to a total disaster, we managed to get a regular attendance at Knox, around 25 each week. The total of Knox Members for 2020 was 51, slightly down from last year where we had 56 fully paid up Members.

Knox Masters before lockdown in 2020 was again successful. In February at Springvale/Noble Park for The Andy Salter Relay, Knox were there in numbers again to defend the Perpetual Trophy. We were once again successful. We took home the Perpetual Trophy, our winning team was made up with Matthew Morris, Shane Grund, Helen Stanley and Mike Beileny. We also walked away with the trophy for Fastest Male which was Shane Grund and the trophy for the Team with the closest nominated time, consisting of Maggie Hawkes, Bob Henderson, Peter Thorne and Paul Twining.

And that was about it for 2020 !!!!

We had a small number of Knox Masters Athletes that kept up with their running together whenever and wherever possible during the whole lockdown of 2020. A special mention to Paul Durrant for keeping the Knox Members together and doing a run at least every week with whoever could and whoever was able to get together and run a pretend Parkrun or similar.

When things started to become a bit more normal, we started to get back together early November on a Wednesday evening and do our run on The Bike Path as we still had no access to the Knox Athletics Track. By the end of November we were back inside the track running as close to a normal fixture. We continued to run our long-distance events on The Bike Track during daylight savings which still proves to be a popular option. Our numbers started off around 20 then but have continued to creep up to having between 25-30 each week.

Here's to a much better 2021 !

TRACEY CARPENTER

VENUE MANAGER

SOUTHERN PENINSULA MASTERS VENUE ANNUAL REPORT

With our track being out of action for a while and a lack of numbers we have resorted to just a few social runs along with a few social activities. Many of our group have been attending the Frankston venue and/or the Glen Eira venue.

A proposal was put to merge with the Frankston venue which after several meetings was confirmed.

The Frankston group have very warmly welcomed us and we enjoy competing at that venue and we join each other's social events.

Many thanks to Frances Halton and David Dodson for the great leadership at Frankston and welcoming us each week.

Russell Dow and Barry Jeffs (caretaker managers)

SPRINGVALE/NOBLE PARK VENUE

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

What a year, one we will never forget. We started off the Year as usual with lots of enthusiasm and everyone looking forward to getting back into some fitness training and competition. Our first major event of the year was to be the 29th running of the Lindsay Thomas memorial at Braeside Park on the 3rd week in January. All was set to go and in the last hours we had to cancel due to a freak weather change bringing torrential rain flooding Braeside Park. Lucky for us we managed to stage the very popular Andy Salter relay on the first Wednesday in February before disaster struck again, everyone enjoying this event immensely.

Not long after getting back to our normal routine, the unexpected occurred putting a halt to basically the remainder of the year. Covid-19 put an end to the rest of the year with the venue being in lock down until mid-November. We managed to get about 3-4 weeks in including our Christmas breakup with Covid restriction in place.

Being true to our spirit the pandemic did not dampen our determination to compete. During the lockdown we continued with a modified virtual programme. Each participant reported their results online which were then analyzed and reposted.

2020 was further dampened by the passing of James (Jim) Sinclair on the 11th September bringing great sadness to all Victorian Masters Athletics, in particular to our Springvale members where Jimmy was the backbone of our club.

Special mention to Christine Mcardle who managed the on-line programme during lockdown and all the members who participated to keep our spirits up.

CLAUDIO RIGA

VENUE MANAGER