

## Annual General Meeting 2017/18

The Annual General Meeting and presentation of trophies was held on Wednesday night 23rd May at the pavilion at Ivanhoe Park. We used this venue last year as most of our members reside in Ivanhoe. The meeting was well attended with a pleasing number of our junior group present.

Apologies were noted:

Andrew Young	Travis McIntosh
Jill Wallis	Annette Welch
John Wallis	Dale Welch
Graeme Balaam	Reg Jackson
Noel Burrows	Chris Cole
Peter Goulding	

Our new Committee was elected with all previous committee members deciding to continue with the challenge ahead. This was a very pleasing outcome and shows the determination of all concerned. The general theme of this group is “we have unfinished business”, which of course relates to the big picture, structural items such as our home base and reform of the constitution.

Congratulations to all on Committee who have done a great job during the year. For the record our new Committee is:

President:	Jeff Franklin
Vice President:	John David
Secretary:	John Edney
Treasurer:	David Burke
General Committee:	Michael Wallis
	Richard Russell
	James Lynch
	Braden Fraser
	Barry Greig
	Mary Langdon

Following the election of office bearers we proceeded to present the medallions and trophies for the

previous season which are listed elsewhere in this document.



*Junior athletes at the AGM*

## President's Report

*- taken from the Annual Report*

In reflecting on the 2017-18 year, there is no doubt that we have made progress on and off the field of competition. Our priority of growing our relationship with Ivanhoe Grammar School has continued. The strategy remains very important to us and to the School. This year, new members welcomed to the Club included Chris Branigan, Thomas McGillion, Jeremy Jones, Thomas Brightling, Justin Cementon, Sam Daniel, Josh Philip, Andrew Greig, Kieran McAuley, Dom Di Censo, Christian Ishkan and Alana Green who had previously competed as a second claim athlete.

The influx of new talent was a delight to see with eleven in our Under 18 Boys team which performed very well during the Track season. Of our 12 new members, 7 are a direct result of our relationship with Ivanhoe Grammar School. Sincere thanks to Chris Branigan, Director of Co-Curricular Learning at Ivanhoe Grammar School. Chris has been a very

positive influence encouraging students to join our training programme. The students who trained with us improved their performances markedly and of course this assisted with improved sporting performances at the School, a win-win for School and Club.

The priority of the Club is to continue with our recruiting strategy and the development of our young athletes. This strategy should lead to a greater influx of new families and involvement of those new families in Club activities. The gradual decline of committed families over 20 years or so has left us very weak in this critical area.

Though we are making progress, the pace of change is slow. It is important to appreciate that it takes a long time to rebuild a Club when strategic changes need to be embraced. In addition, the format of athletics competition over the summer months was not helpful in recruiting new members nor indeed to encourage past members to rejoin. Eleven members from last year chose not to rejoin the Club which is an unacceptably high "churn" rate.

I congratulate the Committee on their support during the season, plenty of alternate strategies discussed and new ideas ventilated. The Committee members are listed in the front of this Report and I sincerely thank them for their time and positive input over the season. We have developed a great relationship over the journey. We need to continue to grow the Committee to broaden our ideas, and to create the potential for succession planning. We still have a way to go but I am confident that we have excellent foundations in the group to build the Club's future.

The highlight for the Annual General Meeting last year was the granting of life memberships to long serving and loyal members, John David, David Burke and Jill Wallis. Their collective contribution to the welfare of the Club has been enormous over many years. Sincere thanks and congratulations from us to Jill, John and David.

On an individual note, the Club was delighted to see Tom Hancock awarded an OAM in the General Division for services to athletics. Tom is a Club Legend, he joined in 1964 and was appointed Club Captain in 1965 and continues to compete and coach juniors to a

high standard. In June 2017, Tom competed in the Australian Masters Athletic Championships where he won gold in the 80-85 division for high jump, throws pentathlon, javelin, hammer, shot put and discus.

Our tenancy at Willinda Park remains a critical issue for the Club. Over many years now, there has barely been a trickle of little athletes joining Ivanhoe with the vast majority unsurprisingly joining Diamond Valley, the local Club. Willinda Park will be closed for resurfacing next summer which will also impact its availability in the short term. We are currently paying annual rental of \$3,420.00 for a facility which is barely used and not easily accessible for Ivanhoe members. The tyranny of distance is and always has been the "elephant in the room".

In addition, Ivanhoe Grammar School advised last year that they are not interested in travelling to Willinda Park for training, given the travel time when they can drive to the Collingwood Track in 5-6 minutes. We cannot ignore the reality of this situation which the Committee has been wrestling with now for some time.

In order to soften the financial cost of Willinda Park, this year we were able to negotiate a short term arrangement with Diamond Valley Athletics Club. We granted Diamond Valley the opportunity to train on our designated training nights in return for payment of a fee. Our rights remain fully preserved and the track was utilised each week without impact on the Club.

Coaching has progressed steadily at Chelsworth Park, Ivanhoe East and Clifton Hill Track. Tom Hancock has been managing a small group of young throwers at Clifton Hill during the summer months. James Lynch and I have been coaching 3 times a week with mixed groups of Ivanhoe Harriers and Ivanhoe Grammar School middle distance athletes at Chelsworth Park. Numbers vary from 7-8 to about 20.

Our financial position is reasonable with a closing Bank Balance of \$12,367.96, a small increase on last year. We are cognisant of our major outgoing, the rental at Willinda Park which is difficult to justify in the face of poor usage and nil recruits from that source. Our major fundraiser this season was once again the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle which raised a very

handy net profit of \$1987.80, an increase of \$193.00 on last year's effort. Well done to the Committee and all members who assisted.

Our number of registered athletes this season was 27, the same as last year. Total members 34. Growth in new members was strong but, as mentioned earlier, the loss of eleven members from last year did not help. This level of churn would seem to be a reflection of the Athletics Victoria product. Diamond Valley and Collingwood Harriers, two other Clubs in our zone, experienced decline in both registrations and participation. Overall, Athletics Victoria has experienced substantial decline in numbers, greater than 7% since 2013 which is an unhealthy trend. In addition, its financial position is declining with next to nothing in sponsorship dollars. We are concerned with the performance of Athletics Victoria and in particular the significant changes imposed on summer competition this season. The reduction in use of competition venues and the imposition of significant travel was a negative impact on the athletics product. The impact on "time poor" parents was not helpful to recruiting or rejoining of athletes. In our case, at least we have shown modest growth. However, low membership growth does make the rebuilding phase more difficult with reliance on fewer people to undertake the necessary tasks. Hopefully, we will see past members rejoining the Club as we try to implement further initiatives.

Many initiatives have been undertaken by the Committee this season which have positively impacted the Club and its image.

- Introduction of new sponsor, Aspect Broking, thanks to Michael Wallis
- Continuation of sponsorship from East Ivanhoe Foodworks
- Negotiation of training rights at Collingwood Harriers track
- Negotiation with Diamond Valley AC re usage of Willinda Park
- Negotiation of training rights at Chelsworth Park, East Ivanhoe
- Coaching three times weekly at Chelsworth Park
- Coaching clinics for Ivanhoe Grammar School and formal appointment to coach middle distance and cross country teams for the School
- Improving our Facebook exposure thanks to Braden Fraser
- Continuing with our sausage sizzle at Bunnings as a fund raiser
- Improvements to the Ivanhoe Harriers Handbook

Many individuals have contributed to the running of the Club this season and I wish to recognise outstanding personal effort. Officials are a valuable and required resource. John and Jill Wallis continue to support the Club after many years of dedicated service. Richard Russell, Phil Ramsay, David Burke, Simon Rigoni, Andrew Edney, Mary Langdon, and Barry Greig have also given of their valuable time to ensure that the Club has been able to meet its obligations. Sincere thanks to all for this great contribution.

Cursus is the lifeblood of the Club and keeps us in touch with our past membership, our new membership and results. We have produced ten editions of Cursus this season, an increase on last year. I firmly believe that Cursus is one of our best assets.

I would like to single out John David and David Burke for their continued outstanding contribution to the Club both on and off the field. John has continued to carry the torch for Cross Country, and David does a wonderful job as Treasurer as well as competing in 53 events during the summer Track Season a truly fantastic performance.

On a sombre note, Life Member Peter Bethell passed away on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Peter was an icon of the Ivanhoe Harriers. He joined the Club in 1938/39, and was also Captain of Ivanhoe Grammar School in 1939. Peter served two terms totalling ten years as Club President, three years as Treasurer, three years as Secretary and many years as Vice President. Peter was awarded life membership of the Club in 1994, received a Merit award from Athletics Victoria in recognition of his service to athletics and was inducted into the Ivanhoe Harriers Team of the Century. His contribution to Athletics was immense. Vale Peter.

Finally, I encourage all athletes and previous athletes to re-register for the 2018/19 season. It is your loyalty and support to the Club that needs to be demonstrated to take Ivanhoe back to its former greatness.

Jeff Franklin

## Track And Field Report 2017/18

- taken from the Annual Report

This season comprised twelve rounds of interclub, one of which was cancelled due to extreme weather conditions.

The season overall was severely impacted by Athletics Victoria and its decision to limit competition to 2 venues each week, often requiring families to travel considerable distances. The result was a significant reduction in participation and events contested over the summer months.

The Men's Division 2 team placed 6th on the ladder, the Men's 40+ Team placed a solid 4th equal with Collingwood, the Men's Under 18 team placed 4th of 10, and our Women's Team in Division 2 placed 7th of 8. Unfortunately, our women's team was severely restricted with Stella Ajani attending University in Canberra and Freya Henriksen only able to compete in 2 Rounds of competition.

We have outlined below a brief commentary on some of our notable performances during the season. All Shield performances are detailed in a table format later in this Annual Report.

The men's team was underpinned by the marvellous contribution of David Burke who competed in 53 events over 10 rounds. David is a remarkable athlete who sets a wonderful example of competition performance week after week. His better events are sprints/hurdles however he is not afraid to test himself over longer events such as 800m or even the occasional 3000m. Well done David after another great season.

Clearly our best overall athlete is Rhys Rigoni who once again showed his versatility over many events. Rhys competed in 26 events over 9 rounds of competition to a particularly high standard. He went on to compete with distinction in the Under 18 Victorian Track and Field Championships with a third placing in the pole vault at 3.50m, 2nd in the discus with 41.22m, 2nd in the javelin with 46.30m and 4th in the shot put with 11.91m. Sincere congratulations from us all.

It was particularly pleasing to see the progression of our newer boys in Under 18 ranks with improvements in performances supporting Rhys over the season. Our middle distance group of Louis Ajani, Justin Cementon, Sam Daniel, Dom Di Censo, Andrew Greig, David Greig, Thomas Langdon, Josh Philip, and Cooper

Rush all improved their performances. In particular, Justin Cementon was the first athlete to break 2:10 for the 800m with a sizzling run of 2:09.8. This performance was soon passed with David Greig recording a 2:09.6 and Thomas Langdon 2:08.4. All very handy times for 16 year olds.

In addition, Kieran McAuley was a regular competitor in the 800m competing with distinction in 6 events during the season.

Our Club Legend, Tom Hancock, continues to amaze with his passion. Tom competed with distinction 14 times over 7 rounds of competition.

However at the Victorian Masters Championships, Tom competed in the 80-84 age group and achieved wonderful results.

Tom placed 1st in the high jump with 1.10m, 1st in the Hammer Throw with 33.29m, 1st in the javelin with 30.58m, 1st in the discus with 30.94, 1st in the shot put with 11.18m and 1st in the weight throw ( 5.45kg) with 15.36m, a new Victorian Record.

Congratulations Tom on another great season.

Jeff Franklin



## Cross Country Update

### Round 3: Cruden Farm 12km

Last Saturday (23<sup>rd</sup> May) the AV Heritage round was held at Cruden Farm in Langwarrin.

Conditions were perfect for this tough course which has many different terrains and a nice muddy watercourse where you have to use your talent in long jumping in order to survive.

It was a great day for our club with our Division 5 Men coming 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 9 participating teams in our division.

We had two new runners making their debut for our club - Monty Frankish & Claude Aquino who both made a major contribution to our result.

Vincent Mancuso & Chris

Branigan continued to achieve very competitive times and I'm sure will be a great force throughout the season.

Results for all members that competed on the day and the ladder for this event as follows:

#### Men's Division 5 - 12km

Place	Name	Time
105	Monty Frankish	0:44:40.467
169	Vincent Mancuso	0:47:51.067
269	Chris Branigan	0:52:56.737
279	Claude Aquino	0:53:29.737
325	James Lynch	0:57:43.740
362	Gianni Mancuso	1:04:33.743
378	John David	1:12:06.623

Place	Team	Rank
1	APS UNITED	700
2	WILLIAMSTOWN	775
3	IVANHOE HARRIERS	807
4	COLLINGWOOD HARRIERS	961
5	MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY	968
6	BOX HILL	973
7	YARRA RANGES ATHLETICS	973
8	MENTONE	1030
9	RICHMOND HARRIERS	1121

Well done to our athletes and hopefully we can have at least 8 runners competing for future events so that we may also fill a Division 7 Men's team.

The next event on the CC calendar is the 10km at Bundoora Park on the 16<sup>th</sup> June.

Our Juniors will also be participating at this event so please come along and cheer on our athletes on the day.

GO HOE

John David - Winter Team Manager



(Top left) Claude followed closely by Chris; (top right) Vince; (bottom) a muddy obstacle; (far left) Monty.

## Good news on Noel Burrows

Been in touch with Noel who was stricken with a debilitating illness some time ago. He advises as follows "Still slowly progressing, physio twice a week plus blood infusion every third week. Now off the wheelie walker and working towards ditching the walking stick but balance is a problem. Can walk about 400m with an escort, steps and stairs are a definite no-no. Hope the AGM went well."

For the many friends of Noel who might be down Traralgon way his address is: 4 Le Grange, Traralgon 3844. ph: 03 51747478, mobiles and email unchanged.

Well done Noel, it has been a mighty battle. Best wishes from all at the Club.

## Trophy Presentations – Season 2017/18

<b>STATEWIDE TROPHY:</b> Awarded to the athlete scoring the most Cross Country points	<b>James Lynch</b>
<b>HUGH LOWE MEMORIAL TROPHY:</b> The most outstanding senior athlete in winter competition.	<b>Chris Branigan</b>
<b>F.J.HOLPEN TROPHY:</b> Awarded to the most consistent A Grade athlete in Shield competition.	<b>David Burke</b>
<b>JACK McCANN TROPHY:</b> The Club Member making the most significant contribution to the Club.	<b>Barry Greig</b>
<b>W.A.RAWLINSON TROPHY:</b> The best athlete in the Club.	<b>Rhys Rigoni</b>
<b>BUFFALO SPORTS / ATHLETES FOOT TROPHY:</b> The most improved junior athlete	<b>David Greig</b>
<b>BOAS/HANCOCK TROPHY:</b> Most outstanding field event athlete.	<b>not awarded</b>
<b>BANYULE TROPHY:</b> Best female athlete.	<b>not awarded</b>
<b>GEOFF LEGGE TROPHY:</b> The most outstanding performance by a junior in any event from 800m-10,000m	<b>Thomas Langdon</b>

### MEDALLIONS:

Awarded to our juniors in recognition of a fine season.

Louis Ajani  
Stella Ajani  
Justin Cementon  
Simone David  
Sam Daniel  
Dom Di Censo  
David Greig  
Andrew Greig  
Freya Henriksen  
Christian Ishkan  
Thomas Langdon  
Josh Philip  
Rhys Rigoni  
Cooper Rush



*Chris Branigan accepting the Hugh Lowe Trophy*