



# Melbourne Marathon Spartans Club Inc.

A0043579R

## Annual General Meeting 2021

<b>Date</b>	Monday 13 September 2021, 7:30PM
<b>Location</b>	Zoom webinar meeting
<b>Present</b>	Refer to list of Zoom meeting list attendees
<b>Apologies</b>	Nil
<b>Distribution</b>	Committee Members, Financials Spartans 2020/21, 21/22, 22/23
<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Item</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome by President Jay Fleming</b>
	<p>Jay welcomed everyone to the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. The club once again has not been in the position to make face to face presentations. The club still felt it was important to acknowledge the awards and receivers of incoming and milestone Spartans recipients tonight, and the view to conduct formal presentations next year.</p> <p>Special welcome was made to Marcus Gale, Vice President – Events from IMG who will speak this evening.</p> <p>Acknowledgement was made to committee member John Zeleznikow (S682) who is trying to complete his 200<sup>th</sup> marathon this year. Dave Styles (S1017) a 20 year Spartan ran his 300<sup>th</sup> marathon a couple years ago. Jane Sturzaker (SF52) is a 300<sup>th</sup> marathon runner. Brian Glover (S989) has completed over 220 marathons.</p> <p>Headline speaker tonight is Bruce Hargreaves (S39) ,1 of only 5 remaining Spartan Legends.</p> <p>Acknowledgement was made to the passing in April this year of Carlo Lovenitti (S394) a 37 year Spartan runner. Vale Carlo.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
	No apologies were received.
<b>3</b>	<b>Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting 14 September 2020</b>
	<p>Last year's minutes mentioned the enabling of Spartan website to process transactions, and copywriting the spartan running man logo. Club finances were healthy and prudently managed. Last year's 2019/2020 membership was a record of 324 members.</p> <p>The AGM 2020 minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting was moved as by Peter Nicoll (S223). Seconded: Ian Gainey (SW1)</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Business Arising from Minutes of 2020 AGM</b>
	Nil
<b>5</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
	<p>Main topics from correspondence have been payment of Spartans memberships, and whether virtual marathons should count toward as a Spartan run increment.</p> <p>Jay read out correspondence received last week from Lewella (surname not supplied) who's father achieved Spartan status a few years ago. He had</p>

	<p>anticipated a Spartan certificate to be awarded for his run achievements and to have something to show for his efforts. Has the club considered producing 10 year Spartan certificates for downloading online.</p> <p>Committee member Matt Callaghan (S1269) has had a special interest in improving the Spartan race day experience, including lead up to and post race experience, as well as enhancing all round experience and brand for Spartans throughout the year. Bruce Hargreaves mentioned that Comrades handle the 10 and 20 year runners with spotters at the finish chute. Maybe certificates at the finish line or corporate tent area. Peter Ryan (S69) observed that over the 40 years the finishing set up changes regularly. Peter supports the merit of the idea person finishing their 10<sup>th</sup>. Jay encouraged more ideas to be submitted for consideration and buy-in experiences.</p> <p>Clarke Whitehand (S160) who has submitted correspondence to the Club and briefly spoke to everyone this evening on Spartan membership. Clarke has been a Hall of Fame member since 2009, and one of the original suggestors of the Hall of Fame concept. Noticed 2 people identified in the Hall of Fame membership have not been paid Spartan club members for 19 years prior to their 20<sup>th</sup> year as a Spartan. And were not club members after their 20<sup>th</sup> year. Clarke looked at the club's by-laws and governing rules. The club by-law's only require the inductee to the Hall of the Fame must have successfully completed 30 Melbourne Marathons and must have been a financial member of the club at the time of induction. Identified shortcoming in the by-law's, Clarke's purpose is to gauge club members interest in support or otherwise. Jay thanked Clarke for raising the matter.</p> <p>Tristan Miller (S1287) does not recall receiving invoice to pay for annual membership. Jay acknowledged Tristan Miller's point is well made on invoicing and that the club should get better at addressing billing members.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>President's Report</b>
	<i>The President's Report is included in the 2021 AGM email sent to members on 6 September 2021.</i>
<b>7</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>
	<p><i>The Treasurer's Report is included in the 2021 AGM email sent to members on 6 September 2021.</i></p> <p>Treasurer Rod Bayley (S612) noted total funds of \$17k which is healthy, and that has been due to savings from not having 2 years of AGM expenses (~\$6.5k annually) and expenses on Melbourne Marathon days \$2.5k.  Members 2019/20: 324  Members 2020/21: 160  Members 2021/22 as of today: 133</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Secretary's Report</b>
	<p><i>The Secretary's Report is included in the 2021 AGM email sent to members on 6 September 2021.</i></p> <p>Jay asked the floor if there was any business arising from the President,</p>

	<p>Treasurer and Secretary's report. No matters arising. Motion was moved that all 3 club reports are accepted by John Dean (S20). Seconded: Ian Gainey.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>General Business</b>
	<p>Spartan runs have been a success in between Covid lockdown interruptions.</p> <p>A firm booking with the MCG was made for the AGM. The deposit has once again been rolled over.</p> <p>Committee member Kai Ooi (S1346) presented to the audience the Spartan merchandise in stock for sale. Kai addressed that the club is working on the annual membership payment feature. Tristan Miller works at Shopify if the club requires assistance in setting up an online store..</p> <p>Matt Callaghan spoke of Spartan logo apparel including the recent lightweight running shirts. If there was any interest from the group for other items to be introduced please notify the club. Jay talked of the launch of the women's cut Spartan singlet garments. Rod Bayley added that the ladies cut singlets comes in size 6,8, and 10, and there are 2 version of cuts currently being worked on.</p>
<b>10</b>	<b>Updated on 2021 Melbourne Marathon</b>
	<p>Marcus Gale, Vice President – Events from IMG thanked the audience for the invitation to share about the planning phase of the Melbourne Marathon event. 2021 started with more optimism and registrations had been selling well through to mid-July. Nike signed to the title sponsorship and event rebranded to a new look and feel.</p> <p>The organisers received approval for 39,000 runners to attend the marathon and the collection of race events. The date has now been rescheduled from 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021 to 2 days during the weekend 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021.</p> <p>The marathon event start time will commence at 6am on Sunday 12 December; the half marathon event at 7am on the same morning. December average temperature 24 degrees.</p> <p>Vin Martin (S478) asked Marcus whether vaccination is required to run the race? Marcus says right now says no from a business perspective. Marcus has spoken to health department whether they would be mandating events. Right now the health department's response is it's not in their mindset that they are going to initiate the mandate.</p> <p>Ian Gainey asked Marcus about start time for the wheelchair event. 6:55am start time.</p> <p>Jay thanked Marcus for his time this evening.</p>
<b>11</b>	<b>Election of Office Bearers</b>
	<p>Expressions of interest were invited from the floor.</p> <p>Committee 2021/22:</p>

	<p>President: Jay Fleming  Vice President: Paul Basile  Co-Secretary: Anne Ziogos and Vicky Chung  Membership Secretary: Felicity Doolan  Treasurer: Rod Bayley  General Committee: John Kaparelis, David Foskey, John Dobson, Colin Silcock-Delaney, Kai Ooi, John Zeleznikow</p> <p>Jay moved motion for 2021/22 committee positions. Seconded: John Dean (S0020)</p>
<b>12</b>	<b>Presentation/Awards</b>
	<p>Secretary Felicity Doolan read the names of the incoming Spartans being those who have run 9 Melbourne Marathons. List included those read out at last year's AGM, plus an additional 15 incoming Spartans received since then.</p> <p>There were milestone Spartans in the 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 year Spartan categories.</p>
<b>13</b>	<b>Guest Speaker: Spartan Legend Bruce Hargreaves</b>
	<p>Jay introduced the mighty Bruce Hargreaves who is 1 of 5 remaining Spartan Legends from the original 13 Legends.</p> <p>Bruce is the Australian ambassador for Comrades Marathon, and an ambassador for the Townsville Marathon. He has run marathons in Europe, USA and Asia, including London, Stockholm, New York, Mumbai, Havana and Boston.</p> <p>Bruce has led pacing groups in 5 different countries, and regularly leads pacing groups at the Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Gold Coast and Sunshine Marathons.</p> <p>Personal best time: 2:47:02. Has run sub 3 hour marathon 9 times  Race Director and coordinator for The Lamington Classic  Written many articles on running experiences. Corporate speaker over 50 years of running and motivational stories.</p> <p>Bruce's presentation this evening called "My life on the road".</p> <p>Following the presentation Spartan legend John Dobson (S21) thanked and presented Bruce on behalf of the club a voucher from Running Warehouse Australia.</p>
<b>14</b>	<b>Evening Close</b>
	<p>Jay thanked everyone for joining the AGM, welcomed incoming Spartans and hope they will feel special pride when wearing their garment.  Congratulations went out to milestone recipients.</p>
	Meeting declared closed at 10:03PM

## President's Report

Welcome to our 2021 AGM Spartans! This is our second online event and while it is better than nothing, it is certainly no match for our live gigs and singlet presentations at the MCG. Hopefully this will not become a new normal for us, among all our other new normals.

- Since our last AGM, among the very few things we could implement from our 'increasing Spartan belonging and visibility' initiatives have been our Club Runs at The Tan. We have been fortunate enough to sneak a couple of them in between restrictions.
- Another initiative mentioned in previous Newsletters and Minutes has been the planned launch of our Spartan Podcasts. We feel this will be a worthwhile use of the website to showcase the notable achievements of our inspirational members even after they are no longer running due to health or related issues. Additionally, it offers the opportunity for family members to leave worthy tributes to departed Spartans as their inspirational achievements are in no way diminished by their passing. We would love your involvement with naming the Podcast Portal. It could be something no-nonsense like 'Spartan Stories' or something a tad more humorous like 'The older we get the faster we were' or 'Start off slow, then taper off'. Love to hear your suggestions, both with the name and putting forward potential candidates. Get involved!
- If you have been implementing certain strategies in your everyday life that have increased your vitality and your fitness longevity, please share. We have already had several notable contributions and we would love to hear yours. These may include nutrition, workout, meditation or stretching regimes or some other rituals that you have found really working for you. One of our Committee members has insisted that I re-share one of my personal rituals because he finds it a tad 'interesting', and while it has not done much for my marathon times, it has helped to keep me super fit and pain-free at 60! About 2-4 times weekly, I pick a different supermarket to run to, ranging from 5km-15km from home and carry back on average 15kg-20kg of groceries.
- Finally, just a couple of thoughts on unity and divisiveness in a pandemic. Opinions on effectively dealing with the pandemic have divided continents, countries, states and families into like-minded tribes who readily find information to reinforce their view and conveniently ignore data unhelpful to their cause. The impact of Covid-19 restrictions on marathons and sporting events worldwide has been enormous. The dialogue on whether virtual events should count as increments for record-keeping clubs like Spartans started around the middle of 2020 and has been a solid 'NO', thinking that 2020 would never be repeated. When the 2021 Melbourne Marathon started looking increasingly in doubt, the uncomfortable conversation was dragged out again, basically asking us as Spartans to reflect on where we stood if this was to continue for several years. The seemingly irrelevant background narratives to this discussion have been the proposals from various governments and authorities around the mandating of vaccinations for attendance at mass sporting events as well as dining out, live entertainment, travel and certain employment. Currently, nobody really knows where this is heading but in the interim, there are many conversations being held. At Spartans, this discussion inviting diverse views has been given added visibility this year to invite your thoughts and ideas on the matter. It tends to be human nature for us to believe that we are in possession of the absolute truth on any topic and that disinformation is always something typically spread by others, never by ourselves, the enlightened. Curiously those 'others' believe the same thing right back. Clubs of any type are about belonging and unity as that is the source of their strength. Discussions work best when individuals can share their view and the reasons for it...and leave it at that. We respect others' rights to differing views, without necessarily agreeing with the views themselves and without arm-wrestling others into submission. We thank you in advance for any respectful input and creative logistics you may wish to contribute to the discussion by email.

Please feel welcome to hop on the Spartans website to have a good look around and do drop us a line about anything you would like to get involved in. We hope to see you real soon at one of our Club Runs to share some much-needed vibes over caffeine afterwards. We trust you will enjoy the mighty Bruce Hargreaves, one of only five remaining Spartan Legends, sharing his many experiences and images with us. For Spartans who do not need to get up early the following morning, you are welcome to stay for a catch-up after the Meeting as we will remain live until 11PM.

**Jay Fleming S1012**

## **Secretary's Report**

The year 2021 looked like a positive one. I am sure everyone was training well in preparation for our beloved Melbourne Marathon. However, things can change very quickly when it comes to pandemics. Learning from last year's experience, as a committee we planned for the worse scenario.

At present we are not quite sure what the future will hold by the end of 2021, but it does not look very positive. Bring on 2022! As a committee we were lucky enough to have one face to face meeting, the rest were on zoom, as had become the norm for most things in 2020/2021. This has not dampened our enthusiasm and looking to the future. We are planning to move forward, with new merchandise and monthly runs around the Tan and a few other ideas that are still in the making.

The option of virtual hubs is still being discussed as it looks like becoming a reality. This is something that as a committee we are working on.

As we had no Melbourne Marathon last year, our membership numbers didn't change from the previous year. There were two new members added to our membership list. They had completed their marathons some time ago, but neglected to apply for their membership. We had no new inductees last year due to Covid. They would all have been inducted this year plus the two new members. That brings the numbers up to, Male Athletes: 1,391, Female Athletes: 148, Wheelchair: 2 and Honorary Spartans: 4.

The Spartan monthly runs around the Tan were well attended. Spartans were able to get together for a run and then some refreshments and a chin wag. If you haven't joined us please feel free to come along and run with some friends around the Tan, followed by a coffee and a chat.

We would love to see you there, even if you are a new member or waiting for membership. Have a great year, try and stay injury free and if all goes well we will see you at the MCG in September 2022.

**Anne Ziogos SF0045 and Vicky Chung SF0133**

# Treasurer's Report

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1 JULY 2020 – 30 June 2021

Bank balance 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020

\$9069.38

### INCOME:

Membership \$3465.00

Donations \$481.75

Post \$137.55

Singlets \$810.00

Merchandise \$1306.25

Miscellaneous \$230.00

\$6430.55

\$6430.55

\$15499.93

### EXPENSES:

As attached list

\$3287.88

Cash at Bank \$12212.05

Term Deposit \$5569.61

TOTAL FUNDS \$17781.66

Current Singlet holding 184

Singlet Invoice Cost \$5538

Membership 2020/21 160

Membership 2021/22 70

