



Annual General Meeting
Monday 14 September 2015 at 7.30 pm in the
Harrison Room, Melbourne Cricket Ground
MINUTES

Item No.	Attendees: RSVPs: 149, Signed In: 105, Head Count: 110 See attached RSVP & Sign In Sheets.
1)	<p>Welcome by President Jay Fleming</p> <p>Jay welcomed the attendees to the Annual General Meeting - the 9th held at the MCG. Each attendee will have found an Agenda, Committee Reports as well as a \$50 Active Feet and 15% Discount She Science vouchers on their seats. This is a new initiative by Active Feet and most welcomed by the Club.</p> <p>Jay welcomed our Spartan Legends – five present tonight: John Dobson, Peter Ryan, Neville Gardner, David Foskey and Wayne Thompson; our two Wheelchair Spartans Dean Callow and Ian Gainey. Jay welcomed Ted Paulin plus other notable Spartans Ron Young; Brian Dixon and Brian Glover who will run his 166th Marathon at Melbourne this year. Jay also welcomed all the incoming Spartans as well as milestone singlet recipients.</p> <p>Jay referred the Attendees to our website advising that a number of historical photos have been uploaded.</p>
2)	<p>Apologies – Bill Coghlan, Bruce Hargreaves, Bruce Stephenson, Henk Verhagen, Kester Baines, Rob de Castella, Alex Whitworth, John Zeleznikow, Bret Butler, Ian Harris, Steve Moneghetti, Jack Fredrickson, Geoff Crawford, Frank Biviano, Roger Weinstein, Manny Karageorgiou, Jack Gubbins, Bill Page, Lorraine Davenport, Steven Barker, Alan Peacock, Bill Coghlan, Paul Dyer, Ian Gilbert, Jenny Harwood, Bryan Rak, Danny Ungar, Steve Dafnias, Simon Chodziesner, Ruth Fantozzi, Jane Lockhardt, Deborah Cowell, Sarah Connell, Andrew Blood</p>
3)	<p>Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting held on 15 September 2014 were confirmed as a true and correct record by Paul Basile, seconded by John Dean.</p>
4)	<p>Business Arising from above Minutes</p> <p>Nil</p>
5)	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Nil</p>

6) **President's Report**

Welcome to the 28th Spartans AGM, 2015.

It has been another year of growth and innovation while trying hard to pay due respect to tradition which can be a tricky balance to strike.

We have been fortunate to receive offers of assistance in the revising of our 28 year old Constitution. This task has proven to be a little more robust and challenging than initially thought as we have continued to receive input and feedback from members while also deciding on what we want it to actually do as a document. It has therefore been decided that rather than rushing through a version that would potentially require costly amendments next year, the more prudent path was to delay it, which not only gives us time to settle on a version we are proud to present for Members' approval, but also gives more time for added feedback and input.

Our innovations at Club level have included efforts at monetizing the website by accepting like-minded entities as sponsors, the latest being an exciting relationship with Active Feet. We have branched out into developing a merchandise range which we intend growing by one item per year. This year we have added a very attractive, functional and comfortable Spartans running cap to our range. The main purpose of these initiatives is to plough funds back to benefit members and to increase our charitable donations to our chosen charity CPEC. This year we have also started holding a prize draw at the end of Committee Meeting and send out our merchandise pack to one lucky financial Spartan member.

We have continued our efforts at networking with similar groups here and overseas including: Sydney Marathon 'Blue Line Legends', Perth Marathon 'Spartans', Adelaide Marathon 'Legends and Warriors', Gold Coast Marathon '10, 20, 30 year club' and London Marathon's 'Ever Presents'. That is additional to our relationship with Japan's Teganuma Marathon where our own Jane Sturzaker & Helen Van Der Nagel will be jetting off next month to a homestay arrangement with the host family, having been declared the winning entry from our Spartans competition held earlier this year. We will be reciprocating and hosting the winners of their Teganuma competition next year in a similar homestay arrangement to run our 2016 Melbourne Marathon.

In an effort to increase the frequency of Spartans' connectedness, after some not-so-successful attempts at kicking off our own regular runs a couple of years ago, we have decided that it's still possible to organize Spartan camaraderie and display Spartans colors by availing ourselves of the already established framework of the VRR and Parkrun series.

At Committee level, after welcoming 4 new members over the last 2 years, we have quite a settled little team that continues to churn out some decent outcomes. During the evaluating of all types of initiatives, even when there is a healthy degree of debate, Committee still functions effectively in reaching a democratic version of consensus. If you would like to contribute feedback or a skill set, please contact us.

The status of Spartan is all about longevity, dogged determination and a bloody-mindedness to keep on keeping on. These qualities transcend cultures and ethnicities as they speak an international language. Along with the beauty and trance-like simplicity of running, its low cost and connectedness to nature make it a people-glue enjoyed by millions around the world. We Spartans are indeed extremely proud to be an ever-growing little speck on that beautiful landscape.

7) **Treasurer's Report**

I am pleased to give the Treasurer's Report for year ending 30th June 2015. It is encouraging to report our Financial Membership for the year was 248 (207 for year 2013-14). We are able to maintain a reasonably healthy financial situation, due to new merchandising projects, web page advertising and we are still benefitting from the support we received from IMG (maintaining our singlet stock).

We urge all our members to become Financial Members in order to undertake new initiatives e.g. merchandising the Spartan brand.

We look forward to a financially successful 2015-16.

Rod updated his Report, to reflect the expense of the Annual General Meeting leaving a Bank Balance of approximately \$6,000.

Financial Statement:

1st July 2014 – 30th June 2015

Bank Balance 1/7/14		\$4,008.92		
INCOME	\$		EXPENSES	\$
Membership	4,900.00		AGM	3,107.16
Advertising	594.00		Postage/Stationery	437.17
Singlets	2,585.00		Merchandise	1,367.52
Donations	922.50		Singlets	462.00
Merchandise	3,616.00		Consumer Affairs	53.00
Postage	<u>288.60</u>		Web Hosting	170.74
Total Income		<u>\$12,905.60</u>	Marathon Day Expenses	821.00
			Donations	<u>350.00</u>
			Total Expenses	\$6,768.59
			Bank Balance 30/6/15	7,645.93
			Term Deposit	2,500.00
		\$16,914.52		16,914.52

Moved: Rod Bayley, Seconded: Felicity Doolan

8) **Secretary's Report**

Spartan Males: 1200; Spartan Females: 91; Spartan Wheelchairs: 2; **TOTAL: 1293**
Expecting incoming 2015: 34

9)	<p>Governing Rules</p> <p>A draft of the new Governing Rules to replace the current, outdated, Constitution has been circulated to the Spartan community. Jay thanked the Meeting for the input received to date. This feedback is being considered and discussed. The Committee will continue to take feedback and work on providing an updated draft prior to the 2016 Annual General Meeting. As this is a legal document, it is costly to change so it's important to get it right so that it can endure for years to come.</p>
10)	<p>General Business</p> <p>Jay advised that the John Zeleznikow is unable to attend tonight's Meeting however had been in contact with Jay following last year's Melbourne Marathon. John sought the definition of a "Finisher" of the Melbourne Marathon. Jay advised that two parameters need to be satisfied for a runner to be deemed a Finisher. They are Distance (42.195km) and Time (7 hours). This definition will be included in the updated Constitution/Governing Rules. Jay then called for questions regarding this matter. There were none.</p> <p>Spartan Brian Dixon asked about an historical exchange/relationship the Spartan Club had with Lake Kawaguchi in Japan. It was advised by an attendee that this relationship may have lapsed. However Jay reminded the Meeting of the new initiative with the Teganuma Half Marathon which Jane Sturzaker & Helen Van Der Nagel were running in October. The plan is to reciprocate by hosting a Japanese runner at the Melbourne Marathon next year. However Jay will follow up the status of the Lake Kawaguchi event.</p> <p>In Chris Muirden's absence, Jay updated the Committee re the Melbourne Marathon this year. The timing is a little later - 18 October - due to events at the MCG. Currently the entrants are down on previous years - with approximately 6,000 to date. Also the change to the "Slow Course" finish last year - where there were four laps, the organisers have assured that this will be managed better. Members may be aware that former Legend Peter Battrick finished outside the cut-off time of 7 hours after finishing via this slow course. Later it became apparent that some entrants were allowed to "cut short" and not complete the four laps.</p> <p>Peter Battrick would have still been a Legend if he had elected to "cut short". He did not, which speaks to the integrity of Peter Battrick. The Meeting acknowledged this.</p>
11)	<p>Election of Office Bearers</p> <p>Jay advised that the current Committee members had provided written nominations to re-nominate for their current positions. Jay then called for any further nominations. There were none. Jay advised that there is currently no maximum number of Committee members. Should anyone wish to express interest in joining the Committee following the AGM, please contact Jay.</p>

	<p>The following nominations were then confirmed:</p> <p>President: Jay Fleming Vice President: Paul Basile Secretary: Felicity Doolan Treasurer: Rod Bayley Immediate Past President: John Dean (non elected)</p> <p>General Committee: Cath Bombardieri, John Dobson, David Foskey, John Kaparelis, Colin Silcock-Delaney, Ashley Page</p>
12)	<p>Presentations:</p> <p>First Male Spartan in 2014 – Rob Follett 2:50:44 – The Jack Gubbins Award was presented by Immediate Past President John Dean as Jack was unwell and unable to attend.</p> <p>First Female Spartan in 2014 - Felicity Doolan 3:32:03 – The Shirley Young Award was by Spartan & Husband of Shirley, Mr Ron Young</p>
13)	<p>Guest Speaker – Ms Lavinia Petrie</p> <p>Jay introduced Lavinia to the Meeting outlining her multitude of titles and running achievements during her career spanning many decades. At 72 Lavinia is still very much a competitive athlete both here and overseas.</p> <p>Committee member Ashley Page asked Lavinia some questions about the photos she brought along as well as some magnificent trophies. Lavinia talked about her various events overseas and awards received to date. She gave us a few amusing anecdotes about her early days as running when few females participated in distance events. She detailed her training regime and, via her unassuming manner, her seemingly endless list of records, achievements and awards, she held the audience spellbound.</p> <p>The audience were keen to ask questions. The first was re hydration – Lavinia isn't one to drink much when she is competing which to most marathoners is quite extraordinary. The distance she covered each week when training for the longer distances, like marathons, were not as significant as we might have assumed, she prefers quality over quantity and respecting and listening to her body as a guide. She trains hills and speed sessions and surprisingly her long runs are not much more than 16km but she may do two in one day. In responding to a question as to what it was like when she first starting running – Lavinia was aged 17 and at School and upon completing School (in England) joined her local Harriers Club. Lavinia spoke about her fondness for the 4 Peaks Bright Alpine Climb which she has competed in a number of times. She also praised the initiative of Parkrun.</p> <p>At the conclusion of her presentation, Committee member Cath Bombardieri thanked Lavinia for her presentation and presented her with a gift and flowers on behalf of the Spartan Club.</p>

14)	<p>Presentation of Spartan Singlets</p> <p>to 10/15/20/25/30/35 year runners & Hall of Fame plus Photos</p> <p>Singlets were presented by Lavinia Petrie with assistance from Spartan Legend John Dobson.</p> <p>Please note photos will be available on the Website.</p>
15)	<p>Lucky Door Prize Draw & Evening Close</p> <p>Lavinia drew the prize winners. The Door Prize valued at \$250 which comprised of a Spartan's Cap, Mug, a copy of "The Wall", a \$100 Voucher from Active Feet and some products from our advertisers Runners Kitchen and Bakiliko. Winner was: Christine Lithgow – incoming Spartan</p> <p>Runner Up prize valued at \$100 which was donated by Active Feet included an Active Feet Drink Bottle, Melbourne Marathon 2015 T.Shirt and running socks. Winner was Spartan John Cunningham.</p>
16)	<p>Meeting Close</p> <p>Jay thanked everyone for attending and looks forward to seeing Spartans at the Expo and at the Melbourne Marathon Tent on 18 October 2015.</p> <p>Meeting Closed 2138</p>