

**MELBOURNE MARATHON SPARTANS CLUB**  
**Annual General Meeting 12/09/2011**  
**7.30 pm**  
**Harrison Room, MCG**

President John Dean welcomed all in attendance. John thanked IMG for their support not only of the Melbourne Marathon but also of the Spartans. John extended a special welcome to guests Steve Moneghetti, Brian Dixon and Ted Paulin, Greg Hooten & Chris Muirden (IMG), Garry Prigg, 1999 marathon winner Michael Mc Intyre and Wheelchair athletes Ian Gainey and Dean Callow. Also welcomed was Lucy Theis who was running her first marathon

**Present:** 143

**Apologies: 21**

Lorraine Devonport, Peter Ryan, Rob Waters, Shirley Young, Jim Hopkins, Judy Wines and John Bowes

**Minutes of previous AGM (2010):**

Minutes were read to the meeting and passed. Moved: Jack Gubbins Seconded: Rod Bayley

**Business arising out of the Minutes**

Spartan singlet survey results to be discussed under General Business.

John elaborated on the outcome of Lorraine Devonport's broken leg advising that her leg had to be broken again and reset. She hopes to run her 25<sup>th</sup> in 2012. John also advised that Chris Muirden (Herald Sun) who is writing the history of the Melbourne Marathon is well on the way to having completed two chapters. Completion date is December 2012. John asked if anyone had a copy of a 1978/79 marathon entry form.

**Reports**        President's Report  
                    Secretary's Report  
                    Treasurer's Report

Reports were circulated to all in attendance for reading and comment.

Acceptance of reports - moved by Tony Martin        Seconded Peter Nicoll

**Correspondence - Nil**

**General Business - Singlet Survey.** Following a motion that was put forward at our 2010 AGM all Spartans were sent a Singlet Survey in January 2011 and asked if they would take part in the survey so that the Committee could get an indication of the number of Spartans that (1) wear their singlet in the Melbourne Marathon and (2) would favour the introduction of a unified singlet. That is, rather than having different coloured year level singlets as we have now, **10 year - green, 15 year - blue and 20 year - red** etc., all singlets would be the one colour and design. Given the outcome of the survey the Committee has agreed to not make any changes to our singlet at this time. Of the 58 survey responses received (5.5% of a total Spartan base of 1050), the following is a summary of the survey outcome:

**Part 1.**

**Q.** Do you own a Spartan singlet? **Response:** 56 (96%) answered Yes

**Q.** Did you wear your singlet in the Melbourne Marathon? **Response:** 45 (77%) answered Yes

**Q.** Would you be concerned with a singlet price increase? **Response:** 44 (75%) not concerned.

**Part 2.**

**Q.** Are you happy with the current year level singlets (green, blue, red etc.)

**Response:** 44 (75%) answered Yes

**Q.** Would you be in favour of changing to a unified singlet? **Response:** 14 (25%) answered Yes

Wayne Thompson suggested that Melbourne Marathon runners who have completed five Melbourne Marathons be offered an incentive as encouragement to strive for Spartan status. President advised that this matter was raised and discussed in 2009 and that it was the feeling of the meeting at that time that no action be taken. This outcome was again confirmed at the 2011 AGM.

The matter of having a 10-Year (discounted) Membership Fee was raised and discussed. President advised that this matter had been raised and discussed at Committee level and that following much discussion it was thought that the difficulties in managing the funds and the limited number of Spartans that would take up such an offer would outweigh the benefits which were seen as very limited.

JD further stated that the Spartans Club were looking for a 1978 marathon entry form if not possible a late 1970's entry form would be greatly appreciated.

John called for helpers at the Expo for 7, 8 & 9<sup>th</sup> October – Jack Frederickson, Peter Nicoll, Colin Silcock-Delaney & Jim Crawford offered assistance. Paul Basile offered to be co-ordinator.

John Dean also called for Spartan Tent helpers on marathon day. Westly Windsor, Chas McCrae, Colin Silcock-Delaney and Jack Frederickson offered assistance. Paul Basile offered to be co-ordinator.

### **Election of Office Bearers**

John advised that all but one committee position had been filled and that all nominations had been received by Secretary Graeme Lay by the due date. Committee positions were filled as follows:

President:	Jay Fleming
Vice President:	John Dobson
Secretary:	Graeme Lay
Treasurer:	Rod Bayley
Committee:	Paul Basile, Colin Silcock-Delaney, Maureen Wilson, Peter Ryan, David Foskey
	Immediate Past President: John Dean

Cath Bombardieri's subsequent nomination for the vacant committee position was accepted.

John thanked retiring committee member Conor Mc Neice for his contributions over many years

### **Presentations:**

Jack Gubbins Award -1 <sup>st</sup> Male Spartan in 2010 (Presented by Jack Gubbins)	Michael McIntyre	2:31:43
Shirley Young Award -1 <sup>st</sup> Female Spartan in 2010 (Presented by Ron Young)	Maureen Wilson	3:33:14

### **Life Memberships**

President John Dean spoke of the value of helpers and volunteers within a club and thanked all those that volunteer their time. He advised that three Spartans have been recognised for their dedication and voluntary work and that he was pleased to announce three Life Memberships to this elite club. He formally announced and awarded Life Membership to Maureen Wilson, Paul Basile and Peter Battrick. Each were presented with Life Membership Certificates and Life Member badges.

### **Speaker**

John Dean introduced Greg Hooten - IMG

Greg discussed the issue of not finishing the marathon inside the MCG. The general thought was that it would impact the number of entrants. This has not been the case. Marathon entrants have been closed at 6000 (up 12-15%). The half marathon has closed at 9000 entrants and the 10km has been fully subscribed. Greg mentioned that IMG decided to finish the marathon outside the MCG as they wanted to plan the finish properly and not put at risk the Melbourne Marathon brand. The extra distance will come from extending the Beach Rd section of the course. Greg mentioned that the course continues to take in iconic Melbourne sites and that there has been strong representation from interstate 5-10% of the field. Elite runners are selecting Melbourne (predominantly from Africa)

Greg thanked people for attending this evening and John Dean for his contribution to the Spartans. Greg then answered numerous questions from the floor including a question from a Spartan who missed out on gaining entry to the race. She expressed her disappointment. Greg said he would look into it. Marathon runners stated their frustration with catching the 2 hour half marathon pace runners in St-Kilda Rd. Greg mentioned that gaining access to the roads present problems in managing starting times. He said that half marathon numbers are not high enough to run the event on a separate day or different time.

Wheelchair Spartan Ian Gainey asked why they can't start before the main marathon field as they are catching the field on their return. Greg replied that they cannot gain access to the roads any earlier. Vic Roads control the road closures

Members asked where IMG see the Melbourne Marathon going. Greg stated that the plan is to continue to have the race finish in the MCG. The festivals will be held over two days when numbers grow. The marathon field needs to reach in excess of 10,000 before it can be split over Saturday / Sunday.

Greg mentioned that it is not recommended the use of IPODs during any run, entrants can use the facilities within the MCG.

John Dobson thanked GH for all they work that has been done,

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

President John Dean introduced **Garry Prigg** of CPEC.

Garry thanked JD for his contribution. In 1987 CPEC pilot program began for 12 children. The same year the Melbourne Spartans club commenced. There are similarities between the courage, pain and self-belief required to run a marathon and that of a CPEC child.

Garry mentioned Tyler Fishlock, an ambassador for CPEC. Garry outlined his story and wonderful achievements that have taken place so far. He also outlined what the raised funds are spent on and the benefits the children receive. He mentioned they have received \$300,000 in donations from runners (2011).

Garry highlighted that CPEC plans to have an online E-learning process for parents in the near future.

Paul Basile thanked Gary for his contribution to the evening.

Meeting closed: 8:52 p.m.

### **5 minute break was taken**

### **Guest Speaker Steve Moneghetti**

Steve certainly connected with the audience with his very down to earth, inspirational style. He spoke of his running experiences, his twice a day training of up to 200km per week and the need to have plenty of rest. He also spoke of his Commonwealth Games and Olympic experiences and running with the best in the world. Steve came across extremely well and answered many questions from the floor.

Jay Fleming thanked Steve for making the time to be with us and presented him with a gift.

John Dean invited attendees to have tea/coffee.