

# Track & Field Newsletter

Supplementary issue – national relays

February 2008

## AMA National Relay Championships

At the 2007 AMA Council meeting held in Melbourne last August, the Council determined that in 2008 a new national relay competition would be conducted at local venues. This was to allow club members who are unable to travel to the national championships to compete locally in a national event.

This invigorating initiative by the AMA has given all of us some memorable evenings at Coker Park during February, and is surely destined to be a feature of the track season in the future. It has given valuable practice to our “better” athletes that will help them at national and world meets when it comes to the relays. However, in your editor’s opinion a much more important aspect has been the benefit of attracting a large number of members who would not normally come to the track. We welcomed back Cecil Walkley and his team of M75s, most of whom are amongst our longest-serving members. Then Dorothy Whittam came along with her W70 race walk team. Also some newer members who normally only come to the Tuesday meets at UWA found their way onto the mondo surface at Coker. Regular Sunday runners Pete, Lachy and Arnie returned to the track; our Bunbury and Busselton runners have also homed in on the city for their chosen relays.

There has been a true club and state togetherness engendered, which must be good for both the club and its members. Well done the AMA Council, and in particular President Lynne – let’s have more of this please.

So the relays are over for this year, apart from a long jump “team event” next week at Coker Park. The results of this will be in the March issue of the T&F newsletter, which should be out next weekend.

There can be no doubt that this AMA initiative has been a huge success. In the three weeks of the competition at Coker Park, 82 different athletes have participated in one or more of the relays. This is even greater if we add the previous week when we ran the “unofficial” 4x1500m races. The attendance on these Thursdays has been overwhelming. There are so many highlights, and no doubt we all have our own individual memories. Each athlete taking part will look back with pride for years to come and say “I was there when .....”. During the three weeks (not counting the 4x1500) 20 state records and 6 Australian records were either set or broken. It would be wrong to mention individual performances when the emphasis has been on participation rather than excellence. Let us just remember the atmosphere and sheer enjoyment that was generated.

I cannot finish this analysis without thanking a large number of people. Campbell Till, our club statistician has ratified over 130 individual records and issued the relevant certificates this month. The timekeepers stayed after their own races and did this critical job for us; the umpires – changeover, cut-in, and lane without whom the records could not be ratified. Most of all, thanks to Tom for starting and then rushing to his umpiring post, to Peter for the magnificent job he did in lap scoring, without which we would not have the approximate split times, and to the rock on which T&F is built – Barbara Blurton. Barbara has endured continual debilitating injuries over several years now, but turns out week after week to give her time to ensure that all runs smoothly. Behind the scenes she has been an invaluable help to me with her experience and expertise. She understands T&F like nobody else in the club. A very public thanks, Barbara!

## 4x100 results – 7 February

### Heat 1

- W30-39 Kathy Menon, Carolyn Wills, Jacqui Sanders, Lyn Choate  
Time: 59.7
- W40-49 Delia Baldock, Debbie Wolfenden (W44), Kerriann Bresser, Carol Bowman  
Time: 65.3 possible **SR** for W40
- W60-69 Lynne Schickert, Val Millard, Peggy Macliver, Gillian Young  
Time: 72.9 **SR (W60)**

### Heat 2

- M30-39 Graeme Watson (M30), Chris Neale, Paul Burke, Matt Staunton  
Time: 49.1 **SR (M30)**
- M40-49 Colin Smith, Gary Ogden, David Luck, Steve Giles (all M45s)  
Time: 53.5
- M50-59 Campbell Till, Bjorn Dybdahl, Nick Miletic, Rob Antonioli  
Time: 55.7 **SR (M50)**
- M60-69 Bob Schickert, Barrie Kernaghan, David Carr, Mike O'Reilly  
Time: 61.2 **SR (M65)**

## 4x800m race walk – 7 February

(no records possible in this event as there were no official walk judges)

- M30-39 Eldon George, Peter Hopper, Tom Lenane, Bruce Wilson  
Time: 18:34.3
- W60-69 Michelle Mison, Lynne Schickert, Peggy Macliver, Val Millard  
Time: 20:03.9
- W40-49 Robin King, Jacqui Sanders, Lorraine Lopes, Liz Neville  
Time: 20:11.7
- W70-79 Dorothy Whittam, Ann Turner, Lorna Lachlan, Pat Ainsworth  
Time: 25:17.4

## Discus team event – 12 February

*Note: As well as relays, there are field event “team championships” sanctioned by the AMA. A team of three has three throw/jumps each, and the total of each athlete’s best distance is the team score.*

W30 Byrony Glass 34.80m, Kate Glass 25.01m, Bev Hamilton 20.94m  
Total distance: 80.75m

## Long Jump team event – 28 February

W60 Peggy Macliver, Lynne Schickert, Valerie Millard

**The result of this event will appear in the March issue of TFNL**

## 4x800 results – 14 February “The Valentine’s Day Extravaganza” (all records are to be confirmed)

### Heat 1

W40-49 “B” Delia Baldock, Carol Bowman, Jacqui Sanders, Kerriann Bresser (W40)  
Time: 12:48.6. Splits (approx) 3:05, 3:17, 3:23, 3:03  
**SR**

W60-69 Peggy Macliver, Jackie Halberg, Christine Oldfield, Gillian Young (W60)  
Time: 13:04.9. Splits (approx) 3:00, 3:18, 3:50, 2:56  
**SR, AR**

M70-79 Brian Paxman, Ken Whistler, Bob Hayres, Cecil Walkley (M75)  
Time: 16:07.1. Splits 4:17, 3:55, 3:59, 3:55  
**SR, AR**

W40-49 “C” Theresa Howe, Val Millard, Lynne Schickert, Deb Wolfenden (W40)  
Time: 17:00.0. Splits 3:48, 3:52, 4:38, 4:41

### Heat 2

M60-69 “A” Jim Langford, Jim Klinge, Ivan Brown, David Carr (M60)  
Time: 10:54.1. Splits 2:43, 2:33, 2:54, 2:44  
**SR**

M60-69 “B” Bert Carse, Dave Roberts, Mike O’Reilly, Bob Schickert (M65)  
Time: 11:19.6. Splits 2:36, 2:50, 3:05, 2:48  
**SR, AR**

M30-39 “B” Brett Roach, Eldon George, Keith Martin, John Oldfield (M35)  
Time: 11:41.3. Splits 2:32, 2:38, 3:18, 3:13  
**SR**

M50-59 “B” Paul Hughes, Nick Miletic, Maurice Creagh, Arnie Jenkins (M55)  
Time: 12:00.4. Splits 2:35, 2:59, 3:14, 3:12  
**SR**

*Heat 3*

M30-39 “A” Graeme Watson, Paul Burke, Joel Burns, Chris Neale (M30)  
Time: 9:21.0. Splits 2:12, 2:19, 2:35, 2:14  
**SR, AR**

M50-59 “A” Neil Morfitt, Bjorn Dybdahl, Campbell Till, Duncan McAuley (M50)  
Time: 9:22.9. Splits 2:12, 2:27, 2:17, 2:26  
**SR**

M40-49 “A” Pete Sullivan, Lachlan Marr, Colin Smith, Dave Solomon (M40)  
Time: 9:52.7. Splits 2:27, 2:33, 2:27, 2:25

M40-49 “B” Ross Keane, John Collier, Ian Cotton, John Dennehy (M40)  
Time: 10:24.1. Splits 2:33, 2:35, 2:26, 2:49

W40-49 “A” Marg Saunders, Karen March, Kay Burt, Robin King (W45)  
Time: 11:53.3 Splits 2:57, 3:06, 3:02, 2:47  
**SR, AR**

**The St Valentine’s Day Massacre  
or  
The National Championships 4x800m Relay Race**

On the fourteenth day of February in nineteen twenty nine,  
Al Capone arranged the massacre of Bugs Moran’s vile gang.  
And seventy nine years later, on St Valentine’s Day night  
The MAWA gangsters drew no blood, but put up quite a fight.

For the National Relay Championships devised by AMA  
Thirteen teams were armed and ready to enter the affray.  
With weapons poised the first wave stood to face the four by eight;  
The sound of gunfire set them off; two laps would seal their fate.

With batons raised they made their charge, determined to deliver,  
And this they did with speed and skill – their motto: Now or Never.  
Then wave on wave took up the chase, each passing on their baton;  
When outright victory came at last, just one poor soul had fallen!

The thrill of battle gripped us all and filled us with excitement.  
Sixteen records, the spoils of war, were bagged and were important.  
But, fingers crossed, we have to hope a sweeter prize awaits -  
For grapevine gossip does suggest we’ve massacred other states!

*Christine Oldfield*

**4x400m – 21<sup>st</sup> February**  
**(all records are to be confirmed, all splits are approximate)**

*Division 1*

- W40-49 Delia Baldock, Karyn Gower, Robin King, KerriAnn Bresser **(W40)**  
Time: 5:11.4. Splits 76, 83, 74, 75
- W30-39 Kathy Menon, Karen March, Niamh Keane, Toni Phillips **(W30)**  
Time: 5:13.3. Splits 78, 84, 79, 70
- W50-59 Carol Bowman, Sarah Ladwig, Lyn Choate, Tessa Brockwell **(W50)**  
Time: 5:54.2. Splits 82, 85, 109, 78  
**SR**
- W60-69 Gillian Young, Peggy Macliver, Valerie Millard, Lynne Schickert **(W60)**  
Time: 6:09.8. Splits 76, 75, 104, 114  
**SR**

*Division 2*

- M60-69A David Clive, Roy Fearnall, Keith Martin, Barrie Kernaghan **(M60)**  
Time: 4:29.2. Splits 70, 66, 67, 66  
**SR**
- M40-49B Nick Miletic, David Carr, Bjorn Dybdahl, Gary Ogden **(M45)**  
Time: 4:36.9. Splits 73, 69, 64, 70
- M60-69B Bob Schickert, Arnie Jenkins, Ivan Brown, Bert Carse **(M60)**  
Time: 4:57.8. Splits 71, 75, 77, 74

*Division 3*

- M30-39 Chris Neale, Graeme Watson, Paul Burke, Andrew Brooker **(M30)**  
Time: 3:46.3. Splits 55, 56, 58, 57  
**SR**
- M50-59A Campbell Till, Duncan McAuley, Rob Antonioli, Alan Gower **(M50)**  
Time: 4:02.8. Splits 57, 61, 64, 60  
**SR**
- M40-49A Greg van der Sander, John Collier, John Dennehy, Ian Cotton **(M40)**  
Time: 4:11.9. Splits 55, 65, 71, 60

**Here endeth the fun – until next year??**