



# AUSTRALIAN MASTERS ATHLETICS

Promoting active healthy athletics competition through our network of state and territory associations



## Message from the President

Since our last E-News the AMA Championships in Darwin have come and gone as have the AMA AGM which was held earlier this month.

Congratulations to Northern Territory Athletics for taking on their first masters athletics championships. At no stage did they anticipate the number of athletes from around Australia who would attend. When the Local Organising Committee planned for 400 entries and the final number was 700 they really had a challenge on their hands.

I am sure all athletes attending enjoyed the competition and their time in Darwin and the tourist spots. Unfortunately the final day had the throwing events schedule altered without consultation and this spoilt the day for the throwers affected. Steps have now been taken to make sure this never happens again.

**Championship Records** An interesting statistic from Darwin was that 34 Championships records were set by 18 athletes. Of those M85 Tom Hancock set 5 field event records, Richard Hughes M85 set 5 track records and Cory Collins set 4 track. Five other athletes set 2 each. Six of the 18 athletes were under 50 years, two were aged between 50 and 74 and 10 were over 75 years.

**Oceania Championships** This will be held 20-27 January in Dunedin. My past experience at Oceania confirms a much more low key and friendly competition and a great way to justify a short holiday. If you haven't been to Oceania before then I thoroughly recommend it.

**Masters Rankings** No matter your performance standard each one of us is likely to find our names on the Masters Ranking list. This is a website that is well worth joining to have access to all the information available. It is a lot of fun to look up your name and find your ranking in a particular event. Whether you are listed 21st, 110th or 229 it can give you the motivation to keep training, and /or improve your technique so you can climb up the rankings. However, for the website to continue to exist it needs more athletes to join. Membership is only \$25 and will give you access the most recent information and rankings. Older ranking lists are available for free. The site is: [www.mastersrankings.com](http://www.mastersrankings.com)

**Travel Sponsorship** As you would know it is very hard for a volunteer sporting organisation to obtain sponsorship. So it is great news that Flight Centre has agreed to sponsorship. However, the amount of that sponsorship is controlled by our athletes. AMA encourages members to book any travel and accommodation required through the contacts provided elsewhere in this newsletter. Copy down the phone contacts as a handy reminder for all your travel and remember to identify yourself as a masters athlete.

**Uniforms** If you are intending to compete at Dunedin for Oceania in January or head to Malaga next September then consider buying an extra AMA singlet or two and shorts to swap or wear. This will give you the opportunity to swap your gear for other national uniforms.

**Decathlon/Heptathlon** Note that the next AMA Decathlon and Heptathlon Championships will be held in Bendigo on 6th and 7th January 2018. Further details can be obtained by contacting Peter Barrett at [p.barrett@ozemail.com.au](mailto:p.barrett@ozemail.com.au) Online entries will be open from 15th November and can be completed on the website from that date [www.athleticsbendigo.org.au](http://www.athleticsbendigo.org.au)

All the best as you enter another summer of competition. Give yourself a challenge and try a new event this season.

Wilma Perkins  
AMA President

## A.M.A Board 2017 – 2018



**From left:** Steve McGugan (Vice President), Donna Hiscox (Secretary) Lorraine Birtwell, Wilma Perkins (President) Judy Farrell, Mike Walker (Treasurer), Stuart Paterson (absent Jim Langford)

## Australian Masters Athletics Team Managers Announced



Team Manager for Oceania Championships Dunedin  
January 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> 2018 Hazel McDonnell



Team Managers for W.M.A. Championships Malaga Spain 2018

Janet Naylor (Senior) and Donna Hiscox



## AMA Announces Travel Partner



Australian Masters Athletics (AMA) is excited to announce that it has partnered with *Flight Centre Sports and Events* as the travel partner for team members and accompanying persons competing in National, Oceania and World Championship events.

This arrangement with **Flight Centre Sports and Events** will enable members to book specially prepared group travel packages, pre and post championship tours and/or to make their own private arrangements.

**Members and their families** will also be able to book through **Flight Centre Sports and Events** for all their own **personal (or business) travel arrangements**. This includes flights, accommodation, car hire, rail bookings and tours, etc. Talk with the team at **Flight Centre Sports and Events** about your plans.

AMA will receive a **rebate on all bookings** (team-related and personal) and this additional revenue stream will assist in keeping levies and fees for members to a minimum. This rebate is only available when booking via the details supplied below and you must identify yourself as being from Australian Masters Athletics.

**Flight Centre Sports and Events** is the new **AMA Travel Partner**. They are a one-stop shop for all your travel needs and have a lowest airfare guarantee!

To make a booking through **Flight Centre Sports and Events** please **contact Anna Kearney or Julie Costa on 1300 220 293 and make sure you identify yourself as being from AMA**. The rebate is not available through Flight Centre shops or other avenues as they are different franchises so please **save these contact details**.

Packages for Oceania in Dunedin (Jan 2018), Nationals in Perth (April 2018) and Worlds in Malaga (Sept 2018) are currently being prepared. To **register your interest**, please see this page:

<http://fcsportsandevents.com.au/package/2018-masters-world-championships-mallaga-spain/> and click on the **"Enquire Now!"** button.



### ANNA KEARNEY

*Assistant Manager, Sports and Events*  
Flight Centre Travel Group



1300 220 293



Southpoint 275 Grey Street  
South Brisbane QLD 4101



Please call me: **Anna**  
Years in the industry: **14**  
Countries visited: **19**  
Favourite city: **Vancouver**  
Last business trip:  
**New Zealand**



### JULIE COSTA

*Assistant Manager, Sports & Events*  
Flight Centre Travel Group



1300 220 293



Southpoint, 275 Grey St,  
SOUTH BRISBANE Queensland 4101  
Australia



Please call me: **Jules**  
Years in the industry: **19**  
Countries visited: **21**  
Favourite city: **New York**  
Last business trip:  
**Vanuatu**

# A.M.A Trust Fund

As has been previously reported the Perth 2016 World Championships made a surplus of around \$240,000, and this money will be made available for Masters' club projects which will give a clear and lasting benefit to members. States and Territories need to submit project proposals to the Trust Board, which is chaired by myself. While there is no pre-determined allocation to States, the Board will judge what it believes to be fair in this regard.

Five project proposals were received and reviewed by the Board at its September meeting.

The Board liked and supported all five projects, which comprised a golf cart type vehicle and a motorized trolley for carrying equipment, a circle and cage for weight throw, a set of hurdles and equipment for electronic lap-scoring of track races.

The Board is not going to divulge the precise details and cost of each project, and note that in some cases relevant Masters Club or other users of equipment are part-funding the project, so the funding allocated by the Trust is not necessarily the total cost of the project.

Only some 25% of the fund was allocated in this first round so there is scope for more projects to be submitted. States are therefore encouraged to work up further projects. The next deadline for submissions is December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017.

**Richard Blurton**

**AMA Trust Board**



**Jan Hynes & Wilma Perkins 1980's**

Jan and Wilma met when Wilma first joined masters and spent the next 10-15 years training together and being best friends.

Jan is 5 years older than Wilma so they were never opposition. Jan was a remarkable athlete and a great long jumper and hurdler.

It took Marge Allison years to beat Jan in something. Jan actually held the WA open long jump record for 25 years before it was broken and Shirley Strickland taught her to hurdle.

# Australian Masters Athletics Archives

Do you have 'Old' photos, 'old' medals and 'old' Aussie uniforms.

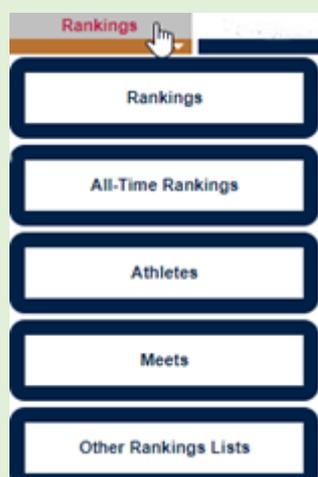
The AMA office is looking to build their archives and are interested in gather paraphernalia from the 1970's and 1980's.

Do you have any items in the family closet that could be added to the AMA office collection?

Contact : - [hazelmcdonnell@australianmastersathletics.org.au](mailto:hazelmcdonnell@australianmastersathletics.org.au)

## Masters Athletic Rankings

We all like to know how our performances in our events rank against our opponents in other Australian states, the region and on the world stage. Interesting information if you're going to an Australian, Oceania or World Championships! Even if we are not at the 'pointy end' of performances, it's nice to know how we compare to the athlete we regularly do battle with. It is also a great motivation to see that, if we improve our performance just a bit, we can make it into the top 200 or 100 or maybe even the Top 10.



There is a very flexible and user friendly website at

<https://www.mastersrankings.com/> which provides performance rankings lists by event, gender, age group, country or WMA region.

**(Click on Rankings to view page links)** The site is endorsed by WMA and has built up to now contain over 1.4 million performances from over 188,000 athletes in 189 countries. Such a volume of performances means the rankings list have credibility.

You can also search by athlete name and find your own (or an opponent's) performances in all ranked events. The rankings list covers all the main track and field events conducted throughout the world.

An individual athlete can enter their own performances via the website and athletes around the world have done so although the percentage is small compared to results derived from official competition data. Don Quinn (QMA) has created processes to automate the uploading of results for an athletic meet using Meet Manager. This means that the results from Nationals Championships and most State Championships for the last three years will have been uploaded to the rankings lists.

Results from a competition not using Meet Manager can still be uploaded. If you wish to do this, get in touch with Don ([don@quinvale.com](mailto:don@quinvale.com)) for assistance in creating the input for bulk uploads of results.

A site as huge as the Masters Rankings naturally takes a lot of financial and human resources. To help meet some of those costs, memberships are available for USD 25.00 which then gives the athlete access to all of the list information for the current year. The full functionality of the site is available free for the years prior to the current year and is an easy way to check out what is available and to "see your name in lights". So, go and check out the site, I'm sure you will be interested in what you see there.

**Don Quinn**  
**September 2017**

# REMINDER

## Masters' athletes intending to compete in Dunedin or Malaga

Consider buying an extra AMA singlet or two and shorts to swap or wear.  
This will give you the opportunity to swap your gear for other national uniforms

**The official AMA Uniform must be worn when competing**

[Link to Uniform Page](#)

## A.M.A Events Calendar 2017 – 2018

|  |   |
|--|---|
| AMA Winter Throws Championships 2017<br>( <a href="#">16th Australian Masters Games 2017</a> ) | Wollongong Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> – October 2nd<br>Tasmania's North West 21st-28th October |
| Japan Masters Athletics Championships  | Wakayama Japan 27th- 29th October   |
| AMA Multi Events Championships 2018  | Bendigo Victoria January 6 <sup>th</sup> - 7 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| Oceania Masters Championships 2018   | Dunedin New Zealand Jan 20 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>                               |
| AMA Track & Field Championships 2018   | Perth WA April 26 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>  |
| AMA Half Marathon Championships 2018   | Canberra ACT August 19 <sup>th</sup>  |
| WMA Championships 2018   | Malaga Spain – Sept 4 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>                                    |

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<mailto:editor@australianmastersathletics.org.au>  
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