



AUSTRALIAN ULTRA RUNNERS

ASSOCIATION INC

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE - 2003

Dear Members

Your committee is pleased to report on the activities of your Association for the year ended 31 December 2003.

National championships

AURA recognises 5 races annually as Championship events. They are the 24 hours, 48 hours and 6 day track races; 100 kms road race and one trail race, determined annually on a rotational basis.

24 hours Australian track championships

These were again hosted by the Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team in Adelaide and were held on 4 – 5 October 2003.

Placegetters were

	Name	Distance - kms
Male 1	Mick Francis	211.459
Male 2	Anyce 'Kip' Melham	192.119
Male 3	Jerry Zukowski	169.656
Female 1	Carol Baird	180.919
Female 2	Karina Ward	143.617

AR: Male 303.306 Yiannis Kouros, Adelaide 4 Oct 1997; Female 229.080 Helen Stanger, Coburg 23 Aug 1998

48 hours Australian track championships

The Australian 48 hours track race was first staged in WA in 1987 and then in Qld each year from and including 1989. For the first time, the event was held on a synthetic track and, also for the first time in Australia, using electronic ChampionChip timing.

Placegetters were

	Name	Distance - kms
Male 1	Graeme Watts	306.800
Male 2	Tony Collins	283.200
Male 3	Rainer Neumann	266.064
There were no female starters		

AR: Male 473.797 Yiannis Kouros, Surgeres France, 3 May 1996; Female 329.256 Helen Stanger, Lota Qld 2 June 1995

6 days Australian track championships

The Australian 6 days race was again hosted by the Colac 6 day race committee at Colac in Victoria and was held from 16 – 22 November 2003.

Placegetters were

	Name	Country	Distance – kms
Male 1	Graeme WATTS	Australia	746.341
Male 2	Jaroslav KOCOUREK	Czech	662.721
Male 3 (2 nd Aust)	Peter HOSKINSON	Australia	642.430
Male 4 (3 rd Aust)	Brian COLLINGS	Australia	626.996
Female 1	Elvira JANOSI	Hungary	568.219

AR: Male 1002.000 Brian Smith, Colac, November 1984; Female: 738.903 Georgina McConnell, Campbelltown 19 Nov 1990

100 kms

The national 100 kms road championship was hosted by the Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team as part of its Ultra triathlon held in Canberra on February 23, 2003.

Placegetters were

	Name	Time
Male 1	Roger Maximiw	8:28:04
Male 2	Ian Valentine	9:47:19
Male 3	Anyce 'Kip' Melham	10:29:23
Female 1	Mignon Tucker	10:41:29
Female 2	Vicki Godfrey	11:52:42
Female 3	Kerry Campbell	11:54:50

AR: Male 6:29.26 Tim Sloan Tas 23 Apr 1995; Female 7:40.57 Linda Meadows, NZ 19 Nov 1995

Australian Trail Race Championship

The event selected for 2003 was the Glasshouse Mountains Trail Race 100 miles section held on 27 – 28 September 2003.

Placegetters were

	Name	Time
Male = 1	Walter Brumniach	22:58:12
Male = 1	Kieron Thompson	22:58:12
Male 3	Rodney Ladyman	23:18:24
Female 1	Kerrie Hall	30:18:29

RR: Male - Jonathon WORSWICK (Sydney) - Sept 29/30, 2001 - 17:43:20 Female - Janine DUPLESSIS (Washington State, USA) Sept 27/28, 1997 - 23:52:21

AURA Points competition

This competition rewards those AURA members who have placed well in as many AURA sanctioned events as possible for the year. Points are awarded 3 for first, 2 for second and 1 for third placings. Further points are awarded for records achieved.

Placegetters were

	Name	Points
Male 1	Kelvin MARSHALL	32

Male 2	Bruce RENWICK	31
Male 3	Graeme WATTS	26
Female 1	Carol BAIRD	28
Female 2	Kerrie HALL	14
Female 3	Angie GRATTAN	11

100, 200 & 250 Club

This award is made to those who have achieved 100 miles, 200 kms, 250 kms in 24 hours. To qualify it is essential that the feat be achieved on a standard athletic track or, if on a road course, then one that has been properly measured by AURA. It will also need to be performed in a race (not a solo run) and verified by the Race Director. Those who achieve this feat will be presented with a certificate and will be included in the 100, 200 or 250 Club listing which will appear from time to time in AURA's official publication, Ultramag and on the website. A commemorative polo shirt will be available for purchase. Runners who have achieved this feat in the past will be automatically recognised.

Ultra athlete of the year

This award is made to the male or female ultra athlete who, in the opinion of the Committee has made the most outstanding ultra athletic achievement for the year. Preference will be given to athletes who have achieved well at an international level. The announcement of the winner will be made at the 2004 Annual General meeting and Prizegiving.

Bryan Smith Award

This is an annual award to an AURA member, either runner race director or administrator who, in the opinion of the committee, has rendered outstanding service in the preceding year in the furtherance of the sport of ultra-running. The announcement of the winner will be made at the 2004 Annual General meeting and Prizegiving.

Cliff Young Gumboot Award

This is annual award made to the over 60 male member with the best performance at 24 hours for the preceding year. The recipient of this award is Brian Evans with 163.657 kms achieved at the Gold Coast 24 hours on 22 –24 August 2003. Thanks to Shaun Scanlon for making the trophy, a wooden gumboot replica with clock.

Australian Athletics Federation

In November 2002, your Association was admitted as a member of the Australian Athletics Federation. Other members comprise Athletics Australia, Australian Track & Field Coaches Association, Australian Masters Athletics Inc., Australian Athletic Confederation (pro runners), School Sport Australia, Australian Federation of Race Walking Clubs and Australian Mountain Runners Association Inc. Discussions are being held with Little Athletics to procure their admission. The objective is to have one unified body to advance the interests of those in running (and other athletics) for the whole of their lifetime.

There are direct benefits available to AURA such as no or low cost public liability and assistance with marketing and promotion through the Athletics Australia website (for the more important races). There are also indirect benefits available, such as the use of the Athletics Australia office and Boardroom in St Kilda Road, Melbourne. Also, the more direct affiliation, through AA, with IAAF should prove useful in relation to members competing in world challenges and championships conducted under the auspices of the IAAF. In the short term, we are receiving no assistance at all with funding for development or for sending teams to compete at world championships and we do not have full control over selection processes.

Public liability insurance

The cost of this insurance is becoming prohibitive, especially for race directors with one race only and without access to an organization to provide such insurance. Fortunately AURA, through its affiliation with the Australia Athletics Federation, is now able to offer PL insurance to the Directors of all ultra races authorised by us and endorsed by AAF. This insurance is made available by AURA at no charge for AURA members and one-day membership is being accepted for non-AURA members, normally at a charge of \$10 per runner.

As a direct result of this initiative, we have been able to save several races that were at risk of becoming extinct.

By laws

The Australian Athletic Federation has asked that we consider adopting by-laws similar to those adopted by the IAAF in August 2003 and Athletics Australia in May 2004. These By-Laws deal with such matters as anti-doping policy, codes of conduct, ethical behaviour, disciplinary tribunals and selection appeals. Your Committee believes that AURA's policy in relation to such issues should be consistent with that of mainstream athletics. However, the task of drafting the by-laws is quite an undertaking and will take some time to complete.

Financial

The accompanying statements of account reveal an excess of expenditure over income of \$1,145 (2002, \$4,203.) This is struck after Ultramag printing of \$7,254 (2002, \$9,324). Membership subscriptions for the year were higher at \$7,375 compared with \$5,816 for the previous year. Donations amounted to \$1,150, for which we thank the donors concerned.

The cash on hand at year-end was satisfactory at \$12,232 with no liabilities.

Ultramag

Kevin Cassidy does a superb job in producing Ultramag, AURA's official publication. The newsletter, produced quarterly, contains details of forthcoming races, race entry forms, race results, race reports, various stories and details of records. It is proposed that the publication be upgraded to include more pics and a colour cover. There will be some advertising content, the purpose of which is to defray costs of publication. The magazine will be far more attractive with the colour content.

Membership subscriptions

It is proposed to increase membership subscriptions to \$50 for individuals and \$70 for families. The family subscription would cover all persons at the same address without limit, with only one Ultramag being sent to that address. The purpose of the fee increase is to defray increased costs and to provide some funds for development.

Memberships

Memberships at year end were 252 compared with 196 a year earlier. It is expected that memberships will continue to increase steadily. Many couples who are interested in AURA have only one spouse registered as a member and share the Ultramag. It is hoped that the family subscription option, now proposed, will encourage all family members to join.

Ultra Hosts Network

This initiative, introduced throughout the year, aims to facilitate both interstate travel and networking for AURA members.

It is essentially an exchange program for AURA members. Anybody who is willing to host a runner, coming to compete at a local race, in turn is provided with a list of other hosts, and will thus have the opportunity to be hosted by a fellow ultra runner, free of charge, whilst competing away from home.

Members of the scheme are not obliged to host, and are asked to do so only if convenient. What each host provides for their guests is also at their discretion, which in terms of accommodation, may vary from a spare room to floor space, or lawn space to pitch a tent.

Although only introduced late in 2003, the UHN has already attracted members from 5 states across Australia, and will hopefully continue to enjoy a healthy growth throughout its first year. As well as making travelling cheaper for AURA members, and promoting networking amongst members, it is also hoped that the initiative will help boost participation rates for some of Australia's smaller ultramarathons.

Records

Many Australian age group records were broken by members during the year. Successful in this regard were Bruce Renwick M55-59 road records at 6 hours, 50 miles and 100 kms at the Gold Coast 100 and then the M55-59 track records for 6 hours and 50 kms at Traralgon; George Audley M65 track 100 kms and 12 hours and Carol Baird W50 track 50 miles, 100 kms, 100 miles, 6 hours, 12 hours and 24 hours both at the Gold Coast 24 – 48 hours.

Many records established by Cliff Young and Dipali Cunningham over several years were recently recognised, details of which appear on the AURA website.

Our heartiest congratulations to all of the foregoing athletes.

Sincere thanks to our Records Officer Fred Brooks for his fine work. Fred has completed his tour of duty and is handing over to David Billett of Adelaide.

AURA points tabulator

Stan Miskin has the unenviable and painstaking task of seeking out race results from race directors, sifting through the results to determine who are AURA members, allocating the appropriate number of points etc. Thanks to Stan for a great job. Full details appear in each issue of Utramag. Stan also has completed his tour of duty and is handing over to David Billett. Thanks David for taking on these tasks.

Website

Thanks to Kevin Tiller of <http://www.coolrunning.com.au/> who provides the link through www.ultraoz.com. There is a wealth of information on the website, including race calendar, race results, records and stories.

Appreciation

In addition to the above, I wish to thank my Vice president Nigel Aylott, Secretary Ian Clarke, Treasurer Graham Ives (posthumously), new Treasurer Warren Holst, Registrar Secretary David Criniti and other committee members and state representatives, numerous Race Directors and the executives and staff of AAF for their assistance and support.



President
28 May 2004

AUSTRALIAN ULTRA RUNNERS ASSOCIATION INC

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2003

2002			
	MEMBERS' FUNDS		
18782	Balance at 1 January 2003		14579
-4203	Profit/loss for year		-1145
14579	Balance at 31 December 2003		<u>13434</u>
	ASSETS		
10927	Fixed term investment		11407
5102	Bank account		825
710	Merchandise at cost		1202
16739			<u>13434</u>
	LIABILITIES		
2160	Creditors		0
14579	NET ASSETS		<u>13434</u>
	INCOME & EXPENDITURE - YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003		
	INCOME		
5816	Subscriptions	7375	
500	Donations	1150	
	Other incl clothing	753	
772	Interest	481	
8460		<u>9759</u>	9759
	EXPENDITURE		
9324	Ultramag	7254	
2650	Insurance	0	
0	Trophies & certificates	1515	
0	Brochures	1408	
689	Other incl clothing	727	
12663		<u>10904</u>	10904
4203	LOSS FOR YEAR (Note)		<u>1145</u>

Note: The loss for the year ended 31 December 2002 reflects a change in accounting policy whereby an accruals basis was used rather than a cash basis. Had the accruals basis been used for 2002, the loss would have been \$2,467.



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NOTICE OF MEETING AND PRIZEGIVING

NOTICE is hereby given that the 18th Annual General Meeting of the Australian Ultra Runners Association Inc will be held in the Boardroom of the Australian Athletic Federation at Level 22, Fawkner Towers, 431 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic 3004 at 5:00 pm on Friday 23 July 2004 to consider the following business

1. to confirm the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on 15 April 2003
2. to consider and, if thought fit, to approve the Report of the Committee for the year ended 31 December 2003.
3. to consider and, if thought, fit to approve the Financial Statements of Account for the year ended 31 December 2003.
4. to elect office bearers and committee members. In this regard, the following office bearers retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

President	Ian Cornelius
Vice President	Nigel Aylott
Secretary	Ian Clarke
Assistant secretary	David Criniti
Treasurer	Warren Holst
State representatives	
ACT	Trevor Jacobs
NSW	Paul Every
	Sean Greenhill
Qld	Gary Parsons
	Eric Markham
SA	Jerry Zukowski
Tas	Tim Sloan
Vic	Kevin Cassidy
WA	Charlie Spare

Nominations. Financial members are entitled to nominate for any of the above positions. Such nominations should be in writing, signed by two members of the Association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate. In accordance with our Rules, such nominations should be sent to the above address not less than 21 days before the date of the meeting. Members are encouraged to become involved in the running of your Association.

5. to consider and, if thought fit, to increase the memberships fees to \$50 for individuals and \$70 for families (no limit on number, one magazine only)

