



**ATHLETICS WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**Board Governance**

**December 2018**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Athletics WA (AWA) is the Member Association of Athletics Australia with a mission to lead an integrated, growing sport of athletics in Western Australia.

The purpose of this Board Governance model is to establish an effective governance framework for AWA to promote a consistent standard of corporate governance practice that promotes sound and prudent management in the interests of all stakeholders.

There are also individual profiles of each member to illustrate the diverse range of professional qualities that comprise the board and facilitate it in adhering to the responsibilities that are listed below.

## **ROLE OF THE BOARD**

The Board's primary responsibility is to direct the affairs of AWA on behalf of its Members. Individual Board members represent and serve the interests of Members and collectively oversee and appraise the strategies, major policies and performance of the organisation.

The performance of the organisation is driven by the strategies developed and implemented by the Chief Executive Officer and management team ('Management'). The Board aims to bring an independent and objective view to the organisation's decisions, provides guidance to Management with respect to strategy development, and reviews the effectiveness of Management in delivering upon those strategies. The Board also ensures that sufficient control and accountability systems are in place to accurately measure and report upon the performance of the organisation.

The specific functions and responsibilities of the Board include:

- (a) setting the broad strategic direction of the organisation in consultation with Management;
- (b) providing input into and final approval of Management's development of corporate strategy and performance objectives and monitoring Management's implementation of that strategy and stated objectives;
- (c) monitoring financial outcomes and the integrity of reporting; in particular approving annual budgets and monitoring material investments, funding activities, capital expenditure, acquisitions and divestments;
- (d) ensuring effective and timely reporting to members;
- (e) approving and monitoring the risk management framework and ensuring that effective and adequate audit, risk management and compliance systems are in place;
- (f) monitoring and assessing performance of the organisation, the Board itself, individual Board members, Management and major projects;

## **ATHLETICS WA BOARD MEMBERS**

### **Tim Lyons (Chairman)**

Tim was admitted to practice as a lawyer in 1988 and is the principal of Gibson Lyons Lawyers where he specialises in litigation and employment law. He has been heavily involved in his children's sports of Australian Rules, basketball and athletics as administrator, coach and competitor for many years. He was recently awarded life membership of the University of Western Australia Little Athletics Centre and competes at Open and Masters levels in discus, hammer and shot put where his enthusiasm exceeds his ability considerably.

### **Louise Soia (Deputy Chair)**

Louise has been a member of the board since February 2017 and is currently a competing athlete in the 400m and 800m. Louise's professional experience originates from a strong background in economics and currently works in mental health. Currently Athletics WA's delegate to the Commonwealth Games Association where her professional experience combined with her athlete mindset provide a valuable contribution.

### **Tony Chamberlain**

A former committee member of the University of WA Little Athletics Centre that included the roles of Vice President and Coaching Coordinator. Tony is an Advanced Level 3 Middle Distance Coach and current senior coach with the University of WA Athletics Club. A physiotherapist for 27 years and the Principal of City Physiotherapy.

### **John Forbes**

A board member since 2012, John is a Clinical Psychologist in private practice, who also works with sports-people on optimising their performance and overcoming psychological barriers. John is also a Certified Practising Accountant, with extensive financial management and audit experience in government and the private sector and has also worked in the IT sector - including being a Certified Information Systems Auditor.

### **Brenton Mizen**

Brenton has been involved in athletics for over 10 years, winning multiple WA State titles and remains an active participant in the sport. Brenton was a founding member of Perth Track and Field Club (PTF) in 2016 where he currently serves as Treasurer for the club. A Physical Education teacher, Brenton provides the board with a different perspective on a range of developmental issues.

### **Rob Parker**

Armed with an acute knowledge of the IT industry and significant experience with local multinationals within Asia-Pacific and the United States, Rob established Facilitate Corporation in 1999 creating an agile, efficient and accountable organisation.

**David Stanton**

An experienced business owner, director and manager with considerable experience in sales, marketing, finance and governance. An energetic and effective leader who has 30 plus years' experience in athletics, from competitor, coach, administrator, official, to holding a board position on a state body.

**David Van der Walt**

David is a successful property developer with a genuine interest in supporting the community and individuals in need of support. A keen golfer, David enjoys all sports and has been a strong supporter of Athletics WA for many years, providing commercial guidance and good governance to the board.

**Darren Wright**

Darren is a former AIS and WAIS athlete and state representative in the 400m hurdles who has maintained a strong involvement in athletics by coaching and administration with his alignment at Melville / Little Athletics Club. Darren has developed a successful business in servicing the mining, oil and gas industry from Perth and has been a board member since 2009.