

VICTORIAN MASTERS ATHLETICS INC

BY-LAWS effective as of 12 May 2008

Introduction

The functioning and conduct of Victorian Masters Athletics Inc (VMA) is principally guided by the Constitution. However, Clause 2.3 and elsewhere within the VMA Constitution provides for the creation and amendment of By-Laws covering matters concerning the operation and activities of the Association that are not specifically addressed by the Constitution. By-Laws are drawn up by the Committee of Management and submitted for approval at a General Meeting.

By-Laws may be added to, altered or rescinded by the General Committee at any time subject to ratification by the Association at any General Meeting. Individual members wanting to change these By-Laws must advise the Secretary in writing with the proposed amendment not less than 28 days prior to the General Meeting at which the motion for amendment will be presented. The proposed alteration must also be seconded by a financial member.

The VMA By-Laws current as of 12 May 2008 include:

- Management of Venues
- Conduct of VMA Championship Competitions
- VMA Performance Records

Management of Venues

1. These rules cover the operation of approved venues as listed in Appendix 3 of the Constitution

1.1 The members at each venue shall elect a Venue Manager, an Assistant Manager and a Treasurer each year. One person cannot hold more than one position at the same time. A venue may elect or appoint additional persons to assist in the operation of the venue as appropriate to local operating requirements.

1.2 Elections shall be conducted by an "Electoral Officer" appointed by the general consensus of members at the venue. Elections shall be held in February each year and results of the elections must be reported to the VMA Secretary by the 15th of March. If a venue cannot agree on the appointment of an Electoral Officer then the VMA General Committee shall appoint a person to the position.

1.3 The Electoral Officer shall notify members at the venue of the day that elections are to be held at least 14 days before the election. Notice shall be by written notice on the noticeboard and announcements at the venue. Nominations for a position shall be given to the Electoral Officer before the conduct of the elections. In the event that there is a contest for a position the election shall be held by secret ballot. All parties to the election are required to be financial members of VMA.

1.4 Each venue shall maintain a bank account in the name of "Victorian Masters Athletics [*insert name of venue*] venue". All cheques must be signed by two authorised persons. Each venue shall submit financial reports as follows: For period 01 Jan to 30 Jun by 31 Jul, and for the period 01 Jan to 31 Dec by 31 Jan of the following year. The Venue Manager shall submit a report on the

activities of the venue for the calendar year to the VMA Secretary no later than 28 Feb of the following year.

1.5 The Venue Manager shall be responsible for the safe and orderly conduct of events at a venue and these duties are detailed in the Venue Hand Book.

Conduct of VMA Championship Competitions

2 Victorian Masters Athletics Championships shall be conducted annually in accordance with the technical rules of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) except as modified by the Constitution and By-Laws of World Masters Athletics (WMA), Australian Masters Athletics (AMA) and VMA.

2.1 VMA conducts the following state Masters championships for its members:

Track & Field

100 metres, 200 metres, 400 metres, 800 metres,
1500 metres, 3000 metres 5000 metres,
1500 metres race walk, 3000 metres race walk,
Men 30-59 3000 metres steeplechase,
Women and Men 60+ 2000 metres steeplechase,
Sprint Hurdles, Long Hurdles
Long Jump, High Jump, Triple Jump, Pole Vault
Discus Throw, Hammer Throw, Weight Throw, Javelin Throw, Shot Put

Pentathlon,

Weight Pentathlon

5000 metres track race walk

10000 metres track run

Road & Cross Country

10000 metres race walk, 20000 metres race walk
10000 metres run, 10000 metres cross country
8000 metres (men) cross country 6000 metres (women) cross country
10 miles, Half Marathon, Marathon

2.2 Technical specifications and weights of throwing implements shall be those approved by WMA or as modified by AMA & VMA for use in Australia.

2.3 Only current financial members of VMA shall be entitled to win medals at VMA championships. The track referee shall have the power to decide if persons wanting to compete by invitation shall be allowed to do so.

2.4 An athlete's age group shall be determined by their age on the day of competition or the first day of a multi day program.

2.5 VMA Championship entry shall not be subject to any prior achievement or qualifying standard.

2.6 Current Association uniform must be worn at all VMA championships. Competitors not wearing the correct singlet/crop top will not be eligible to receive medals.

2.7 Two or more age groups may compete together in a single event provided that there shall be separate results and awards for each age group.

2.8 Allegations at VMA championships of the offences listed below shall be considered and adjudicated by the VMA Committee in accordance with the Constitution and in consultation with the Competition Director according to the procedures set out in the WMA By-Laws.

Offences include but are not limited to :

- Un-sportsmanlike conduct
- Conduct likely to bring the sport into disrepute
- Improper use of drugs as specified by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code
- Incorrect statement of age or age group or gender

VMA Performance Records

3 VMA shall issue record certificates for performances in events conducted at championship level by AMA or VMA or that are conducted in regular competition by Athletics Victoria. The Association may agree to record and recognise performances in other events for record purposes not covered by the foregoing principle by resolution at a general meeting. The list of events currently recognised for record purposes is listed in clause 3.6.

3.1 Victorian and Championship records and best performances on record shall be recognized in all five year age groups for all approved events subject to the fulfillment of the necessary criteria.

3.2 Victorian records or best performances can only be set by current financial members of VMA.

3.3 Championship records or best performances can be set by any current financial member of a masters/veterans athletic club affiliated with AMA or WMA, including clubs outside of Australia.

3.4 Record or Best Performance on Record applications must be made on the official VMA, AMA or WMA application form. Applications must be lodged with the VMA Records Officer within 28 days of the performance. The Records Officer shall review each application to see that it meets the necessary criteria and forward a summary of the performances to the general committee for final approval before certificates are issued and records declared. If the Records Officer or General Committee reject an application because of incomplete documentation then the athlete must supply the missing documentation within 28 days of being notified of the rejection for the claim to be reconsidered. If an athlete feels that their application has been rejected in error then they can lodge an appeal to present their case in person at a general committee meeting and if still not satisfied then may follow the procedures as set out in the Disputes section of the Constitution.

3.5 Performances must have been done on recognised certified tracks and grounds, or road or other courses where certification is provided by a registered course measurer. Regulations as set out in the IAAF handbook shall apply to all record applications except where specifically modified by WMA, AMA or VMA.

3.6 Events to be recognized for records – VMA

Running - Track

60m
100m
200m
400m
800m
1500m
1 mile
3000m
5000m
10000m

Running – Road

10000m
10 Miles
Half Marathon
Marathon

Steeplechase

3000m M30 to 59
2000m M60+

2000m Women

Hurdles

Per current WMA, AMA or VMA specifications

Jumps

High Jump
Long Jump
Triple Jump
Pole Vault

Field Events

Shot Put
Discus Throw
Hammer Throw
Javelin Throw
Weight Throw
56lb Weight Throw
100lb Weight Throw
Heavy Hammer

Multiple Events

Decathlon
Pentathlon
Weight Pentathlon

Racewalking

1500m track
2000m track
3000m track
5000m track
10000m
15000m
20000m
30000m
50000m

Relays

4 x 100
4 x 400
4 x 800

Events approved by resolution at a General Meeting for record purposes:

1 hour run

3.7 When a new event is approved for addition to the list of events no certificates shall be awarded until 12 months after the date of approval.

3.8 Record claims for performances recorded more than 28 days ago shall be considered only if that performance was done at a Championship level and the athlete signs a Statement that they were a financial member of VMA or another Masters/Veterans athletic club affiliated with AMA/AAVAC at the time of recording the performance.

3.9 The Records Officer shall also maintain a register of "Best Performances by VMA members in approved athletic events". These are events that are either not conducted within Australia or at a championship level. Currently the approved events are :

Indoor events as conducted by WMA
Double Decathlon