



Athletics New Brunswick - Annual General Meeting

Date: Saturday, Nov. 20, 2022

Time: 10am

In Person: University of New Brunswick (Kinesiology Building)

Attendees:

Marc Lalonde – ANB Board Chair & President
Julia Loparco – ANB ED
Andree Savoie – ANB Vice-Chair
Brandon Leblanc - ASEA
Chris Belof – Saint John Reds & ANB staff
Bill MacMackin – Saint John Reds
Dawson Nancekievill – ANB Athlete rep
Jarod Manuel – ANB Treasurer
Yvan Pelletier – Fredericton reds
Shauna Harrison - Fredericton reds
David Harrison - Fredericton reds
Oyinko Akinola – Saint John Reds
Nick MacMackin – Board nominee
David Thomas – Nominations Chair
Carl Cummings – Board member
Scott Anderson – Board member
Alex Stuart - ASEA
Erik Klein – Board member
Sandy Leland – Board member
Steve Leblanc – UdeM & ANB staff
John Herron – Hampton Running
Nathaniel Couture – Speeding Cheetahs & Trail Running NB
One other

1.0 Call to Order / Welcome / Apologies for Absence

The ANB board meeting was called to Order by Marc L at 10:05am. A quorum was declared.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Bill M.

That the Agenda be approved as presented.

Seconded: Carl C.

MOTION CARRIED

3.0 Approval of Minutes of the 2022 SAGM & Matters Arising



Motion: Dawson N.

That the Minutes of 2022 SAGM be approved as presented.

Seconded: Scott A.

MOTION CARRIED

4.0 Reports

4.1 President – Marc – See attached report

Marc highlighted many high-level events have successfully been held in NB: 5 national championships, 3 indoors and 2 outdoors, enhancing our reputation as able to host quality national competitions.

He noted that following Covid, 2022-23 should see a full implementation of ANB's ADSP program. Also highlighted the successful rebranding of ANB and praised Jarod and his committee for their contribution to this undertaking.

Praised Julia for her growth as our ANB ED (now in her third year). Also thanked the rest of the staff (Steve and Chris) for their continued work and support to ANB.

He expressed his gratitude for the outstanding contribution made by all of the Board members, and committee members.

4.2 Executive Director – Julia – See attached report

Julia discussed membership and noted that although there was a massive surge in recreational membership, we are nearing back to 2019 numbers.

Noted 3 full-time staff, and 9 seasonal.

Noted the positive steps taken by NBIAA and ANB in resolving certain delivery issues. Thanked the grassroots club programs for boosting membership and introducing youth to the sport in an exciting manner.

Praised the medals, records and PB successes of ANB athletes this past year.

Operations: Major reboot and overhaul of membership platform is coming in 2023-24 with AC leaving Trackie for Interpodia; More on this will be communicated to the ANB membership as information becomes available.

SafeSport and Coach/Officials development programming will be boosted/promoted highly in the new year; noted that there wasn't a massive launch with the rebrand, due to a media campaign in the works for the new year;

ANB plans on increasing social media capabilities at all clubs through the hiring of social media/programming savvy summer students next summer. This will be a service that will be offered to clubs around the province (She noted that clubs should consider creating and maintaining their own website).

Bill – noted there is a Federal program (CDAP) to help fund not for profit in creating website and other social media channels

Scott – suggests registering all club website subdomains under an.b.ca

Erik – noted availability of funded trainers to help coach social media users

4.3 Treasurer – Jarod – Report

Jarod went over the Profit & Loss statements – including 2022 YTD, PYTD, 2019 YTD

- Noted program revenue decreased but event expenses are also down due to shift to club hosting model
- Fewer summer students
- Revenue is very different looking (less than previous), due to changes in cash flow and when ANB receives certain funding
- Membership fees down from 2019
- Cost of hosting the 5km nationals was high but expecting to at least break as all funding comes through.
- Expects to be in a surplus at end of year
- Bill asked about possibility of our sport to collectively lobby for forgiveness of CEBA loan
- Bill noted a recent decrease in government funding and asked if it was a common occurrence for other pso/nso. Marc answered that the answer is likely no. Total core funding envelope for all sports has not changed over the past 15 years with no increase to compensate for inflation, a significant issue.

5.0 Topics of discussion including certain reports

5.1 ANB competition schedule & process including hosting and applying Policy 3.0

5.1.1

- Julia discussed whether there needs to be a revision of Policy 3.0.
- Competition calendar and over abundance of competitions in the U14 and up leads to a dilution of the competition – do we need that many?
- Dawson – noted responses from survey suggested that athletes favour in general fewer competitions with greater competitive fields
- John – pleads for increased xc competitions for middle school athletes as this seems to be severely lacking across the province.
- Yvan – suggests that local meets are needed to grow newcomer participation in the sport
- Nick – said that people new to the sport seem to be intimidated by NBIAA event being either regional or provincial meets. Smaller local meets might be more attractive to new athletes who would feel more comfortable at the outset.
- Bill – suggests that ALL meet hosts should get together and plan out a 3-season calendar (Winter, Spring-summer outdoors and Fall X country) to avoid over saturating competition schedule.
- Steve – head of technical committee, notes that building a calendar isn't the issue, it's often coordinating facilities access.
- Carl noted that multiple T&F meets spreads officials thin.
- Steve suggests a provincial meet circuit that highlights specific events
- Alex points out that planning of key meets needs to be done by coaches



Motion: David T.

Athlete rep and technical committee join forces to find solutions to competition schedule together and then report to the Board.

Second: Bill M.

CARRIED

5.1.2

Julia says that technical committee needs to review Policy 3.0 as it poses a barrier to sport, in particular in allowing flexibility at the time of the meet to ensure that the races meet the needs of youth and that a larger number of youth are able to participate.

5.1.3

Provincial championships: This will be reviewed by the Technical Committee that is due to meet over the next few weeks to establish the Spring/Summer outdoor season.

5.2 Review of 2021-2022 ADSP – Chris Belof

Highlights the success of the ADSP revamp as many athletes attended ACXC and ACTF leading to success at CSG.

Also noted that programs should have a “shelf life” and that following 2025 CSG, we should review the new ADSP model.

5.3 Outlook for 2022-2023 ADSP & Adjustments – Steve Leblanc

Steve noted that recalculating standards was awkward with fewer performances over the previous couple years. Average is now based on the past 3 years excluding 2020. Next year will likely utilize four years.

Very pleased to see the growing number in the Higher Performance segment with many just missing the mark to be in the Elite segment.

Very balanced group of athletes: sprint, para, combined events, distance, jumps, throws
Presently compiling standards for 2023 indoor and outdoor standards

5.4 Strategic Plan Review – 2022-2027 – Action Plan & Key Priority Measures

5.4.1 In General – Marc Lalonde

- Marc started by saying that ANB will forward the Envision Sport done SportNB to the board for its review.
- Reviewed vision and mission statements and highlighted the 3 main priority areas.
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5.4.2 Participation – Julia Loparco

- Julia posed a question to the attendees asking how to grow participation.
- Discussion ensued: Nath highlighted the Speeding Cheetahs efforts to grow the sport with lots of participation in youth taking up running. John also mentioned the concerning drop off of athletes at middle school and high school and would like to see more local competitions for this group. Bill reiterated the need to focus efforts on securing funding to support and additional ANB staff member with the responsibility for youth participation.

5.4.3 ADSP – Key Measures

- Marc highlighted the KPIs for the high-performance component of ANB moving forward
- Chris put forward the idea of considering Legion and U SPORTS results as indicators of pathway to the success of athletes.

5.4.4 Board Governance & Financial Stability – Marc Lalonde

- Marc would like more cash in the bank to ensure smooth flow of operations during the year.
- Noted that the board should review the diversity of its members and skillset as well as look how it could incorporate in its Board appointments greater diversity.
- Brandon suggests KPIs for individual committees to ensure they are meeting expectations
- Erik inquired about ROI on funding from the province due to successful performance of athletes, but Bill pointed out that the system is such that it tends to lead to the same funding will be given year after year regardless.
- Marc pointed out that results at Canada Games or other national and international competition has only a very small impact on ANB funding.

5.5 ANB Board: Moving from old operational model to present governance model – Marc Lalonde

- Board is no longer acting as an operational board, but rather as a governance board with most of the operational support and responsibilities being delegated to its 8 permanent committees.
- Marc asked Andrée to share her experience with previous boards and what she sees has the best way forward. Andrée comments echoed a similar approach.

6.0 Verbal Reports from Committees / Teams / Events

6.1 Club reports with focus on past year successes, 2022-23 goals, and challenges

- o **Aetos** – Steve Leblanc– successful year, future challenges may be coaching resources to meet athlete demand
- o **ASEA** – Alex Stuart– hosted 6 competitions, launched TrailBlazers, expanded RJTW, many athletes on provincial teams, large growth of team memberships; looking to expand their TrailBlazers program, host multi-sport summer camp; indoor facility access can be a barrier, looking for more volunteer coaches as well.
- o **Chaleur** – n/a
- o **APA** – n/a
- o **Fredericton Reds** – Shauna Harrison– 77 members; struggle with volunteers – invited coaches and parents to ask how to increase membership and volunteers; able to use Gagetown track this outdoor season; need new board members to assist and has a campaign to achieve that.
- o **Greater Moncton Running Club** – provided lots of support in the hosting of the Medavie Moncton Running Festival and also organized the Resurgo half and full marathon that were part of the Festival (as reported by Marc)
- o **New Maryland Speeding Cheetahs** – Nat Couture – membership stayed steady at their cap (210 approx.), is helping other smaller clubs to adopt a similar approach as they have, struggles to obtain indoor facility time during the winter;



looks to build relationships with more established clubs to provide programming for all event groups and age groups

- o **Trail NB - Nat also** noted the return to normalcy for TrailNB following Covid and looking to expand the # of events and participation in the north of the province
- o **Saint John Reds** –Bill MacMackin strong membership (300 range), partnership with Trail Kids program worked very well, lots of hosting of major events, hosted a small SportCoach event, will host AC Indoor again in 2023 as well as the AUS

6.2 Technical Committee – Steve Leblanc

- o Helped set the xc and indoor competition schedule
- o Organizing the outdoor comp schedule over the next month

6.3 Awards Committee – Sandy on behalf of Scott Davis

- o Compiled list of nominees for major award categories
- o Voted on winners and provided Board with list of winners
- o Would wish clubs would submit more nominees
- o Will also add a nomination process for new Wall of Famers for induction in early 2024.

6.4 Athlete Representative – Dawson Nancekievill

- o Reviewed May 2022 survey results in greater details bring emphasis to less competition for the HP athletes but stronger competitions.

6.5 Officials – Carl Cummings

- o Senior officials returning are very low; bringing in volunteers to help with meets is becoming a struggle as volunteers don't necessarily understand the sport and rely on volunteers to teach them at the meet which isn't feasible.
- o Open to having another member that could help bridge the communication with young officials and taking their higher-level course that are available online.

6.6 Governance Committee – Yvan Pelletier

- o Added two new policies: 15.1 Athlete Protection and 15.2 Social Media
- o Reviewed a draft of a policy from AC “Transgender, Gender Diversity and Inclusion”
- o Has a bundle of policies that they will be working on moving forward
- o Brandon noted that 15.1 and 15.2 haven't been disseminated to the membership and should be

6.7 Canada Summer Games – Bill MacMackin

- o Praised the personal coaches of the athletes, as well as the coaching staff at the games for their work with the athletes
- o Put together a document highlighting key practices that worked well as a recommendation for future teams



- o Noted the success of the province coming out of the pandemic and received high praise for the team's conduct at the Games.
- o Athletics is now NBs most decorated provincial sport in CSG history

6.8 Canadian 5km Championships – Marc Lalonde

- o We hosted a successful Canadian National 5K Championships
- o Goal is to rebuild the interest to host championship events in NB including volunteer base
- o Solid turnout and very well executed.

7.0 Other Business

Increase membership fees motion slated for SAGM due to increase in costs one of which being an upcoming switch from Trackie to Interpodia

7.1 Motions – If any

N/A

7.2 Board election – Dave Thomas

As there was no other nomination from the floor, all nominees were appointed as per the nomination report.

7.3 Closing

Bill thanked Marc L. for his 6 years of leadership as ANB President and on behalf of ANB presented him with a ANB branded charcuterie board. Marc thanked Bill, Julia and all present for their confidence, support and work over that time, adding he felt ANB was in an excellent position going forward and in excellent hands with the new Board that was just appointed including the income Board Chair Andrée Savoie.

Adjournment

Motion: Dawson

That the meeting be adjourned.