

## **AGM Notes from the Athletes' Commission 2011:**

This has been such a busy first year as the Athletes' Convener with a re-branding of Archery NZ, new international uniforms, new website as well as all the other decisions and discussions that go with the role. FITA became WA (World Archery).

Allison Graham was appointed as the RMT Registrar.

Anne Mitchell, Michael Caulton & Stephen Florence were appointed as District Representatives to act as a mouth piece for the archers in their district and the Athletes' Convener.

I thank them all for their efforts this past year.

As discussed at the Athletes' AGM last year, there is a need to include the 70m ranking rounds in the Archer rankings. Patrick Biggs has now completed these formulae and the new ranking system will include the FITA rounds, 70m Ranking Rounds and for those who shoot offshore, the international results will also be included. RMT's will no longer count towards the ranking scores.

One of the main focuses of the Athletes' Commission is to improve the communication between the ANZ Board and the archers & clubs. Remembering that this is a two way goal it is my opinion and the opinion of those that have provided feedback that we have definitely improved this in general over the past year. More information is going up on the website, qualifying scores are getting out way ahead of time and I endeavour to give archers an impartial voice. The introduction of an Archery NZ Members' forum on the website will also help, as long as we keep in mind this is a vehicle for young and older alike and it is encouraged to be a forum for ideas, help, discussion rather than a dumping ground for grievances. If you have a genuine grievance the best pathway is to speak to your District Rep or come to me directly.

We managed to secure \$15,000 of funding for the Senior Team to travel to the World Championships in Turin, Italy but unfortunately did not get funding for the Junior Worlds in Poland (this time). It will become practice to apply to funding agencies for the Junior & Senior World Championships and for the Trans-Tasman. This does not stop archers getting the support of their clubs to assist with funding for other purposes and there will be a good reference to funding agencies on the website.

We are also hoping to see a re-emergence of an Auckland District Archery Association as requested by some archers in this District – it's a work in progress and those archers/clubs interested should contact Caro Geelen or Elizabeth Andrew.

I attended an update on WADA's Anti-Doping Policy with Drug Free Sport New Zealand in October and have also updated the Anti-Doping Policy for the website. Information will be available through this and in packs such as at the Nationals. The most common issues in NZ sport are not so much drug cheats but those who are caught out taking prescription or pharmacy only medications not realising they are banned, and those using cannabis or synthetic cannabis.

My only regret over this past year is that we did not manage to qualify any archers for the 2012 Olympic Games. Trying to meet the NZOC's selection criteria on this was unachievable this time but we hope that we will have archers at Rio 2016.

Shooting high-light of the year would have to be the outstanding efforts of Rachel Hughes and Elizabeth Randle at the Youth World Championships finishing 7<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Congratulations to Stephanie Croskery for being awarded her University "Blue" & being voted Sports Woman of the year in her district

David Croskery for being voted Coach of the year in his district

Geraldine Archery Club for receiving a Certificate "In Recognition of Outstanding Contribution to the Community for the Benefit of the Geraldine District".

Shaun Teasdale for breaking the NZ Record for Men's Compound at 30m (360 and 29Xs)

Barbara Scott voted Senior Sports Woman of the year in Taranaki

Anne Mitchell, who was invited to formally open the new indoor stadium in South Otago.

Lytton High School Sport and Cultural Awards presented to:

Dean Croskery awarded a "Blue" for Sporting Excellence in Archery;

Rachel Hughes awarded the National Honours award (the highest sport/cultural award) for Sporting Excellence and International and National Achievement in Archery.

Rachel also received the McIldowie Cup for best individual Sporting Achievement, along with the Massey University Academy of Sports Scholarship.

The Black Arrows Team who competed at Wagga Wagga in the World Bow Hunter Championships with Gold Medals and World Championships to Trevor Irvine, Cheryl Irvine, Linda Lainchbury, Mike Lainchbury, Rob Ward, Ben Orchard, James Williams, Mitchell Joynt and a Silver Medal to Phil Armstead.

There will be many others who have had great achievements over the year we love to hear about them so we can celebrate them with you.

I look forward to a positive and inspiring year in 2012.

**Karen Moffatt-McLeod**

*Convener, Athlete's Commission*