

AGM 2023 Minutes

Australian Time Trials Association Inc. (ATTA)

Annual General Meeting; 26 August 2023

Virtual (online) Meeting

Meeting opened at 12:37 with 10 members present.

Apologies:

Nil		
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Present:

Steve Oates (chair)	Peter Meyer	Stuart Murray
David Equid (minutes)	John Healy	Paul Loring
Steff van Amerongen	Darren Wright	Paul van der Walt
Kim van Amerongen		
John Sonogo (later)	Hayden Long (later)	

1. Minutes of 2022 Minutes:

[Minutes of the 2021 AGM](#) which had been posted on the ATTA web site and distributed to those members who indicated that they would attend this AGM were submitted and accepted.

2. President's Report - Steve

The report has been posted on the [AGM 2023 web page](#) and distributed to those members who indicated that they would attend this AGM.

Key Discussion Points (additional to report content):

Paul V noted that the committee had done a good job at achieving a smooth transitioning from significant reliance on Peter for the managing ATTA events to the current situation.

ATTA continues to experience declining participation at events, in common with other local cycling clubs. The introduction of a "road bike" class has been well received. Increasing participation will be a focus area for the committee this coming summer season.

Acceptance of report—moved Steve, seconded Paul V

3. Treasurer's Report - Steff

The Treasurer's report has also been posted on the [AGM 2023 web page](#) and distributed to those members who indicated that they would attend this AGM, providing details of ATTA's finances for review by all members.

Key Discussion Points (additional to report content):

Stu questioned how long ATTA would be viable given the current losses – Steve has estimated that it could be sustained for approx. 6 years before funds are depleted.

Steve raised that there are several events that now run at a loss every season, mainly due to high traffic management costs and low participation ie Herne Hill. Maybe ATTA should consider dropping these events and possibly replace them with others on alternate courses that do not have the same traffic management requirements. Paul V noted that "popular" events at Kings Park and CLRC continue to make a profit.

Steve has conducted a review of last season and ATTA had lower participation levels across all events. Plan forwards:

- **look at where we host events, what they cost to deliver and the participation level**
- **the overall "experience" at ATTA events and what can be done to make the more attractive to riders**
- **the Wandri course is unlikely to remain viable due to the increased houses, Farmer's Market every Sunday all leading to a general increase in traffic levels. Urban spread has made many former ATTA courses un-suitable.**

Acceptance of report—moved Paul V, seconded John H.

12:48 *John Sonego joined the meeting*

4. Appointment of Office Bearers:

All committee positions were declared vacant.

The following members confirmed their interest in being part of the ATTA Committee:

Steve Oates

David Equid

John Healy

Steff Van Amerongen

Kim Van Amerongen

Hayden Long

Daren Wright

Stuart Murray

Paul van der Walt

Paul Loring advised that he is willing to be support the committee in a consultative role.

Steve offered to continue in the role of President, which was accepted by those present

5. Date of Next Year's AG Meeting:

27 Jul 2024 proposed. Now that the AGMs are being held online it was suggested that they could move to an evening timeframe. Steve will facilitate picking a time and day of the week, potentially a Monday at 7PM.

6. General Discussion:

The following items that were presented prior to the meeting for discussion:

7. What didn't we achieve during the 2022/23 season - Steve

a. Ensure continuation of key Club roles such as starter, timekeeper, trailer towing and BWTM.

We have been able to source people to fill the starter role at events.

Still need others to learn the timing system. This can be split between 1) handing entries and developing the start list etc and 2) event day setup and operation of the hardware.

We are at risk with insufficient trailer towers and qualified BWTM personnel to be able to setup on-road courses. Kim and Steve's BWTM is about to expire. John S advised that he can tow the trailer if he is sent directions on where to collect it, course setup etc. Darren offered to undertake BWTM training, noting that he travels frequently with his work which will limit his availability at events. Paul L advised that he used to be AWTM qualified and has previously advised his interest in undertaking BWTM training.

13:03 *Hayden joined the meeting*

Steve advised that recently he had spoken with WestCycle, will be having further discussions with them in then future. Peter noted that CLRC required ATTA to have a "parent organisation" and that we had noted West Cycle as filling that role.

b. Sorting out what trophies we want to award at which events and prize money etc.

ATTA is moving to "virtual" trophies instead of physical versions with recipients listed on the club's website.

Proposal has been developed and is under review on what trophies will be continued and the basis for awarding them, this is close to being finalised.

Paul V asked if there was going to be BAR awards for the past season. Issue is the current

requirement for a 160k event (which was cancelled this season) and/or the super-hilly. Do we need to revise the criteria? Peter confirmed that the intent of the BAR was to have riders complete a range of distances, as typically riders perform differently on long vs shorter courses. The old requirements may no longer be relevant due to reduced number of events that may be available during a season. Paul V offered to review the work that has been done on the BAR calculations for the past season. John H noted that while people may have earned enough points for an award, they may not have qualified as they hadn't volunteered at an event.

c. Conduct a review of our current courses and assess whether they will be with us for much longer.

This is work in progress with Steve and Darren undertaking a detailed review.

d. Engaging with our members to gather data to inform us where we race, how often, coffee vans etc.

As noted earlier, it is clear that action is required to address declining participation or we risk ATTA ceasing to exist. This applies to participation by both member and non-members.

Steve noted that there had been a recent drop in numbers; Peter advised that historically there has been a fluctuation in participation year by year.

Paul L detailed what he sees as a marketing opportunity to get more junior riders involved in TT events. The fact that riders do not need to be present for a long day waiting for Award presentations etc which is often a requirement at other cycling events.

Darren commented that he used to think that more events was better, not feels that less events of high quality is the preferred approach. Make each event more significant for riders to attend, missing out becomes more of an issue. Aim is to get people to commit ie there are only a couple of opportunities to ride an 80km TT so each is more important.

Steve noted that in recent years ATTA has hosted ~4 less events compared to prior seasons. WCMCC have tried awarding prize money to attract riders yet they still have declining numbers at their events.

Steff noted that many of our riders are getting to the stage where it is difficult for them to achieve a PB, so they may have lost their incentive/challenge to ride? Stu felt we may need to put more emphasis on the age group results to increase interest?

e. Increasing participation numbers through avoiding clashes and the development of a marketing plan.

Steve has been using the ATTA Instagram page to share details of upcoming ATTA events and believes this has had a positive result.

The program for the coming summer season will aim to minimise clashes with events planned by other local clubs.

8. What did we achieve during the 2022/23 season - Steve

a. Now have several people who can run the timing system on event days.

A procedure has been developed that details the process and is available for use by interested members of the committee or others.

b. Transferred the ATTA banking to another provider.

c. Choose a path for the registrations system, pre-paid entries, Race Roster, FileMaker and updating the ATTA website.

These systems are now established and working.

d. Developed a procedure for the front end and back end.

e. Developed an understanding of how the results work and how a new website could be built.

f. Accessed the administration of the ATTA email addresses and the ATTA website.

g. Critically reviewed the marshalling / volunteer requirements using a risk-based approach.

Paul V again noted what a great achievement getting this complete, the organisation is excellent but we need to reverse the declining participation.

Steve – need to extend the reach of ATTA via social media, get more riders aware of ATTA and encourage them to try time trialling.

Paul L – maybe solicit input via a direct email request to members prior to the planned monthly “focus” committee discussion sessions?

9. Race Fees - David

David proposed that ATTA should increase the entry fees for event by \$5 for both non-members and members. There was general agreement that this should be implemented from the start of the summer season.

10. Participation Numbers – Paul V

Steve has met with WCMCC (Chris Singleton) and they have introduced a number of incentives that have lifted their numbers back to pre-COVID levels.

Suggestion that having a photographer at some events could add interest. Stu commented about how well received Troy's GoPro shots were at past events.

13:50 Steff left the meeting.

Other feedback from WCMCC:

- experiencing an overall reduction in numbers
- after the interim committee was established, change focus to more Master's events
- agreement to coordinate calendars to avoid clashes, maybe host some joint events?

11. Race Program – Paul V

Paul suggested that ATTA consider more gravel focused events, to leverage the current popularity of this form of riding and the high level of gravel/MTB riding experience on the committee. It was agreed that this would be included as part of the current course review process.

12. Volunteer Payments – Stu M

It was suggested that the current process should change to an "opt out" approach as that could encourage more volunteers. The content of the current email and associated process is to be reviewed with respect to payment being made or declined.

14:00 Darren left the meeting

13. Wandu – Stu M

Stu restated concerns about the amount of traffic experienced on the Wandu course, based on his recent experience as a marshal on the roundabout with a feed road from the local Farmer's Market. This topic had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

Suggestion was that if we are going to use Wandu then we consider moving to another day of the week, maybe the Monday on a long weekend, to avoid the Market day.

14. Communications – Stu M

Concern about relying only on Facebook as the method of communicating with riders given the declining use of this platform. Suggestion was to combine other forms of communication to ensure our messages are getting through.

The basis for the ATTA Facebook account – is it a "Group" that results in different presentation of posts?

15. PSP Events – Stu M

Topic was not discussed in detail, Stu's concerns having diminished following other discussions.

16. Website – Stu M

Concern that it was not clear where to enter events on the new site. Request that there be a simple way to check the entry list for events, allowing a rider to confirm that they have entered or still need to.

every event that is open for entries is listed in the calendar page of the website. If someone wants to check the entry list for an event this can be achieved via the link on the Race Roster registration page for that event.

Race Suggestions – Stu M

The popularity of the recent Strava based Hill Climb series, might be a way to get more people involved. That series does not have the same constraints as an ATTA event where our riders all participate on the same day, on a course with LGA approvals etc.

Maybe consider other possible courses for additional Hill climb events, when these could happen, possibly replace other events?

Succession Planning – Steve

To be discussed at a future committee meeting, the appointment of a Vice-President to assist with the administration of the ATTA's activities and processes.

Life Members – Steve

Proposal to acknowledge the 3 current ATTA Life Members on the website with a photo and description of their contribution to the club.

Nomination to add Lorraine Schutz and David Equid to become Life Members in recognition of their contribution to the club. This proposal was agreed to all present in the meeting.

AG Meeting closed at: 14:45

Attached:

[President's Report](#)

[Treasurer's Report](#)

Sep 2023