JOE BURGESS

Nominated by the Hornsby District Little Athletics Centre



Skills, Experience & Qualifications

I bring with me an intimate level of knowledge of athletics as a sport and Little Athletics as an organisation, a passion for the goals of Little Athletics, and an energy to inspire positive experience through good governance and strategy. Moreover, I bring a combination of experience and fresh perspective.

I am completing a Master of Commerce (Finance/Economics) from Sydney University and hold a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting/Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations) from the same institution. In this degree, I completed a Capstone unit with distinction in International Corporate Governance, and excelled in Marketing electives.

From a governance perspective, I currently serve as Head of Human Resources of a student-run Asset Management fund, as well as a sub-executive at the USyd Work and Organisational Studies Society and on the committee of Sydney University Athletics Club, Australia's first athletics club.

Personal Statement

I am applying for the LANSW board because I am passionate about the sport and want to give all children the opportunity to have the same experience that I have had with the sport.

I started my Little Athletics journey aged 10 at Manly-Warringah Little Athletics, and continued with the centre until 16. The friends that I made and the good experiences that I had enabled me to transition to senior athletics and compete as a successful open level athlete, which I still do. This has seen me selected for 2 Australia teams, win 2 NSW Open Championships and compete at 12 Australian Championships. Most of all, it espoused in me the values of family, fun and fitness that are central to my life.

In 2018, I decided that I wanted to give back to Little Athletics, and began coaching at Hornsby District Little Athletics. I have relished the opportunity to give back, and have a desire to make an impact at a higher level.

JAMES KERMOND

Nominated by the Campbelltown Collegians Athletics Club



Skills, Experience & Qualifications

In addition to being a current competing elite athlete, my sports admin skill set has been built over a number of years working within the school sport system as part of the sports department at Georges River Grammar in Georges Hall. My duties include administrative roles such as organising and overseeing carnivals and gala days, where I am responsible for ensuring the events are strategically planned and executed well. As well as this, I also coach multiple sporting teams at the school including sports such as track and field, cross country, football, touch football, oz-tag and cricket.

Apart from working in the sporting department at school, I have a background in many other sports such as football, where I am currently the head coach for the Georges River Thistles premier league side.

The skills I have gained as an athlete have allowed me to share my knowledge and abilities with some Little A's athletes that I regularly coach to help them better their performance.

I am also currently studying a Bachelor of Sports Coaching Majoring in Strength and Conditioning, at ACPE in Sydney, where I am further developing my knowledge in multiple areas including sports finance and law.

Personal Statement

Athletics has played a major role in my life and I have been associated with the Bankstown Sports Athletics Club since tiny tots. I was fortunate enough to become a junior life member after spending more than 10 years with the club. During my time as a little A's athlete, I competed in a range of events including state multis, state cross country, zone and regional carnivals. I also had success at the NSW Little Athletics Championships winning medals in the 200m and 400m in U/15 and U/17 age groups. Little athletics gave me the ability to develop as an athlete and helped me grow into the senior athlete I am today.

Since becoming a senior athlete, I have had the honour of competing for my country and state on multiple occasions including wining two NSW open 400m titles and being the Australian team captain at the 2014 IMF World Junior championships. For me, giving back and helping others is just as important as my own career achievements and I get as much satisfaction from helping younger athletes achieve their goals. I believe that this opportunity is a way to give back to the sport that has given me so much.

I have chosen to apply for this role as I am a current competing elite athlete, a former Little A's athlete and a current coach to Little A's athletes. I believe I have the ability to bring my unique skills set and perspective to assist in continuing to grow our sport in NSW.

SIMON NICOLA

Nominated by the Winston Hills Athletics Centre



Skills, Experience & Qualifications

I am an existing board member seeking re-election for a second term. I feel that I as part of the board for the last 2 years, we have only just started making some inroads in delivering some structural changes around how we operate as a sporting organisation and am seeking your support to continue to deliver some positive change.

In my business life where I deliver IT software solution to corporate businesses it is based on listening to what the customer wants. With the upcoming potential mergers between AA (Athletics Australia) and LAA (Little Athletics Australia) and the downstream impacts (positive or negative) to Little Athletics NSW and specifically the centres, I pride myself of being your voice for how you want to see our sport for Little Athletics run.

Personal Statement

My reason for re-applying to the Board member is driven by my passion to deliver positive change in line with an ever-changing social and political demands of parents, athletes. I have increased my involvement as my experience and confidence has grown over the last 22 years at Club, Zone, Region 6 & 3, State. This resulted with me being able to have the experience as Convenor for the 2017 ALAC (Australian Little Athletics Championships) an event I would like to see continue.

Prior to stepping up to be a Board member I was on the Championships Advisory Committee for 4 years (2014 - 2018).

I am a hands-on person evident of my roles at centre, Zone, Region and State and a level 3 Coach and B Track Umpire plus PhotoFinish operator.

Outside of Little Athletics I commenced coaching Special Olympics athletes in 2010 and was appointed NSW Head Coach in 2010 (SA Nationals) and 2014 (VIC Nationals). In 2013 I was the Assistance Australian Coach for the ASIA Pacific Games. Between 2012 and 2015 I was on the SO selection committee in defining athletes, coaches and traveling support teams.

I am a life member of Winston Hills LAC and have the received the prestigious Volunteer of the Year award in 2016.

MICHAEL O'MARA

Nominated by the Bankstown Sports Athletics Club



Skills, Experience & Qualifications

- As a qualified Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) and Member Institute of Governance Professionals -Chartered Secretaries & Administrators (ACIS), with over 30 years in senior management roles in commercial organisations such as the NRMA, ORIX Finance and NSW Government roles of former StateRail and RailCorp NSW, I am well experienced in in management, strategic planning and implementation of major strategic projects.
- As a former part-time Little Athletics NSW staff member from 2016 to 2019 responsible for accounting and financial reporting, I am well aware of the responsibilities and challenges the Board in its role has in leading and guiding this great organisation, management and staff for the growth and development of sport.
- Director and Life Member of Athletics NSW, in addition to being a former LANSW Official and also ANSW Official.
- Currently President of the Commonwealth Games NSW Branch and a member of the executive committee for over 11 years.
- Life member of Western Districts Joggers and Harriers, in addition a life member Bankstown Sports Senior Athletics.
- Since relocating to Orange, I have become a committee member of the Orange Running Festival and recently was the Race Director for the 2020 Orange Running Festival.

Personal Statement

In the past 2 years relocated to Orange in Central Western NSW, I have come to greatly appreciate the importance of the local sporting enthusiasm of the many sports and community members who support athletics, triathlon, cycling, netball or the many winter sports with limited financial and difficulties of many talented athletes, officials and their family having to travel great distances in support of their young athletes.

Over my many years in sports administration as a father of young children, as President of my local Little Athletics Club, evolving as a senior distance runner myself and then in club administration and the sport of athletics in many and varied volunteer roles, I have a great passion for our sport and I wish to continue contributing and working with the Board of Little Athletics NSW.

LINDSAY WATSON

Nominated by the Bankstown Sports Athletics Club



Skills, Experience & Qualifications

I am a former member of the Little Athletics NSW Board of Directors and a qualified coach. I have coached athletes at Olympic and World Junior level and been involved in the sport of athletics for decades.

I have been an administrator at club level and understand the pathways through Little Athletics, having worked with St George Little Athletics, Bankstown Athletics and most recently Scots College.

Personal Statement

I believe that my experience in the sport in the areas of coaching, and club and centre administration, provide me with the background necessary to make a contribution to the Board of Directors of Little Athletics NSW.

I believe the sport needs to be progressive and look to how it can improve its operations and the way that it provides a pathway for kids to progress through the sport and continue their athletics journey.

With my involvement with young athletes, in particular through Scots Prep and Senior School, it has reignited my desire to contribute to Little Athletics again.