



Affiliated with Victorian Little Athletics Association

Little
Athletic
Centre



The Secretary
Eastern Metropolitan Region VLAA

P.O.Box 96
The Mall
WEST HEIDELBERG 3081

For Information: VLAA
Northern Metropolitan Region
Diamond Valley Little Athletic Centre
Rosanna Little Athletic Club
Banyule Little Athletic Club
Saints Little Athletic Club
West Heidelberg Little Athletic Club

SUBJECT: CLUB ACTIVITIES WITHIN ANOTHER CENTRE "AREA"

Dear Tony,

We have been instructed by the members and other executive of this Centre, to bring to your attention a long standing dispute that exists between this Centre and a Club now affiliated with the Diamond Valley Centre (Northern Region).

History: Rosanna Little Athletic Club was affiliated with our Centre from 1970 until approx 1978. During the period 1977-79 a dispute developed between this Centre, Rosanna and Banyule Clubs concerning registration and pointing matters at the commencement of a season.

The executive of this Centre at the time of the dispute held several, although "heated", meetings between the Clubs involved in an effort to resolve the differences of opinion. The outcome was that Rosanna Club broke away from the Centre and commenced competition with the Diamond Valley Centre, formal transfer not being effected. We are informed that Rosanna Club did not return equipment etc including a Heidelberg Centre Perpetual Trophy/Shield despite several communications.

Current Facts:

1. Rosanna Club continues to operate from schools within the localities of Rosanna, Macleod and Banyule which are centrally located within the City of Heidelberg (see attached map).
2. Rosanna continues to use the previous Heidelberg Centre affiliated name, yet competes many kilometres away at another Centre which is part of another Region.
3. As a result of 2. above, the children within the Heidelberg municipality are confused; parents are confused and schools are confused and do not understand why a Club centrally located within the Heidelberg area should compete in a totally different municipality. A possible consequence of this is that rate payers start complaining - and rightly so.

4. Two other Clubs (Saints and Banyule) have been seriously affected by the increased recruiting efforts of Rosanna Club. Membership of Banyule has fallen to such an extent that the Club may not be able to affiliate next season. Saints have a similar problem - membership decrease by 50%. A third Club (West Heidelberg) remains static with about 50 members. Rosanna however, have publically announced a record membership.

5. From the above we agree that the end result is the same, ie children are still getting the benefits of Little Athletics, but why should the remainder be disadvantaged?

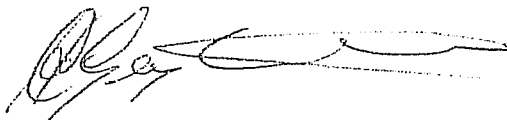
Requirements: The Centre considers that the City Council area is a clearly defined area and therefore any Clubs formed within that area should participate at the facilities provided by the rate payers of that Council. Taking a big bite out of the middle of an area creates too many problems. We feel that individual children should not be prevented from joining the Club of their choice. Rosanna Club is cordially invited to affiliate with the Heidelberg Centre this coming season. If not, then the following requests are made:

1. Rosanna should change their name,
2. recruiting should be done outside of the Heidelberg Council area,
3. active recruiting should therefore be in the Diamond Valley area,
4. advertising in the local newspaper "The Heidelberger" and the Heidelberg area should cease,
5. Rosanna not to conduct their registration morning near the main shopping area of Rosanna township, and
6. Heidelberg Perpetual Shield/Trophy to be returned.

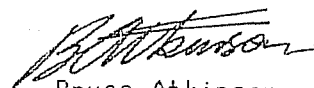
The Heidelberg Little Athletic Centre respectfully requests that this matter be raised and discussed at a delegates meeting of the Region and recommend that the EMR contact Northern Region expressing our views and extend an invitation for Rosanna Club to re-affiliate with Heidelberg Centre or comply with the above requirements.

The Centre regrets having to go to these extremes but the time has come for more action, less talk and hopefully a satisfactory compromise to the benefit of all will result.

Yours Sincerely,



Hugh Geyteman
(Secretary)



Bruce Atkinson
(President)

26 May 85

Rosanna Little Athletics Club

President: Robert Symons

Secretary: Judy Paynter

June 11, 1985

Mr. Bruce Atkinson,
President,
Heidelberg Little Athletics Centre,
P.O. Box 96
The Mall, West Heidelberg, 3081.

cc Eastern Metropolitan Region
Victorian Little Athletics Association
Northern Metropolitan Region
Diamond Valley Little Athletics Centre
Banyule Little Athletics Club
Saints Little Athletics Club
West Heidelberg Little Athletics Club

SUBJECT: CLUB ACTIVITIES WITHIN ANOTHER CENTRE "AREA"

Dear Sir,
Although we were only a copy recipient of your letter dated May 26, 1985, our Committee wishes to reply in a more direct manner.

Your letter is offensive and an insult to the dedicated members of the Rosanna Committee, past and present.

We are not aware of, nor are we concerned with the circumstances that resulted in the Rosanna Club transferring centres in season 1979/80, but are intent only in continuing the successful and extremely pleasant association currently enjoyed through participating at Diamond Valley.

We do not possess, nor have we ever possessed, a trophy or equipment etc. belonging to the Heidelberg Centre.

On direction from the Committee I have been requested to decline your "invitation" to return to Heidelberg, and additionally reject without qualification, your demands.

The Rosanna Club wishes the Heidelberg Centre every success, however, may we suggest that this can be achieved with "more action, less talk".

R.E. Symons

~~Greenborough~~
Greenborough - 3088
2-7-85

Rob,

Enclosed please find four (4) copies of the
tes for the next Genie Delegates meeting. You
like to pass them on to the Delegates, Secretar
Team Manager.

Could you remember to bring the affiliation
to the meeting please. Thankyou.

No doubt Jim Wilson has told you that
discussed your letter at Region level, and it
decided that we could continue discussions
any concerned parties if necessary. The
on delegates placed the matter in the hands of the
ative, and that was a unanimous decision.

You may rest assured that you intere
always considered at all times. Jim will keep
up to date on anything else that should develop.

I hope that I may continue to be
iated with you personally and with your club.

Best wishes,

Bernadette G. BaimH.

Discussion with Jim Mason 30/6/85

His full support plus DVZAC and me want he agreeing,
Jim spoke to Ken Brown - He then
(1978/79 President of Heidelberg Centre
who agreed transfer was legal -
stated that Heidelberg were glad to see
Rosanna go to D.V.

EMK President Tony Cupps was totally
unaware of background - was surprised
by copies of letters produced by Rosanna.

A meeting between NWH & EMK
legally with representatives from
Heidelberg and Rosanna attending

Heidelberg Centre have a club "WESTFIELD"
who belong to Preste / Resmer area
- similar circumstances to Rosanna
transfer

Jim stated we need to be careful re
revels where we recruit.

MR. ROBERT SYMONS
PRESIDENT
ROSANNA LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB

28 JUNE 1985.

Dear Rob.,

It is unfortunate that the matters which prompted this letter have done little to promote the goodwill that is characteristic of the Little Athletic movement.

As an Executive and Life Member of the Diamond Valley Centre, I wish to offer my full support to you and your Club.

Not having been privy to any discussions or actions taken by your Club prior to you joining Diamond Valley, I therefore cannot make comment on the accurateness of the arguments put forward by the Heidelberg Centre regarding your past activities.

It is the right of the Children and the Parents to choose the Club and Centre they wish to be associated. If you have been seen by the local community as a progressive and responsible Club, then this is to your credit. Perhaps other Clubs could follow your steps and learn some new ways of recruiting and promoting Little Athletes rather than the cheap and petty way in which some have been operating in the past. If indeed the Diamond Valley Centre has provide scope and effective opportunities for all Clubs to improve their registrations and develop Junior Sport in the area, then are we all guilty of the crimes so negatively suggested by other persons?

I have never been an active supporter of 'recruiting zones' or particular schools for certain Clubs, as I hope that all children would be free to join a Club that offered the necessary support, interest and activities that best met the needs of the child.

I do not believe that it is the role of the Regions to become involved in this type of dispute. The role of the Region is to provide administrative and practical service for the proper conduct of Regional Competition. It would be more appropriate for the Centres concerned to discuss these matters, if need be. I have personally spoken to a number of the Region Executives to ensure that this matter is dealt with by your administration, and not by a group of people that are not versed with the operations of the Rosanna Club or the Diamond Valley Centre. I am sure that this Executive of Diamond Valley would be only to willing to provide assistance, if you were to request it.

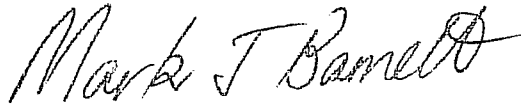
I have been associated with Little Athletics since 1970. I was an Executive Member when Rosanna applied to join Diamond Valley and was in favour of your application. Since this time your Club has grown, and has become accustomed to the unique procedures of this Centre. Certainly there has been times, as with all Clubs, when things have not been to our mutual satisfaction. This is a part of life. I am often disillusioned by the antics of some people who profess to have the interests of Little Aths at heart.

However I am encouraged by the hard work that many people put into Little Athletics. I have been proud to be associated with the Diamond Valley Centre for many years.

I look forward to the coming season and with increased vigor from all the Clubs hope that Diamond Valley will once again prove its ability in providing good clean fun for its members.

Good luck for the coming season.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark J. Barnett". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Mark J. Barnett

Arena Manager.

Rosanna Little Athletics Club

President: Robert Symons

Secretary: July Paynter

June 12 1985

Mr J. Mason
President
Diamond Valley Little Athletics Centre

Dear Jim,

REFERENCE HEIDELBERG LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE LETTER DATED MAY 26 1985

It is most unfortunate that the HLAC have chosen this course of action, and in the manner in which they have. Since leaving Heidelberg at the completion of the 1978/79 season we have not received one communication, written or verbal, on any matter whatsoever, from HLAC.

A copy of our response to HLAC is enclosed and, in fairness to the dedicated and hard working Rosanna Committee, over the past six seasons since joining Diamond Valley, I must reiterate that the nature of the letter is quite offensive, quite apart from being totally erroneous in the content matter.

The Rosanna Club did in fact transfer to Diamond Valley in the season 1979/80, with the sanction of the VLAA. To support this I have enclosed a copy of correspondence :

- * From VLAA to Rosanna sanctioning the transfer
- * From DVLAC welcoming Rosanna
- * From Rosanna to HLAC advising formal notification of transfer
- * Also enclosed is a copy of the Rosanna President's and Secretary's 1979/80 Season Report, which is a testimonial to the transfer

Rosanna has enjoyed competing at Diamond Valley and we recognise ourselves as an integral member of the Centre. The continued success of DV, in both administration and on-field achievement, is widely recognised and the Rosanna Club is proud of our contribution.

We look forward to continuing our association for many years to come.

This matter is to be discussed at Regional level where we hope that once and for all, HLAC will accept our position on this matter and, in so doing, allow us to concentrate on Little Athletics.

Should you wish to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact me.

R.E. SIMONS

Rosanna Little Athletics Club

President: Robert Symons

Secretary: Judy Paynter

June 11, 1985

Mr. Bruce Atkinson,
President,
Heidelberg Little Athletics Centre,
P.O. Box 96
The Mall, West Heidelberg, 3081.

cc Eastern Metropolitan Region
Victorian Little Athletics Association
Northern Metropolitan Region
Diamond Valley Little Athletics Centre
Banyule Little Athletics Club
Saints Little Athletics Club
West Heidelberg Little Athletics Club

SUBJECT: CLUB ACTIVITIES WITHIN ANOTHER CENTRE "AREA"

Dear Sir,
Although we were only a copy recipient of your letter dated May 26, 1985, our Committee wishes to reply in a more direct manner.

Your letter is offensive and an insult to the dedicated members of the Rosanna Committee, past and present.

We are not aware of, nor are we concerned with the circumstances that resulted in the Rosanna Club transferring centres in season 1979/80, but are intent only in continuing the successful and extremely pleasant association currently enjoyed through participating at Diamond Valley.

We do not possess, nor have we ever possessed, a trophy or equipment etc. belonging to the Heidelberg Centre.

On direction from the Committee I have been requested to decline your "invitation" to return to Heidelberg, and additionally reject without qualification, your demands.

The Rosanna Club wishes the Heidelberg Centre every success, however, may we suggest that this can be achieved with "more action, less talk".

R.E. Symons

MR. ROBERT SYMONS
PRESIDENT
ROSANNA LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB

28 JUNE 1985.

Dear Rob.,

It is unfortunate that the matters which prompted this letter have done little to promote the goodwill that is characteristic of the Little Athletic movement.

As an Executive and Life Member of the Diamond Valley Centre, I wish to offer my full support to you and your Club.

Not having been privy to any discussions or actions taken by your Club prior to you joining Diamond Valley, I therefore cannot make comment on the accurateness of the arguments put forward by the Heidelberg Centre regarding your past activities.

It is the right of the Children and the Parents to choose the Club and Centre they wish to be associated. If you have been seen by the local community as a progressive and responsible Club, then this is to your credit. Perhaps other Clubs could follow your steps and learn some new ways of recruiting and promoting Little Athletes rather than the cheap and petty way in which some have been operating in the past. If indeed the Diamond Valley Centre has provide scope and effective opportunities for all Clubs to improve their registrations and develop Junior Sport in the area, then are we all guilty of the crimes so negatively suggested by other persons?

I have never been an active supporter of 'recruiting zones' or particular schools for certain Clubs, as I hope that all children would be free to join a Club that offered the necessary support, interest and activities that best met the needs of the child.

I do not believe that it is the role of the Regions to become involved in this type of dispute. The role of the Region is to provide administrative and practical service for the proper conduct of Regional Competition. It would be more appropriate for the Centres concerned to discuss these matters, if need be. I have personally spoken to a number of the Region Executives to ensure that this matter is dealt with by your administration, and not by a group of people that are not versed with the operations of the Rosanna Club or the Diamond Valley Centre. I am sure that this Executive of Diamond Valley would be only too willing to provide assistance, if you were to request it.

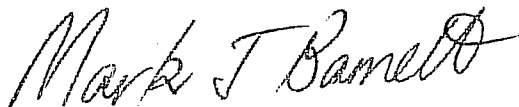
I have been associated with Little Athletics since 1970. I was an Executive Member when Rosanna applied to join Diamond Valley and was in favour of your application. Since this time your Club has grown, and has become accustomed to the unique procedures of this Centre. Certainly there has been times, as with all Clubs, when things have not been to our mutual satisfaction. This is a part of life. I am often disillusioned by the antics of some people who profess to have the interests of Little Aths at heart.

However I am encouraged by the hard work that many people put into Little Athletics. I have been proud to be associated with the Diamond Valley Centre for many years.

I look forward to the coming season and with increased vigor from all the Clubs hope that Diamond Valley will once again prove its ability in providing good clean fun for its members.

Good luck for the coming season.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark J. Barnett".

Mark J. Barnett

Arena Manager.