

**THE  
CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
CANADIAN MASTERS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

**1980  
(Rev. April 15,1999)**

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CANADIAN MASTERS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

The Constitution was created in 1980 by discussion within the following National Executive:

President : Alastair Lynn  
Vice-President : Ken Richardson  
Past President : Brian Oxley  
Former President : Don Farquharson  
Secretary-Treasurer : Dick Dear  
Bulletin Editor : Norman Baum  
Team Manager : Bill Allen  
Executive Members : Stan Smith  
Christine Walker  
Alex Woodhouse  
George Gluppe

**Records Officials:**

Track : Danny Daniels  
Field : Valdis Teteris

**Provincial Directors:**

Alberta : Art Vondette  
British Columbia : Cliff Hall  
Manitoba : John Houlden  
New Brunswick : Leroy Washburn  
Nova Scotia : Keith Graham  
Ontario : Art Rappich  
Prince Edward Island : Ewen Stewart  
Quebec : Ian Hume  
Saskatchewan : Bob Polischuk  
Yukon : Rae Wigen

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**Table Of Contents**

<b><u>Section</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
Objectives	1
Membership	2
Condition Of Election To Membership	2
Rights Of Members	2
Meetings Of Members	3
Membership Fees	3
Expulsion	4
Executive	4
Committees	6
Province Of Residence	6
Banking	7
Provincial Directors	7
Provincial Executive Bodies	8

## **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CANADIAN MASTERS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

NAME of the organization shall be the "Canadian Masters Athletic Association" and it may carry on its activities under the abbreviation CMAA.

A team representing the CMAA in international competition shall be known as CMITT (Canadian Masters International Track Team).

### **OBJECTIVES:**

To promote Masters athletics across Canada; Masters being defined as Women 35 years of age and over, and Men 40 and over.

In particular but not exclusively to:

Each year conduct a Canadian National Outdoor Track & Field Championship, Canadian National Cross-Country Championship, National Marathon Championship, and such other events as may be decided upon by the Executive including competition for younger age groups, i.e. Submasters Women 30-34 years of age and Submasters Men 35-39 years of age.

Represent Masters from Canada in the World Association of Veteran Athletes (WAVA).

Authenticate Canadian Masters Records in Track & Field , and to provide procedure for validation.

Rule on eligibility of Master competitors.

Appoint Provincial Directors in the event that Provincial members fail to do so.

Be responsible and final authority for Canadian Masters competition on an international level, and for the selection of Masters to represent Canada.

To establish competitive rules for Canadian Masters activities.

To publish periodically a bulletin to facilitate communication and provide news of Masters activities.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Consist of women and men residing in Canada, and Canadian citizens resident abroad. Honorary Life Members proposed by the Executive in recognition of outstanding services rendered to the organization. They shall be elected by a majority of votes cast at a meeting of the members.

### **CONDITION OF ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP:**

- 1) That every applicant complete and sign such form of application as prescribed by the Executive.
- 2) That every applicant in consideration of their acceptance as a member shall absolve other members of the Masters organization from all injuries, claims, demands, actions, or causes of

action whatsoever in law or in equity which may arise from or by reason of participation in Masters activities.

- 3) That every applicant shall be subject to the approval of the Executive.
- 4) That all those who have been elected members of CMAA shall submit to and assent to be bound by the Constitution and each and all of the resolutions and regulations of the Executive, and restrictions validly enjoined or penalties validly imposed, and to rulings and decisions properly made and the exercise of any authority vested in the Executive or any authorized officer of the organization.

**RIGHTS OF MEMBERS:**

To have one vote at general meetings, special meetings or any ballot.

To have such bulletins and notices as may be issued to members from time to time mailed to the last known address.

To have his/her membership for each current year certified by a membership card issued by the Executive.

**MEETINGS OF MEMBERS:**

The Annual General Meeting shall not be held later than June 30th of any given year.

At every Annual General Meeting, in addition to other business that may be transacted, the financial statement and the report of the auditor shall be presented and members be appointed to the Executive as herein provided, and an auditor be appointed for the ensuing year.

The members may consider and transact any business either special or general without any prior notice of that business at any meeting of the members, provided that no changes in the Constitution shall be considered unless notice of same has been given to the members by the Executive or by any six members at least six weeks prior to the date of the meeting. The Executive or any 25 members have power to call at any time, a special meeting of the members.

Notice of time and place of holding the Annual General Meeting or any other general or special meeting shall be given by way of written notice to each member at his/her last known postal address, such notice to be mailed at least twenty (20) days before the date of the meeting.

A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of members shall consist of not less than twenty (20) eligible Masters present in person.

Each member shall be entitled to one vote.

At all meetings of members every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present with the exception of changes to the Constitution when voting is allowed also by proxy.

Question shall be decided in the first instance by a show of hands unless a poll be demanded by any

three members. In the case of an equality of votes at a general meeting, whether upon a show of hands or at a poll, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second and casting vote.

**MEMBERSHIP FEES:**

As levied by CMAA Executive annually and payable on demand. After 30 days from the first request a written reminder shall be sent at which time the late fee may incur a penalty as decided by the Executive.

No person can be recognized as a certified member and entitled to the privileges of membership until such fee is paid.

**EXPULSION:**

The Executive shall have the power by a vote of three-quarters or more of those present at a properly constituted meeting, to expel or suspend from membership any member whose conduct shall be considered by the Executive to be improper, or likely to endanger the welfare, interest or character of CMAA and its activities. Or who wilfully commits a breach of the Constitution, resolutions of the Executive, or any committee under the authority thereof . No member shall be expelled or suspended for any such offense without first being notified of the charges against such member and given an opportunity to be heard by the Executive at a meeting called for the purpose. Such notification shall be sufficient if mailed to the member's place of address as shown on the CMAA records by registered letter at least twenty-one days prior to the meeting of the Executive at which the hearing is to be granted.

**EXECUTIVE:**

The affairs, finances and property of CMAA shall be managed by an Executive chosen from Master members in good standing at the time of election. The Executive shall have power to enforce due observance of the Constitution or of any Resolution, Rules or Regulations made by the Executive and to do all other things which it may deem necessary for the proper operation and management of CMAA.

Until changed by special resolution, the Executive shall consist of a minimum of nine members of whom at least one shall be a woman and one the resident Provincial Director. The retiring President is automatically a member. In addition to this minimum number, the other Provincial Directors (see page 9) are also members.

Four persons shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any meeting of the Executive of which at least one shall be President, Vice-President, or immediate Past President. Notwithstanding vacancies, the remaining members of the Executive shall exercise all the power of the Executive so long as a quorum of the Executive remains in office.

A nominating committee shall, in each year, be constituted consisting of the woman representative, the President of the CMAA and two members appointed by the Executive. If any one or more of the officers of the Nominating Committee fail to act or is not qualified to act, the Executive may appoint any member to act in his/her stead. The first meeting shall be called by the President, and the Committee shall select its own chairman. The Nominating Committee shall select its nominees to fill the vacancies or impending vacancies on the Executive.

The Committee shall select its nominees and the Chairman notify the President at least 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The list of nominations shall be read to the Annual General Meeting preceding the taking of the vote. Nominations may be made from the floor.

At the AGM, the President must be elected and if possible all other officers of the Executive. In the event that positions other than President are not filled at the Annual General Meeting then the Executive at their first meeting shall appoint officers from among themselves.

One-third of the Executive shall be retired at each annual meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election if otherwise qualified.

The President can serve for only two consecutive years, but can restand at any time after a term out of office.

The members of CMAA may, by resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the votes cast at a special or general meeting of which notice had been given specifying the intention to pass such resolution, remove any member of the Executive before the expiration of his/her term of office and may, by a majority of the votes cast at that meeting, elect any member in his/her stead for the remainder of the term. Any vacancy on the Executive occurring during the year shall be filled by the Executive any member or members so appointed shall, as regards retirement from the Executive, be allowed to be of the same seniority as the member whose place has been filled.

At least eight (8) regular meetings of the Executive shall be held on such days as the Executive may decide, but must be held at least every two (2) months.

No member of the Executive shall be liable for the acts, neglects or defaults of any other member, or for any loss occasioned by an error of judgement or oversight on his part, or for any loss, damage or misfortune whatever which may happen in the execution of his/her or in relation thereto unless the same shall happen through his own dishonesty. The President shall, when present, preside at the meetings of the members and of the Executive, and shall be in charge of the general welfare and supervision of the affairs of the organization, and shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and special Committees.

During the absence or inability of the President, his duties may be performed and his powers may be exercised by the Vice-President. The Vice-President shall also exercise such powers as the President may from time to time delegate to him/her or the Executive may prescribe.

The Secretary shall give or cause to be given all notices required to be given to executive members, auditors or members of Committees. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Executive and of the members and shall enter or cause to be entered in files kept for that purpose, minutes of all proceedings at such meetings; he/she shall be custodian of all books, records, documents and other instruments belonging to the organization; provided that he/she may delegate such custody to another member of the Executive.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the keeping of full and accurate books of account in which shall be recorded all receipts and disbursements of the organization, and under the direction of the Executive, shall control the deposit of money, the safekeeping of securities and the disbursement of the funds of

the Organization and shall render to the Executive at the meetings thereof, or whenever required of him/her, an account of all his/her transactions in connection with the Organization affairs and of the financial position of the Organization.

**COMMITTEES:**

The Executive may appoint annually from among the members of the Executive a chairman of the following committees and each chairman shall be empowered to appoint from among members of the organization further members of his/her committee:

- 1) Membership and Publicity
- 2) Bulletin
- 3) Records
- 4) Meets

No committee and no member thereof shall have power or authority to make any contract in the name of or incur any liability or obligation on behalf of the organization, and no committee shall have power to make any rule or regulation which shall be binding upon the members, unless the same shall have been first submitted to and approved by the Executive. The duties of the committees shall be to make recommendations as they deem proper to the Executive, and to see any recommendations adopted by the executive are duly observed and performed.

**PROVINCE OF RESIDENCE:**

It is recognized that in view of the Federal principles on which this country is based that as many provinces as possible should in their turn share in the administration of CMAA, provided there are sufficient members to form a viable organization. The Executive of CMAA is to be located in a province selected by a postal vote taken among CMAA members in good standing. Once this province is selected, the Executive should stay there for at least two (2) years.

The postal vote must take place before the Annual General Meeting (AG) so that the AG can be held in the province selected. This postal vote for deciding the province of residence of the CMAA Executive shall be taken every two (2) years.

Any Province which makes the request must appear on this postal ballot but the current Executive has the right to recommend a particular Province to the members if it so wishes. The Executive is awarded to the Province receiving the highest number of votes.

The current Province of Residence at that time must also appear on the ballot. If there are no applications from other Provinces, the Executive will remain in the current Province for a further two (2) years until the next postal ballot.

**BANKING:**

The banking business of CMAA shall be transacted with such bank, trust company or other corporation carrying on a banking business as the Executive may designate, appoint or authorize from time to time by resolution.

All such banking business, or any part thereof, shall be transacted on CMAA's behalf by such one or more officers and/or other persons as the Executive may designate from time to time by resolution.

Cheques on behalf of CMAA to be signed by any two of the following: the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Past President.

Until otherwise ordered by the Executive, the financial year of the CMAA shall end on the 31st day of December in each year, CMAA having been formed and operated for solely non-profitable purposes, no part of the income now or hereafter earned shall accrue to the benefit of any member thereof other than duly authorized meet or administration expenses.

### **PROVINCIAL DIRECTORS:**

Shall be certified members of good standing.

Shall be appointed annually by the Provincial members or failing this by the Executive of the CMAA.

Shall be entitled to vote at and receive notices and minutes of meetings of the Executive of CMAA and is a member of such Executive.

### **Duties:**

To promote Masters athletics across Canada generally and in particular the province in which he/she resides.

To represent CMAA in his/her province.

### **PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE BODIES:**

#### **Duties:**

To promote Masters athletics across Canada generally and in particular their own province of residence.  
By reason of their membership consisting of certified CMAA members to assist the CMAA Executive in their endeavours.

To supply CMAA Executive with copies of all minutes of Provincial Executive meetings and members meetings.

To supply CMAA with notices of and results of all Masters meets held in the province.

To promote meets and obtain sponsors for same where possible.

To make recommendations to CMAA Executive.

To obtain funds from Provincial Governments and quasi-Government corporations such as Wintario and from this type of funds to finance CMAA in relation to the number of their certified members on the date

of the CMAA Annual General Meeting.

To comply with all reasonable requests from CMAA for funds for specific purposes that serve a national need and others where the benefit is directly for the province but necessarily incurred by CMAA.

CONSTITUTION OF PROVINCIAL BODIES and any changes thereto should be filed with the Executive with a view to seeking as much uniformity as possible.