

# **OCEANIA MASTERS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS NORFOLK ISLAND JAN 2022 (postponed from 2021)**

After many meetings and constant Covid related updates regarding border closures and international travel into Norfolk Island, the Local Organising Committee has made the heartbreaking decision to cancel the conduct of the OMA Championships in Norfolk Island in January 2022.

The reality is that the current situation relating to inbound travel into Norfolk Island is not improving to the degree that we had hoped by now, and this is not expected to improve for the remainder of 2021. The Covid vaccine rollout is not accelerating border openings with the speed we had anticipated and international travel is highly unlikely for the remainder of this year.

The LOC has worked through the challenges of the original postponement and continued to operate collaboratively in trying times over an extended period. I'll be forever grateful for the enthusiasm and professionalism this LOC has brought to their work over this prolonged period.

As Chair, the reality that the work and commitment shown by each member of the LOC, is now unable to be showcased for all to see compounds the sadness of this recent decision.

When we return to some sense of normality around travel and physical competition that can ensure that the entire OMA family are able to gather freely then Norfolk Island will again be better positioned to host an OMA Championship for the third time and will look forward to bidding for the hosting rights accordingly.

**Tim Rogers**

**Chair**

**Local Organising Committee**

**Oceania Athletics Championships NI2022.**

