



Check Peter Haggins on this

Time Flies - 1972 is here and so is the February Newsletter! In this issue you'll find full details of the Moomba Championships, dates for the quarterly meetings, some general news items, and a letter from the President, highlighting the B.A.A. activity and attitudes.

There is also some Stop Press news, and that is advance warning of a competition in Swan Hill, Victoria. It is proposed that boomerang throwing competitions will be run in conjunction with the Pioneer-Shakespeare Festival to be held during the period April 22nd to 29th inclusive. Preliminary planning is for the competitions to be run on Saturday, April 29th during the wind-up carnival. There will be two competitions, one being an open competition, and the other for ladies only.

Any members who are interested in this competition are requested to let either Morris Maxwell or Hamish Robb know, so that we can get an idea of the likely support from B.A.A. members, and also give us time to solve any transport problems.

BASIC COMPETITION RULES - 1972

The 1972 rules, are published in this issue, (see page 7). These rules are basically the same as the old rules, with the main changes being the conversion to metric measure, the inclusion of a fourth accuracy circle, and clarification of the definitions relating to catches, and to general procedures.

Additional copies of these rules are available on request from the Secretary, (see page 4 for the address.).

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FINANCIAL NEWS

The last day of April is the end of our Financial Year, and all fees are due on the First day of May. Please help the Treasurer (and the Association) by sending your fees promptly.

The current rates are :	Senior Members (Over 16)	\$1.00
	Intermediate	
	Members (11 to 16)	\$0.75
	Junior Members (Under 11)	\$0.50

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Dear Members,

The beginning of a New Year seems to me an appropriate time to mention some of the Associations hopes for the future and to review progress over the last 12 months.

To me, the most significant advance in 1971 has been the development of our organisational capacity for competitive meetings. A number of members have accepted responsibility for acquiring and storing various items of equipment which make it possible for us to stage a championship with little outside help other than the provision of a venue.

The B.A.A. now owns or has the use of the following. A portable loud hailer folding table and chairs, line marking machine (Beloved - offspring of Morris Maxwell patent pending) large screen printed banners, score - board and stand, two portable Boomerang display racks, competitors identifying patches and field judges equipment.

All this brings me to a very important point ANY MEMBERS INTERESTED IN A BOOMERANG THROWING COMPETITION IN THEIR STATE, CITY, SUBURB, STREET, OR BACKYARD, let our Secretary Morris Maxwell know, as we are anxious to promote more annual events and will give any propositions sympathetic consideration.

The wide acceptance of B.A.A. competition rules has been another satisfying development. At a meeting on 8th December 1971, some updating alterations were made to these competition rules and I am convinced that they now provide a most efficient form of competition which has good spectator appeal.

During 1972, a concerted effort will be made to raise standards. It has been a matter of considerable concern to myself and many individual members that the sport of Boomerang throwing still has a flavour of a "Carnival side show act" about it. The Associations executive is determined to raise the standards of competition and generally to promote the art of making and throwing boomerangs in a manner which will place it on an equal footing with sports which enjoy a high standing in the community. For this reason the Association does not recognise at this time any competition which claims to be a "World Title" event. There can be no "World Champion" until we have an event in which international competitors (representing member clubs within a World Federation of Boomerang Clubs) are participating.

Likewise, the B.A.A. recognises only one National or State Championship annually, and will only approve these where the standard of organisation and competency of all judges involved proves to be satisfactory.

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Our concern on the standard of competitions applies also to the numerous claims of records held from long distance through to consecutive catches. We see an embarrassing list of claims and counter claims which do little but provide cheap publicity for a few individuals at the expense of the sports development as a whole. Our efforts here will be aimed at directing aspiring record holders to compete in recognised events at B.A.A. controlled meetings. Members who participated in the Darlington Point Championship and the last Australian titles held at Albury will recall that a number of minor events were held, (including long distance and consecutive catches). Firm rules are now established for the conduct of these events and record making is encouraged in these properly supervised competitions.

(One member has requested confirmation of his record for throwing a boomerang made from a standard fruit case around his Mother-in-law at low tide on a Tuesday after consuming 5 pints of an unspecified liquid containing not less than 75% alcohol).

In conclusion, I would like to mention the progress the Association has made since its inception. The financial membership is now almost 100, there are 4 competitions which have become annual events, and several hundred youngsters are being taught to make and throw boomerangs every year through our efforts in schools, Youth Clubs, and with the National Fitness Council.

Yours

Geoff Rawson
PRESIDENT. B.A.A.

On January the 15th, three B.A.A. members demonstrated the skills of boomerang throwing at the Seymour Sports Carnival organised by the local Jaycee and Apex groups.

The participants were Ralph Sinclare, Bill Knight, and Bluey Williams, and they showed their skills to a crowd well in excess of 3,000 people. The weather was kind and enabled a very high standard of throwing to take place.

NATIONAL FITNESS ACTIVITIES

During January, Ray Ffrench and Hamish Robb lead groups at a number of National Fitness Recreational Workshops, and taught the students how to make and throw their boomerangs. A total of 99 students participated and the activities were conducted at the Knox, Ringwood, Moorabbin and Anglesea Centres.

The student enthusiasm was high, and it is pleasing to report that each and every boomerang was a success.

This Newsletter is produced by the Boomerang Association of Australia.

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Secretary: Morris Maxwell, 45, Rose Street,
MacKinnon. 3204.
Editor: Hamish Robb, Lot 14, Wallace Road,
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MOONBA CHAMPIONSHIPS 1972.

DATE: 5th March 1972
COMMENCEMENT: 9 a.m.
VENUE: Football Oval in Flinders Park,
adjacent to Batman Avenue.
ENTRANCE FEE: \$1.00

The Championship will be held in accordance with the current basic competition rules of the Association.

There will be two preliminary rounds, with each competitor having five throws in each round. That is, each competitor has 10 throws in all. The finals will also consist of two series of five throws. The finalists will be those competitors who have the three highest scores in the preliminary rounds, regardless of the number of competitors on those scores. For example, if there should be two competitors on 72 points, and two on 68, all shall compete in the final.

The preliminary rounds are to be completed by 1.30 pm. There will then be a half hour change over period before the commencement of the radio controlled model aeroplane display which will continue until 3 pm., at which time the final for the Championship will commence.

The Model Aeroplane display will recommence at 3.30 pm, and should the final not be completed by this time, it will be continued at 5.30 pm.

Past competitions have not commenced punctually, and as this is the second year which the B.A.A. has been solely responsible for running of the competition, your co-operation of being in attendance on time would be appreciated. Any interstate competitors requiring assistance in obtaining accomodation, should they desire to remain in Melbourne overnight, may contact the secretary, Mr. Morris Maxwell, 45 Rose Street, McKinnon, 3204. Phone 58.4160.

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1971 PART 2 (MELBOURNE)

The Quarterly Meetings will be held on the following dates:

FEBRUARY	23
MAY	24
AUGUST	23
NOVEMBER	24

These meetings will be held at :

3 Biscayne Avenue,
SYNDAL.....

unless otherwise advised!

Starting time:

8 p.m. prompt!

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TRAINING THE TRAINERS ! ? !

The 1971 and 1972 Boomerang Construction and Throwing activity conducted in conjunction with the National Fitness Council of Victoria, have been most popular. It is hoped that many of the young people involved in this activity will become active in the sport. We hope that the number of locations at which this type of activity are held will increase in 1973. If it does expand, we will be looking for more B.A.A. members to assist in the training environment.

Handling groups of young people is not a task that everyone finds easy first off, so the National Fitness Council are prepared to run a training course for interested group leaders; provided we get sufficient response from within the B.A.A. If anyone is at all interested, please let the Editor know, (see page 4 for the address), so that a list can be compiled. If you think you can help out in this area, please get in contact for more details.

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BASIC COMPETITION RULES 1978

1. General:

- (a) A competition in accordance with following rules, is a test of: accuracy of return, ability to catch the boomerang, and range.
- (b) Such a competition shall be used for all championships which are recognized by the Association.
- (c) These rules will be effective for the duration of the whole Calendar Year. For any future alterations, refer to the By-Laws of the Association.
- (d) Competitors will use boomerangs which are of similar shape to the Australian Aboriginal Boomerang; and must be thrown and caught by hand.
- (e) Competitors will throw from the centre of several concentric circles drawn on level ground free from obstructions.
- (f) A scoring throw is one which causes the boomerang to: pass over a point on the ground not less than 20 metres from the centre point of the circles, and, which comes to rest in the scoring circles, or is caught.
- (g) If the weather is inclement, or very windy, the competition will not be held; unless by vote, not less than 75% of the competitors present approve.

2. Accuracy:

- (a) The scoring circles shall be of 1.5, 3.5, 5.5, and 7.5 metre radii.
- (b) A score of 8, 6, 4, and 2 points is scored if the boomerang comes to rest in the 1.5, 3.5, 5.5, and 7.5 metre circle respectively.
- (c) If the boomerang comes to rest on the line separating scoring zones, the average score of the two adjacent zones will apply : i.e. 7, 5, 3, or 1 points.

3. Catching:

- (a) For a catch to be valid, the boomerang must be held firmly. If the boomerang is fumbled and then dropped, no score for a catch will be allowed.
- (b) Another concentric circle will be drawn at the qualifying distance. i.e. 20 metre radius. A catch taken inside this circle scores 4 points and outside this circle, 2 points.
- (c) If it is not practical to mark a circle of this size, a catch taken anywhere scores 4 points.
- (d) If a competitors feet are in different zones when a catch is taken, then the average score of the two adjacent zones will apply: i.e. 11, 9, 7, 5, or 3 points.

3. Catching Cont.

- (e) If the boomerang touches the ground during its flight and rebounds, then no points will be allowed for a catch; but if the boomerang is caught, then any points for accuracy or distance will be scored.

4. Distance:

- (a) A bonus of 2 points is allowed for each scoring throw which causes the boomerang to pass over a point on the ground not less than 30 metres from the centre point of the circles.
- (b) An additional bonus of 2 points is allowed for a throw which causes the boomerang to pass over a point on the ground not less than 40 metres from the centre point of the circles.

5. Procedure:

- (a) Heats and finals will be arranged by the organisers of the competition, who will give appropriate notice of the number of heats and the required number of finalists before the competition.
- (b) Each contestant will be allowed one non-scoring practice throw before the first scoring throw in each heat.
- (c) Each throw must be taken within 20 seconds of taking up a ready position at the throwing point; except when an extension of this time is allowed by the Centre Judge, or Judges.
- (d) If a tie occurs in the finals, then positions will be decided by a throw off of 3 throws per person, until there is a difference in the scores.

6. Judging:

- (a) Judges may be appointed as is practical, and depending upon the importance. There may be Judges for accuracy, points, catching, and distance.
- (b) The Centre Judge may declare a throw to be taken again, if he has any doubt regarding the score for that throw.
- (c) If the Centre Judge deems that a contestant is prevented or handicapped; in throwing, pursuing, or catching the boomerang; by a Judge or obstruction, then the contestant may take the throw again if he wishes.
- (d) Upon entering the competition, all contestants will agree to abide by the decisions of the Judge.