

# NEW ZEALAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TRACK, FIELD & ROAD RACE CHAMPIONSHIPS

*Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub, Christchurch  
8, 9, 10 December 2023*

## NEWSLETTER #1

10 August 2023

*Nau mai, haere mai, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.*

*Welcome to the first newsletter for the 2023 New Zealand Secondary Schools Track, Field and Road Championships.*

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) wish to confirm that the NZSSAA Track & Field Championships are to be held over two and a half days, commencing on **Friday 8th December 2023 at 12.00 pm** at **Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub, Christchurch** and being completed at approximately **5.00pm on Sunday 10th December**.

The Road Race Championships will be held at the adjacent **Canterbury Agriculture Park on Sunday from 8.00 am -11.00 am**.

The **NZSSAA AGM** will be held in the Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub Lounge at 10am on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Please note there is no managers meeting this year. Any changes to the programme after the close of entries and other issues will be notified in the final newsletter and all questions will be answered at TIC.

As this is the **50<sup>th</sup> NZSSAA Track and Field Championships** and to recognise the fact that the event started in Christchurch in 1973, a **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner** will be hosted by the NZSSAA Executive on either Friday or Saturday evening.

Below is everything you need to know at this stage for the event:

### TIMELINE

- **10 August** Newsletter #1.
- **3 October** Newsletter #2 available on NZSSAA website and Facebook pages.
- **16 October** Online entries open on NZSSAA website. **Current entries** will be posted on NZSSAA website as received. **Unpaid** will appear beside each athlete's name until payment is received and receipted.
- **15 November** Registrations close for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.
- **20 November** Entries close. Late entries accepted for an additional \$10 per athlete providing space is available in desired event/s until December 6.
- **28 November** Newsletter #3 available on NZSSAA website and Facebook pages.
- **5 December** Online scratchings close at 11.59 pm. Thereafter scratchings need to be done through the **Technical Information Centre (TIC)** 90minutes prior to the scheduled time of the event.
- **7 December 2pm to 6pm** venue open for inspection and light training.
- **7 December 3pm to 6pm** Managers packs available at the **TIC** and from **9 am 8 December onwards as required**.
- **8 December at 10am** NZSSAA AGM to be held in the Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub Lounge.
- **8-10 December** Track and Field Championships at Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub.
- **8 or 9 December** 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner to be held at the Commodore Hotel, 449 Memorial Avenue, with drinks at 6.30pm, speeches at 7pm and dinner to be served at 7.30pm.
- **10 December** Road Race Championships at Canterbury Agricultural Park.
- **10 December at 5pm (or earlier if possible)** the NZSSAA New Zealand Team and Athletes of the Meeting will be announced. Please try to arrange travel so your athletes can participate in this event by their support or participation.

## AGE GROUPS

- All athletes must have turned 13 prior to 31 December 2023
- Junior - Under 16 as at 31 December 2023 (born on or after 1 January 2008)
- Senior - Under 20 as at 31 December 2023 (born between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2007)
- Year 9 Road Race only - Runners must be in Year 9 and under 15 as at 31 December 2023 (born on or after 1 January 2009). A runner can compete in the Year 9 race once only.
- Para Athletes - Junior – Under 17 (born on or after 1 January 2007). Senior as above except the senior age for ORS funded students is under 22 on 31 December 2023. Contact [oe@nzssaa.org.nz](mailto:oe@nzssaa.org.nz) to enter over 20 years of age athletes.

## ENTRIES

All entries must be made online on the NZSSAA website **on or before 20 November 2023**. The website will be **open for entries from 16 October 2023 and will close on 20 November 2023 at midnight**. Details of how to do this will come in Newsletter 2 closer to the opening of entries.

## AFFILIATION

The Association collects school affiliation fees with entries. Schools that did not have competitors at the Cross-Country Championships in Palmerston North will have the \$55.00 affiliation fee added to their entries invoice.

## ENTRY FEES

The entry fees payable per athlete for track and field and/or road race are as follows:

- \$27.00 - one or two events (including the road race)
- \$35.00 - three or more events
- \$15.00 - relay only competitors

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

The guideline programme will be available on the NZSSAA Website and Facebook pages shortly.

## TRACK VENUE

This facility was opened in October 2018 and replaces the earthquake damaged QE2 Stadium. Due to Covid, this will be the first time the NZSSAA Championships have been held in Christchurch since the earthquakes. It includes a nine-lane track with full electronic timing facilities for running sprints on the main and back straight depending on wind conditions, multiple throwing circles and duel long and triple jump pits at both ends of the main straight. The grandstand can seat about 300. A grassed embankment runs around the rest of the track. There is room for smaller shelters to be erected on the embankment but be warned that shelters are extremely exposed in strong wind conditions. There is an adjacent grass track with some all-weather surfaces to allow for warmups. There will be room for schools to also erected shelters on the warmup field along the back of the embankment between the two tracks.

The track will be open on the **Thursday 08 December from 2.00 to 6.00pm** for light practice/training but as we are setting up the venue, this may restrict some areas and we thank you for your cooperation.

## ROAD RACE VENUE

The Road Race venue at Canterbury Agriculture Park is a 1k lap around a tar sealed square block. The course is based on internal park roading, and no vehicles will on the circuit. There are two positions for the start/finish area depending on the weather conditions on the day. Both start/finish areas are within walking distance of Nga Puna Wai, with the dry weather one being closer to Nga Puna Wai. Considerable parking at the venue will be available on the day. The course will be setup on Saturday afternoon for athletes to inspect and run around.

## EQUIPMENT

Starting blocks and throwing implements are provided. If you wish to use your own implement this will be required to be measured and weighed and if passed, will be held in the equipment storeroom and brought out at competition time. The times to do this will be provided closer to the event.

Pole vault poles are an athlete's responsibility but if there is difficulty in transporting them we may be able to provide some additional poles.

## SPIKES

The spikes approved for the all-weather track are Pyramid (cone shaped) or Christmas tree (compression tiered) spikes. Needle or Pin spikes are not allowed even if they have a flat surface at their contact point.

## **COMMUNICATION**

We will endeavour to place all information on the NZSSAA website and the NZSSAA Facebook Page.  
For questions concerning entries/order of events contact John Tylden at [oe@nzssaa.org.nz](mailto:oe@nzssaa.org.nz) .

## **ACCOMMODATION**

There are plenty of accommodation options in Christchurch within relatively easy commuting range of the Nga Puna Wai Sports Hub and Canterbury Agricultural Park.

## **OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS**

Graded Officials and Volunteers are welcome to make contact to assist us in delivering successful championships even for part of the time. Officials should sign up via the ANZ officials portal. Volunteers are asked to email Brian Theobald at [Brian.Theobald@athleticscanterbury.org.nz](mailto:Brian.Theobald@athleticscanterbury.org.nz). The LOC is endeavouring to gain funding to offset the accommodation costs for officials from out of town. Forty beds have been booked at the Break Free on Cashel Hotel in the centre of Christchurch. Those wishing to stay in Officials accommodation should contact Bill Grogan [Bill.Grogan@canterbury.schoolsport.org.nz](mailto:Bill.Grogan@canterbury.schoolsport.org.nz) to reserve a bed.

## **CHAMPIONSHIPS TEE SHIRTS**

Souvenir Tee Shirts and other merchandise will be available for purchase and details will be included in Newsletter #2.

Ngā mihi nui

John Gamblin  
LOC Convenor