

NZ SECONDARY SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM to travel to CANBERRA 2016

AUSTRALIAN CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPS: **Saturday 20th August 2015**

AUSTRALIAN ALL SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY RELAYS: **Monday 22nd August**

NZSSAA intend to again take a full Secondary Schools team to the Australian Cross Country Champs this August.

This would include athletes in the following teams:

- **New Zealand Girls team – Up to 12 female runners from throughout the country**
- **New Zealand Boys team – Up to 12 male runners from throughout the country**

Team selection will largely be based on results of the 2016 National Secondary School Cross Country Champs in Rotorua, although other performances may be taken into consideration. A Paper Team of 12 female and 12 male Athletes will be announced at the completion of the meet in Rotorua. Those named in the Paper Team will gain automatic selection to attend the Australian Champs as part of the NZ team and will also be eligible to apply for a Travel subsidy of up to \$NZ300. Others who are not named in the Paper team are also eligible to apply for consideration for selection to the team.

To be eligible for this event athletes must be enrolled in a Secondary School in New Zealand at the time of the running of the event.

Early estimates expect the cost of this trip to be in the range of approximately \$1,750 for each athlete; this includes: International airfares, Domestic airfares (if required), accommodation for 5 nights in Canberra, Transport costs in Canberra, travel insurances, meals, sightseeing and other activities. Team Uniform will be costed separately and will include some compulsory items and some optional items. As a number of athletes have already travelled overseas with the NZSS Cross Country Team to the ISF World Champs this year, they will not have to re-purchase any items of clothing that they already have from that trip. More details regarding the Team Uniform will be available in Rotorua. 2XU is our primary gear supplier.

As in previous years NZSSAA would plan the tour with all athletes traveling together as one team.

APPROXIMATE ITINERARY: The team would depart from Auckland Airport on the afternoon of Thursday 18th August and fly to Sydney, From there we will travel by road to Canberra where we will be staying at the Australian Institute of Sport facility. Friday will be a free day to acclimatise, look about and view race venue etc. Saturday afternoon will be the individual race at the Australian Champs, Sunday is a sightseeing/educational day in Canberra, Monday morning is the All Schools Relay race and Closing ceremony. Tuesday morning return Sydney by van and then on to Auckland Airport.

Athletes would be away from school for four days from 18th August to 23rd August. A letter will be sent to school Principals to indicate Athlete's selection to represent NZ and resultant days away from school.

Rhys Taucher (Auckland) and Val Burke (Wanaka)

Team Managers