

The NZSSAA Cross Country Team (2016) competed in Canberra on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2016, at the Australian Cross Country Championships, which were held at Stromlo Forest Park.

The team had a very successful day with some very strong individual and team performances.

#### **Individual Results:**

##### Under 16 Girls (4,000m):

Hannah O'Connor	14:12	5 <sup>th</sup>
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##### Under 18 Girls (4,000m):

Samantha Burke	14:31	6 <sup>th</sup>
Tessa Webb	14:39	12 <sup>th</sup>
Bridie Edwards	14:41	14 <sup>th</sup>
Ari Graham	14:45	16 <sup>th</sup>
Akeira Worthington	14:45	18 <sup>th</sup>
Lily Trotter	14:52	21 <sup>st</sup>
Tessa Hunt	14:54	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Amelia Persson	14:58	26 <sup>th</sup>
Imogen Skelton	15:20	40 <sup>th</sup>
Isabella Kelly	15:31	50 <sup>th</sup>
Georgia Clode	15:38	53 <sup>rd</sup>

##### Under 18 Boys (6,000m):

Isaiah Priddey	19:20	7 <sup>th</sup>
Jacob Holmes	19:26	8 <sup>th</sup>
Kalani Sheridan	19:27	9 <sup>th</sup>
Mitchell Small	19:31	12 <sup>th</sup>
James Uhlenburg	19:53	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Bradley Cullen	20:02	30 <sup>th</sup>
George Cory-Wright	21:13	53 <sup>rd</sup>

##### Under 20 Boys (8,000m):

Angus White	26:05	14 <sup>th</sup>
Christian Conder	26:19	19 <sup>th</sup>
Tom Moulai	26:28	21 <sup>st</sup>
Stefan Przychodzko	26:46	27 <sup>th</sup>
Goiteom Gebremedihin	26:54	30 <sup>th</sup>

#### **Team Results:**

Although, as international athletes, we were not eligible to win team medals it is worth noting that our 3 teams did perform very well and that, if they had been eligible to win medals, would have taken the following positions:

Under 18 Boys	Second Place	<b>SILVER</b>
Under 18 Girls	Third Place	<b>BRONZE</b>
Under 20 Boys	Fourth Place	

#### **RELAYS:**

Following this event, the athletes also took part in the Australian Schools Relays, which were held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, again at Stromlo – but this time on the adjoining criterion cycling course.

With athletes able to run up an age group we were able to make up 4x teams to compete in the relays, whilst those remaining took place in a time trial race. Our teams did exceptionally well in the schools relays event coming back with the following team placings (again NZ teams were not actually eligible to receive medals for this event):

Under 18 Girls (5x 2,00m)      First Place      **GOLD**  
(Ari Graham, Bridie Edwards, Sammy Burke, Tessa Webb, Hannah O'Connor)

Under 20 Girls (5x 2,000m)      First Place      **GOLD**  
(Amelia Persson, Imogen Skelton, Akeira Worthington, Tessa Hunt, Lily Trotter)

Under 18 Boys (5x 3,000m)      Third Place      **BRONZE**  
(Mitchell Small, Kalani Sheridan, Jacob Holmes, Isaiah Priddey, James Uhlenberg)

Under 20 Boys (5x 3,000m)      Second Place      **SILVER**  
(Angus White, Christian Conder, Stefan Przychodzko, Goiteom Gebremedihin , Tom Moulai)

Time trialists; Isabella Kelly, Georgia Clode, George Cory-Wright and Bradley Cullen all had great races with Brad finishing in fourth place overall in the boys event.

The trip was, in all regards, an extremely successful one - with fantastic competitions and valuable experience for all athletes and team managers.

**Rhys Taucher, Val Burke and Martin Holmes (Team Management)**

