



36th New Zealand Secondary Schools Track & Field and 34th Road Race Championships 2008 Hamilton

18 August 2008

To All New Zealand Secondary Schools

Newsletter One

Organisation of the 2008 Championships at Porritt Stadium on 13 and 14 December is well underway. The local organising committee is made up of representatives of the Waikato Bay of Plenty Secondary Schools Athletics Association and Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty, with support from Sport Waikato. This year, as was the case in 2000 and 2004 the event is part of the New Zealand College Games in which 21 sports are involved in a celebration of olympism. Our competitors will be able to take part in and enjoy the celebrations and entertainment during the New Zealand College Games which run from Wednesday 10 December to Sunday 14 December. Check the link to the New Zealand College Games website, www.nzcg.co.nz. We encourage you to take part in the whole New Zealand College Games experience.

Timetable of Events

18 August	Newsletter 1 available on www.nzssaa.org.nz
8 September	Draft programme sessions available on NZSSAA website
13 October	Newsletter 2 available on NZSSAA website
28 October	Online entries open
Ongoing	School entries posted on NZSSAA website as received
28 November	Final date for entries
10 December	Individual scratchings close
12 December	Managers' meeting and NZSSAA AGM (venue and time in Newsletter 2)
13/14 December	Track and Field Championships, Porritt Stadium
14 December	Road Race Championships, Ruakura Agricultural Research Centre

Age Groups

Junior	Under 16 years on 31 December 2008
Senior	Under 19 and a half years on 31 December 2008
Note	Competition is open only to students currently enrolled in Years 9 and above and attending an NZSSAA affiliated school.
Year 9	For the Road Race only, there is a Year 9 grade. Competitors must be a Year 9 student, over 13 years and under 15 years on 31 December 2008.

Programme of Events

This will be similar to previous years although there may be some changes. The draft programme will be available on the NZSSAA website by 8 September.

Road Race

This event will be held on Sunday morning, 14 December at the Ruakura Agricultural Research Centre. The first race will commence at 8 am. A course map will be available with Newsletter 2.

Affiliation

The Association collects school affiliation fees with entries. Schools that did not have competitors at the Cross Country Championships in New Plymouth will have the \$36.00 affiliation fee added to their entries invoice.

Entries

Entry procedures will be explained in Newsletter 2. All entries must be made online on the NZSSAA website on or before 28 November. Naturally any travel or accommodation arrangements will need to be made well before that. The website will be open for entries from 28 October and close on 28 November. **Do not be late with your entries.** There will be a charge of \$10 per late entry after this date. Late entries will only be accepted **if there has been a genuine error** and if they do not create an extra heat or round or if field event numbers are low enough to allow the event to be completed in the allocated time. No late entries will be accepted after 12.00 pm on Friday 12 December.

Entry Fees

The entry fees payable per athlete for track and field and/or road race are under discussion and will be determined by the NZSSAA executive in September. The entry fees will be announced in Newsletter 2.

Scratchings

Scratchings for single events must be done on the NZSSAA website by Wednesday 10 December. After that date any scratchings received will be considered as scratchings from all events.

Accommodation

The New Zealand College Games organisers are creating a games village based at the University of Waikato Halls of Residence. The booking form for accommodation is now available at www.nzcg.co.nz. A package deal is available for students and managers at a rate of \$61 per person per day, including breakfast and dinner. There is plenty of motel and other accommodation in Hamilton and schools using this option are asked to book independently.

Championship T-shirts

Souvenir T-shirts will be available for purchase and the details will be included in Newsletter 2 but also check the New Zealand College Games website.

Sponsorship

NZSSAA does not have a major sponsor this year. Naming rights and other sponsorship opportunities exist for these championships. If there is interest in this opportunity please contact John Tylden , Chairman NZSSAA at tylden@xtra.co.nz

Enquiries

All enquiries should be emailed to oe@nzssaa.org.nz.

We look forward to welcoming you to Hamilton in December and hope that record numbers of athletes will participate in our national championships and the NZ College Games.

John Tylden
LOC convenor