



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

9 December 2008

To New Zealand Secondary Schools participating in the Championships

Newsletter Three

Welcome to the 1612 athletes from 215 schools participating in our championships and to everyone taking part in the College Games. We hope that you really enjoy the experience of meeting and competing with so many from around NZ. Kia orana and haere mai to the Cook Island athletes also. There are a number of activities based at the University of Waikato being organised by the College Games management team and we urge you all to take part if you can. In particular we ask athletes, who are available, to take part in the Celebration Ceremony on Friday evening commencing at 7.00pm on the University fields. It would be appreciated if you wore your school tracksuit please.

Information on all that is on will be in your College Games packs available at the University of Waikato's WEL Energy Trust Academy of Performing Arts building on your arrival. Also in that pack will be a wrist band for every athlete which is the entry pass to College Games activities and to Porritt Stadium. Also available from 4.00pm to 5.00pm on Friday at the same venue will be managers envelopes containing athlete numbers and a programme. These can only be picked up by the Team Manager and must be signed for. Both packs and managers envelopes will be available at Porritt Stadium on Saturday from the Wanderers Soccer Club building (white with a blue roof located close to the car park) and at the Road Race course on Sunday

Timetable of Events

10 December	Individual scratchings close at 12.00 midnight
12 December	Collection of School Packs, NZSSAA AGM, Welcoming Ceremony from 4.00 pm
13/14 December	Track and Field Championships, Porritt Stadium located off Crosby Road
14 December	Road Race Championships, AgResearch Ruakura located off Ruakura Rd or East St

Age Groups

Junior	Under 16 years on 31 December 2008
Senior	Under 19½ 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 of age on 31 December 2008.

Programme of Events

The Timed programme is available on the NZSSAA website.

Marshalling

All events are marshalled at the marshalling tent on the warm up ground 30 mins prior to the event.

Road Race

This event will be held on Sunday morning, 14 December at AgResearch Ruakura. The first race will commence at 8 am. Race times and distances are on the Timed programme. A new timing and place recording system will be used this year. **Athletes must wear the numbers printed on a blue background for the Road Race only.** They contain a transponder which will enable the officials to record your result electronically. If athletes fail to wear this number their placing will not be recorded. **These numbers must be returned after the race.**

There have been some changes to the course as shown on the earlier map. On the final lap the 3km course has a short 150m additional loop around a car park adjacent to the start area to enable a finish in the same place as the other races. The 6km race now has 1 medium lap of 1600m followed by 2 larger laps of 2030 using the extended loop around the MIRNZ centre. The race start is forward of the original, 340m before the finish line. The 4km course is unchanged.

Parking

There is limited parking at Porritt Stadium as no parking is permitted on the grass areas. Please park in the surrounding streets but be careful not to block driveways or discard rubbish on the verges. At the Road Race either park in Tramway Rd or East Street (do not use the Apostolic Church car park) or there is parking available in the Innovation Park area if you enter from Ruakura Rd.

Admission Charges to Porritt Stadium

Adults: \$5.00

Secondary School students: \$2.00

Intermediate School students, Primary School students and younger children: no charge

Scratchings

Scratchings for single events must be made by Wednesday 10 December at 12.00 midnight. Email your scratchings to oe@nzssaa.org.nz. They cannot be done on the website. After that date any scratchings received will be considered as scratchings from all events.

NZSSAA AGM

There is no formal managers meeting this year but there will be a Help Desk available when managers pick up their team envelopes. The NZSSAA AGM will begin at 5.00 pm in the performing arts centre and we urge you to attend. There are 2 remits (posted on the website) for discussion. Light refreshments will be available during and after the meeting. The College Games Welcoming Ceremony will begin at 7.00 pm in the University of Waikato grounds.

We look forward to welcoming you to Hamilton on Friday.

John Tylden
LOC convenor