



41st New Zealand Secondary Schools Track & Field and 39th Road Race Championships and NZ Youth Games 2013 Hamilton

28 August 2013

To All New Zealand Secondary Schools

Newsletter One

Organisation of the 2013 Championships at Porritt Stadium on 7 and 8 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, 2004 and 2008 the event is part of the New Zealand Youth Games (previously College Games) in which 16 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 Youth Games which run from Thursday 5 December to Sunday 8 December. Check the link to the New Zealand Youth Games website, www.nzyg.co.nz. We encourage you to take part in the whole New Zealand Youth Games experience and in particular visit the Games Village at the Claudelands Arena on Heaphy Tce.

Timetable of Events

28 August	Newsletter 1 available on www.nzssaa.org.nz
9 September	Draft programme sessions available on NZSSAA website
4 October	Newsletter 2 available on NZSSAA website
14 October	Online entries open
Ongoing	School entries posted on NZSSAA website as received
18 November	Final date for entries
4 December	Individual scratchings close
6 December	Manager's packs available. NZSSAA AGM (venue and time in Newsletter 2) NZ Youth Games Opening Ceremony at the Claudelands Arena
7/8 December	Track and Field Championships, Porritt Stadium
8 December	Road Race Championships, Ruakura Agricultural Research Centre

Age Groups

Junior	Under 16 years on 31 December 2013
Senior	Under 20 years on 31 December 2013
Note	Competition is open only to students currently enrolled in Years 9 and above and attending an NZSSAA affiliated school(except for overseas athletes accepted by NZSSAA)
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 2013
AWD	As for Junior and Senior above except the Senior age is under 22 on 31 December 2013

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 9 September.

Road Race

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

AWD Grade, Category and Classification changes

There are changes being developed for disabled athlete events for this year. Options are to introduce two age grades (junior and senior) and combining the current five classifications into two classifications. One classification could be for Intellectually Disabled Athletes and one for Physically Disabled Athletes. If these changes are successful then physically disabled athletes will compete together and results will be calculated against a percentage of the world record for their Paralympic classifications. We will have detailed information on these possible changes in Newsletter 2. If you have comments on these proposed changes please email oe@nzssaa.org.nz.

Affiliation

The Association collects school affiliation fees with entries. Schools that did not have competitors at the Cross Country Championships in Christchurch 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 18 November. Naturally any travel or accommodation arrangements will need to be made well before that. The website will be open for entries from 14 October and close on 18 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 noon on Friday 6 December.

Entry Fees

The entry fees payable per athlete for track and field and/or road race are \$15 for 1 to 2 events, \$20 for 3 or more events and \$10 for relays only.

Registering to be fully involved in the NZ Youth Games will cost \$10 per athlete. This is optional and is not a requirement to be entered in the NZSSAA championships but if you intend utilising their services and entertainment paying this extra registration would be appreciated.

Scratchings

Scratchings for single events must be done on the NZSSAA website by Wednesday 4 December. After that date any scratchings received will be considered as scratchings from all events.

Accommodation

Accommodation information is available at www.nzyg.co.nz or on the NZSSAA website. NZ Youth Games has accommodation available at the University of Waikato Halls of Residence, at Hamilton Girls High School's Sonning Hill Hostel and at The Kingsgate Hotel. There is plenty of motel and other accommodation in Hamilton. School team managers are asked to book accommodation for their teams themselves please.

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 Youth Games website at www.nzyg.co.nz.

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 at oe@nzssaa.org.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 Youth Games.

John Tylden
Local Organising Committee Convenor