



15 December 2022

NZSSAA and Athletics NZ express gratitude for the work of our Officials and Volunteers

New Zealand Secondary School Athletics Association and Athletics New Zealand wish to express our sincere gratitude to the officials and volunteers who supported the recent NZSSAA Track, Field and Road Race Championships held in Inglewood, Taranaki.

The Secondary School Championships are key events on the New Zealand Athletics calendar, and keenly looked forward to by our young athletes, coaches, fans, spectators, and officials.

Through the Friday and Saturday of competition, most of New Zealand experienced heavy rainfall, and this was particularly true in Taranaki. The unseasonable conditions made officiating more challenging than normal, with many of the 100+ officials and volunteers working long days in very wet conditions. The positive attitude and camaraderie of the officials really stood out, and officials did a fantastic job of ensuring not only could the competition go ahead as planned, but also of cultivating a positive and friendly environment.

Over the past five years Athletics NZ and the New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics Association have collaborated to enhance the experience for officials at our major championships, by providing enhanced catering, social events, and assistance with travel and accommodation. These small improvements are designed to build the camaraderie amongst officials, and to encourage our officials to keep coming back.

The time and energy that our volunteers and officials put in is the life blood of our sport, and we encourage all athletes to say a quick thank you to an official at an event this summer. We know it will be appreciated!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "HML".

Hamish Meacheam
Athletics NZ - Community Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Rogers".

Tony Rogers
NZSSAA - President