

NEW ZEALAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TRACK, FIELD & ROAD RACE CHAMPIONSHIPS

*Trust Aoraki Athletics SC All Weather Track, Timaru
6, 7, 8 December 2024*

NEWSLETTER #1

9th August 2024

Nau mai, haere mai, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

Welcome to the first newsletter for the 2024 New Zealand Secondary Schools Track, Field and Road Championships.

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) wish to confirm that the NZSSAA Track & Field Championships are to be held over two and a half days, commencing on **Friday 6th December 2024 at 12.00 pm** at **Trust Aoraki Athletics SC All Weather Track, Aorangi Park, Timaru** and being completed at approximately **5.00pm on Sunday 8th December**.

The Road Race Championships will be held at **Caroline Bay, Timaru on Sunday from 8.00 am -11.00 am**.

It is likely that the NZSSAA AGM will be held online after the end of the financial year in 2025.

Please note there is no managers meeting this year. Any changes to the programme after the close of entries and other issues will be notified in the final newsletter and all questions will be answered at TIC.

Below is everything you need to know at this stage for the event:

TIMELINE

- **9 August** Newsletter #1.
- **19 August** draft T&F programme available for comment. Note that due to the constraints of the Timaru track and Live Streaming demands, the programme will be different to recent years.
- **7 October** Newsletter #2 available on NZSSAA website and Facebook pages.
- **14 October** Online entries open on NZSSAA website. **Current entries** will be posted on NZSSAA website as received. **Unpaid** will appear beside each athlete's name until payment is received and receipted.
- **18 November** Entries close. Late entries accepted for an additional \$10 per athlete providing space is available in desired event/s until December 4.
- **26 November** Newsletter #3 available on NZSSAA website and Facebook pages.
- **3 December** Online scratchings close at 11.59 pm. Thereafter scratchings need to be done through the **Technical Information Centre (TIC)** 90minutes prior to the scheduled time of the event.
- **5 December 2pm to 6pm** venue open for inspection and light training.
- **5 December 3pm to 6pm** Managers packs available at the **TIC** and from **9 am 6 December onwards as required at gate entrance**.
- **6-8 December** Track and Field Championships at Trust Aoraki Athletics SC All Weather Track, Timaru.
- **8 December** Road Race Championships at Caroline Bay, Timaru.
- **8 December at 5pm (or earlier if possible)** the NZSSAA New Zealand Team and Athletes of the Meeting will be announced. Please try to arrange travel so your athletes can participate in this event by their support or participation.

AGE GROUPS

- All athletes must have turned 13 prior to 31 December 2024
- Junior - Under 16 as at 31 December 2024 (born on or after 1 January 2009)
- Senior - Under 20 as at 31 December 2024 (born between 1 January 2005 and 31 December 2008)
- Year 9 Road Race only - Runners must be in Year 9 and under 15 as at 31 December 2024 (born on or after 1 January 2010). A runner can compete in the Year 9 race once only.
- Para Athletes - Junior – Under 17 (born on or after 1 January 2008). Senior as above except the senior age for ORS funded students is under 22 on 31 December 2024. Contact oe@nzssaa.org.nz to enter over 20 years of age athletes.

ENTRIES

All entries must be made online on the NZSSAA website **on or before 18 November 2024**. The website will be **open for entries from 14 October 2024 and will close on 18 November 2024 at midnight**. Details of how to do this will come in Newsletter 2 closer to the opening of entries.

AFFILIATION

The Association collects school affiliation fees with entries. Schools that did not have competitors at the Cross-Country Championships in Palmerston North will have the \$55.00 affiliation fee added to their entries invoice.

ENTRY FEES

The entry fees payable per athlete for track and field and/or road race are as follows:

- \$30.00 - one or two events (including the road race)
- \$40.00 - three or more events
- \$15.00 - relay only competitors

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

The guideline programme will be available on the NZSSAA Website and Facebook pages shortly.

TRACK VENUE

The Athletics South Canterbury All Weather Track has held the NZSSAA Track & Field Championships twice previously, in December 2009 and December 2015. The Mondo Track was officially opened in February 2004, and resurfaced in March/April 2023. It is an 8 lane track, with full electronic timing facilities on the main straight, multiple throwing circles, including a new Hammer Cage at the North End and duel long and triple jump pits at both ends of the main straight. The grandstand can seat 500. A grassed embankment runs on the East and West side – the East embankment has shade sails for spectators and the West side has limited room for smaller school shelters to be erected on the embankment overlooking the back straight. Warmups can be done within a fenced area on the adjacent Cricket Oval – no throwing allowed. There will be room for schools to erect some shelters on the west bank overlooking the cricket oval, but tents will have to be taken down at the end of each day due to no security on this area.

The track will be open on the **Thursday 5th December from 2.00 to 6.00pm** for light practice/training but as we are setting up the venue, this may restrict some areas and we thank you for your cooperation.

ROAD RACE VENUE

The Road Race venue is at Caroline Bay. Caroline Bay is at the opposite end of Timaru and vehicles will be needed to transport athletes back to the All Weather Track. Further details on the course including start and finish areas will be uploaded to the NZSSAA website as soon as it is finalised.

EQUIPMENT

Starting blocks and throwing implements are provided. If you wish to use your own implement this will be required to be measured and weighed and if passed, will be held in the equipment storeroom and brought out at competition time. The times to do this will be provided closer to the event.

Pole vault poles are an athlete's responsibility but if there is difficulty in transporting them we may be able to provide some additional poles.

SPIKES

The spikes approved for the all-weather track are Pyramid (cone shaped) or Christmas tree (compression tiered) spikes. Needle or Pin spikes are not allowed even if they have a flat surface at their contact point.

COMMUNICATION

We will endeavour to place all information on the NZSSAA website and the NZSSAA Facebook Page.
For questions concerning entries/order of events contact oe@nzssaa.org.nz .

ACCOMMODATION

There are plenty of accommodation options in Timaru and the surrounding region (which includes the towns of Geraldine, Temuka, Winchester, Pleasant Point, and Waimate – all within a relatively easy commuting range of an approximately half hour drive from the All Weather Track and Caroline Bay.

OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS

Graded Officials and Volunteers are welcome to make contact to assist us in delivering successful championships even for part of the time. Officials should sign up via the ANZ Officials portal. Volunteers are asked to email Reg Brockett ra.rm.brockett@gmail.com or Amanda Everett Amanda.Everett@sportcanterbury.org.nz The LOC is endeavouring to gain funding to offset the accommodation costs for officials from out of town. Thirty-six beds have been booked at Timaru Boys High Hostel (twin beds per room with shared bathroom facilities) and further accommodation has been booked at motels in Geraldine for couples. Those wishing to stay in Officials accommodation should indicate on the Officials Portal or contact Reg Brockett ra.rm.brockett@gmail.com

CHAMPIONSHIPS TEE SHIRTS

Souvenir Tee Shirts and other merchandise will be available for purchase and details will be included in Newsletter #2.

Ngā mihi nui

Helen Mackle
LOC Convenor