

Review of the NZSSAA Road Race

- The NZSSAA Executive is reviewing the current practice of combining the NZSSAA Track & Field Championships and the Road Race in the same meeting.
- A proposal has been considered by the Executive that the Road Race could be changed from its present position of being held on the Sunday morning of the second day of the present Track & Field and Road Race Championships.
- Among those proposals is to change the date completely away from the present meeting to that of a “stand alone meeting.”
- The NZSSAA Executive is putting a number of options forward for discussion at the AGM in December and would like to gauge feeling from schools as to what, if any, changes they would like to see occur.
- Please read the information below and indicate your feelings on this topic.

Proposals to consider when it could be held:-

- a/- Labour Weekend
- b/- Tournament Week
- c/- Friday before the T., F., & R.R. Championships
- d/- Monday after the “ “ “ “
- e/- Keep the status quo

Please indicate your opinion - _____

Other Options:- _____

Name:- _____ School _____

Possible Reasons for and Against Change

1. Positives for Change

- the best athletes get the chance to run Track, C/C and Road Race. Increases the prestige and opportunities for the top runners to achieve in all disciplines, and teams to operate from schools in another event.
- Could be held in the opposite island to the C/C therefore giving more chances to run for athletes from both islands
- It could be held in a venue with no all-weather track. Gives more scope for more venues to be able hold the event.
- Provincial championships could lead up to the event.
- Raises the profile of Distance Running

2. Possible Negatives

- more travel and expense for schools and athletes
- more organisation for schools
- as is gives the opportunity for more athletes to take titles and places

Dates to Consider

1. Labour Weekend

- Positives - a long weekend, better for travel and less interruption of school time
- more athletes available, away from winter and summer sports events
- Negatives – close to and among school exam times

2. Tournament Week

- Positives - less impact on school work
- more in-season for Cross Country and Road Race
- Negatives - many of the top runners or teams may be involved in other codes. May be less able to have teams for this time.

3. Friday of Track & Field & Road Race

- Positives - may give athletes the chance to take part in the R.R. and a Track and do both well?
- Negatives- extends the time away for teams – costs, impact on exams
- over commits and pressures the athletes because may end up doing more races than should
- could end up splitting teams travelling and being acc. therefore more pressure on managers.

4. Monday After

- see above

Email responses to secretary@nzssaa.org.nz
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