

# Mount Isa Athletics

## PRESS RELEASE

16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2011

With the exception of a couple of the high school students that are preparing for the State Championships the Mount Isa Athletics Club is sending a killer team to the ANQ North Queensland Championships to be held in Townsville on the 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> September .

The quality team of twenty-five athletes look set to return with a swag of medals and many in the group are eyeing off a number of the Championship records. Breaking records at the North Queensland Championships is no easy feat as the event has been held annually since the 1960's. So as you can imagine a lot of quality athletes and even world champions such as Jarred Bannister have passed through leaving some near impossible records in their wake.

If 7 year old speed demon Denzil Perkins can hold his form he is quite capable of taking a half a second or more off the existing 60m hurdles record for his age group which was set a decade ago. Perkins also has a good chance at all of the sprint records for his age.

11 year old Bailey Tautau will be heading straight to Townsville after competing at the Primary Schools National Championships in Darwin. Tautau has been regularly pumping out throws in training which are around or over the current 34.42m North Queensland discus record.

Master athletes David Scott and Ken Dickson will again be contesting the Decathlon in the hope of this time returning with the coveted WTF – North Queensland Masters Decathlon Challenge Trophy. Both are adding extra events to their schedule in the pursuit of championship records. With a good time Scott is capable of taking the 35-39yrs 400m hurdles record as well the triple jump is not out of his reach. Dickson will need to be at the top of his game to take the Discus and Javelin records in the 45-49yr group.

Dicksons' wife Sharon having just entered a new age group should be assured of the 45-49yr womens hammer record with her average throws being two metres over the current NQ record.

Erin Faithful and Josh Scott are hopeful of a good showing in the newly introduced Pole Vault event for 12 year olds. A win in these events would also give them the records. 14 year old Liam Sweeney will have his first competition attempt at Pole Vault at the Championships and his coaches are hopeful of a good showing as he has adapted to the event very quickly at training.

Mount Isa's "black flash" Kale Johnson will also be attending. Johnson is to compete in all three of the Open sprint races along with Long Jump. He will also be representing Mount Isa in the prestigious Hector Hogan Queensland 100 yards Championship race. This race sees the cream of the sprinters from throughout Queensland nominate so hopefully Johnson has recovered enough from his recent illness and can put in a good showing. Joining Johnson in the 100m and 200m races will be "blast from the past" Luke Cusack, 32. Cusack could now run as a Master but chooses the Open events to ensure that he runs to the best of his ability.

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### CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval  
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Even the younger age groups will have some of the strongest and fastest that Mount Isa has to offer. Trinity Perkins and Lena Tautau will be flying the flag in the 5yr group and 6 year olds Clay Schafer and Rico Waerea will hopefully be sharing the top spots in most of their events.

Holly Johstone, 16, and James Sweeney, 17, will be using the Championships as part of their build up towards the Secondary State Schools Championships and as a stepping stone to the Nationals. Johnstone will be competing in the 100m, 200m and 400m. Sweeney will again contest the Decathlon event hoping for another 5000+ points finish.

Also attending the Championships will be Bryleah Cullen, Breanna Waerea, Jade Scott, Jacqui Keily, Regan Whitney, Nikki Dickson, Maureen Sweeney, Iain Faithful and Tony Sweeney. All of these athletes are of a high calibre and have potential to lead their age groups in their favoured events.

Club coaches David Scott and Ken Dickson will endeavour to keep the Mount Isa website ([www.mountisaathletics.com.au](http://www.mountisaathletics.com.au)) updated throughout the Championships for anyone wishing to keep track of the athletes note worthy results.