

# Mount Isa Athletics

## PRESS RELEASE

23 July 2011

It's been all action at the Sunset Oval in the past few weeks as the Mount Isa Athletics Club volunteers' endeavour to prepare for the upcoming Western Games. It has been confirmed that a Longreach Official will be arriving in Mount Isa with Longreach Clubs Electronic Timing and Photo Finish equipment as well Athletics North Queensland (ANQ) is sending out one of their Admin Staff to operate the Athletics Meet Manager computer programme. Accompanying her will be the ANQ Development Officer Cameron Clayton who will be assisting with events and possibly even compete in his favoured 800m event

There is set to be a number of exciting showdowns with some quality athletes attending from Townsville, Normanton, Emerald and Cloncurry. Ex- Cloncurry resident Sherome Sailor (15) will go head to head against two of Mount Isa's own speedsters in Brad Watt and Lachlan Ryder throw into the mix unknown from Normanton, Jordan Edwards, and we're in for one hell of a race. National Level Javelin thrower Nathaniel Gardiner (16) from Townsville will be impressive with his 60m plus throws. Hopefully 17yr old James Sweeney's injury woes won't prevent him from putting on a good show when the teenagers meet in the Open Javelin event with local Kale Johnson. It will also be interesting to see what time Johnson can put in with Sweeney and Mount Isa ex-pat Martinus Larsen nipping at his heels.

The biggest drawback for our local athletes will be how well they can backup from the Mount Isa Districts Secondary Schools Athletics Championships which will be held only one day prior to the Games. Sadly this has seen some of our better athletes limit their events or not compete at all, we have also missed out on any athletes attending from Longreach for the same reason.

With only four more normal Club days left after the Games it is becoming increasingly difficult for athletes to notch up five from five personal bests (PB's). Twelve year old Erin Faithful is however bucking the trend netting herself five from five in last week's competition and breaking records in the 90m Hurdles – 18.0s, Shot Put – 8.72m and Discus – 22.26m along the way.

The last two weeks of competition have seen plenty of athletes give the five from five a red hot go but falling one PB short, Keely Anderson, Abigail Constantinou, Ella Condren and Shackiah Body in week 10 and Sienna Hume, Sienna TeWani, Dilhan Garrahy, Clay Schafer, Rico Waerea, Tarje Mackay, Corbin Glover and Otto Tweedie in week 11 all had a valiant attempts acquiring four from five. All fell agonisingly close being either centimetres close or tenths of a second off their fifth PB. Kaylee Louis and Reeve Helle's efforts in shot put earned them the past two week's Top Tot Awards.

The "Super Six" year age group are still pulling massive numbers of PB's when the eleven athletes totalled 31 of the clubs 125 PB's between them. With five in the group acquiring four from five Recent weeks have seen quite a number of Club records take a tumble as athletes in the older age groups start to peak for their school championships. Along with Erin Faithfuls three records, Holly Johnstone (16) seems to be proving herself as more of an all rounder setting new records in 200m – 27.7s, shot put – 8.39m and javelin – 20.05m. James Sweeney (17) while this year being

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### CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval  
Able Smith Parade  
Mount Isa, Queensland

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hindered with injury still managed to let fly with a 44.52m javelin throw to increase the Under 18 record and then backed up with record throws in Hammer – 36.71m and Discus – 40.19m the following week. Josh Shanks added 5m to the 14yrs boys Discus mark throwing 34.14m. Nikki Dickson (16) threw a distance of 25.46m in the hammer throw. Master Athlete Kathy Hujanen has been steadily increasing her results improving her Discus to 16.13m and Hammer to 14.85m. David McMillan and Ken Dickson were neck in neck in Discus until McMillan belted out a 33.65m throw to go with his 23.19m Hammer. And David Scott took 0.3 of a second off his 90m Hurdles record running 14.3s.

Many athletes are now becoming more settled with their events resulting in 25 Legend Certificates to be presented from the last two weeks to Sienna TeWani, Elizabeth Barwick, Hailee Kokles, Lachlan Ryder, Patrick Baker, Shanara Body, Sara Grant, Rico Waerea, Josh Shanks, Sienna Hume, Clay Schafer, Katidjah Fraser, Sam Riddle, Ebony Turaga, Erin Faithful, Jace Fraser, Casey Larkin and Brayleah Cullen.

The Athletics competition for the Western Games will commence at 8.30am sharp at the Sunset Oval this Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> July. The Club will be accepting nomination on the day should anyone else wish to compete, late nominations will need to be submitted at least an Hour and a half before the event is scheduled to commence. Any assistance anyone can provide with set-up prior to 8.30 will be greatly appreciated.