

Mount Isa Athletics

PRESS RELEASE

21 April 2012

Mount Isa Athletics Club had their first day of competition last Saturday and even with quite a few members away at Julia Creeks Dirt & Dust Festival, still managed to entice 116 athletes ranging from four years of age up into their fifty's on to Sunset Oval for an afternoon of running, jumping and throwing.

Being the first day of the season meant that no Personal Bests were able to be achieved, however many notable performances were still recorded. The club's eight year old pocket rocket Denzil Perkins has started the year where he finished the last "breaking records". Denzil took three tenths of a second off the 8yr boys 100 metre record which has been standing since 2001 with a time of 15.8sec. The lack of the ever present head wind allowed Open aged athlete Kale "black flash" Johnson to break Mason Holm's 100m record with a time of 11.1sec. Johnson also dragged along sixteen year old Lachlan Ryder to an 11.6sec record time for his age group. Johnson was also impressive in the Open High Jump event, not being renowned as a high jumper and having never been taught the Flop, Kale astonished onlookers scissoring over 1.65m. National Hammer thrower Brianna Smith continued her impressive run pumping out a 47.83m throw which would have been enough to win her the under 17 event at the recent national championships. Another hammer thrower to keep an eye on is 13yr old Erin Faithful who in her very first competition threw a distance of 23.62m, coaches are looking forward to see if Erin can match Brianna's impressive achievements.

Six athletes will share in the fourteen legend certificates that were achieved when they bettered a predetermined qualifying level in their events. The athletes were Hailee Kokles 60m, 80m 100m, Trinity Perkins 60m, 80m, Phoenix McMillan Shotput and Discus, Rico Waerea 60m, Denzil Perkins, 100m, 800m, Jakarra Carney 100m, 400m, Shotput, Javelin and Erin Faithful 100m, Discus and Hammer.

The Clubs' Tiny Tots seemed to have an enjoyable time experiencing their first taste of athletics. Four year old Amber Patmore will receive the season's first "Top Tot" Award for her great attitude, enthusiasm, sportsmanship and willingness to have a go.

Six of the teenage athletes, Erin Faithful, Brianna Smith, Nikki Dickson, Regan Whitney, Lachlan Ryder and Open athlete Kale Johnson all achieved early qualifying standards for the Athletics North Queensland Development Squad. The teenagers will now be able to receive an invitation to the ANQ Oz Squad Camp in Townville from 2nd to 5th July.

The Cloncurry Athletics Club had their very first Club day on Saturday morning with 18 keen athletes taking to the field. Organiser, Sergeant Mick Hughes of the Cloncurry PCYC, said that he was happy with the turnout and that it was good to ease steadily into the new Club. Numbers are expected to increase in week 2 and the Club is planning to get the Mount Isa coaches to visit on the Saturday morning prior to the 3rd Club day to share some of their knowledge. The session will commence at 9.00am.

CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval
Able Smith Parade
Mount Isa, Queensland

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The first of the Clubs major representative opportunities will be the North Queensland Games in Mackay on the 23rd/24th June. At this point it seems that Mount Isa will have good numbers trekking to the coast for the event and may even be joined by a few of the Cloncurry athletes. Accommodation is at a premium that weekend in Mackay so anyone considering attending the NQ Games should book now.

The next Mount Isa Club day will be held this Saturday at Sunset Oval commencing at 2pm with Cloncurry kicking off at 10am from the Cloncurry PCYC.