

Mount Isa Athletics

PRESS RELEASE

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Anyone who follows athletics in Mount Isa may have been wondering what happened to that 11 year old guy from the Athletics Club who went to Nationals in 2011.

Much to the disappointment of the Club coaches Bailey Tautau and his family moved away to Townsville at the beginning of 2012. When the Tautau family first arrived in the Isa they took Bailey down to the athletic clubs sign on and try out day. The Club coaches, Ken Dickson and David Scott, couldn't believe their eyes when the then 11 year old with virtually no coaching hurled the discus out to nearly 30 metres.

Mount Isa Club throws coach, Ken Dickson, said "Bailey was a dream to coach, he was an excellent mimic in that he watches athletics on TV and the internet and copies what they do. I would have to say he would have one of the best discus releases I have seen and that is phenomenal considering he has never had a coach. All we really did with Bailey was teach him how to do the discus turn and then we worked on footwork to get him to drive across the ring to add power to his release".

That year Bailey went on to take 5th Place at the 2011 Australian Primary Schools Athletic Championships with a throw 32.30m and was also awarded the Mount Isa Athletics Club's 2011 Male thrower of the year.

Tautau was also a very proficient Rugby League and Basketball player, and had the coaches worried that he may not continue with athletics when he moved to Townsville due to clashes in competition times of the other sports. Luckily he was able to manage his busy schedule to still accommodate athletics.

His continued efforts were rewarded at the 2012 Primary Schools Nationals when Bailey powered out a massive 50.11m throw to be crowned the 12 year boys National discus champion and this time backed up with a third place in Shot Put.

"I don't think Bailey knows how proud he makes the people around him when he accomplishes a feat like that" Dickson said. "As a coach it is nice to have a few success stories to reinforce to yourself and others that what you tell the athletes really does work. Baileys' parents, Alex and Vicki, also need congratulating as without the support they provide by fetching the thousands of shot puts and discuses and 'reminding' Bailey of all the little things that the coaches have said he would not have been able to rise to the heights that he has. Without this type of assistance many such athletes would not be able to meet their full potential.

Proving his sporting ability is not restricted to just the athletics oval Bailey has also made both the North Queensland and State School teams in Rugby League and Basketball.

Only time will tell where this talented athlete will end up in the future but rest assured, we haven't heard the last of Bailey Tautau.

CLUB VENUE

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