

Mount Isa Athletics

PRESS RELEASE

1st May 2013

In the past couple of months Mount Isa athletes Brianna Smith and Cat Hannell have been jet setting around the country collecting medals at State and National Competitions in Brisbane, Sydney and Perth. The pair are now set to gain even more frequent flyer miles with both having made it into the Regional Australia Team to compete at the Oceania Championships in Tahiti on June 3rd – 5th.

Smith is no stranger to the event having placed third in the Under 20 Hammer Throw at last year's Oceania Championships which was held in Cairns. At the time Smith was only 16 years of age and throwing an overweight hammer for her age group. This year the Championship organisers have decided to change the Under 20 event back to an Under 18 event giving Brianna the opportunity to throw her usual 3kg hammer. Smith has been steadily increasing her personal bests in the lead up to the Oceania Championships finishing the 2012 season with a 48.33m personal best at the ANQ Championships. Her throw of 49.59m at the National Junior Championships then gave her a new personal best. Then not two weeks later she cracked the 50m mark with a training throw of 50.50m.

Tahiti will be Cat Hannells first international event. The 25 year old pocket rocket met the Oceania qualifier at last year's ANQ Championships with her 5.45m long jump. She then secured her spot with a new personal best leap of 5.53m at the Open State Championships in late February. Just prior to the State Championships Cat was part of the Queensland 'C' 4 x 100m Relay Team competing at the Australian Track Classic. Her team placed 4th in a time of 48.04s.

After posting such a good time in the relays it was suggested to Cat that she could possibly compete in the 100m in Tahiti as well as Long Jump. The Oceania Team organisers required Cat to complete a time trial where she would need to beat the 13.2s qualifier. The time was easily accounted for with Hannell completing the race in 12.9s.

The pair will have plenty of time to watch each other's performances with Hannell competing in the Open Women's Long Jump on Monday June 3rd at 5.00pm. Smith will then take to the field the following day at 3.00pm for the U/18 Hammer and Cat will finish off on the Wednesday with her 100m at 3.40pm

The Mount Isa Athletics Club and Mount Isa Community are both very proud of the pair for being two of only thirteen athletes selected from the Athletics North Queensland family.

CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval
Able Smith Parade
Mount Isa, Queensland

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